

October 20, 2017



NCFA CONNE~~X~~ION!

WWW.NCFAUSTIN.ORG

Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*Rev. Jesus Juan Gonzalez
"Jesse"*



Greetings/Saludos, New Covenant Fellowship of Austin!



2016-2017 Transitional Ministry

What a privilege it has been serving with NCFA as *Interim Pastor* over the last 12 months. I do express my deepest gratitude to officers, members, and parishioners for your friendship and care for me since my arrival last November 2016.

In a *Called Meeting* on October 1st, after carefully considering the present financial situation of NCFA, the Session decided not to extend my full-time Interim Pastor's contract which expires next Tuesday, October 31st. However, despite such a difficult decision, there is a spirit of celebration of our time together that will be observed over an *appreciation luncheon* after Worship on Sunday, October 29th; so please make all efforts to attend and enjoy this fellowship.

Mission Presbytery through its Committee on Ministry has appointed a *Listening Team* that is already providing support and advice to Session and Members to discern the most suitable pastoral care for NCFA in 2018. ***God will provide!***

Gracias/Shalom/Thanks: *Pastor Jesse*

October 20, 2017



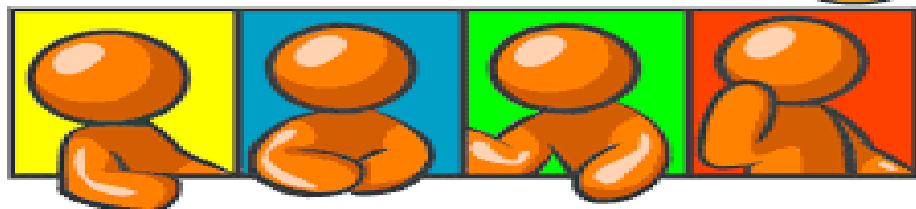
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October 22, 2017

Town Hall Meeting



AND



COM (Committee on Ministry)
will be coming to NCFA.

Please join us AFTER service for a town hall as they will be participating in a listening session to us as congregants about the needs and state of NCFA.

This is your opportunity to share.

JOIN US

October 20, 2017



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JOIN US FOR A APPRECIATION LUNCHEON
FOR PASTOR JESUS “JESSE” GONZALEZ
ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29th,
FOLLOWING MORNING WORSHIP.



Rev. Jesus Juan Gonzalez

— WE —
Appreciate You
PASTOR

October 20, 2017



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2017 Matching Grant

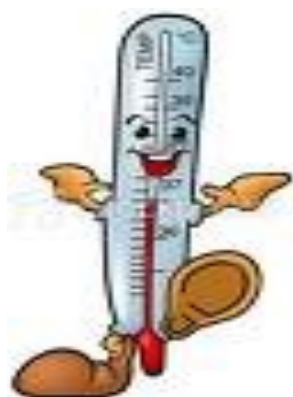


We are moving right along, so let's keep it going...



Current Amount

Matching Grant to Date:	\$ 7,072.00
Leadership Pledges	\$ 1,200.00
Balance Due to Meet \$15,000 Match	\$ 6,728.00



GOAL
\$30,000.00

*Please consider giving to help us meet
our goal for our challenge with a
purpose*

**So that we may continue sharing God's word
and serving our brothers/sisters.**

**Please mail your donations to the church or
feel free to leave a check designated as
"Matching Grant" at any of the
services/events you attend at the church.**

Thank you for your donation!

September 22, 2017



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N C F A SUNDAY MORNINGS

NCFA SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday, October 22nd

*Rev. Dr. Alan Krummenacher of
Austin Presbyterian Theological
Seminary-Preaching*



NCFA SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 10:15am

**We would love to have you and your family come
share in the CELEBRATION OF
THE GOOD NEWS!**

**We are worshipping in the Fellowship Hall
of Genesis Presbyterian Church on the Wilshire Campus
starting at 10:15 a.m.**

**New Covenant Fellowship of Austin PC(U.S.A.) is a
racially diverse community informed by the Bible,
empowered by the Holy Spirit, and motivated to share God's love
with all. In response to God's love, we are called to equip disciples
to faithfully serve, to encourage seekers to joyfully commit, and to
implore all to
worship our Lord, as we love our neighbors,
grow in grace, and live by faith.**

Real Church...
Real People...
Real Simple...

**JOIN US IN THE CELE-
BRATION OF THE GOOD
NEWS**

Real Church...
Real People...
Real Simple...

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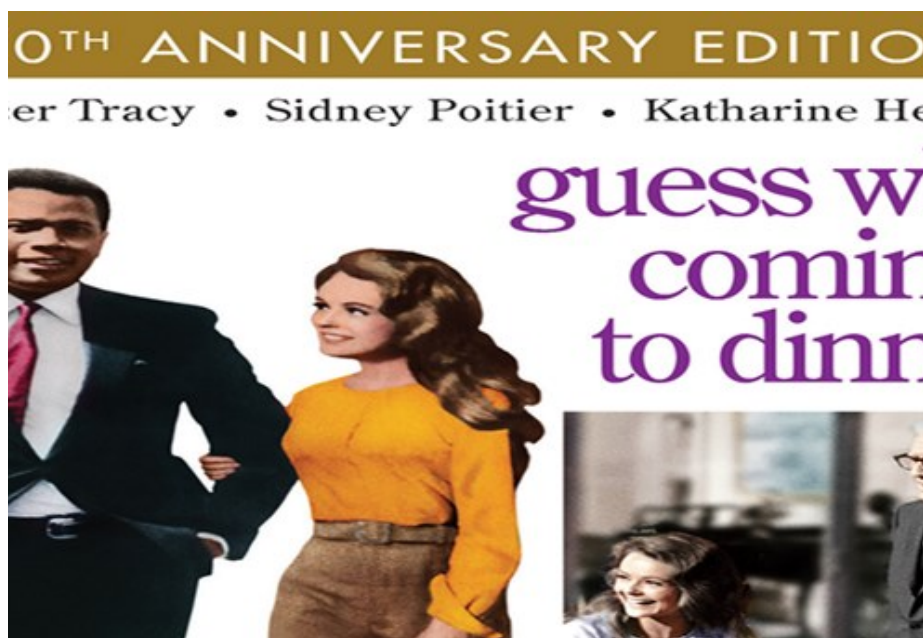
“Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner”

Psalm 106:1-6, 9-23; Matthew 22:1-14

New Covenant Fellowship of Austin

October 15th, 2017: 75th Sunday after Pentecost

INTRODUCTION:



This film was released on December 11, 1967 and premiered in theaters on January 1, 1968—almost 50 years ago. It contains a (then rare) positive representation of the controversial subject of *interracial marriage*, which historically had been illegal in most states of the United States, and still was illegal in 17 states—mostly Southern states—until June 12, 1967, six months before the film was released, roughly two weeks after Spencer Tracy filmed his final scene (and two days after his death), when *anti-miscegenation* laws were struck down by the Supreme Court in *Loving v. Virginia*.

The original version of the film that played in theaters in 1968 contained a moment in which Tillie (a black maid) responds to the question “Guess who’s coming to dinner now?” with the sarcastic one-liner: “The Reverend Martin Luther King?” After King’s assassination on April 4, 1968, this line was removed from the film, so by August 1968, almost all theaters’ showings of this film had this line omitted.

As early as 1969, the line was restored to many but not all prints, and the line was preserved in the VHS and DVD versions of the film as well.

“After thinking about the situation, and his conversation with Mrs. Prentice in particular, Matt calls everyone together to make an announcement. He says that it does not matter what everyone else may think about John and Joanna getting married: all that matters is that they love each other. The film ends with the two families and Monsignor Ryan finally sitting down to dinner.”
(Wikipedia)

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October 15th, 2017: 75th Sunday after Pentecost



The Kingdom of God that Jesus described to Pharisees and Sadducees is exactly like the one we are living in our day and age. This *hectic* life of ours is pushing us more and more away from our spiritual fellowship in worship and our mission outreach which is reduced only to a few hours on Sundays. When *the feast was ready* the invited guests of the parable *went about their business* and some even killed the *messengers* delivering the invitation.

But the wedding feast must take place and be celebrated, and now the order is ***“go to the main streets and invite to the feast as many people as you find.”*** Though it is not specifically mentioned in the order, the servants gathered all the people they could find, *good and bad alike*.

Over his ministry years Jesus was *scrutinized* by Pharisees and Sadducees blaming him for interacting with *prostitutes*, *tax collectors*, *adulterers*, and all sorts of religious *law breakers* and *ritualistically unclean* people. Along these chapters in Matthew Jesus rebukes priests and elders, telling them why these outcasts are ahead of them in the Kingdom of God: *because they believed the Gospel*.

The first guests were the Hebrews, and those who eventually took their place were *good and bad* Gentiles. But the conditions are dynamically changing, and some of us present Christians are now acting like those Hebrews of Biblical times.

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October 15th, 2017: 75th Sunday after Pentecost

CONCLUSION

Requests the honor of your presence
At the wedding banquet of his Son

Jesus Christ

To

*The Church ~
The Bride of Christ*

How many empty sanctuaries could be filled just with homeless people today? Then and now Jesus is warning us about all those rejected by religion and social standards going ahead of us to the Kingdom of God.

It is possible that our interpretation of this individual *expelled* from the party by the King for not wearing wedding clothes is the representation of those considered by us as “bad people.” And probably that’s why our ideal is only to deal with and to accept “good people” in our communities of faith.

Many come to the wedding feast without a wedding garment. If the gospel is the wedding feast, then the wedding garment is a frame of heart, and a course of life agreeable to the gospel and our profession of it, worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called (Eph. 4:1), as becomes the gospel of Christ (Phil. 1:27). This man was not naked, or in rags; some raiment he had, but not a wedding garment. Those, and those only, who put on the Lord Jesus, who have a Christian temper of mind, and are adorned with Christian graces, who live by faith in Christ, and to whom he is all in all, have the wedding garment.

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October 15th, 2017: 75th Sunday after Pentecost

Friend, how did you get in here without wearing wedding clothes?

A startling question to one that was priding himself in the place he securely possessed at the feast. ***Friend!*** That was a cutting word; a seeming friend, a pretended friend, a friend in profession, under manifold ties and obligations to be a friend. Note, there are many in the churches who are false friends to Jesus Christ, who say that they love him while their hearts are not with him. ***How did you come here?*** He does not chide the servants for letting him in; but he checks his presumption in crowding in, when he knew that his heart was not upright; *"How dare you claim a share in gospel benefits, when you had no regard to gospel rules? What has thou to do to declare my statutes?"* Ps. 50:16, Ps. 50:17. Such are spots in the feast that dishonor the bridegroom, affront the company, and disgrace themselves; and therefore, how did you come in here? Note, the day is coming, when hypocrites will be called to an account for all their presumptuous intrusion into gospel ordinances, and usurpation of gospel privileges. [Bible Study Tools – Matthew 22 Commentary]

Guess who’s invited to the Communion Table? And he is inviting good and people alike, members and not members, baptized and unbaptized, educated and illiterate, and homosexual and heterosexual. I know it is not easy, because I and most of us still cannot stand some kinds of persons, and some persons just cannot accept me or you. Thank God Jesus is the one inviting and not me or you, because if it would be up to me and you, maybe not any of us would make the cut. At least for me, it is still difficult to accept that in Christ there are no differences. In the movie like in the Gospel, what really counts is that if we really love each other, we can happily sit to eat together.

Amen.

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NEW COVENANT
FELLOWSHIP

Announcements



www.ncfaustin.org



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Announcements

Hygiene Kits for Hurricane Survivors

**To be collected October 29th **

1 — hand towel (approximately 16" x
28", no fingertip or bath towels)

1 — washcloth

1 — nail clipper

1 — bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)



Photo by Paul Jeffrey, ACT

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27th Charles and Stacy Robinson

OCTOBER

4th Cathy Trautman
7th Brandi Palacios
7th Doris Bailey
9th Larry Mack
17th Tom Coffman
18th Kyrie Grace Aldas
23rd Tiffany Cox
24th Angela Unegbu
29th Sam Mancillas
30th Lileisha Daniels

Session Members

*Rev. Jesus (Jesse) Gonzalez
Interim Moderator

*Elder Nikkie Shubitz
Clerk of Session

* Elder Cathy Angell
Administration & Personnel

* Elder Zaira Amado
Buildings & Grounds

*Elder Randy Mojica
Children and Youth

*Elder George Washington IV
Discipleship & Men's/Women's Ministry

*Elder Mary Jo Mojica
Finance & Stewardship

*Elder Robert Booth
Congregational Life/
Lay Ministry

*Elder Kimberly Hall
Missions/Evangelism

*Elder Viola Lee
Worship & Membership

Deacons

Ulysses Cox
Rey Mojica
Ashley Phillips
Scott Phillips
Cathy Trifiro

OCTOBER 2017

22nd

20th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30am Praise Team Rehearsal
10:45am Worship at Wilshire Blvd.

Rev. Dr. Alan Krummenacher-Austin
Presbyterian Theology Seminary,
Preaching

Sunday School—Nursery & Ages 3-5
(Room. 1);

10:45am Elementary – Grades 1-5
(Room 8)

10:45am Junior/Senior High
(Room 5)

12:30pm Potluck/Town Hall with
Presbytery Listening
Team

24th

6:30pm Men's Bible Study - Dinner
7:00pm Bible Study

25th

6:30pm Fellowship Dinner
7:00pm Bible Study