



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

August 8, 2010

Prelude

Cassandra White

I am that, I am
by Cassandra White

Our Community Gathers

Rev. Janice Ladd
Mark Eggleston

+ Hymn

We are the Church Alive



1. We are the Church A - live, Christ's pres - ence on this earth; We
 2. We are the Church A - live, Our faith has set us free; No
 3. We are the Church A - live, All praise to God on high. Cre -

give God's Spi - rit bo - dy in the act of our new birth. As
 more en - slaved by guilt and shame we live our li - ber - ty! We
 a - tor, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er! We laud and mag - ni - fy Your

yield - ed o - pen chan - nels for God's de - scend - ing dove, We
 fol - low Christ's ex - am - ple and free - dom now pro - claim, De -
 name, Al - might - y God of love; Pray, give us life that we May

shout and sing, with joy we bring God's all in - clu - sive love.
 stroy - ing myths of doubt and fear in Je - sus' might - y name.
 be your Church, the Church A - live, For all e - ter - ni - ty.

+ Invocation

Rev. Janice Ladd

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

Church Alive

Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church, like all MCCs around the world, is founded on the basic core values of inclusivity, community, spiritual transformation, and social justice. The Holy Spirit breathed into this denomination the truth that everyone, every single person, is a beloved child of God. And when you get it in your heart, mind, and soul that you are beloved by the source of life, the source of love, then as Jesus said, "you will do even greater things!"

Throughout August we will reflect on how to step out with intentionality and bring our core beliefs to life through our daily spiritual practices. We will renew our call to be the Church Alive so that we can participate in God's transformational love for the world.

We will study five practices, grounded in our core beliefs that will guide us in our call to be the Church Alive: Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Spiritual Transformation, Compassionate Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity. These practices open our heart—to God, to others, to a life that matters, a life rich with meaning, relationship, and contribution. They help form us so that we may bring that forward as the Church Alive: Christ's presence on this earth!

We Listen

Worship brings us back to ourselves. People frequently describe worship as the activity during their week that centers them, grounds them, connects them, or anchors them. All these words reveal the risk we feel of losing touch, becoming distracted, unfocused, and disconnected, or living haphazard and harried lives rather than feeling rooted and grounded in what really matters.

In worship we “sing our shadows home,” as an ancient Native American story tells. We come back to ourselves.

Worship carves out a time to focus on the larger questions of life, of end and purpose. It lifts our eyes beyond the immediate and tangible to look at life from a wider perspective. We have time to reflect, anticipate, reprioritize, and to push the reset button in our spiritual lives when we might otherwise veer off course from our most vital relationships. A tragic undercurrent of our culture is how many people feel lost within their families, within their communities, within their world.

Worship provides purpose, correction, and a sense of community. Worship helps us catch our breath, prepare, reunite, and renew. Worship provides a way by which we let ourselves be found, a way to find God, and to find ourselves.

~ Robert Schnase,
*Five Practices of
Fruitful Living*

First Reading

Carlos Rivera (9 am)
Elizabeth Conyer (11 am)

Psalm 101:1-8

My theme song is God's love and justice, and I'm singing it right to you, GOD. I'm finding my way down the road of right living, but how long before you show up? I'm doing the very best I can, and I'm doing it at home, where it counts. I refuse to take a second look at corrupting people and degrading things. I reject made-in-Canaan gods, stay clear of contamination. The crooked in heart keep their distance; I refuse to shake hands with those who plan evil. I put a gag on the gossip who bad-mouths his neighbor; I can't stand arrogance. But I have my eye on salt-of-the-earth people— they're the ones I want working with me; men and women on the straight and narrow— these are the ones I want at my side. But no one who traffics in lies gets a job with me; I have no patience with liars. I've rounded up all the wicked like cattle and herded them right out of the country. I purged GOD's city of all who make a business of evil.

Musical Interlude

We Are the Body of Christ

One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you.

We are the body of Christ.

One goal, one vision: To see you exalted. We are the body of Christ.

And to this we give our lives to see you glorified.

One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you.

We are the body of Christ.

+ Second Reading

Terry Talley (9 am)
Michael Fernandez (11 am)

John 4:21-24

Believe me, woman, the time is coming when you Samaritans will worship the Creator neither here at this mountain nor there in Jerusalem. You worship guessing in the dark; we Jews worship in the clear light of day. God's way of salvation is made available through the Jews. But the time is coming—it has, in fact, come—when what you're called will not matter and where you go to worship will not matter. It's who you are and the way you live that count before God. Your worship must engage your spirit in the pursuit of truth. That's the kind of people the Creator is out looking for: those who are simply and honestly themselves in their worship. God is sheer being itself—Spirit. Those who worship God must do it out of their very being, their spirits, their true selves, in adoration.

Anthem

Sanctuary Choir

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
by Craig Courtney

Spiritual Encouragement

Cassandra White

Church Alive: Passionate Worship

Musical Interlude

We Are the Body of Christ

One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you.
We are the body of Christ.
One goal, one vision: To see you exalted. We are the body of Christ.
And to this we give our lives to see you glorified.
One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you.
We are the body of Christ.

Making Ministry Happen

"Mable and Lavern"

Offertory

Sanctuary Choir

Safe Within Your Arms
by Mark Hayes

Communion

Rev. Mona Lopez

Communion Songs

Come Just as You Are

Come just as you are, Hear the spirit call
Come just as you are, Come and see
Come receive, come and live forever.

Life everlasting and strength for today
Taste the living water and never thirst again

More Precious than Silver

Lord, you are more precious than silver.
Lord, you are more costly than gold.
Lord, you are more beautiful than diamonds,
and nothing I desire compares with you.

**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.

Prayer

If you are in need of prayer support, you can find prayer partners available during our time of communion or after worship in the right wing of the Sanctuary. You can also release your prayers to God by placing them in the Prayer Wall.

One Bread One Body

(chorus)

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman and man, no more. *(chorus)*

Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. *(chorus)*

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one, for all. *(chorus)*

Take My Life

Holiness, holiness is what I long for. Holiness is what I need.
Holiness, holiness is what You want from me.
Faithfulness, faithfulness is what I long for. Faithfulness is what I need.
Faithfulness, faithfulness is what You want from me.

So take my heart; conform it. Take my mind; transform it.
Take my will; conform it to Yours, to Yours, oh Lord.
Righteousness, righteousness is what I long for. Righteousness is what I need.
Righteousness, righteousness is what You want from me.

So take my heart; conform it. Take my mind; transform it.
Take my will; conform it to Yours, to Yours, oh Lord.

Holy Ground

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

+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev. Mona Lopez

+ **Benediction**

Cassandra White

THE PRACTICE OF
PASSIONATE
WORSHIP

Opening Prayer

O God,
Now we come
together, awaiting
further instruction
from Your Word.
Teach us here
what we need to
know in order to
live faithfully in
this world. Lead us
beyond the routines
of worship to a
genuine, life changing
encounter with you.
Amen

~ Cassandra White

Daily Scripture
Readings

Sun - Psalm 86
Mon - Psalm 95
Tue - Psalm 96
Wed - Psalm 99
Thu - Psalm 100
Fri - Psalm 102
Sat - Psalm 132

Closing Prayer

God,
We invite you into our
lives as we receive Your
gracious love for us
through Your Radical
Hospitality. Through
our Passionate
Worship we love you
in return. May our
hearts and minds be
changed. Grow us in
grace all the more.
Lead us into more
fruitful living, as we
live Radical Hospitality,
practice Passionate
Worship and begin
anew to intentionally
develop our faith.

~ Cassandra White

CHURCH A LOVE: In My Life

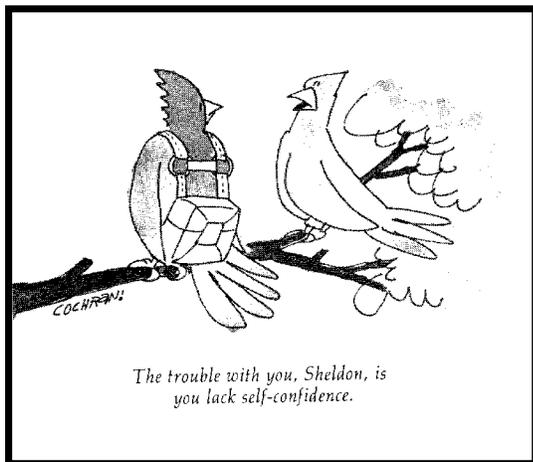
Sunday, August 8 - Saturday, August 14
Spiritual Maturity, Transformation and Application

Opening Essay

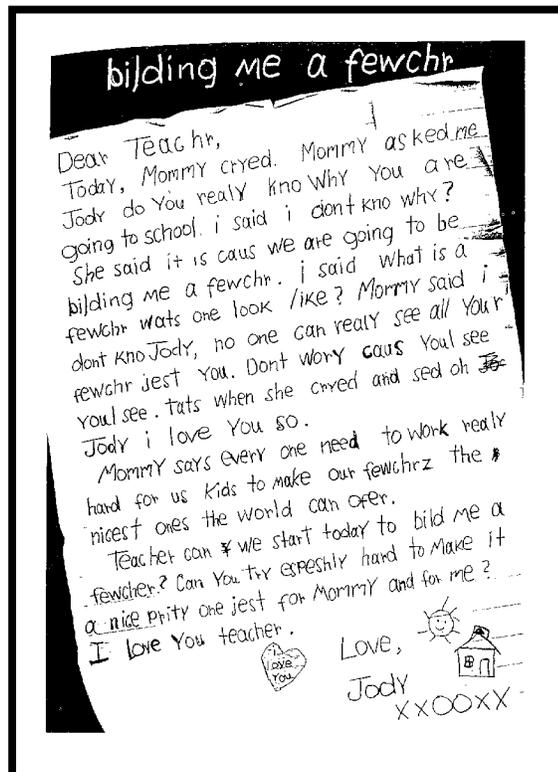
Passionate Worship

Passionate Worship begins within us. It is not just a Sunday thing. Passionate Worship is a daily event. It requires thought and intention. It requires being active and being still. There may be somethings that we will need to release in order for us to Worship with Passion daily. The way we walk, talk, give, live, love, sleep and eat are all connected to Passionate Worship. At first, the process might seem a bit daunting, but with persistence and perseverance, before we realize it, we are 'there.' The question is, are we willing to stop being mediocre people of God? The road to greatness is not easy, but in the end we will come out as pure gold. Is it worth it? Let's take a chance to totally transform our lives to one of Passionate Worship. When the going gets tough, don't throw in the towel. See it through! Our determination just might be the thing that someone else needs in order for them to succeed.

~ Cassandra White



The trouble with you, Sheldon, is
you lack self-confidence.



CHURCH ALIVE: Sacred Reading

Anybody can observe the Sabbath, but making it holy surely takes the rest of the week.

~ Alice Walker, *Songs of Wisdom*

When you lose the rhythm of the drumbeat of God, you are lost from the peace and rhythm of life.

~ Cheyenne Proverb, *Native American Wisdom*

If there is light in the soul, there will be beauty in the person. If there is beauty in the person, there will be harmony in the house. If there is harmony in the house, there will be order in the nation. If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.

~ Chinese Proverb, *Chicken Soup for the Soul*

Understanding the meaning of worship requires looking beyond what people do to see with the eyes of faith what God does. God uses worship to transform lives, heal wounded souls, renew hope, shape decisions, provoke change, inspire compassion, and bind people to one another. We don't attend worship to squeeze God into our lives; we seek to meld our lives into God's.

~ Robert Schnase, *Cultivating Fruitfulness*

Don't be afraid to go out on a limb. That's where the fruit is.

~ Anonymous, *42 Gifts I'd Like to Give to You*

CHURCH ALIVE: Spiritual Maturity and Application

For this week make a date with God each day and take at least one symbolic, yet real, action to "worship passionately".

- Play your favorite secular love song, sing it as unto God.
- At each meal, remember the passion of God's love for you offered through the communion table.
- Sit silently for 20 minutes, seeking God's presence.
- Light a votive and say a prayer for the worship participants for the month of August.
- Try listening to Praise 92.1 FM or KSBJ 89.3 FM to find a song that speaks to your relationship with God.
- Next Sunday, join in the congregational singing and reflect on how it promotes community.

~ Cassandra White

CHURCH ALIVE: Over Lunch

TODAY: Resurrection MCC

Activities Building

Join our Board Members after Sunday Worship in August to enjoy a meal, discuss the sermon series and meet new friends.

Looking Ahead:

- Karla and Wayne on August 15 at **Juanita's Mexican Restaurant**
- DeJuana and Mary on August 22 at **Java Java Cafe**
- Tricia and Elisa on August 29 at **Golden Island**

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

Sara@ResurrectionMCC.org (x112)

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 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 & 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 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. Metropolitan Community Churches, founded in 1968, is a human-rights movement and ministry operating as a Christian denomination in 22 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.

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. We embrace four core values:

Core Values

Inclusion

Love is our greatest moral value and resisting exclusion is a primary focus of our ministry. We want to continue to be the conduits of a faith where everyone is included in the family of God, and where all parts of our being are welcomed at God's table.

Community

Offering a safe and open community for people to worship, learn and grow in their faith is our deep desire. We are committed to equipping ourselves and each other to do the work that God has called us to do in the world.

Spiritual Transformation

Providing a message of liberation from the oppressive religious environment of our day or to those experiencing God for the first time is what guides our ministry. We believe that when people are invited to experience God through the life and ministry of Christ, lives will be transformed.

Social Action

Working to talk less and do more, we are committed to resisting the structures that oppress people and standing with those who suffer under the weight of oppressive systems, being guided always by our commitment to Global Human Rights.

SEASON OF SERVICE

Sign-Ups & Spiritual Renewal
Sunday | August 15 | 12:30 - 2 pm | Activities Building

No Experience Required!

Come and see all the ways you can get involved in ministry and then step out and try it on for three months! Join Rev. Janice, Rev. Kristen and Ministry Team Leads for sign-ups, ministry updates, and a time of spiritual renewal as we commit our time and talents to God's people this Fall!

All new and returning volunteers are invited to sign-up and share their gifts...

- Children & Youth Teachers & Assistants, Nursery Angels
- Welcome Team, Ushers, Concierge, Inspirations
- Communion Servers, Prayer Ministers, Scripture Readers

Lunch will be provided so please RSVP to Connections@ResurrectionMCC.org.



Landscape & Facilities

"Season of Service"

Sign-up on August 15 in the Activities Building for something new...
 A "Season of Service" for our campus!

This is a new way for you to lend a hand to help maintain and clean our church home.

Serve once a month for three months!

Outside Work: Drop by when you can, or when staff is on campus to weed-eat, trim tree limbs, or trim shrubbery. Materials supplied when staff is present.

Inside Work: Drop by when staff is on campus to vacuum, clean windows, or clean glass. All materials supplied.

*What a way to help out on your own time!
 What a way to help your church!*

For additional information, e-mail Joy@ResurrectionMCC.org

DISCOVERING MY SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Wednesdays, August 11, 7 - 8:30 pm
 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. The goal of this class is to help participants discover and develop their spiritual gifts, place them in meaningful ministry opportunities that best suit their unique gifts and abilities, and stimulate 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. RSVP and questions to Connections@ResurrectionMCC.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

for Masquerade Ball Fundraiser Planning Committee

This team will assist with preparations for our Masquerade Ball on Saturday, October 30, 2010. For questions and to volunteer, contact Tricia Phillips at Masquerade@ResurrectionMCC.org

TAKE 2.....SHARE 1

During the month of August, all Children & Youth kids, along with a parent or guardian, will be able to take home and share books from our children's book shelves. Just stop by Room 110 in the Activities Building after church each Sunday and browse our selection of books.

For each one you get for yourself, take one for a brother, sister, or friend!

Don't forget....they're yours to keep, but read one and share one!

MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WORSHIP ARTS DEPARTMENT ARE NEEDED!



If you are a: singer, pianist, organist, hand bell ringer and you read music and/or have had some form of musical introduction at some time in your life - the Worship Arts Department needs you!!!! If you are looking for a way to serve and the Worship Arts Department intrigues you - the Worship Arts Department needs you!!!! Offering a range of styles in our music choices is reflective of the wonderful diversity of our MCC community. To find out more information on how you can become a committed and dedicated member of any or all of the various ministries of the Worship Arts Department, please contact the Director of Worship, Cassandra White at Cassandra@ResurrectionMCC.org or 713-861-9149 x109

CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES · COME ON! KINDRED SPIRITS

30 YEARS OF SUPPORTING WOMEN @ THEIR FRIENDS

Our 2010 Beneficiaries:
 AssistHers · Bering Support Network
 Houston Buyers Club · LHI

SO BRING YOUR GOOD TIMES, AND YOUR LAUGHTER TOO!

Tickets will be available after the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services in the Gathering Place on Aug. 8 & Aug. 22

Kindred Spirits Celebration Dance
 Saturday, August 28, 2010
 7:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.
 SPJST Lodge • 1435 Beall Street • Houston, TX 77008
 Music by DJ Joy De La O

Tickets: \$20 in advance • \$25 at the door
www.kindredspirithouston.org

Look for Kindred Spirits on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kindredspirits)

HEAVENSOUND HANDBELL CHOIR currently has openings!



This is a great time to join as we are gearing up for our Fall concert! You don't have to have handbell experience, but you DO need good music reading skills. We rehearse on Sunday afternoons from 1:30-3:30 in the Sanctuary. If you've always thought you might be a ding-a-ling, now's the time to share that gift! Email Jim (Director) at Heavensound@ResurrectionMCC.org or contact Cassandra at Cassandra@ResurrectionMCC.org

The Chalice

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

Community Gathering

6:00 - 7:00 pm | Activities Building

Bring a brown bag and purchase a drink from Inspirations Coffee Cafe while you meet new friends.

Life Development Offerings

The Artist's Way Open Door Discussion

7:00 - 8:30 pm | Activities Building

SIP FROM THE CHALICE

Rules of the Road

Useful in dealing with any form of criticism:

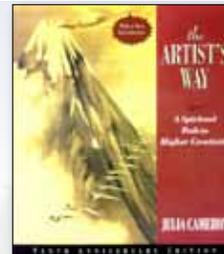
1. Receive the criticism all the way through and get it over with.
2. Jot down notes to yourself on what concepts or phrases bother you.
3. Jot down notes on what concepts or phrases seem useful.
4. Do something very nurturing for yourself—read an old good review or recall a compliment.
5. Remember that even if you have made a truly rotten piece of art, it may be a necessary stepping-stone to your next work. Art matures spasmodically and requires ugly-duckling growth stages.
6. Look at the criticism again. Does it remind you of any criticism from your past—particularly shaming childhood criticism? Acknowledge to yourself that the current criticism is triggering grief over a long-standing wound.
7. Write a letter to the critic—not to be mailed, most probably. Defend your work and acknowledge what was helpful, if anything, in the criticism proffered.
8. Get back on the horse. Make an immediate commitment to do something creative..
9. Do it. Creativity is the only cure for criticism.

-- excerpted from The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity by Julia Cameron

OFFERING ONE

Week 7 of 12 : Open to All

The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity



For most of us, the idea that the creator encourages creativity is a radical thought. We tend to think, or at least fear, that creative dreams are egotistical, something God wouldn't approve of for us ... This thinking must be undone. No matter what your age or your life path, whether making art is your career or your hobby or your dream, it is not too late or too egotistical or too selfish or too silly to work on your creativity. What we are talking about is an induced – or invited – spiritual experience: we undertake certain spiritual exercises to achieve alignment with the creative energy of the universe.

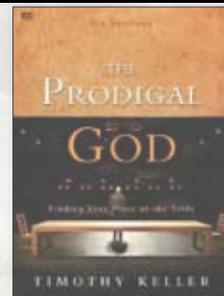
– from The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity by Julia Cameron

The Artist's Way is a spiritual workshop aimed at freeing people's creativity. Based upon the popular book by Julia Cameron, Rev. Kristen and Juanita Hicks will facilitate this 12-week course in discovering and recovering your creative self. The Artist's Way is for everybody! No artistic skill or experience is necessary! Purchase of the book and participation in the majority of the 12 sessions is encouraged but not required. RSVP and questions to RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org or 713-861-9149 x104.

OFFERING TWO

Ongoing: Open to All

Open Door Discussion – "The Prodigal God"



Join us for this new 6 - part open door discussion mini series. Based on Luke 15!

Pastor and New York Times bestselling author Timothy Keller opens your eyes to the powerful message of Jesus' best-known—and least understood—parable. The Prodigal God is a revelation of the very heart of the gospel: God's radical love for people of every kind. Dr. Keller helps you glean insights from each of the characters in Jesus' parable: the irreligious younger son, the moralistic elder son, and the Heavenly Parent who lavishes love on both. The Prodigal God will challenge the devout and the skeptic alike to see Christianity in a whole new way.

The Open Door Discussion Series is a facilitated open discussion which uses the short NOOMA films and other Flannel DVDs as a jumping-off place for personal reflection and shared engagement with our journeys of faith and spiritual growth. The Open Door Discussions are not classes; they are opportunities for us to gather and share our spiritual lives with one another. All are welcome to attend one, some, or all sessions of this DVD-Based Faith Discussion Series! RSVP and questions to RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org or 713-861-9149 x104.



Pastoral Search Committee Update

July 22, 2010

Application packets have been received!

The Pastoral Search Committee has begun the applicant review and screening process. This phase of the pastoral search process is scheduled to be completed by August 15, 2010.

Please continue to pray for our patience, discipline, wisdom and discernment to nominate the right person for election to Resurrection MCC Senior Pastor. As always, if you have any questions regarding the pastoral search process, please feel free to contact us at PastoralSearchCommittee@ResurrectionMCC.org.

Yours in Christ,
The Resurrection MCC Pastoral Search Committee

Metropolitan Community Churches Celebrates as California's Proposition 8 is Ruled Unconstitutional

August 4, 2010 - Metropolitan Community Churches lifts its voice in celebration with voices from around the world today as the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California ruled Proposition 8 unconstitutional. "Although we know the case will likely be appealed, today we celebrate a step forward in the return to marriage equality for all citizens of California, and a step closer to marriage equality all over the United States of America," said MCC Moderator The Reverend Elder Nancy Wilson. "Our federal courts have finally acknowledged what we have known all along: fundamental rights exist only when they are enjoyed by all people, without qualification."

Proposition 8 denies lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals in California the right to equal marriage. "People of faith along with a large and diverse group of fair-minded people agree that excluding any group of people from marriage or any other basic right is wrong," commented The Reverend Jim Merritt, Marriage Equality Coordinator for MCC's Global Justice Team.

Leaders and members of Metropolitan Community Church have been involved in the struggle for Marriage Equality for over four decades, among them MCC Founder Rev. Troy Perry, who performed the first public same-sex wedding in the United States in 1969, and Rev. Dr. Neil Thomas, Senior Pastor of MCC Los Angeles and President of California Faith for Equality, and Rev. Roland Stringfellow, Coordinator of the Coalition of Welcoming Congregations in the Bay Area of California.

The Reverend Dr. Lea Brown, Pastor of MCC in San Francisco said, "All of us at MCC in San Francisco are giving thanks for today's decision for equality and fairness for LGBT people in California. We have always known those who oppose marriage equality based on religious faith would never have the last word. We are celebrating this victory in court today and giving thanks for huge step forward. We will keep on keeping on because we know this is not the end of the road."

Metropolitan Community Churches continues to stand for Marriage Equality and for full equality and justice for all people both in the United States and around the world. For additional information about MCC, visit www.MCCchurch.org.

Church Leaders Needed

DO YOU:

- Communicate well with small and large groups?
- Have good organizational skills?
- Work well as part of a team?
- Have a financial or legal background?
- Have a desire to spread God's unconditional love?

If so, you may have what it takes to be a part of Resurrection's Board of Directors or Lay Delegates!

Ask God if now is the time for you to be part of a dynamic team committed to moving Resurrection forward. If the answer is "YES," applications will be available online on August 15. The application deadline is September 15.

Send questions to Nominating@ResurrectionMCC.org

AUGUST 8



Fishers Net Prayer Ministry

A Dialogue with God by Ron Reeser

Different cultures, families and religious groups have different perspectives and methods when it comes to the topic of prayer. Some Buddhist do not pray, but practice a meditation flow which is closely related to prayer. The Islamic faith consists of six prayer times per day and four times when it is forbidden to pray. If I were to join another religious prayer structure, I think I would join a group of Sikhism people. A Sikh person prays before and after meals and before and after conducting a specific tasks; asking God for support and help for the task at hand. So as a Christian, when should and should not we pray? Paul instructs us in Thessalonians 1 "pray without ceasing" and in Ephesians 2 "...pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests..." In essence, all our thoughts should be prayer-like as our thoughts become words and our words become actions. Be mindful of your thoughts, as your thoughts are prayers to God. God knows your heart. God hears your sighs before you sigh. Be connected to God in all you think, say and do. Pray with thoughtfulness and may your thoughts be prayerful.

Dear Creator Sustainer Protector God, thank you for open communications with you. Thank you that when ever and whenever I can reach out and communicate with you. Thank you for your guidance, protection and Grace. Be with me this week and help me be mindful of my thoughts and communications with others as they are reflective of you. Allow me to shine your Light from within for all to see. Oh God, I thank you. Amen.

11 Thessalonians 5:17, 2 Ephesians 6:18

If you need prayer for yourself or someone you know, please join us each Sunday in the Chapel between services or near the Prayer Wall after 11 am for one-on-one personal prayer.

You can also send an email to Prayers@ResurrectionMCC.org or place a note in the Prayer Request box located in the Narthex. When a request is received, it is immediately prayed over by the Fishers Net Prayer team and once a week, a Prayers and Praises email blast is sent to more than 347 people praying together.

Growing stronger in Christ and realizing our Prayers together.

Save the Date! Give yourself a Spiritual Boost!



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Stewardship Thought for the Week

The environment you fashion out of your thoughts, your beliefs, your ideals, your philosophy, is the only climate you will ever live in.

~ Alfred A. Montapert

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Ads@ResurrectionMCC.org

Board Members on Duty

Tricia Phillips and Elisa Vega-Burns
Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

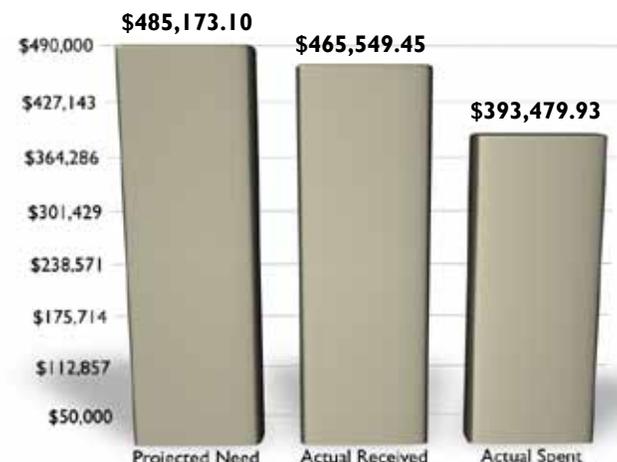
Flowers in the Sanctuary

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 August 1, 2010

		Week	Year
Tithes & Offerings			
08/01/10 9:00 am	114	\$5,382.00	\$107,143.11
08/01/10 11:00 am	336	\$8,395.10	\$194,705.19
07/28/10 6:30 pm	38	\$8.00	\$2,870.70
Special Services			\$1,388.75
Special Anniversary Offerings			\$19,491.60
Online Giving		\$1,587.61	\$49,070.08
Other Contributions		\$1,090.00	\$34,382.92
Total	488	\$16,462.61	\$409,052.35
Other General Fund Income			
Fundraising		\$52.00	\$14,047.63
Miscellaneous		\$20.00	\$42,449.47
Total Received		\$16,534.61	\$465,549.45
Projected Need per Budget		\$15,955.77	\$485,173.10
Total Exceeded Need / (Did Not Meet Need)		\$578.84	(\$19,623.65)
Total Imagine Capital Campaign		\$1,094.00	\$53,162.38



This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

SUNDAY AUGUST 8

9:00 am	Sunday Worship / Cassandra White	
10:15 am	Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry	Chapel
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	Activities Building
11:00 am	Sunday Worship / Cassandra White	
12:30 pm	Second Sunday Friend-Raising Brunch	Activities Building
1:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal	Music Room

MONDAY AUGUST 9

6:00 pm	Budget Meeting	Gathering Place
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TUESDAY AUGUST 10

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

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 11

6:00 pm	The Chalice: Community Gathering	Activities Building
7:00 pm	The Chalice: Open Door Discussion	Activities Building
7:00 pm	The Chalice: Artist's Way	Activities Building
7:00 pm	Discovering My Spiritual Gifts	Gathering Place

THURSDAY AUGUST 12

6:00 pm	Pastoral Search Committee Meeting	Workroom
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FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED AUGUST 13

7:00 pm	Friday Night OUT North	
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SATURDAY OFFICE CLOSED AUGUST 14

8:30 am	Executive Team & BOD Working Retreat	Gathering Place
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SUNDAY AUGUST 15

9:00 am	Sunday Worship / Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini	
10:15 am	Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry	Chapel
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	Activities Building
11:00 am	Sunday Worship / Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini	
12:30 pm	Season of Service Sign-Ups	Activities Building
1:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal	Music Room