



A newsletter from Central Texas MCC

June 2018

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THE PASTOR'S PEN

June is LGBT Pride Month and I'll be marking it with a special sermon series that will feature strong women from the Bible because I believe they have a message for us today.

The message on Sunday, June 10 is entitled "Love Is Love Is Love," and will highlight the story of Ruth and Naomi. Ruth's passionate words of to Naomi are often spoken by one person to another in today's wedding ceremonies, oftentimes without realizing they are words originally spoken by one woman to another.

The next Sunday's sermon is "When the Rules Need to Change," about the little known story of the daughters of Zelophehad, who insisted that the rules need to change to allow them the same rights as others.

On the last Sunday, the sermon is "Why We Can't Wait." The story of Tamar found in the book of Genesis is a tale about a woman who no longer could wait for justice, and so took justice in her own hands.

The Bible is filled with inspirational stories about strong women, but unfortunately, we don't hear enough of them from the pulpit or in Sunday School. It's time to hear the message they have for us. I hope you'll join us at Central Texas MCC at 11AM to hear the voices of some of the strong women of the Bible.

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.

Sunday, May 27 – Spaghetti Dinner. Stick around after worship on Anniversary Sunday for a silent auction and an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner. \$10 suggested donation.

Saturday, June 2 – Women’s HIV Support Group meets at 11AM for support and connection and concludes with a home-cooked meal.

Sunday, June 3 – Accessibility Sunday. Worship will take place downstairs in the Social Hall.

Sunday, June 3 – Guest Preacher: Rev. Kris Cervantes, the pastor of Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waco, will bring the message.

Wednesday, June 6 – Pride Planning Meeting for October’s Out on the Brazos Pride Event will take at 6:30PM in the Social Hall

Sunday, June 10 – Potluck Social immediately after worship in the Social Hall. Good food, good fellowship!

Saturday, June 16 – Court Show in the church sanctuary at 7PM benefiting the church and Red Door Project.

Sunday, June 17 – Accessibility Sunday. Worship will take place downstairs in the Social Hall.

Sunday, June 17 – Father’s Day. Part of our worship service will be dedicated to honoring the fathers among us.

Thursday, June 21 – HIV Support Group at 6PM in the Social Hall begins with a home-cooked meal and continues with connection and conversation.

Sunday, June 24 – Pride Sunday. Join us for a worship service that will focus on LGBT Pride.

BIRTHDAYS

The following people, who join us for worship, 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 centxmcc@earthlink.net.

Barbara Jennrich – June 25

Tabitha Shugart – June 30

Church Anniversary and All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti Dinner



Join us for worship on **Sunday, May 27** when we celebrate our church's 32nd anniversary! We are grateful from where God has brought us and we look with gratitude towards the future!

And if you stick around after worship for the fun and fellowship, you'll sure to leave with an attitude of gratitude because we're serving up all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinners with all the trimmings for a suggested donation of \$10. In addition to the dinner, there will be a silent auction.

Guest Preacher: Rev. Kris Cervantes



On **Sunday, June 3**, Rev. Garrison and Rev. Cervantes are doing a pulpit exchange. While Pastor Charley is preaching at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waco (UU Waco), Pastor Kris will be bringing the message at Central Texas MCC.

A Unitarian Universalist since her parents began attending UU Waco when she was three years old, Kris recently received her Masters of Divinity degree from Brite Divinity School, while working as full-time minister for UU Waco. She has been active in UU Waco since moving back to the area in 2008. She has served on the board as secretary, president-elect, and president, as well as chairing the worship, ministerial search, and PR/Communications teams.

She is married to US Army veteran Rob Cervantes, and has two sons, Jack and Gabe. In her spare time, she sings, reads "trashy scifi books," knits adorable scarves, watches campy TV and movies, and hangs out with her dogs, Rico and Wolfgang, and her cats, Zed and Max.

Central Texas MCC Partners with The Cove



In last month's newsletter, you learned that members of our church came up with the idea of sponsoring an ice cream social for The Cove, a local drop-in center for homeless teens. For several reason, not the least of which is the fact that The Cove only operates during the school year, that idea turned out not to be practical.

However, The Cove invited our church to provide desserts for a party that was thrown for high school graduates that attend The Cove. And our church responded with overwhelming generosity! As a result, we were able to provide desserts, plates, cups, and graduate-themed napkins for the event, which took place at Grace Church. Special thanks goes out to everyone who provided and pledged financial donations for the desserts, to Mark Barnett for baking cookies, and for Tomas Lopez for helping the Pastor with pick-up and delivery! We are looking forward to our future relationship with The Cove. To find out more about The Cove, check them out at <http://www.thecovewaco.org/>.

Community Iftar Dinner



The high holy month of Ramadan is observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting to commemorate the first revelation of the Quran to the Prophet Muhammad. Each year, the Islamic Center of Waco throws open its doors and invites the Waco community to join them at the end of the holy month for Ramadan Iftar (Breaking of the Fast). Last year's dinner was an absolute success with well over 300 people of all religions, races, and age groups counted in attendance. The night was filled with laughter, unity, and love in the midst of breaking bread with one another.

This year's Iftar will take place at the Islamic Center of Waco (2725 Benton Dr., Waco, TX 76706) at **8PM on Saturday, June 9**. ***If you think you might be interested in joining the Pastor, contact him ASAP*** so he can RSVP with an estimate of how many people from our church might be attending. Feel free to also contact him regarding expectations and etiquette for the event. His email is centexmcc@earthlink.net.

Court Pride Show



On **Saturday, June 16**, The Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Central Texas Empire presents "Show Us Your Pride!" with a Pride outfit contest! Potluck covered dish dinner at 6PM, and show time at 7PM at Central Texas MCC.

Waco LGBTQ Youth Support



If you are an LGBTQ youth and looking for support, then check out the new Facebook group that has been created for collaboration, support, and developing a sense of community. The group can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/391226184691394/>.