



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2009

Prelude

Joel Hammett

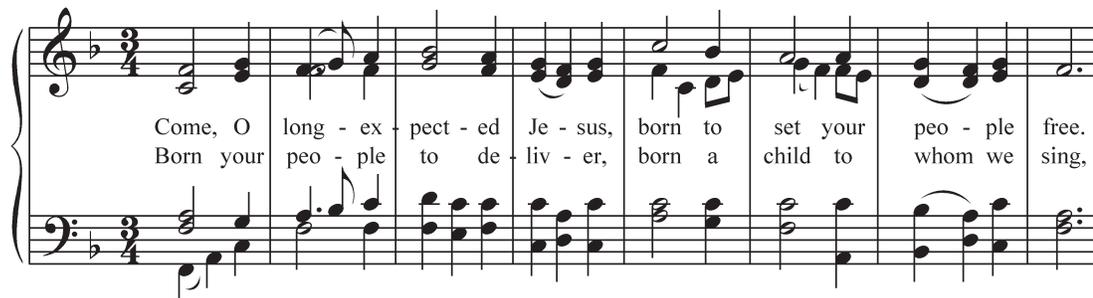
+ Our Community Gathers

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini & Mark Eggleston

+ Exchange of Peace

Hymn

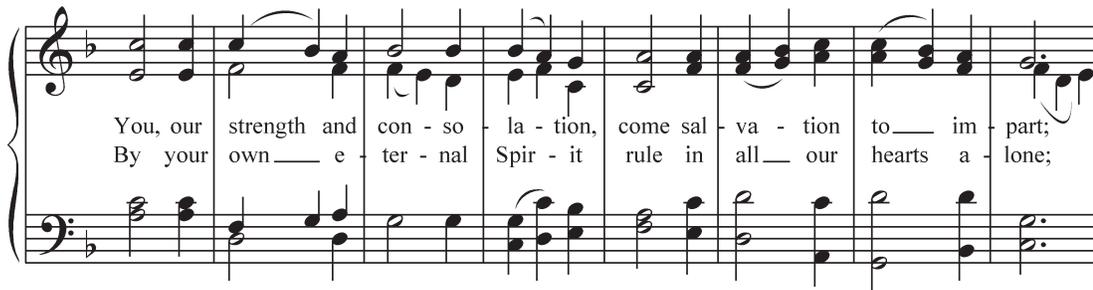
Come, O Long Expected Jesus



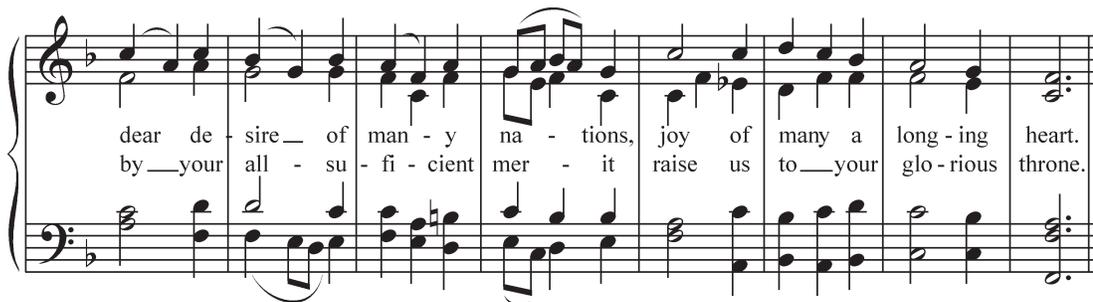
Come, O long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set your peo - ple free.
Born your peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child to whom we sing,



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Christ, in whom our rest shall be.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, born your grac - ious realm to bring.



You, our strength and con - so - la - tion, come sal - va - tion to im - part;
By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of man - y na - tions, joy of many a long - ing heart.
by your all - su - fi - cient mer - it raise us to your glo - rious throne.

+ 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 Joy

Wayne Wiggins

Congregational Invocation

ALL: Holy One, we imagine you rejoicing over us with gladness, renewing us with your love, and restoring our fortunes. As our joy abounds, may we rejoice and exult with all our hearts at the many ways we find you in our midst. In our sharing what we have with those who have none, taking no more than we need, and being satisfied with what we have, may we recognize that our joy is always found in you and may we do all things in your strength, for our hope, peace and joy is in you, Emmanuel, God-with-us, the provider of even more than we can ask or imagine. Amen.

First Reading

Mary Wagner

Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵ For God has taken away the judgments against you, and has turned away your enemies. Israel, God is the ruler in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷ For Yahweh, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who bears protection; who will rejoice over you with gladness, and will renew you with a Holy love; exulting over you with songs of joy. ¹⁸ God will soothe those who grieve. The Holy One will take away your cries of woe; you will no longer bear reproach. ¹⁹ When that time comes, I will deal with all that oppresses you; I will rescue the lost and gather the outcast, and change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰ At that time I will gather you and bring you home; for I will lift you up and you will be praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your future before your eyes.

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.

Luke 3:7-18

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹ In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." ¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Anthem

Sanctuary Choir

The First Noel – Pachelbel's Canon

Arranged by Michael Clawson

Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Fire Light

Reflection on the Message

O come Em-man - u - el, help us find your peace, as we show your
light to a shaded 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

Elisa Vega-Burns
Board of Directors

Offertory

HeavenSound Handbells

Angels We Have Heard on High

We Hear the Word

In these weeks of Advent we hear from Malachi, Jeremiah, Zephaniah, Isaiah, and Micah. The prophet is as much the voice of Advent as is the evangelist. Why? Prophets say what no one wants to hear, what no one wants to believe. Prophets point in directions no one wants to look. They hear God when everybody else has concluded God is silent. They see God where nobody else would guess God is present. They dream God's dreams and utter wake-up calls; they hope God's hopes and announce a new future; they will God's will and live it against all odds. Prophets sing God's song and sometimes interrupt the program with a change of tune. Sometimes we may fear God's promises [for they] interrupt the safety of our fears and the familiarity of our enemies with something new. Zephaniah's word to the people of God acknowledges our fear and dispels it with a promise of transforming joy

- Deborah A. Block
Feasting on the Word
3rd Sunday of Advent
Zephaniah 3:14-20

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

Debbie Skelly & Wayne Wiggins

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

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Debbie Skelly

Commissioning of Pastoral Search Committee

+ **Benediction**

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ **Postlude**

Joel Hammett

Staff

Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Senior Pastor

RevDwayne@ResurrectionMCC.org (x101)

Rev. Janice Ladd

Executive Pastor

RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

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Director of Operations (Interim)

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Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Director of Life Development

RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org (x107)

Jason Wood

Director of Connections

Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org (x105)

Joel Hammett

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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!



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

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.



AS WE TRANSITION

As we prepare ourselves for the changes and transitions we will undergo together in 2010, the Board of Directors wants to share with you an update on our transition process.

On November 14, Rev. Elder Lillie Brock met with the Board of Directors and the Executive Team. This retreat, planned months in advance with an anticipated focus on the relevance of church size, provided us with an opportunity to discuss the future of Resurrection MCC. We were extremely blessed to have Rev. Elder Brock's expertise available to us regarding our transition and pastoral search. Rev. Elder Brock recommended that our congregation would best be served by moving forward utilizing our existing staff, rather than calling in an Interim Pastor. As such, Rev. Janice and Rev. Kristen will deliver our Spiritual Encouragement each Sunday. Assistance from MCC clergy and other guests will be used as needed. Prioritizing use of our own clergy and staff supports continuity and continued momentum as Resurrection responds to the Spirit's leading during this season.

Regarding the questions which have been posed about the pastoral search process, our established Church structure provides us with a representative democracy; our members have elected a Board of Directors to serve and represent the entire body. In response to the recommendation and guidance of our denominational elders, the Pastoral Search Committee will make use of our existing representative democracy as it calls forward the five members of the Board of Directors whose terms continue through the whole of 2010: Karla Johnson, Debbie Skelly, Elisa Vega-Burns, Mary Wagner, and Wayne Wiggins. In addition, Mark Eggleston and Jason Wood will represent the Executive Team on the Pastoral Search Committee.

Congregational participation is critical in this process. As such, the Pastoral Search Committee invites you to attend a town hall meeting on Sunday, January 3, immediately following our 11 am service. The purpose of this meeting is for the Pastoral Search Committee to listen directly to your requests and concerns, as well as to answer any questions you have regarding this process. Each voice in our community of faith matters a great deal to us and we hope you will attend.

We are committed to an expedient and thorough executive search process. Please pray with us as we discern which candidate to present for congregational vote.

During this time of transition and opportunity, we ask for your continued support of Resurrection ministries. Your faithful attendance and consistent giving will be crucial to our church. As God moves among us, let us remember that God has great plans for our church and is caring for us on this journey. Together we can make 2010 a year to remember: a year of spiritual maturity and grace.



Meet Me at the Manger

Sunday, December 20, 9 & 11 am
Wednesday, December 24, 7 pm



Offering boxes available at all Sanctuary entrances.

Church Family,

As we find ourselves in a moment of transition, I encourage each of you to stand strong in your faith and remain obedient to God's word. Let's keep in mind that God speaks to us in the 'wilderness' so that we may reach the actual blessing that has been prepared for us.

Galatians 6:10 "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers".

I believe Meet Me at the Manger is the perfect opportunity for our church family to do good for all people. The theme for this year's Meet Me at the Manger is 'opportunity born'. The invitation is to offer a financial gift that is at least \$1 more than what you spent for any gift. Meet Me at the Manger is an opportunity from God, born to all of God's children. Please join me in a season of committed giving and obedience, as we work together to receive God's blessings in 2010.

May God Bless You

**Tricia Phillips
Board Member**

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.



Resurrection
Metropolitan Community Church



Rev. Dwayne Johnson
Senior Pastor

Where diversity is both our gift and our passion. • 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 Kawaiida (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 and click on the Kwanzaa link. Please RSVP by December 21 to Kwanzaa@ResurrectionMCC.org.

Shared Ministry & Farewell Celebration

Volunteer Opportunities



Service is a great way to honor Rev. Dwayne's years with Resurrection MCC and bless him as he leaves for D.C. We have several volunteer opportunities for the Shared Ministry & Farewell Celebration on December 20. Please email Jason Wood at Jason@ResurrectionMCC.org to sign up for one of the following service projects:

Table Set-up and Decorating
Saturday, December 19, 9 am

Event Preparation Support
Sunday, December 20, Morning

Serving & Other Assistance
Sunday, December 20, During Event

Table Break-down & Clean-up
Sunday, December 20, After Event

General Conference



Now to The One who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine

Registration

To register today, visit our website for more details and further information

Location

Fairmont Acapulco Princess
www.fairmont.com/acapulco
800.441.1414
506.863.6301
Group Name: UFMCC 2010 General Conference

Contact Information

conferences@mcchurch.net
Jennifer Justice, 213.447.2953
Carlos Chavez, 310.489.3899

2010

JUNE 28 - JULY 2



www.generalconference.mccchurch.org

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**

Friday Night OUT December 18, 7 pm



Join us for Creole food and funky music this month at The Horn Bar & Grille!

**6025 Richmond Ave
@ Fountainview
713-266-8711**

Join our group on Facebook: Resurrection MCC Friday Night Out
RSVP to FridayNightOUT@ResurrectionMCC.org



Santa's Workshop

For Children & Youth, Ages 4-12

**Saturday, December 19
4 - 6 pm, Activities Building**

Join us as we make ornaments and crafts for gifts, sing carols and eat lots of Christmas cookies!

NEW YEAR

Have Your Decked Halls Turned Into Dark Caves This Holiday Season?

**New Year's Eve Service
Thursday • December 31 • 7 pm
Sanctuary**

It is not uncommon to experience loneliness, grief, sickness, unemployment, or financial distress during what is supposed to be the happiest time of the year. Any one of these challenges is apt to make you feel as if you have entered a dark cave. Take heart you are not alone in the cave!

**Chris De John delivers a message entitled:
The Cave**

Join Us in a Celebration of
Family, Community & Culture

Kwanzaa

Saturday, December 26
6 pm, Activities Building



Join us for a meal and time of celebration.

Please RSVP by
December 21:

**Kwanzaa@
ResurrectionMCC.org**

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

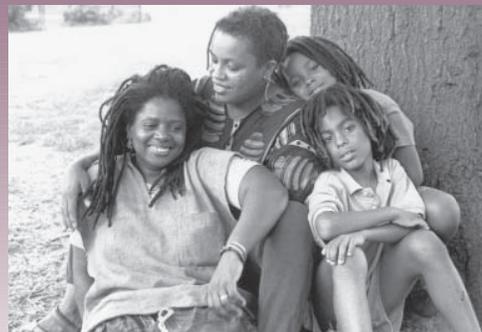
Tammy S. Fountain, LPC, ATR-BC / 832-863-8221
Children, Adolescents & Adults

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.***



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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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 collected.

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

Cherish your visions and your dreams as they are the children of your soul; the blueprints of your ultimate achievements. When your desires are strong enough, you will appear to possess super-human powers to achieve.

~ Napoleon Hill

Advertise with us.

As low as \$25 / week.

Ads@ResurrectionMCC.org

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

Flowers in the Sanctuary
 Consider donating flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special day.
 Sign up on the Flower Chart in the Welcome Area.

General Fund Financial Report				Week Ending December 6, 2009	
Tithes & Offerings		Week	Year		
12/06/09 9:00 am	111	\$3,296.10	\$152,945.89		
12/06/09 11:00 am	406	\$8,678.82	\$310,177.66		
12/02/09 6:30 pm	36	60.30	\$4,391.32		
Special Services			\$6,225.90		
Online Giving		\$3,071.95	\$65,414.97		
Other Contributions		\$1,520.00	\$122,850.22		
Total	553	\$16,627.17	\$662,005.96		
Other General Fund Income					
Fundraising			\$2,992.65		
Miscellaneous		\$1,235.00	\$60,919.68		
Total Received		\$17,862.17	\$725,918.29		
Projected Need per Budget		\$17,653.85	\$812,900.00		
Total Exceeded Need / (Did Not Meet Need)		\$208.32	(\$86,981.71)		
Total Imagine Capital Campaign		\$1,778.00	\$107,168.40		

Projected Need	Actual Received	Actual Spent
\$812,900.00	\$725,918.29	\$703,180.77

This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

SUNDAY DECEMBER 13

- 8:00 am Adeste Praise Band Rehearsal *Sanctuary*
- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini**
- 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. Kristen Klein-Cechettini**
- 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*

MONDAY DECEMBER 14

No Events Scheduled

TUESDAY DECEMBER 15

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

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16

- 8:00 am Non-Profit Consulting Services *Gathering Place*
- 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 17

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

FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 18

- 7:00 pm Friday Night OUT (see ad, p. 9) *The Horn Bar & Grille*

SATURDAY OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 19

- 9:00 am Christmas Basket Assembly *Activities Building*
- 9:00 am Farewell Celebration Set-up *Activities Building*
- 10:00 am Creating a Life That Matters (FULL) *Gathering Place*
- 10:00 am Future Clergy Meeting *Workroom*
- 4:00 pm Santa's Workshop *Activities Building*

SUNDAY DECEMBER 20

- 8:00 am Adeste Praise Band Rehearsal *Sanctuary*
- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Come! Celebrate Christmas**
- 10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry (Everyone Welcome) *Chapel*
- 10:45 am Youth Ministries Program *Activities Building*
- 11:00 am Sunday Worship / Come! Celebrate Christmas**
- 12:30 pm Shared Ministry & Farewell Celebration *Activities Building*
- 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*