



# Agape' MCC Newsletter

November 2 2011

## Upcoming Events

**Wed Nov 2:** 7pm Holy Conversations: Ecumenical/Inter-Religious Issues

**Sun Nov 6:**  
12pm Annual Congregation Meeting

**Fri Nov 11:**  
5:30pm Samaritan House Supper Club

**Wed Nov 16:**  
4-7pm Life Pantry

**Fri Nov 18:**  
8a-3p Church Garage Sale @ Kris & Linda's Home

**Sat Nov 19:**  
8a-3p Church Garage Sale @ Kris & Linda's Home

**6pm Transgender Day of Remembrance Gathering**  
**7pm Unfinished Lives presentation- Rev. Steve Sprinkle**

**Fri Nov 25:**  
5:30pm Samaritan House Supper Club

**Sun Dec 4:**  
**Noon Holiday Potluck Dinner!**

**Sat Dec 10:**  
**6-8:30pm Annual Christmas Talent Show**

**Wed Dec 21:**  
4-7pm Life Pantry

**Don't Forget to Fall Back 1 hour on Saturday Night!**

**We'll see you Sunday morning!**

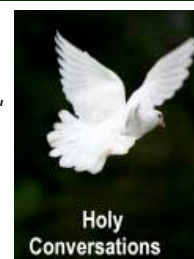


## Holy Conversations Tonight

### Series Continues

Join us for Holy Conversations tonight, Wed, November 2 at 7pm. The subject: Ecumenical/Inter-Religious Issues.

We hope to see you there.



## This Sunday is All Saints Day

### Email Loved Ones Pictures

This Sunday is All Saints Sunday!

When we remember our cloud of witnesses, we know that we never journey alone. God has placed 'saints' in our lives as light on our journey.



If you have a saint in your life or a loved one you would like to remember this All Saint's Sunday, **please email your picture to [simonntig@gmail.com](mailto:simonntig@gmail.com)**. Maybe your saint is an honored person of the past in the canon of saints. Or perhaps your 'saint' is a loved one whose memory inspires you.

We will incorporate the photo you send this week into our All Saints celebration powerpoint this Sunday.

We look forward to hearing from you this week and receiving a picture of your saint as we honor our holy witnesses.

## Weekly Meditation

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

## Sunday Statistics

**10/02:**

Attendance: 73  
Offering: \$1,436

**10/09:**

Attendance: 103  
Offering: \$1,840

**10/16:**

Attendance: 100  
Offering: \$1,693

**10/23:**

Attendance: 103  
Offering: \$1,194

**10/30:**

Attendance: 88  
Offering: \$1,658

## Quick Links

[Agape' MCC](#)

[Give to Agape' Online](#)

[Metropolitan Community Churches](#)

Follow Us On:



## Need a Book? A Bible? A Music CD?

Shop Online at Your Agape' MCC Bookstore. Save 20% on most items & get 5% back for our church.

Link on our  
[Virtual Store Link](#)

## Web Bible Resources

The Text This Week - Revised Common Lectionary, Scripture Study and Worship:  
<http://www.textweek.com/>  
Out In Scripture Archive:  
<http://www.hrc.org/scripture/>

## Business Directory:

Shari Beers  
Obrien Real Estate Group  
817-996-1631

## Forgiveness



*One of the great teachings of that personification of our original nature we call Jesus is forgiveness. Forgiveness is the quality of letting go of resentment and holding to a separate identity. It means going into your heart so that you can feel the pain of another and let go of it. Forgiveness occurs when the holding mind sinks into the spacious heart and is dissolved. The Indian saint, and teacher of many close friends, Maharaji, use to say, "Don't put anyone out of your heart." Because when you put someone out of your heart, you remove yourself as well. This truth is perhaps reflected in Jesus' statement "Judge not lest you be judged." ~ Stephen Levine, "Who Dies?"*

How do you "learn" forgiveness? Can you find a how-to book on it at the library? Can you go to a forgiveness school and take classes? Is there a guild out there where you can be apprenticed to a master forgiver? Well, maybe that last one is a possibility. I do think that sometimes we can learn some things by watching others. But if we want to be forgiving in the way we interact with others, it will mean letting our hurt-holding minds sink into the open and loving space of our hearts.

When you put someone out of your heart, you remove yourself as well. We are all connected. How we are to and with one another profoundly shapes how we are with and within ourselves.

You don't have to wait until someone says they're sorry to offer forgiveness. You don't have to carry around resentments until someone admits that they were wrong, and you were right all along. In fact, while forgiveness might make the other guy feel better, it benefits you far more by freeing you up. You are free to act rather than react, free to feel the pain of another and release it.

**Prayer: God, free me from the need to be right at the cost of my peace of mind and heart. Teach me that forgiveness is a path that leads me home, to you and to myself. Amen.**

## Miss Last Week's Activities?

### Catch Up Here!

What a great week! We had a wonderful time celebrating Fall and pre-Halloween activities together on Sat, Oct 29. We had games, cake walks, bounce house, decorated car trunks, costumed guests of all sizes and lots of food and fun! [Click here](#) to see some of the fun.



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Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

On Sunday, we held the Congregational Forum to talk about who is running for elected offices, review reports and the proposed 2012 budget. You can get a copy of this year's **Congregational Packet** [by clicking here](#). Don't forget, our **Annual Congregational Meeting will be after the morning service this Sunday, Nov. 6.**

And last Sunday, what a wonderful service we had! [Click here to enjoy the service](#) if you could not make to to worship (or to experience it again)! Thank you Stephanie for sharing your angel man with us.

## Do You GoodSearch for Agape'?

### Free & Easy Fundraising for Agape'

GoodSearch & GoodShop

This is going to be the easiest thing we ever asked you to do!

We signed up with GoodSearch.com several years ago as a charitable organization but this is the first time we have advertized it in our newsletter. When you join us on GoodSearch, every time you shop online or search the internet, a donation will be made to Agape Metropolitan Community Church - MCC



Here's how:

GoodShop.com works with more than 2,500 stores (including Target, Apple, Petsmart etc..) and every time you purchase something, a percentage will be donated to us! And, even more exciting, GoodShop also offers over 100,000 of the most up-to-date coupons and free shipping offers so you can save money at the same time. It's win win.

GoodSearch is a Yahoo powered search engine which makes a donation to us each time you do a search.

Join the rest of our community in using these sites to help us easily raise money for our mission. Get started by clicking the "Become a Supporter" button on our profile page [here!](#)

## Church Garage Sale - Nov 18-19

### Coming Up Soon!

Need to lighten your load? Or do you need more chotskies to decorate your home?  
*Have we got a deal for you!*



### Agape' MCC Fall Garage Sale

Fri, Nov 18 & Sat, Nov 19

8am - 3pm each day

@ Kris & Linda's home

6421 Lavano Drive, Ft. Worth 76134

**Any questions, contact organizer Jimmy M. @ 682-583-8374.**

***More to come!***

## **Transgender Day of Remembrance Nov 19**

### **Mark Your Calendars!**

Please join Agape' MCC, Brite Divinity School, Trinity MCC and members of the Tarrant County TBLGQ community on **Saturday, Nov 19 at 6 p.m. for the 13th Annual Transgender Day of Remembrance and Empowerment gathering.** Our guest speaker will be Tori Van Fleet who transitioned while working as a senior forensics analyst for the Fort Worth Police Department.



Then plan to stay for a **presentation on the Unfinished Lives Project at 7 p.m. by Rev. Dr. Steven Sprinkle.** To obtain a copy of Rev. Sprinkle's book, [click on this link](#). Rev. Sprinkle will be available to sign copies of his book after the presentation.

The Transgender Day of Remembrance memorializes those killed due to their actual or perceived gender identity and expression. This year we have added the component of "empowerment"... as well as remembering, we will encourage and support all people in living their truth in our world. Stay tuned for more information in the weeks to come!

## **Healing Touch Back in January 2012**

### **Dear Friends of Agape' Healing Touch**

Due to my upcoming surgery, I will be taking a couple of months off to recuperate.

Therefore we will not be offering Healing Touch in November or December.



With Spirit willing, we hope to return in January 2012.

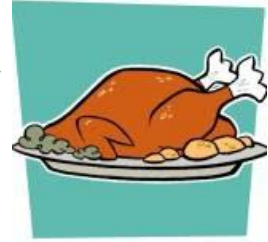
Please look for the notice in the newsletter and plan to open your new year with an energy boost and a fresh outlook on taking care of YOU!

Love, Peace, Namaste'.  
Linda and Denise

## **Holiday Potluck - Dec 4**

### Special Holiday Lunch after Church

The turkey and ham will be provided by the Board. Rusty will also prepare a vegetable, scalloped potatoes and rolls. You are invited to bring a favorite side dish. Can it get much better than this?



### Agape' Holiday Potluck

Sun, Dec 4

Noon

*Please Join Us!*

### Agape' Christmas Show Dec 10!

#### Come Join Us!

The 3rd Annual **Agape' Christmas Talent Show** will be held on **Saturday, December 10th from 6pm until 8:30pm.**



The evening will consist of a talent show in the sanctuary with treats and fun to follow in the Fellowship Hall. **PLEASE BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE!** There may even be a visit from Santa!

ALL are welcome to attend this free event, and if you have a talent you'd like to share in the show that evening, sign up sheets will soon be in the church lobby (or talk to Lisa O').

Bring your friends and family and join your Agape' MCC family for some holiday FUN!

### LGBTQ Youth Dance

#### Volunteers Needed!

Agape' MCC and other local churches are joining LGBTQ S.A.V.E.S. (Students, Administrators, Volunteers, Educators Support) in sponsoring an LGBTQ Youth Dance for high school students, to be held on **December 10, 2011! @7pm-10pm at Celebration Church.** Agape's own Larissa Baxter will be DJ-ing!



**Volunteers are needed to supervise! Dance organizers would like 2 or 3 chaperones from Agape' for the dance. Can you help? A background check through Agape' will be required! :-)**...Contact Rev. David at [revwynn@yahoo.com](mailto:revwynn@yahoo.com) if you can serve. Thank

you!

**Financial Contributions are also needed - please give your tax-deductible contributions to Deanie Sewell at Agape' MCC church on Sunday's. We will make sure your money gets to LGBTQ S.A.V.E.S! \*\*\*Cash is accepted! - Please include your name!**

## Community Bulletin Board

### Jobs Available



**Two Quality Control positions and one Administrative position** are open at my company. Quality Control positions need at least 3 years experience in quality control and be familiar with measuring devices and have a basic knowledge of computers. Administrative position needs basic knowledge of computers and be able to follow directions. Contact me,

**Stace Jones at 214-499-0378** or send your resume to [simonntiq@gmail.com](mailto:simonntiq@gmail.com)

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### Does anyone need this?

- 30-cup Sunbeam Electric Coffee Maker

Contact Sara if you are interested at:

[sidarwin2@aol.com](mailto:sidarwin2@aol.com)

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## Prayers

- Comfort and peace for Rosanna and Dena as they mourn the passing of Rosanna's father and discern around Rosanna's mom's journey.
- Linda G. and her journey with her mom.
- Healing for Rev. Teresa.
- For a friend having surgery.

- Healing for Mitzi.
- Healing and good test results for Kevin H.
- For our Congregational Meeting and all who are running for elected positions.
- Healing and good test results for Tinker.
- Tony & Joe - much healing & strength.
- For Linda C. and her up and coming surgery.
- Denise P. and conclusive test results.
- From our online prayer requests - Mike and his search for a job and moving forward with his life.
- for attunement & kindness to unlikely "angels" amongst us.
- All those with colds.

*God, hear our prayers.*

### Praises

- Great news for Brad.
- For Denise P., Jaci G., Nick B., and all who mow, weed-eat, pull weeds and care for our land.
- For Kathy M. our "kitchen fairy".
- Janet and her staffing of the duck booth.
- Nick, Paul, Denise, Evelyn, Denise L., Kathy, Trish, Amy, Thomas, Sonny, Lisa D. and her mom, and all who created a wonderful Trunk R Treat.
- Everyone who brought "trunks and treats" for our children.
- For Lisa changing a flat tire on Sunday.
- For Tammy S. and her healing.
- For the generosity of our community.
- For the kindness of our community.
- A wonderful Trunk-R-Treat.
- Our Board of Directors.
- Our Ministers of Community Care.
- for a pastor who wants us to share *OUR* stories.

*Blessed are those who put their trust in God.  
Psalms 40:4*

## Worship Service This Sunday - Nov 6

### Order of Worship - November 06

The Gathering Song	"Thank You God"	TGFM & Community
Words of Welcome		Rev. David Wynn
Call to Worship		Community
Song of Welcome	"Shout To Our God"	TGFM
Time with our Children		Trish Penland
A Response	"This Little Light of Mine"	Community
Preparing to Hear the Word	"There is Only Love"	Community
Sacred Text	"Matthew 5: 1-10"	Grace Gray

A Response	"You Are Mine"	Community
Time of Teaching	"We Grow In The Image Of Those We Love"	Rev. David Wynn Wayne Crutchfield David Dickinson Barbara Brittain
Centering Song	"Fill Me Now"	Community
Community Prayer		Rev. Robert Myers
Prayer Response	"Fill Me Now"	Community
A Time of Offering		Cassy Batts
The Celebration of Holy Communion		Rev. Teresa Mallott
Sending Forth	"My Life Is In You God"	Community
The Sending Forth		Rev. David Wynn

## MCC News from Around the World

[MCC Headline News - October 31 2011](#)

[MCC Stewardship Lists for September 2011](#)

## Community News and Events

[AIDS Outreach Center \(AOC\)](#)

[The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation \(GLAAD\)](#)

[National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Update](#)

[Samaritan House](#)

[Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association](#)

[Trans-cendance / Trans Support Center of Fort Worth](#)

[Transgender Education Network of Texas](#)

**Our Mission** - With open hearts, open minds, and open arms, Agape' MCC is a nurturing faith community seeking God's will by celebrating inclusive worship, redefining family, and providing a voice for justice.

**Our Core Values** - We believe that a sacred space: Welcomes and affirms all people; Does not "stand idly by" in the face of inequity and injustice; Communicates the unconditional love of God for all; Improves the spiritual connections between each person and God as she or he understands God.