

Starts Today

Come this fall to see how the whole Bible fits together! The Rev. Harry Slye will lead us in a study of how the teaching about Jesus in the New Testament relates to all we have in the Old Testament. The class will discover how Jesus interpreted "all these things" about Himself in Genesis, Exodus, the Psalms, and the prophets.

**Sundays beginning September 7
9:45 or 11:15 AM | Parlor**

Quest*Class
STUDYING GOD'S WORD TOGETHER

Jesus
in All the Old Testament

Today!

MAM
MENTAL AND ADDICTION MINISTRIES

Back to School

Children have enough to worry about in the classroom without the added burden of sticking out or being unprepared. Your contribution will help Spring Branch kids meet a dress code and adhere to a required school supply list.

Stop by our table to give!

Today in the Breezeway

Want to learn more?
Contact Nancy Ennis:
ennis1122@sbcglobal.net

Online giving at
helpherehelpnow.org

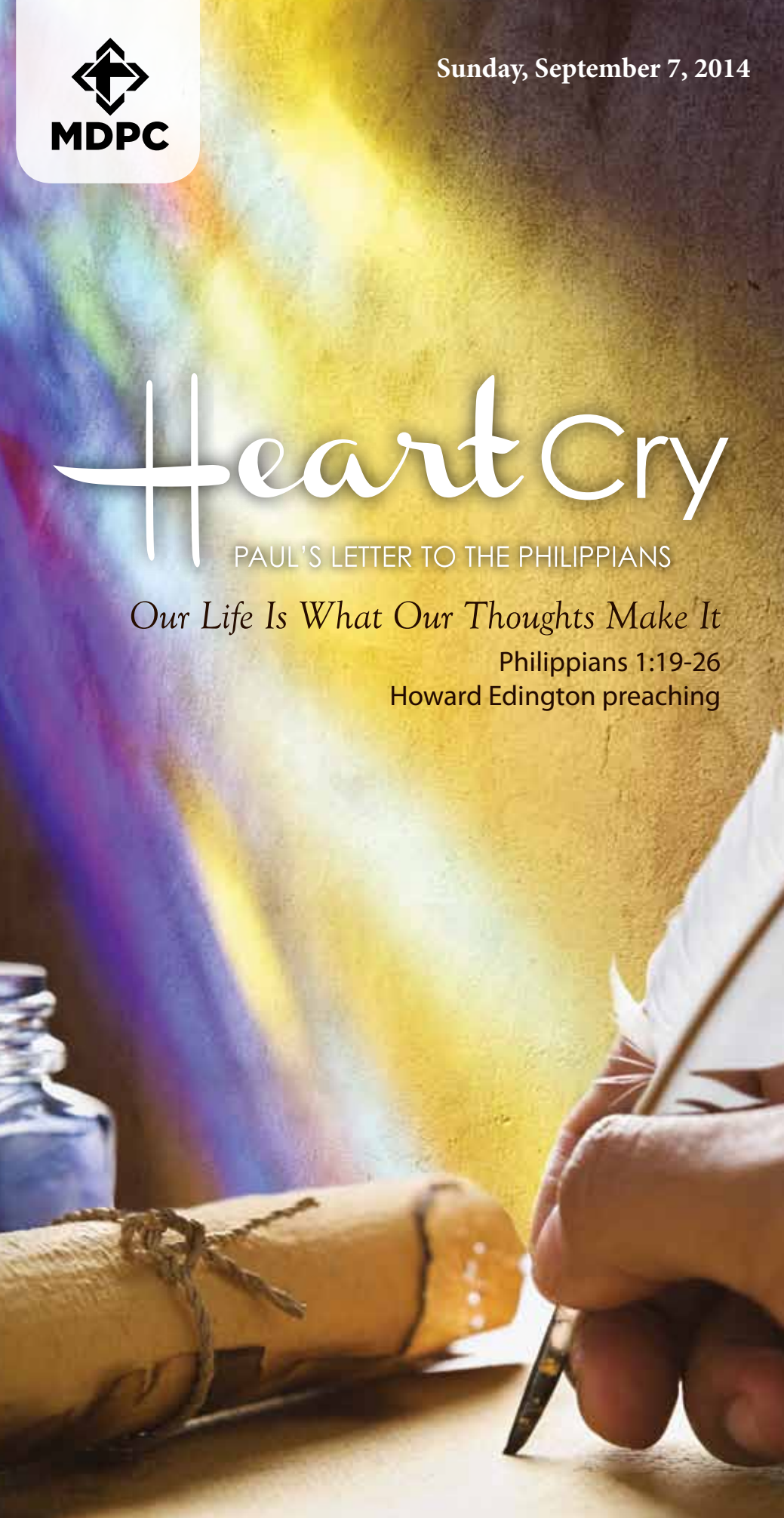


MDPC

Sunday, September 7, 2014

Heart Cry
PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Our Life Is What Our Thoughts Make It
Philippians 1:19-26
Howard Edington preaching



What We Believe About the Bible

**Begins September 10
Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 PM**

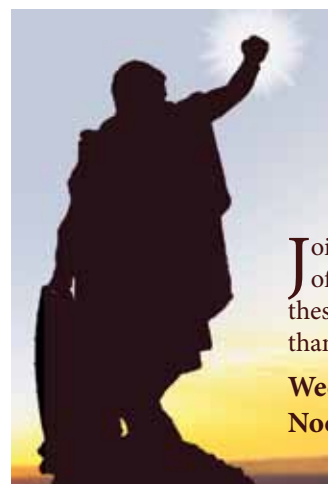
This four-week, Wednesday night study, led by Dr. Diana Severance and Rev. Vicky Jones, will cover thought-provoking topics about the origins of the Bible.

Special Opportunity!
Guided Tour of HBU's Dunham Bible Museum | Thursday, September 18
To learn more and sign up: bible.mdpc.org

Old Testament Profiles in Courage
Wednesday Bible Study | MDPC Pastor-Led Study

Join MDPC's associate pastors for an intriguing look into the lives of 11 courageous men and women of the Old Testament. Many of these eleven found themselves facing situations that seemed bigger than they were – except for the fact that God was on their side.

**Wednesdays beginning September 10
Noon or 6:30 PM | Summit Room**



The First 5

Parenting a Child's First 5 Years

Various MDPC parents will give these monthly talks to educate and encourage parents of kiddos in *The First Five* years of life.

**Second Wednesdays: Launches this week!
6:30 PM | Parlor**



MEN'S LIFE: CHOICES
Tuesdays
September 16 - January 20
6:15-7:45 AM | Fellowship Hall

All-new for 2014-2015!
A speaker series with small groups open to all Houston-area men

Hear personal stories from community leaders that reveal the challenges and rewards of making healthy and informed decisions.

Register: ml.mdpc.org



MDPC Blog: Mary from Ethiopia

While teaching ESL in Africa over the summer, MDPC member Mary Wheeler was part of the celebration when a new NT translation was released. Read about her experience and link to her blog at mdpcblog.org, or access it through the MDPC app (download at app.mdpc.org).



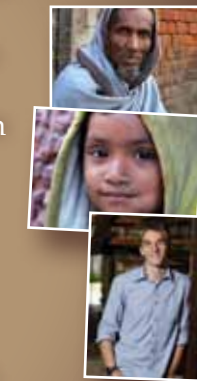
Prime Timers presents

How God Makes a Pastor
A Clumsy Journey in Pictures

MDPC's newest pastor, Rev. Brandon Gaide, shares how his broad and sometimes random experiences wove together to make a pastor from the most dubious candidate.

**Tuesday, September 16
Fellowship Hall
Free Program at 10:30 AM
Lunch (\$9.50) at Noon**

Your check (\$9.50, made out to MDPC Prime Timers) is your lunch reservation. It must be received at the Front Office by September 10.



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

MDPC HIGHLIGHTS

Today Is MDPC Dads Sunday

MDPC’s fathers and father figures are ushering and greeting during all three services!

Bible Study Discussion Welcome Coffee

Everyone is invited to today’s welcome coffee to celebrate BSD’s 30th year! Enjoy fellowship and highlights of a presentation by former BSD teaching leaders Bets Davis, Martha Moore, and Mary Fuller speaking on ways they have seen God at work through BSD.

This morning, 9:15-11:00 AM | Room 102

For more information about BSD: bsd.mdpc.org

Purely Parenting

Purely Parenting is for any adult in the parenting trenches! The stand-alone discussions are opportunities to exchange new ideas and proven strategies. Open to all; select Sundays.

Today! David & Sue Harkins, *Emotionally Present Parents* | 11:15 AM | Amphitheater

parenting.mdpc.org

Safe Haven Support Group

Safe Haven supports those involved in foster care, kinship care, and adoption. We meet the second Monday of every month. In September, speaker Michael Migura from the Association for Family & Community Integrity joins us.

Monday, September 8 | 6:00-8:00 PM | Room 122

Contact Ann Rome with questions (mdpcsafehaven@gmail.com), or visit safehaven.mdpc.org.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Join Rachel Poysky and Kristin Huffman this fall to discover the amazing words from God in the Old Testament books of Jonah and Ruth. This year we will be using a workbook (distributed in class, or see Valerie in Outreach to pick up a copy). A donation of any amount toward the cost of the workbook is welcome, but not necessary (actual cost is \$19).

Tuesdays, September 9-November 11 | 9:00-10:00 AM | NEW LOCATION: Room 122

Contact Valerie Rivera with questions: vrivera@mdpc.org, 713-490-9551

Choir & Drama for Preschool and Grades 1-5 Start Wednesday!

Glory Bees Preschool Choir: Your child (3.5 to Kindergarten) will learn ways of worshipping God and develop poise and confidence while singing joy-filled praises to Him!

2:30-3:15 or 5:30-6:15 PM | Room 208

J.A.M. Session (Jesus And Me): Come JAM out learning songs, choreography, and percussion. No experience necessary, just a fun attitude.

5:30-6:30 PM | Sanctuary

Actors’ Studio: Warm ups, acting and improv games, and crazy manger scenes are some activities that fill this fast-paced hour. If you love singing, come at 5:30 for J.A.M. Session!

6:30-7:30 PM | Sanctuary

Details at kids.mdpc.org. Contact Sheryl Sanchez with questions: ssanchez@mdpc.org, 713-490-0944

Kids’ Meals: Meals on Wheels for Preschool Children

Kids’Meals is increasing its delivery of lunches to children, with the expectation of hitting 2,500 by the end of the year. MDPC is instrumental in providing one day’s delivery, currently 2,000 sandwiches! Make a difference. Bring two loaves of bread and be part of the sandwich-making team.

Wednesday, September 10 | 5:00-6:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

Contact Julie Hempel: hempeljulie@gmail.com

Theology On Tap

Once a month, MDPC Singles and Single Parents meet up at a fun Houston venue to enjoy good questions, good food, and good company! Anonymous questions about Christianity and the Christian life are discussed in a lively, but compassionate conversation, where all perspectives and beliefs are invited to join.

Next TOT: Monday, September 15 | Blue at Brenner’s on the Bayou | 7:00 PM

Contact Sarah Stone: sstone@mdpc.org, 832-605-8129

MDPC WORSHIP

*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

WELCOME	Dave Steane and Clint Harrington	
*SONGS OF PRAISE	<i>Ode to Joy</i>	arr. Hall
	<i>This Is My Father’s World</i>	TERRA BEATA
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON	Rick Myers	
SONG OF PREPARATION	<i>The Solid Rock</i>	arr. Gómez
OFFERTORY	<i>Good to Me</i>	Audrey Assad
MESSAGE	Our Life Is What Our Thoughts Make It	Howard Edington
SONG OF RESPONSE	<i>In Christ Alone</i>	Getty/Townend

9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

*SONGS OF PRAISE		
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION		Luke Gordon
*SONG OF RESPONSE	<i>The Solid Rock</i>	arr. Gómez
WELCOME	Dave Steane and Clint Harrington	
OFFERTORY	<i>Good to Me</i>	Audrey Assad
MESSAGE	Our Life Is What Our Thoughts Make It	Howard Edington
SONG OF RESPONSE	<i>In Christ Alone</i>	Getty/Townend

11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

PRELUDES	<i>Sonata from Die Bankelsangerlieder</i>	Anonymous
	<i>Canzona per Sonare II</i>	Giovanni Gabrieli
WELCOME	Dave Steane and Clint Harrington	
*CALL TO WORSHIP		
*HYMN OF PRAISE	<i>The Church’s One Foundation</i>	Vs. 1-4 arr. David Hines
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON	Rick Myers	
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	The Apostles’ Creed	
ANTHEM	<i>Arise, Shine</i>	Dan Forrest
OFFERTORY	<i>Joined Together As One Body</i>	James and Marilyn Biery
MESSAGE	Our Life Is What Our Thoughts Make It	Howard Edington
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine</i>	#341; Vs. 1 ASSURANCE
POSTLUDE	<i>Trumpet Air</i>	Paul Bryan

We welcome the following musicians to the 11:15 service:

Julio Sanchez, timpani	Rick White, trombone
Robert Walp and Logan Kavanaugh, trumpet	Ali Jackson, tuba
Kendall Gray, French horn	

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COME INTO HIS PRESENCE WITH SINGING

The choir welcomes you! We are an inclusive community that accepts everyone interested in singing. Join us, a group of volunteers serving the church by creating beautiful music.

For more information, visit choir.mdpc.org, or follow us on Facebook (MDPC Sanctuary Choir).

OTHER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

MDPC INFO

Coordinating Team

Mauricio Chacón | Associate Pastor for Fuente

Howard Edington | Interim Senior Pastor

Brandon Gaide | Associate Pastor for Next Gen

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 Coord.

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

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:

Pro-Vision ministers to disadvantaged youth on a multipurpose campus that includes a cultivated farm, sports facilities, and a nature trail. Staff work with students who are two grade levels behind, altering their self-perception by creating a community that emphasizes social skills, self-awareness, and a solid work ethic. provisionschool.org

Rebuilding Together Houston (RTH) is Houston’s largest community outreach organization working to preserve affordable home-ownership and revitalize neighborhoods. It provides home repair and renovation services at no cost to the elderly, disabled, veterans, and people impacted by natural disasters.

rebuildingtogetherhouston.org

MDPC mission partners Tihomir and Christine Kukolja direct Renewing Our Minds, a reconciliation program in Croatia that brings together different faiths, ethnicities, and cultures and shares how following the teachings of Jesus transforms lives. Participants are chosen based on leadership potential, with the hope that they will impact their spheres of influence.

romjourney.blogspot.com



MDPC

Loving God. Proclaiming Christ. Living Generously. Engaging All.

11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024 | mdpc.org | 713-782-1710



Praises & Prayers

Senior Pastor Nominating Committee

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

Did You Know...

...that MDPC has a 501(c)(3) Foundation? It was founded in 1994 for the purpose of accepting outright gifts and/or gifts through your last will and testament. Contact Becky Riggs for info: briggs@mdpc.org or 713-953-2570

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

OPERATING INCOME

2014 Budget	\$ 10,550,000
Expected Income to date	\$ 5,210,479
Actual Income to Date	\$ 5,133,135
Current Income Deficit	\$ 77,345

Sunday, September 7, 2014



PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Our Life Is What Our Thoughts Make It

Philippians 1:19-26 | Howard Edington preaching

Today we continue our sermon series on Paul's letter to the Philippians. On his second missionary journey, Paul visited Philippi, established the Christian church there, and spent considerable time in that cosmopolitan city. He enjoyed a deep friendship and Christian fellowship with the Philippian Christians, and devoted much effort to helping them to be strong in their faith – especially when facing troubles and persecution.

Philippians has been called Paul's *joyful* letter because the theme of Christian *joy* runs throughout the letter. In just four chapters, Paul reminded the Philippians 16 times that their joy was not determined by circumstances, but by the indwelling presence of Jesus Christ in their life, and in their devotion to Him.

As chapter one continues, the Apostle Paul wrote to express the strange tension he felt between the call to preach the Gospel and to suffer for this, and the attraction to his life ending and enjoying God's peace in heaven.

- We have noted earlier that Paul wrote Philippians during a time of harsh imprisonment. The conditions would have been deplorable. Reflect on a time when you've endured deplorable conditions. How did you respond? What things did you learn? In what ways did you experience God?
- In verse 20 we see Paul's greatest concern: That he would exalt Jesus Christ no matter what the conditions or outcome might be. To what extent do you share that concern in your own life? How have you seen Christ exalted by less than ideal situations?
- Philippians 1:21 is a well-known and inspirational verse: *For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain*. How do you understand what Paul was expressing? In what ways can you identify with Paul's proclamation? What does *to live is Christ* mean to you? What does *to die is gain* mean to you?
- Paul was faced with the very real threat of death. As he contemplated this, he found himself torn between wanting to keep on living and doing the fruitful labor to which he had been called, and wanting to die to be with Christ. What is it about physical death that is so scary and something to be avoided? In what ways can you identify with this tension?
- Paul noted that the better of the two options was to die and be with Christ. However, his love and concern for the Philippians compelled him to remain alive. Paul set aside what he wanted to do, in order to meet the needs of others. In what ways have you done this? Reflect on examples of other people who have sacrificed their own will for the benefit of others.
- Paul's hope for the Philippians is that their joy in Christ Jesus would overflow. What does overflowing joy in Christ look like? How have you seen it? Experienced it? How would you assess the level of Christian joy in your life?

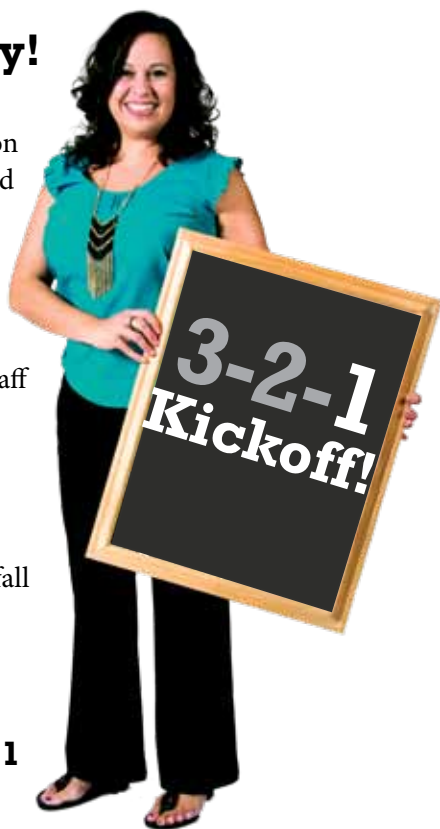
Sermon notes written by Executive Pastor, Dave Steane

Today is Sign-Up Sunday! Get Involved this Fall

As Dr. Edington continues his sermon series on Philippians, you are encouraged to get involved in one of the many classes and programs starting this week, or find a place to serve in the church or community. Take a look at the trifold bulletin to see some of the offerings.

Do you already know what you want to do? Staff is available in the Sanctuary Lobby to get you signed up.

Do you have questions about homework or time commitments or dress code? Stop by to chat and staff will help direct you to the right fall opportunity!



Coming Up at MDPC Outreach Sunday, September 21

Be here to extend a warm MDPC welcome to our local and global ministry partners on Sunday, September 21, when they'll join us for MDPC's annual Outreach Sunday! You won't want to miss this very special morning. We'll pray for and thank them for the life-changing work they do every single day.

Our ministry partners will be in the Sanctuary Lobby before and between services, and will join us for worship at the 9:45 and 11:15 services. Look for their large colorful nametags and introduce yourself!

We celebrate these partnerships because of the joy Paul expressed when he wrote, *In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now (Philippians 1:4-5).*

Want to know what's coming up each Sunday?

Each week, Dr. Edington sends out a note touching on highlights of the upcoming weekend. If you are not receiving this weekly email and would like to, please contact Linda Richardson (lrichardson@mdpc.org).

Retired Wall Photos for the Taking

Some of the photos that have been hanging on MDPC's walls are in the West Gallery of the Sanctuary Lobby this morning. Please feel free to take as many as you like, whether for the image or the material. Unclaimed pictures will be recycled at the end of the month.



MDPC

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