



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

August 15, 2010

Prelude

Terry Jones

Your Grace is Enough
by Chris Tomlin & Matt Mather

Our Community Gathers

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini
Mark Eggleston

+ Hymn

We are the Church Alive



1. We are the Church A - live, Christ's pres - ence on this earth; We
 2. We are the Church A - live, Our faith has set us free; No
 3. We are the Church A - live, All praise to God on high. Cre -

give God's Spi - rit bo - dy in the act of our new birth. As
 more en - slaved by guilt and shame we live our li - ber - ty! We
 a - tor, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er! We laud and mag - ni - fy Your

yield - ed o - pen chan - nels for God's de - scend - ing dove, We
 fol - low Christ's ex - am - ple and free - dom now pro - claim, De -
 name, Al - might - y God of love; Pray, give us life that we May

shout and sing, with joy we bring God's all in - clu - sive love.
 stroy - ing myths of doubt and fear in Je - sus' might - y name.
 be your Church, the Church A - live, For all e - ter - ni - ty.

+ Invocation

Joy Jolley

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

Church Alive

Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church, like all MCCs around the world, is founded on the basic core values of inclusivity, community, spiritual transformation, and social justice. The Holy Spirit breathed into this denomination the truth that everyone, every single person, is a beloved child of God. And when you get it in your heart, mind, and soul that you are beloved by the source of life, the source of love, then as Jesus said, "you will do even greater things!"

Throughout August we will reflect on how to step out with intentionality and bring our core beliefs to life through our daily spiritual practices. We will renew our call to be the Church Alive so that we can participate in God's transformational love for the world.

We will study five practices, grounded in our core beliefs that will guide us in our call to be the Church Alive: Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Spiritual Transformation, Compassionate Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity. These practices open our heart—to God, to others, to a life that matters, a life rich with meaning, relationship, and contribution. They help form us so that we may bring that forward as the Church Alive: Christ's presence on this earth!

We Listen

Spiritual knowledge is not information we apply to a problem that provides the solution ... [it's a] new awareness that takes root; a new perception that's formed; a new confidence discovered; a new connection made; or a new hope recovered that changes how we think, feel, and act. The impact is real, and with the continued practice of spiritual exploration ... we experience a greater opening to grace, a more refined shaping of ourselves by God. We begin to know God more intimately.

~ From Robert Schnase,
Five Practices of
Fruitful Living

First Reading

Jerry Reitz (9 am)
Karla Johnson (11 am)

Jeremiah 23:23-32

"Am I only a God nearby," declares Yahweh, "and not a God far away?"
"Can anyone hide in secret places where I cannot find them?" says Yahweh.
"Do not I fill both heaven and earth?"

Declares our Holy God: "I heard what these prophets say – the ones who speak lies in my Name. 'I had a dream!' they say, 'I had a dream!' How long will these lying prophets maintain these fictions in their hearts – these delusions of their own minds? They think the dreams they tell one another will make my people forget my Name, just as their ancestors forgot my name and could only remember old Gods.

"Let the prophet who has a dream tell it. But let the one who has my word speak it faithfully. What do straw and grain have in common? It is Yahweh who speaks.

"Is not my word like fire," says Yahweh, "and like the hammer that breaks the rock into pieces?"

"Therefore, thus says Yahweh: I oppose those prophets, imposters who steal words from one another – words presumed to be mine. Thus says Yahweh: I oppose those prophets who concoct words of their own and then declare, 'Thus says Yahweh.' I oppose those prophets who prophesy false dreams, who recount them in order to lead my people astray by their lies and their recklessness.

"For in truth I neither sent them nor appointed them. They bring my people no good at all."

Musical Interlude

We Are the Body of Christ

One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you.

We are the body of Christ.

One goal, one vision: To see you exalted. We are the body of Christ.

And to this we give our lives to see you glorified.

One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you.

We are the body of Christ.

+ Second Reading

Denise Junious (9 am)
Ron Drumm (11 am)

Luke 3:15-18

The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. John answered them all by saying, "I baptize you in water, but one is coming who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to untie. This One will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and in fire. A winnowing fan is in his hand to clear the threshing floor and gather the wheat into the granary, but the chaff will be burnt in unquenchable fire." And with many other words John exhorted them and preached good news to all the people.

Anthem

Gospel Ensemble

Hallelujah Anyhow

by Joseph Pace II arr. by Brad Henderson

Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Church Alive: Intentional Spiritual Transformation

Musical Interlude

We Are the Body of Christ

One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you.
We are the body of Christ.
One goal, one vision: To see you exalted. We are the body of Christ.
And to this we give our lives to see you glorified.
One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you.
We are the body of Christ.

Making Ministry Happen

Juanita Hicks

Offertory

Gospel Ensemble

Guide My Feet

Traditional arr. Avis D. Graves

Communion

Rev. Janice Ladd

Communion Songs

Come Just as You Are

Come just as you are, Hear the spirit call
Come just as you are, Come and see
Come receive, come and live forever.

Life everlasting and strength for today
Taste the living water and never thirst again

More Precious than Silver

Lord, you are more precious than silver.
Lord, you are more costly than gold.
Lord, you are more beautiful than diamonds,
and nothing I desire compares with you.

**We
Receive**

All congregations in MCC practice an open communion. We believe that communion is a visible sign of Christ's presence and God's grace that each one of us, friend or member, may receive. Simply come forward as the ushers direct.

During Communion you will be offered bread and cup with a brief blessing.

We use grape juice for the cup so that all may participate.

If you desire a deeper partnering in prayer (intercessory prayer), prayer ministers are available at the Side Altar during communion. The Fishers Net Prayer Ministry is also available following both services to pray with you.

Receive God's sufficient grace - the gift of freedom in God's love.

We Sing

We sing as a body during the distribution of the elements. If you do not wish to sing, please be in an attitude of prayer for those who wish to meditate during this time.

We Go Forth

God's love cannot be contained within the walls of this Sanctuary. Take the love of Christ from this place into your homes, neighborhoods and communities.

Prayer

If you are in need of prayer support, you can find prayer partners available during our time of communion or after worship in the right wing of the Sanctuary. You can also release your prayers to God by placing them in the Prayer Wall.

One Bread One Body

(chorus)

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman and man, no more. *(chorus)*

Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. *(chorus)*

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one, for all. *(chorus)*

Take My Life

Holiness, holiness is what I long for. Holiness is what I need.
Holiness, holiness is what You want from me.
So take my heart; conform it. Take my mind; transform it.
Take my will; conform it to Yours, to Yours, oh Lord.

Faithfulness, faithfulness is what I long for. Faithfulness is what I need.
Faithfulness, faithfulness is what You want from me.
So take my heart; conform it. Take my mind; transform it.
Take my will; conform it to Yours, to Yours, oh Lord.

So take my heart; conform it. Take my mind; transform it.
Take my will; conform it to Yours, to Yours, oh Lord.
Righteousness, righteousness is what I long for. Righteousness is what I need.
Righteousness, righteousness is what You want from me.

Holy Ground

We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around.

Let us praise Jesus now,

We are standing in God's presence

We are standing in God's presence

We are standing in God's presence on holy ground.

+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev. Janice Ladd

+ **Benediction**

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Postlude

Joel Hammett

THE PRACTICE OF
INTENTIONAL
SPIRITUAL
TRANSFORMATION

Opening Prayer

*Dear God,
May I offer to you
all that I am that
may be found Useful,
May I share with
you all that I hold
to be Important,
May I surrender in
you all that I cling
to as Powerful,
As you grow me
in grace,
Amen.*

~ Rev. Kristen Klein-
Cechettini

**Daily Scripture
Readings**

Sun - *Matthew 14:23*
Mon - *Daniel 2:19-23*
Tue - *Luke 24:30-32*
Wed - *Jeremiah 29:11-14*
Thu - *Mark 1:32-35*
Fri - *Isaiah 65:1-5*
Sat - *Matthew 13:11-17*

Closing Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Son and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine.
So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen.

~ adapted by John Wesley; as used in the Book of Offices of the British Methodist Church, 1936

CHURCH A LOVE: In My Life

Sunday, August 15 - Saturday, August 21
Spiritual Maturity, Transformation and Application

Opening Essay

Growing in Grace: Intentional Spiritual Transformation

"I know that all God's commands are spiritual, but I'm not. Isn't this also your experience?"

Yes. I'm full of myself—after all, I've spent a long time in the prison of turning away from God. What I don't understand about myself is that I decide one way, but then I act another, doing things I absolutely despise. So if I can't be trusted to figure out what is best for myself and then do it, it becomes obvious that God's direction is necessary.

-- Romans 7:14-16 The Message, adapted

"What I don't understand about myself is that I decide one way, but then act another ..." These words paraphrased from Paul's letter to brothers and sisters in the early church at Rome are about as real as it gets for me in terms of describing the very human quest for a spiritual life.

I have pondered long and hard the sequence described in the gospels of Jesus' own "spiritual development": rising from the waters of baptism the skies open, the voice of God is heard, and the inherent belovedness of Jesus as God's child is proclaimed to all ... And immediately after this incredible outpouring of blessing, the Holy Spirit pushes Jesus into the wilderness where he remains 40 days, struggling with temptations that would turn him away from the God who loves and blesses him so.

Why is it so hard to commit to something that is obviously so good?

How is it that we can desire nothing more than to have a real relationship with God – until it starts to happen – and then it seems we suddenly want almost anything else but that?

Henri Nouwen suggests that Jesus' three temptations were essentially these: to be useful, to be important, and to be powerful. All of which God had already affirmed that he was – to God, in God, through God. Finding our source in God, living and breathing and having our being in God, becoming who we are created to be in response to the call and vision of God; all of this sounds great, feels great, is great ...until we realize what it means: We aren't God.

And this is usually where we start scrambling or arguing or running the other direction or bargaining or suffering sudden bouts of denial or otherwise trying to find some way that we can still do what we want to do, the way we want to do it, for reasons that make sense to us and have a real relationship with God. In short, we forget who we really are: children of God created by a loving Creator. Our problem, as my friend Gale says, is that we keep insisting that we are "Tors, not Teds." Our solution lies in our remembering who we truly are; in our being re-in-formed by the God who created us, through intentional spiritual transformation.

Intentional – "in-tension-al" – spiritual transformation is spiritual formation that takes place in the tension between wanting to create our own lives and desiring to experience the truth of ourselves in relationship with our Creator. The Latin root for the word intentional means "to stretch, to aim for." Intentional Spiritual Transformation requires that we extend ourselves toward a goal: we make a commitment to growth. It promises that we can experience the relationship with God that we most desire – but we will likely need to reach a bit. As another wise (but occasionally irritating) friend reminds me: "Commitment is called commitment – and not convenience – for a reason."

With this great insight in mind, I offer you some "commitment-tricks" in the practices below to support you in the very human quest for a spiritual life. And, as always, I join you on the Way, as together we grow in grace ...

~ Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

CHURCH A L V E: Sacred Reading

The fruit of intentional faith development is not merely to know more about God but to know God, to see through the idea of God to be with God as God is.

~ Robert Schnase, *Five Practices of Fruitful Living*

The purest, most direct relationship to God exists when in graced moments our methods and images fall away and we are left mutually present, real God to real self. That is the moment when we are truly home. Yet much in us resists this utter simplicity. We need another's encouragement to entrust ourselves this fully to God.

~ Tilden Edwards, *Beyond Methods in the Spiritual Life*

When we are trapped in seeking, nothing is enough. Everything we have mocks us; we see only what is missing, and all that is already here seems pale and unsatisfying. In Sabbath time we bless what there is for being. The time for seeking is over; the time for finding has begun.

~ Wayne Muller, *Sabbath: Finding Rest Renewal and Delight in Our Busy Lives*

People who practice intentional faith development connect God to life. They participate less as a consumer of religion and more as a cultivator of the spiritual life. They don't expect all things to be provided for them. They resist being spoon-fed or merely seeking quick tips or instant success. They internalize life with Christ.

~ Robert Schnase, *Five Practices of Fruitful Living*

The life that intends to be wholly obedient, wholly submissive, wholly listening, is astonishing in its completeness. Its joys are ravishing, its peace profound, its humility the deepest, its power world-shaking, its love enveloping, its simplicity that of a trusting child.

~ Thomas R. Kelly, *A Testament of Devotion*

CHURCH A L V E: Spiritual Maturity and Application

- Every morning we have our routine: shower, feed the dog, make coffee, watch the news, and the like. Add in 10 minutes with God. Put a daily devotional in your coffee mug cupboard, or a journal on your TV stand, or email a daily "gratitude list" to a supportive friend before looking in your in-box. But add it in. Regularly. Daily.
- Just as we tend to our physical, mental and emotional health with various regular practices, appointments and scheduled events, schedule a 2-hour appointment with God this week. During this time you can take a walk or pray or sit on a bench or share music or ... but just you and God. Schedule it. Yes, in your planner, phone, etc.
- Remember the Sabbath and "keep it holy" by sacrificing any business or "busy-ness" for that day. One day a week: don't check your work email; don't check your work voicemail; don't bring that folder home. Let yourself remember who you are outside of "work" – and in God.
- Find a day in your monthly schedule over the next 30 days and "tithe" it to God. All God, all day: enjoy holy creation and go to the beach or the forest or the mountains; enjoy holy music with classical compositions or praise or simple instrumentals; enjoy holy prayers in sacred texts or poetry or write your own; enjoy holy nourishment and go to a farmer's market or cook a healing meal or invite a truly good friend to lunch ...

~ From Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

CHURCH A L V E: Over Lunch

TODAY: Juanita's Mexican Restaurant

2728 West T C Jester Boulevard
Houston, TX 77018
(713) 680-8011

Join our Board Members after Sunday Worship in August to enjoy a meal, discuss the sermon series and meet new friends.

Looking Ahead:

- DeJuana and Mary on August 22 at **Java Java Cafe**
- Tricia and Elisa on August 29 at **Golden Island**

Executive Team

Rev. Janice Ladd

Executive Pastor

RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

Mark Eggleston

Director of Outreach

Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org (x106)

Joy Jolley

Director of Operations (Interim)

Joy@ResurrectionMCC.org (x102)

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Director of Life Development

RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org (x107)

Cassandra White

Director of Worship (part-time, interim)

Gospel Ensemble Director

Cassandra@ResurrectionMCC.org (x109)

Professional Stipend

Joel Hammett

Organist & Accompanist

Debbie Mansfield

Nursery Coordinator

Sara Navarro

Graphic Artist

Sara@ResurrectionMCC.org (x112)

Joel Palomares

Youth Ministries Program Coordinator

Joel@ResurrectionMCC.org

Steven Ponder

Sanctuary Choir Director

Anthony White

Gospel Ensemble Pianist

Jim Winslett

HeavenSound Handbells Director

Jose I. Zuniga

Facilities Technician

Jose@ResurrectionMCC.org

Volunteer

Rev. Mona Lopez

Volunteer Staff Clergy

RevMona@ResurrectionMCC.org

Worship

Sunday, 9 & 11 am

Children & Youth Worship

Sunday, 11 am

Nursery

Sunday, 9 & 11 am

Resurrection MCC

2025 West 11th St, Houston, Texas 77008

Phone 713-861-9149 / Fax 713-861-2520

www.ResurrectionMCC.org

Welcome!

If you are attending Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church for the first time, we are glad to have you here! We invite you to join us each week as we worship God and learn more about Christian living in an inclusive way. All are welcome.

Make sure to visit the Concierge Desk, located in our Welcome Area, to receive a gift from us. You will find friendly volunteer hosts waiting to greet you.

Worship Services

Resurrection MCC is proud to offer a variety in our worship services. Our two Sunday services, at 9 & 11 am, are identical in form, however they contain different elements from diverse religious traditions each week.

A Special Welcome to First-Time Families!

Our nursery staff would love to meet you and your infants & children aged one month through three years! The nursery is located to the right of the Sanctuary entrance and is open during both the 9 & 11 am services.

Children and youth aged 4 - 12 years are invited to join our Youth Ministries Program during the 11 am service in the Activities Building (located across the breezeway from our main parking lot). Sign-in begins at 10:45 am. All children must be registered and signed-in to attend. Parents are welcome to join the children for Communion at Noon in the Activities Building. Snack & sign-outs begin at 12:15 pm.

About Us...

Resurrection MCC is a Christian church with a primary outreach to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community. Metropolitan Community Churches, founded in 1968, is a human-rights movement and ministry operating as a Christian denomination in 22 countries around the world. MCC is an international advocate for vulnerable people in places where religious orthodoxy, sexism, and homophobia can result in violence and death.

Metropolitan Community Churches are on a bold mission to transform hearts, lives, and history. We are a movement that faithfully proclaims God's inclusive love for all people and proudly bears witness to the holy integration of spirituality and sexuality. Because of our faith we are called to: do justice, show kindness, and live humbly with God (Micah 6:8); explore life's questions with open hearts and minds; raise our voices in sacred defiance against exclusion, whether religious, political or systemic; reach out to those with no hope; equip new generations of remarkable, far-reaching spiritual activists.

The **Mission** of Resurrection MCC is to demonstrate God's unconditional love to all people through Christian action.

The **Vision** of Resurrection MCC is to **ATTRACT** people into a relationship with God through radical **INCLUSION** into God's family, transform them to Christ-like **MATURITY**, and **MOBILIZE** them for their life purpose.

At Resurrection MCC, every member and friend is a minister of the church. We envision a Christian community that values diversity and is as diverse and all-encompassing as creation. Through salvation, service, study, and tithing, each member and friend will live and grow in faith and be spiritually fed. We embrace four core values:

Core Values

Inclusion

Love is our greatest moral value and resisting exclusion is a primary focus of our ministry. We want to continue to be the conduits of a faith where everyone is included in the family of God, and where all parts of our being are welcomed at God's table.

Community

Offering a safe and open community for people to worship, learn and grow in their faith is our deep desire. We are committed to equipping ourselves and each other to do the work that God has called us to do in the world.

Spiritual Transformation

Providing a message of liberation from the oppressive religious environment of our day or to those experiencing God for the first time is what guides our ministry. We believe that when people are invited to experience God through the life and ministry of Christ, lives will be transformed.

Social Action

Working to talk less and do more, we are committed to resisting the structures that oppress people and standing with those who suffer under the weight of oppressive systems, being guided always by our commitment to Global Human Rights.

SEASON OF SERVICE

Sign-Ups & Spiritual Renewal
TODAY | 12:30 - 2 pm | Activities Building

No Experience Required!

Come and see all the ways you can get involved in ministry and then step out and try it on for three months! Join Rev. Janice, Rev. Kristen and Ministry Team Leads for sign-ups, ministry updates, and a time of spiritual renewal as we commit our time and talents to God's people this Fall!

All new and returning volunteers are invited to sign-up and share their gifts...

- Children & Youth Teachers & Assistants, Nursery Angels
- Welcome Team, Ushers, Concierge, Inspirations
- Communion Servers, Prayer Ministers, Scripture Readers

Lunch will be provided so please RSVP to Connections@ResurrectionMCC.org.

FRIDAY NIGHT OUT

August 27, 7 pm



Café Adobe (Spring Branch/Memorial)
 7620 Katy Fwy (I-10), Ste 355
 Houston, TX 77024
 713.688.1700

www.cafeadobe.com/memorial.htm

Join our group on Facebook: Resurrection MCC Friday Night OUT
 RSVP to FridayNightOUT@ResurrectionMCC.org

Are you an "innie" or an "outie"?

The last Landscape and Facilities Work Day in June was a huge success! With 31 people in attendance, the "innies" were able to do many indoor projects, such as vacuuming our large Sanctuary, cleaning stained glass, clearing cobwebs, cleaning windows, aligning the pews.... whew....I could go on and on!

Our "outies" braved the heat and tackled some of our outdoor tasks, such as gutter cleaning, flower bed maintenance, and cleaning the weeds from around the Activities Building, to name a few.

Whether you prefer the indoor chores or love being outside, your church needs you!

Although it is technically a "work day", it is also a lot of fun. We are able to fellowship with one another, share a laugh or two (or many more!), share a meal and prayer time, and spend time with new and old friends, all while beautifying and cleaning our landscape and facilities.

Resurrection MCC has a huge outdoor campus, 2 large buildings and a crew of one (yes, ONE) who maintains it year-round.

Work Days provide you with a chance to come out and lend a hand to help out your "second home"...your church home. Things don't get done unless we do them...just like your own home.

Please help your church, consider yourself "one of the family" and join us on our next Work Day. We can't do it without your help!

SO....WHAT ARE YOU????



MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WORSHIP ARTS DEPARTMENT ARE NEEDED!



If you are a: singer, pianist, organist, hand bell ringer and you read music and or have had some form of musical introduction at some time in your life - the Worship Arts Department needs you! If you are looking for a way to serve and the Worship Arts Department intrigues you - the Worship Arts Department needs you! Offering a range of styles in our music choices is reflective of the wonderful diversity of our MCC community. To find out more information on how you can become a committed and dedicated member of any or all of the various ministries of the Worship Arts Department, please contact the Director of Worship, Cassandra White at Cassandra@ResurrectionMCC.org or 713-861-9149 x109

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

for Masquerade Ball
 Fundraiser Planning Committee

This team will assist with preparations for our Masquerade Ball on Saturday, October 30, 2010. For questions and to volunteer, contact Tricia Phillips at Masquerade@ResurrectionMCC.org



TAKE 2.....SHARE 1

During the month of August, all Children & Youth kids, along with a parent or guardian, will be able to take home and share books from our children's book shelves. Just stop by Room 110 in the Activities Building after church each Sunday and browse our selection of books.

For each one you get for yourself, take one for a brother, sister, or friend!

Don't forget....they're yours to keep, but read one and share one!

HEAVENSOUND HANDBELL CHOIR

currently has openings!



This is a great time to join as we are gearing up for our Fall concert! You don't have to have handbell experience, but you DO need good music reading skills. We rehearse on Sunday afternoons from 1:30-3:30 in the Sanctuary. If you've always thought you might be a ding-a-ling, now's the time to share that gift! Email Jim (Director) at Heavensound@ResurrectionMCC.org or contact Cassandra at Cassandra@ResurrectionMCC.org

The Chalice

*opening . . . receiving . . . offering
Life in Fullness*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

Community Gathering

6:00 - 7:00 pm | Activities Building

Bring a brown bag and purchase a drink or snack from Inspirations Coffee Cafe while you meet new friends.

Life Development Offerings

The Artist's Way Open Door Discussion

7:00 - 8:30 pm | Activities Building

SIP FROM THE CHALICE

Rules of the Road

The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you ... For nothing is impossible with God.

~ Luke 1:35, 37

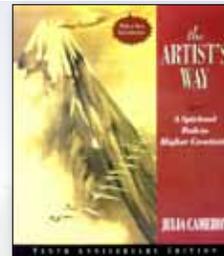
- God is my Source – I welcome the riches that God desires for me.
- God knows my heart – God's will for me is consistent with my truest desires.
- I am of God's design – what I really want to do is what I am really meant to do.
- The Creator is extravagant with life – and so am I with mine.
- My life is abundant with the luxuries of time, space, and self-care – I will indulge in them all.
- My true joy brings true joy to God – I will practice bringing God joy today.
- Serious art is born of serious play – I am becoming a seriously playful artist.
- The more I have, the more I give – I am committed to creative luxury.

*~ affirmations developed during The Artist's Way:
A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity by Julia Cameron*

OFFERING ONE

Week 8 of 12 : Open to All

The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity



For most of us, the idea that the creator encourages creativity is a radical thought. We tend to think, or at least fear, that creative dreams are egotistical, something God wouldn't approve of for us ... This thinking must be undone. No matter what your age or your life path, whether making art is your career or your hobby or your dream, it is not too late or too egotistical or too selfish or too silly to work on your creativity. What we are talking about is an induced – or invited – spiritual experience: we undertake certain spiritual exercises to achieve alignment with the creative energy of the universe.

– from The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity by Julia Cameron

The Artist's Way is a spiritual workshop aimed at freeing people's creativity. Based upon the popular book by Julia Cameron, Rev. Kristen and Juanita Hicks will facilitate this 12-week course in discovering and recovering your creative self. The Artist's Way is for everybody! No artistic skill or experience is necessary! Purchase of the book and participation in the majority of the 12 sessions is encouraged but not required. RSVP and questions to RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org or 713-861-9149 x104.

OFFERING TWO

Ongoing: Open to All

Open Door Discussion – "Tomato"



We all get consumed with ourselves; sometimes we're not even aware of it. We learn from a young age that life is about winning and impressing. We pick up that our worth and value come from how good, how smart, and how skilled we are. So, we twist things in our favor, making us look like we have it all together. Every day we have the choice to prop up these false ideas about ourselves or to let go of them. Jesus invites these parts of us to die, the parts of us that tell us our worth comes from the things we say and do. Maybe it's only when we let these things die, that we truly begin to live.

The Open Door Discussion Series is a facilitated open discussion which uses the short NOOMA films and other Flannel DVDs as a jumping-off place for personal reflection and shared engagement with our journeys of faith and spiritual growth. The Open Door Discussions are not classes; they are opportunities for us to gather and share our spiritual lives with one another. All are welcome to attend one, some, or all sessions of this DVD-Based Faith Discussion Series! RSVP and questions to RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org or 713-861-9149 x104.

LGBTQ Solutions for Living Well

Professional Services Provided at
Resurrection MCC Wellness Center

There is hope for change, empowerment and living authentically!

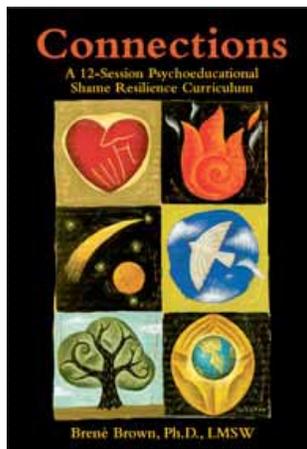
Connections:

A 12-Session
Psychoeducational
Shame-Resilience Curriculum

Saturdays beginning June 5
10 - 11:15 am

Facilitated by
Tammy S. Fountain,
LPC, ATR-BC

Call 832-863-8221



Course developed by Brene Brown, PhD, LMSW, researcher, educator & writer. Learn to identify and overcome shame through exercises, handouts and lecture.

In order to provide a safe place for discussion and healing from experiences unique to people of sexual orientation or gender identity difference, group limited to LGBTQ participants.



Women's Group Psychotherapy

Focused on, but not limited to, the coming out process, improving self-esteem, identity clarification and establishing healthy relationships.

Therapist: Tammy S. Fountain, LPC, ATR-BC
Call 832-863-8221 for an intake appointment.



Men's Group Therapy

Are you stressed out, worried, or depressed? Struggling to balance a job and a family without everything falling apart? This group provides a safe space to talk about issues affecting men today, ranging from relationships/family issues, financial/job related stress, depression, anxiety, grief, and major life changes.

Group open, space limited. Mondays, 6:00 - 7:15 pm
Therapist: Michael Mann, LCSW.
Call 713-446-8034 for an intake appointment.

Individual, family, and couples therapy available.
Request MCC Rates.

Michael Mann, LCSW / 713-446-8034
Adolescents & Adults

Tammy S. Fountain, LPC, ATR-BC / 832-863-8221
Children, Adolescents & Adults

Church Leaders Needed

DO YOU:

- Communicate well with small and large groups?
- Have good organizational skills?
- Have management, leadership, financial or legal experience?
- Work well as part of a team?
- Have a desire to spread God's unconditional love?

Ask God if now is the time for you to be part of a dynamic team committed to moving Resurrection forward. If the answer is "YES," applications will be available online on August 15. The application deadline is September 15.

Send questions to Nominating@ResurrectionMCC.org

AUGUST 15



Fishers Net Prayer Ministry

A Dialogue with God by Ron Reeser

Have you ever seen a photo of a 'cubicle farm' or worked in one? Rows and rows of little boxes spread out across a large room resembling a warehouse of boxed up people. Just like busy little bees, working away, compartmentalized; so close to the next person, yet isolated and alone. Too often the feeling of isolation stays with us when we leave the office. Running errands, paying bills, checking electronic devices, doing daily responsibilities the list goes on and on. What is missing in this too familiar scenario is an authentic relationship with God, self and others. It is human nature to be nurtured as we long for true relationships and we must start with God. Prayer is our connection to God and through God we can have a better relationship with ourselves which transforms into better relationships with others. Pray to God while you are working in a little box. Pray to God while doing errands. "Pray [to God] without ceasing,"¹ and soon any and all feelings of isolation will disseminate.

Dear Mother Father Creator God, thank you for being my constant companion, at work and play. Please continue to be my best friend where I can share my joys and vent when things go wrong. Thank you for your everlasting sustaining Grace and allow me to reach out away from myself to show others the joy of you within. In your many names. Amen.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

If you need prayer for yourself or someone you know, please join us each Sunday in the Chapel between services or near the Prayer Wall after 11 am for one-on-one personal prayer.

You can also send an email to Prayers@ResurrectionMCC.org or place a note in the Prayer Request box located in the Narthex. When a request is received, it is immediately prayed over by the Fishers Net Prayer team and once a week, a Prayers and Praises email blast is sent to more than 347 people praying together.

Growing stronger in Christ and realizing our Prayers together.

Save the Date! Give yourself a Spiritual Boost!



EXCEL Spiritual Weekend Retreat / September 3 - 5, 2010
The Christian Renewal Center, Dickinson, Texas, \$125.00 pp

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How can YOU increase OUR Imagine Campaign Fund? Here's how...

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Kara N. Poole

www.colorsdoneright.com contact@colorsdoneright.com



Providing Spiritual Direction for individuals and groups at Resurrection MCC.

Sliding Scale fees available for Resurrection members and friends.

First session is free.

Cathleen Sheil, MA
Certified Spiritual Director
sacredjourney2@aol.com
713-304-9913



Stewardship Thought for the Week

What you are is God's gift to you, and what you do with what you are is your gift to God.

~ George Foster

Advertise with us.

As low as \$25 / week.

Ads@ResurrectionMCC.org

Board Members on Duty

Edwin Kelly and Karla Johnson

Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

Flowers in the Sanctuary

Consider donating flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special day. Email the date and message to Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org or call 713-861-9149 x106.

General Fund Financial Report

Week Ending August 8, 2010

		Week	Year		
Tithes & Offerings					
08/08/10 9:00 am	95	\$3,035.64	\$110,178.75		
08/08/10 11:00 am	404	\$5,460.60	\$200,165.79		
08/04/10 6:30 pm	67	\$45.00	\$2,915.70		
Special Services			\$1,388.75		
Special Anniversary Offerings			\$19,491.60		
Online Giving		\$1,069.00	\$50,139.08		
Other Contributions		\$605.00	\$34,987.92		
Total	566	\$10,215.24	\$419,267.59		
Other General Fund Income					
Fundraising		\$514.00	\$14,561.63		
Miscellaneous		\$315.00	\$42,764.47		
Total Received		\$11,044.24	\$476,593.69		
Projected Need per Budget		\$15,955.77	\$501,128.87		
Total Exceeded Need / (Did Not Meet Need)		(\$4,911.53)	(\$24,535.18)		
Total Imagine Capital Campaign		\$432.50	\$53,594.88		

This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

SUNDAY AUGUST 15

9:00 am	Sunday Worship / Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini	
10:15 am	Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry	<i>Chapel</i>
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	<i>Activities Building</i>
11:00 am	Sunday Worship / Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini	
12:30 pm	Season of Service Sign-Ups	<i>Activities Building</i>
1:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal	<i>Music Room</i>

MONDAY AUGUST 16

6:00 pm	Imagine Campaign Team Meeting	<i>Gathering Place</i>
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TUESDAY AUGUST 17

7:00 pm	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal	<i>Music Room</i>
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	<i>Sanctuary</i>

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 18

8:00 am	Nonprofit Consulting	<i>Gathering Place</i>
6:00 pm	The Chalice: Community Gathering	<i>Activities Building</i>
7:00 pm	The Chalice: Open Door Discussion	<i>Activities Building</i>
7:00 pm	The Chalice: Artist's Way	<i>Activities Building</i>

THURSDAY AUGUST 19

No Events Scheduled

FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED AUGUST 20

SATURDAY OFFICE CLOSED AUGUST 21

10:00 am	Future Clergy Meeting	<i>Chapel</i>
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SUNDAY AUGUST 22

9:00 am	Sunday Worship / Mark Eggleston	
10:15 am	Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry	<i>Chapel</i>
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	<i>Activities Building</i>
11:00 am	Sunday Worship / Mark Eggleston	
1:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal	<i>Sanctuary</i>