



# Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

April 11, 2010

**Prelude**

Joel Hammett

*Christ is Risen, Christ is Living*

Arr. Farlee

**+ Our Community Gathers**

Rev. Janice Ladd

Mark Eggleston

**+ Exchange of Peace**

**Hymn**

*Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!*

Alleluia! Gracious Jesus! Yours the scepter, yours the throne.  
Alleluia! Yours the triumph, yours the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood.  
Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by His love.

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! You are near us, faith believes, nor questions how;  
Though the cloud from sight received You when the forty days were o'er  
Shall our hearts forget Your promise, "I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of angels, You on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to You from day to day:  
Intercessor, Friend of all, Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
And the songs that sound in heaven will repeat your gracious plea.

Alleluia! Christ eternal, Nothing can disrupt your reign;  
Alleluia! Born of Mary, heaven and earth are your domain:  
Human life you fully entered, tending those we count the least;  
Serving both as priest and victim in the Eucharistic feast.

William C. Dix, 1867; alt  
Rowland H. Prichard, 1844  
Arr. Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906  
Arr. Cassandra White

## 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.

## William Dix

Manager of a marine insurance company, he was also a gifted writer who made a significant contribution to hymnody. This hymn was written to fill a need for communion hymns in Church of England hymnals.

**+ Invocation**

Joy Jolley

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

## We Hear the Word

The traumatic experiences of Jesus' arrest and crucifixion have left his followers paralyzed by fear. They lock themselves in, and are literally afraid to be "out." Yet we find in John 20:19-31 a loving and patient Jesus who does not only reveal himself to his followers once, but also returns a second time. During this second time, the risen Jesus engages Thomas who has had to give up "faith" to learn to see with his own eyes. The good news of Easter is that Jesus is always coming to us, returning for us. This he will do not once, but again and again. This is not only a promise for the future, but also a reality of the present. Jesus comes repeatedly to give us peace and the Holy Spirit, so that, as the psalmist says in Psalm 118:17, we shall live and recount the deeds of God.

~ "Being Loved  
and Being Out,"  
*Out in Scripture,*  
*Second Sunday of*  
*Easter Year C.*

### Baptism (11 am)

Mark Calvillo  
Esmeralda Bravo  
Jennifer Bravo

### First Reading

Loyal Kletzien (9 am)  
Darren Terry (11 am)

#### *Acts 5:27-32*

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at God's right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey."

### + Second Reading

Georgette Monaghan (9 am)  
Michael Fernandez (11 am)

#### *John 20:19-31*

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As God has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**Anthem**

Sanctuary Choir

***Break Forth into Joy***

by Allen Pote

**Spiritual Encouragement**

Rev. Janice Ladd

***Some Things We Need to Believe to See***

**Instrumental Interlude**

Joel Hammett

***He Arose from the Grave***

**Making Ministry Happen**

Elisa Vega-Burns  
Treasurer, Board of Directors

**Offertory**

Resurrection Singers

***To God Be the Glory***

by Fanny Crosby & William Doane  
Arranged by Dan Galbraith

**Communion**

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

**Communion Songs**

***Surely the Presence of the Lord***

Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this place,  
I can feel His mighty power and His grace;  
I can feel the brush of angel's wings,  
I see Glory on each face.  
Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this place.

***Holy, Holy, Holy!***

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

**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), prayer ministers are available at the Side Altar during communion. The Fishers Net Prayer Ministry is also 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 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.

### *We Will Glorify*

We will glorify the King of kings  
We will glorify the Lamb  
We will glorify the Lord of lords  
Who is the great I AM

Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty  
We will bow before His throne  
We will worship Him in righteousness  
We will worship Him alone

### *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High / Because He Lives*

Lord, I lift Your name on high;  
Lord, I love to sing Your praises;  
I'm so glad You're in my life;  
I'm so glad You came to save us.

You came from Heaven to earth;  
To show the way,  
From the earth to the cross,  
My debt to pay,  
From the cross to the grave,  
From the grave to the sky;  
Lord, I lift Your name on high!

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.  
Because He lives, All fear is gone.  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ **Benediction**

Rev. Janice Ladd

**Postlude**

Joel Hammett

### *All Glory Be to God on High*

Arr. Albrecht

## Executive Team

### Rev. Janice Ladd

Executive Pastor

RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

### Mark Eggleston

Director of Outreach

Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org (x106)

### Joy Jolley

Director of Operations (Interim)

Joy@ResurrectionMCC.org (x102)

### Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Director of Life Development

RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org (x107)

### Cassandra White

Director of Worship (part-time, interim)

Gospel Ensemble Director

Cassandra@ResurrectionMCC.org (x109)

## Professional Stipend

### Joel Hammett

Organist & Accompanist

### 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

### Jim Winslett

HeavenSound Handbells Director

### Jose I. Zuniga

Facilities Technician

Jose@ResurrectionMCC.org

## Volunteer

### Rev. Mona Lopez

Volunteer Staff Clergy

RevMona@ResurrectionMCC.org

## Worship

Sunday, 9 & 11 am

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 one month through three 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**

## Community Gathering

6:00 - 7:00 pm | Activities Building

bring a brown bag or enjoy a light meal  
from Inspirations Coffee Cafe  
while you meet new friends.

## Life Development Offerings

7:00 - 8:30 pm | Activities Building

**OFFERING ONE**

**April 7 - 21**

## GET REAL: CREATING A MORE AUTHENTIC LIFE

Are you tired of feeling as though your life is not your own? Do you sometimes feel you've lost the "real" you beneath expectations and the frustration of trying to please others? Do you wish you could more effectively communicate and "connect" in conversation? Would you like to explore ways to find more passion and meaning in your life? If so, join us for a thought-provoking, fun and inter-active workshop series centered around strategies and tools to become a more REAL you and:

- Define what having a more authentic life looks like to you.
- Develop the framework and processes needed to create a more authentic life.
- Connect to others in more meaningful ways.
- Find more meaning and purpose by presenting a more "real" you to the world.

Featuring the insights of Brené Brown, Martin Buber, Byron Katie, and Don Miguel Ruiz, Get Real: Session One will focus on personal development; Get Real: Session Two on relationships; and Get Real: Session Three on service and giving back. This workshop is led by Susan Parker, a consultant, motivational speaker and author of *Walking in the Deep End*.



**OFFERING TWO**

**April 7 - 28**

## HOW TO HAVE A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

From breath prayer to journaling to meditation to *Lectio Divina* – "divine reading" – each of the methods in this offering by Spiritual Director Cathleen Sheil is geared toward introducing beginners as well as those experienced in prayer to new forms of prayer and meditation. Session Two will focus on *Lectio Divina*, a Latin term meaning "sacred reading" or "divine reading." It is a way of contemplating prayerfully a passage of scripture or other spiritual writing. This class will include practice in a structured way of praying with a scripture passage, not for information or interpretation, but for listening with the heart.



**OFFERING THREE**

**April 7 - May 5**

## SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP IN A MULTICULTURAL WORLD

Realizing relational unity in the midst of our diversity is a spiritual journey! As we respond to our hearts' longing to heed God's call to "love our neighbor as ourselves" we must come to know our neighbor as ourselves! Denise Junious and friends invite all to share in this weekly journey learning about the various "cultural neighborhoods" that our brothers and sisters in God's human family call "home." Session Two will feature insights shared by Barry Mandel, Chief Operating Officer of Legacy Community Health Services and former president and CEO of the Houston Downtown Alliance. This session is part of our Community of Respect efforts with the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) whose mission is to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all. Join us for a discussion on building community and experience how truly we are "more alike than unlike" as we seek to practice spiritual leadership in a multicultural world!



## EQUALITY MINISTRY MEETING

Monday, April 12  
6:30 pm, Gathering Place

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

Questions or to Sign up:  
Equality@ResurrectionMCC.org



## Food Pantry

by Appointment  
713-861-9149 x103

**Nonperishables Needed:**  
Canned Meats, Vegetables,  
Fruit, Soup, Pasta, Rice,  
Beans, Spaghetti Sauce

Please drop off food donations  
into shopping cart in  
Welcome Area.



## LGBTQ AND FREE IN THEE!

Adventuring OUT in  
Christian Discipleship

TODAY!  
1 - 5 pm, Chapel

In his book *Don't Be Afraid Anymore* Rev. Troy Perry shares how he, like so many of us, had to wrestle with the questions "What does the Bible say about homosexuality?" and "What did Jesus say?" He writes, "They were questions that had to be answered with absolute correctness, but I needed to return to my Bible before I could give an adequate answer. Therefore, in that instant I said to myself, 'Troy, you know God loves you without a shadow of a doubt. You know you're God's child. You know God called you to the ministry and you know God told you to start this work. Now be able to defend what has been given you to do.'" During this foundational Life Development offering for those seeking to reconcile their experience of God with their understanding of Scripture, we will engage the Bible through the lens of our personal faith experience as we consider the six "clobber passages" in light of current scholarship and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Facilitated by Rev. Kristen. All are welcome.



Thanks to those who  
made a donation,  
participated in the walk,  
raised funds and prayed!

Our team has raised over \$10,000 of our \$15,000 goal, and there is still time for us to achieve our goal!

**Donation deadline: Wednesday, April 14!**

Please visit [www.ResurrectionMCC.org](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org)  
and click on the AIDS Walk Houston link to donate.

## New Members' Class

Tuesday, April 13

6 - 9 pm  
Gathering Place / Dinner Served

Join us to discuss the mission, vision, and values of Resurrection MCC, to discover our connection to the world through our affiliation with the Metropolitan Community Churches, and to join this family of faith in purpose, service, and fellowship!

To register, contact Rev. Janice,  
[RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org)  
or 713-861-9149 x104.

**VICKIE SHAW & JENNIE MCNULTY**

# ALL STAR TEXAS COMEDY TOUR

★ **SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 7:00 PM** ★

HOUSTON NATIVE AND STAND-UP COMEDIAN VICKIE SHAW IS TEAMING UP WITH FELLOW COMIC JENNIE MCNULTY FOR A FANTASTIC NIGHT OF STAND-UP COMEDY AND IMPROVISATION. YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THESE FUNNY WOMEN, BOTH RECENTLY VOTED TO THE

**"TOP 10 FUNNIEST LESBIANS IN AMERICA."**

**\$25** GENERAL ADMISSION **\$50** VIP SEATING & POST-SHOW RECEPTION AND HORS D'OEUVRES WITH COMEDIANS

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT [WWW.BROWNPAPERTICKETS.COM](http://WWW.BROWNPAPERTICKETS.COM)**  
**RESURRECTION MCC | 2025 WEST 11TH STREET, HOUSTON, 77008**  
**[WWW.RESURRECTIONMCC.ORG](http://WWW.RESURRECTIONMCC.ORG) | 713-861-9149**  
**[WWW.JENNIEMCNULTY.COM](http://WWW.JENNIEMCNULTY.COM) | [WWW.VICKIESHAW.COM](http://WWW.VICKIESHAW.COM)**

Tickets available in Inspirations Coffee Cafe & Gift Shop today!



## 2010 Resurrection MCC Special Anniversary Offering

The seeds for Resurrection MCC were planted in the winter of 1971. These seeds took root in December of 1972, when meetings were started on a regular basis in a rented apartment in Preston Villa. Nearly 40 years later, we are a congregation of nearly 600 members holding two weekly Sunday services, and various mid-week offerings, on a church campus that includes a 25,000 square foot church building and a 12,000 square foot activity center, situated on a 9-acre tract in the beautiful Heights area of Houston.

As you may already know, Resurrection MCC will celebrate its 38th anniversary on April 25, 2010. This is a tremendous milestone to which we can look forward in thankfulness to and appreciation of our gracious God who has led us over the years. In honor of this auspicious occasion, I'd like to announce the **2010 Resurrection MCC Special Anniversary Offering** entitled "**We're 38 . . . Help Keep Us Great!**" The purpose of this campaign is to celebrate the 38th anniversary of the church, as well as to generate income for the general fund to not only reduce our budget variance, but also build a cash reserve.

In keeping with the "**We're 38 . . .**" portion of the theme: We are asking that you prayerfully consider making an "over and above" offering in increments of \$38 (i.e., \$38, \$380, \$3,800), or multiples of \$38 (i.e., \$38, \$76, \$114, \$152, etc.) to commemorate the church's 38th anniversary. "Special Anniversary Offering" envelopes will be available at all entrances to the Sanctuary to make your giving as convenient as possible. All you need to do is to place your offering in the envelope provided and drop it in the beautifully decorated "Special Anniversary Offering" donation box.

The donation box will be placed at the front of the Sanctuary during the Sunday services, and your offering may be placed in the box from Sunday, April 11, 2010

through Sunday, May 23, 2010. While everyone may not be able to give such an offering, we do want to provide the challenge to the entire congregation and friends of Resurrection MCC, and then leave it in the hands of God to provide the funds that we so desperately need to stabilize our church. We look forward to announcing the results during this six-week campaign and sharing in the victory that is ahead!

In keeping with the "**. . . Help Keep Us Great!**" part of the theme: All proceeds from the anniversary campaign will be used to reduce our budget variance of nearly \$21,000 (see Page 15 of the bulletin). As you can see, total income received as of April 4, 2010 is \$20,933.76 less than what was projected for this 14-week period, primarily as a result of lower than expected general tithes and offerings. In fact, giving is down nearly 20% from December 31, 2009, so that any benefit we may have realized from an income perspective as a result of the reduction in salaries and wages due to the departure of our Senior Pastor has been cancelled out due to the lower giving.

To make matters worse, even though we reduced the projected income for 2010 by 16% in January, current giving is 4% lower than the reduced budget! As such, any proceeds above and beyond our budget variance will be placed in a cash reserve to be used on an as-needed basis. As we are basically living check-to-check -- or, more specifically, offerings-to-offerings -- a cash reserve is essential to the financial stability of Resurrection MCC.

Nearly 40 years ago, the first members of Resurrection MCC had the audacity to imagine that a church of Resurrection MCC's magnitude was possible from such humble beginnings. Through mature faith and commitment, the power of the Holy Spirit, and the grace of God, Resurrection MCC has experienced both numerical and spiritual growth. Resurrection MCC remains committed to its long standing mission to demonstrate God's unconditional love to all people through Christian action, where inclusivity is a nonnegotiable value to be practiced daily. Together, we can continue to do what is necessary to help make our church home a facility that is reflective of the greatness of Jesus Christ.

**We're 38 . . . Help Keep Us Great! Please join us in the 38th anniversary celebration of Resurrection MCC and make a special anniversary offering between Sunday, April 11 and Sunday, May 23.**

Thank you in advance for your support and generosity!

Yours in Christ,

Elisa J. Vega-Burns  
Treasurer, Resurrection MCC Board of Directors



## SABBATH SATURDAY

Saturday, April 24  
10 am - 2 pm  
4501 Woodway  
Houston, 77024  
[www.houstonarboretum.org](http://www.houstonarboretum.org)

*Sabbath is more than the absence of work; it is not just a day off, when we catch up on television or errands. It is the presence of something that arises when we consecrate a period of time to listen to what is most deeply beautiful, nourishing, or true. It is time consecrated with our attention, our mindfulness, honoring those quiet forces of grace or spirit that sustain or heal us.*

— Wayne Muller, Sabbath

Refresh your soul each quarter with a special time spent nourishing your relationship with God! Participants will gather by 10 am at the entrance to the Houston Arboretum [www.houstonarboretum.org](http://www.houstonarboretum.org). From there we will walk to a selected area for a brief time of Breath Prayer and simple instruction in the ancient contemplative practice of Lectio Divina – meditation with the Divine Word, facilitated by Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini. This time of opening will be followed by an hour of silent individual contemplative practice in the beauty of the Arboretum, after which we will reconvene to break silence with shared prayer and insights until noon. Those wishing to continue in Sabbath community will return to Resurrection for a simple lunch accompanied by an introduction to classic mystical teachings (Catherine of Siena) offered by Spiritual Director Cathleen Sheil.

## Second Sunday Friend-Raiser Brunch

**TODAY!**

**Breezeway 12:30 pm**

**Enjoy burgers and hotdogs  
and meet some new friends.**

*Mark your calendars now:  
Second Sunday Friend-Raiser Brunch  
will be held on the Second Sunday of each  
month from April to June!*



*Proceeds benefit Resurrection General Fund*



### Fishers Net Prayer Ministry

*A Dialogue with God by Ron Reeser*

*Place Love in the Air and Everywhere*

“When the members of a community love one another [the] community is solid, prosperous, and happy. Nations are bound together by common interests and common affections. When the whole world realizes this it will unite in thought and in action. Love alone can solve problems of international relations and bring about the day of universal peace.”<sup>1</sup>

Love provides growth, gives maturity and fosters positive relationships. Is it any wonder when there is love, the atmosphere appears vibrantly inviting? God is love and wants us to live within love and share love with God, ourselves and our neighbors; “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with your entire mind and with all your strength ... [and] Love your neighbor as yourself...”<sup>2</sup> Are we loving God, ourselves and our neighbors with all our hearts and soul?

Dear Mother Father Creator God, Thank you for forgiveness. Thank you for your love in which engulfs me daily, hourly and within every moment of my life. Please give me the strength to show your love to those whom do not love me. Help me to reach out away from myself to help others see and feel your love. Help me, oh Lord, to love myself and may I be a beacon of Your Light to the world. In your many names. Amen.

<sup>1</sup> Ernest Holmes, *The Hidden Power of the Bible*.

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 12:31-31

Do you have a prayer request? Send your requests to [Prayers@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Prayers@ResurrectionMCC.org). Postings are published each week in a Praise and Prayer alert email, where others around the country are praying collectively with you. To sign up for Praise and Prayer alerts, go to our Web site and click on the "In Need of Prayer?" link.

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



**Thursday,  
April 29**

**Baba Yega**  
2607 Grant

[www.babayega.com](http://www.babayega.com)  
713-522-0042

On Thursday, April 29, restaurants across Houston will unite in the fight against HIV / AIDS. Each restaurant will generously donate 33% of food bills all day long. In 2008 with the help of great Houston restaurants, AIDS Foundation Houston raised over \$80,000 in support for their programs and services such as housing, case management, and food assistance for nearly 5,000 HIV+ men, women, and children.

Friday Night OUT, has generously agreed to change their normal night out (just for April) to THURSDAY, to participate and support this important cause.

We hope you'll join us for delicious food and conversation, while supporting a great cause! Please RSVP to [FridayNightOUT@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:FridayNightOUT@ResurrectionMCC.org) or on Facebook.

*Benefiting AIDS Foundation Houston*  
[www.diningoutforlife.com](http://www.diningoutforlife.com)

## LGBTQ Solutions for Living Well

Professional Services Provided at  
Resurrection MCC Wellness Center



### Women's Group Psychotherapy

Focused on, but not limited to, the coming out process, improving self-esteem, identity clarification and establishing healthy relationships.

Therapist: Tammy S. Fountain, LPC, ATR-BC  
Call 832-863-8221 for an intake appointment.



### Men's Group Therapy

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.

Group open, space limited. Mondays, 6:00 - 7:15 pm  
Therapist: Michael Mann, LCSW.  
Call 713-446-8034 for an intake appointment.

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

*Connections: A 12-Session Psychoeducational Shame Resilience Curriculum*

Tuesdays  
6 - 7:15 pm

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.

### Connections

A 12-Session  
Psychoeducational  
Shame-Resilience  
Curriculum



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

### Young Adult Group

Tuesdays, 6 - 7:15 pm, begins in May.  
Facilitated by Tammy S. Fountain,  
LPC, ATR-BC. Call 832-863-8221.

Ages 20 to 30-something  
All Sexual Orientations &  
Gender Identities Welcome

Focused on, but not limited to, healthy living, goal setting, the coming out process, improving self-esteem, identity clarification and establishing healthy relationships.



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

## Montrose Grace Place

provides a safe, welcoming environment for vulnerable homeless youth of all sexualities and genders, providing nourishment, healthy relationships, and hope for the future.



For one night a week, Montrose Grace Place (located at Grace Lutheran Church) is a place of dignity and of respect, with a good meal, creative activities, referrals to social services, and healing relationships with safe, accepting adults.

### Did you know?

- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender teens are coming out to parents as young as 13 and 14?
- 1 out of 4 youth who come out to parents will become homeless as a result?
- LGBT homeless youth are seven times more likely than their heterosexual peers to be the victim of a crime?
- LGBT youth are more at risk for mental health issues, and homelessness only increases this risk?
- Survival sex is often a last resort for homeless youth?
- Many services for homeless youth are non-responsive to LGB youth, and will not serve transgender youth?

### How you can help:

- Donate! Money, professional services, toiletries, new underwear, and prayers!
- Bring food! Dinners for 30 people once a year or once a month.
- Volunteer! We need shoppers, grant-writers, table setters, security, and many other positions.
- Teach! Lead a creative and healing class in creative writing, painting, yoga, or a drum circle.
- Take the Leap! Apply to be one of the caring adult volunteers who interact with these youth on a weekly basis. (Background checks are required, and you'll receive 20 hours of training before you start. You'll be asked to make a commitment two nights a month, for one year.)

Grace Lutheran Church Pastor Lura Groen will present information about the program, volunteer opportunities, and answer questions at our next **Equality Meeting on Monday, April 12 at 6:30 pm in the Gathering Place.** Please consider if you can assist in this vital outreach partnership.



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Angela Berrospe - (713) 863-9450 www.techave.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  
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**Pamela Efferson, Realtor**

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**Kara N. Poole**  
www.colorsdoneright.com contact@colorsdoneright.com



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



### Stewardship Thought for the Week

Collectively we can do  
what no person can do singly.

~ Leland Kaiser

## Advertise with us.

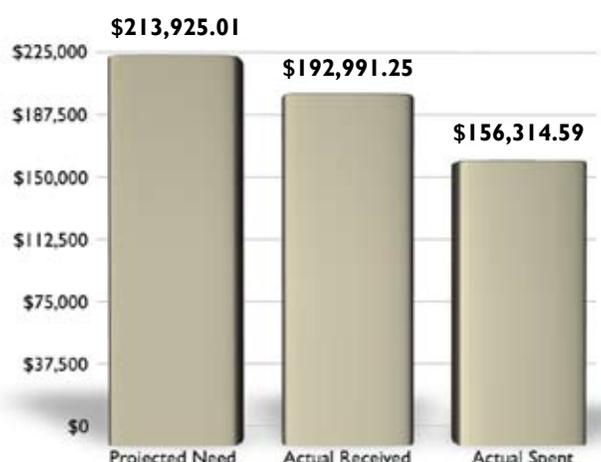
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Ads@ResurrectionMCC.org

**Board Members on Duty**  
Edwin Kelly & Vicki Hopper  
Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

**Flowers in the Sanctuary**  
Consider donating flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special day. Email the date and message to Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org or call 713-861-9149 x106.

General Fund Financial Report				Week Ending April 4, 2010	
<b>Tithes &amp; Offerings</b>		<b>Week</b>	<b>Year</b>		
04/04/10 9:00 am	189	\$6,814.50	\$45,451.07		
04/04/10 11:00 am	590	\$8,599.40	\$94,334.13		
03/31/10 6:30 pm	69	\$94.50	\$1,956.70		
04/02/10 Special Services	89	\$531.00	\$1,388.75		
Online Giving		\$1,643.70	\$20,382.28		
Other Contributions		\$280.00	\$16,128.54		
<b>Total</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>\$17,963.10</b>	<b>\$179,641.47</b>		
<b>Other General Fund Income</b>					
Fundraising			\$3,091.95		
Miscellaneous		\$261.50	\$10,257.83		
<b>Total Received</b>		<b>\$18,224.60</b>	<b>\$192,991.25</b>		
<b>Projected Need per Budget</b>		<b>\$15,955.77</b>	<b>\$213,925.01</b>		
<b>Total Exceeded Need / (Did Not Meet Need)</b>		<b>\$2,268.83</b>	<b>(\$20,933.76)</b>		
<b>Total Imagine Capital Campaign</b>		<b>\$1,700.00</b>	<b>\$29,419.52</b>		

Category	Amount
Projected Need	\$213,925.01
Actual Received	\$192,991.25
Actual Spent	\$156,314.59

# This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

## **SUNDAY** **APRIL 11**

- 9:00 am** **Sunday Worship / Rev. Janice Ladd**
- 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. Janice Ladd**
- 12:30 pm Second Sunday Friend-Raiser Brunch *Breezeway*
- 1:00 pm LGBTQ and Free in Thee *Chapel*
- 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*

## **MONDAY** **APRIL 12**

- 6:30 pm Equality Ministry Meeting *Gathering Place*

## **TUESDAY** **APRIL 13**

- 6:00 pm New Members Class *Gathering Place*
- 7:00 pm Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal *Music Room*
- 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *Sanctuary*

## **WEDNESDAY** **APRIL 14**

- 6:00 pm The Chalice: Community Gathering *Activities Building*
- 7:00 pm The Chalice: Get Real *Activities Building*
- 7:00 pm The Chalice: Spiritual Leadership *Activities Building*
- 7:00 pm The Chalice: Spiritual Practice *Chapel*

## **THURSDAY** **APRIL 15**

- 6:00 pm Pastoral Search Committee Meeting *Workroom*
- 7:00 pm Resurrection Singers Rehearsal *Music Room*

## **FRIDAY** **OFFICE CLOSED** **APRIL 16**

No Events Scheduled.

## **SATURDAY** **OFFICE CLOSED** **APRIL 17**

- 9:00 am Board of Directors Working Retreat *Chapel*
- 10:00 am Creating a Life That Matters (full) *Gathering Place*

## **SUNDAY** **APRIL 18**

- 9:00 am** **Sunday Worship**
- 10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry (Everyone Welcome) *Chapel*
- 10:45 am Youth Ministries Program *Activities Building*
- 11:00 am** **Sunday Worship**
- 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*