



Agape' MCC Newsletter

November 23 2011

Upcoming Events

Thu Nov 24:

2-5pm Thanksgiving at Agape'

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 Christmas Talent Show

Wed Dec 21:

4-7pm Life Pantry

Sunday Statistics

10/30:

Attendance: 88
Offering: \$1,658

11/06:

Attendance: 104
Offering: \$850

11/13:

Attendance: 80
Offering: \$2,344

11/20:

Attendance: 71
Offering: \$2,181

Quick Links

[Agape' MCC](#)

Thanksgiving at Agape'

Will You Join Us?

Many people are traveling this holiday to share Thanksgiving with families and friends. We have had several folks ask if we were having Thanksgiving at Agape' this season.



The notice is a little short but we hope the message is received with joy - Yes! Come join us for:

Thanksgiving at Agape'
2-5 p.m.
Just bring yourselves!
(no food dishes required)

Enjoy Thanksgiving with us!

Weekly Meditation

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

Thanks-Giving

It seems the challenge for us all is to find and refind that sacred stance...one foot in the Universe and one foot on the earth; one eye in the heart of nature, one eye on the hearts of others; one ear listening to all the stories left like stars in the galaxy of time, one ear listening to the sufferings about to be told. It is from this place - that is within ourselves and beyond ourselves - that our love emanates. And it is gratitude that opens them to each other. ~ Mark Nepo, "The Exquisite Risk: Daring to Live an Authentic Life"



We are all capable of a sacred stance. We find it, lose it, then find it again. We are curious creatures, living in space/time and but also timeless. It isn't always easy to stand with one foot in the Universe and the other on the

[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
beershomes@gmail.com
www.Beers-Homes.com

Janna Brown, Master
Photographer

[J3 Photographics](#)
817-657-9882
janna.brown@sbcglobal.net

Resolve Conflict, LLC

All types of mediation for the GLBT Community- classes too.

www.resolveconflictionline.com

or call 877-9-2agree

Contact Us At:

www.agapemcc.com

817-535-5002

earth, sometimes it feels a little like standing up in a rowboat...

I have been pondering the birth of my first grandchild - which is just days away now. I can hardly wait! I was thinking what some say about newborns and very young children being closer to the original sacred oneness, since they have come from there so recently and so haven't forgotten where they came from.

It can be a challenge to remember who we are, and whose we are. It can be a challenge finding our own sacred stance. One thing that helps is gratitude. It opens the worlds we inhabit like a key in a lock. It sheds light on our path. It opens my heart to yours. Who are you thankful for? Do they know? Happy Thanks-Giving.

Prayer: God of all our worlds, help me to remember every day who I am. Help me to stand, to look, to listen and to love, with a grateful heart. Amen.

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!



Christmas Photos

Saturday, Dec. 03

10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Prices: 4 x 6 \$5 or 5x7 \$8 or 8.5x11 \$10

Multiple photo packages available upon request

Meal Train

Help Our Members

We have Agape' members needing help with meals right now because of health and medical care issues.

Meal Train is an online scheduler we can use to help organize meal planning and delivery to our friends. Just click on one or both links below and you will go to the meal train site. You need to set up an account and all of this is free.



Linda is recovering from surgery. Please use the following link to access the Meal Train for Linda Crear:

<http://www.mealtrain.com?id=mdtidtfw37mt>

Tony is also asking for assistance. Tony is unable to cook

Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

right now and Joe is very tired after working all day. Please use the following **link to access the Meal Train for Tony & Joe:**

<http://www.mealtrain.com/?id=mei0k29p9art>

Learn more about mealTrain at mealtrain.com

Miss Last Week's Activities?

Catch Up Here!

Rev. David, Mitzi H., Rachel, Lynn F. spoke at Texas Christian University last Tuesday on a Transgender Discussion Panel. They were invited to speak to Dr. Rita Cotterly's human sexuality class.



The Life Pantry was open on Wednesday afternoon. The pantry fed five families for two weeks, and donated baby food to the Women's Shelter.

Our church garage sale was successful. We raised about \$1,580 on Friday. Thanks to Jimmy M, Kris Mc, Linda S, Jennifer N, Nick B, Stace J, Kathy M, Pat P, Cassie B, Lisa O, Grace G, Linda G. And thanks to everyone who donated items for sale.

We hosted the Tarrant County Transgender Day of Remembrance Saturday night - speaker Tori Van Fleet was followed by a presentation with Rev. Dr. Steve Sprinkle and the Unfinished Lives Project.

Last Sunday, Rev. David Wynn, Jimmy Marshall and Kathy Munn shared "Everyday Epiphanies". [Click here to enjoy the service](#) if you could not make to to worship (or to experience it again)!

Also on Sunday afternoon, our first opportunity for getting Holiday Pictures at a great price. Some people (and critters) got their portraits taken (Santa was there!). If you missed it, don't worry! You have another chance on Sat, Dec 3 from 10am-3pm.

Journey to Christmas with Agape'

This Advent Season

It is hard to believe that in just over a week, we will be in the season of Advent! Advent is that time of waiting and expectation when we prepare our hearts and spirits once again to celebrate the birth of Christ anew in our midst. This year we will be engaging Adam Hamilton's book *The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem*. What actually happened leading up to and including the first Christmas? What does the story teach us about the



character of God? What does it tell us about the child whose birth we celebrate? What does the story mean for our lives today? There is much more to the Christmas story than meets the eye! Come join us and discover things you never knew!

Advent I: November 27

"Mary of Nazareth: Willingness"

Advent II: December 4

"Joseph of Bethlehem: Mercy"

Advent III: December 11

"Elizabeth in Judea: Encouragement"

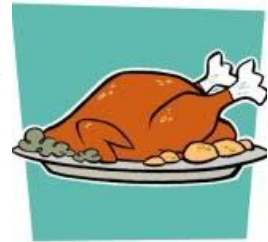
Advent IV: December 18

"From Nazareth to Bethlehem: Perseverance"

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!

Send Some of Our Own to New York!

Buy that Chocolate!

Crowley ISD Honor Choir is singing at Carnegie Hall on Feb 17. Help Zoie and Faith raise money to go on the trip by purchasing World's Finest Chocolate Bars in the church lobby!



Then on **Dec. 18 there will be a Bake Sale** in their honor also! You can buy some holiday cookies to eat and to share.

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

Prayers

- Eli and his exciting new job opportunity.
- Curtis, Linda G.'s brother, heart issues.
- Kim R., friend of Lisa & Candy's whose grandfather passed away.
- Safety to all who are traveling for the Holidays.
- For Candy and wellness.
- Continued healing and peace for Tony and Joe.
- For those who are lonely.
- Healing for a friend.
- Continued healing for Janna B.
- Continued healing and relief from pain for Linda C.
- Comfort for Tinker while she waits for answers about health issues.
- Provision for those recently laid off.
- Travel mercies and blessings on all who are traveling for the holiday.
- For those who are grieving.
- For those who are in need of housing.

God, hear our prayers.

Praises

- For those hosting a Thanksgiving meal at Agape'.
- Evelyn and Gail and all who provide meals for those in need.
- Life Pantry and all those we've fed.
- All who participated in and helped create such blessing through our garage sale.
- For the Saints who made Transgender Day of Remembrance a powerful gathering...Tori V., Nick B., Paul F., Rev. Stephen S., Curtis S., Skye N. (and his team), Lynne F., Shell S., Kathy M., Shirley S., Candice H., Cassy B., Rev. Teresa M., Stace J., and Susan.
- For Billy S. and Kathy M. who make sure our services get edited and posted to our website.
- Kyrie and their ministry in our community.
- Lisa O. and her gift in worship.
- Leigh W. and her care of our sanctuary decor.
- Lynne and her gift of sound.
- For all that we are thankful for during this season.
- Our Church and all that God is calling us to be and do.

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

Worship Service This Sunday - Nov 27

Order of Worship - November 27

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| The Gathering/Processional | "Like A Child" | TGFM & Community |
| Call to Advent | "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" | Community |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| <i>Lighting of the Advent Wreath</i> | | Community |
| Advent Response: | "Light A Candle" | TGFM |
| Words of Welcome | | Rev. David Wynn |
| Call to Worship | | Community |
| Song of Welcome | "You Are Holy" | TGFM |
| Time with our Children | | Grace Gray |
| A Response | "This Little Light of Mine" | Community |
| Preparing to Hear the Word | "Beautiful One" | Community |
| Sacred Text | "Luke 1:26-38" | Dawn Dujour |
| A Response | "You Are Mine" | Community |
| Time of Teaching | "Mary of Nazareth: Her Journey is Our Journey!" | 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 |
| The Celebration of Holy Communion | | Rev. Robert Myers |
| Sending Forth | "Hosanna" | Community |
| The Sending Forth | | Rev. David Wynn |

MCC News from Around the World

[Advent Greeting from our Moderator](#)

[MCC Headline News Special Edition - November 10 2011](#)

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

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.