



# Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

May 11, 2014

+ **Opening Hymn**

*Mothering God You Gave Me Birth*

Mothering God, You gave me birth  
In the bright morning of this world.  
Creator, source of every breath,  
You are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, You took my form,  
Offering me Your food of light,  
Grain of life and grape of love,  
Your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, Nurturing One,  
In arms of patience hold me close,  
So that in faith I root and grow  
Until I flower, until I know.

by Jean Janzen and Henry Percy Smith  
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**Our Community Gathers**

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

**Announcements**

Bridgett Vinson

+ **Exchange of Peace**

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

## 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.

+ You are invited to rise in body or spirit.

## Gregory Boyle

For twenty years, Gregory Boyle, is a Jesuit priest, has run Homeboy Industries, a gang-intervention program located in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, the gang capital of the world. In *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*, he distills his experience into a breathtaking series of parables inspired by faith. *Tattoos* is about universal kinship and redemption with moving examples of the power of unconditional love and the importance of fighting despair. It reminds us that no life is less valuable than another

Homeboy Industries offers tattoo removal, job training, case management, mental health support, legal services and education. You can find out more at [www.homeboyindustries.org](http://www.homeboyindustries.org).

Join us for an interactive book study on Wednesday evenings this month! Details on bulletin back page!

## + Gathering Song

### *Hallelujah*

Halle, halle, halleluja.  
Halle, halle, halleluja.  
Halle, halle, halleluja.  
Halleluja, halleluja.

Public Domain, CCLI# 1025612

## Contemporary Reading

### *Tattoos on the Heart*

by Gregory Boyle

“We are the guys who hate those guys” is the self-defining assertion of every gang. The challenge is getting them to abandon the territory of their gang and replace it with a turf more ample, inclusive, and as expansive as God’s own view of things. Sometimes you’re thrown into each other’s jurisdiction, and that feels better than living, as the Buddhist say, in the “illusion of separateness.” It is in the place where we judge the other and feel the impossibility of anything getting bridged. The gulf too wide and the gap too distant, the walls grow higher, and we forget who we are meant to be to each other. Somewhere, in the jurisdictional locale where judgment used to claim us, a remarkable commonality rushes in, and the barriers that exclude are dismantled. We seek to create loving communities of kinship precisely to counteract mounting lovelessness, racism, and the cultural disparagement that keeps us apart.

One: In these human words, God’s voice is heard.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Special Music

Bridgett Vinson

### *Bridge Over Troubled Waters*

Words and Music by Paul Simon

## + Scripture Lesson

DeJuana Jernigan

### *John 10:2-4,13-18a*

Jesus said, “The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep, the one for whom the keeper opens the gate. The sheep know the shepherd’s voice; the shepherd calls them by name and leads them out. Having led all out of the fold, the shepherd walks in front of them and they follow because they recognize the shepherd’s voice.

“I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me, in the same way Abba God knows me and I know God--and for these sheep I will lay down my life. I have other sheep that don’t belong to this fold--I must lead them too, and they will hear my voice. And then there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why Abba God loves me--because I lay down my life, only to take it up again. No one takes my life from me; I lay it down freely.

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*Shepherd Tend Your Sheep*  
Words and Music by John Horman

Sanctuary Choir

**Sermon**

*Building Bridges*

Rev. Troy Treash

**Sermon Reflection**

Mark C. Brown

**We Offer Ourselves**

David McGurk

**Offertory**

*Hail Mary, Gentle Woman*  
Words and Music composer unknown

Sanctuary Choir

**Communion**

Mama Rose Prevo  
LaWanna White

**Communion Songs**

*Breathe*  
by Marie Barnett

*Sweet Sweet Spirit*  
by Doris Akers

*I Exalt Thee*  
by Russell Bergin

**WE NEED  
A HERO:  
Houston  
Equal Rights  
Ordinance**

Did you know that in Houston it is legal for employers and business owners to discriminate against anyone based solely upon perceived or actual sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression?

In fact, Houston is the largest city in the United States, and the only major city in Texas, that does not protect it's LGBT citizens from discrimination.

Now is the time to end discrimination in Houston. And it's up to you.

Your presence is needed at our City Council Meeting this Tuesday, May 13, at 1:30 pm.

We need you to tell City Council why you support the ordinance or how you've experienced discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

Many faith voices opposing the ordinance will be present. Affirming voices of faith are critical to be in the room. Each person is limited to speaking for one minute (about 130 words).

City Council will vote on this ordinance in the next two weeks.

Full details on the Council Meeting, how to register, and how to send a letter are available online at [www.bit.ly/we-need-a-hero](http://www.bit.ly/we-need-a-hero)

Questions to [Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org)

## 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 ...

## Comunión

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 "comunión", 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.

### + Closing Song

#### *Lean On Me*

Sometimes in our lives  
We all have pain  
We all have sorrow;  
But, if we are wise  
We know that there's  
Always tomorrow.

Lean on me when You're not strong,  
And I'll be your friend,  
I'll help you carry on;  
For it won't be long  
'til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.

You just call on me family when you need a hand  
We all need somebody to lean on.  
I just might have a problem that you'll understand  
We all need somebody to lean on.

Lean on me when You're not strong,  
And I'll be your friend,  
I'll help you carry on;  
For it won't be long  
'til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.

If there is a load you have to bear  
That you can't carry;  
I'm right up the road,  
I'll share your load if you just call me.

You just call on me family when you need a hand  
We all need somebody to lean on.  
I just might have a problem that you'll understand  
We all need somebody to lean on.

Call me, call me, call me, call me. (repeat)

Words and Music by Bill Withers  
Public Domain, CCLI# 1025612

### + Benediction

Rev. Troy Treash

### + Postlude

Joel Hammett

## Executive Team

### Rev. Troy Treash

Senior Pastor

RevTroy@ResurrectionMCC.org (x101)

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RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org (x105)

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### Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

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### Jon Creamer

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### Rev. Johnna Faber

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### Christy Irvin

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### Bridgett Vinson

Operations Coordinator

Facilities@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 Christ-like 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

# Rev. Kristen Renewal

May 2, 2014

My beloved friends and faith-companions,

Just over a month ago I celebrated my sixth anniversary in ministry at Resurrection MCC! Marking the occasion, I wrote a letter to Rev. Troy and our Board of Directors which included the following reflection:

“Over the course of six years in full-time ministry at Resurrection I have received immeasurable gifts and countless blessings. It would be impossible to quantify the ministry development I have been afforded and the spiritual growth which has been fostered within me during this rich and rigorous period of shared journey. To say that I am ‘grateful’ doesn’t begin to describe the depth of my appreciation to the people of Resurrection and to God for these years together.”

As I begin my seventh year in this amazing journey with you, I am grateful to share that I have requested and been given a period of spiritual renewal, or - in language I might use - a sort of “extended Sabbath,” in the amount of one week for each year I have served in ministry with you.

I often say “You can’t give what you don’t have!” and am aware in my depths that I am in need of a dedicated time of spiritual practice to bring a fresh outpouring of creative energy and vision to our new season together. As such, it is with great joy and appreciation that I share with you my plans to take a time apart with God throughout the month of May and a bit into June as well.

One of the greatest gifts of keeping a regular Sabbath practice is the sanity which rises as we acknowledge that we are limited, finite beings – that we are not God. And another, equally gracious gift is the soul-joy which washes through and through when we rest our finite humanity in God’s infinite and tender care: we are restored. I am in need of these things, both for myself and for my ability to minister well with you.

I look forward to returning on June 8th and preaching for Pride, washed through and through with soul-joy, restored by God’s infinite and tender care. For now I leave you with great love and these words of Mary Oliver, which are calling me into this brief time apart:

*When I am among the trees,  
especially the willows and the honey locust,  
equally the beech, the oaks and the pines,  
they give off such hints of gladness.  
I would almost say that they save me, and daily.*

*I am so distant from the hope of myself,  
in which I have goodness, and discernment,  
and never hurry through the world  
but walk slowly, and bow often.*

*Around me the trees stir in their leaves  
and call out, "Stay awhile."  
The light flows from their branches.*

*And they call again, "It's simple," they say,  
"and you too have come  
into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled  
with light, and to shine."*

In the joy of grace, Kristen



## LGBTQ AND FREE

MONDAYS

**MAY 12 & 19**

7 - 8:30 pm, Gathering Place

This foundational offering is for all who seek to reconcile their experience of God, their sexuality, and their understanding of Christian Scripture. In the course this series, we will engage study of the 6 “clobber passages” in the Bible through the lens of our personal faith experience, current Biblical scholarship, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. If you are asking “What does the Bible say about homosexuality?” or “What does Jesus say about being gay?” please join us!

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-20130505](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20130505)  
RevKristen@ResurrectionMCC.org



## HOUSTON EQUAL RIGHTS ORDINANCE COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY

**MAY 13**

1:30 pm • Council Chambers, City Hall  
901 Bagby Street, Houston TX 77002

Mayor Annise Parker has proposed an Equal Rights Ordinance for Houston that makes illegal discrimination on the basis of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity in housing, public AND private employment, and public accommodations. This proposal will be reviewed at this Weekly City Council Meeting which is open to the public and includes an opportunity for citizen input. A vote is expected on Wednesday, May 14.

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/we-need-a-hero](http://www.bit.ly/we-need-a-hero)  
Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org

# FRIDAY NIGHT OUT SOUTH



FRIDAY • 7 - 9 pm  
**MAY 16**

## Rudys BBQ

21361 Gulf Fwy, Webster 77598  
www.rudysbbq.com • 281-338-0462

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-20140516s](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140516s)  
[FridayNightOUTSouth@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:FridayNightOUTSouth@ResurrectionMCC.org)



# Resilient Families

A Community Partner Event

SUNDAY  
**MAY 18**  
12:45 - 2:30 pm • Gathering Place

The Metropolitan Organization is an organization dedicated to creating relational power and leadership among citizens in order to transform the city. "Resilient Families" explores the different types of pressures (economic, political, community, cultural) on our families and what and how community institutions can support us as we navigate these challenges. As we are empowered, we are also challenged to claim our ability to become community change agents. Lunch is provided. [www.tmo-houston.org](http://www.tmo-houston.org)

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140518](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140518)  
[RevTroy@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:RevTroy@ResurrectionMCC.org)



# JOY OF DJEMBE DRUMMING

SATURDAY  
**MAY 17**  
1 - 5 pm • Gathering Place

This advanced group of drummers from the Imani Vida Drum Circle meets monthly to rehearse for community event performances.

For an audition to join, email  
[RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org)

# SORDID LIVES

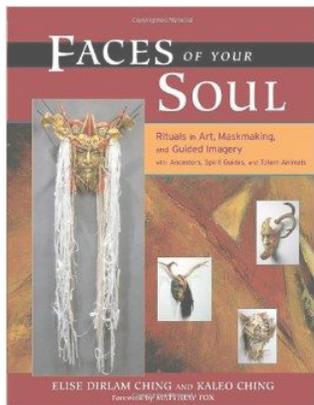
By Del Shores

## OPEN AUDITIONS

**MAY 18, 19, 25, 26**  
7:30 pm • Activities Building Room 202

Questions to Doug Harris  
[Theatre@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Theatre@ResurrectionMCC.org)

# Soul-Expressions: Mask-Making as Meditation



MONDAY  
**JUNE**  
**2, 9, 16, 23**  
7 - 8:30 pm  
Chapel

Engaging the process of mask-making, we will connect with the body's instinctive intelligence, which expresses itself through creation. We will learn the simple yet meaningful practice of partnering to mold each other's gauze mask. We will then form, decorate, adorn, and alter our masks as a meditative practice, exploring our "soul-expressions" as a means of active prayer and interior reflection. Your innate sense of self-expression is enough; no artistic skill needed for this spritual practice.

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



# Adopt-A-Bed

Take PRIDE in our church Home!

**Sign-up to Volunteer:**  
**Sundays, May 11, 18, 25**  
**Gathering Place, After Worship**

Volunteers are needed to "Adopt-A-Bed" which includes regular weeding, trash removal, and maintenance of our flowerbeds and gardens.

A green thumb is not required. You only need a desire to beautify our campus. You may volunteer individually, with a small group, a church ministry team, or family!

Questions to Bridgett Vinson  
Facilities@ResurrectionMCC.org



# Stonewall Stories

WEDNESDAY  
**JUNE 4, 11, 19**  
7 - 8:30 pm  
Gathering Place

A police raid on the Stonewall bar set off a series of riots in the summer of 1969 that mark the birth of the modern GLBTQ political movement. "Stonewall" re-examines this event through the vibrant, intertwined portraits of six people who run the gamut from hippie, ex-priest Jim Fournatt to Yvonne Flowers - a black feminist - to trans-activist Sylvia Rivera who defiantly faced hostility from within the LGB community as well as outside it. Learn your queer roots this PRIDE, from the inside-out!

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



# CRITICAL MASS BIKE RIDE - GOT LOVE?

FRIDAY  
**MAY 30**  
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-20140530](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140530)  
FAQs - [www.houstoncriticalmass.com/faq](http://www.houstoncriticalmass.com/faq)  
RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org

# FOOD PANTRY UPDATE



We are blessed to have served hundreds of clients throughout 2013. Your continued support through food and monetary donations allow us to continue to serve our community in a very meaningful way. The Board of Pride Charities would like to launch a special 2014 campaign by asking each of you to consider joining us in an effort to make each Sunday a special donation Sunday to keep our shelves bursting at the seams.

- First Sunday (Protein)** – Tuna, Chicken, Chili, Vienna Sausages, Luncheon Meat
- Second Sunday (Fruits & Vegetables)** – Canned Fruit, Peas, Corn, Green Beans
- Third Sunday (Carb)** - Small bags of Rice or Beans, Pasta Noodles, Cans of Soup
- Fourth Sunday (Breakfast)** – Cereal, Oatmeal

Volunteers are also needed to help return calls and set appointments, and to assist clients in the Food Pantry on Tuesdays from 9 am – Noon. If you are interested in volunteering, or have any questions, please contact Debbie Skelly at [Volunteer@PrideCharities.org](mailto:Volunteer@PrideCharities.org).

Thank you for your continued support of the Food Pantry!



## LANDSCAPE & FACILITIES

### WORKDAY

SATURDAY  
**MAY 31**

9 am - 1 pm  
Resurrection MCC Campus

Join us as we get together to love on, clean up, organize, and maintain our church. Meet at 9 am in the Welcome Area to choose an indoor or outdoor project. Lunch and laughs will be held in the Gathering Place from Noon - 1 pm.

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140531](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140531)  
[Facilities@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Facilities@ResurrectionMCC.org)

## GOT LOVE? SANCTUARY CHOIR CONCERT



SATURDAY  
**MAY 31**  
7 - 8 pm • Sanctuary

Under the direction of Steven Shannon, our Sanctuary Choir presents a collection of sacred and secular songs focusing on love, and sung with love-including a special surprise original piece! Come and experience the unconditional love of God expressed through music. A reception hosted by the Gospel Ensemble follows the concert. Admission is free. An offering will be received for our General Fund. Child care provided for children one month through pre-K.

Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140531](http://www.bit.ly/RMCC-20140531)  
[Steven@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Steven@ResurrectionMCC.org)

# Five Steps for a Houston Equal Rights Ordinance



Houston City Council is considering Mayor Parker's Equal Rights Ordinance. The Houston GLBT Political Caucus and community partners are working to ensure that the ordinance presented to City Council is inclusive and comprehensive.

Please join us in calling on council to support an ordinance that protects Houstonians from discrimination based on real or perceived race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, sex, gender identity, gender expression, religion, sexual orientation, disability, marital or family status, and veteran's status in housing, public accommodation and both public and private employment.

[www.bit.ly/we-need-a-hero](http://www.bit.ly/we-need-a-hero)

## 1. E-mail City Council (takes 20 seconds)

Our friends at Equality Texas have created an easy e-mail form at [www.bit.ly/HouERO](http://www.bit.ly/HouERO). Just put your information in and hit "send." (For bonus points you may draft your own unique letter)

## 2. Call City Council (15 minutes)

There are 5 "At-Large" City Council members, 11 "single-member" City Council Members and 1 mayor. These 17 people will be voting on the Equal Rights Ordinance and 7 of them were elected to represent you. Call them and tell them you want an inclusive, comprehensive ordinance that covers housing, public accommodation and both public and private employment.

### Mayor

Annise Parker: 832-393-1012

### "At-large" City Council members

*Each member represents the entire city*

Stephen Costello: 832-393-3014

David Robinson: 832-393-3013

Michael Kubosh: 832-393-3005

"Brad" Bradford: 832-393-3012

Jack Christie: 832-393-3017

### "Single-member" Council members

*Each represents different areas of Houston.*

*Find out who represents you at [www.bit.ly/HouVOTE](http://www.bit.ly/HouVOTE)*

District A, Brenda Stardig: 832-393-3010

District B, Jerry Davis: 832-393-3009

District C, Ellen Cohen: 832-393-3004

District D, Dwight Boykins: 832-393-3001

District E, Dave Martin: 832-393-3008

District F, Richard Nguyen: 832-393-3002

District G, Oliver Pennington: 832-393-3007

District H, Ed Gonzalez: 832-393-3003 (Mayor Pro-Tem)

District I, Robert Gallegos: 832-393-3011

District J, Mike Laster: 832-393-3015

District K, Larry Green: 832-393-3016

## 3. Meet with City Council (30 minutes each)

While you're calling City Council members, ask for an in person meeting. It's generally pretty easy to get a meeting and you can use this opportunity to tell the people who represent you that you want them to support a comprehensive, inclusive ordinance.

## 4. Testify to City Council (2 hours)

Houston City Council will receive final public testimony on Tuesday, May 13 at 1:30 pm. Call the City Secretary at 832-393-1100 and ask to be added to the list of people testifying for HERO. Then email [Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org](mailto:Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org) to inform the church for coordination purposes. You will have 1 minute (about 130 words) to speak. Here are a few suggestions for your testimony:

- Tell them that like the majority of Houstonians you support the Equal Rights Ordinance.
- If you have experienced discrimination in housing, public accommodation, or private or public employment, tell them about your experience.
- If you are a parent, tell them about the future you want to create for your children.
- If you are a person of faith, tell them about how your beliefs inform your support of the Equal Rights Ordinance.
- List all of the attributes protected by the Equal Rights Ordinance: perceived race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, sex, gender identity, gender expression, religion, sexual orientation, disability, marital or family status. Make sure they know that this is about updating the ordinance to protect all Houstonians.

## 5. Recruit more help! (mere seconds)

Forward this e-mail, post the information on Facebook, or tweet about it! Over 70% of Houstonians support laws like the Equal Rights Ordinance. We are the majority! Tell your friends, family and coworkers to do their part and contact the City Council.

*Thanks to the Houston GLBT Political Caucus for this resource. [www.thecaucus.org](http://www.thecaucus.org)*

## Participate in our Online Congregational Life Survey

In the months ahead, we are inviting our whole congregation into the spiritual practice of discerning what God is calling us to become and be doing in the years ahead. In preparation, we are conducting an online survey of our congregation.

**It is very important for everyone to participate in this online survey.**

If you do not have access to a computer and Internet, you may request a paper copy of the survey from RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org or 281-254-8006.

Your views and voice are vital as we continue to think and pray about our future!

Take the survey at  
[www.ResurrectionMCC.org/survey2014](http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org/survey2014)  
**Survey Closes on Friday,  
May 16, at Noon**



# YOGA CONNECTIONS

**Instructors Alternate Weekly:  
Darrin Brindle, Robin Mack, and Special Guests**

## TUESDAYS

**7 - 8 pm | Activities Building**

**Please bring water and towel. Yoga mats available to borrow. Beginner to Intermediate skill levels.**

**Details & RSVP: [www.bit.ly/YOGA2014](http://www.bit.ly/YOGA2014)  
Yoga@ResurrectionMCC.org**

Advertise  
with us.

As low as \$25 / week.

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

## 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).*

**Board Member on Duty**

Eve Messina and Janetta Ross

*Board Minutes Available Upon Request.*

### General Fund Giving Report

**For Week and YTD Ended May 4, 2014**

Giving (Tithes and Offerings)	Week Ended	YTD Total
Total Amount Received	\$14,096.82	\$331,704.40
Total Amount Anticipated	\$17,837.38	\$321,072.79
Total Giving Variance		(\$10,631.61)
Weekly Giving Comparison		
Average Amount Received	\$18,428.02	
Ministry Plan Need	\$17,837.38	
Attendance	Week Ended	YTD Average
Worship	359	464
Programming	99	169
Total Weekly Attendance	458	633

**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>MAY 11</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
12:30 am	Brunch Buddies	Welcome Center
<b>MONDAY</b>		<b>MAY 12</b>
7:00 pm	Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	LGBTQ and Free in Thee	Gathering Place
<b>TUESDAY</b>		<b>MAY 13</b>
6:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
7:00 pm	Narcotics Anonymous 12-Step Meeting	Gathering Place
7:00 pm	Yoga	Activities Building
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		<b>MAY 14</b>
7:00 pm	Tattoos on the Heart Book Study	Gathering Place
7:00 pm	Overeaters Anonymous 12-Step Meeting	Chapel
<b>THURSDAY</b>		<b>MAY 15</b>
6:30 pm	Pride Charities Board Meeting	Conference Room
7:00 pm	First Impressions Leadership Team	Gathering Place
<b>FRIDAY</b>		<b>MAY 16</b>
<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>		
7:00 pm	Friday Night OUT - South	Rudy's BBQ
<b>SATURDAY</b>		<b>MAY 17</b>
<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>		
8:00 am	Body Blast Fitness Camp	Activities Building
9:30 am	Overeaters Anonymous 12-Step Meeting	Chapel
11:00 am	Praise Dance Rehearsal	Sanctuary
1:00 pm	Joy of Djembe Drumming	Activities Building
<b>SUNDAY</b>		<b>MAY 18</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
12:30 am	Brunch Buddies	Welcome Center
12:45 am	Resilient Families:	Gathering Place



# BRUNCH BUDDIES TODAY

12:30 - 2 pm

## JAVA JAVA CAFE

911 WEST 11TH ST, HOUSTON 77008  
713-880-5282 • WWW.JAVAJAVAHOUSTON.COM

Every Sunday, all are welcome to meet in the Gathering Place after the 11 am Worship service to connect with those going to brunch. Around 12:30 the group departs for the chosen location for the week (Restaurant name and address are in the bulletin each week). Whether you're a long-time congregant or a first-time visitor, consider yourself invited to become a Brunch Buddy!

RevMichael@ResurrectionMCC.org



# TATTOOS ON THE HEART

INTERACTIVE BOOK STUDY

FOUR WEDNESDAYS

**MAY 14, 21, 28**  
7 - 8:30 pm • Gathering Place

For twenty years, Gregory Boyle has run Homeboy Industries, a gang-intervention program located in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, the gang capital of the world. In Tattoos on the Heart, he distills his experience working in the ghetto into a breathtaking series of parables inspired by faith. These essays about universal kinship and redemption are moving examples of the power of unconditional love and the importance of fighting despair.

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