



# Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

December 15, 2013

## + Call To Worship

One: My soul magnifies our God,  
**All: And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,**  
One: For God looked with favor on the lowliness of this servant.  
**All: Surely, all generations will call me blessed.**  
One: God has brought the powerful from their thrones,  
**All: And lifted the lowly.**  
One: God has filled the hungry.  
**All: God fulfills the promises God has made.**

## Opening Carol

### *Emmanuel*

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Wonderful, Counselor,  
Lord of life, Lord of all, He is the Prince of Peace,  
Mighty God, Holy One, Emmanuel, Emmanuel!

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Wonderful, Counselor,  
Lord of life, Lord of all, He is the Prince of Peace,  
Mighty God, Holy One, Emmanuel, Emmanuel!

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
Wonderful, Counselor, Lord of life, Lord of all,  
He is the Prince of Peace, Mighty God, Holy One,  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Emmanuel!

by Michael W. Smith  
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**Our Community Gathers / Nuestra Comunidad Se Reúne**

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

**Announcements / Anuncios**

+ **Exchange of Peace / Saludo de Paz**

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

+ **Gathering Song**

### *Star Child*

Star-Child, earth-Child, go-between of God,  
love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lightning rod,  
This year, this year, let the day arrive  
when Christmas comes for everyone,  
everyone alive!

+ You are invited to rise in body or spirit.

## Advent

In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter's season and to pray for the return of the light. The church has Christianized that practice in the lighting of the Advent wreath. To us, these candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our worlds. Until the dawning of that Great Day, we watch and wait in Holy Spirit for Christ's coming into the darkness of our world, lighting candles of hope, peace, joy, and love; and remembering the promises of God with prayer.

From the Latin word, *adventus*, Advent means "arrival" or "coming" of Jesus as human into the world. Advent is a season of preparation the four Sundays before Christmas and is the beginning of the church year.

# Gabriel and Mary

by Jan L. Richardson

When Mary says let it be to the archangel, it is an act of radical surrender. She offers her yes not with the meek passivity that history has so often ascribed to her; this kind of surrender is born not of weakness but of a daring strength within her and a stunning grace that shows up to sustain her. Mary's surrender is deliberate, the choice of a woman ready to give herself to the sacred with such abandon that she agrees, with intention, to give up every last plan she ever had for her life.

Mary's audacious yes propels her onto a dark way. She sets out on a path almost completely devoid of signposts or trails left by others; she chooses a road utterly unlike any she had ever imagined for herself.

What must it have been like to walk a way she could hardly see, while carrying within herself -- in her heart and womb and bones -- a light unlike any the world had ever seen?

When have you spoken an audacious let it be?

When have you said yes to a path you could never have imagined traveling -- but, when it appeared, could not do other than choose it? What path might yet be waiting for your radical surrender?

## Lighting the Advent Candles

Elisa Vega-Burns

One: Watch and wait for Christ's coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

**ALL: We light this candle in hope. We light this candle for peace. We light this candle in joy!**

One: Mary sings, "My soul magnifies God, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for God has looked with favor on this servant and I am blessed. God has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; God has filled the hungry with good things.

**ALL: God, help us to receive your favor and know we are blessed. God, help us to sing out in joy!**

One: Let us pray: O Redeemer, you lead us from sorrow's shadows into laughter's joy over your abundant restoration. Thank you that you are coming for us to lead us home along your Way, Jesus Christ.

**ALL: Amen.**

## Special Music

Whitney Howard

### *O Holy Night with Silent Night*

by Adolphe Charles Adam, Placide Cappeau, and John S. Dwight

## + Scripture Lesson

Kent Biggs

### *Matthew 11:2-11*

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

## Anthem

Gospel Ensemble

### *Silver And Gold*

by Kirk Franklin

**Sermon**

Rev. Troy Treash

***On The Threshold***

*Annunciation*  
by Jan Richardson

Raymond Lawson

**Sermon Response**

Mark C. Brown

**We Offer Ourselves**

David McGurk  
Van English

**Offertory / Ofertorio**

Gospel Ensemble

***There Is No Christmas Without You***  
by Words and Music by Kirk Franklin

**Communion / Comunion**

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

**Communion Songs / Cantos de Comunion**

***The Lamb***

Hallelujah to the Lamb of God, Hallelujah to the Lamb of God  
We bow down before you, We worship and adore you  
Hallelujah to the Lamb of God

Holy is the Lamb of God, Holy is the Lamb of God  
We bow down before you, We worship and adore you  
Holy is the Lamb of God

Precious is the Lamb of God, Precious is the Lamb of God  
We bow down before you, We worship and adore you  
Precious is the Lamb of God

Worthy is the Lamb of God, Worthy is the Lamb of God  
We bow down before you, We worship and adore you  
Worthy is the Lamb of God

Jesus you're the Lamb of God, Jesus you're the Lamb of God  
We bow down before you, We worship and adore you  
Jesus you're the Lamb of God

by Gerald Coleman  
© 1987 MorningStar Music Publishers, CCLI# 12949

***What Child Is This***

by William Chatterton Dix  
Public Domain, CCLI# 12949

**Communion**

As we gather, break bread, and tell stories of hope through prayer, song and ritual in the practice we call "communion," we bear witness that "Life is stronger than death. People can change with God's help. And God is worthy of our thanks and praise." All are welcome at the table: you do not need to be a member of this or any church to gather as God's children at the table of Life.

A brief blessing is offered with bread and juice, available to all. Gluten-free bread is offered at the far right; Spanish blessing offered at the far left.

Please honor this time of sacred community with singing, quiet meditation or prayer that we might each receive the spiritual nourishment we seek ...

**Comunion**

Al reunirnos, partir el pan, y contar historias de esperanza a través de la oración, el canto y el ritual en la práctica que llamamos "comunion", damos testimonio de que "la vida es más fuerte que la muerte. Las personas pueden cambiar con la ayuda de Dios. Y Dios es digno de nuestro agradecimiento y alabanza." Todos están invitados a la mesa: no es necesario ser miembro de esta iglesia o cualquier reunir como hijos de Dios en la mesa de la Vida.

Una breve bendición se ofrece con el pan y el jugo, al alcance de todos. Pan sin gluten se ofrece en el extremo derecho; bendición españoles ofrecen en el extremo izquierdo.

Por favor respetar este tiempo de comunidad sagrada con canto, la meditación o la oración silenciosa para que podamos recibir cada uno el alimento espiritual que buscamos ...

*Just As I Am*

Just as I am, without one plea,  
But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,  
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, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thy love unknown  
Hath broken every barrier down;  
Now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

by William Batchelder Bradbury, Daniel Doss, and Charlotte Elliott  
© worshiptogether.com songs, CCLI# 12949

**Prayer of Thanksgiving / Acción de Gracias**

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

+ **Closing Carol**

*Go Tell It On The Mountain*

While shepherds kept their watching  
Over silent flocks by night,  
Behold throughout the heavens,  
There shone a holy light:  
Go, Tell It On The Mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, Tell It On The Mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo! above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed our Saviour's birth:  
Go, Tell It On The Mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, Tell It On The Mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lowly manger  
Our humble Christ was born  
And God send us salvation,  
That blessed Christmas morn:  
Go, Tell It On The Mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, Tell It On The Mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born.

+ **Benediction / Bendición**

Rev. Troy Treash

+ **Postlude / Postludio**

Joel Hammett

**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. Troy Treash

Senior Pastor

RevTroy@ResurrectionMCC.org (x101)

### Mark C. Brown

Director of Worship Arts

MarkB@ResurrectionMCC.org (x109)

### Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

Director of Connections

RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org (x105)

### Mark Eggleston

Director of Outreach

Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org (x106)

### Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Director of Life Development

RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org (x107)

## Professional Stipend & Volunteers

### Rev. Johnna Faber

Pastoral Care Coordinator

PastoralCare@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Rev. Pat Farnan

Altar Ministry Coordinator

RevPat@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Joel Hammett

Organist & Accompanist

### Christy Irvin

Gospel Ensemble Pianist

### Debbie Mansfield

Nursery Coordinator

Nursery@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Sara Navarro

Graphic Design

Sara@ResurrectionMCC.org (x112)

### Joel Palomares

Youth Ministries Program Coordinator

Youth@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Steven Shannon

Sanctuary Choir Director, Interim

Steven@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Rusty Swisher

Bookkeeper

Bookkeeper@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Bridgett Vinson

Operations Coordinator

Facilities@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Rose Wall

HeavenSound Handbells Director

Handbells@ResurrectionMCC.org

### Cassandra White

Gospel Ensemble Director

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

**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



# DISTRIBUTE CHRISTMAS BASKETS TODAY

**12:30 - 3 pm**  
**Activities Building**

Assist with arranging baskets for distribution, signing in clients, and distributing baskets.

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-20131215](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20131215)

**SPIRITS & SPIRITUALITY  
NO RULES. NO RELIGION.**

# J. BLACK'S

FEEL GOOD KITCHEN & LOUNGE

THURSDAY  
**DECEMBER 19**  
7:30 - 9 pm

**J. Black's Feel Good Kitchen & Lounge**  
110 South Heights Blvd. Houston, TX 77007  
713-862-7818 [www.jblack.com](http://www.jblack.com)

Join other MCCers for a casual evening filled with spiritual conversation and fun fellowship. This is an opportunity to explore the spiritual and non-religious aspects of relationships and life challenges in a casual environment.

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-20131219](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20131219)  
[Connections@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Connections@ResurrectionMCC.org)



# Santa's Workshop

# TODAY

11 am - 1 pm

Pin the nose on Rudolf, make an ornament, or sip hot cider with one of Santa's elves! Join us as our Youth Ministry Program hosts its annual Santa's Workshop for school-age youngsters (and infants-toddlers accompanied by a grown-up) to share in the creation of gifts and decorations for the season! A visit from Santa and possibly a reindeer or two are likely - so don't miss this holiday delight!

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-SANTA](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-SANTA)  
[Youth@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Youth@ResurrectionMCC.org)

# ADVENT WEDNESDAY TAIZE SERVICE



WEDNESDAY  
**DECEMBER 18**  
7 - 8 pm, Gathering Place

Taizé is an ecumenical service of prayer, scripture, reflection and meditative music. This form of prayer comes from the Christian monastic community of Taizé, located in the heart of the Burgundy region in France.

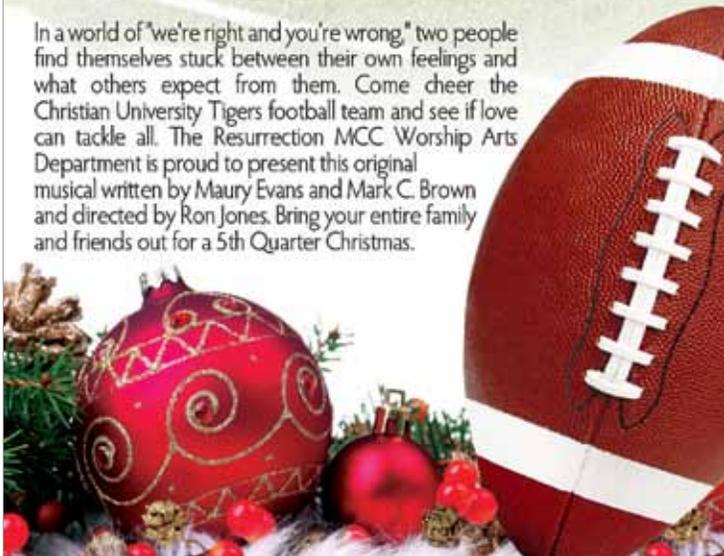
The Taize liturgy serves to quiet our innermost being. There is repetition in the words of the music. There is a period of silence, and the readings are read slowly -- all so that we may have a deep, quiet growth in our hearts. Then we may be still and perhaps listen to the voice of God..

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-AWTS](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-AWTS)

# 5TH QUARTER CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Thursday, December 19, 7:00 pm  
Friday, December 20, 7:00 pm  
Saturday, December 21, 2:00 pm

In a world of "we're right and you're wrong," two people find themselves stuck between their own feelings and what others expect from them. Come cheer the Christian University Tigers football team and see if love can tackle all. The Resurrection MCC Worship Arts Department is proud to present this original musical written by Maury Evans and Mark C. Brown and directed by Ron Jones. Bring your entire family and friends out for a 5th Quarter Christmas.



## FRIDAY NIGHT OUT SOUTH



FRIDAY  
**DECEMBER 20**  
7 pm

**Zio's Italian Restaurant**  
820 W. Bay Area Blvd  
Houston, TX 77598  
281-338-7800  
[www.zios.com](http://www.zios.com)

Join our NEWEST social dinner gathering for our friends South of Houston!

These monthly dinner gatherings are a great way to reconnect with those you may already know and is an opportunity to meet new folks and friends.

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-20131220](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20131220)  
[FridayNightOUTSouth@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:FridayNightOUTSouth@ResurrectionMCC.org)



## CRITICAL MASS BIKE RIDE - GOT LOVE?

FRIDAY  
**DECEMBER 27**

6:45 pm - 9:30 pm  
Market Square Park, 301 Milam, Houston

*Calling all Bicyclists!*

Join fellow Resurrection MCC bikers for a Critical Mass Bike Ride - a casual mass bike ride around the city, intended to raise awareness and advocate a bicycle-friendly urban environment. All bikes and skill-levels are welcomed. The ride will last around 2 hours - about 20 miles. Meet at 6:45pm on the corner nearest Congress Ave and Travis St. in Downtown Houston. Look for the GOT LOVE? Resurrection MCC Shirts!

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-20131227](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20131227)  
FAQs - [www.houstoncriticalmass.com/faq](http://www.houstoncriticalmass.com/faq)  
[RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org)

## KWANZAA



SATURDAY  
**DECEMBER 28**  
7 pm, Sanctuary

Kwanzaa is a unique African-American celebration with a focus on the seven basic principles of African society that contribute to the building and reinforcing of family, community and culture. With the help and support of our Resurrection MCC sisters and brothers, and many from the community, we will come together to share music, poetry and reflections that highlight the beauty and accomplishments of the African-American community.

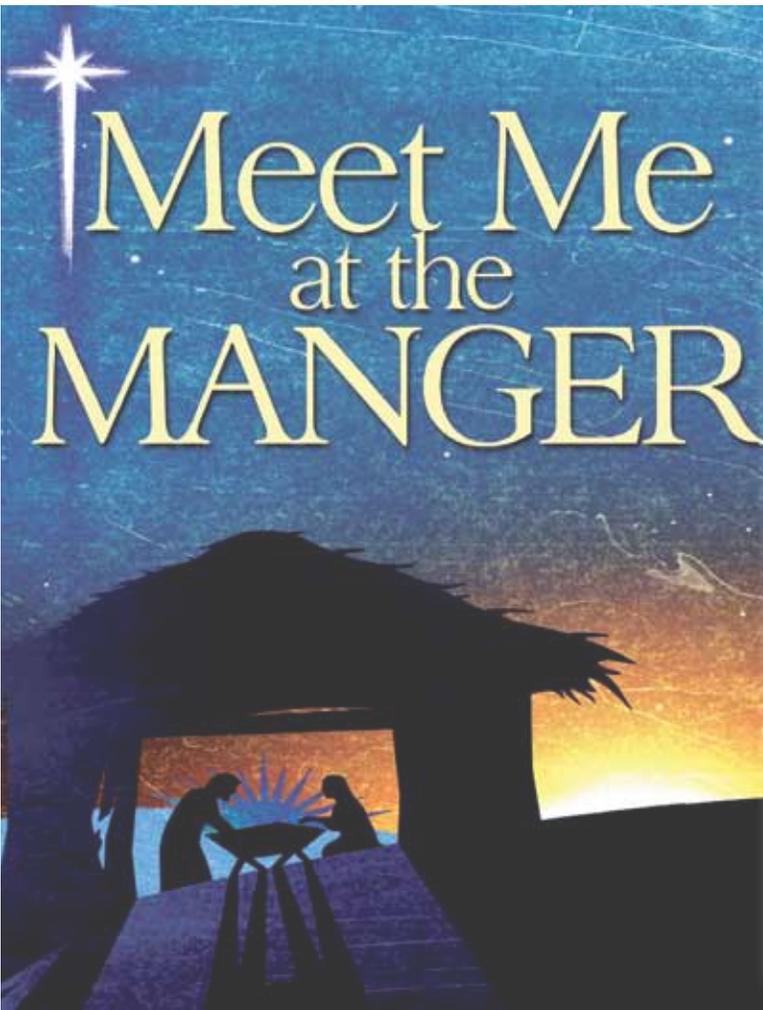
Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-KWANZAA2013](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-KWANZAA2013)  
[Kwanzaa@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Kwanzaa@ResurrectionMCC.org)

# Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

Tuesday, 7 pm  
December 24

**Resurrection**  
Metropolitan Community Church

Sunday Worship 9 & 11 am • Spanish & Deaf Interpretation 11 am  
Children, Youth & Teen Program 11 am • Nursery Available / Handicap Accessible  
2025 West 11th St, Houston 77008 • [www.ResurrectionMCC.org](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org) • 713-861-9149



**A**t Resurrection MCC we celebrate the gift of God's love every day, all year long.

We celebrate God's love with special joy at Christmas, blessed that long ago God put each of us "at the top of the list" and gave the most wonderful gift to us all - Jesus Christ. Each Christmas, as we gather at the manger to receive the gift of Jesus Christ anew, we come grateful. And this time, we come bringing our gifts too . . .

You're invited to join us . . . Meet Me at the Manger!

It's beautifully simple: This Christmas, as you open your hearts and make a list of your family and friends and the gifts you hope to give this Christmas, give thanks for the blessing of your loved ones and for God's provision which makes it possible for you to have gifts to bring them.

And then put Jesus on the top of the list.

In the candlelit beauty of Christmas Eve, many of us will make a special gift to the ministry of Resurrection MCC in celebration of our relationship with Jesus and his life among us. We will make an offering (beyond our regular giving) in the amount of one dollar more than the cost of the most expensive gift we have on our list. We will place it in a small gift box, and place it in a basket near the altar on Christmas Eve. For some of us, this is a way of honoring what we value most this season; for others, it's a way to say "Thank you!" or "I love you!" to God. For many of us, it is a spiritual practice, like prayer or fasting. For all of us, it is a joy and a blessing.

We hope you will join us . . . Meet Me at the Manger!

*Empty gift boxes are available at all of the Sanctuary entrances.*



The Grief Recovery Method<sup>SM</sup>

## The Grief Recovery Method: The Action Program for Moving Beyond Loss

A 7-Week Grief Recovery Group with  
Larry Leutwyler at Resurrection MCC

SEVEN MONDAYS

**January 13, 20, 27 &  
February 3, 10, 17, 24**  
7 – 9 pm • Chapel

Simply defined, grief is the normal and natural reaction to significant emotional loss of any kind. The range of emotions associated with grief is as varied as there are people and personalities. Grief is individual and unique. As every relationship is unique, so are the feelings and thoughts each person will have about the relationship that has been altered by death, divorce, or for other reasons. Recovery from loss is accomplished by discovering and completing all of the undelivered communications that accrue in relationships. We are all advised to "Let Go," and "Move On," after losses of all kinds. Most of us would do that if we knew how.

The Grief Recovery Method® Outreach Program provides the action choices that help people move beyond the pain caused by loss. It is a seven-week program which creates a safe environment in which to look at old beliefs about dealing with loss; to look at what losses have affected your life; and to take new actions which lead to completion of the pain attached to one of those losses.

The Grief Recovery Method® Outreach Program is not an occasional, drop-in group. For the safety and success of all participants, commitment and attendance are essential. The fee for the program is \$100.00. (Scholarships are available)

The Grief Recovery Method® Outreach Program is led by Chaplain Larry Leutwyler, who has been trained and certified by The Grief Recovery Institute® and is currently on staff with Bering Support Network.

Register: \$50 deposit to register before Sunday, January 5. Balance due by first class. Minimum of 6 pre-registered participants. Maximum of 12. Confirmation of minimum registration achieved sent to all participants on Monday, January 6.

Details & REGISTER: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-GRIEF](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-GRIEF)  
RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org



## January 1 "First Light": An Open 12-Step Recovery Community Gathering

WEDNESDAY

**January 1**

7 am – Noon

Outside Between Bayou & Activities Building

Greet the "First Light" of 2014 with an open 12-Step Recovery gathering! "Let-Go-and-Let-God" will be the theme of our open (all are welcome!) 7-8:30 am speaker-discussion meeting, which will take place around the fire with an abundance of hot chocolate, coffee and cider. Immediately following the meeting a continental breakfast buffet. Afterwards, all are invited to participate in simple rituals of Releasing the Old and Visioning the New - letting go, and letting God bring us into the New Year happy, joyous and free!

RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org

## FRIDAY NIGHT OUT CENTRAL



FRIDAY • 7 pm

**JANUARY 3**

**Teotihuacan Mexican Cafe**

1511 Airline Dr, Houston 77009

713-426-4420 • [www.teomexicancafe.com](http://www.teomexicancafe.com)

Join us for another Friday evening filled with food, fun and friends. To help ensure that we have adequate seating, we ask that you please RSVP and let us know if you will be attending. As always, friends and family (including children) are welcome!

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140103](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140103)  
FridayNightOUT@ResurrectionMCC.org



# IMANI VIDA DRUM CIRCLE

SATURDAY  
**JANUARY 4**

2 - 4 pm • Activities Building

“Imani” means Faith in Swahili, and “Vida” means Life in Spanish. Join us as we explore life and faith through drumming! If you like to drum or have an interest in drumming, join us as we make music through all sorts of percussion instruments: hand drums, shakers, rain sticks and even the sound of foot stomping music. Drummers of all skill levels are welcome. No prior drumming experience is required to participate in our circle. We only ask that you bring your desire to be a part of our community drum circle. We meet every first Saturday of the month in the Gathering Place, as well as other locations for other special drumming occasions.

Details & RSVP: [www.meetup.com/drummingcircle](http://www.meetup.com/drummingcircle)  
RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org



# YOUNG ADULT BRUNCH

ALL AGES WELCOME

SATURDAY  
**JANUARY 4**

Noon - 1:30 pm

## Polovina Italian Cafe

4500 Washington Ave #200, Houston, TX 77007  
713-861-1042, [www.polovinaitalian.com](http://www.polovinaitalian.com)

The Young Adults of Resurrection MCC invite those of all ages to join them for a fun brunch and an opportunity to make new friends and reconnect with those you may already know.

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140104](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140104)  
YoungAdults@ResurrectionMCC.org

## Resurrection MCC Annual Congregational Meeting Summary

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday November 3, 2013.  
Key business items that the congregation voted and approved during this meeting include:

### Approved the 2014 annual budget

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| • Total Revenue                           | \$1,127,000 |
| • Total Expenditures + Principal Payments | \$1,127,000 |

### Elected Lay Delegates

- Annette Beall, Suzette Cotto, Jacqueline Jones, Robert Sliepka (interim chair), Diann Thomason to the five (5) Lay Delegate positions
- Jerry Reitz to fill the Alternate Lay Delegate Role

### Elected Board of Directors slate presented by the Nominating Committee

- Edward Domingue, Jr. returning as the Treasurer
- John Lasseigne accepting the Administrator role
- Janetta Ross accepting the Clerk role
- Elisa Vega-Burns returning as the Community Presence Director

Note: In accordance with our RMCC bylaws and the congregation’s election of the board slate, the RMCC board also appointed John Lasseigne to the Administrator role to remedy a clerical error making sure all actions are in proper order.

Please congratulate and offer your prayers of support to those embarking on their new journeys to serve God and this congregation.

*1 Peter 4:10-11 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*



WEDNESDAYS - 7 pm  
SATURDAYS - 9:30 am  
Chapel

Overeaters Anonymous offers a program of recovery from compulsive eating using the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of OA. Worldwide meetings and other tools provide a fellowship of experience, strength and hope where members respect one another's anonymity. OA charges no dues or fees and is self-supporting through member contributions.

OA is not just about weight loss, weight gain maintenance, obesity, or diets. It addresses physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. It is not a religious organization and does not promote any particular diet.

OA members differ in many ways, but we are united by our common disease and the solution we have found in the OA program. We practice unity with diversity, and we welcome everyone who wants to stop eating compulsively. Welcome to Overeaters Anonymous. Welcome home.

## FISHERS NET PRAYER MINISTRY

Fishers Net offers personal prayers on Sundays at the Prayer Wall after the 11:00 am Worship Service. Please email your prayer request to [Prayers@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Prayers@ResurrectionMCC.org).

## Commitment Cards

During this season of Thanksgiving, as we give gratitude for the financial commitments that have already been made, we continue to invite everyone to be in the journey of generosity from just starting off -- to tithing 10% -- into even greater abundance.

Specifically, if we have already made a commitment based on a percentage of our income, we are asked to increase that commitment by 1-2% of our gross income. If we haven't made a consistent commitment, we are asked to calculate what starting at 5% of our income would be and making a first step to achieve that goal. This is a journey for everyone - one step at a time.

Commitment Cards are located at all Sanctuary entrances and may be placed in the offering plate when complete.

If you prefer to submit a commitment card online, please visit [www.ResurrectionMCC.org/give/commitment](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org/give/commitment)

### Board Member on Duty

Rhonda Brown and Van English

*Board Minutes Available Upon Request.*

### Vince Olivier, Certified Technician

713-261-0101

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- PC Training and Consultation
- Virus Correction and Protection
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## General Fund Giving Report

For Week and YTD Ended December 8, 2013

Giving (Tithes and Offerings)	Week Ended	YTD Total
Total Amount Received	\$14,765.15	\$827,917.55
Total Amount Anticipated	\$17,980.77	\$872,067.34
Total Giving Variance		(\$44,149.79)
Weekly Giving Comparison		
Average Amount Received	\$16,896.28	
Ministry Plan Need	\$17,980.77	
Attendance		
	Week Ended	YTD Average
Worship	452	474
Programming	32	158
Total Weekly Attendance	484	632

### January - September, 2013 (unaudited)

All Revenue: \$792,855  
Expenses: \$655,774  
Principal Payments: \$67,209  
Current Liabilities: \$7,400  
Prepaid 2014 Pledges: \$20,603  
Net: \$41,869  
Owed to Capital: \$55,448

**Ministry Plan Need** is the weekly amount needed per the budget approved by the congregation to achieve our 2013 ministry plan goals and strategic growth initiatives (i.e., the amount needed to make ministry happen)

## This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

<b>SUNDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 15</b>
9:00 am	<b>Worship Service</b>	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Fisher's Net - Prayer Time	Chapel
10:45 am	Santa's Workshop	Activities Building
11:00 am	<b>Worship Service</b>	Sanctuary
12:30 am	Christmas Basket Distribution	Activities Building
3:00 pm	Houston Heights Orchestra Concert	Sanctuary
5:00 pm	5th Quarter Christmas Rehearsal	Sanctuary
<b>MONDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 16</b>
7:00 pm	Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal	Sanctuary
<b>TUESDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 17</b>
6:00 pm	Resurrection Praise Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Rainbow of Hope NA Group	Gathering Place
7:00 pm	Yoga	Activities Building
7:00 pm	Combined Christmas Rehearsal	Sanctuary
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 18</b>
6:00 pm	5th Quarter Christmas Dress Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	OA 12-Step Meeting	Activities Building
7:00 pm	Advent Wednesday Taize Service	Gathering Place
<b>THURSDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 19</b>
7:00 pm	5th Quarter Christmas Musical	Sanctuary
7:30 pm	Spirits and Spirituality	J.Blacks
<b>FRIDAY</b>		<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>
<b>DECEMBER 20</b>		
7:00 pm	5th Quarter Christmas Musical	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Friday Night OUT - South	Zio's Italian Restaurant
<b>SATURDAY</b>		<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>
<b>DECEMBER 21</b>		
8:00 am	Body Blast	Activities Building
9:30 am	OA 12-Step Meeting	Chapel
2:00 pm	5th Quarter Christmas Musical	Sanctuary
2:00 pm	Joy of Djembe Drumming	Activities Building
<b>SUNDAY</b>		<b>DECEMBER 22</b>
9:00 am	<b>Worship Service</b>	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Fisher's Net - Prayer Time	Chapel
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	Activities Building
11:00 am	<b>Worship Service</b>	Sanctuary

# YOGA CONNECTIONS

(Not Held Dec. 24 or 31)

## TUESDAYS

7 - 8 pm | Activities Building

Please bring a mat and towel.  
Everyone is welcome to join us  
for these free sessions.

Details and RSVP: [www.bit.ly/YOGA2013](http://www.bit.ly/YOGA2013)



# BODY BLAST

## Fitness Camp

(Not Held Dec. 28)

## SATURDAYS

8 - 9 am • Activities Building

[BodyBlast@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:BodyBlast@ResurrectionMCC.org)

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/BODYBLAST2013](http://www.bit.ly/BODYBLAST2013)



# ZUMBA

(Not Held Dec. 26 or Jan. 2)

## THURSDAYS

7 - 8 pm • Activities Building

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/ZUMBA2013](http://www.bit.ly/ZUMBA2013)  
[Zumba@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Zumba@ResurrectionMCC.org)