



# Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

February 13, 2011

Prelude

Archie Helzer

*Love Can Build a Bridge*  
by John Jarvis, Paul Overstreet and Naomi Judd

Our Community Gathers

Rev. Harry Knox  
Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ Hymn

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*



1. What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, Lean-ing on the ev-er-  
2. O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, Lean-ing on the ev-er-  
3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, Lean-ing on the ev-er-

last-ing arms; What a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,  
last-ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,  
last-ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,

*Refrain*  
Lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms. Lean-ing on Je-sus,  
lean-ing, Safe and se-cure from all a-larms; Lean-ing, Lean-ing on Je-sus,  
lean-ing, Lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.  
lean-ing on Je-sus,

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

## We Prepare

As the prelude begins, the congregation is invited to be in an attitude of expectation for the worship of God.

## 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.

# We Participate

You made read about the authors of February's invocations on page 8.

We take the Bible seriously, not literally.

~ John Thomas  
Chicago Theological Seminar

## Invocation

Ketrick Braggs (9am)  
Marlon Johnson (11am)

## First Reading

Rev. Mona Lopez (9 am)  
Elizabeth Conyer (11 am)

### *1 Corinthians 3: 1-9*

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, 'I belong to Paul,' and another, 'I belong to Apollos,' are you not merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

## Response

Hide it under a bushel, NO! I'm gonna let it shine  
Hide it under a bushel, NO! I'm gonna let it shine  
Hallelujah  
Hide it under a bushel, NO! I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, Let it shine, Let it shine

## + Second Reading

Terry Talley (9 am)  
Gemma Burns (11 am)

### *Matthew 5: 21-37*

'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. 'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I say to you that everyone who looks at a person with lust has already committed adultery in their heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. 'It was also said, "Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce." But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. 'Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord." But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is God's footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great Sovereign. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be "Yes, Yes" or "No, No"; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

**Anthem**

Sanctuary Choir

***Keep Your Lamps***  
by Andre Thomas

**Spiritual Encouragement**

Rev. Harry Knox

**Response**

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine  
Hallelujah  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, Let it shine, Let it shine

**Making Ministry Happen**

Elisa Vega-Burns

**Offertory**

Jerry Reitz

***After All***  
by Babbie Mason

**Communion**

Rev. Janice Ladd

**Communion Songs**

***Let us Break Bread Together***

Let us break bread together on our knees.  
Let us break bread together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink the cup together on our knees.  
Let us drink the cup together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees.  
Let us praise God together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

**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.

Gluten-free wafers are available from the communion server on the far right. Simply say, "Gluten free."

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.

## 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.

### *Precious Lord Take My Hand*

Precious Lord, take my hand  
Lead me on, let me stand  
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm alone  
Through the storm, through the night  
Lead me on to the light  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me on

When my way grows drear precious Lord linger near  
When my life is almost gone  
Hear my cry, hear my call  
Hold my hand lest I fall  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me on

When the darkness appears and the night draws near  
And the day is past and gone  
At the river I stand  
Guide my feet, hold my hand  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me on

### *I Shall Not be Moved*

If I trust God ever, I shall not be moved;  
God will fail me never, I shall not be moved,  
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters, I shall not be moved.

I shall not, I shall not be moved; I shall not, I shall not be moved;  
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters, I shall not be moved.

On God's word I'm feeding, I shall not be moved;  
God's the One that's leading, I shall not be moved,  
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters, I shall not be moved.

I shall not, I shall not be moved; I shall not, I shall not be moved;  
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters, I shall not be moved.

### *This Little Light of Mine*

This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine  
Hallelujah  
This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev. Janice Ladd

+ **Benediction**

Rev. Harry Knox

## Executive Team

### Rev. Harry Knox

Senior Pastor

RevHarry@ResurrectionMCC.org (x101)

### Rev. Janice Ladd

Executive Pastor

RevJanice@ResurrectionMCC.org (x104)

### Rev. Michael Diaz

Director of Connections

RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org (x105)

### 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

Nursery@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Sara Navarro

Graphic Design

Sara@ResurrectionMCC.org (x112)

### Joel Palomares

Youth Ministries Program Coordinator

Youth@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Anthony White

Gospel Ensemble Pianist

### Jim Winslett

HeavenSound Handbells Director

### Jose I. Zuniga

Facilities Technician

Jose@ResurrectionMCC.org

## Volunteer

### Rev. Pat Farnan

Volunteer Clergy

RevPat@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Rev. Mona Lopez

Volunteer 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 - 17 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 that follows God's call to justice for all people. We build on a rich history of social justice for, and on behalf of, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people. Since its founding in 1968, Metropolitan Community Churches have been at the vanguard of civil and human rights movements as an international advocate for vulnerable people in places where religious orthodoxy, sexism, transphobia and homophobia can result in violence and death. MCC has been on the forefront in the struggle towards marriage equality in the US and other countries worldwide and continues to be a powerful voice in the LGBTQ equality movement. MCC's ministry reaches over 43,000 members in over 250 churches in 22 countries worldwide.

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 to those who suffer under the weight of oppressive systems, being guided always by our commitment to Global Human Rights.



*"I'm not sure where to begin . . ."*

*"Is this workshop right for me?"*

*"I'm looking for something for beginners . . ."*

*"I need something to challenge me to take the next step . . ."*

As we make our way On the Journey of Faith ... we often find that although we frequently travel in one another's company, we step onto the path from individual starting points, we navigate our way by an inner compass unique to our own soul, and we find ourselves drawn in distinctive ways into relationship with God. You will find that each of our Life Development offerings is identified by one or more of the following "Path" designations – Seeking, Exploring, Deepening, Serving, Grounding – as a suggestive guide to formulating personal Journey Maps for engaging Life Development offerings which might best "meet you where you are" in your spiritual growth and education journey. Check out the brief descriptions below as guides which you may find helpful in identifying where you are, and planning where you want to go - and grow!

~ Those on the **Seeking Path** are often in motion with their faith! Possibly recovering from faith experiences that no longer fit, possibly rediscovering faith longings buried long ago, discovering whole new possibilities for their life of faith, those on the Seeking Path are often interested in trying this, trying that, letting go of old stuff, trying out new stuff, questioning, experimenting, and just generally enjoying the faith adventure!

~ Those on the **Exploring Path** are often diving into their faith! Possibly alight or "on fire" with new or renewed experiences of the Divine, those on the Exploring Path often desire passionate engagement with the principles and practices of faith, are learning new ways to pray and read Scripture, and are exploring more fully who Jesus is for them and what it might mean for them to get up close and personal with God!

~ Those on the **Deepening Path** are often being called to new depths of practice in their faith! Possibly responding to a challenging or renewed sense of God's Presence or Call in their lives, those on the Deepening Path are often already engaged in regular disciplines of prayer, study and service – but find they are suddenly restless for more: more intimacy with God, more authenticity within themselves, more surrendered love for others ... more deepening into the Way of discipleship!

~ Those on the **Serving Path** are often practicing servant-ministry as the heart of their faith! Possibly also travelers on the Seeking, Exploring or Deepening Paths at times, those on the Serving Path often discover God, come into relationship with God, or experience faithfulness to God most vividly in the practice of serving others, and as such their preferred Path is one of servant-ministry: becoming transparent for the Presence of God in loving service to God's children!

~ Those on the **Grounding Path** are sowing and strengthening the Foundations of their faith! Possibly already traveling on any of the other Paths, or maybe preparing the way before they venture forth, those stepping onto the Grounding Path are often engaging "the basics" of the "God-stuff" (who is God and what does that mean in my life?), the "me-stuff" (what do I believe and how do I live true to that?), and the "we-stuff" (what is MCC all about and how does that shape Resurrection?) as they map their spiritual journey of faith!

# The Chalice

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

## Where Will You Journey?

### COMMUNITY GATHERING

**6:00 - 7:00 pm** | Activities Building

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

### LIFE DEVELOPMENT OFFERINGS

**7:00 - 8:30 pm** | Activities Building

*several classes, many paths...*

### 8 Weeks - Open to All

## BULLETPROOF FAITH

A Spiritual Survival Study Guide for LGBTQ Christians

**Wednesdays | 7 - 8:30 PM | January 12 - March 2**

This Life Development offering is especially for those on the **Exploring** and **Deepening** Paths in their Journey of Faith.

As Christians we're told in Ephesians 6:13-17 to put on "the whole armor of God." That armor includes righteousness, truth, peace, salvation, and Spirit. It's no coincidence that faith is our shield to "quench all the flaming arrows" that come our way. It's only when we develop the heart knowledge of God's unconditional and enduring love for us that we can become bulletproof—calm and assured even when arrows are flying and emotions are high.

Join us for this 8-week "Spiritual Survival" book study designed by Rev. Candace Chellew-Hodge to guide us through the minefield of condemnation and persecution faced by many LGBTQ Christians, to an undeniable faith that powerfully proclaims the reality of God's love for one and all!

Contact Rev. Kristen for more information:  
RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org

### 8 Weeks - Open to All

## FOLLOWING JESUS

DISCIPLESHIP 101

**Wednesdays | 7 - 8:30 PM | January 12 - March 2**

This Life Development offering is especially for those on the **Exploring** and **Deepening** Paths in their Journey of Faith.

What would happen if I came to experience Christianity as a way of life; something more than a set of understandings or beliefs? What would it really mean for me to grow as a follower of – rather than a believer in – the way of Jesus? These questions form the core of this 8-week study by MCC-based Found Pearl Press.

They challenge us to: engage the words of Jesus and other key passages in Scripture directly for ourselves; form our own thoughtful conclusions in exploration and discussion with our siblings; put into practice a living and increasingly authentic faith. That is, to practice discipleship!

Contact Rev. Kristen for more information:  
RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org

## Fishers Net Prayer Ministry



### A Dialogue With God

by Ron Reeser

Sometimes, healing starts with a prayer. Sometimes, celebrating life and the blessings received from God starts with a prayer. Prayer is how we communicate with God and everyone communicates differently. Some prayers are verbal, some nonverbal, some are expressed through song, art, dance, work and community service, but all glorify God.

Those of us involved with Fishers Net consider ourselves a family. We are a diverse group of God's children, made up of many different prayer types. Some pray out loud and some in silence, both sending forth great vibrations to hold you within a holy space and engulfing you in God's glorious grace and healing presence.

We feel that no prayer request is too small or that any situation is insurmountable to God. When your request is received at Prayers@ResurrectionMCC.org, the request is then shared in its entirety with Fishers Net team members. Then once a week, your name will be given to our extended prayer family via email. Although our extended family will not know your specific situation, they will also intercede for you, holding you within a holy space for God to work the miracles in which only God can.

If you would like to join the Fishers Net Prayer Family (become a team member) or the Fishers Net Extended Prayer Family (join our email list), please contact us at Prayers@ResurrectionMCC.org and one of our team members will then contact you.

*Growing stronger in Christ and realizing our Prayers together.  
~ Fishers Net Prayer Ministry ~*



## "WE ARE LOVE" VALENTINE'S KID CELEBRATION

Kids ages 4 – 12 can enjoy a Moon Walk, Michael Jackson Dance Party Wii or Nintendo Karaoke, Crafts, storytime, and treat bags.

## Freedom to Marry Week

### Valentine's Day Marriage License Protest & March to City Hall

Monday  
February 14

11:30 am, County Clerk's Office, 201 Caroline St

Join us outside the County Clerk's office with signs supporting marriage equality. Around Noon, several same-sex couples will go upstairs and attempt to obtain marriage license applications. After being denied, we'll walk about a mile through downtown with our signs. We'll end at City Hall, 900 Bagby St, with a brief demonstration.  
[www.FamilyMarriageEquality.org](http://www.FamilyMarriageEquality.org)

## DIALOGUE: RACISM IN A "POST-RACIAL AMERICA"

Saturdays | Feb. 19 & Feb. 26 | 9 - 4 pm

Grace Lutheran Church  
2515 Waugh Drive  
Houston, TX 77006



*"[People] hate each other because they fear each other, and they fear each other because they don't know each other, and they don't know each other because they are often separated from each other."*

– Dr. Martin Luther King

This amazing offering from the Center for the Healing of Racism teams facilitators from different heritages create a safe, respectful environment where participants can explore the issues of racism and its repercussions. Information is provided by the facilitators on such topics as defining prejudice and racism, where racism originates, how racism is perpetuated, the forms of racism, and positive means for overcoming racism and healing its wounds. Participants are then encouraged to dialogue within guidelines that promote real listening and understanding. Dialogue: Racism was developed to encourage the sharing of thoughts, feelings, experiences, and perspectives among a diverse group of people. For questions and to RSVP, contact the Center for the Healing of Racism at 713-520-8226 or [www.centerhealingracism.org](http://www.centerhealingracism.org)

# TEXAS' BIG GAY

WEDDING CELEBRATION & DEMONSTRATION

## TODAY

### 1:30 pm

Join dozens of couples for an unforgettable interfaith wedding ceremony. You are invited to exchange vows, renew your vows and demonstrate marriage equality.

Participation is free. Please register at [www.FamilyMarriageEquality.org](http://www.FamilyMarriageEquality.org)  
A reception will follow.

Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church  
2025 West 11th Street | Houston, TX 77008 | 713-861-9149  
[www.ResurrectionMCC.org](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org)  
Proudly hosted in partnership with the Foundation for Family and Marriage Equality

# AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH INVOCATION SERIES WRITERS BIOS

## JAMES BALDWIN

American writer, noted for his novels on sexual and personal identity, and sharp essays on civil-rights struggle in the United States, James Baldwin was born in Harlem, New York City, the son of a domestic worker. Although publishers rejected his work, Baldwin won a Rosenwald Fellowship in 1948. He gained fame with his first novel, *GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN* (1953), also wrote three plays, a children's storybook, and a book of short stories. In 1983 Baldwin became Five College Professor in the Afro-American Studies department of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He spent his latter years in St. Paul de Vence on the Riviera, France, where he died of stomach cancer on November 30, 1987. Our Invocation selection from James Baldwin comes from his novel *Just Above My Head*.

## ESSEX HEMPHILL

Essex Hemphill was born into a working-class family in Chicago, Illinois, in 1957. Noted for his candid, impassioned work as an African American poet, essayist, editor, and gay activist, Hemphill has become one of the best known black gay authors since James Baldwin. A recipient of fellowships in literature from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the D.C. Commission for the Arts, Hemphill has published three books of poetry and has had his poems included in several anthologies. In addition, his poetry has been used in some films and documentaries. He has also edited *Brother to Brother*, a compilation of writings by black gay men--only the second of its kind to be published in the United country. Our Invocation from Essex Hemphill is an excerpt from his poem *Tomb of Sorrow* in *Brother to Brother: Writings of Black Gay Men*.

## AUDRE LORDE

A self-styled "black, lesbian, mother, warrior, poet," writer Audre Lorde dedicated both her life and her creative talent to confronting and addressing the injustices of racism, sexism, and homophobia. Concerned with modern society's tendency to categorize groups of people, Lorde fought the marginalization of such categories as "lesbian" and "black woman," thereby empowering her readers to react to the prejudice in their own lives. As she told interviewer Charles H. Rowell in *Callaloo*: "My sexuality is part and parcel of who I am, and my poetry comes from the intersection of me and my worlds. . . ." Fighting a battle with cancer that she documented in her highly acclaimed *Cancer Journals*, Lorde died of the illness in 1992. Our Invocation selection from Audre Lorde is an excerpt from her poem *Litany For Survival*.

## SISTER SOULJAH

Born 1964 in Bronx, New York, raised in the projects, Souljah is a fighter who came up from the bottom. A graduate of Rutgers University, she earned a degree in American History and African Studies. She also attended the Cornell University Advanced Placement Studies, and studied abroad in Europe at the University of Salamanca. As a student activist in America, Souljah created, financed, and implemented the African Youth Survival Camp, a six week summer sleep away academic/cultural camp for 200 children of homeless families. From 1995-2007 she was the Executive Director of Daddy's House Social Programs, creating cultural and academic programs which were offered to urban youth and housed at Columbia University. She is the author of 3 national best sellers. Our Invocation selection from Sister Souljah comes from her book of non-fiction titled *No Disrespect*.

# EQUALITY MINISTRY MEETING



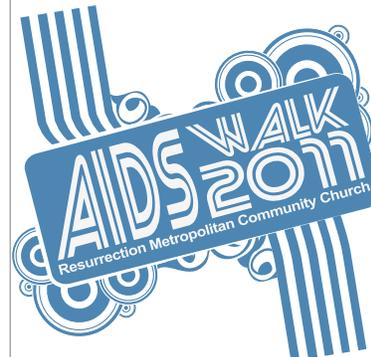
Monday  
**February 14**

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)

AIDS Walk T-Shirts  
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T-shirt **TODAY**  
in Inspirations.



**AIDS WALK 2011**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH**  
**Sam Houston Park (downtown)**

**8:00AM** Check - In  
**9:00AM** Opening Ceremonies  
**10:00AM** Walk Steps Off!

The Walk is an inspiring and fun event that helps raise much needed funds for area HIV/AIDS service providers. Resurrection MCC is a partner with AIDS Foundation Houston, so approximately 70% of the walk funds we raise stay at Resurrection MCC to fund our HIV/AIDS benevolence ministry.

As a friend of Resurrection MCC and advocate for people living with HIV/AIDS, please consider joining our AIDS Walk Houston Team, or making a donation.

*Just click on the AIDS Walk logo at [www.ResurrectionMCC.org](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org)*



# CITY OF HOUSTON

Office of the Mayor

**Annise D. Parker**

Mayor

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[www.cityofhouston.gov](http://www.cityofhouston.gov)

All across this country people will be sharing Valentines Day with the ones they love. It is a bittersweet observation in the LGBT community, where we yearn for that day when we'll have the right to marry the ones we love.

My life partner of 20 years and I would love to be able to wed in the state we call home. I know it will happen in my lifetime because the world is changing on LGBT issues. It is amazing to me the progress that we've made since my early activist days. At times the pace seems slow. It is also frustrating for those who are waiting, but I know it will happen.

Events like Freedom to Marry Day help bring attention and awareness to the issue. There can be no more positive public influence than a show of commitment between loving couples. Thank you for the work you are doing.

As we continue to wait for that day that I am certain will become reality, I am not going to let one day pass without letting my partner know how much I love her and how blessed I am to have her in my life.

Happy Valentines Day and Happy Freedom to Marry Day!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Annise D. Parker".

Annise D. Parker  
Mayor



## Church Leaders Needed

### DO YOU:

Communicate well with small and large groups?

Have good organizational skills?

Have management, leadership, financial or legal experience?

Work well as part of a team?

Have a desire to spread God's unconditional love?

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," Board of Directors applications available at [www.ResurrectionMCC.org](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org)  
The application deadline is February 25.



Saturday | February 19 | 9:30 am - Noon  
Chapel

#### A small group experience in spiritual community

Do you long for a place to find refreshment and spiritual companionship? Soul Care for Servant-Ministry is a small group experience designed for people who provide ministry leadership for others with/in the Resurrection community. This group experience is available to anyone in active servant-ministry at Resurrection, including (but is not limited to): clergy, staff, Board of Directors members, Lay Delegates, people facilitating life development offerings, those serving in worship arts, children's ministries, and any other ministry programs offered through Resurrection MCC. We will meet once a month from October 2010 through May 2011 and will focus on strengthening our ability to live lives that express our most deeply held values by supporting and encouraging personal spiritual growth and depth. Attendance requires contact with facilitator Cathleen Sheil to confirm space availability. This offering is specially created for persons engaged in a **Servant Ministry** Path.



## EQUALITY TEXAS LOBBY DAY 2011

MONDAY | MARCH 7  
STATE CAPITOL IN AUSTIN

A group from Resurrection MCC is attending, and we hope that you will join us! We'll focus our efforts on anti-bullying legislation due to be voted on as we share our personal stories and perspectives with our state legislators. Lobby Day is free. Registration required at [www.EqualityTexas.org](http://www.EqualityTexas.org). Breakfast and lunch provided. We leave early Monday morning and return late afternoon.

Transportation available, so don't let that keep you from joining us. Contact [Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org) for full details.

## FOOD PANTRY

Open by Appointment:  
713-861-9149 x103

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

Please place donations in the shopping cart located in the Welcome Area.



#### Board Members on Duty

Jackie Marshall and Elisa Vega-Burns  
Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

#### Flowers in the Sanctuary

from Paul Heroux and Richard Poole on their engagement and upcoming Marriage.

### Financial Report

For the Week and YTD Ended February 6, 2011

#### Tithes & Offerings & Capital Giving

#### Attendance

#### Week Ended

#### YTD Total

Amount Needed

671

\$21,762.54

\$97,931.42

Amount Received

487

\$19,129.46

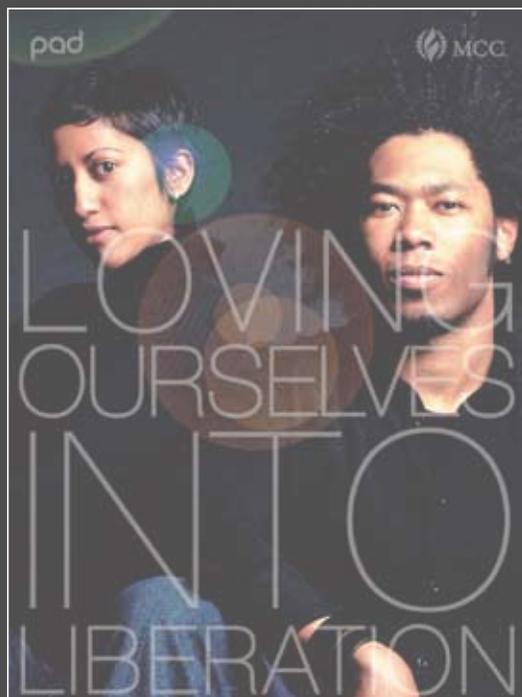
\$87,519.90

# AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CONCERT

PRESENTED BY THE RESURRECTION MCC GOSPEL ENSEMBLE

SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 20 | 4 PM

RESURRECTION MCC SANCTUARY



An offering will be taken to support travel for the Gospel Ensemble attending the MCC Conference for People of African Descent, Our Friends, and Allies.

## SAFE SCHOOLS **ACTION TEAM**



### FORMING NOW!

We will be meeting soon to discuss ways that we can encourage and implement Safe Schools policies in our local districts and schools.

If you want to join the team and help end bullying, email [Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org)

## 'Bring Your Gay Teen to Church' February 20, 2011

Resurrection MCC is proud to join many Houston-area churches welcoming gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning teens and their parents into their congregations on Sunday, February 20.

This historic ecumenical effort brings together affirming churches including Covenant Baptist, Episcopal, Lutheran, Metropolitan Community Church, Methodist, United Church of Christ, Unitarian Universalist, and Quaker congregations. We want to get the word out to LGBTQ teens and their families that there are loving churches for them – churches that don't believe your teen needs to be "fixed" or "changed." We think your child is a miracle. Just the way they are.

Help us spread the word – tell your friends to visit  
[www.BringYourGayTeenToChurch.com](http://www.BringYourGayTeenToChurch.com)

## COMMUNITY FORUM ON UGANDA WITH ELDER JOSEPH W. TOLTON



SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 19 • 11 AM  
GATHERING PLACE

Presented in partnership with the MCC Global Justice Institute and the Human Rights Campaign Religion and Faith Program.

Come learn more about the deadly, homophobic conditions in Uganda. Elder Tolton is working with the MCC Global Justice Institute to support Sexual Minorities in Uganda and also Bishop Christopher Senjyo's Christian LGBT resource center in Kampala.

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## PRESS CONFERENCE ON UGANDA



SUNDAY  
FEBRUARY 20 • 3 PM

Elder Tolton, our clergy, and local spiritual leaders will meet with the press to explain the urgent need and responsibility of our government to denounce the export of homophobic rhetoric by extremists in the United States.

# This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

## SUNDAY FEBRUARY 13

<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Sunday Worship / Rev. Harry Knox</b>	
10:00 am	Nominating Committee Meeting	<i>Workroom</i>
10:15 am	Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry	<i>Chapel</i>
10:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	<i>Activities Building</i>
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	<i>Activities Building</i>
<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Sunday Worship / Rev. Harry Knox</b>	
1:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal	<i>Music Room</i>
1:30 pm	Freedom to Marry Wedding Ceremony	<i>Sanctuary</i>
2:30 pm	Wedding Reception	<i>Activities Building</i>

## MONDAY FEBRUARY 14

3:00 pm	Holy Union	<i>Sanctuary</i>
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## TUESDAY FEBRUARY 15

7:00 pm	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal	<i>Music Room</i>
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	<i>Sanctuary</i>

## WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16

8:00 am	Nonprofit Consulting	<i>Gathering Place</i>
6:00 pm	The Chalice: Community Gathering	<i>Activities Building</i>
7:00 pm	The Chalice: Life Development Offerings	<i>Activities Building</i>

## THURSDAY FEBRUARY 17

No Events Scheduled

## FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED FEBRUARY 18

No Events Scheduled

## SATURDAY OFFICE CLOSED FEBRUARY 19

9:30 am	Soul Care For Servant-Ministry	<i>Chapel</i>
11:00 am	Community Forum: Uganda	<i>Gathering Place, Sanctuary</i>
6:00 pm	Gospel Ensemble Dress Rehearsal	<i>Sanctuary</i>

## SUNDAY FEBRUARY 20

<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Sunday Worship / Rev. Harry Knox</b>	
10:15 am	Fisher's Net Prayer Ministry	<i>Chapel</i>
10:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	<i>Activities Building</i>
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	<i>Activities Building</i>
<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Sunday Worship / Rev. Harry Knox</b>	
1:30 pm	HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal	<i>Sanctuary</i>
3:00 pm	Press Conference: Uganda	<i>Front</i>
4:00 pm	Gospel Ensemble Concert	<i>Gathering Place, Sanctuary</i>