



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

May 31, 2009

Our Community Gathers

Rev. Dwayne Johnson &
Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

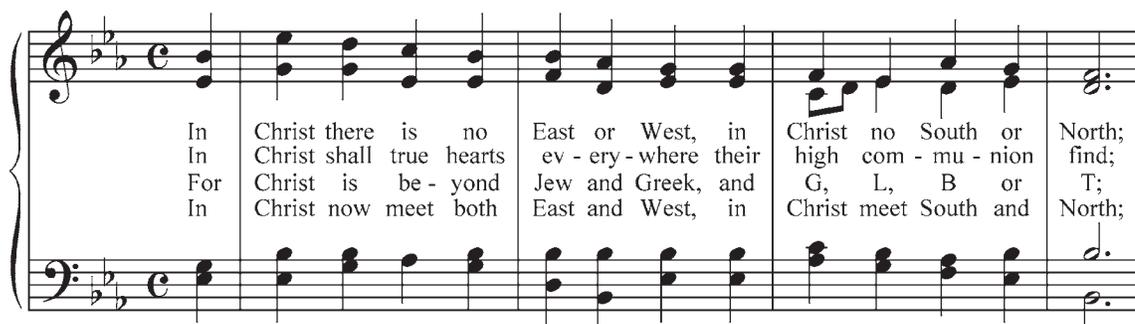
+ Exchange of Peace

I Love You with the Love of the Lord

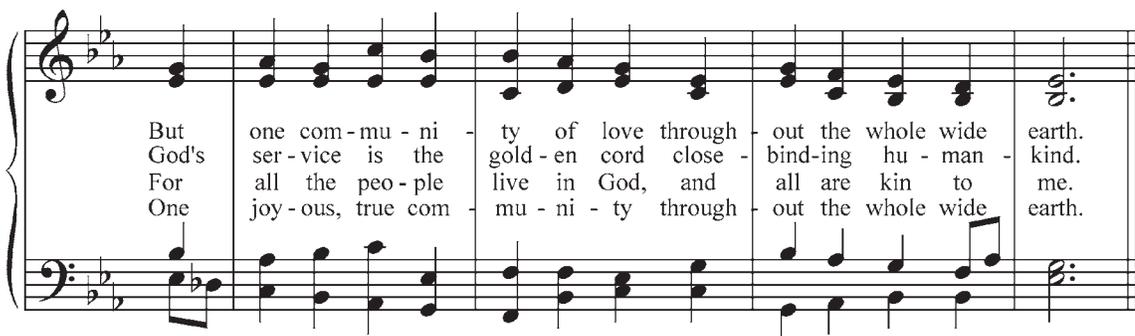
I love you with the love of the Lord.
Yes, I love you with the love of the Lord.
I can see in you the glory of my God,
And I love you with the love of the Lord.

+ Opening Hymn

In Christ There is no East or West



In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;
In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com - mu - nion find;
For Christ is be - yond Jew and Greek, and G, L, B or T;
In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;



But one com - mu - ni - ty of love through out the whole wide earth.
God's ser - vice is the gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
For all the peo - ple live in God, and all are kin to me.
One joy - ous, true com - mu - ni - ty through out the whole wide earth.

+ Invocation

Rev. Mona Lopez

We Worship

Written in 1965 for Human Rights Day, (December 10), this opening hymn by Fred Kaan is his most widely published song. Perhaps that is because it suggests some practical ways to heal all of our nations.

It asks for God's justice to be applied in specific terms: A just and equal sharing of earth's resources; our commitment to acting out love, care, and goodness; the desire for abundant living for all; and a common quest for justice that gives us our pride in things we have been given and not earned such as status, race or schooling. It includes the churches, which must refrain from adherence to dogmas in the name of God, with the vision of God.

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

First Reading

Rose Wall (9 am)
Jubi Headley (11am)

Romans 8:22-27

We know that from the beginning until now, all of creation has been groaning in one great act of giving birth. And not only creation, but all of us who possess the first fruits of the Spirit -- we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

In hope we were saved. Yet hope is not hope if its object is seen; why does one hope for what one sees? And hoping for what we cannot see means awaiting it with patient endurance.

The Spirit, too, comes to help us in our weakness. For we don't know how to pray as we should, yet the Spirit expresses our plea with groanings too deep for words. And God, who knows everything in our hearts, knows perfectly well what the Spirit is saying, because her intercessions for God's holy people are made according to the mind of God.

Sung Response

**All: And God will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of God's hand.**

+ Gospel Reading

Marty Williams (9 am)
Sharon Maudlin (11 am)

John 16:4-15

I have told you these things so that when the time comes, you'll remember that I told you ahead of time. I didn't tell you this at first because I was with you. Now I am going to the One who sent me -- yet not one of you has asked, "Where are you going?"

You are sad of heart because I tell you this. Still, I must tell you the truth: it is much better for you that I go. If I do not go, the Advocate will never come to you, whereas if I go, I will send the Advocate to you. The Advocate will prove the world wrong about sin, about justice, and about judgment. About sin -- in that they refuse to believe in me; about justice -- because I go to God and you will see me no more; about judgment -- for the ruler of this world has been condemned.

I have much more to tell you, yet you can't bear to hear it now. The Spirit of truth will guide you into all truth. The Spirit will not speak on her own initiative; rather, the Spirit will speak only what she hears, and will announce to you things that are yet to come. In doing this, the Spirit will give glory to me, and will take what is mine and reveal it to you.

Everything that God has belongs to me. This is why I said that the Spirit will take what is mine and reveal it to you.

We Hear the Word

In John 16: 4-15, in the midst of sorrow during Jesus' final meal, Jesus provides the disciples with encouragement. Jesus promises them God's Spirit who will reveal truth and show how wrong the world has been about its presuppositions concerning sin, judgment and morality. Yet this encouragement is a double-edged sword for Jesus tells the disciples they will be witnesses to the truth. To stand before societal and ecclesiastical structures that insist on robbing a segment of the population of their dignity due to their race, ethnicity, class, gender, or orientation is to pay a price. At times the cost of being a witness is to be ridiculed, to be ostracized, to lose your job. Sometimes the price is even greater.

~ *Out in Scripture,*
Pentecost Sunday,
Year B, May 31, 2009

Anthem

Resurrection Singers

Holy

Words & Music by Leon Lewis
©2001 LELEW Music Publishing

Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Live the Spirit-Promise

Making Ministry Happen

Jennifer Riley
Imagine Capital Campaign Co-Chair

Offertory

Steven Ponder

Make a Joyful Noise

by James MacDermid

Communion

Jason Wood

Introduction to Communion

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise to our God.

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Fill My Cup, Lord

Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it up, Lord.
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul.
Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.

Invitation to the Feast

**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.

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.

You are connected.
You belong.
Now, reach out in love.

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.

We Go Forth

God's love cannot be contained within the walls of this Sanctuary. Take the love of Christ from this place into your homes, neighborhoods and communities.

Communion Songs

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will,
while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Wounded and weary, help me I pray!
Power, all power, surely is thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Hold o'er my being absolute sway.
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me!

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

There's a sweet sweet spirit in this place,
and I know that it's the spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise,
without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.

I Love You with the Love of the Lord

I love you with the love of the Lord.
Yes, I love you with the love of the Lord.
I can see in you the glory of my God,
And I love you with the love of the Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Jason Wood

+ Benediction

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

+ Postlude

Joel Hammett

Staff

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Senior Pastor

RevDwayne@ResurrectionMCC.org (x101)

Rev. Janice Ladd

Executive Pastor

RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

Mark Eggleston

Director of Outreach

Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org (x106)

Craig Felderhoff

Director of Operations (Interim)

Craig@ResurrectionMCC.org (x102)

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Director of Life Development

RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org (x107)

Jason Wood

Director of Connections

Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org (x105)

David E. Durham

Pianist

Joel Hammett

Organist

Debbie Mansfield

Nursery Coordinator

Sara Navarro

Graphic Artist

Joel Palomares

Youth Ministries Program Coordinator

Joel@ResurrectionMCC.org

Steven Ponder

Sanctuary Choir Director

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.

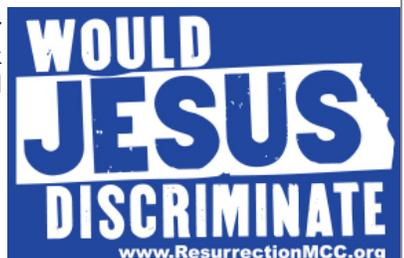
We believe in the saving grace of Jesus Christ and the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit.

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!





Thanks to all who have contributed to the Imagine Capital Campaign to date. Your legacy gift makes a difference in the lives of others!

Please send any revisions to Craig Felderhoff, Director of Operations, Craig@ResurrectionMCC.org or 713-861-9149 x102.

Summer in the Spirit **Worship Series**

WEDNESDAYS

Each Wednesday evening in the Summer months we are calling the Spirit to move among us in new and wonderful ways ...

During the months of June, July and August you are invited to our *Summer in the Spirit* Worship Series!

On Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 join us in the Chapel for an hour-long creative worship experience imagined, fashioned and facilitated by Worship Teams led by members of our community in discernment for the ministry!

Each week a different theme, a different team, an exciting Summer evening in the Spirit!

Artists and musicians, dramatists and liturgists, contemplatives and evangelists, wise ones and witnesses – all are invited into collaboration with one another and the Spirit in the spiritual adventure of Worship!

If you are interested in joining a *Summer in the Spirit* Worship Team contact Rev. Kristen at RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org

Beginning again in September and running through May

The Chalice midweek offering is a time to...

- Gather in community for a Simple Supper
- Experience spiritual Deepening with new and old practices of prayer, meditation and worship
- Stretch, learn and grow through one of several Life Development offerings

Thanks to ALL who brought us an amazing Fall and Spring *Chalice* at Resurrection:

35 Wednesdays filled with good food, deepening faith and incredible spiritual adventuring!

Looking forward to lifting *The Chalice* with you again in September – have a wonderful *Summer in the Spirit!*

–Rev. Kristen



Time for Italian!

TODAY, 12:30 pm
Activities Building

Join us for lasagna, salad, cheese-stuffed shells, and fellowship!

Proceeds benefit
Imagine Campaign

Parents' Night Out **Saturday, June 6, 6 - 9 pm**

Pizza! Volleyball! Games!
Videos! Music and much, much more!

Have you heard? The greatest parent night out is coming soon! Sign up your child to make new friends and celebrate the end of the school year today! It only costs \$5 per family to participate! The fun happens on June 6 from 6 - 9 pm in the Activities Building! Nursery services will also be available for our youngest angels! Pre-register in *Inspirations* Coffee Café and Gift Shop today! Enjoy the night out and allow your children to have fun with great friends! Great things are happening at Resurrection!



Snuggle an adorable fussy infant...
Pour a Sippee Cup of juice for a delightful thirsty toddler...
Put together a puzzle with a bright little 3-year-old...

Every once in awhile our wonderful Nursery staff has more love-bugs than usual and they can use a little assistance. Nursery Angels are "day-of" volunteers who are willing to offer an extra pair of eyes, hands and wings when our Nursery is brimming with little ones!

Any Sunday you would be willing to be "On Call" as a Nursery Angel, just drop by the Nursery about 10 minutes before the 9 or 11 am service, sign in as a Nursery Angel for that service, and pick up your wings!

With our bright Nursery Angel wings on your left or right shoulder, our ushers know they can ask you to fly in to the Nursery for a special offering of service that day if our Nursery staff needs you!

Any Sunday, any service – pick up some wings and let your blessings fly!

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

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

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

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

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 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 • 6:30 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

Equality Ministry Initiative: Creating a Community of Respect at Resurrection MCC

A Community of Respect? Do you want to be a part of it? Can you imagine that it can be done-now, here at Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church? If you value this-and you want to be a part of it-now is the time to sign up! Join the Equality Ministry in The Gathering Place after services today, where members of this ministry will provide you with an opportunity to sign a Resolution of Respect. By signing, you are pledging to take personal responsibility for standing up against all forms of prejudice and discrimination and commit yourself to creating a Church community and a world that is a *Community of Respect*.®

Working with the Anti-Defamation League's *No Place for Hate* program, Resurrection's Equality Ministry will be submitting a Letter of Intent applying for certification as a *Community of Respect*. A number of activities and events have taken place in 2009 which qualify Resurrection for this certification. We are almost there-only a few more events to document and your active support by signing this pledge.

Why? A Way to Live our Values...

Resurrection MCC has as one of its core values a commitment to sustaining a community in which the dignity of every individual is respected. Key to this value is fostering an environment of civility and mutual respect by preventing acts of bias, identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, age or religion. Such actions interfere with our success and violate our core values and beliefs.

At Resurrection we worship, play, learn and work in a culture that defines itself in terms of intellectual exchange, appreciation of individual differences and respect for each individual's personal dignity. We believe that each of us will discover our spirituality through active participation in the work of God, in pursuit of health, wholeness and justice for everyone. Our diverse blend of members, friends, staff, volunteers and clergy is a tremendous resource, and we all benefit from this mix of perspectives and experiences. For some, this community provides an opportunity to meet and interact with those from other races, cultures and backgrounds. It is through this rich environment that we teach each other and future generations the importance of understanding and valuing every individual's opinions and experiences.

While Resurrection is committed to a respectful and inclusive environment, it can only fulfill that commitment through the actions of individual members and friends of our church community. Each one of us is responsible for treating every member and friend of the church with dignity and respect. If one of us engages in harassment or discrimination, the person subject to that behavior will not feel respected or genuinely valued, or that s/he is an equal member. That person may stop contributing a unique perspective or may lose a feeling of commitment to the community and leave. When one person engages in acts of bias, many of us suffer the effects.

Together we can create and maintain a respectful and inclusive environment that provides the support and opportunity necessary for each member of our community to feel loved, grow in faith, spirituality and experience community.

Please stop by one of the tables and sign the Resolution of Respect.

**COMMUNITY
OF RESPECT**
A NO PLACE FOR HATE® PROGRAM OF THE ADL

Do you Have a Need? Pastoral Care Ministers Available to Listen & Pray!

In his excellent book, *Can the Pastor Do it Alone*, Melvin Steinbron asserts emphatically that "there is no way we can build a staff large enough to put love with skin on for every one of our members if we continue to proceed in the traditional way."

One method by which God's love can be given concretely, specifically and continually to all of our members is through recruiting, training, and commissioning a sizable team of Pastoral Care Ministers.

At Resurrection we believe that building up the body of Christ in love is central to the purpose of the church. In order to facilitate this goal, 37 people have been trained and commissioned to care for our congregation.

At the conclusion of their training these ministers began developing flock care lists. The Pastoral Care Ministers are committed to praying regularly for the people on their flock list, to being available to assist them in appropriate ways, and to contacting the members of their flock regularly to encourage them.

The Pastoral Care Ministers make contact with their flock list to make congregants aware of their availability. As our ministry grows the goal is to reach out to every person in our expanding community of faith. In the meantime, Pastoral Care Ministers are available to pray with and encourage anyone who would like to receive ministry. If you have not yet been contacted directly, but would like someone to talk or pray with you, please email or give us a call. Your prayers and support are greatly appreciated.

From Jesus the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and build itself up in love, as each does its work (Eph. 4:16)

If you have questions, ask! You will see the Pastoral Care Ministers wearing a button indicating they are Pastoral Care Ministers. If you need someone to talk or pray with you, please let them know. That is what they are available for. If you would like a minister to come and visit you in the hospital or at home please feel free to call our 24-hour prayer and care line at 713-861-9149 x105 or email Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org

In Christ Love and Care,
Jason Wood, Director of Connections

DRUMMING CIRCLE

Saturday, June 6, 3:00 - 4:30 pm
Gathering Place

The drumming circle is open to ALL, and requires no prior experience with drumming. Join us! For more information, contact Denise Junious, DrummingCircle@ResurrectionMCC.org.

Drumming Circle is hosted monthly on the first Saturday.

Outreach, Wisdom, Laughter, Support:
A Ministry for Seniors & Friends



**Saturday
June 6, 11:30 am
Gathering Place**

**Meet at Resurrection and
join our caravan to Old Town Spring for lunch!**

RSVP or Questions?
OWLS@ResurrectionMCC.org

Hartman
& ASSOCIATES

2000 ELLA BLVD
HOUSTON, TX 77008

PAT WALKER

REALTOR ASSOCIATE

OFFICE: 713.861.2004

FAX: 713.861.2040

PATWALKER@HARTMANASSOCIATES.COM

713.412.6682

www.hartman-associates.com



**LIFE DOESN'T STAND STILL AND NEITHER
SHOULD YOUR INVESTMENTS.**

Jennifer L. Riley, Financial Advisor

713-956-5177

2111 West Governors Circle, Houston TX 77092

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Edward Jones

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

**Why Become
a Legacy Giver?**



- To stimulate our worship experience through audio/visual enhancements.
- To forge new friendships through a revitalized, enlarged Welcome Center.
- To design a space that will transform lives by converting the Activities Building into the Life Development Center.
- To create committed leaders for tomorrow through expanded children and youth programs.
- To inspire adults to vitality and wholeness through increased education, wellness, community involvement, and spiritual growth opportunities.
- To reach millions with the *Would Jesus Discriminate?* billboard and marketing campaign.
- To impact the lives of those oppressed through further partnerships with organizations focused on social justice.
- To create financial health and long-term stability through increased payments on our debt.

**Commitment cards may be picked up at
The Concierge Desk and Sanctuary entrances.
Please return in offering basket or by mail.**

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



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



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713-688-8669

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GARAGE SALE

Donations Needed

Donations accepted Friday, June 5, between
6:00 pm & 8:30 pm. If pickup is needed, please email
excelofthearmadillo@yahoo.com

Drop-off items at Bethel United Church of Christ
1107 Shepherd Dr., 77007

Sale - Saturday June 6, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
Bethel UCC

all proceeds assist Excel Ministries, 501(c)3 tax exempt

**Advertise
with us.**

As low as \$25 / week.

Ads@ResurrectionMCC.org

Chart 101: How are we really doing?

By Bryan Long, Board of Directors, Treasurer

Does this chart mean what it says? Yes, absolutely. Let's take a close look at what we know from looking at the General Fund Financial Report.

What we budgeted: The first bar shows our budgeted need. Weekly giving and income are needed to reach this amount in order for Resurrection to complete all the ministry goals that were approved by the congregation at last fall's Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting via the 2009 Budget.

What we gave: The second bar shows how much money we have actually received. These funds come from our tithes and offerings, bookstore sales, facility rentals, and various other things that we do to generate income.

What we spent: The third bar shows how much money we have actually spent. The staff, ministry team leads, and Board of Directors manage our cash flow on a day to day basis – and this is where their hard work really shows. The difference between this bar and the second bar gives you an idea of how we are doing at managing our spending.

What is the gap: Now, the difference between the first and second bars is a little different. I've tried to come up with good words to describe it and the best I can come up with is MISSED OPPORTUNITY. When we don't meet our budget, we miss opportunities for ministry in the church, in our community, and around the world through our many connections.

Some of those missed opportunities for 2009 are community outreach (less advertising, marketing, and mail-outs to invite our community into an experience of God), spiritual growth (less resources for weekly curriculum based studies, leadership and congregational retreats, staff learning workshops, and clergy development support), worship (inability to purchase music for our choirs, multimedia designs/videos, altar care/liturgical enhancements, and needed maintenance of musical equipment), operations (unable to make various building repairs, purchase computer upgrades, and hire auditor for year-end financial review) and the list goes on.

When we have this GAP, our Executive Team is forced to spend time "undoing" rather than "doing." Through the budgeting process, the staff lays out a plan for the upcoming year. As a congregation, we affirm their plans when we approve the requested budget. When money is not available, plans are adjusted or dropped. While the staff does a great job meeting the critical day-to-day tasks and goals, the challenge of working in scarcity can be difficult.

Now that you know all that this chart is communicating, I ask each one of you to prayerfully consider whether there is more you can do financially to help Resurrection achieve our 2009 goals. When we meet or exceed our budget, a world of new opportunities opens in front of us! We want to be present to those opportunities and believe that with God's help and your continued support we will meet the challenge of the 2009 budget! ***If each one of us can stretch just a little more, then we can all share the financial responsibilities—and all share in the celebration of accomplishing what we set out to do this year.***

Board Members on Duty

Mary Wagner & Eve Messina

Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

Flowers in the Sanctuary

Happy Birthday, Joy!

Love Always, Kecia

General Fund Financial Report

Week Ending May 24, 2009

		Week	Year
<i>Tithes & Offerings</i>			
5/24/09	9:00 am	129	\$3,228.00
5/24/09	11:00 am	312	\$4,325.11
5/20/09	6:30 pm	25	\$44.00
	Special Services		\$3,966.03
	Online Giving		\$1,113.33
	Other Contributions		\$904.77
	Total	466	\$9,615.21
<i>Other General Fund Income</i>			
	Fundraising		\$2.95
	Miscellaneous		\$458.39
	Total Received		\$10,076.55
	Budgeted Need		\$17,653.85
	Total Surplus / (Deficit)		(\$7,577.30)
	Total Imagine Capital Campaign		\$1,410.00
			\$55,841.36



This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

SUNDAY

MAY 31

- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**
 10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry (Everyone Welcome) *Chapel*
 10:45 am Youth Ministries Program *Activities Building*
11:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson
 12:30 pm *Imagine* Capital Campaign Italian Lunch *Activities Building*
 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*

MONDAY

JUNE 1

- 6:30 pm *Imagine* Capital Campaign Meeting *Gathering Place*
 6:30 pm Resurrection Singers Rehearsal *Music Room*
 7:00 pm Houston Bar Assoc. Orchestra. Reh. *Activities Building*

TUESDAY

JUNE 2

- 6:30 pm Lesbian Health Initiative Board Meeting *Gathering Place*
 7:00 pm Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal *Music Room*
 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *Sanctuary*

WEDNESDAY

JUNE 3

- 6:30 pm *Summer in the Spirit* Worship *Chapel*
 7:00 pm Houston Pride Band Rehearsal *Activities Building*

THURSDAY

JUNE 4

- 7:00 pm AA Steps Study (Open) *Chapel*
 7:00 pm Houston Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal *Sanctuary*

FRIDAY

OFFICE CLOSED

JUNE 5

No Events Scheduled.

SATURDAY

JUNE 6

- 11:30 am OWLS Luncheon *Gathering Place*
 3:00 pm Drumming Circle Rehearsal *Gathering Place*
 6:00 pm Parents Night Out *Activities Building*

SUNDAY

JUNE 7

- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson**
 10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry (Everyone Welcome) *Chapel*
 10:45 am Youth Ministries Program *Activities Building*
11:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson
 12:30 pm Second Family Care Partners Luncheon *Activities Building*
 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*
 2:30 pm Houston Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal *Sanctuary*