



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

March 18, 2012

Prelude / Preludio

Forever Blest

Jesus, Hold my Hand

by Albert E. Brumley

Our Community Gathers / Nuestra Comunidad Se Reúne

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Announcements / Anuncios

Mark Eggleston

+ Welcome Song / Canción de Bienvenida

Let us build a house where all are named, Their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed, As words within the word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, Prayers of faith and songs of grace;
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.

+ Exchange of Peace / Saludo de Paz

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ Welcome Song Reprise / Canción de Bienvenida

+ Call to Experience / Llamada de Adoración

Joy Jolley

One: We look to the horizon to see if God is on the way. We await the presence of our
God and shout out to the heavens..."When will you come?" What we need to
know is...

ALL: God's presence is already here.

One: We lift our eyes to the heavens and cry out..."When will you show yourself to
us?" What we need to say is...

ALL: God's spirit is in us already.

One: We ask ourselves..."How can we show others what we already know?" What we
need to do is this...

ALL: We will embody the love of God to all we meet.

One: We will follow the teachings of Jesus Christ and demonstrate God's
unconditional love to all people through Christian action.

ALL: We will be the face of God to all.

One: I pray that we will indeed be the hands, feet, and face of God and that
we feel God's spirit in us and God's presence all around us all the days of our lives.
And all God's people said...

ALL: Amen!

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

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.

The Season of Lent

Lent, the 40 days which draw us from Ash Wednesday to Holy Week, culminating in celebration of the resurrection of Christ on Easter, is a time when we are invited to leave behind those things which heavy our heart, cloud our vision, and keep us from living into God's promise for our lives. As we make our way with Jesus and each other during this contemplative season we will share daily reflections from "Way Words" and gather on Wednesday evenings for ReVision 2012 Way-Making reflection groups. Please join us! Details in this bulletin.

Contemporary Word

R. Kirby Godsey served as president of Mercer University, a historically Baptist institution, for 27 years. As a progressive evangelical, Dr. Godsey has challenged numerous traditional Baptist beliefs as not being reflective of an inclusive, loving God. Conservative Baptists have also taken issue with Dr. Godsey permitting "homosexual" student organizations and activities on Mercer's campus. Even after being censured by the Georgia Baptist Convention in 1996 for being "an unfaithful and immoral interpreter of the Christian faith", Dr. Godsey ensured Mercer University would be a community of respect, as evidenced by acting with "civility and respect towards all people - fundamentalist and liberal, gay and straight, Black and Hispanic."

+ Opening Hymn

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, Leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace of mine, Leaning on the everlasting arms;

*Leaning leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning leaning, Leaning on the everlasting arms.*

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, Leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day, Leaning on the everlasting arms;

(Chorus)

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, Leaning on the everlasting arms;
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, Leaning on the everlasting arms;

(Chorus)

Contemporary Word / Lectura Contemporánea

Karla Johnson

When We Talk About God...Let's Be Honest

by R. Kirby Godsey

Debates about whether the Kingdom is present or future are largely irrelevant. Present and future do not apply to the Kingdom. The Kingdom exists wherever God is present. Jesus admonishes us to make the Kingdom a real and defining presence in our lives. The Kingdom is not far away. The kingdom of God is in our midst. Jesus says taking that word seriously and making the reality of God's kingdom the integrating factor in our living are exactly what we mean by the experience of salvation. Jesus embodied the Kingdom's kind of life. The church carries forward the reality and presence of the Kingdom. The church refers to people who embody, in concrete and specific ways, God's way of seeing the world.

Community Prayer Litany / Letanía de la Comunidad

Rev. Terri Steed

One: We come before our God, daring to journey as countless others have before us, making way for many more to come, claiming the fullness of our lives as blessing in the Holy.

(Pause)

One: Let God's people say "Lord, hear our prayers."

ALL: Lord, hear our prayers.

One: May we name what we have been through and are willing to leave behind:

(Pause)

One: Let God's people say "Lord, hear our prayers."

ALL: Lord, hear our prayers.

One: May we name ourselves and our sisters and brothers with compassion, forgiveness, and hope:

(Pause)

One: Let God's people say "Lord, hear our prayers."

ALL: Lord, hear our prayers.

One: May we name our thanksgiving and our commitment to make way for God's vision with the whole of our lives:

(Pause)

One: Let God's people say "Lord, hear our prayers."

ALL: Lord, hear our prayers.

One: Amen and amen.

Luke 4.16-22, 17.20-21

When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of God is upon me because God has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. God has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the God's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.' All were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?'

Later, Jesus was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, and he answered, 'The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed; nor will they say, "Look, here it is!" or "There it is!" For the kingdom of God is among you. In fact it is within you.'

Anthem / Himno

Gospel Ensemble

I Believe in God

from Gospel Mass by Robert Ray

Engage / Sermón

Rev. Michael Diaz

Way Words: Community Valuing

Congregational Response / Congregacional de Respuesta

Change My Heart O God

Change my heart, O God
Make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God,
May I be like you.
You are the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, This is what I pray.

We Offer Ourselves / Ofrenda

Debbie Skelly

Offertory / Ofertorio

Gospel Ensemble

Lamb of God

from Gospel Mass by Robert Ray

Communion / Comunion

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini
Paula Werner

**We
Receive**

All congregations in MCC practice an open communion. You do not need to be a member of this church or any church to come to the table and receive communion. 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. Gluten-free wafers are available from the communion server on the far right. Simply say, "Gluten free."

Todas las congregaciones de ICM (Iglesias de las Comunidades Metropolitana) practican una comunión abierta. Creemos en el amor de Dios incondicional para todas las personas.

Si deseas tomar la comunión en español, por favor dirígete hacia al ministro de comunión localizado hacia la izquierda y pídele, "En español, por favor."

Communion Songs / Cantos de Comuni3n

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. God, open us to your living presence through your life at this table. Receive the living sacrifice of our awakened life.

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.

Embody

We want to encourage you to engage your spiritual life beyond worship on Sunday.

Holy Spirit Rain Down

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down;
O Comforter and Friend, how we need your touch again;
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down;
Let your power fall, let your voice be heard,
Come and change our hearts as we stand on your Word;
Holy Spirit, rain down.
No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind can know what God has in store,
So open up heaven, open it wide, over your church
And over our lives.

I Surrender All

All to Jesus I surrender, all to him I freely give.
I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live.

I surrender all, I surrender all.
All to Thee, my precious Savior, I surrender all.

All to Jesus, I surrender, only at his feet I bow.
Worldly pleasures all forsaken, take me Jesus, take me now.

I Could Sing of Your Love Forever

Over the mountains and the sea,
Your river runs with love for me,
and I will open up my heart
and let the Healer set me free.

I'm happy to be in the truth,
and I will daily lift my hands:
for I will always sing of when
Your love came down.

I could sing of Your love forever,
I could sing of Your love forever,
I could sing of Your love forever,
I could sing of Your love forever.

(Repeat All)

+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving / Acci3n de Gracias**

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ **Benediction / Bendici3n**

Rev. Michael Diaz

Postlude / Postludi3

Joel Hammett

Executive Team

Rev. Janice Ladd

Executive Pastor
RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

Rev. Michael Diaz

Director of Connections
RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org (x105)

Mark Eggleston

Director of Outreach
Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org (x106)

Joy Jolley

Director of Operations
Joy@ResurrectionMCC.org (x102)

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Director of Life Development
RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org (x107)

Professional Stipend & Volunteers

Eli'jah Carroll

Creative Arts
Elijah@ResurrectionMCC.org

Rev. Pat Farnan

Volunteer Clergy
RevPat@ResurrectionMCC.org

Joel Hammett

Organist & Accompanist

Reed Hoke

Sanctuary Choir Director
Reed@ResurrectionMCC.org

Christy Irvin

Gospel Ensemble Pianist

Rev. Mona Lopez

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Rose Wall

HeavenSound Handbells Director
Handbells@ResurrectionMCC.org

Cassandra White

Gospel Ensemble Director
Cassandra@ResurrectionMCC.org

Jose I. Zuniga

Facilities Technician

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 - 17 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 that follows God's call to justice for all people. We build on a rich history of social justice for, and on behalf of, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people. Since its founding in 1968, Metropolitan Community Churches have been at the vanguard of civil and human rights movements as an international advocate for vulnerable people in places where religious orthodoxy, sexism, transphobia and homophobia can result in violence and death. MCC has been on the forefront in the struggle towards marriage equality in the US and other countries worldwide and continues to be a powerful voice in the LGBTQ equality movement. MCC's ministry reaches over 43,000 members in over 250 churches in 22 countries worldwide.

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.

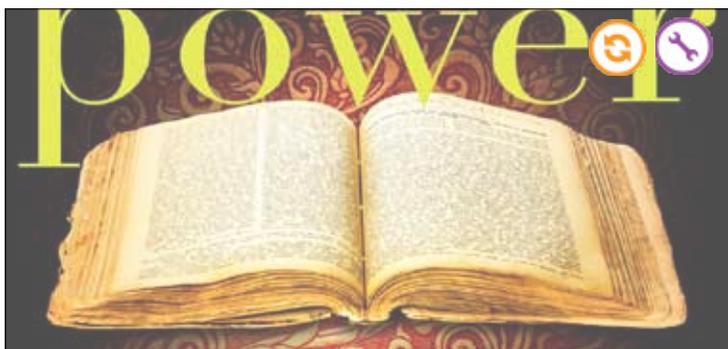
Social Action

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

JOURNEY KEY MAP

Determine your Spiritual Location using the exercises found on pages 8 - 11 of our Spring On The Journey magazine.

-  **SEARCHING**
I'm not sure where I am or what I believe.
I'm in a place of questioning my faith...
-  **CHANGING**
I'm experiencing transformation in my faith life.
I'm in a place of new God-experiences . . .
-  **CONNECTING**
I'm finding my faith in community. I'm in a place of exploring my spirituality with others . . .
-  **LISTENING**
I'm quieting my life to hear God's voice.
I'm in a place of inner spiritual attentiveness . . .
-  **SERVING**
I'm feeling the need to give of myself. I'm in a place of living my faith in caring for others . . .
-  **PREPARING**
I'm deepening my faith journey. I'm in a place of responsiveness to God's call in my life . . .



THE NEW OLD SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

MONDAY
MARCH 19, 26
7 - 8:30 pm
Gathering Place

The name says it all! You, plus the Bible, minus the dogma, equals more excitement with The Word than you ever thought possible! Whether you have never cracked open the Good Book, or if you have whole sections memorized (including the old Sunday school "Books of the Bible" song!), you are welcome to join us for some spirited Bible study! Bring your Bible or borrow one of ours, and join us for one, some, or every study!

RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org

Music Library Fundraiser

TODAY
After Services, Gathering Place

Tuesday, March 20
6 - 9 pm, Gathering Place

Our Sanctuary Choir and Gospel Ensemble need your support to upgrade their extensive music library. After months of hard work, all our music has been documented and now it needs a home. We need storage cabinets and organizational items to safely store our sheet music and music books.

20% of the purchase price of your jewelry will go directly to our Music Library.
Every \$75 purchase will receive \$40 in free jewelry.

See beautiful samples and what's new for Spring! Remember Mom with a gift for Mother's Day or just fill up your jewelry box. Premier Designs Golden Guarantee provides a lifetime warranty that insures quality and satisfaction.

FRIDAY NIGHT OUT



FRIDAY • 7 - 9 PM
MARCH 23

Cadillac Bar

1802 Shepherd Drive, Houston, TX
713-862-2020

www.cadillacbar.com

Join our most popular social group for dinner each month at local restaurants. With over 50 on average attending, it's a great way to meet some new friends!

RSVP at www.Facebook.com/ResurrectionMCC or
RSVP to FridayNightOUT@ResurrectionMCC.org

REVISION 2012 WAY-MAKINGS: LENT REFLECTION GROUPS

WEDNESDAY WEEKLY SERIES
FEBRUARY 29 - MARCH 28

7 - 8:30 PM, ACTIVITIES BUILDING

OR

SATURDAY ONE-DAY EVENT
SATURDAY, MARCH 24

9 AM - 4 PM, GATHERING PLACE

You took the congregational survey or maybe you didn't. You've been coming to Resurrection MCC forever or maybe you're just an occasional visitor. You're involved in a large number of church activities or maybe you just come on Sundays. Whatever your Spiritual Location, don't miss out on the upcoming Way-Making: Lent Reflection series on Wednesdays, February 29 - March 28, 7 - 8:30 pm in the Activities Building.

During these sessions we will explore the results of the survey, explore our perceptions of our church and community, identify our congregational strengths and areas of growth and explore God's unique calling for our congregation. Together we will discover where we are and what God is calling us to do and be as a church body.

Don't let your voice be left out. Mark your calendar and be a part of keeping Resurrection MCC the life changing force that it has always been. Join us for one, some, or all of the sessions as we explore our future together.

ReVision2012@ResurrectionMCC.org



Thank you for your support!

On behalf of our AIDS Walk Houston 2012 Team, please accept our incredible gratitude for your support of Team Resurrection MCC. Whether you raised funds, walked, made a donation or prayed for us, we felt a tremendous sense of support.

We are also grateful that we surpassed our \$10,000 goal! As of Thursday, March 15, we have raised \$12,015 and are currently listed on the home page of AIDS Walk Houston as Team #9 in terms of total funds raised!

Through pouring rain and some flooding, 29 people came out and walked with our team! Their dedication and commitment to support all those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS was inspirational. And our "Got Love?" t-shirts started many conversations about Love, Jesus, and Resurrection MCC.

Online Giving

The mission of Resurrection MCC is to demonstrate God's unconditional love to all people through Christian action. We believe that lives are transformed when people are invited to experience God through the life and ministry of Christ. Financial contributions are obviously very important to the achievement of Resurrection MCC's ministry goals, and we sincerely appreciate the generous offerings that you give faithfully each and every week..

To make it more convenient for you to financially support the ministries of Resurrection MCC, **we now offer a convenient online giving payment option** through LOGOS Online. Online giving enables you to easily make your financial contributions to the church by credit card, debit card, or directly from your bank account. Online giving is a simple way for you to give, and it enables you to support the church's mission and service no matter where you are in the world.

We ask that you prayerfully consider giving online.

It's really quite easy to set up an online giving account. Account creation instructions are available on our website by clicking on the "Giving is Only a Click Away" banner, and they are also included in the "How do I give online?" handouts that are available at all entrances to the Sanctuary.

We will be actively promoting the online giving program until March 17, and so, one of us will be available between services to answer any questions or concerns that you may have regarding online giving. For those of you who would still like to participate in the offering during services even though you give online, we are now providing quarterly "I Give Online" coupons for each Sunday in the quarter. If you wish, you can place an "I Give Online" coupon in the offering basket in place of a check or cash.

Lastly, as our way of saying "Thank You," all online givers will be given an "I Give Online" button pin upon request. Recurring online givers will be gifted with a "Giving is Only a Click Away" mouse pad, and new recurring online givers will be entered into a prize drawing. Please visit our website or pick up a copy of the online giving handout for answers to online giving frequently asked questions.

Yours in Christ,
Elisa Vega-Burns, Treasurer
Eddie Domingue, Assistant Treasurer
OnlineGiving@ResurrectionMCC.org



On Friday February 24th, I had the opportunity to visit the White House in Washington, DC and attend their briefing for Black LGBT Emerging Leaders. I had an unforgettable time! Me and three other young adults within our fellowship of churches had a chance to meet some key people who are pushing civil rights laws against bullying, supporting initiatives to support historically black colleges and universities, supporting the fight

against HIV/AIDS, faith based initiatives, youth and young adult entrepreneurship, building safe schools and pushing international development. We had a chance dialogue in breakout sessions and forums, a self-guided tour of the first floor of the east wing of the White House and its rooms, viewing the offices of all the president's staff, including his. In case you are wondering, I did not get a chance to meet the President, Secretary of State, the first Lady...no one! They were all out of town. I did meet with the staff (one of them being transgender) that gave the presentation, and I can say with confidence that they do in fact work directly with the President every day!

At the briefing, I had the opportunity to attend the faith based workshop facilitated by Paul Monteiro (Office of Public Engagement). This workshop really opened my eyes on how advanced our MCC churches are. Many of the people in the workshop mentioned how they wish their churches used a form of inclusive language, had more ecumenism, had more theologically based bible studies with open discussion, and less pulpit-bashing against anyone who is just different. I felt peacock proud to know that we here in our MCC churches do all of that and more!! Radical inclusion is here and here to stay! We are ahead of the game and it is time that we share it with the world even more than what we are doing now! The moving part of the entire briefing was that all of the leaders listened to us and were receptive to everything that we had to say.

Resurrection MCC, let us keep doing what we are doing and then some! Imagine what our church would be like if everyone in the nation had a church like ours? I know I can!!!

JUBILEE THEATRE MINISTRY WANTS YOU TO COME PLAY WITH US!



**Sundays
1:30 pm
Music Room**

Directors, writers,
and actors of all
experience levels and age
groups are welcome!

Elijah@ResurrectionMCC.org



Spirit Walk

SATURDAY
MARCH 24

10 am - Noon
Houston Arboretum

I walk in your world / a mercy, a healing -

There are some for whom leaves become prayers . . . wind becomes hymn . . . water pouring through rain, river and sea becomes Holy Communion . . . and the soil of mountain, desert, and garden becomes The Word. For some, the natural world is most truly the dwelling place of God and time spent in it is time spent in worship. Come and enjoy the easy devotion of a walk among the trees with friends and let your spirit be refreshed by the simple beauty of creation! We will gather at the front entrance of the Houston Arboretum, walk awhile, and close by informal sharing and a simple prayer.

Joy@ResurrectionMCC.org



Young Adult Mixer

SUNDAY
APRIL 1

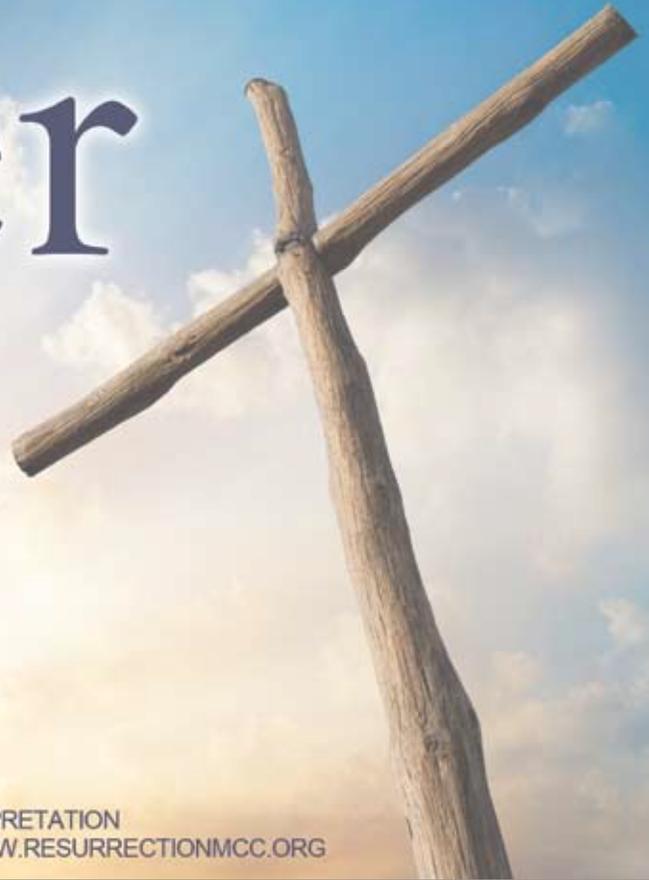
12:30pm - 3pm
Home of Will Carr
545 Studewood St
(House with the blue garage door.)
Houston, TX 77007

Young Adults (18-35) and their significant others are invited to a Palm Sunday "Young Adult Mixer" after church. Join us for food, fun, and fellowship as we connect with others in a relaxed environment. Come as you are and bring a friend or two!

Contact RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org to rsvp and for more information or call Will Carr at 281.865.6910.

Easter

April 8




Resurrection
Metropolitan Community Church

SUNDAY WORSHIP 9 & 11 AM

NURSERY AVAILABLE | HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

11 AM - CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAM | SPANISH & DEAF INTERPRETATION

2025 W. 11TH @ TC JESTER, HOUSTON 77008 | 713.861.9149 | WWW.RESURRECTIONMCC.ORG

Children's Choir Rehearsal



Sundays
10:30 am - 10:55 am
Activities Building #104
Ages: 4 and up welcome

If you have questions. Please contact Jules or Eve at
ChildrensChoir@ResurrectionMCC.org



HeavenSound Handbells

Sundays
1:30 - 3:30 pm
Sanctuary

Currently there are several open spots in our handbell choir. Those interested should have some music reading skills. Experience in ringing is not required. Join us on Sundays for our rehearsals

or send questions to
Handbells@ResurrectionMCC.org

Giving Report for Weekly Bulletin: A Simple Way to be Financially Transparent/Accountable



By Elisa Vega-Burns, Treasurer
Resurrection MCC Board of Directors

Each week a giving report is included in the church's Sunday bulletin. Many of you may not understand it or even take the time to look at it. However, as a giver to Resurrection MCC, you are financially supporting the church with your tithes and offerings and, for this reason, you should take an interest in how the church is doing financially. One way you can do this is to review the giving report in the bulletin, which gives you a brief snapshot of Resurrection MCC's financial picture.

As you can see below, the top section of the report provides you with information regarding the total amount of tithes and offerings received for the prior week, as well as the total amount of tithes and offerings received for the year up to the prior week. These figures are then compared to the total amount of tithes and offerings anticipated for these same periods per the 2012 budget approved by the congregation, resulting in a total giving variance. Simply stated,

$$\text{Total Giving Received} - \text{Total Giving Anticipated} = \text{Total Giving Variance}$$

If Total Giving Received is greater than Total Giving Anticipated, then the Total Giving Variance will be positive. If Total Giving Received is less than Total Giving Anticipated, then the Total Giving Variance will be negative. At this point, I'm sure you're wondering, "What does this mean and why should I care?"

Resurrection MCC's 2012 approved budget communicates the church's ministry plan goals and strategic growth initiatives for 2012. The budget provides a forecast of income (anticipated giving) and is used to determine how the actual income received can be appropriately and beneficially used to achieve the church's stated mission and objectives. That is, the budget is evaluated to determine whether Total Giving Anticipated is in line with Total Giving Received. If not, and if the Total Giving Variance—the amount over or under Total Giving Anticipated—is substantial, then the budget may need to be updated and/or revised.

Cash flow management is the process of matching the church's ministry plan goals and strategic growth initiatives to available income. Since cash flow describes how and when money comes into the church and is spent, cash flow management involves managing income with the goal of paying bills on time and creating a surplus for growth. By comparing actual results with the budget plan, cash flow management adjustments can be made as needed.

The bottom section of the report compares three important weekly giving totals that aid the Executive Team with making cash flow management decisions:

- Average Amount Received is the average weekly amount of tithes and offerings received so far for the year (i.e., YTD Total Amount Received divided by the current week number for 2012)
- Cash Flow Need is the minimum amount needed each week to fund our basic ministry obligations: staff, property, operations and debt (i.e., the minimum amount needed to keep the doors open each Sunday)
- Ministry Plan Need is the weekly amount needed per the budget approved by the congregation to achieve our 2012 ministry plan goals and strategic growth initiatives (i.e., the amount needed to make ministry happen)

If Average Amount Received is greater than Cash Flow Need but less than Ministry Plan Need, then we are receiving just enough cash to keep the doors open each Sunday and pay our basic ministry obligations (i.e., staff, property, operations and debt). If Average Amount Received is greater than Ministry Plan Need, then we are receiving more than enough cash to achieve our 2012 ministry plan goals and strategic growth initiatives.

Bottom line: Currently, we are not receiving sufficient tithes and offerings to accomplish the 2012 ministry plan goals and strategic growth initiatives approved by the congregation. We manage our cash flow accordingly, but due to the Total Giving Variance, we are falling short of fulfilling our ministry vision and making ministry happen.

Board Member on Duty

Elisa Vega-Burns

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 Sara@ResurrectionMCC.org or call 713-861-9149 x112.

Financial Report

For YTD Ended March 11, 2012

Giving (Tithes and Offerings)	Week Ended	YTD Total
Total Amount Received	\$15,071.58	\$189,717.76
Total Amount Anticipated	\$19,263.46	\$202,266.35
Total Giving Variance		(\$12,548.59)
Weekly Giving Comparison		
Average Amount Received	\$17,247.07	
Cash Flow Need	\$17,307.69	
Ministry Plan Need	\$19,263.46	

Cash Flow Need is the minimum amount needed each week to fund our basic ministry obligations: staff, property, operations and debt (i.e., the minimum amount needed to keep the doors open each Sunday)

Ministry Plan Need is the weekly amount needed per the budget approved by the congregation to achieve our 2012 ministry plan goals and strategic growth initiatives (i.e., the amount needed to make ministry happen)

This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

SUNDAY		MARCH 18
9:00 am	Sunday Worship	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Fisher's Net - Prayer Time	Chapel
10:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Activities Building
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	Activities Building
11:00 am	Sunday Worship	Sanctuary
1:30 pm	Jubilee Theatre Rehearsal	Music Room
1:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal	Sanctuary
MONDAY		MARCH 19
6:30 pm	Finance Meeting	Work Room
7:00 pm	The New Old School Bible Study	Gathering Place
TUESDAY		MARCH 20
6:00 pm	Praise & Worship Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:00 pm	Music Ministry Meeting	Music Room
6:30 pm	Pride Charities Meeting	Activities Building
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal	Music Room
7:00 pm	Yoga Connections	Activities Building
WEDNESDAY		MARCH 21
7:00 pm	ReVision 2012 Lenten Groups	Activities Building
THURSDAY		MARCH 22
6:00 pm	Praise & Worship Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Design Team	Sanctuary
FRIDAY		MARCH 23
7:00 pm	Friday Night OUT	Cadillac Bar
SATURDAY		MARCH 24
9:00 am	ReVision 2012 Lenten Groups	Gathering Place
10:00 am	Spirit Walk	Houston Arboretum
SUNDAY		MARCH 25
9:00 am	Sunday Worship	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Fisher's Net - Prayer Time	Chapel
10:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Activities Building
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	Activities Building
11:00 am	Sunday Worship	Sanctuary
12:30 pm	Board of Directors Meeting	Activities Building
1:30 pm	Jubilee Theatre Rehearsal	Music Room
1:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal	Sanctuary