



Agape' MCC Newsletter

November 9 2011

Upcoming Events

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**

Sun Nov 20:

10:30am Worship Sve
**2:30-5pm Christmas
Pictures (Fellowship Hall)**

Fri Nov 25:

5:30pm Samaritan House
Supper Club

Sat Dec 3:

**10am-3pm Christmas
Pictures (Fellowship Hall)**

Sun Dec 4:

**Noon Holiday Potluck
Dinner!**

Sat Dec 10:

6-8:30pm Annual

Weekly Meditation

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

Just Say No

"I have done this many times: not wanting to say no, not wanting to miss an opportunity, not wanting to be seen as less than totally compassionate. But wherever I cannot bring my entire being, I am not there. It is like offering to bring too many cups of coffee through a crowd. I always spill something hot on some innocent along the way. ~ Mark Nepo, "The Book of Awakening"



Maybe there are people in the world for whom saying "no" is easy, but that would not be me. I have learned to say no - out of self-preservation more than anything else - but I have never found it easy. I hate to let people down. It turns out, though, that I am not the answer to every need, the solution to every problem. I can only juggle so many cups of coffee in a crowd before someone gets burned. To be authentic and true to oneself may sometimes mean disappointing those who have expectations of us.

It's a pretty subtle thing don't you think? How often have you done something, not out of the conviction of your heart, but because of what people expected from you? Then this crazy cycle can happen where the things that people affirm you for are the very things that make you feel more distant from yourself. It's easy to get caught up in doing things because we want to protect - or project - an image of who we think we ought to be.

Jesus and other spiritual teachers emphasize coming clean and being honest with ourselves. They encourage us to pay attention to the things we can be fully present to, the things to which we can bring our entire being and our whole heart. That's where we will find our sense of authenticity. Every life has some "have-tos" in it, but you might be surprised to find that they are fewer than you think.

Prayer: God, quiet my busy heart and mind. Teach me what the important things are for me to do, and help me discover who you are calling me to be. Amen.

Christmas Talent Show

Wed Dec 21:

4-7pm Life Pantry

Sunday Statistics

10/16:

Attendance: 100

Offering: \$1,693

10/23:

Attendance: 103

Offering: \$1,194

10/30:

Attendance: 88

Offering: \$1,658

11/06:

Attendance: 104

Offering: \$850

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**

Miss Last Week's Activities?

Catch Up Here!

Wednesday Night's **Holy Conversations'** dialogue centered around Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Issues. Those present shared their personal stories and discussed various religious influences in their lives.



On Sunday, Nov 6, we held our Annual Congregational Meeting. **Elected to the Board of Directors:** Amy Ashton, Cassy Batts, Nick Busken and Gail Gore. **Elected to the open Lay Delegate position:** Stace Jones. The written reports about the year's activities were approved and the 2012 Budget was also approved.

And last Sunday, another great service! [Click here to enjoy the service](#) if you could not make to to worship (or to experience it again)!

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**

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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!

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!](#)

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

Take Your Holiday Pictures Here!

Santa Claus Is Back

Our Holiday Picture Fund-Raiser was very successful last year, so we're back for year two! Bring your pets, kids, family, plants, etc. for a photo session with Santa and friends! You have two date options this year:



Christmas Photos

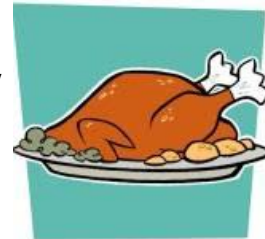
Sunday, Nov. 20 *Or* **Saturday, Dec. 03**
2:30-5 p.m. **10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

Prices: 4 x 6 \$5 or 5x7 \$8 or 8.5x11 \$10
Multiple photo packages available upon request

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 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 simonntig@gmail.com

Does anyone need this?

- 30-cup Sunbeam Electric Coffee Maker

Contact Sara if you are interested at:

sjdarwin2@aol.com

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Prayers

- Von - who is dealing with advanced cancer.
- Sunshine - court hearing on 11/14/11 to be allowed to see her 2 kids.
- Healing for Ray-Ray who broke his leg last.
- Earl - Wisdom for what I need to do concerning my wife that left me, should I take her back.
- Pat and her continued healing.
- Tony & Joe - Tony is in the hospital with an infection.
- Roseanna and Dena as they continue to care for Roseanna's mother.
- Tammy S and healing.
- Frank, may he journey back to us.
- That the garage sale will be a huge success.
- For Charlotte and healing.
- Rev. David and safe travels this week.

God, hear our prayers.

Praises

- For stories and all the saints is our lives.
- Our newly elected directors and lay delegate.
- Rev. Teri & Rev. Brenda and their continued presence in this place and our hearts.

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

Worship Service This Sunday - Nov 13

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 25: 1a, 14-18"	Nick Busken
A Response	"You Are Mine"	Community
Time of Teaching	"Where Do You Come From"	Rev. David Wynn
Centering Song	"Fill Me Now"	Community
Community Prayer		Rev. Teresa Mallott
Prayer Response	"Fill Me Now"	Community
A Time of Offering		Cassy Batts
	<i>Special Music: "Better Than a Hallelujah" - Trish Penland</i>	
The Celebration of Holy Communion		Rev. Robert Myers
Sending Forth	"My Life Is In You God"	Community
The Sending Forth		Rev. David Wynn

MCC News from Around the World

[2012 L.E.A.D. Program](#)

[MCC Headline News - October 31 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.