

MDPC HIGHLIGHTS

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. *The member survey closes at midnight tomorrow, November 10: denom-issues.mdpc.org*
Need help with the online survey? Manned computer stations are set up in the Lobby.

Blood Drive Today

Your donation *could save a life*. Walk-ins are welcome.
Today, 8:00 AM-2:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

MDPC Singles & Friends: 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: ssstone@mdpc.org, 832-605-8129

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
Register: parenting.mdpc.org

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

Yellow School 40th Anniversary Luncheon

Celebrating Past, Present, and Foundation for the Future. Our speaker Dr. Laura Lamper, PhD, Child Development, will discuss "The Social and Emotional Development of Children."
Friday, November 14 | 11:00 AM-1:00 PM | Fellowship Hall | \$25
Registration: register.mdpc.org

Younger Adults' Conversation on Our Denomination


As you may know, our denomination recently has become the subject of significant criticism. Our own church has begun asking questions about our affiliation. There are some big and emotional issues on the table: same-sex marriage, the singular voice of Scripture, the correct use of the Church's influence, and so on. In the midst of this strange and new conversation, what is going on in your own heart? If you're a young adult (20-40ish), we want to know how you're processing all this. Come join Christyn Knoop and Brandon Gaide in an evening dedicated to open conversation, education, and prayer.
Wednesday, November 19 | 6:30 PM | Room 101
Free childcare available by reservation: childcare@mdpc.org or 713-490-9266

Moving Forward: For Those Grieving the Loss of a Spouse

Losing a spouse is emotional and stressful, and it's hard to imagine a future without your soul mate. It helps to have support from those who have gone through a similar experience.
November 19 Speaker: Bitsy Cleveland, LPC, The Unwanted Gift of Grief
Third Wednesdays | 5:45 PM | Parlor | No fee; dinner available for purchase
Questions? Contact Bitsy Cleveland: bcleveland@mdpc.org or 713-490-9542

Cross+Roads Sunday School

Singles and couples of all ages are invited to study the Bible chapter by chapter with the Cross+Roads class! We are a laid back group so come as you are. We would love to meet you.
Sundays, 11:15 AM | CLC Room 170



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.
Wednesdays, Noon or 6:30 PM | Summit Room | No cost
This Week, November 12: *Solomon, a Man of Flawed Wisdom*
Led by MDPC Pastor Brett Hurst
Everyone's welcome! Dinner or lunch available for purchase.

↑ study.mdpc.org

↓ outreach.mdpc.org




Kids' Meals

Monthly Service Opportunity

Help us feed the nearly 2,500 preschool children Kids' Meals delivers to daily. MDPC volunteers are instrumental in providing one day's delivery per month! Please bring two loaves of white or wheat sandwich bread to the project.
**Wednesday, November 12
5:00 PM | Fellowship Hall**

↓ singles.mdpc.org



Theology On Tap

Join MDPC Singles and Single Parents once a month at various restaurants and bars to enjoy good food and good company!
Anonymous questions about Christianity and the Christian life will be discussed in a lively conversation to which all perspectives and beliefs are invited.
Monday, November 17 | 6:30 PM
Location TBD. Email Sarah (ssstone@mdpc.org) or visit singles.mdpc.org for updates.

↓ seniors.mdpc.org



Prime Timers presents

Harp of Many Colors

Nationally known harpist Louise Trotter entertains with Broadway music, pop, jazz, ragtime, plus a *Name That Tune* contest for prizes!
Tuesday, November 18 | Fellowship Hall
Free Program: 10:30 AM | Lunch: Noon (\$9.50)
Your check is your reservation. Checks made out to MDPC must be received at the Front Office by November 12.



Covenant Sunday, November 9, 2014

LIVING **2015** GENEROUSLY

All My Beggings in One Asking
1 Timothy 6:3-12
Howard Edington preaching



A special thank you to Andrew Brooks, Dick Ebling, Terri Higgins, Jonathan and Margaret Humphreys, Joe and Billie Carole McMillan, Gretchen Odum, Mary Reed, Sharon Webb, and Robert and LaNoe Westheimer for sharing their stories of generosity and faithfulness.

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



Prayers for Our Military

Veterans’ Day is this Tuesday, November 11. On that day, if given the opportunity, take a moment to thank a veteran or active member of our military for their service to our country. Please pray for the men and women listed below, members of our MDPC family serving at home and abroad.

| | |
|--|---|
| Candice Alexander’s nephew: Lt. Commander Brian P. Alexander Navy | Barbara Mourglia’s nephew: Staff Sergeant Brandon Macken Air Force |
| Craig Behm’s son-in-law: Jeremy Fleming Marines | Maryann Munroe’s grandnephew: Private Perry Connor Marines |
| Dick Berry’s grandson: Corporal John Hird Marines | David and Shannon Perry’s son: Air Craft Commander Sean Perry Air Force |
| Naomi Black’s son: Chaplain Lt. Commander Peter W. Dietz Navy | Deborah Pruitt’s son-in-law: Major Neil McMullin Marine Surgeon |
| Second Lt. Mark Bressler Army Reserves | Don and Virginia Russell’s grandson: Sergeant Joseph Russell Army |
| Betsy Clark’s grandson: Christopher Lenze Marines | Brian and Tanya Schneider’s nephew: Holden Jenkins Army |
| Tom and M.A. Dunscombe’s son-in-law: Commander Stephen W. Burgher , MD Navy | Joe and Jean Simmons’ grandsons: Specialist William Bruce Berry Army PFC Joseph Thomas Turner Marines |
| Paul and Susan Galvin’s nephew: Major Joseph Galvin Army | Jane Ann Smeck’s son: BUCA Cameron Freeman Navy |
| Bob and Carol Giles’ daughter and son-in-law: Captain Ellen Giles Jones Army Captain Robert Willard Jones Army | Dave and Jenny Steane’s son and daughter-in-law: PFC Tyler Steane Army PFC Kate Steane Army |
| Scott Gilley’s brother: Captain Stephen R. Gilley Marines | Harvey Trammell’s nephew: Shawn Blake Marines |
| Sergeant Kyle Hinton Army | George and Dot Uthlaut’s grandnephews: Major David Uthlaut Army Captain Chris Uthlaut Army |
| Alice Horn’s nephew: First Lieutenant Paul Early Marines | Alejandro and Raquel Vasquez’s son: Private Alan Bejarano Army |
| Captain James Howell Army | Bart and Barbara Westmoreland’s family: Major Justin Westmoreland Air Force Lt. Commander Andrew Cain Navy Lt. Colonel Brian Deas Air Force |
| Bud and Janet Hughes’ son: Chase Hughes Navy | Ralph and Mary Wheeler’s nephews: Philip Newman Army Andrew Wheeler National Guard |
| Brenda and Fred Jackson’s grandson: Second Lieutenant Charles Smith Army | Pauline Wolcott’s grandson: ET3 Robert Leeland Navy |
| Sharon Johnson’s son: Staff Sergeant Richard Johnson III Army | David Word’s son: Captain Andrew N. Word Army |
| Willie and Jody Jordan’s grandnephew: Lieutenant Josh Kash Navy | Cari Wilson’s husband: Staff Sergeant Andrew Wilson Air Force |
| Carolyn and Grant Judge, Jr.’s son-in-law: Chaplain Lieutenant Jeffrey Quinn Marines | |
| Larry and Margaret Kelminson’s son-in-law: Major General Kevin Kennedy | |
| Ken and Joe Ann Kingdon’s son: Lt. Commander Kenneth M. Kingdon Navy | |
| John and Kay Krebs’ son: Lieutenant Kory Krebs Navy | |

An up-to-date list always is available at military.mdpc.org. We strive for accuracy and sincerely regret any errors. Edits and additions may be sent to Eva Kaminski at ekaminski@mdpc.org. Please notify us when you are blessed with the return home of your loved one.

MDPC WORSHIP

*Please stand if able. CCLI # 182374

8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

| | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| WELCOME | | Dave Steane |
| VETERANS' DAY TRIBUTE | | Hal Lundgren |
| *SONGS OF PRAISE | <i>O Worship the King Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!</i> | arr. Tomlin DARWALL’S 148TH |
| *PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON | | Rick Myers |
| GIFTS OF GRATITUDE | <i>Broken Vessels</i> | arr. Houston/Myrin |
| MESSAGE | All My Beks in One Asking | Howard Edington |
| SONG OF RESPONSE | | |
| RENEWING MY PERSONAL COVENANT WITH GOD | | |
| SONG OF CELEBRATION | <i>My Heart Is Yours</i> | arr. Stanfill |

9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

| | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| *SONGS OF PRAISE | | |
| *PRAYER OF CONFESSION | | Brandon Gaide |
| GIFTS OF GRATITUDE | | Dave Steane |
| VETERANS' DAY TRIBUTE | | Hal Lundgren |
| MESSAGE | All My Beks in One Asking | Howard Edington |
| SONG OF RESPONSE | | |
| RENEWING MY PERSONAL COVENANT WITH GOD | | |
| SONG OF CELEBRATION | | |

11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| PRELUDES | <i>Hymn to the Fallen Mansions of the Lord</i> | John Williams Wallace/Glennie-Smith |
| WELCOME | | Dave Steane |
| VETERANS' DAY TRIBUTE | | Hal Lundgren |
| *CALL TO WORSHIP | | |
| *CHORAL INTROIT | <i>Let a Joyful Song Arise!</i> | Carl Nygard |
| *HYMN OF PRAISE | <i>Fight the Good Fight</i> | #307; Vs. 1, 3 DUKE STREET |
| *PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON | | |
| *AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | The Apostles’ Creed | |
| *CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE | <i>The Gloria Patri</i> | Hymn #579 |
| OFFERTORY | <i>A Covenant Prayer</i> | Dan Forrest |
| MESSAGE | All My Beks in One Asking | Howard Edington |
| *HYMN OF RESPONSE | <i>To God Be the Glory</i> | #485; Vs. 1 TO GOD BE THE GLORY |
| RENEWING MY PERSONAL COVENANT WITH GOD | | |
| ANTHEM OF DEDICATION | <i>I Surrender All</i> Julie Thornton, soloist | arr. Moses Hogan |
| POSTLUDE | <i>Prelude in A Major</i> | J.S. Bach |

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 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:
Treasure Our Community (TOC) is an extend-ed-school program assisting elementary, middle, and high school students in excelling academically and socially. It offers homework help, tutoring, and recreation in a safe, drug-free environment. This group of educators is devoted to the welfare of children in Houston’s Fifth Ward.
treasureourcommunity.com

United Campus Ministry (UCM) shares the transforming power of God’s love by inviting students, faculty, and staff into a personal relationship with Christ. Through Bible studies, fellowship, and mission trips, they prepare students to be leaders in the faith communities to which God calls them.
ucmhouston.org

Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo (ETSC) equips students and lay leaders in Egypt to witness to the gospel of Christ in the midst of political and cultural transitions, especially in neighboring Sudan. Please pray for ETSC’s president, Dr. Atef Gendy, and his team as they share the love of Jesus.
etsc.org/new



Praises & Prayers

Today’s Chancel Flowers are given by:
• the sons of Bill Randall, in honor of his life and his love. *May God bless your precious soul, Dad.*

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 |
| Expected Income to Date | | \$ 6,544,567 |
| Actual Income to Date | | \$ 6,460,890 |
| Current Income Deficit | | \$ 83,677 |

Holidays at MDPC

For even more opportunities to serve, give, engage, and worship, visit holiday.mdpc.org.



Poinsettias for the Sanctuary and Chapel

The poinsettias that adorn the chancels throughout December may be dedicated in honor or memory of a loved one (\$8/dedication). The names will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

Order Deadline: Friday, December 12

Purchase online: flowers.mdpc.org

Christmas for Kids

If you signed up to sponsor a child, please return gifts to MDPC by December 1. We still need volunteers to help distribute the gifts to the kids at Spring Branch Community Health Center!

Gift distribution: December 11-12 | 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Volunteer: women.mdpc.org

Toy Train

Christmas is around the corner, and that means Toy Train is here! You can share God's blessings with those 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, in addition to the very affordable clothing and home items always available to residents.

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

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

Sewing for Missions Holiday Craft Sale

Sewing for Missions makes turbans for cancer patients, walker caddies, clothes for Ugandan orphans, premie caps, and more. They can't make gown sets for stillborn babies fast enough to meet Ben Taub Hospital's needs. This annual Craft Sale raises money for equipment and textiles. Stop by to browse the crafts and clothes and enjoy homemade treats! Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday, November 19 (4:00-8:00 PM) and Thursday, November 20 (9:00 AM-1:00 PM) | CLC 170

Refugee Thanksgiving Dinner

This holiday season, let's open our hearts and doors to those in need of blessing – refugees from all over the world who live near MDPC. Partnering with Interfaith Ministries, we're staging our annual Thanksgiving Dinner to share the holiday spirit and welcome them to the neighborhood.

Tuesday, November 25 | Fellowship Hall

Sign-up to serve: holiday.mdpc.org

Turn Black Friday Into BLESS Friday

After the parades, turkey, and some football, then what? Make plans with your friends or family to go and serve with one of MDPC's local mission partners the morning after Thanksgiving. You'll discover giving of yourself to serving others is the real gift!

Friday, November 28 | Times and Locations to fit your schedule!

For details, pick up a brochure this morning in the Lobby, then visit blessfriday.mdpc.org to sign up.

Bless Friday Project with Fifth Service - Donations Needed!

While CityCentre patrons are shopping on Black Friday, November 28, Fifth Service will have a station in the plaza where shoppers can stop and assemble bags designed to bless the homeless.

Please donate by November 23, by dropping these items in specially-marked bins around campus: non-perishable food (such as granola bars and peanut butter crackers), knee-length athletic socks, travel-size baby wipes, Wisp travel-size disposable toothbrushes, travel-size bottles of hand sanitizer, lip balm

Mission Market Opens 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 be blessed by your gift.

Sundays, November 30-December 21 | 9:00 AM-Noon | Sanctuary Lobby

Details and online ordering: missionmarket.mdpc.org

Covenant Sunday, November 9, 2014



All My Beggings in One Asking

1 Timothy 6:3-12

Howard Edington preaching

Today we conclude 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, and today is Covenant Sunday, when we bring our 2015 covenant pledge cards and offer them to God during worship. Our prayer is that God has spoken to you clearly and powerfully during these weeks of preparation.

Today we focus on 1 Timothy 6:3-12. The Apostle Paul constantly fought against false teachers in the early Christian Church. Timothy was a young pastor whom Paul had mentored, and now Timothy was providing pastoral leadership in Ephesus, where false teachers were causing significant conflict. One element of this false teaching was using positions of influence and authority for financial gain. To confront this, Paul provided a clear and compelling argument on true godliness.

- Paul was far from gentle as he confronted the false teachers. In 1 Timothy 6:3, Paul said, *"If anyone teaches false doctrines and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, he is conceited and understands nothing."* What do you consider to be false doctrines? How do you respond when you hear someone advocating a belief that is contrary to the clear teaching of scripture?
- Paul noted that the results of this false teaching included *envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions, and constant friction*. In what ways have you experienced any of these? What could be the antidote for this problem?
- The core problem in this passage seems to be people who were elevating themselves to be authoritative teachers solely for the purpose of financial gain. A modern-day equivalent might be an academic who charges the audience a hefty fee to hear a provocative lecture. What problems come from being motivated solely by financial gain?
- In verse 6, Paul shifted his argument to having contentment through godliness, instead of through financial gain. In what ways have you experienced this godly contentment?
- In verse 9, Paul said, *"People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap..."* How have you experienced this? What seems to be the core problem with this way of thinking?
- 1 Timothy 6:10 is a well-known and often misquoted verse. It says, *"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil."* Money isn't evil, but the consuming love of money is. Why do you think this is true?
- Our passage concludes with Paul charging Timothy to flee from this false teaching, and to pursue righteousness. Paul added, *"Fight the good fight of the faith."* How do you understand this good fight today? In your own life?

Sermon notes written by Executive Pastor, Dave Steane