



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

September 9, 2012

Prelude / Preludio

Shavailya Long

I Told The Storm
by Greg O' Quinn and Joyful Noize

Our Community Gathers / Nuestra Comunidad Se Reúne

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Announcements / Anuncios

Mark Eggleston

+ **Welcome Song / All Are Welcome**

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

+ **Invocation / Invocación**

Adam Lopez

ONE: We are a people of blessing!
ALL: **Our God is good!**
ONE: We are a people of blessing!
ALL: **Our God is generous!**
ONE: We are a people of blessing!
ALL: **Our God is extravagant!**
ONE: We are a people of blessing!
ALL: **O God, bless the world through us!**
ONE: Alleluia! Amen!

Extravagant Generosity

Giving helps us become what God wants us to be. Giving is not merely about the church's need for money but about the Christian's need to grow in generosity. Generosity is a fruit of the Spirit, a sign of our spiritual growth. God uses our giving to change the world for God's purposes, and God uses our giving to reconfigure our interior lives and to change us.

Over the next four weeks, we are reading Robert Schnase's daily devotional, *Practicing Extravagant Generosity*, and you are invited to join us in brief daily readings with everyone else at Resurrection MCC. Each reading prepares us to understand more clearly the "why" of Christian giving and to develop a common language and theology of generosity. Everyone praying, reading, and reflecting on the same passages fosters a unified sense of purpose and clarity of mission. Your participation with an open heart helps open the doors of Resurrection MCC's future mission. Thank you!

Each reading includes a Scripture verse and a brief devotion. Read thoughtfully, reflecting on your own faith journey and our shared ministry. Use the questions to prompt further spiritual exploration about what you think, believe, and do. Close your time with prayer. Feel free to discuss your reflections with others in your household or on Wednesday nights in small groups at the church. May these next few weeks be for you a time of spiritual growth and renewed commitment to the ministry of Christ here at Resurrection MCC.

+ You are invited to rise in body or spirit.

+ **Opening Song / Apertura Canción**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us Sunward in the triumph song of life.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Maker, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to Thy joy divine.

by Ludwig van Beethoven, Edward Hodges, and Henry Van Dyke
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Contemporary Reading / Lectura Contemporánea

Sharri McGlauthing

Practicing Extravagant Generosity

by Robert Schnase (p.21)

God uses our practice of giving to reconfigure our interior life. By giving, we craft a different inner desire as the driving element of life. Our motivations change.

Giving moderates the powerful and sometimes destructively insatiable drive for acquisition. In the daily interior struggle fostered by a consumerist, materialist society that pressures us to pursue many things that do not lead to real happiness, the practice of giving aims us at what ultimately satisfies. Giving sanctifies and deepens the struggle, and constantly resets the internal compass in the right direction. Generosity becomes a tool God uses to draw us closer to God and to align us more closely with God's desire for us.

Alleluia

The word "Alleluia" or "Hallelujah" literally means "Praise ye Yah" or "Praise Jah, you people"; a short form of "Praise Yahweh" or "praise ye Jehovah". An expression of praise to God, "Halleluyah" was preserved, untranslated, by the Early Christians as a superlative expression of thanksgiving, joy, and triumph.

Prayer of the People

Alleluia

by Jerry Sinclair

Reed Hoke

+ **Scripture Lesson / Escritura Lección**

Adam Lopez

1 Timothy 6:17-19

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Anthem / Himno

Sanctuary Choir

Be Joyful! Be Joyful!
by Eugene Butler

Engage / Sermón

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

Extravagant Generosity - EKG-Ministry flows from the Heart

Congregational Response / Respuesta Congregacional

Use Me
by Ron Kenoly

*If You can use anything Lord, You can use me.
If You can use anything Lord, You can use me,
Take my hands Lord and my feet,
Touch my heart Lord, speak through me.
If You can use anything Lord, You can use me.*

We Offer Ourselves / Ofrenda

Elisa Vega-Burns
Board of Directors, Treasurer

Offertory / Ofertorio

Sanctuary Choir

The River Is Here
by Andy Park

Communion / Comunción

Rev. Janice Ladd

Communion Songs / Cantos de Comunción

Your Extravagant Love

Your love is extravagant
Your friendship, it is intimate
I feel like moving to the rhythm of Your grace
Your fragrance is intoxicating in our secret place
Your love is extravagant

Spread wide in the arms of Christ is the love that covers sin
No greater love have I ever known You considered me a friend
Capture my heart again

Spread wide in the arms of Christ is the love that covers sin
No greater love have I ever known; You considered me a friend

Capture my heart again
Your love is extravagant
Your friendship, it is intimate.

by Casting Crowns, Pending
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Communion

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 Metropolitanas) 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."

Jesus, Lover Of My Soul

Jesus, lover of my soul
Jesus, I will never let You go
You've taken me from the miry clay
You've set my feet upon the rock, and now I know

I love You, I need You
Though my world may fall, I'll never let You go
My Savior, my closest friend
I will worship You until the very end

by John Ezzy, Daniel Grul, and Steve McPherson
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Shout To The Lord

Shout to the Lord, All the Earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You
To the promise I have, In You

My Jesus, my Saviour, Lord there is none like you
All of my days, I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort, my shelter
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breathe, all that I am
Never cease to worship You

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Montains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name

I sing for joy at the work of your hands
Forever i'll love You, forever i'll stand
Nothing compares, to the promise I have in You

by Darlene Zschech
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+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving / Acción de Gracias**

Rev. Janice Ladd

+ **Benediction / Bendición**

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

Postlude / Postludió

Bridgett Vinson, Aleia James, Craig Kalson

We Praise Your Name

by Jonathan Stockstill

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.

Executive Team

Rev. Janice Ladd

Executive Pastor
RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

Mark C. Brown

Director of Worship Arts
MarkB@ResurrectionMCC.org (x109)

Rev. Dr. 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

Rev. Pat Farnan

Volunteer Clergy
Altar Ministry Coordinator
RevPat@ResurrectionMCC.org

Joel Hammett

Organist & Accompanist

Reed Hoke

Sanctuary Choir Director
Reed@ResurrectionMCC.org

Christy Irvin

Gospel Ensemble Pianist

Debbie Mansfield

Nursery Coordinator
Nursery@ResurrectionMCC.org

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Youth@ResurrectionMCC.org

Blake Smith

Audio Technician

Rev. Terri Steed

Volunteer Clergy
South Texas Network Leader
RevTerri@ResurrectionMCC.org

Rose Wall

HeavenSound Handbells Director
Handbells@ResurrectionMCC.org

Cassandra White

Gospel Ensemble Director
Cassandra@ResurrectionMCC.org

Jose I. Zuniga

Facilities Technician

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 those who suffer under the weight of oppressive systems, being guided always by our commitment to Global Human Rights.

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



CONNECTION GROUPS Wednesdays, September 12, 19, 26

Sign Up Today in the Gathering Place
4-Week Daily Devotional Available in Inspirations

Abundant, lavish, unrestrained gifting, blessing, provision ... the way God's love pours forth! As this incredible reality steadily fills every empty place within us, we discover that we are more than recipients – we are participants – in God's unrestrained gifting to the world! Join us as we gather in small groups during the month of September to experience Extravagant Generosity by exploring what it means to practice grace-filled giving from the depths of our relationship with God. Weekly gatherings will take place at Resurrection MCC. Sign-up for the group which best meets your needs in the Gathering Place or via email.

RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org



EXPLORING YOUR SPIRITUAL LOCATION

MONDAYS
SEPTEMBER 10, 17, 24
7 - 8:30 PM | GATHERING PLACE

Asking yourself "Where am I, in this moment, in my spiritual life?" opens the way to a journey of learning to pay attention to what your inner world is telling you, what your body is trying to say, and what your spirit longs to speak. During this half-day workshop, we will be guided in the practice of paying attention to ourselves through reflective activities and interactive exercises designed to deepen our personal awareness and connection to others on the spiritual journey. Lunch is included.

RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org



SPEAKING OF FAITH YOUNG ADULT SUNDAYS

SUNDAYS
10:15 - 10:45 AM
ACTIVITIES BUILDING #202

Young Adults ages 18 to 35 are invited to step out on faith and step upstairs in the Activities Building for 30 minutes of learning, connecting and sharing where we are in our faith journeys. Facilitated by Kedric Brown, Will Carr, and Adam Lopez, we'll speak on the topic of "Radical Faith" throughout September. Grab a cup of coffee and join us upstairs!

YoungAdults@ResurrectionMCC.org

CARDBOARD TESTIMONIES SIGN CREATION GATHERING

MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 24, 6 - 7 PM, GATHERING PLACE
TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 25, 6 - 7 PM, SANCTUARY
WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 26, 6 - 7 PM, GATHERING PLACE

Sunday Worship on September 30 concludes our 4-week "Extravagant Generosity" sermon series. At the end of the sermon, a number of our members and friends will share their personal stories using "Cardboard Testimonies." They will share how their lives have been transformed through their faith and their journey at Resurrection MCC with just a few written words. All are invited and encouraged to join us and create your own Cardboard Testimony sign to share in front of our congregation on Sunday, September 30 at 9 & 11 am. All materials - Cardboard & Markers - will be provided. Check out our video from last year at <http://bit.ly/CardboardTestimonies>

Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org

FRIDAY NIGHT OUT NORTH



FRIDAY, 7 PM

SEPTEMBER 14

Wang's Asian Fusion

3335 College Park Drive, Suite 800
The Woodlands, TX 77384
<http://www.wangasianfusion.com/>
936-242-0044

Make new friends and reconnect with those you know over a shared meal at our newest social gathering, Friday Night OUT North!

RSVP to

FridayNightOUTNorth@ResurrectionMCC.org



Inside Out Faith: A Jennifer Knapp Experience

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 11
7 PM | SANCTUARY

Join Grammy-nominated, Dove Award-winning artist Jennifer Knapp for a night of story-telling, music and audience interaction celebrating the healing that comes from breaking the silence! Highly recognized as a premier artist in the Christian Contemporary Music genre, Jennifer Knapp chose to confront speculation with a very public "coming out" in 2010. This year, she celebrates National Coming Out Day with Resurrection MCC!

Invite your family, friends, and Jennifer Knapp fans to this free event!

www.jenniferknapp.com

Christmas Craft Bazaar

When: Sunday, December 2nd 2012

Where: Resurrection MCC
Activities Building

Time: 12:30pm – 5:00pm

Shop unique jewelry, accessories, home decor and objets d'art by local artisans. Come hungry and experience delicious tastes of the town.

Admission is free!

All Are Welcome!



Food vendor or craft booth rental info:
www.bit.ly/ChristmasCraftBazaar



Christmas Craft Bazaar is looking for several Volunteers

to help us prepare and have a successful Craft Bazaar. The actual event will take place on December 2nd, however, we need to start planning now!

We are looking for help in the following areas:

Decorations...Decorations...Decorations

Flyer Distribution

Stage Hands

Set Up Preparation

Clean Up Crew

Please meet Suzette Cotto & Billy Stevens in the Gathering Place after Sunday Worship today for a brief overview of all the tasks.

CraftBazaar@ResurrectionMCC.org

We look forward to seeing you there!!!

FAMILY CAMP OUT: LAKE SOMERVILLE



FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 21**, 2 pm
through
SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 23**, 2 pm

Friends and families of Resurrection MCC are invited to join our Generation Faith Teens on the shores of beautiful Lake Somerville for a weekend full of relaxation and play! The Nails Creek unit of Lake Somerville State Park offers swimming, boating, fishing, volleyball, horseshoes, basketball, and backpacking. The aquatically-inclined can rent canoes and kayaks (paddles and personal flotation included), and more than 20 miles of trail are open to hikers and mountain bikers!

Resurrection MCC has 5 waterfront sites at the Nails Creek unit reserved. Each accommodates two tents / eight people, with water and electric access. Campers provide their own tents. Bathrooms and showers are on site. Our Generation Faith Teens will host this event by providing Friday and Saturday campfire dinners for all! Friends and families are responsible for transportation.

Space is limited, so RSVP quickly to reserve your spot. \$25 = half-site/group of four or less/one vehicle pass. \$50 = full site/group of five to eight/two vehicle passes. This camping trip will be fun for the whole family of faith! www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/lake-somerville

RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org



SUNDAY FRIEND-RAISER

SEPTEMBER 16
12:30 pm, Activities Building

\$6 HAMBURGERS AND HOT DOGS



IS LEADERSHIP IN YOUR FUTURE?

Consider becoming a Lay Delegate or Board of Director for Resurrection MCC.

The Nominating Committee invites you to check out the application packets on our Website for more information.

Applications are due next Sunday, September 16.

Questions? BoardDevelopment@ResurrectionMCC.org



FRIENDS BY THE FIRE

FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 28
7 - 9 pm • Outside

Join us for our last **Summertime** "Friends by the Fire" of the year sponsored by our Landscape and Facilities Team. Bring a chair and join us as we share stories, laughs, and "S'mores." We will have hot dogs to roast, but please bring a soda or bottle of water. Please RSVP to be sure there are plenty of hot dogs.

Joy@ResurrectionMCC.org



BROADWAY MUSICAL REVUE & DINNER

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 29

6:30 pm, Activities Building

C'mon you know 'em you love 'em: Wicked, Rent, Follies, When Pigs Fly, Batboy, A Chorus Line! Right? So what's not to love about a Saturday evening, feasting on a great dinner and enjoying a show? That's right our Worship Arts department is hosting a community-wide Broadway and Off Broadway Musical Revue of some of the best loved music from the most popular shows. Bring a friend, bring a date, put on your ruby slippers, and join us for an evening to remember! All proceeds to benefit Resurrection MCC's Worship Arts Department.

MarkB@ResurrectionMCC.org

Mahalo nui loa

Asante

Danke!

WA DO

merci

**Thank You, Jesus, for your
Extravagant Generosity!**



**Gracias, Jesus Cristo, por Tu
Generosidad que es tan
Extravagante en mi vida**

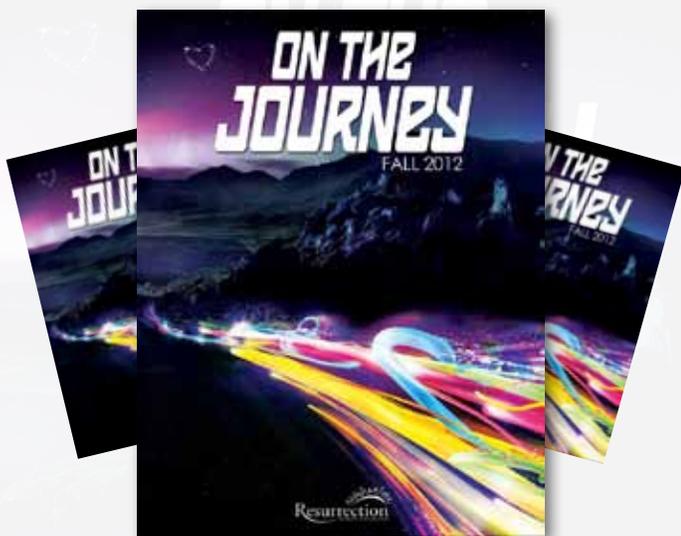
MORAN TAING

Ko rabwa

Ashoge

DAKUJEM

Children's Choir Rehearsal



On The Journey magazine is pages full of spiritual development classes, workshops, volunteer opportunities, ministry groups, social groups, and leadership trainings especially designed to meet you right where you are in 2012!

**Available
at all
Sanctuary Entrances**



Sundays Beginning August 26
10:30 am - 10:55 am
Activities Building #108
Ages: 4 and up welcome

Questions? Please contact Jules or Eve at
ChildrensChoir@ResurrectionMCC.org



Did You Know?

Coming Together

*Resurrection MCC is a Professional Size Church—
What are the roles of the Board of Directors and Lay Leaders
and what size & growth challenges might we face?*

Board of Directors:

- Relinquishes daily management of the church to the staff team and focuses more on strategic planning and policy
- Sets appropriate strategic goals/plans to meet the vision
- Enacts policies, processes and systems that reduce risks, maintain fiscal soundness and mitigate vision drift
- Creates and measures metrics that reflect mission/vision congruence
- Establishes solid revenue streams through strong resource development efforts
- Maintains accountability in all areas

Lay Leaders:

- Responsible for the health of church life, including integration of visitors and new members
- Shape strategic direction by leading, discerning next steps and keeping congregation focused on the mission
- Create and carry out ministries

Size & Growth Challenges:

- Church growth is largely a function of the size of its budget
- Ideas to generate growth abound, but are limited by capacity of staff team, finances and physical space of the facility
- New methods to keep track of congregants must be developed as well as new ways to keep congregants actively engaged
- Create ways to connect with any congregants who may have feelings of anonymity due to large church size

Taken from “Inside the Large Congregation” by Susan Beaumont

***We CAN overcome these challenges because
Resurrection MCC is doing GOD’S WORK!***

This is the third in a series of informational moments to be provided by the Resurrection MCC Pastoral Search Committee



The Houston Area Wood Carvers Club
**41st Annual Wood Carving Show, Sale
 & Competition**

Saturday, September 15, 2012
 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Resurrection MCC Activities Building

Whittling Contest at 1:30 p.m.
 Hand crafted carvings of Santas, wildlife, birds, cowboys.
 Unique gifts for birthdays, Christmas, weddings....
www.houstonareawoodcarvers.com



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¡DOMINGOS!
SERVICIO RELIGIOSO
SE INTERPRETA
EN ESPAÑOL
A LAS 11 AM.
 Sunday Worship
 now interpreted into
 Spanish at 11 am.

CARE FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

by recycling newspapers, magazines, catalogs and junk mail in the containers in our parking lot. We now have three collection bins as this program grows. We receive cash based on the weight collected. We have moved the dumpsters up front in the parking lot by the apartment complex.



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.

Board Member on Duty
 Dr. Jackie Marshall and Elisa Vega-Burns
Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

General Fund Giving Report For Week and YTD Ended September 2, 2012

Giving (Tithes and Offerings)	Week Ended	YTD Total
Total Amount Received	\$21,419.62	\$584,404.86
Total Amount Anticipated	\$18,846.15	\$669,038.46
Total Giving Variance		(\$84,633.60)
Weekly Giving Comparison		
Average Amount Received	\$16,233.47	
Cash Flow Need	\$17,307.69	(A)
Ministry Plan Need	\$18,846.15	(B)
Attendance	Week Ended	YTD Average
Worship	436	510
Programming	190	117
Total Weekly Attendance	626	627

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)

The difference between making ends meet and making ministry happen is just an additional \$1,538.46 each week in tithes and offerings (B-A).

