



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

Volume 02, Issue 50

December 9, 2007

Prelude

Joel Hammett

Veni Emmanuel

Arranged by Lani Smith

+ Our Community Gathers

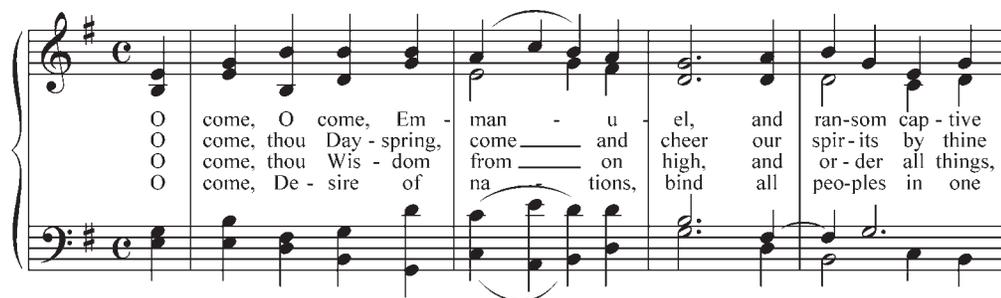
Rev. Dwayne Johnson & Mark Eggleston

+ Exchange of Peace

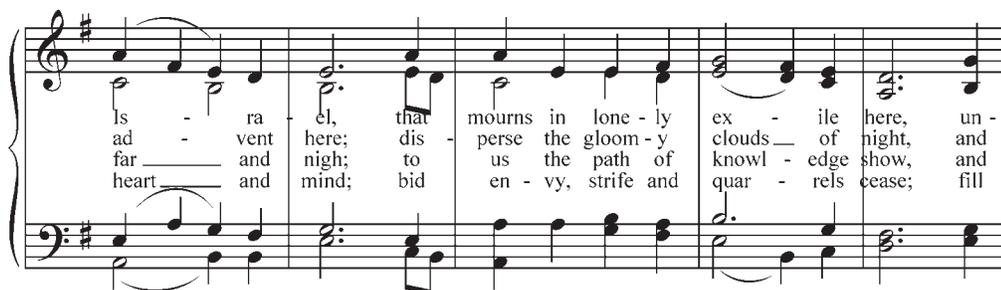
+ Processional Hymn

VENI EMMANUEL

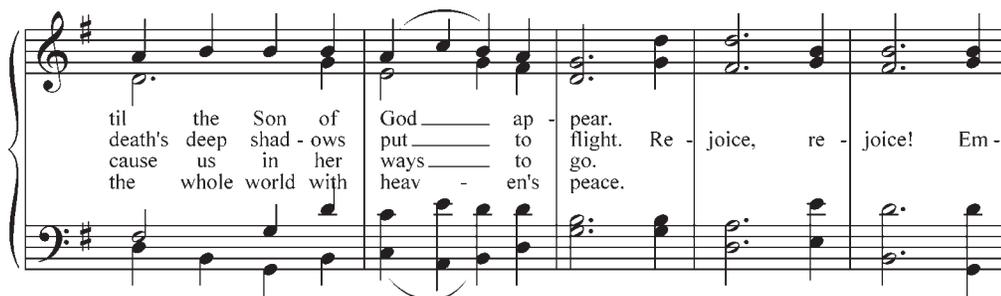
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



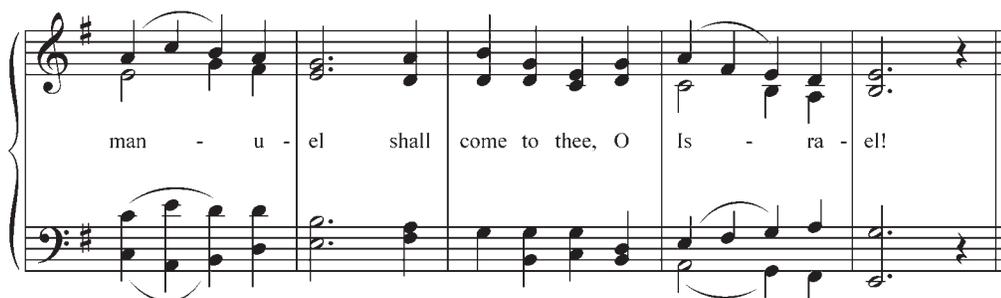
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive
O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer our spirits by thine
O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things,
O come, Desire of nations, bind all peo-ples in one



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un -
ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and
far and nigh; to us the path of knowl - edge show, and
heart and mind; bid en - vy, strife and quar - rels cease; fill



til the Son of God ap - pear.
death's deep shad - ows put to flight. Re - joice, re - joice! Em -
cause us in her ways to go.
the whole world with heav - en's peace.



man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

+ Invocation

Rev. Bernie Barbour

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

We Prepare

As the prelude begins, the congregation is invited to be in an attitude of expectation for the worship of God.

We Worship

The medieval Christian church sang seven "Great O Antiphons" during the week before Christmas. The hymn presented here lifts up four of these images in metrical verse form and dates from the twelfth century. Each stanza features one Old Testament name for the Messiah.

These four are:
Stanza 1 - Emmanuel (God With Us), Isaiah 7:14;
Stanza 2 - Dayspring (Morning Star), Numbers 24:17;
Stanza 3 - Wisdom, Isaiah 11:2;
Stanza 4 - Desire of Nations, Jeremiah 10:7.

The tune VENI EMMANUEL has been traced back to a fifteenth-century processional of French Franciscan nuns, where it served as the setting for a funeral devotional hymn.

We Prepare

There is some evidence to suggest that a form of the Advent Wreath first occurred in the Middle Ages; however, the first modern Advent wreath was made by Johann Hinrich Wichern (1808-1881), a German theologian and educator that founded a home for poor children in the city of Hamburg. During the Advent season, the children asked daily if Christmas had arrived. In 1839, he built a wooden ring (made out of a cartwheel) with 19 small red and 4 big white candles. A small candle was lit successively every day of Advent. On Sundays, a large white candle was lit. This eventually led to the modern Advent Wreath with its four candles. In 1860, people started to entwine the wooden ring with evergreen cuttings. The Advent wreath became a German Christmas tradition at the beginning of the 20th century. In Austria and Southern Germany (particularly Bavaria) it did not become a custom before 1930. It has now spread to other countries as well. Eventually, the Advent Wreath made its way into various Protestant churches and later into Roman Catholic churches in the United States.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Rev. Bernie Barbour

One: Today we relight the candle of unity. We also light the second candle for fulfillment.

All: We wait and pray in expectation for the fulfillment of God's promises.

One: May we learn to be the fulfillment of God's promises in striving to bring justice to the oppressed.

All: May we live in expectation for that day to come.

One: Let us pray:

Community Prayer

Response



Come, quick-ly, sha - lom, teach us — how to pre - pare for a gift that com - pels us with jus - tice to
care. Our spir - its are rest - less ful - fill - ment we need. The can - dles are lit ex - pect - a - tion we seek.

Psalm Reading

Win Boyd (9 am)
Rose Wall (11 am)

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

One: O God, give your anointed one your righteousness - and your justice.

All: Teach your chosen one to govern your people rightly and bring justice to the oppressed.

One: The mountains will bring the people peace and the hills justice! Your anointed will defend the oppressed among the people, save the children of the poor, and crush the oppressor.

All: O God, give your anointed one your righteousness - and your justice.

One: The reign of your anointed will endure as long as the sun and moon - throughout all generations. The chosen one will be like rain coming down on the meadow, like showers watering the earth. Justice will flower through the days, and profound peace, until the moon be no more.

All: O God, give your anointed one your righteousness - and your justice.

One: Blessed be our God, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous deeds! And blessed forever be God's glorious name.

All: May the whole earth be filled with God's glory. Amen, amen!

Anthem

Gospel Ensemble

There Is No Christmas Without You

Words & Music by Kirk Franklin

+ Gospel Reading

Rev. Janice Ladd

Matthew 3:1-6, 11-12

At this time John the Baptizer appeared in the desert of Judea, proclaiming, "Change your hearts and minds, for the reign of heaven is about to break in upon you!"

It was John that the prophet Isaiah described when he said, "A herald's voice cries in the desert: 'Prepare the way of our God, make direct the paths of God!'"

John was clothed in a garment of camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist. Grasshoppers and wild honey were his food. At that time, Jerusalem, all Judea and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him. John baptized them in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins.

John said, "I will baptize you in water if you have a change of heart, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me. I'm not fit even to untie the sandals of the coming one! That one will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and fire, whose threshing fork will clear the threshing floor. The grain will be gathered into the barn, but the chaff will be burned in unquenchable fire."

Special Music

Jules Czarnik

Grown-up Christmas List

Words & Music by David & Linda Foster

Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Unexpected Expectations: Unexpected Fulfillment

Making Ministry Happen

Rev. Mona Lopez

Offertory

HeavenSound Handbells

Angels We Have Heard on High

Arranged by Arnold Sherman

Communion

Cassandra White

One: On the night you were betrayed you took the bread;

After giving thanks you broke it and said,

"This is my body broken for you, and as you eat it remember me;

All: This is my body broken for you and as you eat it, remember me.

One: On the night you were betrayed you held the cup

After giving thanks you lifted it up.

This is my life poured out for you, and as you drink it remember me.

All: This is my life poured out for you, and as you drink it remember me.

One: So we thank you for the cup and for the bread,

For we see the life you gave and the blood you shed.

**All: And we remember your wondrous love;
You gave your body you shed your blood.**

And we remember your wondrous love

You gave your Spirit to live in us.

And we remember your wondrous love;

You gave your body you shed your blood.

And we remember your wondrous love

You gave your Spirit to live in us.

We Hear the Word

"The Holy Spirit is God, who gives the divine self to us as a gift. The Holy Spirit is given to us to teach wisdom, to guide us in the ways of mercy, to encourage our faith in a world where faith's vision seems foolish, to assure us that no matter how powerful evil may appear there is no lost good, and to confirm in our present ambiguous circumstances the bold promises of the gospel."
Thomas Long,
*Matthew from
Westminster Bible
Companion.*

We Listen

The song *Grown-up Christmas List* was made popular by the Christian Artist Amy Grant. However, it was first recorded by Natalie Cole. Since then, Barbra Streisand has recorded it as well.

We Receive

All Congregations in MCC practice an open communion. We believe that communion is a visible sign of Christ's presence and God's grace, that each one of us... visitor, friend, or member, may receive.

We Sing

During a year's sabbatical from his ministry at Holy Trinity Church in Philadelphia, author Phillips Brooks (1835-1893) rode to Bethlehem on horseback for Christmas Eve 1865. As a year that had seen the end of the American Civil War and the assassination of an American President drew to a close, Brooks' longing for peace found expression as he pondered the "everlasting light" that had shone in Bethlehem's "dark streets."

Once believed to have been composed by Martin Luther, its origin, text and tune have been traced by modern research to the United States of the nineteenth century. Although the text is of unknown origin, the tune AWAY IN A MANGER was composed by James R. Murray (1842-1905). At one time he taught music in the public schools of Andover, Massachusetts. He later served as an editor for a publisher of sacred music.

Communion Songs

Emmanuel

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

Words & Music by Bob McGee
© 1976 C.A. Music (div. of Christian Artists Corp.)
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.

Words & Music by Naida Hearn
© 1974, 1978 Scripture in Song (admin. by Maranatha! Music)
CCLI License #1025612

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the joys of highest heaven.
No ear may hear Christ's coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

Words by Phillips Brooks, Music by Lewis H. Redner
© Public Domain
Tune: ST. LOUIS

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.
Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Words anonymous, Music by James R. Murray
© Public Domain
Tune: AWAY IN A MANGER

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Mona Lopez

+ Benediction

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

+ Benediction Response

Glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!
Glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Postlude Joel Hammett

Sacred Reading

All the flowers of tomorrow are in the seeds of today.

~ Chinese Proverb

Advent is the season of hope awakened not by our changing circumstances and fickle emotions but by the action of God in our lives, igniting the dying embers, setting fire to our passion and searing us in a way that means we are forever changed.

~ Michael Spangler

During Advent, John the Baptist calls us to remember that the wisdom of God became incarnate in Jesus Christ. The heart of this wisdom is to know who created us and to what end we are created. This is why John the Baptist announces that the One who is coming is mightier than he: so much mightier that John does not even presume to be worthy of untying his sandal. The humility required is not self-prescribed improvement or modification of behavior or attitude adjustment. We are destined for union with Christ in the power of the Spirit, for communion with God by grace.

~ Michael Pasquarello III, *Mature Christians*

I do not want to die--until I have faithfully made the most of my talent and cultivated the seed that was placed in me until the last small twig has grown.

~ Kathy Kollwitz, *The Power of a Woman*, edited by Janet Mills, 54.

Spiritual Maturity & Application

What is it that you most deeply hope for, long for, or expect in your life for the present or for the future? If your deepest longings were to be fulfilled, what would the picture look like? What is your longing in relation to those around you? Journal or doodle your ruminations on these questions. Discuss with spiritual friends.

~ James L. Boyce, adapted.

Tuesday's reading from Genesis 49 describes Judah as the most promising of Leah and Jacob's children. They have great hopes for Judah's future. God shares this hope. Today, we also live in the promise of such hope. God has already been with us in what has been completed--yet God also draws us toward greater fulfillment.

Can you envision God standing in the future, calling you forward to your very best, unfolding the potential God has given you? Does that possibility change the way you think about the present? Write a poem or jot down a few thoughts expressing what you feel and imagine about God's calling and blessing of what is yet to be.

~ *Spiritual Formation Bible*, 68, adapted.

Staff

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Senior Pastor

RevDJ@ResurrectionMCC.org (x101)

Rev. Janice Ladd

Executive Pastor

RevJL@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

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Director of Worship

SCouch@ResurrectionMCC.org (x109)

Mark Eggleston

Director of Outreach

MEggleston@ResurrectionMCC.org (x106)

Jason Wood

Director of Connections

JWood@ResurrectionMCC.org (x105)

Joel Hammett

Organist

Ken Thompson

Audio / Visual Director

Justin West

Pianist

Anthony White

Gospel Ensemble Pianist

Cassandra White

Gospel Ensemble Director

Jim Winslett

HeavenSound Handbells Director

Volunteer Staff Clergy

Rev. Bernie Barbour

RevBB@ResurrectionMCC.org

Rev. Dr. Sharon Bezner

Rev. Rick Elliott

Rev. Mona Lopez

RevML@ResurrectionMCC.org

Rev. Tracye Ruffin

RevTR@ResurrectionMCC.org

Worship

Sunday, 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Children & Youth Worship

Sunday, 11:00 am

Nursery

Sunday, 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church

2025 West 11th St, Houston, Texas 77008
Phone 713-861-9149 / Fax 713-861-2520
www.ResurrectionMCC.org

Welcome!

If you are visiting 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.



Creating a Life that Matters...Creates a Church that Matters!

Please stop by the **Concierge Desk**

located next to **Inspirations**, our coffee café and gift shop, to receive a welcome gift. 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.

About Us...

Resurrection MCC is a Christian church with a primary outreach to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community. We are a part of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, founded by Rev. Troy D. Perry in Los Angeles, California on October 6, 1968. 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.



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. To that end, we embrace five core beliefs:

We believe in *God's unconditional love for everyone.*

We believe in *the saving grace of Jesus Christ and the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit.*

We believe in *including everyone and excluding no one.*

We believe in *joyfully providing access to Christ-centered spiritual nourishment and Biblical truths.*

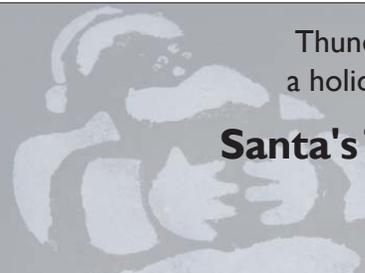
We believe that *each of us will discover our spirituality through active participation in the work of God and in the pursuit of health, wholeness, and justice for everyone.*

Again, welcome!



Concert
Celebrate the Season!
TONIGHT at 7 pm!

The Resurrection Music Ministry is partnering with the Houston Pride Band to bring the city of Houston a celebration of the music of the season. This concert will have secular and sacred carols including a time of carol singing for the audience. Invite your friends. Admission is free. An offering will be taken, with all proceeds going to benefit the Resurrection MCC General Fund.



Thunderbird Theater presents
a holiday program for children!

Santa's Texas Adventure
TONIGHT at 7 pm!
Activities Building

Drop off your kids in the Activities Building, while you enjoy our holiday concert, *Celebrate the Season*, in the Sanctuary. Kids can have their picture taken with Santa. A holiday reception follows in the Gathering Place.

THE BAYOU CITY PERFORMING ARTS 2007-2008 CONCERT SEASON

ECHOES



**Ho-Ho-Ho-down to Holly-wood:
Echoes of the Season**

A holiday classic
Gay Men's Chorus of Houston
Bayou City Women's Chorus
Bayou City Chorale
Tuesday, December 18, 2007
Jones Hall | 7:30 PM
Tickets from \$19 - \$39

To order tickets call 713-521-7464, or purchase them online at
www.BayouCityPerformingArts.org.



**Merry
Christmas!**

Celebrate the Season!

Holiday Concert

Partnering with the Houston Pride Band

Sunday, December 9, 7:00 pm

Candlelight Communion

Christmas Eve Services

Monday, December 24

8:00 & 10:00 pm

*"Favorite Place
to Worship!"*

OutSmart Readers'
Choice Awards 2007

Children's Worship, Friends & Fellowship, Holy Union, Sermon Podcast
2025 W. 11th St @ T.C. Jester, Houston 77008 • 713-861-9149 • www.ResurrectionMCC.org



Thank you, Resurrection MCC! by Charles Clark II

I want to thank you Resurrection MCC for your support of World AIDS Day 2007. The total raised towards our HIV/AIDS Benevolence Fund, over the two day event, was over \$114. I personally want to thank

Ken Thompson and Bryan Long for their assistance in making the panel display a reality. I also want to, once again, thank Mark Eggleston and Rose Wall (my Co-Chair) for their continual conversation with the Names Project office in Atlanta. The largest display of Quilt panels in Harris County couldn't have gone on without their time and talent. Also, to the dozens of volunteers that helped over the weekend - thank you.

Many of you have expressed interest in creating a Resurrection MCC panel, for all of the brothers and sisters we have lost to this ongoing disease. Several others approached me about making a panel for someone they've lost, long ago. Well, write down these names and write down their stories. Gather photos or mementos - even a fabric that might look like a shirt or dress they would have worn...ANYTHING. In February, we will have another panel workshop where you can bring these stories and photos and create a testament to that love, by creating a panel. Two names, two stories, two panels were shipped to the Names Project office, along with the 9 sections we brought here. Next spring, let us together remember the names and tell their story to also add them to the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

Parents Lunch Social

NEXT Sunday

December 16, 12:30 pm

Lunch Served, Childcare Provided

Parents, Parents-To-Be, or those interested in becoming parents, are invited to join us!

Enjoy lunch, fellowship with other parents, and hear from Paige Schilt, Director of National Media for Soulforce, as she discusses the social justice collaborative efforts between Soulforce and UFMCC, starting Mother's Day weekend, 2008!

If you'd like to receive information about future events for Parents, email Parents@ResurrectionMCC.org



Paige Schilt

Single?

Join Us!

To join our new singles group, or learn about our upcoming gatherings, email Brandon at Singles@ResurrectionMCC.org



Music Ministry Opportunities



Resurrection MCC is so blessed to have a number of music groups to minister at our worship services. Solo or professional quality voices are not necessary to be a part of these groups. Below is a list of the groups and when they meet. Please take some time to consider being a part of Resurrection MCC's music ministry.

Gospel Ensemble

Tuesdays, 7 pm

Directed by Cassandra White, this group sings music in the African-American Gospel tradition, traditional Spirituals and contemporary music of all types. Reading music is not required for this group, but the ability to match pitch and sing a part separate from the melody is.

Sanctuary Choir

Wednesdays, 7 pm

This group sings mostly traditional church choral music with some contemporary music added from time to time. The group is directed by Steven Couch. Reading music is not required for this group, but the ability to match pitch and sing a part separate from the melody is.

Praise Dancers

Saturday Mornings

This group is a dance troupe that ministers through dance and movement. Led by Yolanda Richardson, this group has its own choreographers. Experience in dance is not necessary, if one has the willingness to learn.

Resurrection Singers

Thursdays, 7 pm

This is our newest group. Reading music would be very helpful and being comfortable on a separate microphone. This group is directed by Steven Couch.

HeavenSound Handbells

Sundays, 1:30 pm

Currently there are several open spots in the handbell choir. Interested people need to have some music reading skills. Experience in ringing is not required. The director, Jim Winslett, will teach anyone the techniques of ringing.

Resurrection Orchestra

Weekly rehearsal day has not been determined. We currently have about 6 people interested in beginning this new group, however, we need a few more to have a balanced instrumentation. Reading music is essential, as is having your own instrument (other than percussion).

If you have interest in any of these groups, please email SCouch@ResurrectionMCC.org or call 713-861-9149 x109

Get Connected!

www.ResurrectionMCC.org

Second Family Care Partners

Kristia Ammerman
SecondFamily@ResurrectionMCC.org

This care team acts as extended family and friends, offering emotional, practical, and spiritual support.

If you would like to receive a care visit, or are interested in becoming a care visitor, please contact Jason at JWood@ResurrectionMCC.org or call 832-971-0354.

Loaves & Fishes

Robert Sliepka
LoavesAndFishes@ResurrectionMCC.org

Do you like cooking, serving, and providing nourishment to others?

This group provides food for those in need due to a funeral, a special need, as well as for occasional church events.

Care Callers

Karen Cruse
Terry Talley
CareCallers@ResurrectionMCC.org

Do you have a friendly, loving attitude and enjoy speaking with people on the phone?

Our care callers make phone calls to our first time visitors and follow up on congregational care needs.

Volunteer Receptionist

Fabiola Cruz
Carole Wiseman
Reception@ResurrectionMCC.org

Do you like answering the phone and helping out around an office?

We need people to help answer our phone each day from Sunday through Friday.

Training can be done immediately. Please contact Jason Wood for additional information, or to sign up.

Concierge Desk

Leslie Jackson
Concierge@ResurrectionMCC.org

Do you like to help people feel welcome and included?

We need loving, warm and friendly people to serve at the Concierge Desk, located in the Gathering place, before and after both Sunday Worship Services!

This desk will help welcome new visitors, provide them with a free gift, and help them get connected.

Ushers

Kecia Bullock
Dave Mathis
Ushers@ResurrectionMCC.org

We need ushers for 9 & 11 am Sunday Worship Services.

There are 10 exciting teams!

Each team ushers one service a month, at either the 9 am or 11 am Service.

Remember, "No one is *JUST* an usher."

Inspirations Coffee Cafe

Travis Ochoa
Inspirations@ResurrectionMCC.org

Do you enjoy coffee, gifts, and fellowship?

We need enthusiastic volunteers to serve before and after both Sunday Worship Services.

Volunteers are also needed during the week to help with restocking inventory, cleaning, and general maintenance.

Welcome Team

Flo Perry
Welcome@ResurrectionMCC.org

Do you like helping people feel special and welcome the moment they arrive to the church?

We want to welcome people to the church and help them get to where they need to go.

Team members will be positioned at every door and sidewalk, greeting people with a smile and kind word, offering directions or answering questions.



Poinsettias for the Sanctuary!

Resurrection is again taking orders for poinsettias to fill our sanctuary during the Advent Season. Consider honoring a loved one, friend, spouse, or ministry leader. You can also give them in memory of those no longer with us.

In our Christmas Eve bulletin each person's name will appear with the person they are honoring or memorializing.

Poinsettias are \$12.00. Simply tear out this form and place it in the offering basket with your check or put cash in an envelope and mark it poinsettias.

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Number of Poinsettias: _____

In honor of: _____

-or-

In memory of: _____

Christmas Baskets

Today Only!

Food & Cash Donations
Received in Gathering Place

NEXT Saturday,
December 15

Baskets Assembled in
Activities Building



Shopping List

2 cans corn, 2 cans green beans, 2 cans vegetables, 2 lb. bag of rice, box of mashed potatoes, can of cranberry sauce, 2 packages of gravy mix, 2 boxes of mac & cheese, large can of sweet potatoes, box of stuffing, 2 lb. bag of dried beans, 4 or 5 lb. bag of flour, 4 or 5 lb. bag of sugar, box of cake mix, container of frosting, 32 oz. vegetable oil, box of snack cakes, \$25 grocery gift card.

To volunteer or for questions, email Robert Sliepka at LoavesAndFishes@ResurrectionMCC.org



Christmas Jar Update

by Jules Gauvin

So, how is that Christmas Jar coming? Mine is almost to the top. Have you been putting your coins into a jar since reading my last article, or are you still throwing them into the cup holder in your car? Perhaps you're still emptying your pockets at night and tossing your change into a drawer? Huh? What? What am I talking about?

Well, last Christmas I read a book by Jason Wright called Christmas Jars. In the book, there is a family that collects coins all year long and puts them in their Christmas Jar. On Christmas Eve the family goes out and finds someone in need of that money and gives them the jar.

I stayed up late that night reading this book and knew that I would start my own Christmas Jar come January 1st and went off to bed. As the night wore on I had a vision, some may call a dream, regarding our church. I clearly saw, during our Christmas Eve Service, people getting out of the pews, walking down the aisles, carrying their own Christmas Jars and laying them on the steps at the front of the sanctuary. I saw this as if I were there. I knew I had to tell you about it and help make it happen.

So, dust off those jars....empty those cup holders and drawers....because I'd love for you to join us when we walk on down the aisle on Christmas Eve carrying our Christmas Jars full of coins for Resurrection MCC.

I can't wait to hear the jingle of coins on Christmas Eve.

What can you do for our church?

Teams are forming so that we can have in-house security for our community of faith. If you are interested in this ministry please contact Karen Cruse at Security@ResurrectionMCC.org.

Board Members on Duty

Michelle Freeman & Georgette L. Monaghan

Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

O.W.L.S. Gathering

Outreach, Wisdom, Laughter, Support: A Seniors' Ministry

Tuesday, December 18

12:00 pm, Gathering Place

Caravan to Pat Walker's Home for Christmas Party

RSVP to OWLS@ResurrectionMCC.org
Lunches held the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each Month

A.A. Recovery Group

Every Tuesday, 7 pm - 8 pm
Wellness Center

This is an open meeting of
Alcoholics Anonymous.

For more information, please call
Jason Wood, Director of Connections, at 832-971-0354.



yL®

youthLife

TODAY

12:30 pm

Activities Bldg.

youthLife meets 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month.

Now Training Volunteers! JWood@ResurrectionMCC.org

Christmas Card Mailbox

Drop off Christmas Cards for your Resurrection family members in the "mailbox" in the Gathering Place.



Or mail them to:

Recipient's Name
c/o Resurrection MCC
2025 W. 11th St
Houston TX 77008-6320

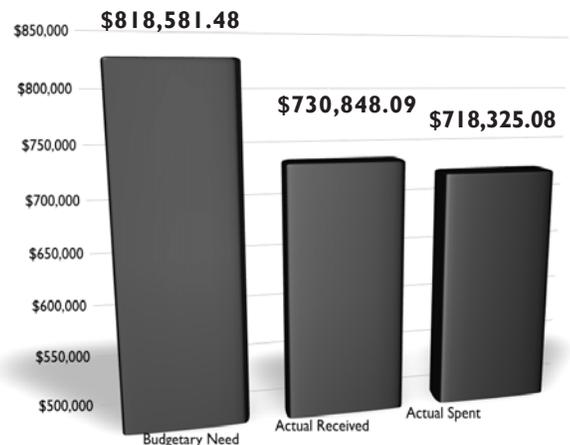
Flowers for the Sanctuary

*Please consider donating flowers for the Sanctuary.
Sign up on the flower chart in the Welcome Area.*

General Fund Financial Report

Week Ending December 2, 2007

| Tithes & Offerings | | Week | Year to Date |
|----------------------------------|----------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Mid-Week | | | \$12,184.52 |
| 12/02/07 | 9:00 am | 123 \$5,460.50 | \$204,848.32 |
| 12/02/07 | 11:00 am | 348 \$9,716.06 | \$276,979.56 |
| Special Services | | | \$4,535.20 |
| Gift of Love Campaign | | | \$14,440.30 |
| Other Contributions | | \$5,239.65 | \$131,544.48 |
| Total | | 471 \$20,416.21 | \$644,532.38 |
| Other General Fund Income | | | |
| Fundraising | | \$242.00 | \$25,294.15 |
| Miscellaneous | | \$10.00 | \$61,021.56 |
| Total Received | | \$20,668.21 | \$730,848.09 |
| Budgetary Need | | \$17,604.63 | \$818,581.48 |
| Total Surplus / (Deficit) | | \$3,063.58 | (\$87,733.39) |



This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

SUNDAY DECEMBER 9

- 9:00 am **Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**
- 10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry *Chapel*
- 11:00 am **Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**
- 11:15 am Children & Youth Worship Service *Activities Building*
- 12:30 pm youthLife! *Activities Building*
- 1:00 pm Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal *Activities Building #200*
- 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Sanctuary*
- 7:00 pm *Celebrate the Season!* Holiday Concert *Sanctuary*
- 7:00 pm Santa's Texas Adventure *Activities Building*
- 8:30 pm Holiday Reception *Gathering Place*

MONDAY DECEMBER 10

- 6:30 pm JustUs Rehearsal *Chapel*

TUESDAY DECEMBER 11

- 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (Open) *Wellness Center*
- 7:00 pm Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal *Chapel*

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 12

- 6:30 pm Creating a Life That Matters (Closed) *Gathering Place*
- 6:30 pm Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal *Activities Bldg #202*
- 7:00 pm Houston Pride Band Rehearsal *Activities Building*
- 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *Chapel*

THURSDAY DECEMBER 13

- 7:00 pm Resurrection Singers Rehearsal *Chapel*

FRIDAY DECEMBER 14

- 9:00 am Houston Clergy Leadership Institute *Gathering Place*

SATURDAY DECEMBER 15

No Events Scheduled.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 16

- 9:00 am **Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**
- 10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry *Chapel*
- 11:00 am **Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**
- 11:15 am Children & Youth Worship Service *Activities Building*
- 12:30 pm Parents Lunch Social *Activities Building*
- 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Sanctuary*