



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

April 18, 2010

Prelude

Anthony White

He Keeps Me Singing

Arr. Bill Wolaver

+ Our Community Gathers

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ Exchange of Peace

Mark Eggleston

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

+ Invocation

Rev. Mona Lopez

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

Easter Continues

Easter celebrates the central event of the Christian faith: the resurrection of Jesus Christ three days after his death by crucifixion. Easter Sunday is preceded by the season of Lent, a 40-day period of fasting and repentance culminating in Holy Week, and is followed by a 50-day Easter Season that stretches from Easter to Pentecost.

We can enjoy the beautifully decorated butterflies hanging in the sanctuary during the season of Easter this year. The butterfly has long been a Christian symbol of resurrection and new life. Just as Jesus was buried in a tomb, appearing that our hope was gone, the butterfly disappears into a cocoon and appears dead, but emerges later far more beautiful and powerful than before.

We Hear the Word

If John is the first disciple to understand, recognize, or hear the Lord – something that is utterly necessary for faith – such recognition is not yet manifest in action. If Peter is the first to act – which symbolizes the human response of committed faith – such action must always be grounded in authentic recognition. Neither understanding nor action alone constitutes the authentic faith, and thus one needs to unite the best of Peter and the best of the Beloved Disciple if one is to be a person of true faith.

-- Joseph Bessler,
commentary on
John 21:1-19 in
Feasting on the Word

Baptism (11 am)

Emma Grace Wallenberg-Kirch

First Reading

Jerry Reitz (9 am)

Elizabeth Conyer (11 am)

John 21:1-14

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

+ Second Reading

Denise Junious (9 am)

Jules Gauvin (11 am)

John 21:15-19

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

Anthem

Gospel Ensemble

It's Your Season
by Dr. Norman Hutchins

Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Following: Through with Death

Making Ministry Happen

Gemma Burns
Sharri McGlauthing

Offertory

HeavenSound Handbells

Bound for Glory
Arranged by Tammy Waldrop

Communion

Marcial Renteria

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 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

**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.

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

Marcial Renteria

+ Benediction

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ Postlude

HeavenSound Handbells Video

Capriccio
by McChesney

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

Resurrection

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT WWW.BROWNPAPERTICKETS.COM
RESURRECTION MCC | 2025 WEST 11TH STREET, HOUSTON, 77008
WWW.RESURRECTIONMCC.ORG | 713-861-9149
WWW.JENNIEMCNULTY.COM | WWW.VICKIESHAW.COM

Tickets available in Inspirations Coffee Cafe & Gift Shop today!

Executive Team

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Executive Pastor

RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

Mark Eggleston

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Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org (x106)

Joy Jolley

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Joy@ResurrectionMCC.org (x102)

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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

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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!

WEDNESDAYS | APRIL 21 & 28 | 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

DISCOVERING MY MINISTRY SPIRITUAL GIFTS

GATHERING PLACE

As a community, we are interrelated and interdependent, much like the human body. Finding our part in the body comes from discovering and utilizing our spiritual gifts.

Rev. Janice will facilitate this class with the goal of helping participants discover and develop their spiritual gifts, placing members in meaningful ministry opportunities that best suit their unique gifts and abilities, and stimulating creativity in God's gifted people for the purpose of developing new ministries. Join us and find your unique fit in the body of Christ as we build up our community.

To RSVP or find out more information about this offering, please e-mail RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org.

Pastoral Search Committee Open Meeting

Thursday, May 6, 6:30 pm, Gathering Place

The Pastoral Search Committee invites all to attend this open meeting. Our Senior Pastor Application Portfolio will be finalized and available for you to peruse. We hope you'll join us!

If you are not able to attend the open meeting, or have any questions about the pastoral search process, please do not hesitate to email us at PastoralSearchCommittee@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.



18th ANNUAL Transgender Unity Banquet

The Houston Transgender Unity Committee Presents:

HELP US CELEBRATE
THE LARGEST SINGLE
NIGHT TRANSGENDER
EVENT IN THE
ENTIRE COUNTRY!

The Houston TG Unity Banquet
And Awards Presentation
May 1, 2010
6:30 PM - 1:00 AM
Sheraton Houston Brookhollow
HTUC.ORG

ONLINE TICKETS ARE
\$50 OR \$60 AT THE
DOOR. ENJOY DINNER,
DANCING & THE
TG COMMUNITY!



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: MARA KEISLING

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSGENDER EQUALITY

Tickets available after services today
in the Gathering Place!



Thursday,
April 29

Baba Yega
2607 Grant
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 or on Facebook.

Benefiting AIDS Foundation Houston
www.diningoutforlife.com

Walk for Tolerance

April 7, 2010, marked a historic first for Montego Bay, Jamaica. MCC Delegation Participated In First-Ever Public March.

The Rev. Elder Nancy L. Wilson, moderator of the international movement of Metropolitan Community Churches, participated in the first-ever public HIV/AIDS march in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on Wednesday, April 7, 2010, along with a delegation of MCC leaders.

The public event, known as the Walk for Tolerance, was sponsored by Jamaica AIDS Support for Life, the largest and oldest Jamaican non-profit organization providing support services to persons with HIV and AIDS. The goal of the public walk in Montego Bay was to engender goodwill, support and tolerance for persons living with HIV and AIDS. The march, which drew 150 participants was a historic first for the Montego Bay community.

Joining Rev. Wilson were Rev. Pat. Bumgardner, chair of MCC's Global Justice Team, Rev. Robert Griffin, MCC Liaison to Jamaica and Staff Pastor for Sunshine Cathedral Jamaica (Fort Lauderdale, Florida), Rev. Michael Diaz, volunteer coordinator for Sunshine Cathedral MCC (Fort Lauderdale, Florida), and Rev. Jim Birkitt, communications specialist and writer.

Prior to arriving in Jamaica, Rev. Wilson was a guest of U.S. President Barack Obama at a White House Easter Prayer Breakfast at which she spoke with the U.S. President, members of the current U.S. administration, and religious leaders from numerous faith communities.

"The members and adherents of Metropolitan Community Churches stand in solidarity with all persons with HIV and AIDS," said Wilson. News articles published in the Jamaican press in the days leading up to the Walk for Tolerance addressed the discrimination that is often experienced by Jamaicans living with HIV/AIDS.

"Jesus stood with those who were marginalized and rejected by their societies. Jesus loved those who had been made to feel like outcasts; Jesus welcomed such, embraced them, loved them and cared for them. Those who would be Jesus' followers today must show God's same extravagant love," added Wilson.

Following the march, Rev. Wilson preached at a

worship service of Sunshine Cathedral Jamaica.

Other participating groups included Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition, Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network, International Association of Pride Coordinators, Jamaica Forum for Lesbians Allsexuals and Gays (JFLAG), Women for Women, and the Jamaica Red Cross.

Since 1997, Amnesty International has documented the murders of 35 gay Jamaicans and since 2008 has catalogued more than 30 incidents of anti-gay mob violence.

MCC's participation was made possible in part by a grant of \$30,000 from the Arcus Foundation's Religion and Values Program to organize and train indigenous Jamaican leadership and create a strategic plan for ending religiously-sanctioned violence against LGBT people in Jamaica. Leaders from Sunshine Cathedral MCC Jamaica and Sunshine Cathedral MCC Fort Lauderdale are directing the planning project in conjunction with MCC's Global Justice Team, the MCC Office of Formation and Leadership Development, MCC Moderator Rev. Nancy Wilson, and other international allies. The Arcus Foundation funds efforts to achieve social justice inclusive of sexual orientation, gender identity and race. Grants provided through its Religion & Values Program are targeted to build a faith-based progressive social justice movement that is inclusive of GLBT human rights and refute beliefs that portray gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people as sinful and immoral.

Metropolitan Community Churches, founded in 1968, is a human-rights movement and ministry operating as a Christian denomination in 25 countries around the world. MCC is an international advocate for vulnerable people in places where religious orthodoxy, sexism, and homophobia can result in violence and death. MCC's promise is stated in its tagline "Tearing Down Walls. Building Up Hope." For more information about MCC visit www.MCCchurch.org.





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. 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: **The campaign goal is \$38,000.** We are asking that you prayerfully consider making an **"over and above"** offering in either denominations of \$38 (i.e., \$38, \$380 or \$3,800) or increments of \$38 (e.g., \$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 this Sunday through Sunday, May

23. You may also make your special anniversary offering online by going to the home page of our Website and clicking on the 38th Anniversary link. 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: Proceeds from the anniversary campaign will be used to reduce our budget variance of nearly \$21,000 (see Page 11 of the bulletin). As you can see, total income received as of April 11 is \$20,778.74 less than what was projected for this 15-week period, primarily as a result of lower than expected general tithes and offerings. In fact, giving is down nearly 20% from December 31, 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 campaign proceeds above and beyond the value of 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, weekly giving-to-weekly giving -- 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 now, or on or before 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

The Chalice

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

Wednesdays

Community Gathering

6:00 - 7:00 pm | Activities Building

bring a brown bag or purchase 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 Three will focus on Meditation and Centering Prayer. While meditation has been practiced in the Christian tradition since its early days, it fell out of regular use after the reformation. The aim of this kind of prayer is to allow our lives to be transformed as we grow in the openness to the Spirit. This class will include both sitting and walking meditation.

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 three will feature insights shared by Lilly Chu, Consumer Awareness Program Coordinator for the Better Business Bureau Education Foundation. In 2002, she co-founded "FireSeeds," a non-profit organization dedicated to giving underdeveloped communities a "hand up" to independence. They currently work in partnership with "Africa Greater Life Mission" in Kampala, Uganda helping an orphans and widows' village and she frequently travels to East Africa to work with local project leaders. Join us for a discussion on removing barriers and experience how truly we are "more alike than unlike" as we seek to practice spiritual leadership in a multicultural world!

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



Houston
Arboretum &
Nature Center
Nature awaits.

SABBATH SATURDAY

Saturday, April 24
10 am - 2 pm
4501 Woodway
Houston, 77024
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. 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.



Fishers Net Prayer Ministry

A Dialogue with God by Ron Reeser

Transcending Time

Time is a peculiar physical and scientific aspect of the world we live in. During the Spring months, our days seem longer due in part the sun is more visible to the northern hemisphere and with the assistance of Day Light Savings Time, it appears we are given more time to enjoy day light. Does this really give us more time? We still have the same 24 hours to each day and 1440 minutes to spend time doing..... Doing what? Often, even with this extra time, we run out, become drained and tired. One way to remedy this is through prayer. Prayer transcends time and our own physical nature. When we pray, we are able to stop and even add time to our being. We have the power to change time and transcend our physical surroundings. All we need to do is ask. Ask God to stop and provide more time. In Psalm 46:10 (NIV) we are guided by the verse, "Be still, and know that I am God..." When we become still and know God, we are linked with God's time and God's time knows no end, the time is eternal providing us with all the time we need to accomplish God's work now and forever.

This week, be still with God. Align yourself within God and become transcended through time and space. Be still and know the God within you.

Dear Mother, Father Creature God, help me to "Be still and know you are [our] God." Allow my time to transcend yours. Open my heart, mind and soul to your voice within me. Allow me this day and week to reach out to others in their time of need. Help me to feed your people as you continually feed me. Oh my Lord, thank you for giving me the time to be me and honor you. In your many names. Amen.

Do you have a prayer request? Send your requests to 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.



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Cathleen Sheil, MA
Certified Spiritual Director
sacredjourney2@aol.com
713-304-9913



Stewardship Thought for the Week

If you want to know the value of an individual, ask not for the sum of all that s/he owns, but look instead to the total of all that s/he has given.

~ Douglas K. Freeman



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Mary Wagner & Goldie Brown
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 11, 2010

| | | Week | Year |
|--|------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Tithes & Offerings | | | |
| 04/11/10 9:00 am | 114 | \$2,456.00 | \$47,907.07 |
| 04/11/10 11:00 am | 332 | \$6,136.45 | \$100,470.58 |
| 04/07/10 6:30 pm | 20 | \$9.00 | \$1,965.70 |
| Special Services | | | \$1,388.75 |
| Anniversary Offerings | | \$942.00 | \$942.00 |
| Online Giving | | \$817.84 | \$21,200.12 |
| Other Contributions | | \$3,797.00 | \$19,925.54 |
| Total | 466 | \$14,158.29 | \$193,799.76 |
| Other General Fund Income | | | |
| Fundraising | | \$1,476.00 | \$4,567.95 |
| Miscellaneous | | \$476.50 | \$10,734.33 |
| Total Received | | \$16,110.79 | \$209,102.04 |
| Projected Need per Budget | | \$15,955.77 | \$229,880.78 |
| Total Exceeded Need / (Did Not Meet Need) | | 155.02 | (\$20,778.74) |
| Total Imagine Capital Campaign | | \$1,015.00 | \$30,434.52 |



