This wonderful MDPC tradition provides toys and clothing for over 150 children living in poverty.

To participate, stop by our table in the Breezeway for a child's wish list, and return their requested gifts to the Front Office by December 1.

Sign up in the Breezeway today!

Contact Meka Arend with questions or to get involved: msarend@comcast.net

♠ women.mdpc.org

◆ children.mdpc.org

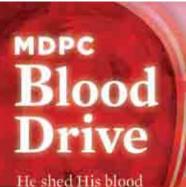


Elementary school students: Come eat pizza and play games at a Pizza Party in The Galaxy, MDPC's super stellar space for kids!

4th & 5th Grade Party: Friday, November 7 6:00-8:30 PM Upstairs in The Galaxy

Email Mallory with questions: mmoore@mdpc.org

♦ health.mdpc.org



to save me, I donate

mine to serve Him.

Sunday, November 9 8:00 AM-2:00 PM Fellowship Hall

Pre-register today in the Sanctuary Lobby, or at giveblood.org.

Walk ins are welcome!

Pre-registering helps
the blood center plan for
adequate staff.



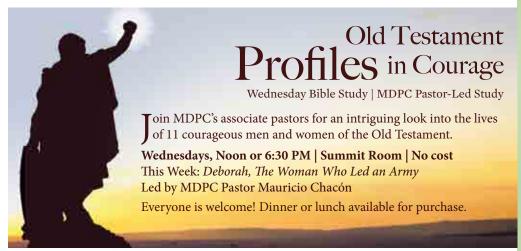
◆ seniors.mdpc.org





♠ outreach.mdpc.org

♦ study.mdpc.org



◆ blessfriday.mdpc.org



♦ holiday.mdpc.org







Everything You Thought You Knew About Generosity - But Didn't!

2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 9:1-15 Howard Edington preaching









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

MDPC HIGHLIGHTS

Survey on Denominational Issues: Let Your Voice Be Heard

In response to issues raised by recent decisions of the 2014 General Assembly of the PCUSA, MDPC has formed a Denominational Task Force to educate us about these issues and assess the will of the congregation in regard to maintaining or changing our affiliation. Share your opinion through a member survey, open through November 9: denom-issues.mdpc.org. Need help with the online survey? Manned computer stations are set up in the Lobby.

Opportunities for Parents

Purely Parenting: A forum for any adult currently in the parenting trenches! These standalone discussions allow the exchange of new ideas and proven strategies. Open to all.

Today! Speaker: Sara Kuhn | 11:15 AM | Amphitheater

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: November 12 | 6:30-7:30 PM | Parlor parenting.mdpc.org

MDPC Library Open House

Come celebrate our new MDPC library! Join us between and after services to check out literally – some wonderfully helpful and inspiring books. You might see just the book that speaks to you in your walk with Jesus! Enjoy a cookie while you browse.

Today! Sanctuary East Gallery (hallway facing Blalock) | After Each Morning Service

MDPC Singles & Friends

Royal Dukes Concert: Come enjoy a showcase of music from the amazing Royal Dukes Band. The free hour-long show includes jazz standards, country, blues, 80s faves, and more!

Date Change! Tuesday, November 4 | 7:00 PM | Dan Electro's in the Heights

Moth Story Slam: NPR's Moth (a nonprofit dedicated to the art of storytelling) comes to Houston! This open-mic competition highlights real stories in an entertaining format.

Tuesday, November 11 | 6:30 PM | Warehouse Live | Tickets (\$8) at themoth.org

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

Mission Market Is Opening Soon!

As you begin writing your Christmas shopping list, remember the alternative gift market that makes shopping easy. Mission Market is for everyone on your shopping list - friends and family, co-workers, your kids' teachers. They all will feel blessed by your gift.

Sundays, November 30-December 21

Details at missionmarket.mdpc.org

Share Your Business Skills

Newspring's annual Business Plan Competition begins in January. Over the past six years, over 100 MDPC members have participated as advisers to HCC students, helping them draft a business plan. It's a great opportunity to witness to your Christian faith in a secular world. Advisers work in pairs, mentoring their contestants through the competition. For details, contact Robert Westheimer at rwestheimerl@comcast.net.

Come Learn More About a Possible New Ministry

The purpose of Celebrate Recovery* is to fellowship and celebrate God's healing power in our lives through eight principles and the Christ-centered twelve steps.

Informational Meeting: Wednesday, November 12 | 6:30 PM | Room 170

Contact Bitsy Cleveland with questions: bcleveland@mdpc.org or 713-490-9542

Toy Train

Christmas is around the corner, and that means the Toy Train is here! Share God's blessings with children who are less fortunate. MDPC's Mobile Unit starts spreading the holiday spirit in inner city and Spring Branch neighborhoods during the first week of December, bringing toys to give to the children.

Visit the Toy Train (outside Children's Ministries) to drop off new, unwrapped toys through December 16.

MDPC WORSHIP

*Please stand if able. CCLI # 182374

8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

WELCOME Rick Myers

*SONGS OF PRAISE Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty arr. Gómez Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us arr. Agnew

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SONG OF PREPARATION The Solid Rock arr. Gómez

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE Great Are You, Lord Ingram/Jordan/Leonard

MESSAGE Everything You Thought You Knew About Generosity-But Didn't! Howard Edington SONG OF RESPONSE

9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

*SONGS OF PRAISE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rachel Poysky

Rachel Poysky, Mallory Moore, Howard Edington

Bethany Lynn Owens

Joshua Aidan Petzold

Holley Brian Russell

Charlotte Spencer Stiles

Marc R. Palmer

Brooks Rouse

Luke Tingleaf

Cullen Walton

THIRD GRADE BIBLES Dan George Blake, III

Lauren Elizabeth Blake Brooke Avery Bullers

James Chambers John Carlton Crawford Samuel Hawkin Dodson Seth Perry Engvall

Owen Flemming Peter Amedeo Frandina

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

Jade Lawson-Ho Payton Long Thomas Myers Zachary Myers Chloe Van Nguyen Oliver Hill Oldham

Adam Michael Gilbert

Avery Anne Hubbard

Gracious Kimani

Great Are You, Lord

Ingram/Jordan/Leonard

#525; Vs. 1, 3 | Daniel Schutte

MESSAGE Everything You Thought You Knew About Generosity-But Didn't! Howard Edington SONG OF RESPONSE

11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

PRELUDE Voluntary George Dyson WELCOME Rick Myers

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN OF PRAISE

*CHORAL INTROIT I Will Worship the Lord John Rutter *HYMN OF PRAISE Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty #138; Vs. 1,4 | NICAEA *PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON Rachel Poysky

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FROM ROMANS 8

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE The Gloria Patri Hymn #579 **ANTHEM** Fight the Good Fight John Gardner

THIRD GRADE BIBLES Rachel Poysky, Mallory Moore, Howard Edington Katherine Anne Puhala Anna Catherine Brandt Kiersten Amber Johansson Ella Elizabeth Schroeter Cara Chaffin Christian John Kiest Jacob Davis Chapman Angelo Isaiah Michaels Catherine Ella Transou Kate Carlson DeWalch Miriam Grace Osbon Simone Raina Williams

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE Vicky Jones

OFFERTORY Give to My Eyes, Lord Ronald Corp

MESSAGE Everything You Thought You Knew About Generosity-But Didn't! Howard Edington Here I Am, Lord

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

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:

Stoney Creek Ranch helps young people come to know Christ and His role in their lives, and to develop an authentic personal relationship with Him. They work closely with churches and organizations that support urban youth. These young people, who rarely experience the beauty of God's creation, visit Stoney Creek for a life-changing camping adventure in the great outdoors.

Texas Theological Foundation (Houston-**Fuller**) was founded to bring the rich programs of Fuller Theological Seminary to Texas. They provide scholarships to seminarians so that these future leaders in the Body of Christ may complete their seminary education without the burden of significant debt.

China Resource Center equips and strength-

M Detailed maps

stoneycreekranch.org

fuller.edu/campuses-online/texas.aspx

ens the growing Chinese church, and fosters constructive Western engagement in China by building churches in rural areas and distributing Bibles. This ministry is dedicated to reflecting the relevance and love of Jesus Christ as they share the Good News. chinaresourcecenter.org

Praises & Prayers

Today's Chancel Flowers are given in loving memory of Joyce Lemer.

Information Centers

You Shop, Amazon Gives.

When you shop amazon.com through the MDPC link below, Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to MDPC and its ministries.

amazon.mdpc.org

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 \$ 6,283,585 Expected Income to date Actual Income to Date 6,325,057 Current Income Surplus \$ 41,472



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



TODAY!

11:00 AM-1:00 PM FELLOWSHIP HALL

ENTRÉE SELECTIONS (\$10)

Roasted Turkey or Pecan Catfish Served with Sweet Potato Mash, Squash Casserole, and Fresh Green Beans

ENTRÉE SALAD (\$8.50)

Grilled Chicken over Greens with Goat Cheese and Green Apples

CHILDREN'S MENU (\$4)

Chicken Tenders

JOIN US! EVERYONE IS WELCOME.



SERMON NOTES

Sunday, November 2, 2014



Everything You Thought You Knew About Generosity -But Didn't!

2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 9:1-15 Howard Edington preaching

Today we continue our three-week sermon series on the subject of *generosity*. In 1955, a group of visionaries started a church in west Houston that came to be MDPC. These visionaries believed that MDPC should practice radical generosity, accomplished by matching each dollar spent on the church with a dollar spent on outreach. MDPC remains committed to this radical generosity even to this day. In developing our new Mission Statement, we sought to highlight this commitment as our ongoing vision for the future. And so, MDPC's Mission Statement is *Loving God. Proclaiming Christ. Living Generously. Engaging All.*

Living Generously is the theme for MDPC's 2015 generosity campaign. November 9 is Covenant Sunday, when you will be able to bring your 2015 covenant pledge cards and offer them to God during worship. Our prayer is that God would speak clearly and powerfully during these weeks of preparation, and that we would embrace a renewed passion for carrying on the courageous vision of MDPC's founders.

Today we focus on sections from 2 Corinthians 8 and 9. The Macedonian churches faced severe trial and poverty, but they were so committed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ that they found a way to give a generous gift to Paul and his ministry. Paul used this as an opportunity to teach the Corinthians about Christian stewardship and generosity. These words are quite relevant for us today!

- The Macedonians gave a generous gift to Paul, even though their situation was bleak and they had precious few resources. Have you ever done something similar? Has there been a time when God compelled you to give, even though it seemed to be illogical or irresponsible?
- Paul challenged the Corinthians to excel in *this grace of giving*. He said they excelled in everything in faith, in speech, in knowledge, and in complete earnestness and love. Why do you think some people can live exemplary Christian lives, but still have trouble with giving and generosity?
- We tend to think that giving is personal and private, but, in verses 10-12, Paul gave the Corinthians a clear challenge to *finish the work* of their giving. How do you think you would respond if someone challenged you about your giving? Why might we be resistant? How might God be speaking when those challenges are heard?
- As 2 Corinthians 9 began, Paul stated that he was sending *the brothers* to the Corinthians to collect the gift they had promised. This probably had more to do with accountability and the urgency of the ministry of the Gospel. When you make a financial pledge, how seriously do you intend to fulfill it? To what extent do you welcome accountability in your giving?
- In verse 6, Paul offered some familiar words: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. In agricultural terms, if you drop just a few seeds, you'll reap a small harvest. Conversely, if you drop a generous amount of seed, you'll reap a bountiful harvest. How might this affect your perspective and attitude as you reflect on your giving to God?

Sermon notes written by Executive Pastor, Dave Steane