



# Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

May 2, 2010

Prelude

Anthony White

*Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Arranged by Charity B. Putnam

Our Community Gathers

Rev. Janice Ladd

Mark Eggleston

+ Invocation

Rev. Mona Lopez

+ Exchange of Peace

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Hymn

*Sent by the Lord*



Sent by the Lord am I; my hands are ready now to



make the earth the place in which the kingdom comes.



The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain in -



to a world of love, of justice and of peace. The



task is mine to do, to set it truly free. Oh,



help me to obey; help me to do your will.

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

## We Gather

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

Creating a Life That Matters Class

**We Learn**

*Creating a Life that Matters* is a three-course curriculum which explores ways to rediscover relationship with the Sacred, with my Self, and with my Passion. These three courses correspond to the spiritual experiences of being changed, gifted and called. Graduates will have been challenged to broaden their understanding of all that is Sacred; integrate their self-awareness into being authentic, aware leaders; and live their passion intentionally through the life and work of the church. *Creating a Life that Matters* integrates art, scripture, music, film, journaling, and diverse spiritual resources to augment our exploration of the Christian path.

*Creating a Life That Matters* was facilitated by Rev. Pat Farnan, Kecia Bullock & Joy Jolley.

**One:** We gather to celebrate the accomplishments of members of our community.

**All:** We give blessing to you for all that you have achieved and your achievements yet to come.

**One:** We celebrate your rediscovery of the Sacred.

*Disciples:* We have exchanged empty religious practices for an encounter with the Sacred; rediscovering the loving God with our heart, soul & mind.

**All:** We give praise to God.

**One:** We celebrate your rediscovery of the Self.

*Disciples:* We have explored our influences and worked to create a Self that we want to live with, others will want to relate to, and God will be able to use in service of that which is Sacred.

**All:** We give praise to God.

**One:** We celebrate your rediscovery of your Passion.

*Disciples:* We have worked to manage internal and external factors that influence our success. We have found the gift of power, energy and joy as we serve the Sacred through the church.

**All:** We give praise to God.

**One:** Let us pray.

Presentation of the Graduates

Response

*I Will Change Your Name*

I will change your name, you shall no longer be called  
 I will change your name, your new name shall be called  
 wounded, out-cast, lonely or afraid.  
 confidence, joyfulness, overcoming one.  
 faithfulness, friend of God, one who seeks my face.

## First Reading

Vickey Gibbs (9 am)  
Gemma Burns (11 am)

### *Acts 11:1-18*

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, ‘Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?’ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ‘I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ If then God gave them the same gift that God gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God? When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, ‘Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.’

## + Second Reading

Kedric Brown (9 am)  
Karla Johnson (11 am)

### *John 13:31-35*

When he had gone out, Jesus said, ‘Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in God and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

## Anthem

Gospel Ensemble

### *Order My Steps (In Your Word)* by Glenn Burleigh

## Spiritual Encouragement

Rev. Janice Ladd

### *From the Inside Out*

## We Hear the Word

The books of Acts demonstrates that it takes a long time for the community of the early Christ-followers to accept Gentiles whom they have culturally been conditioned to see as both "profane" and "unclean." Acts 11:1-18 contains Peter's retelling of his experience in Acts 10, in which Peter learns the hard but important lesson of not calling any human being "impure" or "unclean." It is a hard lesson for Peter because God actually has to repeat the miracle and the message to Peter three times to get it through Peter's hard head. In both passages where Peter's experience is narrated, we are told that Peter comes up not only with a counter argument to defy the divine voice, but also a justification of his resistance as a matter of following "time-honored" tradition (Acts 10:14; 11:8). Just as Peter has resisted the divine voice repeatedly, Peter himself will need to retell his story many times before others become willing to accept those they have long been taught to despise and fear. In addition to Acts 11:1-18, Peter will allude to his experience with the non-Jew Cornelius and Cornelius' household again in Acts 15:6-8. All these repetitions for Peter and by Peter show that going against long-held traditions and assumptions is a lengthy process for most people.

*Out in Scripture,  
5th Sunday of Easter,  
Year C.*

## 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.

## Making Ministry Happen

Marcial Renteria , Carlos Rivera, Jose Zuniga

## Offertory

Forever Blest

### *Life's Railway to Heaven / Ride That Glory Train*

by Charles Tillman and J.R. Baxter / by Baker Knight

## Communion

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

## Communion Songs

### *They will know we are Christians by our love*

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord  
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love  
Yes, they will know we are Christians by our love  
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand  
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand  
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love  
Yes, they will know we are Christians by our love  
We will work with each other, we will work side by side  
We will work with each other, we will work side by side  
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love  
Yes, they will know we are Christians by our love

### *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

### *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

### *We are Standing on Holy Ground*

We are standing on holy ground,  
and I know that there are angels all around.  
Let us praise the Creator now,  
We are standing in God's presence on holy ground.

## + Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

## + Benediction

Rev. Janice Ladd

## Postlude

Joel Hammett

### *Duke Street*

Arr. Held

## 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!**

# WORSHIP ARTS

Resurrection MCC is so blessed to have a number of groups to minister at our worship services. Auditions are not required, but a desire to worship and share is. Feel free to visit any rehearsals to see which group might be the right place for you to serve.

## GOSPEL ENSEMBLE

Tuesdays • 7 pm

Directed by Cassandra White, this group sings music in the African-American Gospel tradition, traditional Spirituals and contemporary music of all types. Reading music is not required for this group, but the ability to match pitch and sing a part separate from the melody is.

## SANCTUARY CHOIR

Tuesdays • 7 pm

Directed by Steven Ponder, this group sings mostly traditional church choral music with some contemporary music added from time to time. Reading music is not required for this group, but the ability to match pitch and sing a part separate from the melody is.

## RESURRECTION SINGERS

Thursdays • 7 pm

This small vocal ensemble serves as both a corporate worship leadership team for congregational song, and sharing through a wide variety of styles of music. Reading music is very helpful and regular rehearsal participation is required.

## ANGELS IN MOTION

This group is a dance troupe that ministers through dance and movement. This group has its own choreographers. Experience in dance is not necessary, if one has the willingness to learn.

## HEAVENSOUND HANDBELLS

Sundays • 1:30 pm

Currently there are several open spots in the handbell choir. Interested people need to have some music reading skills. Experience in ringing is not required. The director, Jim Winslett, will teach anyone the techniques of ringing.

## ADESTE PRAISE BAND

Sundays • 8:00 am

This group provides corporate leadership in worship through accompanying congregational song and pieces from other ensembles. Moderate to advanced level of proficiency on your instrument required.

If you have interest in any of these groups, please email our interim Director of Worship, Cassandra White, [Cassandra@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Cassandra@ResurrectionMCC.org)

## Why Become a Legacy Giver?



- To stimulate our worship experience through audio/visual enhancements.
- To forge new friendships through a revitalized, enlarged Welcome Center.
- To design a space that will transform lives by converting the Activities Building into the Life Development Center.
- To create committed leaders for tomorrow through expanded children and youth programs.
- To inspire adults to vitality and wholeness through increased education, wellness, community involvement, and spiritual growth opportunities.
- To reach millions with the *Would Jesus Discriminate?* billboard and marketing campaign.
- To impact the lives of those oppressed through further partnerships with organizations focused on social justice.
- To create financial health and long-term stability through increased payments on our debt.

**Commitment cards may be picked up at The Concierge Desk and Sanctuary entrances. Please return in offering basket or by mail.**

## 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.



Care for our environment by recycling newspapers, magazines, catalogs and junk mail in the containers in our parking lot. We now have two collection bins as this program grows. We receive cash based on the weight collected.



## 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](mailto:PastoralSearchCommittee@ResurrectionMCC.org)

## 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](mailto:Equality@ResurrectionMCC.org)



## "Second Sunday" Friend-Raiser Brunch

Sunday, May 16  
Breezeway 12:30 pm

Enjoy burgers and hotdogs  
and meet some new friends.



*Proceeds benefit Resurrection General Fund*

## Friday Night OUT North



Friday, May 14, 7 pm

Olive Garden in The Woodlands  
26715 I-45 North, Spring, TX 77380  
281-363-1288

Make new friends and reconnect with those you know over a shared meal at our newest social gathering, Friday Night OUT North!

RSVP to  
[FridayNightOUTNorth@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:FridayNightOUTNorth@ResurrectionMCC.org)

*Friday Night OUT North meets  
on the second Fridays of each month.*

# General Conference



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

### Registration

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

### Location

Fairmont Acapulco Princess  
[www.fairmont.com/acapulco](http://www.fairmont.com/acapulco)  
800.441.1414  
506.863.6301

Group Name: UFMCC 2010 General Conference

### Contact Information

[conferences@mccchurch.net](mailto:conferences@mccchurch.net)  
Jennifer Justice, 213.447.2953  
Carlos Chavez, 310.489.3899

# 2010

**JUNE 28-JULY 2**



[www.generalconference.mccchurch.org](http://www.generalconference.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 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 celebrated 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 over \$15,000 (see Page 11 of the bulletin). As you can see, total income received as of April 25 is \$15,103.63 less than what was projected for this 17-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

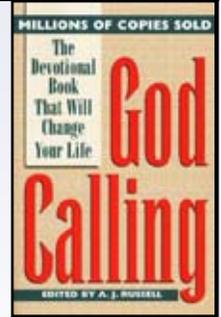
7:00 - 8:30 pm | Activities Building

## OFFERING TWO

May 5 - 26

### GOD CALLING

In the winter of 1932, two anonymous Christian women – “Two Listeners” – began the simple practice of expectant Listening through companionship with one another and in devotion to Christ. The messages they heard have been formulated into the classic daily devotional *God Calling*. Heed the invitation “Leave Me out of nothing. Love all My ways with you.” (May 1) With *God Calling* as our guide, we will devote ourselves to openly read the daily messages, to listen for Christ’s voice in our heart, and to hear our own soul reply through prayer and journaling. On Wednesday evenings, we will share through the simple practices of reflection and prayer, our journeys in response to God’s calling.



## 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." The final session will celebrate the experiences of LGBT individuals from different Latino and Hispanic cultures. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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.*



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### Stewardship Thought for the Week

*How we live ordinary days is as important as how we live our big moments. Each day is a new challenge and provides new experiences. Choose to be positive, to believe in people, to give, to share and to make the most of every ordinary day.*

~ Marlowe H. Schaffner



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**Board Members on Duty**  
Karla Johnson & Tricia Phillips  
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 25, 2010

		Week	Year
<b>Tithes &amp; Offerings</b>			
04/25/10 9:00 am	136	\$1,789.50	\$52,231.57
04/25/10 11:00 am	346	\$6,404.40	\$114,048.02
04/21/10 6:30 pm	38	\$69.00	\$2,040.70
Special Services			\$1,388.75
Special Anniversary Offerings		\$7,709.80	\$9,780.60
Online Giving		\$1,711.61	\$25,897.10
Other Contributions		\$1,718.88	\$22,089.42
<b>Total</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>\$19,403.19</b>	<b>\$227,476.16</b>
<b>Other General Fund Income</b>			
Fundraising		\$2,304.00	\$7,536.95
Miscellaneous		\$926.25	\$11,675.58
<b>Total Received</b>		<b>\$22,633.44</b>	<b>\$246,688.69</b>
<b>Projected Need per Budget</b>		<b>\$15,955.77</b>	<b>\$261,792.32</b>
<b>Total Exceeded Need / (Did Not Meet Need)</b>		<b>\$6,677.67</b>	<b>(\$15,103.63)</b>
<b>Total Imagine Capital Campaign</b>		<b>\$5,495.00</b>	<b>\$37,388.86</b>



# This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

## 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*

## MONDAY MAY 3

6:30 pm    Equality Ministry Meeting *Gathering Place*

## TUESDAY MAY 4

7:00 pm    Houston Bar Orchestra Rehearsal *Activities Building*  
 7:00 pm    Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal *Music Room*  
 7:00 pm    Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *Sanctuary*

## WEDNESDAY MAY 5

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: God Calling *Activities Building*

## THURSDAY MAY 6

7:00 pm    Pastoral Search Committee Open Mtg *Gathering Place*  
 7:00 pm    Resurrection Singers Rehearsal *Music Room*

## FRIDAY MAY 7

No Events Scheduled.

## SATURDAY MAY 8

No Events Scheduled.

## SUNDAY MAY 9

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