Make a small start in a big church in this four-week class where you'll meet new people, reflect on the sermon, and learn about the many MDPC communities.

Drop by - all are welcome!

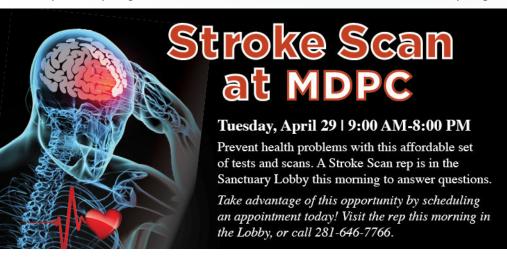
Begins Today 11:15 AM-12:15 PM Room 126 frontporch.mdpc.org

★ frontporch.mdpc.org

♦ health.mdpc.org

A Place to Begin

Front Porch



♦ ogden.mdpc.org

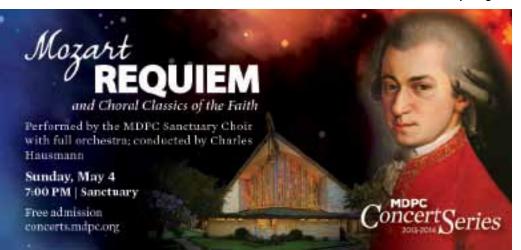
RELATIONAL TRANSPARENCY: The Power of Small Groups



Wednesday, April 30 7:00-9:00 PM | MDPC Chapel | \$10 Greg Ogden, author of five books, including Discipleship Essentials: A Guide to Building Your Life in Christ, will speak on small groups, "the most effective way to create a transparent, reproducing, relational environment for transformation into Christlikeness."

ogden.mdpc.org

♦ concerts.mdpc.org





◆ parenting.mdpc.org



◆ adults.mdpc.org



◆ children.mdpc.org





Sunday, April 27, 2014



This Is NO SEQUEL

This morning's message by Rev. Andrew Adair, PCUSA Pastor and Director of The Antioch Partners, is based on Acts 1:1-11.



Next weekend is **Youth Sunday!**

Each service will feature a Youth testimony, and worship will be led by the Youth Band. Howard Edington will deliver the sermon, Sticking Your Toe Into a Sea of Joy.



Please silence all devices, and refrain from consuming food or beverages during worship.

MDPC HIGHLIGHTS

First Communion

Today we celebrate with those children taking their First Communion. They participated with their families in a communion retreat and learned more about the significance of this sacrament. We are grateful for this next step in their journey of faith and continue to pray for them as they grow in their walk with Christ.

Parker Beck Ellie Cunningham Jordan Wood

Mary Margaret Beck Hallie Poysky Jake Chapman Meredith Vajdos

If you have questions about when your child may be ready to take this step, or simply want to learn more about Children's Ministries, contact Mallory Moore, Elementary Ministries Director: mmoore@mdpc.org, 713-490-9262

Dietrich Bonhoeffer: A Study of His Life and Writings

In this DVD-based study, New York Times best-selling author, Eric Metaxas, helps us discover the major themes of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's writing and speaking. Bonhoeffer helped transform an entire faith community in Germany during World War II, and his beliefs continue to impact the Christian faith of people throughout the world today.

Wednesdays, April 30-May 14 | Noon or 6:30 PM | Summit Room

Newspring Art Auction 2014

This is the annual fundraiser for MDPC ministry partner, Newspring, an organization that encourages Spring Branch students to pursue careers in art and design. All proceeds from the auction go directly to the student artists. We hope to see you there!

Thursday, May 1 | 6:30-8:30 PM | Newspring Art Studio: 8945 Long Point Road, Suite 100 Contact Carol Andrews, Newspring Visual Arts Director: carol@newspringcenter.org or 713-590-0100

History and Traditions of the Texas Rangers

At its May dinner, Venturers for senior adults welcomes Dan. H. North, Captain, Company A, Texas Rangers-Retired, as he shares how the Texas Rangers really won the West!

Monday, May 5 | 6:00 PM | Westchase Hilton (9999 Westheimer)

RSVP by Wednesday, April 30 to Chuck & Linnie Edwards, 9350 Shady Lane Cir., 77063 (713-785-7115)

Blood Drive

Pre-register in the Sanctuary Lobby today or next Sunday, May 4, or at giveblood.org.

Blood Drive: Sunday, May 11 | 8:00 AM-2:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

Contact Kakki Thompson: kthompson@mdpc.org or 713-490-9541

Ministry of Reconciliation Update

MDPC's global partner, ROM (Renewing Our Minds), is pursuing seven international learning programs for young leaders in the Balkans, Middle East, and US. Come listen to Tihomir Kukolja, ROM Director, discusses how his ministry teaches young leaders divided by religion, ethnicity, race, and politics the skills of forgiveness and reconciliation based on the teachings and example of Jesus Christ.

Wednesday, May 14 | 6.30-8:00 PM | Parlor

Prom Dresses Needed

Spring is in the air and school dances are around the corner! Female students at Spring Branch schools are in need of dance attire. Please consider donating your gently-used tea-length and long dresses and/or shoes to help students have a special evening!

Donations can be accepted in Outreach Ministries until Monday, May 5.

Contact Maritza Pujols: mpujols@mdpc.org or 713-490-9556

April is MAM Month

MDPC ministry partner, Memorial Assistance Ministries, offers items to help families stretch their budgets. Help our neighbors in Spring Branch by donating household items.

Drop donations in the grocery carts around campus, or in the Outreach Ministries office.

Visit outreach.mdpc.org for a list of needed items.

MDPC WORSHIP

Communion at MDPC is shared by intinction. As directed by the ushers, come forward to the Communion stations at the front of the section where you are seated. Dip the bread in the cup and eat, before returning to your seat. All who confess their faith in Christ are welcome to the table.

8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

GATHERING MUSIC

MESSAGE

WELCOME Dave Steane *SONGS OF PRAISE All Creatures of Our God and King arr. Crowder Liljero/Morgan/Myrin Cornerstone *PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON Luke Gordon SONG OF PREPARATION O Worship the King arr. Gardiner/Tomlin **OFFERTORY** Called Me Higher Leslie Jordan

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION MEDITATION Abide With Me arr. Lyte/Smith

This Is No Sequel

9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

*SONG OF PRAISE All Creatures of Our God and King arr. Crowder Cornerstone Liljero/Morgan/Myrin *PRAYER OF CONFESSION Christyn Knoop *SONG OF PRAISE O Worship the King arr. Gardiner/Tomlin WELCOME Dave Steane **OFFERTORY** Called Me Higher Leslie Jordan MESSAGE This Is No Sequel Andrew Adair CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AND FIRST COMMUNION

11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

PRELUDES Meditation Vierne/Callahan Prelude in G Franck/Callahan

Abide With Me

Chris Schubert, clarinet

WELCOME Rick Myers

CHORAL INTROIT *CALL TO WORSHIP

COMMUNION MEDITATION

*HYMN OF PRAISE All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name #142; Vs. 1, 3, 4 | CORONATION

Christ the Lord Is Risen Again

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from Romans 8

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE The Gloria Patri Hymn #579 **OFFERTORY** The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation John Rutter MESSAGE This Is No Sequel Andrew Adair

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION MEDITATIONS *Agnus Dei (from Eternal Light)* Howard Goodall James Rodriguez, soloist; Choral Ensemble

Adagio Johannes Brahms

POSTLUDE Allegro Maestoso Felix Mendelssohn

OTHER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SPANISH SERVICE 11:15 AM | Chapel fuente.mdpc.org FIFTH SERVICE 5:00 PM | Chapel fifthservice.mdpc.org

ABOUT MDPC

Coordinating Team

Mauricio Chacón | Associate Pastor for Fuente Howard Edington | Interim Senior Pastor Brandon Gaide | Next Generation Minister Ginny Glass | Communications & Media Dir. Meliza Gómez | Contemporary Music Dir. Luke Gordon | Youth Ministries Dir. Charles Hausmann | Traditional Music Dir. Kristin Huffman | Associate Pastor for Outreach Brett Hurst | Relationships Minister Victoria Jones | Associate Pastor for Equipping Gena Kooken | Sr. Leadership Ministry Coor. Rick Myers | Associate Pastor for Caring Rachel Poysky | Children's Ministries Dir. Becky Riggs | Business Administrator Dave Steane | Executive Pastor & Head of Staff Kathryn White | Coordinating Music Dir. Karen Winship | Human Resources Dir.

Dave Peterson | Pastor Emeritus Gary Bowker | Pastor Emeritus

MDPC Foundation

Andrew Adair

arr. Lyte/Smith

John Rutter

For information, contact Business Administrator Becky Riggs at briggs@mdpc.org or 713-953-2570.



Ministry Partners

Pray for these MDPC partners working to make a difference in the lives of others:

Easter Seals ministers to adults with a range of physical and cognitive disabilities, most of whom are low to extremely low income and have few (if any) opportunities for activities or social engagement. They meet weekly at MDPC for yoga, ceramics, speakers, and lunch. eastersealshouston.org

ESCAPE Family Resource Center works to prevent child abuse and neglect by providing intervention, education, and support programs to families in crisis. ESCAPE teaches entire families techniques to prevent violence in the home, especially the emotional, physical, and sexual abuse of children.

learntoparent.org

Faith In Practice (Antigua, Guatemala) works to improve the physical and spiritual conditions of the poor in Guatemala through short-term medical mission trips and health education. The doctors, nurses, and dentists who volunteer are called by God to demonstrate the love and compassion that are signs of His presence among us. faithinpractice.org

Praises & Prayers

M Detailed maps

The White Rose is in memory of:

• Patricia Doggett, who passed away April 15, 2014.

Information Centers

The Red Rose is in honor of:

• Camila Grace Perez, born April 6, 2014, to Liz and Martin Perez.

Births, Deaths, and Hospitalizations

Please notify Kakki Thompson in Caring Ministries of births to parents who are MDPC members, of member deaths, and of hospitalizations: kthompson@mdpc.org or 713-490-9541

Senior Pastor Nominating Committee

Please pray for the committee and the congregation during this time of transition. Prayer cards are available at the Front Office. Visit pnc.mdpc.org for updates.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

OPERATING INCOME 2014 Budget

\$ 10,550,000 Expected Income to date \$ 2,872,455 Actual Income to Date \$ 2,737,363 Current Income Deficit \$ 135,092

MDPC Loving God. Proclaiming Christ. Living Generously. Engaging All. 11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024 | mdpc.org | 713-782-1710



SERMON NOTES

This Is NO SEQUEL

Sunday, April 27, 2014

Acts 1:1-11 | Rev. Andrew Adair Preaching

Many of us had the privilege of being here at MDPC last Sunday for a glorious celebration of Easter. We celebrated Jesus' resurrection...the heart of our faith. We celebrated through incredible music, preaching, prayer, fellowship, the creative retelling of some of the post-resurrection appearances of Jesus, and so much more. Easter Sunday itself was the culmination of an amazing Holy Week filled with meaningful worship opportunities, powerful experiences as a community around God's word (for instance, The Spoken Word initiative), and special times of prayer.

But that's all over now (maybe some of you breathed a sigh of relief when you lay down to sleep last Sunday night!), and, if some of you are like me, I expect you may be experiencing the post-Easter/Holy Week letdown.

Acts 1:1-11 is a great passage to help shape our thinking and living in this post-Easter time frame. The events in these verses take place at the end of the forty-day period after Jesus' resurrection, just before He was taken up to heaven. After He disappeared in the clouds, the disciples were pretty much overwhelmed, and trying to figure out what it all meant. Essentially, Jesus told them His story was continuing – through them! Each of them had a vital role to play, just as each of us has a vital role to play.

- Acts 1:6–7: As we see, the desire to try to figure out a time-table for God's actions (e.g. When will God's promises to Israel be fulfilled? When is Jesus going to come back?) has been an issue since the beginning of the church. What instructions did Jesus give His disciples along these lines, and how can/should these instructions guide us?
- Acts 1:8a: Jesus promised His disciples they would receive the power of the Holy Spirit. and it is also His promise to us, as followers of Jesus. What habits, practices, or insights help you live in the power of the Holy Spirit? Do you notice any indications or patterns in your life when you are not living in the Holy Spirit's power?
- Acts 1:8b: What is the role of a witness? How do we serve as witnesses for Jesus? Jesus' life makes it clear that the Gospel (the good news about Jesus) is both word and deed (what we say and do). Why are both important? Do you tend to emphasize one or the other and, if so, why? What do you think can help you maintain, or navigate towards, a better balance in this regard?
- As expressed above, each of us has a vital role to play in the continuing story of Jesus (Jesus' continuing work in the world!). What are some key components of your role in the continuing work of Jesus in the world at this point in your life? Are there any new dimensions of ministry you sense God might be calling you to? If so, what are they and how could you be preparing for them now?



Andrew Adair graduated from Fuller Seminary in 1992. While there, he met his wife, Teri, who shares his passion for cross-cultural ministry. Their family served as missionaries in Central Asia for nine years before returning to the States in 2006. Andrew and Teri lead The Antioch Partners, a Presbyterian missionary-sending ministry. Andrew, Teri, their three children, and his mother, Agnes, have long been active in the life and ministries of MDPC.

• • •