



A newsletter from Central Texas MCC

June 2017

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THE PASTOR'S PEN

The first Sunday in June is Pentecost Sunday. That's the Sunday we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Jesus Christ, as it's recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, essentially giving birth to the Christian Church. But wait! The Gospel of John gives an entirely other account of the disciples receiving the Holy Spirit. Which is right? And to complicate matters further, the Book of Numbers records yet another dispensation of the Holy Spirit upon the ancient people of Israel! Is it possible that all of them are valid? Is it possible to have different revelations of the same experience? Or different experiences of the same revelation?

This will be the theme of my June 4th sermon, which will kick off a Pride month sermon series called, "Look What God Can Do!" The title comes from my friend, Terri Steed-Pierce, the MCC pastor of Joy MCC in Orlando, Florida. It's a mantra of hers. So throughout the month of June, we'll be looking at the amazing things God can do through us. On June 11th, we'll hear one of the Bible's accounts of creation, which declares each of us to be very good. On June 18th, we'll see how God uses the unlikely to do God's work. And on June 25th, we'll see just one example of how God reaches out to the desperate and rescues the oppressed.

Join me for LGBTQ Pride month at Central Texas MCC, and look at what God can do! See how God has touched the lives of marginalized people in the past. Acknowledge how God is using the LGBTQ community today to do God's work in the world. And look to a future of hope, of defiant hope, in spite of all odds to the contrary.

Peace and blessings,
Charley

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The following is a tentative list of upcoming church activities and community events. Contact the church for a confirmation of the calendar.

Weekly Events:

- **Central Texas MCC Worship** (1601 Clay Ave.) on Sundays at 11:00 a.m.
- **Live and Let Live AA Group** (4209 N. 27th St.) on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 27 – Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction at 5:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Suggested donation of \$10 per plate.

Sunday, May 28 – Resisting Racism Workshop immediately following worship in the Social Hall. Light lunch provided.

Sunday, June 4 – Resisting Racism Workshop immediately following worship in the Social Hall. Light lunch provided.

Thursday, June 8 – Book Discussion Group meets at 6:00 p.m. for a sandwich dinner and an informal discussion of “The Whole Town’s Talking” by Fannie Flagg.

Saturday, June 10 – Inquirer’s Class at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall.

Sunday, June 11 – Monthly Potluck Social after worship. Good food, good fellowship!

Thursday, June 15 – Third Thursday HIV Peer Group. If you are HIV+ or if you are the friend, partner, or family member of someone who is, then join us at 6:00 p.m. for a home-cooked meal and an evening of support and connection

Sunday, June 18 – Resisting Racism Workshop immediately following worship in the Social Hall. Light lunch provided.

Tuesday, June 20 – LGBT Pride Planning Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the church Social Hall.

Sunday, June 25 – Resisting Racism Workshop immediately following worship in the Social Hall. Light lunch provided.

BIRTHDAYS

The following people have birthdays this month. If you have corrections or additions to the birthday list, please call the office at 752-5331 or email us at centexmcc@earthlink.net.

Alta Mostyn – June 7

Tabitha Shugart – June 30

Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction



Thirty-one years ago, a small group of people in Waco, TX, USA obeyed the call of God by starting what would become Central Texas MCC. And so on the weekend of May 27-28, we will be celebrating the Central Texas MCC’s 31 years of ministry.

A part of that celebration will take place in the church Social Hall on **Saturday, May 27** with a spaghetti dinner fundraiser and a silent auction.

The suggested donation for the dinner is \$10, with 50% of that donation going toward the cost of sending our Lay Delegate, C.J. Myers, to the MCC Conference for People of African Descent and Advocates in August. Please plan to join us for good food, good times, and good fellowship!

Love Offering



For the first time ever, there will be someone going to the MCC Conference for People of African Descent, Friends, and Advocates. We are so very delighted that our Lay Delegate, C.J. Myers, will be experiencing the event and sharing her experiences when she returns. But it costs money to go to the conference, as it does with any conference. There are the costs of registration, travel, lodging and meals. In order to defray those costs, we are inviting you, on **Sunday, June 4**, to give a little extra as a love offering for C.J.

Resisting Racism



On **Sunday, May 28**, we will resume our monthly after-worship Resisting Racism Workshop. The workshop sessions will continue throughout the month, taking place on **June 4, June 18, and June 25**. This curriculum was developed to create a space for white people interested in being effective allies with people of color in the work of dismantling racism and undoing white privilege. This is a process designed to support people wherever they are on their journey. You don't need to have attended previous sessions in order to attend this one. A light lunch will be provided.

Inquirer's Class



Do you have questions about how MCC operates and what we believe? Would you like some information about the history of our local church or the international movement of MCC churches? Would you like to know a bit more about the programs and ministries of our church? If so, then join us in the Social Hall on **Saturday, June 10** at 10:00 a.m. We'll meet and have conversation, take a break for a sandwich lunch provided by the church, and resume with the class until about 1:30 p.m. or 2:00 p.m.

If you're interested in taking the class, but Saturdays aren't a good time for you, we'll be offering the class again later in the year as a series of two after-worship sessions. Taking the class is a requirement if you want to become a member of our church, but everyone is welcome to participate in the class, whether you are interested in becoming a member, already a member, or just curious!

PAD Conference`



MCC Conference for People of African Descent Friends & Advocates

3-5 August 2017
Crowne Plaza
200 N. 4th Street
St. Louis, Missouri

www.PADconference.MCCchurch.org



Join others for the 9th MCC People of African Descent, Friends and Advocates Conference (PAD), in St. Louis! At the PAD Conference, you will share in the richness of African American culture, lift your heart in powerful worship and explore what it means to be Grounded in Love. **The MCC PAD Conference really is a welcoming space to everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, or nationality.**

This year's theme **GROUNDED IN LOVE** reflects the commitment to stand together and firmly upon the foundation of God's love for us – a love that compels us to live with a holy boldness, honors who we are, where we have come from, and that frees us to embrace the deeper places God is calling us to go.

So plan to come, hear, and enjoy all that is the MCC PAD Conference! And take home tools and insights that will make a difference for you, your family, your church, and your communities.

Learn more by about MCC's PAD Conference by going to <http://mccchurch.org/event/2017-mcc-conference-for-people-of-african-descent-friends-and-advocates/>

Learn more about the work of Central Texas MCC online at www.centexmcc.com

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