



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

November 21, 2010

Prelude

Anthony White

Shout to the North

arr. Lloyd Larson

Our Community Gathers

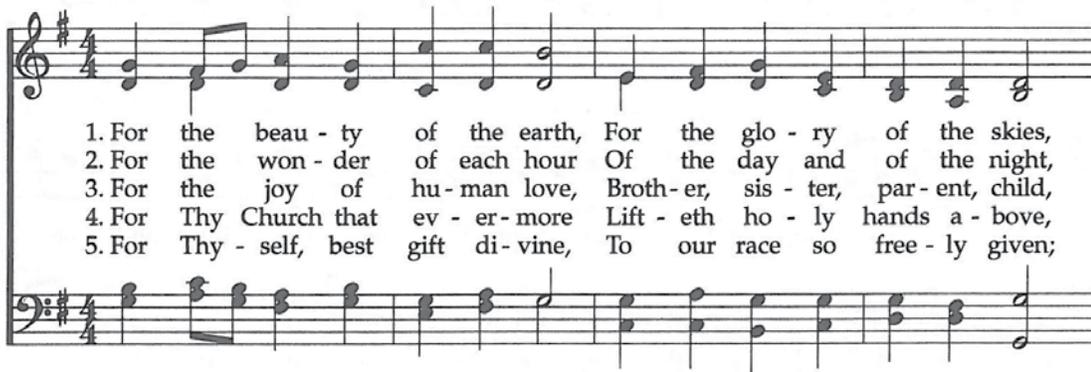
Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Joy Jolley

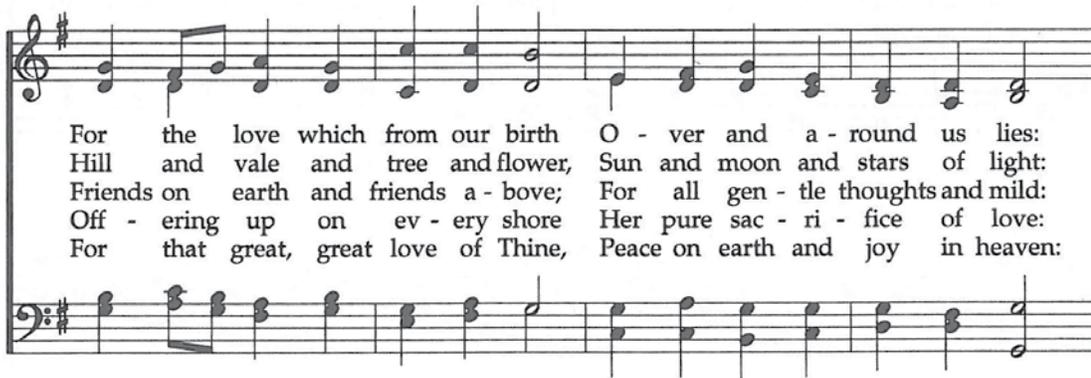
+ Hymn

For The Beauty of the Earth

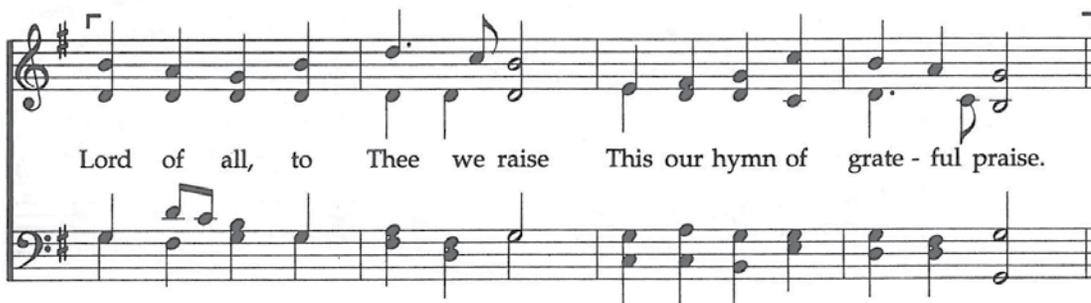
Give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds. Psalm 107:8



1. For the beau - ty of the earth, For the glo - ry of the skies,
 2. For the won - der of each hour, Of the day and of the night,
 3. For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 4. For Thy Church that ev - er - more Lift - eth ho - ly hands a - bove,
 5. For Thy - self, best gift di - vine, To our race so free - ly given;



For the love which from our birth O - ver and a - round us lies:
 Hill and vale and tree and flower, Sun and moon and stars of light:
 Friends on earth and friends a - bove; For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 Off - ering up on ev - ery shore Her pure sac - ri - fice of love:
 For that great, great love of Thine, Peace on earth and joy in heaven:



Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise.

We Gather

From many places we gather here. This is a high point of our week. We see our friends. We make new friends. And we spend time with The Friend -- the loving Christ who meets us where we are, as we are. In this Sanctuary we worship and through worship the courage within us is kindled to inspire courageous living beyond this place.

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

We Listen

In any given relationship, there is a third party: those in the relationship itself, and what poet Robert Bly called the “third body” or famous family therapist Carl Whitaker referred to as “the ineffable usness.” This entity is as important as the parties in the relationship and must be tended. If its needs are met, then the people within the relationship also thrive. The “usness” or “third body” is as unique as the individuals that compose it, and it deserves as much gratitude as the people in it. In other words, you don’t just want to give thanks for the ones in the relationship, but for the “usness” you have created together.

And the more that you appreciate the “usness,” the more you strengthen your bond.

In a way, everyone in creating the “third body” is actually forming their own culture. A culture with its own customs, rituals, language, and stories.

What is Resurrection’s “usness” like? What customs and rituals have we made together? Take a minute during this thanksgiving season to think about how you would describe our “third body.” Then, think of one way you can celebrate and give thanks for our “usness,” our unique togetherness.

~ Adapted from M.J. Ryan, *Attitudes of Gratitude in Love*.

+ Invocation

Rev. Mona Lopez

First Reading

Jerry Reitz (9 am)
Denise Junious (11 am)

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, “The person who scatters abroad, gives to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.” The One who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that has been given you. Thanks be to God for this indescribable gift!

Musical Interlude

Thank You

Thank you for the world so sweet,
Thank you for the food we eat,
Thank You for the birds that sing,
Thank You, God, for everything.

+ Second Reading

Rose Wall (9 am)
Ron Drumm (11 am)

Luke 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

Anthem

Stand
by Donnie McClurkin

Gospel Ensemble

Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Carolyn Mobley

Living Thanks—Living Promises!

Musical Interlude

Thank You

Thank you for the world so sweet,
Thank you for the food we eat,
Thank You for the birds that sing,
Thank You, God, for everything.

Making Ministry Happen

Ryan Rolston

Offertory

HeavenSound Handbells

How Can I Keep From Singing?

Communion

Rev. Carolyn Mobley

Communion Songs

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

I am weak, but Thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

(Chorus)

Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Through this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee. *(Chorus)*

When my feeble life is o'er,
Time for me will be no more;
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore. *(Chorus)*

Rev. Carolyn Mobley

Rev. Carolyn has more than twenty years in MCC. She joined Resurrection in 1990. During her 15 years at Resurrection, she was the Director of Christian Education, the Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, Outreach, and Community Partnerships. Rev. Mobley has now returned to the Atlanta area to be with her partner of 12 years, Adrain Bowie, a recent MDiv graduate at Candler Theological Seminary. She is a gifted singer and pastoral leader and a living legacy to Resurrection MCC!

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.

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.

Obrigado, Senhor (We Are Thankful, O Lord)

Obrigado, Senhor, Aleluia.
Obrigado, Senhor, Aleluia
Obrigado, Senhor, Aleluia.
Aleluia, Aleluia, Aleluia.
We are thankful, O Lord, Alleluia.
We are thankful, O Lord, Alleluia.
We are thankful, O Lord, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Here at Thy Table, Christ

Here at Thy table, Christ, this sacred hour,
O let us feel Thee near, in loving power,
Calling our thoughts away from grief within,
As to Thy banquet hall we enter in.

Sit at the feast, dear Friend, break thou the bread;
Fill thou the cup that our souls shall be fed;
that we may find in Thee pardon and peace,
And from all bondage win a full release.

So shall our life of faith be full, be sweet;
And we shall find our strength for each day meet;
Fed by Thy living bread, all hunger past,
We shall be satisfied, and saved at last.

Come then, O Holy Christ, feed us, we pray;
Touch with Thy gentle hand each common day;
Making our earthly life full of Thy grace,
Till in the home of heaven we find our place. Amen.

There's a Spirit of Love in This Place

There's a spirit of love in this place, there's a spirit of love in this place,
you can't see it but its there, just as precious as the air,
there's a spirit of love in this place.

There's the presence of peace in this room, there's the presence of peace in this room,
in God's tenderness is found peace that passes human bounds,
there's the presence of peace in this room.

O, Alleluia, sing alleluia, we bless your holy name. O Alleluia, sing alleluia,
there's a spirit of love in this place.

There's a space for grace in our hearts, there's a space for grace in our hearts, it's in learning
to forgive that our sprits truly live, there's a space for grace in our hearts.

O, Alleluia, sing Alleluia we bless your holy name. O, Alleluia, sing alleluia,
there's a space for grace, there's the presence of peace, there's a spirit of love in this place.

+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev. Carolyn Mobley

+ **Benediction**

Rev. Carolyn Mobley

Postlude

Joel Hammett

Executive Team

Rev. Harry Knox

Senior Pastor

RevHarry@ResurrectionMCC.org

Rev. Janice Ladd

Executive Pastor

RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

Rev. Michael Diaz

Director of Connections

RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org

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

Nursery@ResurrectionMCC.org

Sara Navarro

Graphic Design

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. Pat Farnan

Volunteer Clergy

RevPat@ResurrectionMCC.org

Rev. Mona Lopez

Volunteer 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 - 16 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.

The Chalice

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

Where Will You Journey?

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.

ADVENT CONNECTION GROUPS

7:00 - 8:30 pm | Activities Building

OFFERING ONE

6 Weeks - Open to All

ADVENT CONNECTION GROUPS

Wednesdays

December 1 - January 5

OPEN THE DOOR

"The full person God created us to be contains more than we can imagine, but most of us dwell within only a small portion of the superb castle of ourselves. Opening the door of our heart allows us entrance to the vast treasure of who we are and to the divine presence within us. We have an immeasurable amount of love and tenderness in us if only we open the door to discover it. The same is true with the multitude of our other qualities and virtues. Each door we open helps us grow into the fullness of who we are. Each discovery moves us to contribute love in our world."

~ *Open the Door: A Journey to the True Self* by Joyce Rupp

You are invited to participate in the upcoming 6-week small group study. During the season of Advent, Connection Groups will gather once a week to share their experience with the incredible book entitled: "Open the Door: A Journey to the True Self." In this book beloved author and spiritual guide, Joyce Rupp, explores the rich image of the door as an invitation to growth and awareness and leads readers to search more deeply for their authentic selves in fuller union with God. The book provides a structure of daily reading, scripture, prayer, reflection, and meditation and the Advent Connection Groups will provide encouragement and companionship throughout the journey.

Mark your calendar to meet each Wednesday from December 1 to January 5 when we will have Advent Connection Groups on site in the Activities Building. Sign up today and purchase your book at the Inspirations Coffee Café and Bookstore or download the book to your Kindle through Amazon.

If you need more information, contact
RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org or 713-861-9149 (x104).

The SUNDAY BASICS SERIES

4th Sundays 12:30 - 2 pm @ Resurrection



What do people here believe about Jesus?

Why do we stand when we read certain parts of the Bible during worship?

Can I become a member here even if I don't agree with a lot of the Bible?

Got questions? We got ... questions too!

How do we understand, experience, and engage "the basics" – Jesus, Worship, The Bible – in a theologically diverse community of faith which claims "Inclusivity" as its central Core Value? Join Rev. Kristen for our new "Sunday Basics" series as we explore together the riches – and challenges – of what it means to be a truly inclusive Christian community of faith! Attend one, some or all of this open monthly series geared toward Grounding for All Paths in the Journey of Faith!

OPEN THE DOOR

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

NOV. 28 - The Door of Our Heart - Rev. Kristen

DEC. 5 - Knocking on the Door - Rev. Michael

DEC. 12 - Opening the Door - Christmas Concert

DEC. 19 - Standing on the Threshold - Rev. Harry

DEC. 26 - Closing the Door - Rev. Kristen

JAN. 2 - Beyond the Door - Rev. Harry



Fishers Net Prayer Ministry

A Dialogue with God by Ron Reeser

Thanksgiving and Christmas are almost upon us. Let us take this time to prepare for the events forthcoming. Rejoice and be thankful for what God has provided. Thankful for the blessings we encounter every day and prepare our minds and hearts to be open to others in need. Prepare to reach out away from ourselves to ensure all our neighbors are able to enjoy this time of year. There is much need and it is our obligation to serve Christ by serving one another through Christ.

Dear Creator, Sustainer, Mother, Father God, we take this time to collectively give you thanks and praise for all you provide. Fill us this day and always, with your love and allow us to shine your love to others. Allow us to open our hearts, minds and souls to you and our neighbors so that no one will feel alone during this time of joy. In your many names, Amen.

Join us each Sunday in the Chapel between services or near the Prayer Wall after our 11 am Worship service for one-on-one personal prayer. You can also send your requests to Prayers@ResurrectionMCC.org. Requests are immediately prayed over by the Fishers Net Prayer members and published each week in a Praise and Prayer email (unless your request is to remain anonymous). To sign up for Praise and Prayer alerts, go to our Web site and click on the "In Need of Prayer?" link.

Growing stronger in Christ and realizing our Prayers together.

~ Fishers Net Prayer Ministry ~

Children's Choir Rehearsal

Sundays | Activities Building, Room 104
10:30 am - 11:00 am | 3rd - 7th grades welcome



Please email questions to
ChildrensChoir@ResurrectionMCC.org

Sisters and brothers,

A prophetic church is built on a foundation of deep personal caring and solid community building. How blessed we are that Rev. Michael Diaz is on his way to Resurrection MCC!

Here is Rev. Michael's letter of greeting, to which I add "thanks be to God!"

Rev. Harry

Greetings Resurrection MCC!

What a joy it is to be able to introduce myself as your new Director of Connections! I am so excited to be joining you on December 5, 2010 as we begin the season of Advent and open the door for God's goodness to be shown anew in our lives. I will be bringing the spiritual encouragement on that Sunday and am excited to worship with you! For the past three years, I have been ministering at the Sunshine Cathedral MCC in Fort Lauderdale, FL where I began as an intern. After my ordination in 2008, I continued as an Assistant to the Senior Pastor, and the Director of Religious Education and Volunteer Ministries. My prior work experience includes working with youth, guest lecturing, music ministry, devotional writing, hospital chaplaincy, and labor and community organizing.

Ten years ago, I graduated from MacArthur High School here in Houston, and soon after, I moved to Tulsa, OK where I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in New Testament Studies from Oral Roberts University. Three years later, I received a Master of Divinity degree from Episcopal Divinity School (EDS) in Cambridge, MA. While attending EDS, I was honored with the 2007 J. Norman Hall Prize for my achievements in peace and justice work. I was also awarded the 2007 Tek Young Lin Prize for Excellence in Biblical Exegesis, honoring my commitment to make scripture come alive in a multicultural world. Because of my passion for developing lay leadership in the church and finding new ways to include people from multicultural backgrounds, I am currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree at EDS, where my focus is on developing biblical reading strategies for queer Latin@s.

As a native Houstonian, I am delighted that God has called me back to Texas where my journey first began. My own faith history is as diverse as a room full of MCCers! Whether Catholic, Pentecostal, Anglican, or New Thought – you name it, I've dabbled in it. Thank God I finally found what I've always been looking for in MCC!



I am looking forward to building connections among you, developing relationships with you, and learning from you at the same time. Thanks again for allowing me to join you on your faith journey as we dare to believe in the possibilities ahead for Resurrection MCC. Abundant blessings!

Rev. Michael Diaz

Give Thanks

CAMPAIGN

That's why, when I heard of the solid trust you have in Jesus and your outpouring of love to all the followers of Jesus, I couldn't stop thanking God for you — every time I prayed, I'd think of you and give thanks. But I do more than thank. I ask — ask the God of Jesus Christ, the God of glory — to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing God personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is God is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life God has for the followers, oh, the utter extravagance of God's work in us who trust — endless energy, boundless strength!

Ephesians 1:15-19

Dear Members & Friends,

As we enter into this season of Thanksgiving, I hold a deep sense of gratitude for the people of Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church. I look over the last ten months and I can say with great joy, "We made it!" We endured the waiting period with great love, deep passion, and solid commitment. We prayerfully and thoughtfully remained a steadfast congregation in attendance, giving, and service, while our Pastoral Search Committee worked diligently to bring forth a Senior Pastor Candidate. Throughout the process, we could feel God's presence in our midst. We could see the hand of God in each moment and it provided hope and promise for our future. Standing on faith, we leaned into each other and into this moment in our God-story. I believe each of us can look back over this year and see that God has been forming us and shaping us into the Church Alive! We are now truly ready for what God holds for us. We are ready to step into our future with a purpose and a calling.

On October 24, 2010, we took a pivotal step into this exciting future by electing Rev. Harry Knox as our next Senior Pastor. The spirit among us was tangible as we also said "Yes!" to the expansion of our ministry goals for 2011. From these faithful decisions, we find ourselves standing at the threshold of God's calling for this congregation. It is from this place of excitement and gratitude that I write this letter to you. We need to come together again and support these decisions with a financial contribution over and beyond our regular tithes and offerings.

The goal of the Give Thanks Campaign is \$50,000. As of Thursday, November 11, we have already achieved \$28,958 or 58% of our goal! The Executive Team, Board of Directors and Lay Delegates, with full participation, pledged \$16,025, and we have received an additional \$12,933! Will you prayerfully consider joining us in this campaign during the month of November? Envelopes will be available at all Sanctuary entrances throughout November, or if you would prefer, you may contribute online. As we begin this new chapter in the life of Resurrection MCC, it is critical that our finances be strong and sustaining. Your gift will enable us to move forward and attain our ministry vision as the Church Alive.

A new day is dawning and tomorrow holds great promise for the people of Resurrection MCC. I can say with absolute confidence that this church will keep our eyes focused and clear, so that we can see exactly what it is God is calling us to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life God has for the followers (Eph 1:18). As we keep our hearts focused on a foundation of love, and open to the work of the Spirit, we will be in awe of what we can accomplish together to impact both individuals and our community. Our greatest hopes, and God's greatest calling for us, are fulfilled as we faithfully offer our best. God will continue to stir our hearts to be a spiritual force for fullness and transformation in our community and beyond.

In Gratitude,

Rev. Janice Ladd
Executive Pastor



"DECK THE HALLS"
CHRISTMAS DECORATING

TODAY **12:30 - 4:30 PM**
SANCTUARY

Join us as we celebrate the
Season of Advent and decorate our
Sanctuary for Christmas!

IMANI VIDA DRUM CIRCLE



Saturday

December 4

3 - 4:30 pm

Gathering Place

Gaining popularity across the country, some drum circles celebrate heritage, customs, and ethnic traditions, but all are outlets for people expressing a primal urge that drives their spirit, as they drum amidst camaraderie and fun. Drumming is not only fun, it induces deep relaxation, lowers blood pressure, and reduces the stress which contributes to nearly all disease and life-threatening illnesses. Drumming puts the mind, body and spirit in a place of rest and strengthens wellness!

The drum circle is open to ALL, and requires no prior experience with drumming. Join us! If you want more information, contact Denise Junious, DrumCircle@ResurrectionMCC.org, or visit www.meetup.com/DrummingCircle

Imani Vida Drum Circle meets on the first Saturdays of each month

LANDSCAPE & FACILITIES

— WORKDAY —

Saturday, December 4

9 am - Noon • Sanctuary

Join in service as we beautify and clean our church home! We will be getting our home ready for the holiday season, while mingling with friends and having fun!

For more information and to RSVP, email Joy@ResurrectionMCC.org. Lunch will be served at Noon, so come on out and join us as we "clean our house."



Santas Workshop

For Children of All Ages!

Saturday | December 11 | 2 - 5 pm

Activities Building

Bring a Christmas list of loved ones you hope to surprise with a special gift this Christmas, and join the creative elves of Santa's Workshop as they assist one and all in making delightful ornaments, delicious cookies, and other unique treats for gifting and giving! Carols, hot chocolate and a special Christmas hay-ride are all part of the fun – and a secret visit by Santa for wishes and photos, too! Grown-ups welcome!

**RSVP for planning purposes to:
Joel@ResurrectionMCC.org.**



"Do you feel any different?" a couple of people have asked me in the days since my ordination last Saturday.

Yes!

Holy Spirit was powerful and gentle among us as we gathered at MCC Washington on a crisp fall day so sunny we had to shield our eyes in the beautiful glass domed sanctuary. Rev. Dwayne Johnson was all smiles as he welcomed my family and friends from around the country and noted how apparent God's hand has been in the connections between our two congregations in the last year or so.

The music! Lynn Loosier began a capella - "My faith has found a resting place, not in device nor creed. I trust the Ever-living One, Whose wounds for me shall plead..." We were reminded of the Sovereignty of God as the Gospel Choir sang "Perfect Praise" - and of God's loving care when Marvin Matthews sang "His Eye Is On the Sparrow".

The sermon on servant leadership was the proper prelude to my vows. How humble I felt to say them in the presence of a living saint like Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson.

To concelebrate Holy Communion with Rev. Dwayne and a hero like Rev. Pat Bumgardner of MCC New York was more than the fulfillment of a lifelong dream. It was much more than a personal accomplishment in the face of all the obstacles I have encountered as a result of institutional heterosexism over the years. In the end, it was what it should always be - a remembrance of all the ways the embodied God suffers with us in order to redeem our suffering.

But it was different. This time it was me saying the words of institution. This time the church had gathered to affirm my calling to speak those words of remembrance. This time I was working with the Church instead of working in spite of it. Because you called me to be your senior pastor; because the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches affirmed my ministry; and because I vowed to follow Christ and lead Christ's sheep; I felt more at peace than I ever have before.

I finally felt at home in the Church - and in an odd way, in my own skin - for the first time. All because you and God and I have chosen each other and committed to a relationship that matters.

Thanks be to God. I feel ordained.

Rev. Harry

DECEMBER 12, 2010 • 12:30 PM

HOLIDAY RAFFLE

TICKETS : \$10 EACH OR \$40 FOR 5

1ST PRIZE \$1,000 AMEX GIFT CARD	2ND PRIZE 16 GB iPad + Wi-Fi	3RD PRIZE \$200 MARRIOTT GIFT CARD
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Tickets on sale in Inspirations Coffee Cafe & Bookstore

Sunday, December 12
9 & 11 am, Sanctuary

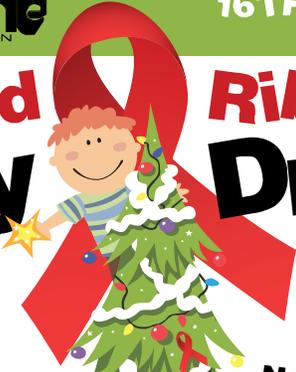
CHRISTMAS CONCERT

It's one of the most wonderful times of the year and we want you to be part of it. Come and enjoy some great Christmas music presented by our Worship Arts Department as we celebrate this special time. Let the season fill your heart with joy. We'll be looking for you!



16TH ANNUAL

Red Ribbon Toy Drive



A Project of
AIDS Foundation
Houston

Nov. 6 - Dec. 6

DROP
SPOT



Donate a toy to Houston's own children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Red Ribbon Toy Drive is here, and Resurrection MCC is proud to again be a collection site. Over 800 children living with or affected by HIV / AIDS receive toys each year. Please consider bringing a new, unwrapped toy appropriate for children between birth and age 15 before Sunday, December 5.

Our collection box is located in the Welcome Area near our Food Pantry shopping cart.

Board Members on Duty

Tricia Phillips & 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.

WANTED

AWESOME PARENTS

Seeking mature, responsible couples and individuals who desire the joy and fulfillment only found from adopting a child. Must provide a permanent, stable and loving home to a child(ren) for their entire life. This may include: teaching them to ride a bicycle or make cookies, help with homework or acquiring a job. No experience necessary. Awesome parents come in all orientations.

Free Information Meeting - December 6th

Call Scott at (832) 428-6267 or inquire online at www.pathway.org



Pathways Youth & Family Services is licensed & funded by the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services

FOOD PANTRY

Open by Appointment:

713-861-9149 x103

Nonperishables Needed:

Canned Meats, Vegetables, Fruit, Juice, Soup, Pasta, Rice, Beans



Financial Report

For the Week and YTD Ended November 14, 2010

Tithes & Offerings & Capital Giving	Attendance	Week Ended	YTD Total	YTD Average Per Person
Amount Needed	530	\$16,534.62	\$760,592.31	\$31.20
Amount Received	512	\$28,574.42	\$698,441.03	\$29.74

Bottom Line:

Did you know that it only takes an average of \$31.20 per week per person to transform lives in our community? Currently, we are not receiving sufficient offerings to accomplish the 2010 ministry goals approved by the congregation. We manage our cash flow accordingly, but due to the budget variance, we are falling short of fulfilling our ministry vision.

Ministry Plan for 2011

Amount Needed	671	\$21,762.54	\$1,131,652.00	\$32.43
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*Experts in
Scenic Décor,
A/V, Lighting,
Staging, and more
for*

- ◆ Weddings
- ◆ Galas
- ◆ Meetings
- ◆ Parties
- ◆ Events, etc.

Angela Berrospe - (713) 863-9450 www.techave.com

Increase OUR Imagine Campaign Fund



How can YOU increase OUR Imagine Campaign Fund? Here's how...
Simply refer or use my services as your Realtor, to Buy or Sell a home. Once the transaction is complete a donation in your name will be made to the Imagine Campaign. *Together we can make a difference!*

Better Homes and Gardens REAL ESTATE | **ANDERSON PROPERTIES**

713-822-8555
www.SellingHomesInHouston.com

Pamela Efferson, Realtor

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All Interior and Exterior Painting	Front Door Restoration
Color Consultation	Pressure Washing
Sheetrock Repair/Custom Textures	Many Specialty Services Available
Accent Walls/Faux Finishes	High Standards/Friendly Service
Nurseries/Murals	Free Estimates

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



BAYOU CITY PERFORMING ARTS

Presents



Tuesday, December 14, 2010
7:30pm • Jones Hall

Featuring: Bayou City Chorale, KIPP SHARP Singers, Texas Medical Center Orchestra, United Nations Association International Chorus, HeavenSound.

Tickets: \$24 to \$55
713-521-7464
www.BCPAHouston.org

Tickets available in the Gathering Place on Sunday, December 12 following both services.

TREAT PAIN at its source and avoid unwanted medication side effects and painful surgeries.



CORE Chiropractic
1770 St. James Place, Suite 210
Houston, TX 77056
713-622-3300



DR. JUANITA HICKS
Chiropractor

Major Medical Insurance Accepted
Mention this ad when making your appointment with Dr. Hicks and receive your examination, xrays and first treatment for \$49.

WELLNESS CENTER

at Resurrection MCC
LGBTQ Solutions for Living Well

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



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



Women's Group Psychotherapy

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

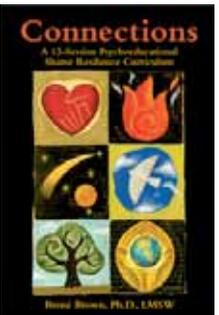
Therapist: Tammy S. Fountain, LPC, ATR-BC
Call 832-863-8221 for an intake appointment.

There is hope for change, empowerment and living authentically!

Connections:
A 12-Session Psychoeducational Shame-Resilience Curriculum

Call Tammy at 832-863-8221 for more information

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



This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 21

9:00 am	Sunday Worship / Rev. Carolyn Mobley	
10:15 am	Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry	<i>Chapel</i>
10:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	<i>Activities Building</i>
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	<i>Activities Building</i>
11:00 am	Sunday Worship / Rev. Carolyn Mobley	
12:30 pm	Deck the Halls - Christmas Decorating	<i>Sanctuary</i>
1:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal	<i>Music Room</i>

MONDAY NOVEMBER 22

No Events Scheduled

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 23

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

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 24

No Events Scheduled

THURSDAY OFFICE CLOSED NOVEMBER 25

Thanksgiving Day

FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED NOVEMBER 26

No Events Scheduled

SATURDAY OFFICE CLOSED NOVEMBER 27

No Events Scheduled

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 28

9:00 am	Sunday Worship / Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini	
10:15 am	Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry	<i>Chapel</i>
10:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	<i>Activities Building</i>
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	<i>Activities Building</i>
11:00 am	Sunday Worship / Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini	
12:30 pm	The Sunday Basic Series	<i>Activities Building</i>