



# Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

Volume 4, Issue 13

March 22, 2009

Our Community Gathers

Rev. Dwayne Johnson & Craig Felderhoff

+ Exchange of Peace

+ Opening Hymn

SLANE

## *Be Now My Vision*



1 Be now my vi - sion, O God of my heart;  
 2 Be now my wis - dom, and be my true word;  
 3 Rich - es I need not, nor life's emp - ty praise,  
 4 Sov - ereign of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



noth - ing sur - pass - es the love you im - part—  
 ev - er with - in me, my soul is as - sured;  
 you, my in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
 may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!



You my best thought, by day or by night,  
 Moth - er and Fa - ther, you are both to me,  
 You and you on - ly are first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, your pres - ence my light.  
 now and for - ev - er your child I will be.  
 great God, my trea - sure, may we nev - er part.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

## We Worship

This Irish text brings the clear presence of God into harmony with the fervent prayer of the believer. Stanza 1 affirms the vision of God that becomes the guiding light in the hearts of God's people. Stanza 2 calls for God's knowledge and truth to give guidance. Stanza 3 affirms that one's relationship with God is treasure enough in this life, replacing any riches or empty praise of this earthly realm. Stanza 4 provides a fitting climax, claiming victory regardless of what may befall the believer. The tune is a traditional Irish air named for a hill, ten miles from Tara, in County Meath.

## We Hear the Word

This translation is courtesy of *The Inclusive Hebrew Scriptures*, edited by Priests for Equality through the Inclusive Language Project, initiated in 1988. Their goal, "to translate the entire Bible into gender-inclusive language by July of 2001," is part of their larger mission, which is to "affirm efforts to use sexually balanced language and images in Church liturgy, publications, education and preaching." It is the understanding of this consortium of Christian ministers, lay leaders, scholars, educators and social activists that "language, in itself, can help educate us toward equality."

## We Hear the Word

In Ephesians 2, Paul reminds us that we have been made alive in Christ. We have been raised up to heavenly places. We have been created for good works. All of this is because of God's incredible gift of grace. Many of us felt dead upon first coming out, perhaps particularly to ourselves. We thought we had to give up our faith, give up our dreams of family, give up the happily ever after. Nonetheless, when we came out to God, we received nothing but love and grace. LGBTQIA people are what we are because God has made us. . . this is truly a gift from God and our good news to share!

~ *Out in Scripture*,  
4th Sunday in Lent,  
Year B, March 22, 2009

## + Call to Worship

DeJuana Jernigan

### *Psalm 107*

One: Give thanks for Adonai's goodness.

**All: God's steadfast love endures forever!**

One: Let these be the words of Adonai's redeemed, those redeemed from the oppressor's clutches, those brought home from many and distant lands, from east and west, from northern lands and southern seas.

**All: Some were foolish; they suffered because of their rebellion.**

One: Some were so sick, nearly at death's door, that food became repugnant. Then they called to Our God in their trouble.

**All: And God rescued them from their sufferings!**

One: God sent a word to heal them, and delivered them from destruction. Let them thank Adonai for this great love.

**All: Give thanks for the marvels done for all people.**

One: Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving.

**All: Tell of God's deeds with songs of joy!**

## Instrumental Invocation

Joel Hammett

### *Adagio for Strings*

by Samuel Barber

## Scripture Reading

Bill O'Rourke (9 am)

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini (11 am)

### *Numbers 21:4-9*

The Israelites traveled from Mount Hor along the road to the Sea of Reeds in order to avoid Edom. Yet the people grew impatient along the way, and they addressed their concerns to God and Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? We have no bread! We have no water! And we are disgusted with this terrible food!"

Then God sent venomous snakes among the people. They fatally bit many of the people. So the people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against God and against you. Intercede for us, and ask that God remove the snakes from us."

So Moses prayed for the people. And God said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it on the end of a pole. Anyone who is bitten and looks at it will live." So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then whenever the people were bitten by a snake, they looked at the bronze snake and lived.

## Sung Response

**All: Word of God speak. Would you pour down like rain?  
Washing my eyes to see your majesty.  
To be still and know that you're in this place.  
Please let me stay and rest in your holiness. Word of God speak.**

## + Scripture Reading

Carlos Rivera (9 am)  
Michael Fernandez (11am)

### *Ephesians 2:1-10*

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

Yet God, rich in mercy and loving us so much, brought us to life in Christ, even when we were dead in our sins. It is through this grace that we have been saved. God raised us up and, in union with Christ Jesus, gave us a place in the heavenly realm, to display in ages to come how immense are the resources of God's grace and kindness in Christ Jesus. And it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith - and even that is not of yourselves, but the gift of God. Nor is it a reward for anything that you have done, so nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to do the things God created us to do from the beginning.

## Special Music

Sanctuary Choir &  
Resurrection Singers

### *I Come to the Cross*

Words & Music by By Bob Somma and Bill Batstone.  
© 1996 & 1997 Maranatha! Music & Meadowgreen Music Company

## Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

### *Finding Our Way: From Fear to Life*

## Making Ministry Happen

Denise Lippy & Nichole Mai

Offertory

HeavenSound Handbells  
Reed Hoke, soloist

### *Let Me Fall*

by Benoit Jutras  
Arranged by Jim Winslette

## Communion

Rev. Janice Ladd

Introduction to Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Invitation to the Feast

## We Hear the Word

If you had been a disciple and truly understood what Jesus meant when he spoke at the Last Supper, how would you have reacted? If you understood that Jesus was about to die, would your faith be strong enough to allow it to happen? Would your trust in Jesus' words allow you to truly believe that his death would be a beginning and not an end? ....or would you try to stop him? The song, *Let Me Fall*, reflects how Jesus might have responded to a faith-shaken plea for a change of course.

## 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, friend or member, may receive. Simply come forward as the ushers direct.

**During the Season of Lent, you will be invited to share a moment of silent invitation to the Presence of God followed by a simple blessing that God's Presence remain with you as you journey through this season.**

We use grape juice for the cup. If you desire intercessory 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.

Where two or more are gathered You are present. May you remain in God's presence this season.

In emptiness,  
You fill us.  
In silence,  
You speak.  
May you be open and listening this season.

## Communion Songs

### *Word of God Speak*

I'm finding myself at a loss for words and the funny thing is it's okay.  
The last thing I need is to be heard but to hear what you would say.

Word of God speak. Would you pour down like rain?  
Washing my eyes to see your majesty. To be still and know that You're in this place.  
Please let me stay and rest in your holiness. Word of God speak.

I'm finding myself in the midst of you, beyond the music, beyond the noise.  
All that I need is to be with you, and in the quiet hear your voice.

Word of God speak. Would you pour down like rain?  
Washing my eyes to see your majesty. To be still and know that you're in this place.  
Please let me stay and rest in your holiness.

Word of God speak. Would you pour down like rain?  
Washing my eyes to see your majesty. To be still and know that you're in this place.  
Please let me stay and rest in your holiness.

I'm finding myself at a loss for words and the funny thing is it's okay.

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### *Draw Me Close*

Draw me close to you, never let me go,  
I lay it all down again to hear you say that I'm your friend.  
You are my desire, no one else will do,  
'Cause nothing else could take your place; to feel the warmth of your embrace.  
Help me find the way, bring me back to you.  
You're all I want, you're all I've ever needed.  
You're all I want - help me know you are near.

Words & Music by Kelly Carpenter  
© 1994 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing  
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### *Shout to the Lord*

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you,  
All of my days, I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love;  
My Comfort, my Shelter, Tower of refuge and strength;  
Let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship you.  
Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing  
Power and majesty, praises we bring,  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of your hands, forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand;  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

Words & Music by Darlene Zschech  
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+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev. Janice Ladd

+ **Benediction**

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

**Postlude**

Joel Hammett

## Staff

### Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Senior Pastor

RevDwayne@ResurrectionMCC.org (x101)

### Rev. Janice Ladd

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RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

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Director of Life Development

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### David E. Durham

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### Joel Hammett

Organist

### Debbie Mansfield

Nursery Coordinator

### Sara Navarro

Graphic Artist

### Joel Palomares

Youth Ministries Program Coordinator

Joel@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Ken Thompson

Audio Technician

### Anthony White

Gospel Ensemble Pianist

### Cassandra White

Gospel Ensemble Director

### Jim Winslett

HeavenSound Handbells Director

### Pepe Zuniga

Facilities Technician

## Volunteer Staff Clergy

### 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

The Chalice: Spiritual Deepening  
Wednesday, 6:30 pm

## Resurrection MCC

2025 West 11th St, Houston, Texas 77008

Phone 713-861-9149 / Fax 713-861-2520

www.ResurrectionMCC.org

# Welcome!

If you are attending Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church for the first time, we are glad to have you here! We invite you to join us each week as we worship God and learn more about Christian living in an inclusive way. All are welcome.

**Make sure to visit the Concierge Desk, located in our Welcome Area, to receive a gift from us.** You will find friendly volunteer hosts waiting to greet you.

## Worship Services

Resurrection MCC is proud to offer a variety in our worship services. Our two Sunday services, at 9 & 11 am, are identical in form, however they contain different elements from diverse religious traditions each week.

## A Special Welcome to our First-Time Families!

Our nursery staff would love to meet you and your infants & children aged 1-3 years! The nursery is located to the right of the Sanctuary entrance and is open during both the 9 am & 11 am services.

Children and youth aged 4-12 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 12 noon in the Activities Building. Snack & sign-outs begin at 12:15 pm.

## 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.

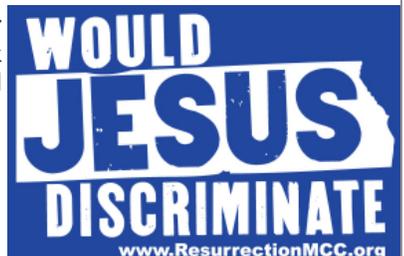
**We believe** in the saving grace of Jesus Christ and the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit.

**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!**



## Free Cup With a Guarantee



If you've recently visited Resurrection MCC, perhaps you have received our famous Cobalt Blue Resurrection MCC cup. We've learned that many who have received this cup use it daily, as a prayer reminder.

From time to time, someone will say, "Hey, I love those cups! Resurrection wasn't giving those out when I first came." Well, this Sunday is

an opportunity to receive your free cup!

When we found out that people were using the cup as a prayer reminder, we thought, "What if the entire congregation did this together for the Season of Lent?"

Thus, you are invited to participate in *The Daily Cup*, Resurrection MCC's special opportunity to join together as community in the spiritual practices of prayer, worship, giving, service and sharing our stories.

Following services today, visit the Gathering Place. Prayerfully consider the Lenten Covenant (see column to right) for which your cup will serve as a daily reminder. If you accept this invitation, and receive your cup, then each day you will also receive *The Daily Cup* email that will include a scripture, a prayer, and great ideas for living and sharing your faith.

This free cup comes with a "better than money-back" guarantee! If your life is not touched through the daily practice of your Lenten Covenant, we'll buy back your free cup for \$5 after Easter Sunday!

Yes, this is a different approach to Lent. Many have grown up with the concept of "giving up" something for Lent. This year, how about "receiving" something instead...like the Resurrection cup, and the daily blessing that comes through your own special "blend" of spiritual practices?



## *THE DAILY CUP*

### *A Lenten Covenant for Living from Fullness through Lent*

Fill your cup with...

#### **PRAYER**

Ideas include yet are not limited to an attentive walk, listening to music, journaling, or a prayerful reading of a favorite scripture.

#### **WORSHIP**

Throughout Lent, offer your faithful presence for worship on Sundays and/or at The Chalice on Wednesdays.

#### **GIVING**

Listen to how God will invite your generosity. One approach is to take a breath, become calm, and simply pray, "God, how are you inviting me to give?" Then await the answer. Though God may stretch you, God will not ask you to give more than you are able. If each of us follows this invitation, those who are able will be able to give more. Others may offer smaller, yet fruitful seeds. Giving through General Tithes and Offerings, the Imagine Campaign, Online Giving, or Benevolence will impact lives each day.

#### **SERVICE**

Ideas include yet are not limited to volunteering for a ministry such as Children and Youth, reaching out to someone who could use encouragement, or sharing your talent in Resurrection's Music Ministry. Sign-up for *The Daily Cup* email for more ideas.

#### **SHARING**

Ideas include drinking from your cup at work or among friends to open conversations with others. You don't need to sound preachy or religious. Let your Resurrection cup remind you to just be real and have fun living your faith. Talk about such things as how you find peace, what prayer means to you, and how Resurrection MCC has added value and meaning to your life.

**Sign up to participate in this Lenten Journey in the Gathering Place after worship services today!**

# The Chalice

opening...receiving...offering  
Life in Fullness

**MARCH 25**

**Community Soup Supper – 6:00 - 6:30 pm**

**Spiritual Deepening – 6:30 - 7:00 pm**

**Life Development Offerings – 7:00 - 8:30 pm**

Join us as we Find Our Way through the journey of Lent with *The Chalice*!

Beginning each Wednesday in March and through the first Wednesday in April, we will gather and share our Lenten journeys with a community Soup Supper from 6:00 - 6:30 pm, a time of shared Spiritual Deepening from 6:30 - 7:00 pm, and three open small-group offerings to choose from as we draw near to God in Contemplative Practice, Scripture Study, and in Reflection for Social Action.

Come for one, some or all – let us journey and together Find Our Way!

## **Life Development Offerings (7:00 - 8:30 pm)**

### **Contemplative Practice (Chapel)**

When are you most aware of the Divine Presence dwelling within you?

We offer God the “cup of our lives” through contemplative practice, meditative journaling, and prayer during our Lenten journey together – all welcome!

### **Scripture Study (Sanctuary)**

What would it mean for you to heed Scriptural call to live authentically - to live as though the truth of your Belovedness by God was true?

We are journeying into the “wilderness” of Scripture listening for the truth of God’s love, seeking to live this love as the truth of our lives – join us!

### **Reflection for Social Action (Music Room)**

How would we live our faith if we truly understood that we cannot celebrate the Savior’s body if we do not love and take care of the whole body?

When we live from a place of promise that God’s covenant is with “all flesh” we see that justice is indeed the work of love – God’s love! Everyone invited!

# A Sip from The Chalice

**Spiritual Deepening Practice  
On the Journey of Lent**

## **What is Lent?**

*Lent is a 40-day liturgical season that begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes at Easter. Sundays are not included in the 40-day count because every Sunday is a joyful celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Though not biblical, Lent has long been a tradition in the Christian Church, and it is thought that the tradition of the 40 days recalls the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness, fasting and being tempted by Satan (Matthew 4:1-11). Because of Lent's reflective and penitential nature, worship tends to be more solemn, and purple is the liturgical color of the season. As with many congregations, Resurrection holds mid-week worship services which include devotional activities to share the Lenten disciplines such as service, fasting and prayer in community with one another.*

*Palm Sunday begins the last week of Lent, known as Holy Week. Holy Week celebrations at Resurrection include a Foot Washing Service on Wednesday based on John 13 (“Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet”), a Liberation Seder on Maundy Thursday based on Christ's "Last Supper" (including the institution of the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the mandate to serve one another in love), and a Good Friday service which commemorates Jesus' imprisonment, trial and death by crucifixion. Lent culminates on Easter, when Christians gather and celebrate the resurrection of Christ.*

*God became flesh in Jesus Christ. Jesus faced temptation, he suffered hunger and thirst, he suffered the agony of crucifixion. Jesus did not face these things so that we would be exempt from them, he faced these things so that we would have dignity in them. Jesus came in the flesh and dwelt among us, and suffered hunger and thirst and heat and cold and betrayal and loneliness, and finally also pain and agony and death upon the cross, and in this “journeying with/in humanity” he gave dignity to all who suffer. When, for a day or season, we are overcome by grief or despair and find that we cannot “snap out of it,” when we usually rely on our own ability to “think positive” but we find we cannot just “look on the bright side of things” at some point, as Christians we find that Jesus meets us there! In hopelessness we find our hope in Christ and there we can endure unhappiness and sadness and loneliness, we can survive poverty and hunger and thirst; we can face mourning and grief and even death, because Jesus faced all those things! We come to know that Jesus brings life in the very place of death; we can face our own crucifixions in life, because we know that Jesus is “alive and well, his spirit is within us” because he died to live again!*

*Lent is a time to live our friendship with Jesus. Let us be bold to join him, fasting in the wilderness for forty days during Lent; let us live the journey of our faith – friends of Jesus, alive in God – through these weeks ahead.*

## Get Connected to a First Impressions Ministry

Stop by the Gathering Place after services and find out more about exciting volunteer opportunities!

### Concierge Desk

**Eliot Perez**

[Concierge@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto: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 helps welcome new friends, provide them with a free gift, and help them get connected.

### Inspirations Coffee Cafe & Gift Shop

**Dawn Ashbrook**

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

Looking for new friendly faces and volunteers for this ministry! Provide outstanding customer service in an atmosphere of fellowship for people to make connections.

### Second Family Care Partners

**Kristia Ammerman**

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

This care team acts as extended family and friends, offering emotional, practical, and spiritual support. Meets for lunch 1st Sun. at 12:30 pm.

### Ushers

**Dave Mathis**

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

We need ushers for 9 & 11 am Sunday Worship Services. Teams serve one service (either 9 or 11 am) each month. Remember, "No one is *JUST* an usher."

### Welcome Team

**Jason Sowders**

[Welcome@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto: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 are positioned at every door and sidewalk, greeting people with a smile and kind word, offering directions or answering questions.

**If you have questions or would like to join any of these teams, email the team lead (listed above) or contact Jason Wood at [Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org) or 832-971-0354.**

## MUSIC MINISTRY

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

Tuesdays • 7 pm

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

### RESURRECTION SINGERS

Mondays • 7 pm

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

### ANGELS IN MOTION

Second & Fourth Saturdays • 1 pm

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

### 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 [Worship@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Worship@ResurrectionMCC.org)



Welcome!

I am looking forward with eager anticipation to being with you at the upcoming Region 6 Conference that will be held physically in each of the Region 6 Clusters in the United States and virtually in the two Region 6 Clusters in Latin America. It is so exciting to anticipate the power of our worship together, the joy of experiencing our connection to each other and the love that we share in each greeting and hug.

Rev. Elder Darlene Garner

The Region 6 Conference will be different for us this time. We will not all be together at one time and in one space. Even so, I expect that the energy and enthusiasm will be just as great.

Our theme this year is **OUTFITTED** for Ministry! Even though our time together will be short, our programming opportunities will still be worth the effort you make to be present.

This is also an Elder Election year for Region 6 so it is very important that your clergy and lay delegates are present. The Cluster Conferences will include an opportunity to dialogue with the Elder Candidate and to vote for the person you believe will best lead you over the next six years. There will also be an opportunity to consider the two candidates for nomination to the position of Moderator. Please be in prayer about both of these important decisions.

The registration cost is only \$50 per person so get yourself registered TODAY!

I'll see you at conference!

Peace,  
Darlene

To register, visit [www.ResurrectionMCC.org](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org)

**Why is the Regional Conference being done in Clusters?**

Due to the impact of the global economy on our local churches and on MCC, we had to cancel the face-to-face joint Region 6/ Region 7 Regional Conference that had been planned to be held in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, in May. Instead, the decision was made to hold scaled-down and less costly conferences in each of the Region 6 and Region 7 Clusters. It is hoped that this decision will allow more people to experience the excitement of coming together while reducing the costs for all of us.

One of the reasons, although not the primary one, for having a Regional Conference is to conduct the business of the region. The biggest items on the business agenda this year are the election of a Regional Elder and a vote on the two candidates for Moderator. Of course, there are other items of business that we must attend to so we want to make sure that this important part of our congregational system is honored.

In order to honor the need for meaningful connection and to do our business, each Region will offer Regional Cluster Gatherings. The sites for these gatherings are in geographic proximity to our churches so that no one has to go very far in order to participate. Unfortunately, in order to make it accessible in this way, Regions 6 and 7 will not be able to hold these jointly.

Thanks to the generosity of some of our churches, the following sites and dates have been chosen for the 2009 Region 6 Cluster Gatherings.

**Landscape & Facilities Workdays**

**Saturdays, 9 am - Noon  
March 28 & April 4**

*Spring Maintenance and Preparing the Campus for the Region 6 Cluster Conference*



Mark your calendars on Saturday, March 28 and Saturday, April 4 for fellowship and participation as we work together to care for our church campus. We will be holding workdays starting at 9 am on these two days. Tasks will include weeding, trash pickup, organizing interior rooms, painting, and general cleaning.

We need people willing to help organize these two days plus individuals able to lead tasks during the workdays. We will also need individuals to organize refreshments.

Please email [Craig@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Craig@ResurrectionMCC.org) for more information or to indicate your willingness to participate.

**New Members' Class**

**Tuesday, April 7**

**6 - 8:30 pm**

**Gathering Place / Dinner Served**

**Join Rev. Janice, Rev. Kristen, and Jason to discuss the mission, vision, and values of Resurrection MCC, to discover our connection to the world through our affiliation with the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, and to join this family of faith in purpose, service, and fellowship!**



To register, contact Jason Wood,  
[Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org)  
or 713-861-9149 x105.

Download the Spiritual Gifts Assessment  
from [www.ResurrectionMCC.org](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org),

Spring 2009

# Semi-Annual Congregational MEETING

TODAY!

12:30 pm, Sanctuary

Join us and elect six members to our Board of Directors!

## Friday Night OUT March 27, 7 pm



Join us for dinner at Katz Deli & Bar!

616 Westheimer  
713.521.3838  
[www.ilovekatzs.com](http://www.ilovekatzs.com)

For more information, or to join the email list for the group, email [NightOUT@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:NightOUT@ResurrectionMCC.org)

Resurrection MCC proudly hosts the

## Region 6 Cluster Conference

April 24 - 26

This gathering includes Central Texas MCC from the Heart (Waco), Harbor MCC (Galveston), MCC Austin at Freedom Oaks, MCC of Corpus Christi, MCC San Antonio, and Resurrection MCC.

Business includes the election of a Regional Elder and a vote on the two candidates for Moderator. More info at [www.ResurrectionMCC.org](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org)



To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

Care for our environment by recycling newspapers, magazines, catalogs and junk mail in the containers in our parking lot.



In 2008, we recycled 30 tons of paper, a 12% increase over 2007.

We now have two collection bins as this program grows. We receive cash based on the weight of the paper collected.



SUNDAY MARCH 29th 2009

AT

THE BRAZOS RIVER BOTTOM

## THE 3rd ANNUAL PLAYBOY BUNNY REJECT SHOW AND BUNNY REJECT OF THE YEAR 2009-2010 CONTEST

SERVING A TRADITIONAL EASTER DINNER @ 6:00 P.M. WITH HAM, TATERS, VEGGIES & DESERT TOO FOR \$5.00 A PLATE SHOW TIME @ 7:30 P.M.

BENEFITING

THE PWA HOLIDAYS CHARITIES

L V L PWA CAMP OUTS



ALSO ACCEPTING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DONATIONS FOR RESURRECTION M.C.C. FOOD PANTRY

## Parents Lunch Social Saturday, March 28, 10 am Donovan Park, 700 Heights Blvd.

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



Questions? Parents@ResurrectionMCC.org  
Info: [www.houstonheights.org/donovanpark.htm](http://www.houstonheights.org/donovanpark.htm)

## Food Pantry Ministry

Open Mondays & Wednesdays by appointment  
Team Lead: Marty Williams

Food Pantry fund is very low. Please make a donation today. Write "Food Pantry" on your check or giving envelope.

Most in Need of Canned Meat.



# DRUMMING CIRCLE

Saturday, April 4, 3:00 - 4:30 pm  
Gathering Place

From a distance, it may sound like music from a car stereo. But as you draw near, you realize that there is no melody, just a pulsating rhythm. Close inspection reveals a group of a dozen or so people playing drums of all kinds: big and little ones, both primitive and high-tech.

This is a drumming circle! Gaining popularity across the country, some circles celebrate Native American customs and heritage or other ethnic traditions, but all are outlets for people expressing a primal urge that drives their spirit, as they drum amidst camaraderie and fun.

Drumming is not only fun, it induces deep relaxation, lowers blood pressure, and reduces the stress which contributes to nearly all disease and life-threatening illnesses. Drumming puts the mind, body and spirit in a place of rest and strengthens wellness!

Resurrection hosted a drumming circle workshop a few months ago and it was a huge success! The drumming circle is open to ALL, and requires no prior experience with drumming. Join us! If you want more information, contact Denise Junious, DrummingCircle@ResurrectionMCC.org.

*Drumming Circle is hosted monthly on the first Saturday.*

## Stewardship Thought for the Week

*One cannot make oneself,  
but one can sometimes help a little  
in the making of somebody else.*

~ Dinah Mulock Craik

## Board Members on Duty

Bryan Long & Eve Messina

Board Minutes Available Upon Request.



Advertise  
with us.

As low as \$25 / week.

Ads@ResurrectionMCC.org



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## Increase OUR Imagine Campaign Fund



How can YOU increase OUR Imagine Campaign Fund?

*Here's how...*

Simply refer or use my services as your Realtor, to Buy or Sell a home. Once the transaction is complete a donation in your name will be made to the Imagine Campaign.

*Together we can make a difference!*

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713-822-8555

www.SellingHomesInHouston.com

**Pamela Efferson, Realtor**

## Flowers in the Sanctuary

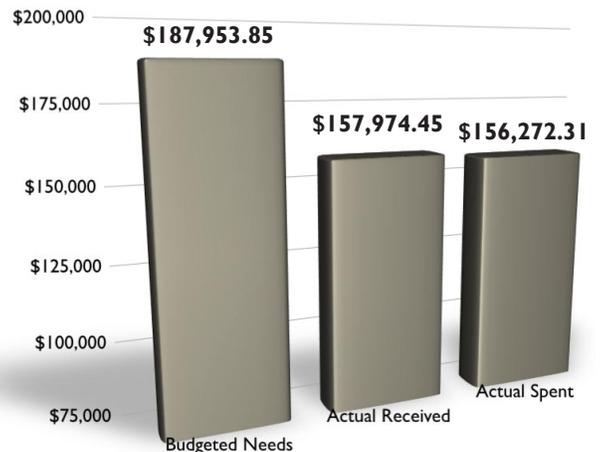
*In memory of my parents, Betty and Shelley Key.*

-- Shelley Key

## General Fund Financial Report

## Week Ending March 15, 2009

|                                       |                                  |            | Week                | Year                 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Tithes &amp; Offerings</i>         |                                  |            |                     |                      |
| 3/15/09                               | 9:00 am                          | 105        | \$4,042.00          | \$42,843.95          |
| 3/15/09                               | 11:00 am                         | 254        | \$5,764.35          | \$73,930.43          |
| 3/11/09                               | 6:30 pm                          | 35         | \$222.00            | \$1,318.00           |
|                                       | Special Services                 |            |                     | \$1,901.27           |
|                                       | Online Giving                    |            | \$2,167.61          | \$11,722.94          |
|                                       | Other Contributions              |            | \$1,797.67          | \$19,932.37          |
|                                       | <b>Total</b>                     | <b>394</b> | <b>\$13,993.63</b>  | <b>\$151,648.96</b>  |
| <i>Other General Fund Income</i>      |                                  |            |                     |                      |
|                                       | Fundraising                      |            |                     | \$1,185.48           |
|                                       | Miscellaneous                    |            | \$74.48             | \$5,140.01           |
|                                       | <b>Total Received</b>            |            | <b>\$14,068.11</b>  | <b>\$157,974.45</b>  |
|                                       | <b>Budgeted Need</b>             |            | <b>\$17,653.85</b>  | <b>\$187,953.85</b>  |
|                                       | <b>Total Surplus / (Deficit)</b> |            | <b>(\$3,585.74)</b> | <b>(\$29,979.40)</b> |
| <b>Total Imagine Capital Campaign</b> |                                  |            | <b>\$2,207.00</b>   | <b>\$26,870.34</b>   |



# This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

## SUNDAY MARCH 22

- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**  
 10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry *Chapel*  
 10:45 am Youth Ministries Program *Activities Building*  
**11:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**  
 12:30 pm Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting *Sanctuary*  
 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*

## MONDAY MARCH 23

- 6:00 pm Board of Directors Training *Gathering Place*  
 6:30 pm Resurrection Singers Rehearsal *Music Room*  
 6:45 pm Pride Band - Small Group Rehearsal *Chapel*

## TUESDAY MARCH 24

- 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous *Gathering Place*  
 7:00 pm Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal *Music Room*  
 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *Chapel*

## WEDNESDAY MARCH 25

- 6:00 pm The Chalice: Community Meal *Activities Building*  
 6:30 pm The Chalice: Spiritual Deepening *Sanctuary*  
 7:00 pm The Chalice: Contemplative Practice (Open) *Chapel*  
 7:00 pm The Chalice: Scripture Study (Open) *Sanctuary*  
 7:00 pm The Chalice: Social Action (Open) *Music Room*  
 7:00 pm Pride Band Rehearsal *Activities Building*

## THURSDAY MARCH 26

*No Events Scheduled.*

## FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED MARCH 27

- 7:00 pm Friday Night OUT (see ad, p. 10) *Katz's Deli & Bar*

## SATURDAY MARCH 28

- 9:00 am Landscape & Facilities Workday  
 1:00 pm Angels in Motion Rehearsal *Sanctuary*

## SUNDAY MARCH 29

- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**  
 10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry *Chapel*  
 10:45 am Youth Ministries Program *Activities Building*  
**11:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**  
 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*