



Resurrection

Metropolitan Community Church

December 27, 2015

Opening Song / Canción de Apertura

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, we gladly sing.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
Yonder shines the infant light:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, we gladly sing.

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations;
Ye have seen his natal star:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, we gladly sing.

by James Montgomery
Public Domain, CCLI# 2402828

Our Community Gathers / Nuestra Comunidad Se Reúne

Rev. Troy Treash

Announcements / Anuncios

Mark Eggleston

Exchange of Peace / Saludo de Paz

Rev. Troy Treash

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.

+ **Gathering Song / Recopilación de Canciones**

Let There Be Peace On Earth

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as Creator
United all are we.
Let us walk with each other
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment
And live each moment
With peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.

by Jill Jackson and Sy Miller
© 1955. Renewed 1983 Jan - Lee Music, CCLI# 93690

Special Music / Especial Musical

John Tease

A Song For You

by Donny Hathaway

+ **Scripture Lesson / Lectura Bíblica**

Lilly Chu

Luke 2: 25-38

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Holy One, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of

eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

One: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem / Selección Musical

Christopher Plata
Margie Nobles

Angel

by Sarah Mclachlan

Sermon / Sermón

Rev. Denise Junious

When Angels Sing to Anna & Simeon

Moment of Reflection / Momento de Reflexión

Mark C. Brown

We Offer Ourselves / Nos Ofrecemos

Angela Whorton

Invitation to Give / Invitación a Dar

Rev. Troy Treash

Offertory/ Ofertorio

Margie Nobles

Grown-up Christmas List

by David Foster

Prayer of Receiving / Oración de Recepción

Rev. Troy Treash

Communion / Comunión

Rev. Denise Junious
Rev. Troy Treash

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 unfermented 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.

Communion Songs / Cantos de Comuni3n

10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)

by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman

You Are Welcome

by Mark Condon

I Love You Lord

by Laurie Klein

Prayer of Thanksgiving / Acci3n de Gracias

Rev. Troy Treash

+ Closing Song / Canto de Salida

Leaning On The Everlasting Arms

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

*Leaning, leaning,
Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.*

unknown
Public Domain

+ Benediction / Bendici3n

Rev. Denise Junious

+ Postlude / Postludio

Reprise- Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Executive Team

Rev. Troy Treash

Senior Pastor

RevTroy@ResurrectionMCC.org (x101)

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Director of Worship Arts

MarkB@ResurrectionMCC.org (x109)

Shiv Dharan

Director of Operations

Shiv@ResurrectionMCC.org (x102)

Mark Eggleston

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Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org (x106)

Rev. Vickey Gibbs

Director of Life Development

RevVickey@ResurrectionMCC.org (x107)

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Administrative Coordinator

Angela@ResurrectionMCC.org (x105)

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Jon Creamer

Audio Engineer

Joel Hammett

Organist & Accompanist

Christy Irvin

Gospel Ensemble Pianist

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Nursery@ResurrectionMCC.org

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Bilingual Deacon

Marcial@ResurrectionMCC.org

Steven Shannon

Sanctuary Choir Director

Steven@ResurrectionMCC.org

John Taylor

Altar Ministries Coordinator

Cassandra White

Gospel Ensemble Director

Cassandra@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.

Our **MISSION** is to demonstrate God's unconditional love to all people through Christ-like action.

Our **VISION** is to boldly experience, engage, and embody our faith to transform ourselves and the world into the full expression of Christ's inclusive love.

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. Inclusion is a primary focus of our ministry. We believe that all people, as they are and where they are, should be welcomed at God's table.

Community

Our deep desire is to offer a safe and open community for people to worship, learn, share, and grow in their faith. 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

A message of liberation guides our ministry. We believe that when people are invited to experience God through the life and ministry of Christ, lives are transformed.

Justice

We are committed to uplifting all people and standing with those who suffer under the weight of oppressive systems. We are guided by our commitment to global human rights.



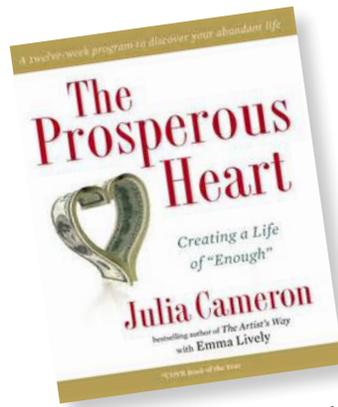
KWANZAA CELEBRATION & FEAST

Wednesday
December 30

7 - 9:30 • Sanctuary & Gathering Place

The name Kwanzaa is derived from the phrase “matunda ya kwanza” which means “first fruits” in Swahili. Each family celebrates Kwanzaa in its own way, but celebrations often include songs and dances, African drums, storytelling, poetry reading, and a large traditional meal. Join us as we celebrate Kwanzaa! Facilitated by Tammy Powers. After the celebration, join with us as we share a Kwanzaa Meal.

RevVickey@ResurrectionMCC.org



Prosperous Heart

Wednesdays

January 6 - March 23

7 - 9:30 pm • Gathering Place

Join us for an eleven-week program for using your creative heart and soul to lead you to prosperity in all the areas of your life. With inspiring new daily tools and strategies that follow in the footsteps of Cameron’s groundbreaking *The Artist’s Way*, this book guides readers in developing a life that is as full and as satisfying as they ever thought possible. Book available in Inspirations Bookstore.

RevVickey@ResurrectionMCC.org



THE EMPTY CHAIR: HANDLING GRIEF ON HOLIDAYS

Saturday

January 9

9 am - 4 pm • Gathering Place

We will share a comforting blend of emotional support, spiritual guidance, and personal experience to help participants honor their loved one on important days.

RevVickey@ResurrectionMCC.org



MCC 101

SUNDAY
JANUARY 10

12:30 - 3:30 pm • Chapel

Learn more about who we are at Resurrection MCC in this introductory class. We’ll discuss the mission, vision, and values of Resurrection MCC, learn more about our history, and discover the many ways people are making an impact in our faith community. At the end of class you will be given the opportunity to become a member if you feel God’s call on your heart to do so. The class is open to those wishing to become members and those who simply want to learn more about Resurrection MCC. Lunch provided.

www.ResurrectionMCC.org/mcc101
Connections@ResurrectionMCC.org



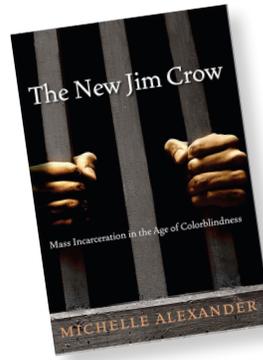
COOKING IT HEALTHY WITH CHEF TIM

Sunday

January 10

1 - 2 pm • Activities Building

An instructional workshop designed to educate participants on how to shop, cook and eat healthy on a budget. You will learn some new and helpful tips and sample great tasting healthy home cooking while being entertained all at the same time. Registration is required in order for the Chef to provide adequate samples. Register by contacting:
RevVickey@ResurrectionMCC.org



The New Jim Crow

Sundays

January 17 - February 21

Chapel • 1 - 2:30 pm

"The New Jim Crow" highlights the racial dimensions of the War on Drugs. It argues that federal drug policy unfairly targets communities of color, keeping millions of young, black men in a cycle of poverty and behind bars. The book begins by disproving claims that racism is dead. Those who believe that full equality been achieved would do well to notice many African Americans' reality today. Join us for this six week book study as we discuss and discover truths hidden in plain sight. Book available in Inspirations Bookstore.

RevVickey@ResurrectionMCC.org

LIVING WATER: A PRAYER-FILLED LIFE

Sunday

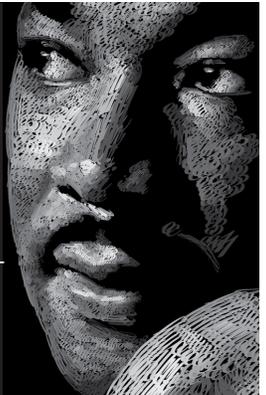
January 17

1 - 2 pm • Sanctuary

Spiritual Oasis for prayer and reflection in community.
RevVickey@ResurrectionMCC.org



REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PRAYER VIGIL



Monday

January 18

11 am - 1 pm • Chapel

This spiritual development event will provide the opportunity to practice the spiritual discipline of fasting and prayer as we honor the life, legacy and ministry of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. During our time fasting and prayer we will be provided with a focus for our prayers so that we can prayer with intention towards bending the arc of justice for all people.

RevVickey@ResurrectionMCC.org



houston food bank

Thursday
January 21
6 - 9 pm

Houston Food Bank, 535 Portwall St, Houston 77029

Join us in the fight against hunger as we volunteer with the Houston Food bank. We'll assist others in processing food that will help feed our hungry neighbors. Wear jeans, t-shirt, and tennis shoes (shorts and open-toed shoes are not permitted for safety reasons). Wear a ResurrectionMCC "Love ThyNeighbor" shirt if available.

Registration Required: www.ResurrectionMcc.org/food-bank
Mark@ResurrectionMCC.org



Heartsaver First Aid, CPR, and AED Training

Saturday
January 23

9 am - 4 pm • Activities Building

This course is an American Heart Association course that is taught by an experienced CPROLOGIST®. The class is about 6 hours long and comes with two years, same day certification. This course is \$55 and is open to all. Recommended for teachers, fitness instructors, security guards, babysitters, day care workers, construction workers, safety professionals, or anyone wishing to learn CPR and first aid.

RevVickey@ResurrectionMCC.org



IMANI VIDA DRUM CIRCLE

FIRST SATURDAYS
FEBRUARY 6
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 Activities Building, as well as other locations for other special drumming occasions.

www.meetup.com/drummingcircle
Greg@ResurrectionMCC.org



Tour of the Shrine of the Black Madonna & Houston Museum of African American Culture

Saturday
February 6

Noon - 2 pm • Shrine of the Black
Madonna, 5309 Martin Luther King,
Houston 77021

Join us for a tour of a pioneering purveyor of African heritage and African American thought and culture.

RevVickey@ResurrectionMCC.org

BOBBY JO VALENTINE CD RELEASE PARTY



Sunday
January 31

4 - 6 pm • Gathering Place

This is the exclusive CD Release party in Houston. Bobby Jo has been doing some great things around the nation and we are honored to have him present his new CD entitled "Fox Eyes, Whale Heart." Please come ready to mix and mingle and enjoy the concert. Both Alcoholic Drinks, and Non-Alcoholic drinks will be served with light hors d'oeuvres. For more information please see the Facebook event page or email Mark C. Brown at MarkB@ResurrectionMCC.org.

FOOD PANTRY

First Sunday (Protein)

Tuna, Chicken, Vienna Sausages, Lunch Loaf

Second Sunday (Fruits & Vegetables)

Canned Fruit, Peas, Corn, Green Beans

Third Sunday (Carb)

Small bags of Rice/Beans, Pasta Noodles, Soup

Fourth Sunday (Breakfast)

Cereal, Oatmeal

Fifth Sunday (Toiletries, Travel-size)

Soap, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Deodorant, Shampoo

Please note that all items listed are food products that we use for the food bags. Although we are happy to accept your food donations, please consider purchasing only the items listed above.

Your continued support of this ministry is truly making a difference in the lives of many. For more information, check out our new Web site, www.pride-charities.com, or "Like" us on Facebook.

12-STEP SUPPORT GROUPS

Rainbow of Hope

Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesdays, 7 - 8 pm | Chapel

A recovery program that offers hope and freedom from active addiction in a safe space for the LGBTQ community. This group meets weekly to help each other learn a new way of life through sharing their experience, strength, and hope. 832-326-6330



Overeaters Anonymous

Wednesdays, 7 - 8 pm & Saturdays, 9:30 - 10:30 am | Chapel

A program of recovery from compulsive eating that is not just about weight loss, weight gain maintenance, obesity, or diets. This support group also addresses physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. OA@ResurrectionMCC.org



Throwback Thursday Old School

Big Book Study

Thursdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm | Chapel

Bring Your Big Book, a highlighter, and get ready to get down with the dictionary and the first 164 pages and Dr. Bob's story! All Big Book-based 12-Step Recovery folks welcome to this open AA Meeting. BigBook@ResurrectionMCC.org



LOVE THY NEIGHBOR T-SHIRTS \$15



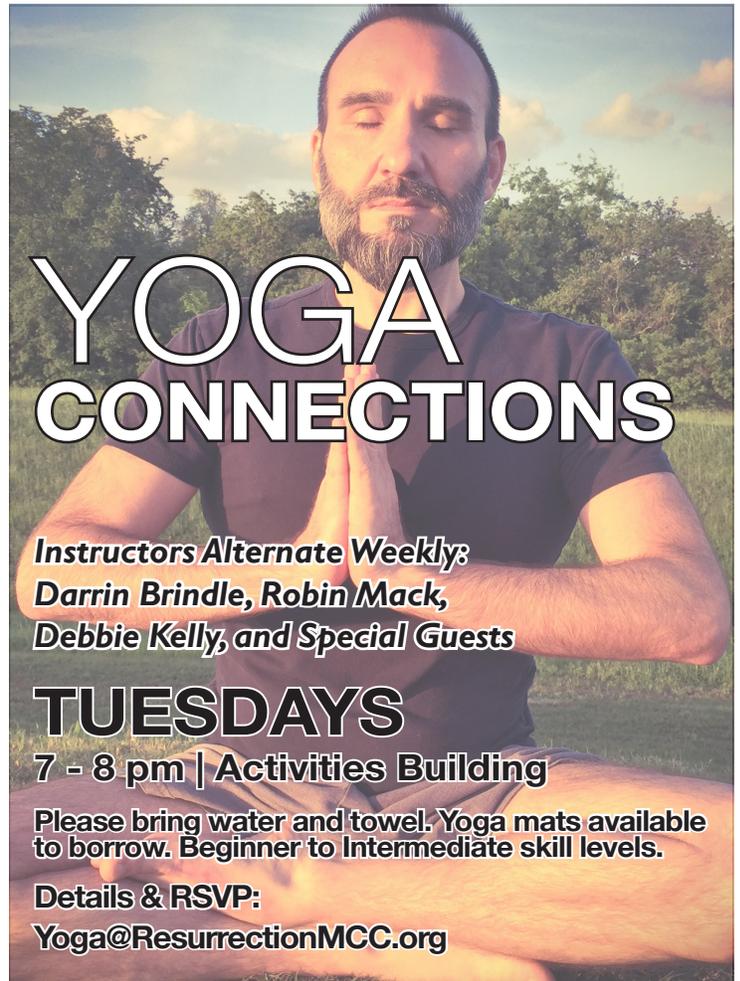
AVAILABLE
TODAY
IN INSPIRATIONS
COFFEE CAFÉ & BOOK STORE.



We Make the Road by Walking - A Year Long Quest for Spiritual Formation, Reorientation and Activation

by Brian McLaren

The fifty-two (plus a few) weekly readings can each be read aloud in 10 to 12 minutes and offer a simple format for insightful reflections and transformative practices. Organized around the traditional church year, these readings give an overview of the whole Bible and guide an individual or a group of friends through a year of rich study, interactive learning, and personal growth. Perfect for Brunch Buddies, Friday Night Out, HOME Groups (virtual or real world) or individual study, each reading invites you to cultivate an honest, intelligent understanding of the Bible and of Christian faith in 21st century. We will engage with discussion questions designed to challenge, stimulate, and encourage. Join the Facebook group, We Make The Road By Walking, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1639782216294899/>, to participate. A new post will appear each Friday.
RevVickey@ResurrectionMCC.org



YOGA CONNECTIONS

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

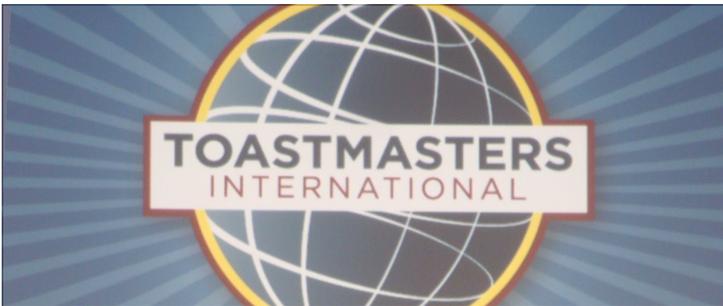
TUESDAYS

7 - 8 pm | Activities Building

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

Details & RSVP:

Yoga@ResurrectionMCC.org



TOASTMASTERS

MONDAYS

6:30 - 8 PM • Gathering Place

Impress your clients, your boss, or even a potential employer during your next job interview. Speak with confidence in one-on-one situations and in presentations for groups of 20 to over 200. Surprise yourself by becoming a member of Toastmasters and see how your personal goals will come true. With Toastmasters you will learn by doing as you improve your public speaking skills in a super supportive environment. Contact Horacio Rodriguez at 954-662-4926 for details.

toastmasters@resurrectionmcc.org
www.meetup.com/findyourvoicetoastmasters

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Office Party Houston by Baby Cakes

www.BabyCakesBakes4U.yolasite.com

officepartyhouston@yahoo.com 281-919-6765



Please sample and enjoy our edible offerings at Coffee Talk every Sunday after Worship Services in the Gathering Place.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, please do not file your 2015 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church. You may lose a deduction for some contributions if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church.

Please note: You can deduct contributions in the year you make them. If you charge your gift to a credit card before the

end of the year it will count for 2015. This is true even if you don't pay the credit card bill until 2016. Also, a check will count for 2015 as long as it is postmarked in 2015. You can make contributions online by debit, credit or draft until midnight December 31, 2015. Also if you plan to make and end of the year contribution through a stock transfer, you need to allow time for the transaction to complete before the end of the year.

Thank you for your generosity! It makes a difference to demonstrate God's inclusive love for all people through Christ-like action!

General Fund Giving Report

For Week and YTD Ended December 20, 2015

	Anticipated	Actual
General Offerings	\$874,968.75	\$814,606.60
Fundraising	\$75,924.21	\$35,569.73
Events/Leases	\$48,224.07	\$157,132.87
Total Income	\$999,117.03	\$1,007,309.20
Variance		\$8,192.17
Attendance	Week Ended	YTD Average
Worship	367	401
Programming	127	188
Total Weekly Attendance	494	589

As we finish the summer and the 3rd quarter, cash flow is seasonally tight as it is each year. If you are behind, please catch up on your commitment! Thank you for your generosity!

This Week @ ResurrectionMCC.org

*This schedule lists open offerings for which all are invited to participate.
This is not a comprehensive list of all events on campus.*

SUNDAY DECEMBER 27

9:00 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Coffee Talk!	Gathering Place
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	Activities Building
11:00 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
12:15 pm	Coffee Talk!	Gathering Place
1:00 pm	Brunch Buddies	

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 28

No Events Scheduled

TUESDAY OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 29

7:00 pm	Gospel Ensemble Rehearsal	Music Room
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Narcotics Anonymous 12-Step Meeting	Chapel
7:00 pm	Yoga	Activities Building

WEDNESDAY OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 30

6:30 pm	Overeaters Anonymous 12-Step Meeting	Chapel
7:00 pm	Kwanzaa Celebration	Sanctuary
8:00 pm	Kwanzaa Feast	Gathering Place

THURSDAY OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 31

6:30 pm	AA Big Book 12-Step Meeting	Chapel
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FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED JANUARY 1

9:00 am	MCC 101	Gathering Place
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SATURDAY OFFICE CLOSED JANUARY 2

9:30 am	Overeaters Anonymous 12-Step Meeting	Chapel
2:00 pm	Imani Vida Drum Circle	Sanctuary

SUNDAY JANUARY 3

9:00 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Coffee Talk!	Gathering Place
10:45 am	Youth Ministries Program	Activities Building
11:00 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
12:15 pm	Coffee Talk!	Gathering Place
1:00 pm	Brunch Buddies	



COFFEE TALK

Every Sunday After Both Worship Services Gathering Place

A new opportunity to make friends over conversation and breakfast snacks, begins this Sunday! Following both worship services, you may enjoy coffee, tea, as well as sweet and savory breakfast snacks served in the Gathering Place. We hope you will find this as a great opportunity to meet new friends and reconnect with those you already know. To help with Coffee Talk, please email CoffeeTalk@ResurrectionMCC.org or simply stop by, have a cup of coffee, and chat with Ron and Vince.



BRUNCH BUDDIES

TODAY

12:30 pm

JAX GRILL

1613 SHEPHERD DR, HOUSTON, TX 77007
(713) 861-5529 • WWW.JAXGRILLHOUSTON.COM

Join us at a nearby restaurant every Sunday. The restaurant name and address will be printed in this location 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!

Shiv@ResurrectionMCC.org