

June 8, 2007

WFMCC Weekly

The Romance of Jesus and Mary Magdalene and Jesus and John



Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and saw the stone already taken away from the tomb. And so she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved...

-- John 20:1-2

Dear Friends,



It is hard to believe how fast the summer is flying by. Already this Sunday we will wrap up the "romance" portion of our Summer Cinema Sermon Series with a time of learning together in worship about Jesus' relationship with Mary Magdalene, as well as his relationship with John, known in the Gospel of John as the Beloved Disciple.

Did you know that the only place in the Bible where John is referred to as "the Beloved Disciple" is in the Gospel of John? Or that Mary Magdalene, who throughout history has been referred to as a prostitute, was never called one anywhere in the New Testament? Did you know that John and Mary Magdalene both had a special relationship with Jesus that set them apart from all the others who loved him? This Sunday we will explore what the Bible has to say about Jesus' love for both of these unique individuals, and what that might mean for how we love, and how we relate to, the One we follow.

Jonathan and David, Ruth, Naomi and Boaz, Jesus, Mary Magdalene and John...all of these people and stories invite us to see the beauty and power of the Divine Romance that God is always calling you and me to embrace. Come to worship this Sunday and experience the opportunity to fall in love with that Divine Romance, and with God, all over again.

Many blessings,

Lea

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As we look ahead to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender film series the church will be hosting in August for Pride Week, we will also be exploring a different kind of "cinema" in sermons throughout the summer. What kind of movies do you like best during the summer? Romances? Superhero flicks? Blockbusters? Did you know you can find all three in the Bible?



From May 27 - August 26 the sermons on Sunday mornings will highlight some of the great romances and superheroes of the Bible, plus that great biblical blockbuster, the Book of Revelation. This Sunday will be all about Jesus, Mary Magdalene and John. Next week we will move on to superheroes of the Bible, starting with the story of Samson.

2. Only You Can Prevent Summertime Sag!

Summer is a great time for having fun in the sun, but during the summer months please remember that WFMCC never goes on vacation. We still need you to keep our ministries going strong. If you are out of town on vacation, please remember us in your prayers...and when you are in town, come to church and receive the rest and renewal your spirit will receive in worship. It takes all of us to prevent "summertime sag!"

3. Parking at WFMCC

On Sunday mornings, please leave the spaces in front of the church building open for those with mobility issues and our first-time visitors. Thank you!

4. Upcoming Membership Class

The next class for those who would like to become members of Wichita Falls MCC, or for those who are interested in learning more about membership, will be held on Sunday, June 24th at 1 p.m. Four people are currently signed up, and there is still room for a few more. Please let Lea know if you would like to attend.

5. Multimedia Update

Thanks to everyone's tremendous generosity during our recent revival,

we now have all the funds we need to purchase and install our first multimedia system!

The Board of Trustees has set a goal of having the system up and running by the week of August 13th - just in time for our Pride Week and film festival. Please keep this goal in your prayers as we work to take this next exciting step for our congregation.

6. 10-4-20 Change Drive Continues

Between now and the end of 2007, we are collecting loose change as a fundraiser for the church. Our goal is to receive 10 gallons of change for the next 20 years at WFMCC. There are two five-gallon containers at the back of the church where you can put your change, and cups are available that are labeled 10-4-20 to collect your coins at home or in your car or at work. Together we can make it all the way to 10 gallons by December 31st!



7. WFMCC Praise and Worship Band

Our fabulous Praise and Worship Band, which gave their debut performance at our 20th Anniversary Revival, will be back again on Sunday, June 24th at our Sunday morning worship service. They will begin 30 minutes before the service, and will play throughout our time of worship as well. This will be an especially great Sunday to bring your friends to church - don't miss it!

8. Celebrate Pride in Amarillo!

Bekki McQuay, the Executive Director of the GLBT Center in Amarillo, OUTstanding Amarillo, has invited everyone at WFMCC to celebrate Pride in the Panhandle, June 16 - 23.



For all the details about the week-long activities and festivities, click on the link below:

[OUTstanding Amarillo Pride](#)

From Bekki: "Please tell all the WFMCC folks to introduce themselves when they arrive to receive a special prize."

9. TruBluU Hot Dog Night

In partnership with Odds, TruBluU is sponsoring a Hot Dog Night on Friday, June 15th at 6:00 p.m. Stop by Odds for free hot dogs, chili and soft drinks that we will enjoy together outside. Everyone is invited, and young people ages 13 to 25 are especially welcome.

Flyers are available at the church about the event. Please help us spread the word about TruBluU, Wichita Falls' first ever support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans, and questioning young people. For more information please call the church office at (940) 322-4100.

10. Thanksgivings and Prayer Requests

Thanksgivings for healthy hearts...for life, love, health and happiness...for all the couples who are getting married at WFMCC this month...**Prayer requests** for new directions for Grant...for Ronda and her health...for spiritual healing and God's grace...for Ron and Samantha's health and rest...for healing for Becky's brother Bill...for healing for Rance...for courage for the family of Elaine Parker who has pancreatic cancer, for healing for Elaine, and comfort for her longtime friend Donni...for healing for Deb's mother who is suffering greatly from shingles, and for strength and encouragement for Deb as she cares for her aging parents...for the Sherman and Wessell families following a terrible car accident, for healing for three-year old Ashley who is in a coma, and for comfort for their cousin Cheryl...for strength for Glenn and for healing for his mother...continued prayers for the family of Kathy and Martha...for healing for Debbie who was in the hospital this week...for Heston and all of his family.

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