



# Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

December 9, 2012

**Invocation / Invocación**

LaWanna White

behold

**Call to Worship**

Mark Eggleston

Let us release our isolation, O God -  
Let us stand naked before you, with our wonder set free!  
Blessed by Love, we worship in Your Light!

**Prelude / Preludio**

Children's Choir

**Our Community Gathers / Nuestra Comunidad Se Reúne**

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

**Announcements / Anuncios**

Mark Eggleston

+ **Exchange of Peace / Saludo de Paz**

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ **Opening Song / Apertura Canción**

*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Come, Thou long expected Jesus  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's Strength and Consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear Desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

by Robert J. Hughes and Charles Wesley  
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## Advent

The word Advent means "coming" or "arrival." The focus is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ in his Second Advent.

Advent also symbolizes the spiritual journey of people as they affirm that Christ has come, that He is present in the world today, and that He will come again in power. That acknowledgment provides the basis for holy living arising from a profound sense that we live "between the times" and are called to be faithful stewards of what is entrusted to us.

Advent is marked by a spirit of expectation, anticipation, preparation, and of longing. There is a yearning for deliverance from the evils of the world, first expressed by Israelite enslaved in Egypt as they cried out from their bitter oppression. It is the cry of those who have experienced the tyranny of injustice in a world, and yet who have hope of deliverance by a God who has heard the cries of oppressed and brought deliverance!

It is that hope, however faint at times, and that God, however distant God sometimes seems, which brings to the world the anticipation of Jesus who will come and reign with truth, justice and righteousness over all creation. It is that hope that once anticipated, and now anticipates anew, the reign of an Anointed One who will bring peace and justice and righteousness to the world.

+ You are invited to rise in body or spirit.

## Naked Spirituality

"How do we become truly spiritual people? How do we learn to strip away the superficialities so that our naked souls can encounter the naked God?"

With these questions from Brian McLaren's *Naked Spirituality* within us, we stand before God willing to risk authentic relationship: vulnerable, passionate, uncertain, real. What would it mean to let go of the masks and old ideas, the resistance and the fear, and meet God right where we are, just as we are? Would we offer thanks? Or apologize? Or wonder? What, in our naked longing for God, might we behold?

## Silent Reflection

When all else falls away, God is there. Relinquishing the activity of worship during these moments of worshipful silence, let us listen ... pray ... see ... be seen. Let us be still and know God. May we be known by God in return ...

### *Naked Spirituality: A Life with God in 12 Simple Words*

Brian D. McLaren

Behold is...a call to notice, not just to glance...to open your eyes, blink, linger, and see in a new way... Behold evokes focused attention, a holding of what is seen so it can be slowly savored. Behold is, in this sense, a word uttered first to our own soul: "Look and see," we say to ourselves. "Notice. Be aware. Watch. Appreciate. Maybe—just maybe there's more going on here than you've ever seen before."

We used to look for evil to judge, evil to name, shame, and blame. But that was an easy thing, so easy that we now find the whole exercise rather boring, childish, and small-minded. We now wish to see without that ignorance, without that air of superiority or supremacy... Before we looked for flaws, which gave us an excuse to reject, but now we look for goodness, which gives us reason to respect... We turn from evaluating to valuing. We grow from fault-finding to something far bigger and better: beauty-finding, beholding, seeing in love, seeing with God."

### Naked Prayers

Joy Jolley

Let us go to God in prayer,  
letting go of anything which separates us from Holy Presence:  
Here I am, Lord, with my heart full ...  
With all that I am able, Lord, I acknowledge my isolation ...  
I bring prayers of invitation, Lord; in all things may I choose the wonder of your LOVE ...  
Amen

### + Scripture Lesson / Escritura Lección

Shawty Augustine

#### *Luke 3:1-6*

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

### Anthem

Sanctuary Choir

#### *Do You Hear What I Hear*

by Noel Regney and Gloria Shane

### Engage / Sermón

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

#### *Naked Spirituality: Seeing With God*

## Silent Reflection

## We Offer Ourselves

Manuel Diaz

## Offertory / Ofertorio

Sanctuary Choir

### *A Gift of Love Was Born That Day*

by Words and Music by Philip Smith, Arrangement Mark Hayes

## Communion / Comunion

Vickey Gibbs

## Communion Songs / Cantos de Comunion

### *The First Noel*

The First Noel, the Angels did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel!

They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the East beyond them far  
And to the earth it gave great light  
And so it continued both day and night.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel!

And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came from country far  
To seek for a King was their intent  
And to follow the star wherever it went.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel

Born is the King of Israel!

This star drew nigh to the northwest  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest  
And there it did both Pause and stay  
Right o'er the place where Jesus lay.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel!

Then entered in those Wise men three  
Full reverently upon their knee  
And offered there in His presence  
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel!

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## Communion

As we gather, break bread, and tell stories of hope through prayer, song and ritual in the practice we call "communion," we bear witness that "Life is stronger than death. People can change with God's help. And God is worthy of our thanks and praise." All are welcome at the table: you do not need to be a member of this or any church to gather as God's children at the table of Life.

A brief blessing is offered with bread and juice, available to all. Gluten-free bread is offered at the far right; Spanish blessing offered at the far left.

Please honor this time of sacred community with singing, quiet meditation or prayer that we might each receive the spiritual nourishment we seek ...

## Comunion

Al reunirnos, partir el pan, y contar historias de esperanza a través de la oración, el canto y el ritual en la práctica que llamamos "comunion", damos testimonio de que "la vida es más fuerte que la muerte. Las personas pueden cambiar con la ayuda de Dios. Y Dios es digno de nuestro agradecimiento y alabanza." Todos están invitados a la mesa: no es necesario ser miembro de esta iglesia o cualquier reunir como hijos de Dios en la mesa de la Vida.

Una breve bendición se ofrece con el pan y el jugo, al alcance de todos. Pan sin gluten se ofrece en el extremo derecho; bendición españoles ofrecen en el extremo izquierdo.

Por favor respetar este tiempo de comunidad sagrada con canto, la meditación o la oración silenciosa para que podamos recibir cada uno el alimento espiritual que buscamos ...

***Emmanuel***

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
Your name is called Emmanuel;  
God with us, revealed in us;  
Your name is called Emmanuel.

by Bob McGee  
© 1976 C.A. Music , CCLI License #1025612

***Jesus Name Above All Names***

Jesus, name above all names;  
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.  
Emmanuel, God is with us;  
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

by Naida Hearn  
© 1974, 1978 Scripture In Song, CCLI License #1025612

***O Come All Ye Faithful***

O Come All Ye Faithful  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him,  
Born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

by C. Frederick Oakeley and John Francis Wade  
Public Domain, CCLI License #1025612

**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.

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

Vickey Gibbs

+ **Benediction / Bendición**

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

**Postlude / Postludió**

Mark C. Brown  
Maury Evans

***We Need A Little Christmas***  
by Words and Music by Jerry Herman

## Executive Team

### Rev. Janice Ladd

Executive Pastor  
RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

### Mark C. Brown

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### Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

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### Mark Eggleston

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### Joy Jolley

Director of Operations  
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### Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Director of Life Development  
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## Professional Stipend & Volunteers

### Rev. Pat Farnan

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Altar Ministry Coordinator  
RevPat@ResurrectionMCC.org

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### Rose Wall

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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.

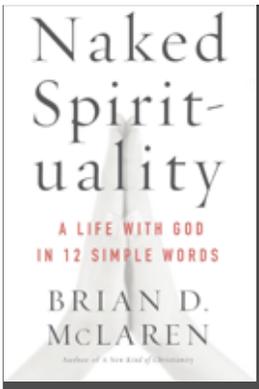
### Social Action

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



# NAKED SPIRITUALITY: A LIFE WITH GOD IN 12 SIMPLE WORDS

**NOVEMBER 7-  
DECEMBER 19**  
Wednesdays • 7 - 8:30 pm  
Gathering Place

According to author Brian McLaren, Naked Spirituality is a book about “getting naked - not physically, but spiritually” and “attending to the well-being of the soul clothed only in naked human skin.” Inviting us to leave behind past expectations from ill-fitting ‘organized religion,’ and unexamined assumptions about “being spiritual,” Naked Spirituality calls us, in the spirit of Advent, to experience anew the immediate reality of God’s presence and to respond with openness to a more authentic spiritual life. Join us for one, some, or all of this Advent series as we prepare to meet Jesus again for the first time, with Naked Spirituality! RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org



## CHRISTMAS BASKETS

With your support, we can provide a delicious Christmas meal to our hungry neighbors. Robert Sliepka & Billy Stevens are coordinating this effort again this year. Our goal is to collect enough donations to assemble 100 baskets of food this season and there are several ways you can share the love with our hungry neighbors!

### Donate Food TODAY, Gathering Place

Drop off non-perishable donations before or after Worship: Canned Corn, Canned Green Beans, Canned Vegetables, Rice (2 lb. bag), Canned Cranberry Sauce, Canned Sweet Potatoes, Dried Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Mix Package, Box of Macaroni & Cheese, Box of Stuffing, Dried Beans (2 lb. bag), Flour (4 or 5 lb. bag), Sugar (4 or 5 lb. bag), Box of Cake Mix w/ Corresponding Frosting, Box of Snack Cakes, Vegetable Oil (32 oz.)

### Donate Cash TODAY

Make a financial donation so that we may purchase items that are not donated. Write "Christmas Baskets" in the memo line of your check or offering envelope and place in the offering plate.

### Assemble Baskets Saturday, December 15, 10 am - 1 pm, Activities Building

Create an assembly line to pack each of the food items into laundry baskets in preparation for distribution. When we're finished, we'll enjoy fellowship over lunch from Noon - 1 pm.

### Distribute Baskets Sunday, December 16, 3 - 5 pm, Activities Building

Assist with arranging baskets for distribution, signing in clients, and distributing baskets.

**Details and RSVP on Facebook.com/ResurrectionMCC or ChristmasBaskets@ResurrectionMCC.org.**

**To sign up to receive a Christmas Basket for yourself or someone you know, call our Food Pantry at 713-861-9149 x103.**

## NEWCOMERS WELCOME RECEPTION



**TODAY**  
12:30 pm, Gathering Place

Are you new to Resurrection MCC? If you have begun attending within the past few months, or have returned after hiatus, welcome home! You are cordially invited to attend a reception immediately following the 11 am Worship service with refreshments provided. You'll have the opportunity to meet new folks and some of the ministry leaders and clergy, learn more about Resurrection MCC, and ask any questions you might have.

RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org



# Angels we have Heard

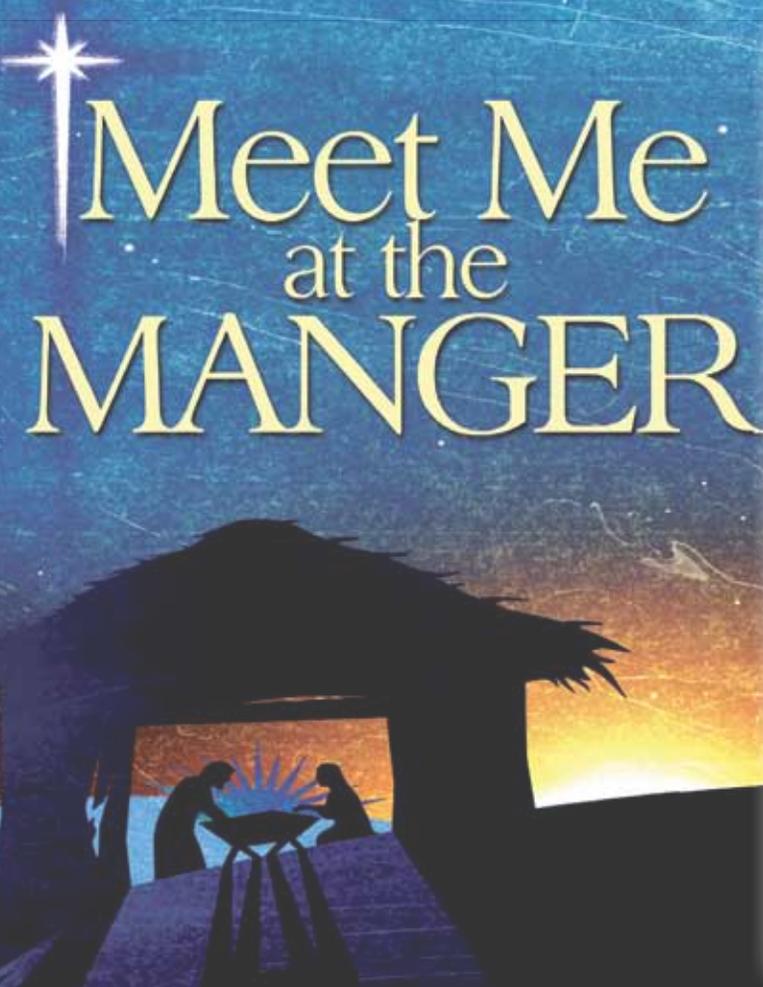
*Children's Christmas Musical*  
Sunday • December 16 • 1:30 pm

# Christmas Eve

*Candlelight Worship*  
Monday • December 24 • 7 pm

**Resurrection**  
Metropolitan Community Church

Sunday Worship 9 & 11 am • Spanish & Deaf Interpretation 11 am  
Children, Youth & Teen Program 11 am • Nursery Available/Handicap Accessible  
2025 W. 11th St. @ T.C. Jester, Houston 77008 • www.ResurrectionMCC.org • 713-861-9149



# Meet Me at the MANGER

At Resurrection MCC we celebrate the gift of God's love every day, all year long.

We celebrate God's love with special joy at Christmas, blessed that long ago God put each of us "at the top of the list" and gave the most wonderful gift to us all - Jesus Christ. Each Christmas, as we gather at the manger to receive the gift of Jesus Christ anew, we come grateful. And this time, we come bringing our gifts too . . .

You're invited to join us . . . Meet Me at the Manger!

It's beautifully simple: This Christmas, as you open your hearts and make a list of your family and friends and the gifts you hope to give this Christmas, give thanks for the blessing of your loved ones and for God's provision which makes it possible for you to have gifts to bring them.

And then put Jesus on the top of the list.

In the candlelit beauty of Christmas Eve, many of us will make a special gift to the ministry of Resurrection MCC in celebration of our relationship with Jesus and his life among us. We will make an offering (beyond our regular giving) in the amount of one dollar more than the cost of the most expensive gift we have on our list. We will place it in a small gift box, and place it in a basket near the altar on Christmas Eve. For some of us, this is a way of honoring what we value most this season; for others, it's a way to say "Thank you!" or "I love you!" to God. For many of us, it is a spiritual practice, like prayer or fasting. For all of us, it is a joy and a blessing.

We hope you will join us . . . Meet Me at the Manger!

Empty gift boxes are available at all of the Sanctuary entrances.

# Christmas TOY DRIVE



SUNDAYS  
**DECEMBER 9 & 16**  
Welcome Area

We are now accepting donations of toys to provide to neighborhood families in need for Christmas. Please place new, unwrapped toys in the donation box in the Welcome Area on Sundays, December 9 or 16, and help make our neighbors' Christmas Merry!



## YOUNG ADULT BRUNCH

SATURDAY  
**DECEMBER 15**  
12:30 pm

### Polovina Italian Cafe

4500 Washington Ave, Houston TX  
713-861-1042  
<http://www.polovinaitalian.com/>

The Young Adults of Resurrection MCC invite those of all ages to join them for a fun brunch and an opportunity to make new friends and reconnect with those you may already know.

Details and RSVP on Facebook.com/ResurrectionMCC or YoungAdults@ResurrectionMCC.org.

## FRIDAY NIGHT OUT NORTH



FRIDAY, 6 pm  
**DECEMBER 15**

### The Home of Tracey & Raylene

11 Genesee Ridge Dr. The Woodlands 77385  
832-722-8283

Join your Resurrection friends on the North side of town for a special "Friday" Night OUT North on SATURDAY, December 15, for a Christmas Party & Gift Exchange with good food, good friends and good conversation!

The dinner will be Potluck and is a great opportunity to show off your culinary expertise.

Please bring a gift (\$25 maximum) for a White Elephant Gift Exchange. (The game in which each person gets the choice of "stealing" any unwrapped item or choosing a wrapped one from the gift pile.)

[FridayNightOUTNorth@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:FridayNightOUTNorth@ResurrectionMCC.org)

## WONDER OF WONDERS: ENTER THE ADVENT STORY



SATURDAY  
**DECEMBER 15**  
1- 3 pm, Resurrection MCC Campus

Friends and family members of all ages will find themselves moved with discovery and wonder as we enter into God's Story through this interactive, experiential engagement with Mary and Joseph and their journey of faith – making way for Jesus' arrival in our lives! Modeled on the innovative process introduced in Michael Novelli's books Enter the Story and Storying the Bible for bringing Scripture to life, this will be an incredible afternoon for young and young-at-heart alike! Come prepared to move a bit, reflect a bit, share a bit, and to enter the Advent story as never before! Activities appropriate for adults and school-age children (accompanied by an adult).

[RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org)

# LIVING YOUR VOICE: SHOWCASE CELEBRATION!



SATURDAY  
**DECEMBER 15**

6:30 pm, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

All members and friends of Resurrection MCC are invited to join together with Joyful Singing 102 singers, their family and friends as we celebrate each participant's triumphs and achievements in claiming their voice! Enjoy this festive showcase party during which the singers perform solos and songs together as a group; joy abounds as each singer soars to new heights! This event is free and open to all! St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 1819 Heights Blvd, 77008,

Tony@LivingYourVoice.com

# KWANZAA

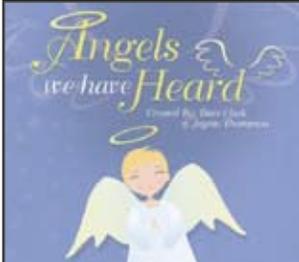


FRIDAY  
**DECEMBER 28**

7 pm, Sanctuary

Kwanzaa is an African-American celebration with focus on the traditional African values of family, community responsibility, commerce, and self-improvement. Kwanzaa is a cultural celebration and not a political statement. Despite some misconceptions, it is not a substitute for Christmas. It is simply a time of reaffirming African-American people, their ancestors and culture. The word Kwanzaa, means "first fruits of the harvest" in the African language Kiswahili.

Please RSVP by December 21 to [Kwanzaa@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Kwanzaa@ResurrectionMCC.org)



*"Angels we  
have Heard"*  
Children's  
Christmas Musical

SUNDAY  
**DECEMBER 16**

12:30 - 1:30 pm | Lunch for Cast,  
Crew & Audience, Activities Building

1:30 - 2:30 pm | Musical, Sanctuary

As the heavenly host of angels are preparing to make the biggest announcement ever - the birth of Jesus - they think that it should be announced in Paris or Rome . . . anywhere but Bethlehem. Nothing ever happens in Bethlehem. To their surprise, God's perfect plan is unfolded in a humble cattle stall!

This Christmas children's musical has fun new music, traditional carols and exciting drama. Join Sam, Halo, Slim, Skyler and Holly as they get ready with the angelic choir to announce the miraculous birth of Jesus!

The musical is hosted by our Nursery and Youth Ministry Programs. Nursery care is available for children ages 1 month through three years.

[MarkB@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:MarkB@ResurrectionMCC.org)

# UNDECK THE HALLS



SUNDAY  
**DECEMBER 30**

12:30 pm, Sanctuary

Join us as we prepare to ring in the New Year by properly "undecking the halls" of our Sanctuary! An afternoon of fellowship and service is open to all as we coil strands of tinsel, stow bows and bells, and pack away our ornaments and trees with great thanks for God's abundant blessing in our lives and church family! Lunch will be served, so please RSVP!

[MarkB@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:MarkB@ResurrectionMCC.org)

# Give Thanks

One of the most exciting reasons to "Give Thanks" this year has been the work of the Facilities Committee. A dozen highly skilled and devoted volunteers have assessed and prioritized our building and maintenance needs and calculated the cost of the more critical issues. They have also been actively listening to our dreams - to serve, feed and clothe our neighbor, to provide more spiritual food for the hungry, and to create safe spaces for our children to grow and mature into our future leaders - to demonstrate God's unconditional love to all people through Christian action.

Their extensive research leads to two conclusions:

- The need to complete critical repairs - protect and maintain our sacred spaces
- The need to design and construct new facilities - step into our vision for the campus

## Give Thanks!

At our Annual Congregational Meeting on November 4, 2012, the members of Resurrection MCC unanimously voted to take the first step of faith and develop a budget and create a plan for Phase 1 of a master plan for the church campus - a new Activities / Community Center.

## Give Thanks!

Many of the critical roof and gutter repairs have been completed utilizing the \$35,000 raised in 2011, and we have been protected through the heavy rains of this Fall.

## Give Thanks!

Several leaders within our community responded in faith to "see it through." We need an additional \$55,000 to complete the repairs to sustain our sacred spaces and they gave \$33,000, or 60% of our capital needs, over and beyond their regular tithes & offerings.

## Give Thanks!

The Board of Directors approved to restrict our annual "Give Thanks" Thanksgiving Offering to fund the remaining \$22,000 needed for critical repairs.

## Alleluia! God has blessed us indeed!

Will you prayerfully consider lifting your praises to God and making a "Give Thanks" offering to "see it through" on or before Sunday, December 9? Your contribution will help us sustain our existing structures as we build upon our dreams. Envelopes are available at all Sanctuary entrances or you can make your contribution online at [www.ResurrectionMCC.org](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org).

God bless the builder and sustainer of our sacred spaces!

janice

Rev. Janice Ladd  
Executive Director

P.S. If you have already made a Give Thanks contribution, thank you for your faithfulness!



## SPEAKING OF FAITH YOUNG ADULT SUNDAYS

**SUNDAYS  
10:15 - 10:45 AM  
ACTIVITIES BLDG #202**

As we are walking in our faith with God, how strong can we remain in order to fight off the evilness that will try to destroy us? How will we know when and if the Holy Spirit is with and within us at all times? How do we keep it renewed and strong? Here we will take an examination of our weekly journey's with God and how our spirit is remaining strong when we are weak.

# YOGA CONNECTIONS

**Every Tuesday  
7 - 8 pm | Activities Building**

**Please bring a mat and towel.  
Everyone is welcome to join us  
for these free sessions.**

**RSVP at [Facebook.com/ResurrectionMCC](https://www.facebook.com/ResurrectionMCC)  
or for more info email [Yoga@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Yoga@ResurrectionMCC.org)**

# POLOVINA

## ITALIAN CAFE

Mention this ad and receive **10% off** our  
Weekend Brunch Service – Sat & Sun, 11-2:30

4500 Washington Avenue, Suite 200  
713.861.1042 • PolovinaItalian.com

Advertise  
with us.  
As low as \$25 / week.  
Ads@ResurrectionMCC.org

### 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

Kandace Klingler and Eddie Domingue  
Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

# 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.



# FOOD PANTRY

Open by Appointment:  
713-861-9149 x103

### Nonperishables Needed:

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



Please place donations in the shopping cart located in the Welcome Area.

## General Fund Giving Report

For Week and YTD Ended December 2, 2012

Giving (Tithes and Offerings)	Week Ended	YTD Total
Total Amount Received	\$13,061.11	\$776,908.60
Total Amount Anticipated	\$18,846.15	\$914,038.46
Total Giving Variance		(\$137,129.86)
Weekly Giving Comparison		
Average Amount Received	\$15,855.28	
Cash Flow Need	\$17,307.69	(A)
Ministry Plan Need	\$18,846.15	(B)
Attendance	Week Ended	YTD Average
Worship	525	504
Programming	132	125
Total Weekly Attendance	657	629

**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).

<b>SUNDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 9</b>
9:00 am	<b>Sunday Worship</b>	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Fisher's Net - Prayer Time	Chapel
10:15 am	Speaking of Faith: Young Adults	Activities Building
10:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Activities Building
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	Activities Building
11:00 am	<b>Sunday Worship</b>	Sanctuary
12:30 pm	Newcomers Welcome Reception	Gathering Place
1:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal	Music Room
2:00 pm	Houston Heights Orchestra Concert Set-Up	Sanctuary
4:00 pm	Houston Heights Orchestra Concert	Sanctuary
<b>MONDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 10</b>
6:30 pm	Facility Master Plan Committee	Gathering Place
6:30 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting	Work Room
<b>TUESDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 11</b>
6:00 pm	Praise & Worship Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:00 pm	Spiritual Direction	Chapel
7:00 pm	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal	Music Room
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Rainbow of Hope NA Group	Gathering Place
7:00 pm	Yoga Connections	Activities Building
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 12</b>
6:30 pm	Joyful Singing 102: In the Sandbox	Chapel
7:00 pm	The Chalice: Naked Spirituality	Gathering Place
<b>THURSDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 13</b>
6:00 pm	Special Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
8:00 pm	OUT Later: Support for Gay Fathers	Chapel
<b>FRIDAY</b>		<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>
7:00 pm Friday Night OUT North		
<b>SATURDAY</b>		<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>
<b>DECEMBER 15</b>		
9:30 am	Sanctuary Choir Community Outreach	Winterhaven Nursing Home
10:00 am	Children's Choir Dress Rehearsal	Sanctuary
10:00 am	Christmas Basket Assembly	Activities Building
12:00 pm	Advent Story/Christmas Basket Lunch	Activities Building
12:30 pm	Young Adult Brunch	Polovina Italian Cafe
1:00 pm	Enter the Advent Story	
6:30 pm	Joyful Singing 102: Showcase	St. Andrews Episcopal Church
<b>SUNDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 16</b>
9:00 am	<b>Sunday Worship</b>	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Fisher's Net - Prayer Time	Chapel
10:15 am	Speaking of Faith: Young Adults	Activities Building
10:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Activities Building
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	Activities Building
11:00 am	<b>Sunday Worship</b>	Sanctuary
12:30 pm	Children's Christmas Concert Lunch	Activities Building
1:30 pm	Children's Christmas Concert	Sanctuary
1:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal	Music Room
3:00 pm	Children's Concert Reception	Music Room
3:00 pm	Christmas Basket Distribution	Activities Building