



# Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

1st Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2009

Prelude

HeavenSound Handbells

*Joyful and Triumphant*

+ Our Community Gathers

Rev. Dwayne Johnson & Joel Palomares

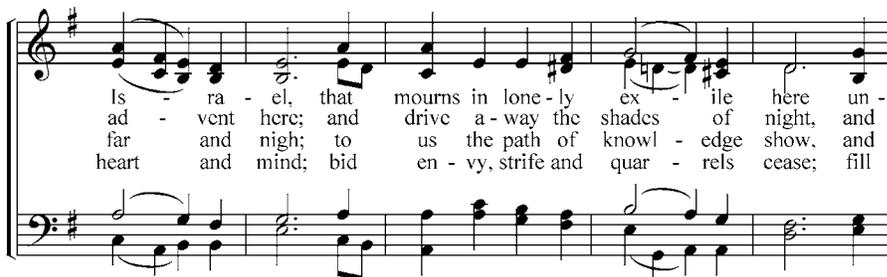
+ Exchange of Peace

Hymn

## O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL



O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 O come, thou Day - spring, come and cheer our spir - its by thine  
 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, and or - der all things  
 O come, De - sire of ev - ery na - tion, bind all peo - ples in one



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



til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 pierce the clouds and bring us light! Re - joice! re - joice! Em -  
 cause us in her ways to go.  
 all the world with heav - en's peace.



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

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

## We Gather

From many places we gather here. This is a high point of our week. We see our friends. We make new friends. And we spend time with The Friend -- the loving Christ who meets us where we are, as we are. In this Sanctuary we worship and through worship the courage within us is kindled to inspire courageous living beyond this place.

# Advent

As we begin the Christian Year, we also celebrate the Holy Season known as Advent. It is a time when we prepare ourselves for the coming of our Messiah. Advent means "Coming." We celebrate the days of Advent in expectation and preparation for Christ's arrival. Through the centuries, Christians have observed a time of waiting and expectation before celebrating the birth of the Savior at Christmas. The Advent season is a time for reflection and preparation, but its mood is joyful. As it proclaims the revelation of God's love as expressed in Christ's birth in a humble stable, Advent makes innkeepers out of all of us, asking each of us to make room for the arrival of Christ, the Light of the World. We anticipate the Light of Christ with the ritual lighting of a candle in the Advent Wreath on each Sunday of the season. The circle of candles in a wreath reminds us of the eternal Presence of God, while the colors of the candles – three purple and one pink – symbolize the Sovereignty of Christ who rules with hope, peace and love, bringing joy into our world. The large white candle in the center is known as the Christ candle, and points to Jesus as the Christ, the Light of the world. The flame of each new candle in Advent reminds us that something Holy is happening in our midst . . . and that more is still to come.

## Lighting of the Candle of Hope

### Congregational Invocation

ALL: Holy One, as we imagine hope for ourselves, our communities, and our world during this season of waiting and preparing, we place our trust in you. Continue to lead us in your truth, with your grace, mercy and steadfast love, so that we might be alert and ready for you when you come. May our hope grow strong as you strengthen our hearts in holiness, for our hope is in you, Emmanuel, God-with-us, the provider of even more than we can ask or imagine. Amen.

### First Reading

#### *Psalms 25:1-10*

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; shame is for those who disregard you and turn from your ways.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the defiance of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

Good and upright is the Lord; instructing those who are lost in the way. God leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble the uplifted way. All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep God's covenant and decrees.

### Response to the Word



O come Em-man - u - el, help us find your peace, as we show your light to a shad - owed world. Come, Em-man - u - el, Word that be - came flesh, God of Peace to us, Child of Hope for all. Come, Em - man - u - el.

+ **Second Reading**

*Luke 1:5-15*

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord.

**Anthem**

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston

*Away in a Manger*

**Spiritual Encouragement**

Jason Wood  
Ministry Candidate

*Putting a Little Character into Christmas*

**Reflection on the Message**

O come Em-man - u - el, help us find your peace, as we show your light to a shad - owed world. Come, Em-man - u - el, Word that be - came flesh, God of Peace to us, Child of Hope for all. Come, Em - man u - el.

**Making Ministry Happen**

Debbie Skelly  
Board of Directors

**Offertory**

Resurrection Singers

*Unto Us*

## We Hear the Word

Zechariah was a priest belonging to the section of Abia. Every direct descendant of Aaron was automatically a Priest.

This meant that there were far too many priest for ordinary purposes. They were therefore divided into twenty-four sections.

Only at Passover, Pentecost and the Feast of Tabernacles did all the priests serve. The rest of the year each section served two periods of one week. It was quite possible that many priests would never have opportunity or privilege of burning the incense. If it did happen, it was the day the priest had longed and dreamed for.

There is little doubt that as Zechariah prepared to serve in the inmost room of the temple, lighting the incense that he was thinking about his personal and domestic tragedy and praying about it.

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*Daily Bible Series: The Gospel of Luke, Revised Edition, by William Barclay. The West Minister Press. Philadelphia, 1975. p. 9-11*

## 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 Communion you will be offered bread and cup with a brief blessing.

We use grape juice for the cup so that all may participate.

If you desire a deeper partnering in prayer (intercessory prayer), our Fishers Net Prayer Ministry team is available following both services to pray with you.

*Receive God's sufficient grace - the gift of freedom in God's 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

Introduction to Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Invitation to the Feast

## Communion Songs

### *Emmanuel*

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

### *Jesus, Name Above All Names*

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

### *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the joys of highest heaven.  
No ear may hear Christ's coming, but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

### *Away in a Manger*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

### *Gloria in Excelsis Deo*

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gloria in Excelsis Deo. The first staff is a vocal line with a treble clef and a common time signature. It features a melodic line with a long arch over the first few notes. The second staff is a piano accompaniment line with a treble clef and a common time signature, featuring a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. Below the staves, the lyrics are written: "Glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!"

+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

+ **Benediction**

Jason Wood

**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)

### Joel Hammett

Organist & Accompanist

### Rev. Mona Lopez

Volunteer Staff Clergy

RevMona@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Debbie Mansfield

Nursery Coordinator

### Sara Navarro

Graphic Artist

### Joel Palomares

Youth Ministries Program Coordinator

Joel@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Steven Ponder

Sanctuary Choir Director

### Anthony White

Gospel Ensemble Pianist

### Cassandra White

Gospel Ensemble Director

Cassandra@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Jim Winslett

HeavenSound Handbells Director

### Jose I. Zuniga

Facilities Technician

Jose@ResurrectionMCC.org

## Worship

Sunday, 9 & 11 am / Wednesday, 6:30 pm

Children & Youth Worship  
Sunday, 11 am

Nursery  
Sunday, 9 & 11 am

## Resurrection MCC

2025 West 11th St, Houston, Texas 77008

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

www.ResurrectionMCC.org

# 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. Because of our faith we are called to: do justice, show kindness, and live humbly with God (Micah 6:8); explore life's questions with open hearts and minds; raise our voices in sacred defiance against exclusion, whether religious, political or systemic; reach out to those with no hope; equip new generations of remarkable, far-reaching spiritual activists.

The **Mission** of Resurrection MCC is to demonstrate God's unconditional love to all people through Christian action.

The **Vision** of Resurrection MCC is to **ATTRACT** people into a relationship with God through radical **INCLUSION** into God's family, transform them to Christ-like **MATURITY**, and **MOBILIZE** them for their life purpose.

At Resurrection MCC, every member and friend is a minister of the church. We envision a Christian community that values diversity and is as diverse and all-encompassing as creation. Through salvation, service, study, and tithing, each member and friend will live and grow in faith and be spiritually fed. 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!**



# IMANI VIDA DRUM CIRCLE

**Saturday, December 5  
3 - 4:30 pm, Gathering Place**

This group is open to ALL, and requires no prior experience with drumming. Join us!

For more information, contact Denise Junious.  
DrumCircle@ResurrectionMCC.org  
www.meetup.com/DrummingCircle

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

## EQUALITY MINISTRY MEETING

**Monday, December 7  
6:30 pm, Gathering Place**

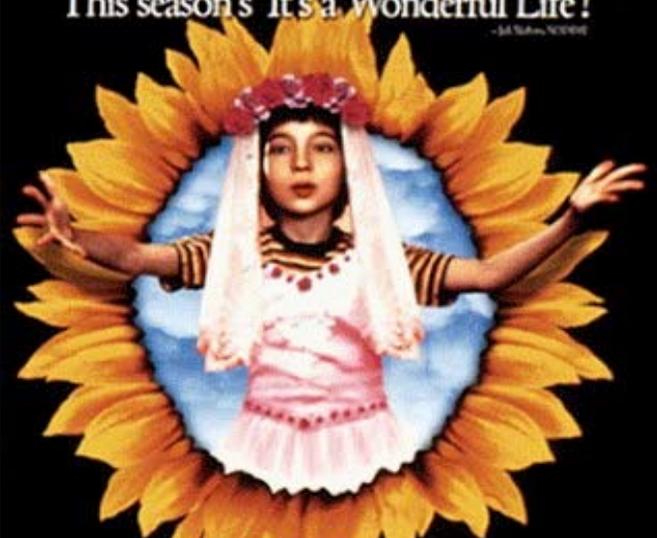
Join our new team lead, Ryan Rolston, as we discuss recent accomplishments and exciting upcoming activities!

Questions or to Sign up:  
Equality@ResurrectionMCC.org



GOLDEN GLOBE WINNER  
BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM

★ ★ ★ ★  
"This season's 'It's a Wonderful Life!'"  
-LAURENCE WOOD



a film by alain berliner  
**ma vie en rose**  
(my life in pink)

**FRIDAY FLIX: This Friday, Dec 4  
7 pm, Sanctuary**

## Come! Celebrate Christmas

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 9 & 11 AM**

Join us as we tell the Christmas story through music, dance and drama.

## Shared Ministry & Farewell Celebration

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 12:30 PM**

Share with us as we celebrate over 13 years of ministry together and bless Rev. Dwayne as he goes forth in his call to Washington, DC.

## Christmas Eve Communion Service

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 7 PM**

All are invited as we welcome the Light of the World, with Rev. Dwayne bringing his final message as Senior Pastor of Resurrection MCC.

## Kwanzaa

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 6 PM**

All are welcome to join this celebration of traditional African values of family, community responsibility, commerce, and self-improvement.



Rev. Dwayne Johnson  
Senior Pastor

Where diversity is both our gift and our passion. • [www.ResurrectionMCC.org](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org) • Worship: Sundays, 9 & 11 am / Wednesdays, 6:30 pm  
Children & Youth Program / Friends & Fellowship / Holy Union / Sermon Podcast • 2025 W. 11th St. @ T.C. Jester, Houston 77008 / 713-861-9149

# Kwanzaa

## A Celebration of Family, Community & Culture

**Saturday, December 26  
6 pm, Activities Building**

by Elisa Vega-Burns



Kwanzaa is a unique African-American celebration with a focus on the traditional African values of family, community responsibility, commerce, and self-improvement. Kwanzaa is neither political nor religious and, despite some misconceptions, is not a substitute for Christmas. It is simply a time for African-Americans to reaffirm and reinforce communitarian values and practices that strengthen and celebrate family, community and culture.

The word "Kwanzaa" comes from the phrase "matunda ya kwanza" which means "first fruits of the harvest" in the African language, Swahili.

The "First Fruits" are celebrated as we uplift principles which support and strengthen family, community and culture. The NGUZO SABA (The Seven Principles) lifted up during Kwanzaa are UMOJA (Unity), KUJICHAGULIA (Self-Determination), UJIMA (Collective Work and Responsibility), UJAMAA (Cooperative Economics), NIA (Purpose), KUUMBA (Creativity), IMANI (Faith).

There is a traditionally established way of celebrating Kwanzaa. First, you should come to the celebration with a profound respect for its values, symbols and practices and do nothing to violate its integrity, beauty and expansive meaning. Secondly, you should not mix your Kwanzaa celebration or its symbols, values and practices with any other holiday or cultural celebrations. Thirdly, choose the best and most beautiful items to celebrate Kwanzaa. This means taking time to plan and select the most beautiful objects of art, colorful African cloth, fresh fruits and vegetables, etc. so that every object used represents African culture and your commitment to Kwanzaa in the best of ways.

During Kwanzaa, we light the MISHUMAA SABA (seven candles: one black, three red, and three green), which together represent the seven Kwanzaa principles. The black candle represents the first principle Umoja (Unity) and is placed in the center of the Kinara. The red candles represent the principles of Kujichagulia (Self-determination), Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics) and Kuumba (Creativity) and are placed to the left of the black candle. The green candles represent the principles of Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility), Nia (Purpose) and Imani (Faith) and are placed to the right of the black candle.

The black candle is lit first on the first day of Kwanzaa (December 26); the remaining candles are lit afterwards alternating from left to right on the following days (December 27 through January 1).

The last day of Kwanzaa is January 1, the first day of the New Year. Historically this has been for African people a time of sober assessment of things done and things to do, and of self-reflection. Following in this tradition, this day of meditation is a time for us to ask ourselves and answer soberly and humbly the three Kawaida (Kwanzaa value system) questions: Who am I? Am I really who I say that I am? and, Am I all that I ought to be? Thus, it is a time to recommit ourselves to our highest ideals.

Since its founding in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, Kwanzaa has come to be observed by more than 18 million people worldwide. Join us for this rich cultural celebration, as together we commit ourselves to our highest ideals for 2009.

For additional details about Kwanzaa, visit [www.ResurrectionMCC.org](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org) and click on the Kwanzaa link. Please RSVP by December 21 to [Kwanzaa@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Kwanzaa@ResurrectionMCC.org).

# The Chalice

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

**WEDNESDAYS**

*The Promise of the Cup:  
Seeking the Presence of God  
we become that which we seek.*

## **Community Meal**

6:00 - 6:30 pm | Activities Building  
*simple supper, open to all*

## **Spiritual Deepening**

6:30 - 7:00 pm | Activities Building  
*new & ancient practices of prayer,  
meditation & worship*

## **Life Development Offerings**

7:00 - 8:30 pm  
*three classes, many paths . . .  
where will you journey?*

**ADVENT OFFERING: DECEMBER 2, 9, 16, 23**

## **CONNECTION GROUPS**

**7 - 8:30 pm, Activities Building**

### **Put A Little Character into Christmas A Four Week Advent Study**

Many of us are trying to figure out how to meet someone around here! How do you find potential friends? How do you begin conversations? You may want to check out Connection Groups.

We can't promise you'll find your next best friend. People can just be weird. You know that. Some of them might show up for Connection Groups. They may think you are weird. But here's the deal – it's only four weeks. You've held down a job you've hated for longer than four weeks. You can do anything for four weeks. The worst thing that can happen is that you'll walk in here every week and increase the odds that you'll see a face you recognize. And it may even be someone you like to be around.

Either way, like these people or not, it's only four weeks. So check out Connection Groups. Everyone there will be exactly where you are - new to the table that night. We'll meet here on Wednesday nights during the month of December and help you get started.





### **Fishers Net Prayer Ministry:**

*A Dialogue with God*

Dear God, How do I pray? How can I communicate with you? I feel as if I am no one and unable to begin to speak to you; what...how...when... can we talk? I know prayer works, but how do I pray?

If you have ever felt this way, remember this; God just wants to communicate with you, the way God made you. If you talk fast, then pray fast. If you stammer and stutter, then talk to God in the same stammer and stutter. God made you who you are and expects you to communicate in the same way. God is your friend, just start talking - out-loud or silently it does not matter; God hears.

A friend of mine shared with me a little trick about praying. Just open the bible, or online, and pick a Psalms or Gospel that speaks to you and just expand. Using Psalms 18:6 as an example, "In my distress I called to God; I cried to my God for help. From the temple my voice was heard; my cry came before God and into God's ears." (NIV, inclusive). Now expand the verse. Dear God, thank you that when I am in need and cry out to you, you hear me. Please be with and hear me now. I have been in distress recently and want it to stop. Please take the burdens away. Thank you, God, for hearing me. Amen. It is that simple! Just respond to the scriptures as a conversation. This can also be done with anything, just like the rain, sunrise, sunset, etc. Dear God, thank you for the rain. I don't like driving in rain and wish you would let it rain at night when I am not driving next time, but thank you for the rain as the rain is like your Grace, it is free and I can not live without it. Amen.

The Fishers Net Prayer Ministry is available for you in the chapel between services and at the Alter after the 11 am service. You can also email your intentions to Prayers@ResurrectionMCC.org.

*Growing stronger in Christ and realizing our Prayers together.*

~ Fishers Net Prayer Ministry ~

## **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.**

## **Get Connected to a First Impressions Ministry**

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

### **Concierge Desk**

**Sol Lara**

[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**

**Ana Tarver**

[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.**

## Christmas Baskets

**Today!**

**Food & Cash Donations  
Received in Gathering Place  
After Services**



### Shopping List

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

### Volunteer Support

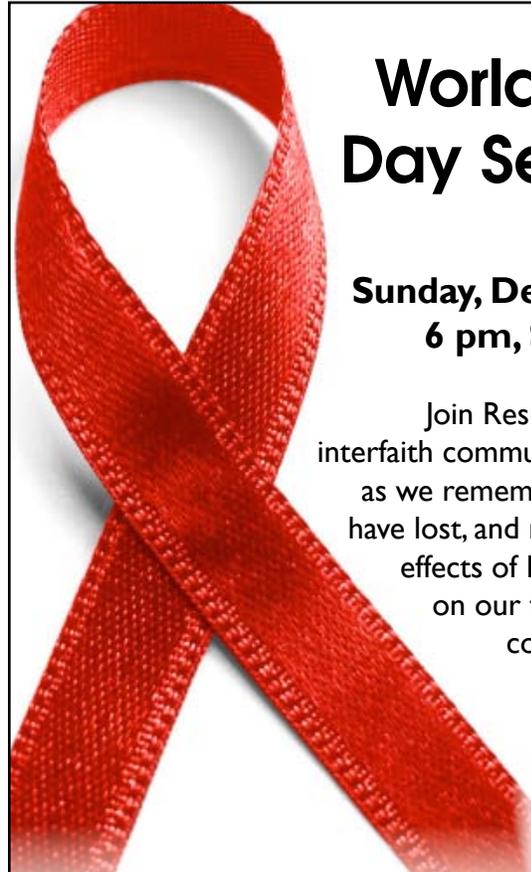
This team needs your help on Saturday, December 19, at 9 am to assemble the baskets and get them ready for pick-up. Volunteers are also needed on Monday, December 21, at 6 pm to assist in distributing the baskets to those in need. Please RSVP if you can assist.

**To RSVP or for questions, email Robert & Billy:  
ChristmasBaskets@ResurrectionMCC.org**

## World AIDS Day Service

**Sunday, December 6  
6 pm, Sanctuary**

Join Resurrection and interfaith community partners as we remember those we have lost, and reflect on the effects of HIV and AIDS on our friends, family, community and world.



*This service is sponsored by the  
Affirming Ministerial Alliance of Greater Houston.*

# Red Ribbon Toy Drive

Drop off your donation in the Welcome Area  
no later than Sunday, December 6

A Project of AIDS Foundation Houston, Inc.

**DROP  
SPOT**



## LGBTQ Solutions for Living Well

Professional Services Provided at  
Resurrection MCC Wellness Center

### Connections

A 12-Session  
Psychoeducational  
Shame-Resilience  
Curriculum



Revised and Expanded  
Brene Brown, Ph.D., LMSW

**There is hope for change, empowerment  
and living authentically!**

*Connections:*

*A 12-Session Psychoeducational Shame  
Resilience Curriculum*

Facilitated by Tammy S. Fountain, LPC, ATR-BC

Call 832-863-8221

Course developed by Brene Brown, PhD,  
LMSW, researcher, educator & writer. Learn  
to identify and overcome shame through  
exercises, handouts and lecture.

In order to provide a safe place for  
discussion and healing from experiences unique to people  
of sexual orientation or gender identity difference,  
group limited to LGBTQ participants.



### Women's Group Now Forming

Mondays, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Therapist: Tammy S. Fountain, LPC, ATR-BC

Call 832-863-8221

### Adolescent Group Psychotherapy

Saturdays, 12:00 - 1:15 pm

Therapist: Tammy S.  
Fountain, LPC, ATR-BC

Call 832-863-8221



### New Men's Group Therapy *The Gentlemen's Club*

*Are you stressed out, worried, or  
depressed? Struggling to balance a job and  
a family without everything falling apart?*

*This group provides a safe space to talk  
about issues affecting men today, ranging  
from relationships/family issues, financial/  
job related stress, depression, anxiety, grief,  
and major life changes.*

\$40 per group.

Group open, space limited.

Mondays, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Call Michael at 713-446-8034

Therapist: Michael Mann, LCSW



Individual, family, and couples therapy available.  
Request MCC Rates.

Michael Mann, LCSW / 713-446-8034  
*Adolescents & Adults*

Tammy S. Fountain, LPC, ATR-BC / 832-863-8221  
*Children, Adolescents & Adults*

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston and  
Bayou City Women's Chorus  
invites you to kick off your holiday season with them.

Tickets are available between and after services on  
November 15, 22, and 29 in the Gathering Place



**Winterlight**  
Featuring Bayou City  
Women's Chorus  
Saturday, December 5, and  
Tuesday, December 8, 2009  
Unity Church, 7:30pm  
Tickets: \$25

*A Twisted Holiday\**  
Featuring GMCH  
with special appearances by  
Bayou City Choralz  
and HeavenSound Handbells  
Tuesday, December 15, 2009  
Jones Hall, 7:30pm  
Tickets: \$22 - \$55



Mention "RMCC" with your ticket purchase and RMCC will  
receive 20% of your ticket purchase price.

\*2nd Annual Food Drive, benefiting the RMCC Food Bank,  
will take place outside Jones Hall before the concert



## LOVE MAKES A FAMILY:

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender  
People and Their Families**

A touring photo-text exhibit created by the award-winning **Family Diversity Projects**.  
Photos by Gigi Kaeser and interviews edited by Peggy Gillespie.

**ON DISPLAY NOW  
IN WELLNESS CENTER & GATHERING PLACE**

Photographs by Gigi Kaeser depict a variety of gay,  
lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people and their families  
of all races in familiar family settings. The photos are  
accompanied by text edited by Peggy Gillespie from in-  
depth interviews she conducted with each family member  
— including children like Liza—who speak candidly about  
their lives, their relationships, and the ways in which they  
cope with the realities of prejudice, bias, and intolerance on  
a day-to-day basis.

*Sponsored by Resurrection Wellness Center*



Providing Spiritual Direction for individuals and groups at Resurrection MCC.  
 Sliding Scale fees available for Resurrection members and friends.  
 First session is free.  
 Cathleen Sheil, MA  
 Certified Spiritual Director  
 sacredjourney2@aol.com  
 713-304-9913



Vandrick James Furniture, LLC  
 James Inman, Ken Benavente  
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1003 1/2 W. 34th St.  
 Suite A  
 Houston, TX 77018-6319

Office 713-426-2500  
 Fax 713-426-2444  
 VANDRICKJAMES@AOL.COM

## BEARLY OBSESSED

Houston based author Book Release Party  
 December 10<sup>th</sup>, 7-9pm in The Gathering Place  
 RSVP: flannelchronicles@yahoo.com  
 Book info available at: www.flannelchronicles.com

### 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!*  
**suzanne anderson** PROPERTIES  
 713-822-8555  
 www.SellingHomesInHouston.com

**Pamela Efferson, Realtor**

### Stewardship Thought for the Week

*When you are down to nothing,  
 God is up to something.*

~ Unknown

## Advertise with us.

As low as \$25 / week.

Ads@ResurrectionMCC.org

**Board Members on Duty**  
 Debbie Skelly & Wayne Wiggins  
 Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

**Flowers in the Sanctuary**  
*In honor of Jason's first sermon.  
 God loves you and so do I.*

-- Pat Walker

| General Fund Financial Report                    |            |                     |                      | Week Ending November 22, 2009 |  |
|--|------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Tithes &amp; Offerings</b>                    |            | <b>Week</b>         | <b>Year</b>          |                               |  |
| 11/22/09 9:00 am                                 | 126        | \$3,094.00          | \$145,913.54         |                               |  |
| 11/22/09 11:00 am                                | 315        | \$3,098.29          | \$296,307.18         |                               |  |
| 11/18/09 6:30 pm                                 | 10         | \$174.00            | \$4,331.02           |                               |  |
| 11/22/09 Special Services                        | 25         | \$85.00             | \$5,980.36           |                               |  |
| Online Giving                                    |            | \$2,130.84          | \$62,088.02          |                               |  |
| Other Contributions                              |            | \$1,200.00          | \$120,515.22         |                               |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>476</b> | <b>\$9,782.13</b>   | <b>\$635,135.34</b>  |                               |  |
| <b>Other General Fund Income</b>                 |            |                     |                      |                               |  |
| Fundraising                                      |            |                     | \$2,614.65           |                               |  |
| Miscellaneous                                    |            | \$406.00            | \$58,884.56          |                               |  |
| <b>Total Received</b>                            |            | <b>\$10,188.13</b>  | <b>\$696,634.55</b>  |                               |  |
| <b>Projected Need per Budget</b>                 |            | <b>\$17,653.85</b>  | <b>\$777,592.31</b>  |                               |  |
| <b>Total Exceeded Need / (Did Not Meet Need)</b> |            | <b>(\$7,465.72)</b> | <b>(\$80,957.76)</b> |                               |  |
| <b>Total Imagine Capital Campaign</b>            |            | <b>\$1,565.00</b>   | <b>\$104,220.40</b>  |                               |  |

| Category        | Amount       |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Projected Needs | \$777,592.31 |
| Actual Received | \$696,634.55 |
| Actual Spent    | \$678,007.02 |

# This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

## SUNDAY NOVEMBER 29

|                 |   |                     |
|-----------------|---|---------------------|
| 8:00 am         | Adeste Praise Band Rehearsal                    | Sanctuary           |
| <b>9:00 am</b>  | <b>Sunday Worship / Jason Wood</b>              |                     |
| 10:15 am        | Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry (Everyone Welcome) | Chapel              |
| 10:45 am        | Youth Ministries Program                        | Activities Building |
| <b>11:00 am</b> | <b>Sunday Worship / Jason Wood</b>              |                     |
| 1:30 pm         | HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal                 | Music Room          |

## MONDAY NOVEMBER 30

*No Events Scheduled*

## TUESDAY DECEMBER 1

|         |                           |            |
|---------|---------------------------|------------|
| 7:00 pm | Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal | Music Room |
| 7:00 pm | Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal | Sanctuary  |

## WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2

|         |                                  |                     |
|---------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 6:00 pm | The Chalice: Community Meal      | Activities Building |
| 6:30 pm | The Chalice: Spiritual Deepening | Activities Building |
| 7:00 pm | The Chalice: Connection Groups   | Activities Building |

## THURSDAY DECEMBER 3

|         |                                |            |
|---------|--------------------------------|------------|
| 6:30 pm | Resurrection Singers Rehearsal | Music Room |
|---------|--------------------------------|------------|

## FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 4

|         |                             |           |
|---------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 7:00 pm | Friday FLIX: Ma Vie En Rose | Sanctuary |
|---------|-----------------------------|-----------|

## SATURDAY OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 5

|          |                                     |                 |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 10:00 am | Creating a Life That Matters (FULL) | Gathering Place |
| 1:00 pm  | Angels in Motion Rehearsal          | Sanctuary       |
| 3:00 pm  | Imani Vida Drum Circle              | Gathering Place |

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 6

|                 |   |                     |
|-----------------|---|---------------------|
| 8:00 am         | Adeste Praise Band Rehearsal                    | Sanctuary           |
| <b>9:00 am</b>  | <b>Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson</b>     |                     |
| 10:15 am        | Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry (Everyone Welcome) | Chapel              |
| 10:45 am        | Youth Ministries Program                        | Activities Building |
| <b>11:00 am</b> | <b>Sunday Worship / Rev. Dwayne Johnson</b>     |                     |
| 12:30 pm        | Second Family Care Partners Luncheon            | Activities Building |
| 1:30 pm         | HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal                 | Music Room          |
| 6:00 pm         | World AIDS Day Service                          | Sanctuary           |