



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

Volume 03, Issue 35

August 10, 2008

Prelude

Joel Hammett

Our Community Gathers

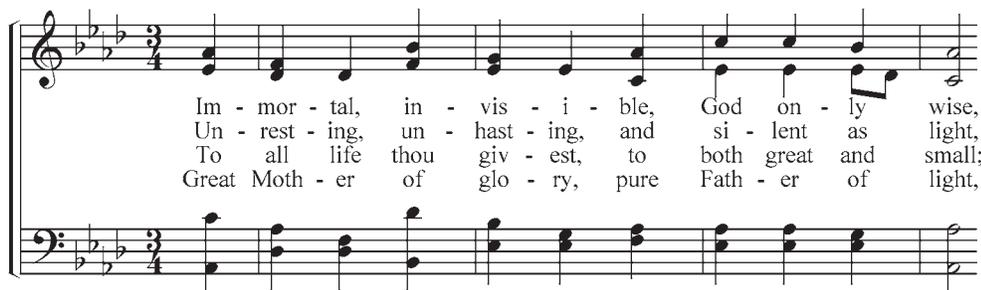
Rev. Dwayne Johnson & Mark Eggleston

+ Exchange of Peace

+ Processional Hymn

ST. DENIO

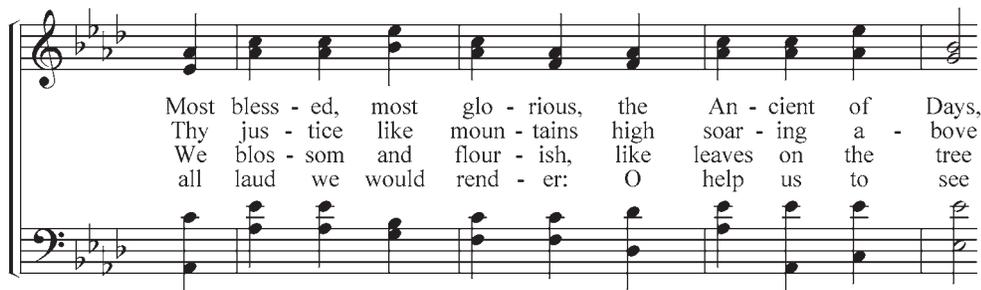
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 Great Moth - er of glo - ry, pure Fath - er of light,



In light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 Nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou - rul - est in might;
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 Thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 We blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree
 all laud we would rend - er: O help us to see



Al - migh - ty, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - es thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

+ Invocation

Rev. Janice Ladd

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

We Prepare

The prelude is designed to set the tone for the worship service. It is also an offering from one of our gifted musicians. Many wish to listen and meditate during this time.

We Worship

Walter Chalmers Smith was a minister of the Free Church of Scotland. This hymn was first published in his *Hymns of Christ and Christian Life* (1867). The present form of the hymn consists of alterations made by the author and open couplets of the fourth and fifth stanzas of the original version. Smith uses images of nature, such as mountains, to suggest the strength of God's justice, and clouds to serve as a reminder of the ongoing supply of goodness and love. The tune ST. DENIO was first published as a hymn tune in 1839 in John Roberts' *Sacred Songs*. It is based on a Welsh folk song, "Can Mylneed I'nawr" which was popular in the nineteenth century. Gustav Holst introduced it in *The English Hymnal* in 1906.

We Hear the Word

In contrast to the usual appearances of God, which are accompanied by fire, wind, thunder, lightning, and earthquakes, the appearance of God to Elijah is in the sound of sheer silence, or "the sound of a soft whisper." This experience introduces something new and different: God is revealed not only through magnificent natural events but also through the lives and words of those who work and speak on behalf of God.

We Worship

This prayer hymn comes from the GIA Catholic publication, *Gather*. It was written by Diana Kodner in the 1950's but was not published until 1994.

We Hear the Word

Jesus does another godlike thing in this story. He calms the stormy seas and walks on water. He establishes God's rule over creation including the chaotic seas. "Going up the mountain" describes Moses' ascending of Sinai. This phrase along with the wilderness, feeding people, and controlling the sea, recalls the exodus deliverance from a tyrant.

Hebrew Reading

Win Boyd (9 am)

Kedric Brown (11 am)

I Kings 19:9-13

Elijah spent the night on Mount Sinai in a cave. While Elijah was on Mount Sinai, God asked, "Elijah, why are you here?"

Elijah answered, "God All-Powerful, I've always done my best to follow you. Yet your people have broken their solemn promise to you. They have torn down your altars and killed all your prophets, except me. And now they are even trying to kill me!"

God replied: "Go out and stand on the mountain. I want you to see me when I pass by."

All at once, a strong wind shook the mountain and shattered the rocks. Yet God was not in the wind. Next, there was an earthquake, but God was not in the earthquake. Then there was fire, yet God was not in the fire.

Finally, there was a gentle breeze, and when Elijah heard it, he covered his face with his coat. He went out and stood at the entrance to the cave.

God asked, "Elijah, why are you here?"

Call to Prayer

Pues Si Vivimos

En es - ta vi - da, fru - tos he - mos de dar; las o - bras
Throughout our lives we have fruit to bear. all of our

bue - nas son pa - ra - of - ren - dar. Ya sea que de - mos o que re - ci -
bless - ings are for us to share. Whe - ther we give, or we re -

ba - mos, so - mos del Señ - or, so - mos del Señ - or.
ceive we be - long to God, we be - long to God.

Community Prayers

Rev. Bernie Barbour

Gospel Reading

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Matthew 14:23-33

After Jesus had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Holy One."

Anthem

Gospel Ensemble
Shavailya Long, soloist

On Time God

Words & Music by Dottie Peebles

Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

***Summer Love:
Love in the Presence Tense***

Making Ministry Happen

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Offertory

Cassandra White

Holy Communion

Ron Drumm

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Invitation to the Table

Music During Communion

I Love You, Lord

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice
To worship you. O my soul rejoice!
Take joy, my God, in what you hear:
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

Words & Music by Laurie Klein
© 1978, 1980 House of Mercy Music
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Make Us One

Make us one, Lord, make us one,
Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your love flow so the world will know
We are one in you.

Words & Music by Carol Cymbala
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**Today's
Table
Celebration**

Today's Table Celebration is hosted by EXCEL of the Armadillo. EXCEL is a self-administered spiritual retreat ministry started in Metropolitan Community Churches. EXCEL began in 1975 and there are approximately 20 teams in the United States, Canada, Mexico and South Africa. EXCEL is patterned after the Cursillo movement which started in 1949 in Spain. Hundreds of people attend EXCEL weekends each year. The Armadillo team was founded in 1983. Months of preparation time are required by team members for each weekend. This includes monthly team meetings where prayer, study and action are utilized and discussed in depth. Group sharing and caring are developed as the team grows to know and trust each other. For more information visit: www.excelofthearmadillo.org

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. Simply come forward as the ushers direct. We use grape juice for the cup. After you are served you will receive a blessing from the server. If you are in need of further prayer, our Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry team is available following both services to pray with you.

We Sing

We sing as a body during the distribution of the elements. If you do not wish to sing, please be in an attitude of prayer for those who wish to meditate during this time.

God, through our communion at your table, may your miracle of love multiply in our hearts.

Receive the miracle of eternal love for all seasons through these gifts of grace.

Communion Songs

My Jesus, I Love Thee

My Jesus, I love thee; I know thou art mine.
For thee all the follies of sin I resign.

My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright,
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
"If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now."

Words by William R. Featherston, Music by Adoniram Gordon
Public Domain
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I Stand in Awe

You are beautiful beyond description, too marvelous for words,
Too wonderful for comprehension, like nothing ever seen or heard.

Who can grasp your infinite wisdom,
Who can fathom the depth of your love?

You are beautiful beyond description, majesty enthroned above.

+ And I stand, I stand in awe of you,
I stand, I stand in awe of you,
Holy God, to whom all praise is due,
I stand in awe of you.

Words & Music Mark Altrogge
© 1987 People of Destiny International
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+ Prayer of Thanksgiving

Ron Drumm

Farewell to Rev. Bernie Barbour

+ Benediction

Rev. Bernie Barbour

Postlude

Joel Hammett

**The Worship of
God Each Day**

Grow Up

Spiritual Maturity, Transformation & Application

Prayer of Opening

Dear God, today I let go. I release my defenses. Rather than hold myself tightly curled into the fist I use to fight adversity, I open my heart's hand to allow the touch of friendship, the touch of hope. Rather than harden my heart against further blows, I soften it to receive new beginnings. Amen.

~ Julia Cameron,
Transitions, 101, adapted.

Daily Scripture Readings

Sun - Luke 5:17-26
Mon - Romans 10:5-15
Tue - Psalm 8
Wed - Psalm 105:1-6
Thu - Acts 3:1-11
Fri - Romans 8:31-39
Sat - * Genesis 45:1-15

* Preparation for
Sunday, August 17

**Sacred Reading
(pages 5 & 6)**

See opening essay,
quotes, or other sources.

**Spiritual Maturity &
Application (page 6)**

See questions and
reflection journal
exercises.

Prayer of Sending

May God shield you
on every steep,
May Christ keep you
in every path,
May Spirit bathe you
in every pass.

~ Celtic prayer from
Carmina Gadelica

Opening Essay

Counterintuitive Clarity . . . Or Not

One of the themes that runs throughout both the Hebrew and Christian scriptures is how people experience unexpected and unruly circumstances. On August 17 our Children's Music Ministry will present for everyone *It's Cool in the Furnace*, a musical about how some of God's faithful followers end up in a fiery situation that seems way out of control. Where is God in the fire?

We've all been there at one time or another. On the run. Up against the wall. Stuck. How do we relate to ourselves, others, and God when the water is rising, the wind is blowing, the roof is falling in, the bills are multiplying, and our friends ignore our phone calls?

In *Transitions*, Julia Cameron writes:

Sometimes we are faced with events beyond our control. Our friends accept jobs in distant cities. The one we love falls suddenly and irrevocably in love with someone else. Our company downsizes . . .

We feel swept beyond our depth, adrift in a dangerous sea. The world appears a hostile and forbidding place. We are frightened. At times like these, we draw into ourselves, contracting our hearts self-protectively. It is a natural reflex - and it is counter to our good. In times of adversity, we must expand, not contract. We must open, not close. We must open our hand to receive aid rather than clutch tightly to what we have remaining.

The call of spiritual health and growth during times of conflict, pain, or shifting is often a counterintuitive call. When it seems like the best approach is to sit still or let it be, sometimes the call is to act. When it seems like the best approach is to remain silent, sometimes the call is to speak out.

How may we tell the difference between what seems like the best approach and what is the best approach? One process is to list possible approaches and then ask God for guidance. Hold the possibilities before God in silent listening. Even a few minutes seeking guidance may bear fruit. Ask for God's guidance at bedtime and see what wisdom awaits upon awakening.

Clarity may not come. Clarity cannot be forced. At such times we prayerfully apply our best discernment, yet remain alert to adjust our action or inaction as increased clarity unfolds.

~ Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Message Notes

Sacred Reading

At moments of wonder, it is easy to avoid small thinking, to entertain thoughts that span the universe, that capture both thunder and tinkle, thick and thin, the near and the far.

~ Yann Martel, *Life of Pi*, 233

People often think that the basic command of religion is "Do this!" or "Don't do that!". It isn't. It's look and wonder! Learn to give attention to the world around you.

~ Philip Toynbee, *Journalist*

We cannot always offer God great things, yet at each instant we can offer God little things with great love.

~ Jane de Chantal, *Francis de Sales and Jane de Chantal: Letters of Spiritual Direction*, 62

It is not an easy peace.

It is not a half-hearted peace.

It is the peace of God.

Share it with someone.

~ Wild Goose Worship Group, *A Wee Worship Book, Fourth Incarnation*, 101

Exercises for Maturity & Transformation

One way to clarify your life is to clarify a space in your life. Choose a few areas that need "clarification." Clean out a desk drawer, simplify the foods in your pantry (do you really need 11 kinds of cereal?), or sort through your clothes closet. What is this like for you? Once you have clarified a space in your life, become present to it for about ten minutes of silent meditation. Does a spiritual principle emerge in this meditation? Do insights arise that have implications for your relationships or career?

Find a quiet place where you can sit comfortably before God. Take some deep breaths, relaxing your body and quieting your mind. Open yourself to God. Ask God to gather up the fragments of your scattered life and recollect your soul. Rest before God. When distracting thoughts come up, write down one word that expresses your distraction. Let the thought go and return to your rest in God.

After ten minutes look at the words you have jotted down. What stands out to you? What anxieties do you see? Where is your identity centered?

Acknowledge that you are not called to control all that disrupts your life. Return these concerns to God. Let God hold the concerns of your heart as you rest in God.

~ Adele Ahlberg Calhoun, *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook*, adapted.

Staff

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Senior Pastor

RevDwayne@ResurrectionMCC.org (x101)

Rev. Janice Ladd

Executive Pastor

RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

Steven Couch

Director of Worship

Steven@ResurrectionMCC.org (x109)

Mark Eggleston

Director of Outreach

Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org (x106)

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Director of Life Development

RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org (x107)

Jason Wood

Director of Connections

Jason@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

RevBernie@ResurrectionMCC.org

Rev. Rick Elliott

Rev. Mona Lopez

RevMona@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.

Make sure to visit the Concierge Desk, located next to Inspirations, our coffee café and gift shop, 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.

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!

CREATING A LIFE THAT MATTERS



MCC's Transformational Spiritual Development Curriculum

Creating a Life that Matters is a three-course curriculum which explores ways to rediscover relationship with the Sacred, with my Self, and with my Passion. These three courses correspond to the spiritual experiences of being changed, gifted and called. Graduates of Creating a Life that Matters will have been challenged to broaden their understanding of all that is Sacred; integrate their self-awareness into being authentic, aware leaders; and live their passion intentionally through the life and work of the church.

Creating a Life that Matters integrates art, scripture, music, film, journaling, and diverse spiritual resources to augment our exploration of the Christian path.



A Program of Metropolitan Community Churches
©2008 Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches

Register Today! **Class size is limited to 25.**

Cost is \$100 and covers curriculum, workbook, meals, and other materials. We ask that you make a commitment to attend all 18 classes. Classes held Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:45 pm. The first 25 individuals to submit this form, with payment, to *Inspirations Coffee Cafe & Gift Shop* will be secured a spot in the class.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Session I: The Sacred
September 17, 2008 - October 29, 2008

Session II: My Self
November 5, 2008 - December 17, 2008
(Except 11/26)

Session III: My Passion
January 7, 2009 - February 18, 2009

For more information, please pick up a brochure located in the Welcome Area and at the Concierge Desk, or contact **Rev. Kristen at 713-861-9149 x107** or by email at **RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org**

August 22
7 pm

Friday Night OUT



Join this newly formed social group for dinner and a night on the town!

Anita's Bar & Grill
2409 Grant (behind South Beach)
www.anitabump.com

For more information, or to join the email list for the group, email NightOUT@ResurrectionMCC.org



Human Rights Campaign®

Working for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equal rights.

HRC envisions an America where gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people are ensured equality and embraced as full members of the American family at home, at work and in every community. As the largest civil rights organization working to achieve equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Americans, the Human Rights Campaign represents a grassroots force of more than 700,000 members and supporters nationwide - all committed to making HRC's vision a reality.

Visit the HRC table after both services
in the Gathering Place next Sunday, August 17!



There are 44,640 minutes in a month.
Can you part with 20 of them?

Indulge me. Upon walking up to the doors of the church, what is the first thing that you see or hear? Your answer is probably that you see someone holding open a door and saying "Good morning" to you. These smiling, helpful people are the Welcome Ministry Greeters.

The Welcome Ministry is at the front lines of all that is Resurrection MCC. The greeters are the first smiles, handshakes, and kind words that people see and hear when they step foot onto our campus. Before being wowed with uplifting music and inspiring messages, and even before receiving a worship folder, members, guests, and visitors are welcomed as friends of Resurrection.

Well, with that said, WE NEED YOU! Yes, you! Resurrection needs you to become a vital part to our volunteer ministries by joining the Welcome Ministry. If you are reading this and thinking, "I just don't have the time." Think about this: You have 44,640 minutes every month. How exactly are you using them? How many of them are you turning over to the service of God and the church? If you are like me, you might have wasted a good chunk of them on Golden Girls reruns. But here's the easy part -- it's only 20 minutes!

It's very simple. The only things you need are a warm smile, a kind word, and 20 minutes. On a given Sunday each month, greeters from the Welcome Ministry stand at the main entrances of the church, open doors, smile with a hello, and reach out to help visitors.

I hope you look in your heart and say, "I can do this. I can help." All you need to do is email me at Welcome@ResurrectionMCC.org. From there I will contact you and get you scheduled for a great ministry and a wonderful experience at Resurrection.

Always,
Jason A. Sowders, Welcome Team Lead



Would Jesus Discriminate?

T-shirts

Available in
Inspirations Today!

\$12 (L & XL)

COMMUNITY OF RESPECT

A NO PLACE FOR HATE® PROGRAM OF THE ADL

Join us as the Anti-Defamation League recognizes Resurrection MCC as a 2008 Community of Respect!

NEXT Sunday, August 17
Worship Services: 9 & 11 am

Celebrate over brunch
at 12:30 pm in the Activities Building!

Labor of Love
CONCERT RAFFLE

Featuring Rev. Carolyn Mobley

Emcees for the event are
An' Marie Gill & Marcia Mink Anne Gill

Sunday, August 31, 2008
Meteor Video Lounge • 5PM
2306 Genesee St • Houston, TX 77006

No Cover. Raffle Ticket: \$100.
Grand Prize: \$5,000 (Odds of winning 1:249)
Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Prize: \$500. (Odds of winning 4:249)
Prizes awarded as Visa Gift Card

www.ResurrectionMCC.org
All proceeds benefit Resurrection's Ministries

Resurrection
Metropolitan Community Church



Would Jesus Discriminate? (Part 2)

Rev. Nancy Wilson
Moderator, MCC

"Would Jesus Discriminate?" asks us to think about Jesus today, in a very different time and culture. Discrimination is a very modern concept. It is a word with many meanings, but the most common, in our culture, is the act of showing one's prejudice, particularly racial or gender or class prejudice: to disfavor someone because of some perceived or even arbitrary characteristic.

A gay pastor was being ordained and wanted his father to participate. His father was a pastor in a conservative denomination and felt he had to ask the head of his denomination for permission to lay hands on his gay son in this more accepting church.

The denominational head was in the process of retiring, and he and his wife had moved into a new senior complex, next door to a gay male couple. Over time, his wife became friends with the men - with one, in particular. They went shopping together, met for lunch, and had coffee, and the neighbor was handy around the house in a way that the denominational executive was not.

When the denominational executive told his wife about the request from one of his pastors (to participate in the ordination of a gay son into a denomination that has a very different view of homosexuality than their own denomination), she became upset. She said, "Our neighbors are the two nicest men I have ever met; they are Christian in every sense of the word. I just don't understand what the big deal is and why the church believes and acts as it does!"

At that moment, the wall between assumptions or prejudices and what is true or real came tumbling down for that denominational executive; the permission requested was given to the pastor. This happened because the wife remembered that the Jesus she grew up with was about love and grace, about not just saying "Lord, Lord" but "doing the will" of the One who created us, about loving our neighbors - maybe even our gay neighbors.

We can only continue to hate and discriminate if we keep the "others" at a distance and don't see them as human, as part of someone's family, if not our own. If we can just label them "sinners" and can continue to not eat or drink or shop or work or go to church with them, we can continue to see them as a "threat" to us.

Jesus does not discriminate because he can't discriminate against his own. In the 25th chapter of Matthew's gospel, Jesus said we would always know how to find him: he lives today among the "least of these" - those who are discriminated against, hated, devalued, or abused - those who need food, clothing, shelter, or simply a visit - those who need justice, hope or understanding.

Jesus is with the gay teen who is mercilessly teased and bullied at school on a daily basis. Jesus suffers with lesbians and gay men in Jamaica who are attacked and beaten in their own homes by vigilantes. Jesus is with the undocumented worker who is threatened with deportation and having her family split apart. Jesus is with the parents who suffer silently in a church that condemns their son or daughter, and who agonize about their child's spirituality and safety. Jesus is with the child living with AIDS in Zimbabwe who cannot get lifesaving medications because of the expense.

In our heart of hearts, we know that Jesus was incapable of the kind of cruel discrimination that divides and harms. We also know that following him should cause us to care about our neighbors - all our neighbors - all the time.

Calling All Kids! It Still Isn't Too Late!!

Do you like to act and sing? If so, then you will definitely want to participate in the children's musical, *It's Cool in the Furnace*, a story about Daniel, King Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Please have your parent drop you off in the Activities Building this Sunday at 10:50 am for an important rehearsal. Additional rehearsals will be held this week, August 11-15, each evening from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Dinner will be provided each evening. The performance will be on Sunday, August 17 at 2:00 pm. Practice CDs will be provided.

Musical Offering Next Sunday

Next Sunday, August 17th, our children's choir will present: *It's Cool in the Furnace*. This musical is for the entire church. We will have a brunch, hosted by the Equality Ministry, in the Activities Building at 12:30 pm. Then we will all come to the Sanctuary at 2:00pm for the Children's Musical. It lasts about 45 minutes and will be a great event. Please make plans to join us and support our children's ministry.

Our Children & Youth Ministry presents...

Sunday, August 17, 2 pm, Sanctuary

It's Cool in the Furnace

35th Anniversary Edition

A Musical about Daniel, Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego



What are Your Gifts?

Board of Directors Positions Available

In membership class, each of us take a Spiritual Gifts Assessment (available from our Web site). Those with the gifts of Administration, Creative Communication, Knowledge, Wisdom, Leadership, Discernment and/or Prophecy may be perfect candidates to serve on Resurrection's Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors is responsible for the fiduciary health of the church and administering our resources to support the vision of Resurrection. We need people with a passion for financial issues, fundraising, community building outside our walls, and strategic planning for our future. We know those skills are in our congregation.

If you have taken the Spiritual Gifts Assessment and know you have these gifts, please consider this opportunity to serve. If you haven't taken the Assessment, please visit our website and take the survey. You may be the person(s) we need to fill these two open positions.

For more information, contact the Nominating Committee at Nominating@ResurrectionMCC.org or speak to one of the committee members: Win Boyd, Georgia Chambers, Ron Drumm, Yolanda Richardson and Rose Wall.

National HIV Behavioral Surveillance

Over the next several months, our congregation will have the opportunity to participate in a project with a goal to help evaluate and direct local and national HIV prevention efforts.

This project is called the National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) and is collaboration between the Department of Health and Human Services, University of Texas School of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). NHBS is conducted in over twenty-five U.S. metropolitan areas with high HIV/AIDS prevalence. NHBS involves a repeated, cross-sectional survey and voluntary HIV testing of populations at high risk for HIV infection: men who have sex with men (MSM), injection drug users (IDU), and heterosexuals at risk for HIV infection (HET).

NHBS activities are implemented in one-year cycles so that data is collected from each risk group every three years; these study cycles are referred to as NHBS-MSM, NHBS-IDU, and NHBS-HET. The study provides data on 1) trends in sexual and drug-use risk behaviors, 2) HIV prevalence and incidence, 3) HIV testing patterns, and 4) the impact of prevention services.

The first round of cycles (MSM, IDU, and HET) have been completed and the second round is in process, beginning again with the MSM population. They are partnering with popular businesses and venues to conduct the survey and HIV testing in these locations. The project started in June and will last for approximately six months.

For the study, a small hand held computer is used to do the anonymous survey and participants are paid \$20 for their time. A rapid oral HIV test (also anonymous) is offered, and willing participants are paid \$20 for testing. Participants can receive a total of \$40 for their participation.

This Sunday, those who are facilitating the survey will be in the Gathering Place after both services.

Resurrection is proud to have been asked to participate in this opportunity to assist in the efforts to prevent HIV infection.

If you have questions, please contact Mark Eggleston, Director of Outreach, at Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org or 713-861-9149 x106.

Resurrection

Inspirations

Coffee Café & Gift Shop

50% off Children's Collectibles & Toys

Volunteers are needed to assist in this ministry.
Please contact Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org

Connections First Impressions &
Life Development Youth Ministries Programs

Fall "Season of Service"

Volunteer Training Day

Saturday, August 23, 10 am - Noon

Followed by a BBQ Lunch & Pool Party!
Noon - 4 pm, Dave & Milton's Home

Share Yourself & Get Connected!

First Impressions Volunteers Needed:

- Welcome Team
- Usher Team
- Concierge Desk Hosts
- Inspirations Gift Store

Youth Ministries Programs Teachers Needed:

- Join a 3-Person Teaching Team
- Serve 1 Sunday a Month for 3 Months (Sep-Nov)
- All Age Groups Available (Infants-Teens)
- Training & Teaching Materials Provided

Whether you are...

"Wise & Experienced" or "Brand New & Excited"
... this Volunteer Training is for You!

First Impressions Volunteers RSVP to

Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org
713-861-9149 x105

Youth Ministries Volunteers RSVP to

RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org
713-861-9149 x107

* Teachers may choose to remain from
Noon - 1 pm and prepare their lessons.

Board Members on Duty

Vicki Hopper & Georgette L. Monaghan
Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

Flowers for the Sanctuary

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

I have this idea for a show - view motion pictures

THE REVIEW

with Darren Carlos Terry

A monthly topical film and/or book discussion
For more intel call 713-256-4202

Premiere: 27 Dresses / Katherine Heigl

Sunday, August 24

1:10 pm, Gathering Place / Hot Wings & Pizza Served

Different People Different Insights Different Points of View

Maybe a little too different - but that's OK!



2008 Budget Adjustment

At Resurrection MCC we faithfully manage our income and expenses to maximize and focus our resources for greatest ministry impact. As part of this attention to excellence in stewardship, at the July 28 Board of Director's meeting, the Board voted to adjust the budget. One result is that our budget deficit has disappeared. Ministry impact, on the other hand, has not been reduced. The adjustments were to "miscellaneous" items related to both income and expenses.

The income budgeted from tithes and offerings remains the same. However, income budgeted from building rental has been reduced since an anticipated lease arrangement with a community group did not materialize. Another example was Casino Night. The FunRaising team felt that with the effort involved in the ongoing Imagine Campaign and the Last One Standing Raffle to be held on August 31, that Casino Night was too much for this year. Thus, both the projected income and expense from Casino Night was removed from the budget.

One example of expense reduction included our ability to renegotiate electricity costs, saving a fairly significant amount by locking in a lower rate. Because of generous givers, wonderful volunteers, careful review of expenses, and committed staff and leadership we can celebrate being free of a budget deficit. This is a great accomplishment, especially during Summer.

There are simply not enough words of thanks, encouragement and faithfulness to express how your gifts are being multiplied by God and how Resurrection is touching lives in this community. Thanks be to God, our staff, our volunteers and all of those who experience transformation at Resurrection!

General Fund Financial Report

Week Ending August 3, 2008

Tithes & Offerings		Week	Year
08/03/08 9:00 am	110	\$2,954.00	\$154,912.96
08/03/08 11:00 am	346	\$11,753.25	\$212,038.18
Special Services			\$5,833.44
Online Giving		\$971.07	\$43,394.83
Other Contributions		\$5,971.83	\$58,931.43
Total	456	\$21,650.15	\$475,110.84
Other General Fund Income			
Fundraising		\$1,390.99	\$5,575.54
Miscellaneous		\$440.00	\$15,869.78
Total Received		\$23,481.14	\$496,556.16
Budgeted Need		\$16,315.57	\$489,578.07
Total Surplus / (Deficit)		\$7,165.57	\$6,978.09
Total Imagine Capital Campaign		\$2,200.00	\$127,605.05



This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

SUNDAY

AUGUST 10

- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**
10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry *Chapel*
10:15 am Lay Delegates Meeting *Activities Building #108*
11:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson
11:00 am Children & Youth Worship Service *Activities Building*
12:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*
12:30 pm youthLife *Activities Building*

MONDAY

AUGUST 11

- 5:00 pm Children's Musical Performers Dinner *Gathering Place*
5:30 pm Children's Musical Rehearsal *Sanctuary*
6:30 pm Anointing Rehearsal *Chapel*
6:30 pm JustUs Rehearsal *Music Room*

TUESDAY

AUGUST 12

- 8:30 am NCS Workshop *Gathering Place*
5:00 pm Children's Musical Performers Dinner *Gathering Place*
5:30 pm Children's Musical Rehearsal *Sanctuary*
7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (Open) *Chapel*
7:00 pm Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal *Music Room*

WEDNESDAY

AUGUST 13

- 8:30 am NCS Workshop *Gathering Place*
5:00 pm Children's Musical Performers Dinner *Gathering Place*
5:30 pm Children's Musical Rehearsal *Sanctuary*
7:00 pm Houston Pride Band Rehearsal *Activities Building*
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *Music Room*

THURSDAY

AUGUST 14

- 8:30 am NCS Workshop *Gathering Place*
5:00 pm Children's Musical Performers Dinner *Gathering Place*
5:30 pm Children's Musical Rehearsal *Sanctuary*
7:00 pm Resurrection Singers Rehearsal *Music Room*

FRIDAY

AUGUST 15

- 5:00 pm Children's Musical Performers Dinner *Gathering Place*
5:30 pm Children's Musical Rehearsal *Sanctuary*

SATURDAY

AUGUST 16

- 8:30 am EXCEL of the Armadillo Meeting *Gathering Place*
1:00 pm Angels in Motion Rehearsal *Sanctuary*

SUNDAY

AUGUST 17

- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**
10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry *Chapel*
10:15 am Lay Delegates Meeting *Activities Building #108*
11:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson
11:00 am Children & Youth Worship Service *Activities Building*
12:30 pm Brunch Celebration (All are Welcome!) *Activities Building*
12:30 pm Equality Ministry Meeting *Activities Building #108*
12:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*
2:00 pm *It's Cool in the Furnace* Musical *Sanctuary*