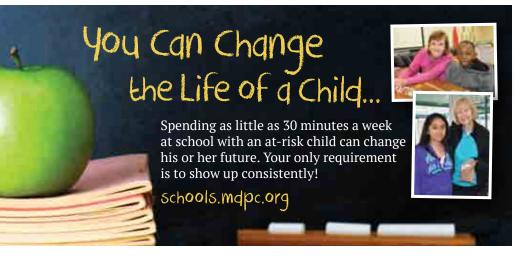


Elementary school students: Come eat Epizza and play games at a Pizza Party in The Galaxy, MDPC's super stellar space for kids! Kindergarten and first graders party today; Pizza Parties for second through fifth graders are in October and November.

K & 1st Grade's Party is Today!*
12:30-2:30 PM | The Galaxy

*This is a change from last week's bulletin.

↑ children.mdpc.org ↓ schools.mdpc.org



◆ dads.mdpc.org



♦ outreach.mdpc.org





Partner In Prayer 2015

Through PIP, thousands of people are prayed for every day. God uses the power of this quiet ministry to bring health, life, and peace to our church family. To be a 2015 Partner In Prayer:

Sign-up Sundays are on October 12 and 19!

Can't wait? Register now at pip.mdpc.org.

↑ pip.mdpc.org ↓ bible.mdpc.org

What We **Believe**About the **Bible**

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 PM Amphitheater This four-week,
Wednesday night
study, led by Dr. Diana
Severance and Rev.
Vicky Jones, covers
thought-provoking
topics about the origins
of the Bible.

This Week: The True Story of the King James Bible (Lionsgate video)

The series wraps up on October 1 with a cinematic account of the reasons for the creation of the KJV Bible, the birth of this new version, and the effect the KJV has had on the English language and Western Culture.

ml.mdpc.org



◆ retreats.mdpc.org

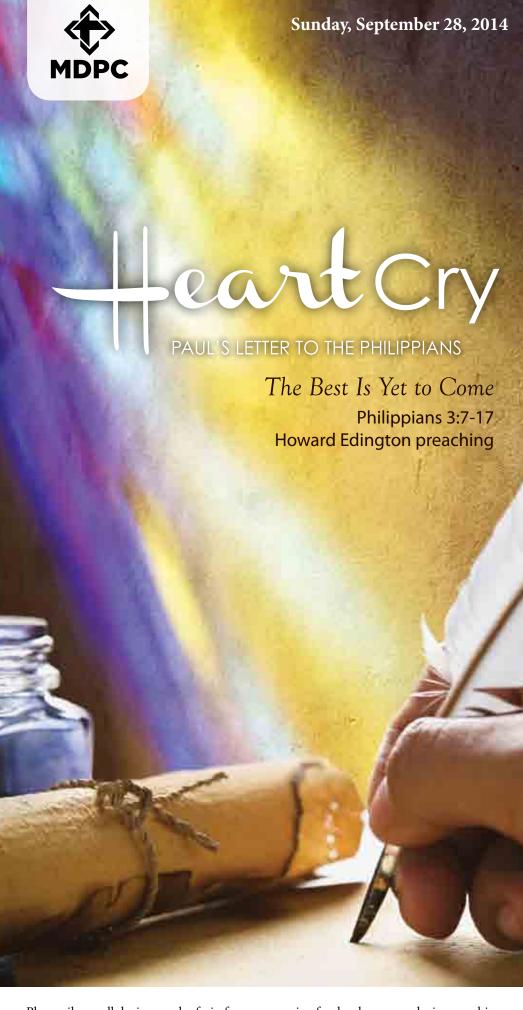
Jerry Webber, Director of the Center for Christian Spirituality at Chapelwood UMC, will lead our retreat. All are welcome!

The noon meal is eaten in silence in the Ruah Dining Room. Villa de Matel provides a beautiful, quiet, reverent setting to stop and listen to God.

Tuesday, October 28 9:00 AM-3:00 PM \$30 includes lunch Do you long for time to be quiet, a time to pray and listen for God's voice?

Silent Retreat at Villa De Matel

Register at retreats.mdpc.org



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

MDPC HIGHLIGHTS

Turkey Call

Bless a family with an abundant Thanksgiving! MDPC is collecting all those Randalls Community Bucks that may go unused. The bucks will be redeemed for turkeys and hams to be distributed by MDPC's Mobile Unit. Helping our neighbors is possible only with the help of the MDPC congregation and the Randalls Good Neighbor Charity Program. Please bring bucks to the MDPC Front Office by September 30.

The Antioch Partners Gala: ONE Night. ETERNAL Impact.

The Antioch Partners' Fundraising Dinner will be an evening of worship, with stories of God's faithfulness, a live silent auction, and dinner.

Thursday, October 2 | 6:30-9:00 PM | Fellowship Hall | \$40 | Sponsorships available Register: theantiochpartners.org

Business As Mission Workshop

Find out how you can participate in God's mission using the business skills He's equipped you with. Whether you are a recent graduate, working, or retired, this workshop is for you! Saturday, October 4 | 9:00 AM-Noon | Summit Room | \$10 fee includes light breakfast Register: theantiochpartners.org

For more information, contact Hope Manley: admin@theantiochpartners.org

Purely Parenting

Purely Parenting forums are for any adults who are currently in the parenting trenches. These monthly, stand-alone discussions are opportunities for the exchange of new ideas and proven strategies. Open to all.

Sunday, October 5 | 11:15 AM | Amphitheater | October Speaker: Jill Gilbert, MA, LPC, LMFT parenting.mdpc.org

Venturers presents The Civil War Battle of Sabine Pass

Ed Cotham, award-winning author of three books on the Civil War, will discuss the battle referred to by Jefferson Davis as "the most amazing victory in all military history." Mr. Cotham also serves as President of the Terry Foundation, the largest independent provider of scholarships to Texas universities.

Monday, October 6 | Social Hour 6:00 PM, Dinner/Program 7:00 PM | Westchase Hilton RSVP by October 1 to Chuck & Linnie Edwards: 9350 Shady Lane Circle, 77063 (713-785-7115)

The First Five

Monthly parenting talks by various MDPC parents focusing on the first five years of a child's life. Open to all.

Second Wednesdays (Next Session: October 8) | 6:30-7:30 PM | Parlor parenting.mdpc.org

Tech Tips for Parents II

Presented by Dan Aikins, Middle School Discipleship Director; Hosted by MDPC Dads This interactive discussion is for parents who'd like to better understand the technology and social media their children are using. We'll explore texting, Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Vine, and Snapchat to discuss how they can be useful, and how they are sometimes abused. You'll learn helpful tips for discussing technology with your teen, setting healthy boundaries, and how to keep up on the ever-changing tech landscape.

Sunday, October 19 | 11:15 AM | Summit Room

Contact Brett Hurst: bhurst@mdpc.org, 713-490-0930

MDPC Marriage Retreat

The Marriage Retreat 2014 is an overnight retreat with Brett and Kellie Hurst of Home Encouragement. Fee includes accommodations at The Woodlands Waterway Marriott for one evening, lunch Saturday, and breakfast Sunday. Saturday evening is free for a date night!

Saturday-Sunday, November 1-2 | Noon-Noon | \$195/couple

Space is limited! Visit marriage.mdpc.org to register.

MDPC WORSHIP

*Please stand if able. CCLI # 182374

8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

WELCOME Dave Steane *SONGS OF PRAISE O Worship the King arr. Gardiner/Tomlin This Is My Father's World Terra Beata *PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON Brett Hurst

SONG OF PREPARATION What a Friend We Have in Jesus Converse **OFFERTORY** The Name of Jesus arr. Gómez

MESSAGE The Best Is Yet to Come Howard Edington

SONG OF RESPONSE

9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

*SONGS OF PRAISE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Brandon Gaide SONG OF PREPARATION O Worship the King arr. Gardiner/Tomlin

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WELCOME Dave Steane

OFFERTORY The Name of Jesus arr. Gómez MESSAGE The Best Is Yet to Come Howard Edington

SONG OF RESPONSE

11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

PRELUDES This Is My Father's World arr. S. Walley Beautiful Savior arr. W. Oquin

WELCOME Dave Steane

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*CHORAL INTROIT A Festive Call to Praise Joseph Martin *HYMN OF PRAISE At the Name of Jesus #148; Vs. 1, 2, 4 | King's Weston

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 & Colossians 1:15-20

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE The Gloria Patri Hymn #579

ANTHEM Thou Gracious God, Whose Mercy Lends

Rameen Chaharbaghi, Tommy Glass, and Avery Rabon, soloists

OFFERTORY My Jesus, I Love Thee Dan Kreider MESSAGE The Best Is Yet to Come Howard Edington *HYMN OF PRAISE A Mighty Fortress Is Our God #260; Vs. 1 | EIN FESTE BURG

POSTLUDE Andante Maestoso Christian G. Tag

OTHER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SPANISH SERVICE 11:15 AM | Chapel FIFTH SERVICE 5:00 PM | Chapel

fuente.mdpc.org 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 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

Miah Collins

Mack Wilberg

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:

Sewing for Missions is a group of special MDPC ladies who work on sewing-related projects for local community needs, such as preemie blankets and walker caddies for the Medical Center, as well as for global missions, such as clothes for Lulwanda Children's Home in Uganda. Contact Fran Gantt: frangantt@hal-pc.org

SIRE Therapeutic Equestrian Centers helps improve the quality of life for disabled individuals through therapeutic horseback riding. Equestrian therapy improves muscle tone, balance, and coordination, while also increasing cognitive skills. Students benefit emotionally by building feelings of self-reliance and control, as well as socially by developing meaningful relationships with volunteers and bonding with the horse. sire-htec.org

MDPC mission partner Urgessa grew up in a Muslim family in Ethiopia. As a young man, he became a follower of Christ and had to leave his village for his personal safety. After 20 years, God placed it on his heart to bring education to Muslim villages. He now trains teachers and meets with village leaders, forming relationships that show many the "Light of Hope" that is Jesus. pff.net

Praises & Pravers

M Detailed maps

Today's Chancel Flowers are given

• in memory of Sue Rackley, by her daughters.

Information Centers

• in memory of Jeremy C. Houle (November 12, 1990-September 27, 2004), nephew of Roger and Anne Selin.

Members recently released from the hospital: Carolyn Moore

We Love to See MDPCers!

When you take pictures at an MDPC event, or snap some photos with your small group or Sunday school class, share them with us! We love having familiar faces to use in publications and around campus.

Please send digital photos in original size to Eva at ekaminski@mdpc.org with the subject line "For MDPC Use." Include names of people pictured, and where and when the photo was taken. Be sure to have the consent of everyone in the photo!

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE **OPERATING INCOME**

\$ 10,550,000 2014 Budget Expected Income to date Actual Income to Date \$

\$ 5,638,323 5,709,775 Current Income Surplus \$ 71,452



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



All-Church Lunch

Next Sunday, October 5 11:00 AM-1:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

Entric Solutions (\$10)

Roasted Pork Loin with Fig Glaze or

Quinoa-Crusted Trout

Served with Buttermilk Mashed Potatoes,

Balsamic Green Beans, Carrots with Basil

Entrie Calad (\$8.50)
Grilled Shrimp over Spinach Salad

Children's Menn (\$4) Hamburgers

Join us! Everyone is welcome.



SERMON NOTES

Sunday, September 28, 2014 PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

The Best Is Yet to Come

Philippians 3:7-17 | 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.

For the Apostle Paul, nothing could compare to the blessings of knowing Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. In Philippians 3:7-17, Paul reflected on his life and realized that, even though he had stellar credentials, all of that was grossly inferior to knowing Christ. And even though Paul could be considered as the greatest of the Apostles, he felt that he still had a lot to learn about the Christian faith and life.

- Philippians chapter three opens with Paul reflecting on his credentials. To paraphrase, he was a true Israelite in every sense, an expert in God's Law, and a staunch defender of Israel's history, beliefs, and traditions. What are your credentials? In what ways can these become boastful? In what ways can these be artificial?
- But in verse seven, Paul said, "But whatever was to my profit [credentials] I now consider loss for the sake of Christ." How has the presence of Jesus Christ in your life challenged you to reconsider the importance of your credentials?
- In verse eight, Paul said, "I count everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord..." Furthermore, Paul said that he counted these things as "rubbish." Rubbish is a very graphic term that heightens the contrast between Paul's credentials and the benefits of knowing Christ. Are there things in your life that were once important, but now you'd consider them to be rubbish? If so, what are they and how did you move them into the trash can?
- In verse 10, Paul said that he wanted to "know Christ." What's the difference between knowing Christ and knowing about Christ? How well would you say you know Christ? What more about Christ would you like to know?
- Paul acknowledged that, even though he was an Apostle of Christ, he still had much to learn and far to go. For this reason he said, "I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it...I press on toward the goal..." How would you assess your hunger for learning more about Christ and what it means to follow Him? What goal might you press on toward?
- Paul's strategy for growing in Christ includes "forgetting what is behind" and "straining toward what is ahead." What things in your past continue to hold you back? What can be done to shake loose from these past things? As you look ahead, what do you see? Where are you going? To what is God calling you?