



Agape' MCC Newsletter

January 11 2012

Upcoming Events

Thu Jan 12:

7pm Living a Transpersonal Life

Fri Jan 13:

5:30pm Samaritan House Supper Club

Wed Jan 18:

7pm Holy Conversations

Sat Jan 21:

10am Public Mass of Our Lady the Holy Sophia Mission

11am-2pm Healing Touch Ministry in Fellowship Hall

Thu Jan 26:

7pm Living a Transpersonal Life

Fri Jan 27:

5:30pm Samaritan House Supper Club

Sat Feb 11:

7:30pm ODP Concert- Nancy Beaudette

Birthdays

Gay B. - 1/01
Angela L. - 1/07
Pat P. - 1/12
Dena K. - 1/12
Juan S. - 1/12
Jennifer N. - 1/23
Johnathan S.-1/26

OpenDoor Meeting This Sunday

Join Us 15 minutes after Service!

We will have a quick meeting AFTER service, this Sunday, Jan 15. Once the service ends, take 15 minutes for coffee, hugs, smiles, cookies, etc., then meet in the sanctuary to discuss our spring 2012 shows, Feb 11 and March 31.



Prayerfully consider creating and leading a sub committee, publicizing the shows:

- Sending paper flyers to area MCC churches
- putting out flyers at local bars
- passing out flyers at events such as Q Cinema films
- PFLAG monthly meeting
- 3rd Saturday Dance
- Tarrant County Pride Committee meeting, etc.

Please invite others to join our committee....the more who are involved, the more we can "spread the news". More legs and voices makes the load lighter for each of us!

Weekly Meditation

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

You Made Me Sing

I used to be shy. You made me sing. I used to refuse things at table. Now I shout for more wine. In somber dignity I used to sit on my mat and pray. Now children run through and make faces at me. ~ Rumi, "The Essential Rumi"



I am very fond of flowering things: gardenias, hibiscus, geranium, chrysanthemums, day lilies, daffodils, tulips...the list goes on and on. I love watching how the bud, that will become a flower, appears and grows and then slowly begins to open up. Once open, how long the flower lasts depend on the particular plant. I get to enjoy some flowers for days and days, while others will open in the morning and be wilted by evening. They are all beautiful, however long or short they last, offering fragrance and beauty whether anyone's watching or not. I



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
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.

like to think they do it for sheer joy.

These lines by Rumi make me think of flowering things, things that unfold in their own time. I used to be painfully shy, an invisible wallflower. I used to decline things that others offered: appreciation, help, joy, encouragement, love. I used to think that devotion to God was a very serious business - gloomy almost, obligatory hard work that never quite measured up - and certainly not very joyous, the way children are.

I don't think that any more... Life is more than an endurance contest, more than just getting by. Life is singing and drinking, praying and loving, laughing and crying. Life is learning how to surrender to that which is greater than us, and yet is somehow also our truest selves. Life is like children making faces and inviting us to play. Simple.

Prayer: God, help me to take life simply as it unfolds. Don't let me take myself too seriously, lest I miss your joy. Amen.

Begin Your New Year with Agape'!



We use this cultural word-play in our series title to remember that the most basic transforming experiences of our faith-communion and baptism-are the starting points for life "beyond" our limitations. Let's make 2012 a year of amazing transformations - for our lives, for our community, for our world! Coming up in our series:

- "Beyond Belief" - Jan 15
- "Beyond the Horizon" - Jan 22
- "Beyond the Boundaries" - Jan 29
- "Beyond the Chaos" - Feb 5
- "Beyond the Hype" - Feb 12
- "Beyond the Fear" - Feb 19

Miss Last Week's Activities?

Catch Up Here!

The new Ministers of Community Care had their final training on Saturday, Jan 7 and were installed on Sunday during service! Our Lady the Holy Sophia Mission held their Mass in our sanctuary on Saturday morning. We were happy to see lots of friends and family back from the holidays! See our Sunday, Jan 8 service and Rev. David Wynn's sermon by

www.resolveconflictionline.com

or call 877-9-2agree

Contact Us At:

www.agapemcc.com

817-535-5002

Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

[clicking here](#). Enjoy!

Happy New Year from Healing Touch

**Friends, Family and All
Healing Touch
will be returning to Agape'
on Saturday, January 21
from 11 am - 2:00 pm.**

**Come on in to the Social Hall
for some good cheer
and a healthy start
to a grand new year.**

Denise and Linda

Spiritual Guidance & Growth Workshop

Living A Transpersonal Life

Spiritual Guidance and Growth Workshop

Living a Transpersonal Life

by Trace Whitley, B.A., Certificate in
Transpersonal Studies



What is the Transpersonal? It's about Transcending the Ego and discovering our Authentic Self behind the masks we wear. This is an introductory course on how to develop spiritual tools to promote individual Enlightenment and Self-Actualization. Techniques like Meditation and Dreamwork will be highlighted, but many other tools will be explored. Join us for a loving spiritual journey toward wholeness.

Where: Agape' MCC

Dates: Thursday Jan. 12th & 26th

Thursday Feb. 9th & 23rd

Thursday Mar. 8th & 22nd

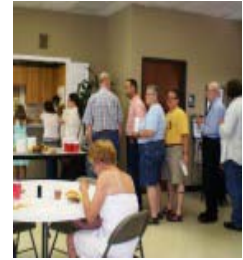
Please RSVP if you can...

Trace Whitley 214-232-7680 or vbattlecrow@gmail.com

Meet, Greet & Eat Volunteers!

We Need Your Help

We still have openings for volunteers to prepare our meals for our monthly Meet, Greet and Eat.



Our schedule so far:

January - Mike and Mark V.

February - Chili Cook-off

March - Skye and Whitney

April - Easter Potluck - ham, rolls provided - veggies & desserts brought by congregation volunteers.

May - This Month is Still Open!!!

June - Jaci and Denise

July - Tonya

August - This Month is Still Open!!!

September- This Month is Still Open!!!

October- This Month is Still Open!!!

Holiday Dinner - more details closer to date of event.

If you want to volunteer for an open date, **please contact Michael Vasquez at 817-692-5120 or by E-mail at mmvblue@hotmail.com.**

Next OpenDoor Concert - Feb 11



OpenDoor Productions is Celebrating Valentine's with
a Canadian
Singer-Songwriter
with Nashville Connections

Nancy Beaudette

Saturday - February 11 - 7:30 P.M.
Heart & Soul Coffeehouse
Tickets: \$15.00 in advance
\$18.00 at the door

Listen to Nancy and you will see pictures, glimpsing a rich palette of colors in her guitar-playing and realizing that the beautiful honesty of her voice and her lyrics point directly at your heart. Come experience these lyrical paintings as she leads us through her gallery of songs!

Nancy Beaudette

Sat, Feb 11 7:30pm

@ Agape' MCC

\$15 in advance / \$18 at the door

[order tickets on-line here!](#)

Prayers

- Healing for Lisa D.
- Norma P. - good biopsy results.
- Continued healing and strength for Linda C.
- For Tony and Joe - comfort and peace as they give themselves to their journey.
- Jordan - for clean MRI on January 11 and free of brain cancer or any other cancer.
- For a friend in the midst of a healing journey, may she find the courage to flow with the changes.
- For all of us in times of transition, that our instinct to struggle against the current may yield to the wisdom of surrender into Spirit's care.
- Rhonda and Renny - strength and health.
- Family of Chrystal B.
- Pat S. - loss of her brother Jerry.
- Guidance for an exciting new journey.
- Angie L.'s wife Katheryn who has MS and is needing strength.
- Cain and his continued battle with brain cancer.
- Gail G. as she has cataract surgery on 1/9/12.
- For Stephanie and her journey.
- The peace of Spirit to surround us all.
- For Sister that she get more hours at work & a better job soon.
- Lisa D. healing for her back.
- For the financial stability of our Church.
- For all those who do not know of God's unconditional love...may they find it soon.
- For the coming Board Retreat.
- Rev David and his Retreat.

God, hear our prayers.

Praises

- The blessings from my family and friends.
- For a blessed new year and all the dreams it brings.
- For the Ministers of Community Care.

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

Worship Service This Sunday - January 15

Order of Worship - January 15 - "Beyond Belief"

The Gathering - "Welcome" - *Community*

Words of Welcome - *Rev. David Wynn*

Song of Greeting - "Sing Over Me" - *TGFM*

Time with our Children - *Trish Penland*

Preparing to Hear the Word - "O Christ Surround Me" - *Community*

Teaching in Scripture - John 1:43-51 - *Lee Novy*

A Response - "O Christ Surround Me" - *Community*

Time of Teaching - "Come and See" - *Rev. David Wynn*

Invitation to Silence - "Deep Waters" - *Community*

Community Prayer - *Rev. Robert Myers*

Our Giving - *Cassy Batts*

The Celebration of Holy Communion - *Rev. David Wynn*

Sending Forth - "The River is Here" - *Community*

MCC News from Around the World

[MCC Mourns the Loss of Rev. Mark G. Bidwell](#)

[MCC Headline News - New Moderator's Assistant, BOP News, and More!](#)

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.