



SO YOU THINK YOU CAN
CONFESS

OCTOBER 16, 2011

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.

Call to Experience

One traditional element of worship is known as the Call To Worship, a practice that intentionally invites us to come into the presence of God. For the next 8 weeks we will intentionally call ourselves to experience the presence of God.

Cinderella's Ball

Mabel & Lavern

Our Community Gathers / Nuestra Comunidad Se Reúne

Rev. Michael Diaz

Exchange of Peace / Saludo de Paz

+ **Welcome Song / Canción de Bienvenida**

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone,
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bears the image of God's face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

+ **Call To Experience**

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ **Opening Hymn/ Himno de Entrada**

Morning has Broken

Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the world

Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from Heaven
Like the first dewfall on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
Born of the one light, Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day

Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the world

+ Please rise in body or spirit.

Making Confession, Hearing Confession: A History of the Cure of Souls

By Annemarie S. Kidder

What to confess? Most people tend to talk to God somewhat spontaneously, if only under their breath. Saying a prayer of gratitude or uttering a cry for help seems to come naturally and no long preparation or deliberation is needed. Baring our soul in the company of another and in the presence of God is a form of prayer, though one involving some prior reflection. What is it I want to tell God in the company of another, and from what burden do I need to be freed? Into what segments have I sliced my time, my attention, and my activities. What are my life's priorities and what its recurring joys and repeated frustrations? There are times throughout the day when I do not like myself. Where am I true to myself and where am I marring the image of God intended for me to demonstrate.

The Community Prays / Oración Comunal

Rev. Janice Ladd

O ten - der Moth - er, hear our prayer, as we your
child - ren gath - er near. We of - fer you our wound - ed
souls, for your ca - ress can make us whole.

+ The Ancient Word / Lectura Bíblica

Vicki Hopper (9 am)
Vickey Gibbs (11 am)

John 8:30-32

The Inclusive New Testament: Priests for Equality

While Jesus spoke, many became believers. Jesus said to those who believed in him, "If you live according to my teaching, you really are my disciples; then you'll know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

The Ministry of Music / Selección Musical

Gospel Ensemble

I Am Souled Out

Words & Music by Estee Bullock & Nate McNair

Call to Engage / Sermón

Rev. Michael Diaz

So You Think You Can Confess?

We Hear the Word

This translation is courtesy of The Inclusive Hebrew Scriptures, edited by Priests for Equality through the Inclusive Language Project, initiated in 1988.

Their goal, "to translate the entire Bible into gender inclusive language by July of 2001," is part of their larger mission, which is to "affirm efforts to use sexually balanced language and images in Church liturgy, publications, education and preaching." It is the understanding of this consortium of Christian ministers, lay leaders, scholars, educators and social activists that "language, in itself, can help educate us toward equality."

We Receive

All congregations in MCC practice an open communion. You do not need to be a member of this church or any church to come to the table and receive communion.

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."

Todas las congregaciones de ICM (Iglesias de las Comunidades Metropolitana) practican una comunión abierta. Creemos en el amor de Dios incondicional para todas las personas.

Si deseas tomar la comunión en español, por favor dirígete hacia al ministro de comunión localizado hacia la izquierda y pídele, "En español, por favor."

We Offer Ourselves / Ofrenda

Mitchell Katine

Offertory / Ofertorio

Gospel Ensemble

More than Anything

Words & Music by Rick Robinson. Performed by Lamar Campbell

Communion / Comunción

Rev. Pat Farnan

Rev. Terri Steed

Wayne Wiggins

One : Come just as you are, hear the spirit call. Come just as you are; Come and see, come, receive, come and live forever.

All: Life everlasting and strength for today; taste the living water and never thirst again. Come, just as you are, hear the spirit call. Come just as you are. Come and see, come receive, come and live forever.

Communion Songs / Cantos de Comunción

Just as I am

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that Your love was shared for me,
and that You bidst me come to You,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, You will receive,
will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Your promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Your love unknown
hath broken every barrier down;
Now, to be Yours, yes Yours alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

In Remembrance of Me

In remembrance of me, eat this bread. In remembrance of me, drink this wine.

In remembrance of me, pray for the time when God's own will is done.

In remembrance of me, heal the sick. In remembrance of me, feed the poor.

In remembrance of me, open the door and let all people in, let them in.

Take, eat, and be comforted; Drink and remember, too,

That this is my body and precious blood shed for you, shed for you.

In remembrance of me, search for truth. In remembrance of me, always love.

In remembrance of me, don't look above, but in your heart,

Look in your heart for God. Do this in remembrance of me.

Draw Me Close

Draw me close to You
Never let me go
I lay it all down again
To hear You say that I'm Your friend

You are my desire
No one else will do
'Cause nothing else could take Your place
To feel the warmth of Your embrace
Help me find the way
Bring me back to You

You're all I want
You're all I've ever needed
You're all I want
Help me know You are near

Shout to the Lord

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like You;
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love.
My Comfort, my Shelter, Tower of refuge and strength,
Let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship You.

Shout to the Lord, all the Earth, let us sing;
Power and majesty, praises we sing!
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand;
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You!

+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving / Acción de Gracias**

Rev. Pat Farnan

Call to Embody / Anuncios

Rev. Michael Diaz
Mark Eggleston
Joy Jolley

Sending Forth / Bendición

Rev. Michael Diaz

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
We are the body of Christ.

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.

God, open us to your living presence through your life at this table.

Receive the living sacrifice of our awakened life.

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.

Executive Team

Rev. Elder Lillie Brock

Consulting Pastor
RevLillie@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
Joy@ResurrectionMCC.org (x102)

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Director of Life Development
RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org (x107)

Cassandra White

Director of Worship (Part-Time, Interim)
Sanctuary Choir Director
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

Rose Wall

HeavenSound Handbells Director

Anthony White

Gospel Ensemble Pianist

Jose I. Zuniga

Facilities Technician

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.

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN...?

Are you familiar with the television reality show called *So You Think You Can Dance*? If you are, then you know that dance troupes and individual dancers from many different places, show up to face a panel of judges who ultimately decide whether the contestants can REALLY dance or not.

It's true, isn't it, that we often THINK we are doing something really well until we are forced to explore and expand our understanding of what is possible? We all know it's true but it's not always easy to face it.

I want to ask each of you to join me in a journey that will invite you to . . .

EXPERIENCE *God in new ways*

ENGAGE *your spiritual life with intention*

EMBODY *the compassion of Christ in the world*

Throughout September and October we will revisit the most basic parts of the spiritual life and challenge ourselves to understand and know them more profoundly. We will stretch, expand, and enlarge our capacity to be in relationship with God and with each other.

This is a journey worth taking no matter where you believe yourself to be in this experience we call "being human." I invite you, I urge you, I challenge you and I even dare you . . .

So You Think You Can . . . ?

Blessings on the journey,



Rev. Elder Lillie Brock
Consulting Pastor



WORSHIP ARTS DEPARTMENT ARTIST - IN - RESIDENCE

It is with great excitement that we are preparing to welcome Natasha Holmes as an Artist-in-Residence in our Worship Arts Department at Resurrection MCC this Fall!

A singer and worship leader at Hillsong before exploring more inclusive forms of church, Natasha is the dynamic coordinator of the band and worship experience at CRAVE MCC in Sydney, Australia. A gifted singer, songwriter and musician, Natasha is passionate about creating powerful, God-honoring worship! During her 3 years as Music Director with CRAVE MCC the music ministry there has flourished, releasing songs such as "If Not Us, Who?", "Passion Is", and "Giving You Me" which are now sung around the world.

As part of her Residency with us, Natasha will intern as our Director of Music and share her gifts in leadership with the Sanctuary Choir. It is our blessing to be able to host Natasha for this season of ministry exploration and artistic development; we anticipate a fresh movement of the Spirit in our worship together this Fall as she brings her passion and gifting to share with us! Be sure to welcome Natasha on Facebook and mark your calendars to join us for worship on Sunday, October 23, as we celebrate Natasha's arrival and the God we share together!

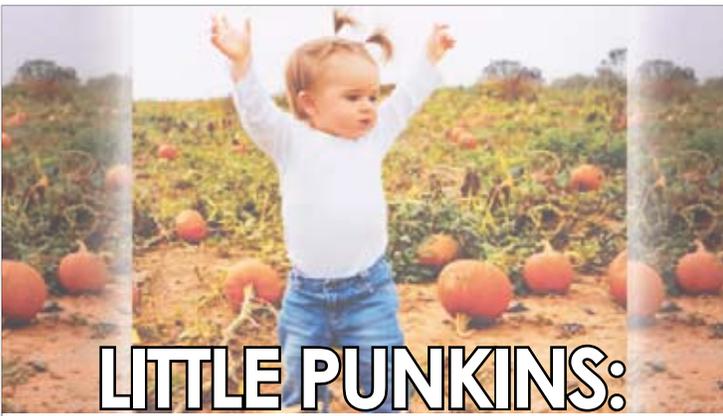
Annual Congregational Meeting Forum

**Sunday, October 23, 12:30 pm
Sanctuary**

Annual Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, November 6, 12:30 pm
Sanctuary**

Agenda highlights include approving the 2012 budget and reviewing our exciting ministry plans for next year. At the Forum, you will have the opportunity to review all items being discussed at the Annual Congregational Meeting. Annual Congregational Packets will be made available online beginning today. We look forward to sharing our exciting vision for 2012 with you.



LITTLE PUNKINS:
PUMPKIN PATCH PLAY DATE AT
OLD MACDONALD'S FARM!
TODAY | 2 -5 PM

Old MacDonaldis Farm
 3203 FM 1960 Road East Humble, TX 77338-5323 | (281) 446-4001
www.oldmacdonaldshumble.com

Join our youngest members in an afternoon of Fall fun as our Nursery hosts an outing to the Pumpkin Patch at Old MacDonald's Farm! Toddlers and children through 12 years will take a train ride and pick a pumpkin from the patch! Families and friends of our community of faith are invited to share in a potluck picnic at the Farm from 3 - 5pm. All are welcome to visit with the animals, play in the playground, and enjoy an afternoon of fun, family and fellowship for all ages! \$6/person, No one turned away.

For more information, email Nursery@ResurrectionMCC.org



LGBTQ AND FREE IN THEE!
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

1:30 - 5 PM | GATHERING PLACE

"What does the Bible say about homosexuality?" and "What did Jesus say?" These questions are at the heart of this foundational Life Development offering for those seeking to reconcile their experience of God with their understanding of Scripture. Together we will engage the Bible through the lens of our personal faith experience as we consider the six "clobber passages" in light of current scholarship and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

RSVP and questions to RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org.



SUFFERING AND THE
GOODNESS OF GOD

MONDAYS

OCTOBER 17 & 24

7 PM | CHAPEL

Do you ever wonder where God is when everything in your life seems to feel like hell? How can a good God allow for such evil and suffering in the world? In this class, we will explore different Christian responses to the problem of suffering in the world in order to deepen our own relationship with God. We will begin with a review of traditional Christian perspectives on theodicy (the justification for how a good God allows evil to operate in the world) and continue with more progressive perspectives. This class is ideal for pastoral care ministers and anyone else wishing to deepen their faith by understanding different views of suffering.

For more information, contact
RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org



NIGHTMARE ON WEST
11TH STREET

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

5 - 10 PM | GATHERING PLACE

Trick-or-treat? Come celebrate Halloween with a thrill-filled journey through our frightening Haunted House. We'll leave the porch light on for you... MWAH HA HA HA!



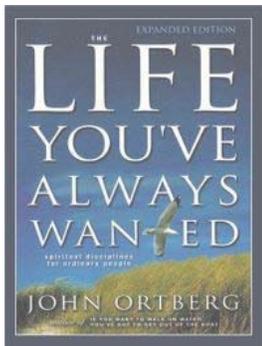
YOGA CONNECTIONS

Every Tuesday

7 - 8:30 pm | Activities Building

Yoga means to yoke or join. Join us as we join with God through Yoga! Connect with other folks in this non-competitive activity that is suitable for every person. If you are new to Yoga, you'll meet others with varying skill levels. You'll also learn about the benefits for your overall health and well-being. Please bring a mat and towel. Everyone is welcome to join us for these free sessions. RSVP at Facebook.com/ResurrectionMCC or for more info email Yoga@ResurrectionmCC.org

The Life You've Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People



10-Week Offering
Wednesdays

September 28 - November 23

7 - 8:30 pm

Gathering Place

This 10 week offering will consider what living "a spiritual life" can really look like for people like us - people who live ordinary lives, yet have a whisper or ache or call in that "God-place" which won't quite leave us alone. During the Fall season join us we experience the call and wonder of spiritual renewal by jumping in to engage the spiritual disciplines for ordinary people found in The Life You've Always Wanted by John Ortberg. Join us for one, some or all sessions, as we practice transformation from the inside out! RSVP at Facebook.com/ResurrectionMCC or for more info email RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org.

Books available in Inspirations Coffee Café & Bookstore. Book not required to attend.

SECOND ANNUAL MASQUERADE BALL



SATURDAY
OCTOBER 29, 2011
7 - 11 PM • Activities Bldg.

TICKETS:

\$35.00

hors d'oeuvres
silent auction
water, soda

\$50.00

hors d'oeuvres
silent auction
water, soda
wine, dos equis,
frozen cosmopolitans

PURCHASE TICKETS AT
www.ResurrectionMCC.org

and at
Inspirations Coffee Café & Bookstore

Silent Auction Items Needed

Electronics, Jewelry, Paintings,
Donation of Professional Services
(i.e. legal, massage therapist, catering)
Hotel Vouchers

Interested in making a donation?
Email Masquerade@ResurrectionMCC.org

Volunteers Needed for Masquerade Ball

Each volunteer will receive one free \$35.00 ticket.
RSVP and Questions to Tricia Phillips at
Masquerade@ResurrectionMCC.org

CARE FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

by recycling newspapers, magazines, catalogs and junk mail in the containers in our parking lot.

We now have three collection bins as this program grows. We receive cash based on the weight collected.



Children's Choir Rehearsal



Sundays
10:30 am - 11:00 am
Activities Building #104
1st - 7th grades welcome

Our children will bring this year's Christmas musical, "Shepherds, Sheep, and a Savior," on Christmas Eve at 5 pm. We look forward to singing with your children! If you have questions, please contact Jules or Eve at ChildrensChoir@ResurrectionMCC.org.

Board Member on Duty

Edwin Kelly and Eddie Domingue
Board Minutes Available Upon Request.

Fishers Net Prayer Ministry



A Dialogue With God

by Ron Reeser

When earth experiences a lack of water, it dries up, cracks and no longer gives or supports life - vegetation, animals and in many cases, humans. Drought is awful and can create a life of unknown questions (When will it rain? When will life return again?). Just as all living beings depend upon water to survive, human bodies are made up of 50 to 80 percent of water, depending upon one's age. Is it any wonder, when we lack God within our life, 50 to 80 percent of our being could be suffering or worse yet, dying? Throughout the bible, there are many examples of how Jesus is and freely gives living water. John 4:14 reads, "Indeed, the water I give [you] will become in [you] a spring of water welling up to eternal life." We must protect this living water from drying up by following God's directions, surrounding ourselves with fellow believers, and continually praying with thanksgiving in our hearts, so that our Christ-given spring of living water does not dry up, but leads to eternal life.

Dear Sustainer and Giver of Life, we come to you today and now to drink from your spring, so that your spring will continually well up with us, giving us life as if in heaven. Protect us from the droughts of the world. Enable us to be strong for one other, building-up one another, encouraging one another, and continually praying for your will. Oh, loving God, we humbly and with awe, thank you in your many names. Amen.

Do you have a prayer request? Send your requests to Prayers@ResurrectionMCC.org. Requests are immediately prayed over by the Fishers Net Prayer Team. 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 ~

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 Sara@ResurrectionMCC.org or call 713-861-9149 x112.

Financial Report

For YTD Ended October 9, 2011

| Tithes & Offerings & Capital Giving | Week Ended | YTD Total | YTD Average Attendance | YTD Average Per Person |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Amount Needed | \$19,884.42 | \$805,319.13 | 607 | \$32.76 |
| Amount Received | \$26,801.78 | \$701,058.80 | 532 | \$32.11 |

We Offer Ourselves

Last year we approved several ministry priorities, set our budget to accomplish our goals, and projected our income. Our projections were based on the pledges made through the "Church Alive" campaign, the Imagine Reality Capital Campaign, as well as the giving trends of this congregation over the most recent years. We are on track with our ministry goals but are experiencing the strain of the typical "summer dip" in our giving. Our church's cash reserves have dropped rapidly in just the past couple of months even while our worship attendance and ministry programming have grown. Unless giving rebounds, we will soon be forced to significantly reduce the amount of worship, hospitality, transformation, and mission our church can provide. Please join me in taking the necessary steps today to ensure our impact in the lives of this community continues to thrive.

Blessings to you,
 Rev. Janice Ladd, Executive Pastor

I will Do all the good I can, By all the means I can, In all the ways I can, In all the places I can, At all the times I can, To all the people I can, As long as ever I can. Amen.

A SPIRITUAL WEEKEND GET-AWAY!!

Why not spend a relaxing weekend refreshing yourself with a spiritual retreat? Take a break from work and treat yourself to spend time with your sisters and brothers at a Christian camp.



NOVEMBER 4 -6, 2011

Christian Renewal Center, Dickinson, TX
For the cost of \$145 you will be provided 6 meals, 3 days & 2 nights lodging, all printed materials & supplies. This retreat is being offered by EXCEL OF THE ARMADILLO, Houston, TX.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER

please visit www.excelofthearmadillo.com or ask anyone wearing an EXCEL stole or wearing an EXCEL Shirt for a brochure and application

LGBT ADOPTIONS and ESTATE DOCUMENTS

Attorney Mitchell Katine

713-808-1001
Houston, Texas

mkatine@lawkn.com
www.lawkn.com



Use your cellphone to send a text to **90210** with **RMCC** as the message to be signed up for our text alerts.

We'll text you during the week to encourage you to embody the love of God in the world by participating in offering gifts and service outside the walls of Resurrection MCC throughout our sermon series.



Rev. Pat's Personal Testimony of the importance of Excel of the Armadillo

For too many years the only sense of community that I experienced was centered around my career. Although we were a tight knit group, we shared little of ourselves outside of the work environment. It wasn't until I became a member of an MCC church, enrolled in an intensive Bible study group, and spent 9 months with a special group of 30 people, that I truly felt my life had become enriched with a strong sense of meaning and purpose. For the first time in my life I knew that if I ever needed someone to be there for me all I had to do was pick up the phone and give any one of my new sisters or brothers in faith a call. And I also knew that I would be there for them, no matter what. What made this group so special was our intense study of the Word, coupled with significant community building activities and prayer. We had grown closer in our relationship with God and with our faith community. Serving God and serving the community became for us the means to joy, peace, love, and fulfillment.

So what does any of this have to do with Excel of the Armadillo? When I was the pastor of the MCC in Galveston, I was asked if I would like to participate in an Excel retreat. Being a part of that faith retreat brought back a whole flood of memories of my first experience as part of a meaningful community. The beauty of Excel of the Armadillo was that they managed to achieve in one weekend what took 9 months to accomplish in the group that I had previously taken my journey with in MCC. In my weekend with Excel, I saw lives transformed. I saw people draw closer to God and closer to each other. I saw how people took what they learned and what they experienced and put it into practice in their daily walk with God. I believe that we all felt genuinely connected that weekend - a bond that will last the rest of our lives. No matter where you are in your faith journey, whether you are just starting out or you are a seasoned traveler, Excel of the Armadillo is here for you. Join us on this retreat for an intense time of song, laughter, tears, fun, renewal, and drawing closer to God and to each other.

Please visit our web site to find out more about EXCEL and to register for our retreat exercise. **November 4-6, 2011.**
www.excelofthearmadillo.org



Advertise with us.

As low as \$25 / week.

Ads@ResurrectionMCC.org

WELLNESS CENTER

2025 W. 11th Street
LGBTQ Solutions for Living Well

Individual, family, and couples therapy available. Request MCC Rates.



Tammy S. Fountain, LPC, ATR-BC
832-863-8221

Children, Adolescents & Adults.
Depression, Anxiety, Perfectionism,
Trauma, Addiction, Codependency,
Relationships.

Beginning in August Grief & Loss Recovery Group

Wednesday nights, 5:30-6:50pm, 14 consecutive weeks
Grieving is a natural process and the result of losing a loved one, pet, physical or mental ability, job, relationship, or aspirations. This group teaches about the stages of grieving, and allows then to transform emotionally, behaviorally & spiritually. Participants are encouraged to accept their loss, understand their process and develop skills practice throughout their lifespan.

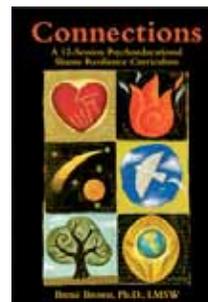
Space is limited, MCC rate available

There is hope for change, empowerment and living authentically!

Connections:
A 12-Session Psychoeducational
Shame-Resilience Curriculum

Call Tammy at 832-863-8221 for more information

Course developed by Brene Brown, PhD, LMSW, researcher, educator & writer. Learn to identify and overcome shame through exercises, handouts and lecture.



This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

SUNDAY OCTOBER 16

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 9:00 am | Sunday Worship | Sanctuary |
| 10:15 am | Fishers Net Prayer Ministry | Chapel |
| 10:15 am | Lay Delegates Meeting | Activities Building |
| 10:15 am | Children's Choir Rehearsal | Activities Building |
| 10:45 am | Youth Ministries Program | Activities Building |
| 11:00 am | Sunday Worship | Sanctuary |
| 12:30 pm | HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| 12:30 pm | Masquerade Ball Volunteer Meeting | Activities Building |
| 2:00 pm | Pumpkin Patch Play Date | Old Macdonald's Farm |

MONDAY OCTOBER 17

| | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 7:00 pm | Suffering and the Goodness of God | Chapel |
|---------|-----------------------------------|--------|

TUESDAY OCTOBER 18

| | | |
|---------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 7:00 pm | Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal | Music Room |
| 7:00 pm | Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| 7:00 pm | Yoga Connections | Activities Building |

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 19

| | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 6:00 pm | The Chalice: Community Gathering | Gathering Place |
| 7:00 pm | The Life You've Always Wanted | Gathering Place |

THURSDAY OCTOBER 20

No Events Scheduled

FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED OCTOBER 21

No Events Scheduled

SATURDAY OFFICE CLOSED OCTOBER 22

No Events Scheduled

SUNDAY OCTOBER 23

| | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 9:00 am | Sunday Worship | Sanctuary |
| 10:15 am | Fishers Net Prayer Ministry | Chapel |
| 10:15 am | Masquerade Ball Wrap-Up Session | Activities Building |
| 10:15 am | Children's Choir Rehearsal | Activities Building |
| 10:45 am | Youth Ministries Program | Activities Building |
| 11:00 am | Sunday Worship | Sanctuary |
| 12:30 pm | Annual Congregational Forum | Sanctuary |
| 12:30 pm | HeavenSound Handbells Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| 1:30 pm | LGBT and Free in Thee! | Gathering Place |
| 2:00 pm | Ms. Holly's Halloween Bash | Activities Building |