



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

April 25, 2010

Prelude

Joel Hammett & Anthony White

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Arr. Hayes & Gaspard

+ Our Community Gathers

Rev. Janice Ladd

Mark Eggleston

+ Exchange of Peace

Hymn

We are the Church Alive



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.

Celebrate

We are the church alive! For 38 years, Resurrection MCC has been a place of God's inclusive love.

Today we celebrate our anniversary and we welcome our guest preacher, Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes, Senior Pastor of MCC of Toronto. See his bio on page 7.

+ Invocation

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

Our Vision

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.



2020 Waugh Dr
1974 - 1975



1214 Joe Annie
1975 - 1979



1919 Decatur
1979 - 2000



2025 West 11th St
2000 - Present

Anniversary Litany

Rev. Mona Lopez

One: God, for 38 years you have guided us. You have been present every step of the way: from a small apartment in the Montrose, to Waugh, to Decatur, to West 11th Street.

All: Once we thought we were alone. O God, you have showed us that we were never alone.

One: In December of 1972 the seeds of Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church were planted and weekly meetings were started. These seeds took root and by 1974 our church had become a mission with a group of 25. Growth continued. On Easter Sunday, April 20, 1975, our church was officially chartered with 43 members.

All: O God, we thank you for those early visionaries who believed that from small beginnings great things would come.

One: Through the years, our faith has been refined through fire, death, and flood. In the 70's, the Ku Klux Klan burned a cross on our lawn; Rev. Jeri Ann Harvey received death threats. Beginning in the 80s, hundreds died of AIDS. Our congregation responded with unconditional love and continues to minister unconditionally. In 2001, Tropical Storm Allison displaced us from our Sanctuary and displaced over 50 of our families from their homes. Though many could only see devastation, we looked for grace and with Project Noah we worked faithfully to rebuild our dreams.

All: O God, through the years, You have turned our mourning into dancing.

One: Today, we celebrate where God has taken us for 38 years. We also celebrate where God will take us in coming years. Once we were not a people. We felt like outsiders. Yet you, O God, have called us a chosen people, a holy nation. We are a people who have received mercy. We are made God's own people that we might proclaim the mighty acts of our God who has called us out of sadness and into God's marvelous light.

All: Now we are a people. God's own people. We look back with praise and we look forward with hope. Praise God! Amen.

First Reading

Joel Palomares (9 am)
Marion Kirby (11 am)

Acts 10:9-16

About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat; and while it was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. Then he heard a voice saying, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter said, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean." The voice said to him again, a second time, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

+ **Second Reading**

Rose Wall (9 am)
Lee Walker (11 am)

Matthew 7:24-27

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise one who built their house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish one who built their house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!”

Anthem

Mass Choir
HeavenSound Handbells

Come What May, It is Well

by David Baerwald / Philip Bliss. Arr. Jim Winslett

Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes

Cornerstones

Making Ministry Happen

Rites of New Members

Rev. Janice Ladd
Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Offertory

Mass Choir

Hallelujah to the King

by Jason Webb. Arr. by Brad Henderson.

Communion

Rev. Janice Ladd

Communion Songs

Make Us One

Make us one Lord, make us one; Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your Love flow so the world will know we are one in you.

Soften my heart

Soften my heart, Lord, Soften my heart
From all indifference, Set me apart
To feel your compassion, To weep with your tears
Come soften my heart, O Lord, Soften my heart

**We Hear
the Word**

Jesus closes the Sermon on the Mount with the story of two people and the houses they have chosen to build. The metaphor of the building to describe a life is particularly powerful. One person hears Jesus' words and acts on them, putting them into practice. The other hears Jesus' words and doesn't act on them. Two people, two responses to Jesus' message. The first person is like a house that has been built on a rock. Its foundation is strong and secure and can withstand any assault. The second is like a house built on the sand. Its foundation is weak and unstable and will eventually be destroyed by the storm. This final story summarizes the entire Sermon on the Mount. The message is clear: discipleship occurs in the everyday practices of Jesus' followers. Jesus is not suggesting that a new law replace the old; rather, love for and devotion to God must be accompanied by a life that honors God. Or to put it another way, becoming a follower of Jesus is to decide to become a member of his society and is marked by a willingness to live one's life according to the values and beliefs of that society. One becomes part of the people of God. Jesus' invitation is an invitation to an encounter with God and a different way of living life. This life will provide not only strength in the present to withstand the various storms that come our way but also the final great storm that sees us through to an eternity with the Lord, to and for whom we have lived a life of devotion.

~Richard Beaton

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 Go Forth

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

Communion Songs

Healer of My Soul

Healer of my soul
Keep me at evening
Keep me at morning
Keep me at noon
Healer of my soul

Keeper of my soul
On rough course faring
Help and safeguard my means this day
Keeper of my soul

The Servant Song

Brother, let me be your servant
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I may have the grace
To let you be my servant, too

We are pilgrims on a journey
We are brothers on the road
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load

Healing Rain

Healing rain is coming down
It's coming nearer to this old town
Rich and poor, weak and strong
It's bringing mercy, it won't be long

Healing rain is coming down
It's coming closer to the lost and found
Tears of joy, and tears of shame
Are washed forever in Jesus' name

Healing rain, it comes with fire
So let it fall and take us higher
Healing rain, I'm not afraid
To be washed in Heaven's rain

+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev. Janice Ladd

+ **Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes

Postlude

Joel Hammett

O Day Full of Grace

Arr. Wold

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!

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



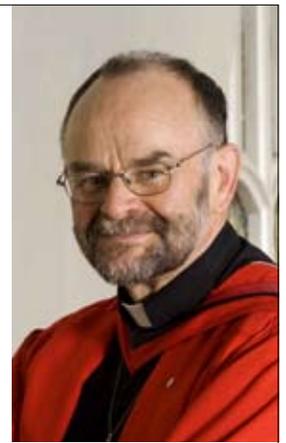
On behalf of all Resurrection MCC members, I would like to send a special thank you to all of those who worked behind the scenes to help make the All Star Texas Comedy Tour a success on Saturday, April 24. A special thank you to Tech AVE for their time and talents in providing the decorations. Also, we would like to thank Kimberly Wright, of Absolutely Divine Catering for donating the food, drinks and table decorations for the VIP Section. Last, but not least, thank you to Vickie Shaw and Jennie McNulty for making Resurrection a 'stop' on their comedy tour. As your Assistant Treasurer/Legacy Gifts Chairperson, I hope everyone enjoyed the event. On behalf of your Board, thank you so much for supporting your church and community - you are truly God's gift to us.

Tricia R. Phillips
Board of Directors

Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes C.M. LLD

Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes C.M. has been the Senior Pastor at the Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto for more than 30 years.

Rev Hawkes is native of Bath, New Brunswick and a graduate of Mount Allison University. He later received a Masters of Divinity degree from Trinity College, University of Toronto and a Doctorate of Ministry degree from Trinity College.



As the Pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto, Rev. Dr. Hawkes has been at the forefront of ministry to the Gay & Lesbian Community in Toronto. He serves as spiritual leader to a faith community of some 800 congregants at regular Sunday worship. As well, he has served the community at large with distinction, championing several Human Rights initiatives, especially benefiting the Gay & Lesbian Community.

In 1994, Rev. Dr. Hawkes received the City of Toronto Award of Merit, the highest civilian award given by the City of Toronto. In 1995, he received a Global Citizen Award from the United Nations Toronto Association, for his work in advancing human rights in Canada. Rev. Dr. Hawkes has also received the Distinguished Service Award from the Metropolitan Community Churches. In Feb of 2008 Rev Dr. Brent Hawkes was awarded the Order of Canada by the Governor General of Canada for his stand on Social Justice and Human Rights within the L.G.B.T. communities, the highest award a country has bestowed on a gay activist.

In the 2009 Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes was presented with an award from the American Psychological Association for exemplifying the values of freedom, fairness and equality under the law and clarity of leadership in advocacy for LGBT people and their families. The New Brunswick Human Rights commission bestowed the honors of "Pioneer of Human Rights Award" for his historic contribution to the advancement of human rights. Most recently, York University present Rev Hawkes with an Honorary Doctorate of Laws for his continuing work activism and human rights in Canada for all.

Rev. Dr. Hawkes is in tireless service of justice for gays and lesbians. He has done this through helping society to better understand and increase awareness and acceptance of the issues affecting this community. He has helped thousands of gays and lesbians and their families come back into spiritual relationship with God.

He has constantly challenged the church to examine important issues, prejudice against gays and lesbians, inclusive language as well as ordination of women. He has played a significant role in promoting the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Canadian Human Rights Act. He was a past co-chair for the Campaign for Equal Families. Rev. Dr. Hawkes has continually championed for equal rights for gays and lesbians and women and has continually challenged the status quo with regards to racism, poverty and housing.

Rev. Dr. Hawkes leads numerous workshops on Church Growth and Conflict Management in the church. He is also regularly called upon for comment from the media with regards to various human-rights related issues.

Rev. Dr. Hawkes lives with his husband of 27 years, John Sproule, in Toronto, Canada.

IMANI VIDA DRUM CIRCLE

**Saturday, May 1
3 - 4:30 pm, Gathering Place**

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

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

Drum Circle is hosted monthly on the first Saturday.

EQUALITY MINISTRY MEETING

**Monday, May 3
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





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 over 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 this special anniversary offering campaign will be used to reduce our budget variance of nearly \$22,000 (see Page 11 of the bulletin). As you can see, total income received as of April 18 is \$21,781.30 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*

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

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 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 Four will focus on Healing Prayer, Intercessory Prayer, and Anointing with Oil. How do we pray for ourselves and for others? And what exactly are we doing? Are we trying to change God’s mind? Are we making ourselves available as channels of grace and healing? This session will address our desires for health and wholeness for ourselves and others. The regular practice of prayer can help us remember both “who we are” and “whose we are.”



OFFERING ONE

April 28 - May 26

THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE: COMING OUT AS A PATH TO SPIRITUAL INTEGRITY

For many LGBTQ Christians, the liberating experience of “coming out” and embracing our true identities as lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgendered or queer brings about another, more painful, “coming out”—a journey away from the churches, beliefs, traditions, and communities that have formed our faith-identities as Christians. What would it mean for us to consider our sexual and gender identities as integral to our Christian identity? To reframe our “coming out” as LGBTQ as rather “coming into” a deeper, more integrated truth of ourselves as faithful disciples of Christ? Grounded in the belief that our Christian discipleship does not preclude, but, in fact, demands, that we live the truth of who we are to the glory of God in Christ, this workshop is designed to facilitate the integration of our sexual, gender, and Christian identities. A commitment to attend most or all sessions is recommended.



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 Four will explore the experiences of LGBT individuals from different countries within the continent of Africa. The presentation will consist of a video chronicling those experiences. Join us for a discussion and exploration of African spiritual perspectives as evidenced in Ancestor reverence. You will 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

The Fundraising Committee



is responsible for organizing special and recurring fundraising events and activities to support the annual operating budget for Resurrection MCC. If you have fundraising experience or want to learn "on the job," we need your assistance. Please send an email to ResourceDevelopment@ResurrectionMCC.org by May 15, 2010.

The Budget Committee is responsible for developing the annual operating budget to be presented to the congregation at the Fall Semi-annual Congregation Meeting in October. If you have strong financial management skills and are interested in identifying and prioritizing Resurrection MCC's 2011 financial needs, please send an e-mail to Treasurer@ResurrectionMCC.org by Sunday, May 9, 2010.



Fishers Net Prayer Ministry

A Dialogue with God by Ron Reeser

I admit, there are some people I interact with that I do not care to hang around or even like. We all have these people. A co-worker, a boss, neighbor, someone at church, whom ever this person, as humans we relate to them as an enemy. So why do I have to love them? I know God has advised me to love them, but why! Why should I even care? When I questioned God about this, I received a very big uh-huh moment. We are all God's children, unique in our own God-like image! When I pray for my enemy, when I pray for those I do not like, when I pray for God to provide, care and love these people, God's love is so powerful that through prayer, hearts, attitudes and situations will transform.

This week, focus on an enemy, anyone who is the thorn in your side. Pray for this person. Ask God to intercede protect and provide for you and this person. Ask for intervention that the Light and Love of God will shine within you both and see what transformations occur after 3, 5 or even 7 days. During this time, focus on Matthew 5:44 "But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..." and parallel verses; Luke 6:27, Luke 23:34, Acts 7:60 and Romans 12:20.

Dear Father, Mother Creator God, I come before you today, now, in this place just as I am. I have those in my life I do not like and though you do not command me to like them, I am commanded to love them. Help me this week and always to love them. Help me to show the Light and Love of Christ to all. This week and always, oh Lord, help me to reach out away from myself and shine your love. 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.

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Stewardship Thought for the Week

*What you are is God's gift to you,
and what you do with what you are
is your gift to God.*

~ George Foster



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Board Members on Duty

Debbie Skelly & Elisa Vega-Burns
Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

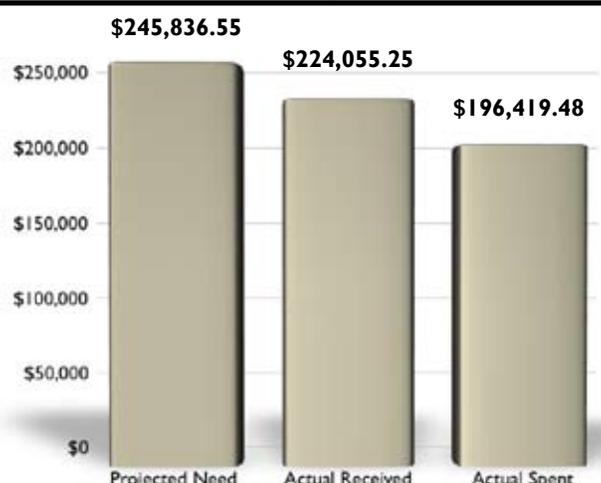
Flowers in the Sanctuary

*In Honor of the new members of our church family. Welcome!
-- Bubbles (aka John Dye) & Marcial Renteria
In Remembrance of Harriett Lindquist, mother of Dan Lindquist,
who passed away on Friday, April 16, 2010.*

General Fund Financial Report

Week Ending April 18, 2010

		Week	Year
Tithes & Offerings			
04/18/10 9:00 am	108	\$2,535.00	\$50,442.07
04/18/10 11:00 am	329	\$7,173.04	\$107,643.62
04/14/10 6:30 pm	32	\$6.00	\$1,971.70
Special Services			\$1,388.75
Special Anniversary Offerings		\$1,128.80	\$2,070.80
Online Giving		\$2,985.37	\$24,185.49
Other Contributions		\$445.00	\$20,370.54
Total	469	\$14,273.21	\$208,072.97
Other General Fund Income			
Fundraising		\$665.00	\$5,232.95
Miscellaneous		\$15.00	\$10,749.33
Total Received		\$14,953.21	\$224,055.26
Projected Need per Budget		\$15,955.77	\$245,836.55
Total Exceeded Need / (Did Not Meet Need)		(\$1,002.56)	(\$21,781.30)
Total Imagine Capital Campaign		\$1,459.34	\$31,893.86



This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

SUNDAY APRIL 25

- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes**
- 10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry *Chapel*
- 10:45 am Youth Ministries Program *Activities Building*
- 11:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes**
- 12:45 pm Pastoral Care Ministers Meeting *Activities Building*
- 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*

MONDAY APRIL 26

- 6:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting *Gathering Place*

TUESDAY APRIL 27

- 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *Sanctuary*

WEDNESDAY APRIL 28

- 6:00 pm The Chalice: Community Gathering *Activities Building*
- 7:00 pm The Chalice: The Way, Truth, & Life *Activities Building*
- 7:00 pm The Chalice: Spiritual Leadership *Activities Building*
- 7:00 pm The Chalice: Spiritual Practice *Chapel*
- 7:00 pm Discovering My Spiritual Gifts *Gathering Place*

THURSDAY APRIL 29

- 7:00 pm Special "Friday" Night OUT *Baba Yega Restaurant*
- 7:00 pm Resurrection Singers Rehearsal *Music Room*

FRIDAY APRIL 30

No Events Scheduled.

SATURDAY MAY 1

- 3:00 pm Imani Vida Drum Circle *Gathering Place*
- 6:30 pm Transgender Unity Banquet *Sheraton Brookhollow*

SUNDAY MAY 2

- 9:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Janice Ladd**
- 10:15 am Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry *Chapel*
- 10:45 am Youth Ministries Program *Activities Building*
- 11:00 am Sunday Worship / Rev. Janice Ladd**
- 1:30 pm HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal *Music Room*