

Sewing for Missions

HOLIDAY CRAFT SALE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 4:00-8:00 PM • CLC 170

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20 8:30 AM-1:00 PM • CLC 170

Get a jump on your Christmas shopping! Stop by to browse the amazing array of crafts and clothes (for you *and* your pets!) and enjoy homemade treats. Men and women welcome!

Proceeds from the Craft Sale finance the many wonderful projects that Sewing for Missions creates throughout the year to donate to cancer patients and preemies at Ben Taub Hospital, orphans in Uganda, and ailing or homebound MDPC members.

↑ holiday.mdpc.org

↓ missionmarket.mdpc.org

Mission Market Christmas Cards

Mission Market opens Sunday, November 30

Come! Let us adore Him.



As you write 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, kids' teachers – they all will be blessed by your gift!

missionmarket.mdpc.org

Together we can share His Light with the world.



↓ concerts.mdpc.org

MDPC Concert Series 2014-2015



Mercury The orchestra redefined.

Baroque Ornaments

There's no better way to ring in the holiday season than with the warmth and joy of a Christmas concert. Featuring the glorious sounds of a soprano soloist on works by Handel, Vivaldi, and Bach.

**Saturday, November 29
2:30 PM | MDPC Chapel**

Tickets start at just \$15 and \$10 for children and students with ID: mercuryhouston.org

↓ holiday.mdpc.org

Christmas Coffee

Sponsored by MDPC Women

Celebrate the Christmas season with coffee, tea, wassail, and warm fellowship at the annual Christmas Coffee, an MDPC tradition. All women are welcome! Bring your mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends.

**Tuesday, December 9
9:00-11:00 AM • MDPC Parlor**

Childcare available by reservation: childcare@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
Mongoose Versus Cobra (1011 McGowen, 77002)

Visit singles.mdpc.org for more fun events!

↑ singles.mdpc.org

↓ blessfriday.mdpc.org

FIFTH SERVICE

Bless Friday Project

28th
NOV.
at CityCentre

Please Donate:

- Wisp Toothbrushes
- Knee-high Athletic Socks
- Sandwich Crackers
- Chapstick
- Hand Wipes

Individually-wrapped items only, please

Here's How Bless Bags Work:

- You guys donate the items at left (drop off in specially marked bins located around the campus)
- CityCentre shoppers assemble the bags on Bless Friday, November 28
- Bags are passed out to the homeless
- All are blessed!

↓ holiday.mdpc.org

Family Christmas Festival

It's beginning to smell a lot like Christmas...

Join us for dinner, crafts, hot chocolate bar, cakewalk, Advent wreath-making, a service project, and SNOW!

It's going to be scent-sational!
Sunday, November 30

Starts at 4:00 PM with a Musical in the Chapel!
Dinner available for \$6.50/meal (\$30 max per family)



↓ study.mdpc.org

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, Nov. 19: *Deborah, The Woman Who Led an Army*
Led by MDPC Pastor Mauricio Chacón

Everyone's welcome! Dinner or lunch available for purchase.



Sunday, November 16, 2014

2,000 Sermons Later

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

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

MDPC HIGHLIGHTS

Covenant Cards

Covenant packets for making your 2015 generosity pledge are available in the Front Office, Chapel Lobby, and Sanctuary Connection Center.

To pledge online: generosity.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

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 rwestheimer1@comcast.net.

Poinsettias for the Sanctuary and Chapel

The poinsettias that adorn the chancels in 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 need volunteers to help distribute the gifts at Spring Branch Community Health Center!

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

To volunteer, visit women.mdpc.org.

The Toy Train Is Here!

Share God's blessings with those less fortunate this Christmas. MDPC's Mobile Unit starts spreading holiday spirit around Houston during the first week of December, bringing toys from the Toy Train to give to the children, in addition to the very affordable clothing and home items always available. Visit the Toy Train outside Children's Ministries.

Please drop off new, unwrapped toys through December 16.

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

Refugee Thanksgiving Dinner - Volunteers Needed!

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

MDPC WORSHIP

*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

WELCOME		Dave Steane
*SONGS OF PRAISE	<i>'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus Blessed Assurance</i>	Stead/Kirkpatrick Crosby/Knapp
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON		Brett Hurst
SONG OF PREPARATION	<i>10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)</i>	Redman/Myrin
YOUTH TESTIMONY		Sarah Sturgis
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE	<i>Revelation Song</i>	Jennie Lee Riddle
MESSAGE	2,000 Sermons Later	Howard Edington
SONG OF RESPONSE		

9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

*SONGS OF PRAISE		
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION		Luke Gordon
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE		Meliza Gómez
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE		Dave Steane
MESSAGE	2,000 Sermons Later	Howard Edington
SONG OF RESPONSE		

11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

PRELUDES	<i>Two Voluntaries</i>	David N. Johnson
WELCOME		Dave Steane
*CALL TO WORSHIP		
*CHORAL INTROIT	<i>God of Grace and God of Glory</i>	Paul Langston
*HYMN OF PRAISE	<i>Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation</i>	#417; Vs. 1, 3, 4 REGENT SQUARE
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON		
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	The Apostles' Creed	
ANTHEM	<i>Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land</i> Julio Sanchez, drums	arr. Glenn Burleigh
YOUTH TESTIMONY		Sarah Sturgis
OFFERTORY	<i>Light Out of Darkness</i>	Edward Elgar
MESSAGE	2,000 Sermons Later	Howard Edington
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine</i>	#341; Vs. 1, 3 ASSURANCE
POSTLUDE	<i>Allegro from Symphony No. 6</i>	Widor/arr. Whitford

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:

Urban Outreach is a Christian apartment ministry with onsite locations at apartments in Spring Branch, Aldine, Alief, Gulfton, Eastside, and Northside neighborhoods. They offer programs that address spiritual, physical, and social needs to help strengthen and preserve inner-city families.

urbanoutreachinc.org

Vita-Living offers lifelong services and support for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They maintain homes with trained staff and specialists, and offer in-home care, as well. Vita-Living is best known for its success with individuals who have a dual diagnosis of mental retardation and mental illness, and those with behavioral challenges.

vitaliving.org

Faith In Practice ministers to the poor in Guatemala through short-term medical mission trips and health education. They believe that, as people of God, we are called to demonstrate the love and compassion that is a sign of His presence among us. Volunteer doctors, nurses, and dentists serve thousands of people each year.

faithinpractice.org



M Detailed maps available **?** Information Centers

Praises & Prayers

Please pray for these MDPC members who were recently hospitalized:
Natalie Aldrich • Bob Miller • Susan Young

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	\$ 6,805,549
Actual Income to Date	\$ 6,606,041
Current Income Deficit	\$ 199,508



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



BLESS FRIDAY

BLACK FRIDAY IS ABOUT SHOPPING
BLESS FRIDAY IS ABOUT SERVING

Friday, November 28, 2014

Through the acts of service listed below, you can show love to wounded military men and women, feed hungry families, and share God's love at missions, group homes, or the shopping crowds at CityCentre this Advent season. Or come up with your own service project and let us know how it goes!

SERVE IN THE CITY

- Decorate for Christmas in Vita-Living Homes
- Serve Up Meals and God's Love at Star of Hope Mission
- Fifth Service CityCentre Project: Bless Bags for the Homeless

SERVE AT HOME

- Make a No-Sew Pillow to Thank a Wounded Warrior
- Bag Beans and Rice for MDPC's Food Pantry
- Fill Christmas Shoeboxes to Gift International Seafarers

For details and instructions, pick up a brochure or visit BLESSFRIDAY.MDPC.ORG.



MDPC Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church

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

Sunday, November 16, 2014

2,000 Sermons Later

2 Corinthians 4:1-6 | Howard Edington preaching

Milestones are important. When a television show celebrates its 100th episode, when an employee celebrates a 25th year of work, or when an organization celebrates 50 years of success, there is usually much celebration and fanfare. These milestones provide opportunity to not only celebrate, but to reflect on the roots and core values upon which success has been built.

In going through some files, Howard and Trisha Edington discovered that today's sermon will be Howard's 2,000th since being ordained as a minister! This milestone is worth joyful recognition, and we thank God for the faithful proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

How does a preacher select a text for a 2,000th sermon? Howard's answer is to return to the text for his very first sermon: 2 Corinthians 4:1-6. Many years have passed since that first sermon, but the Gospel of Jesus remains unchanged.

- Paul begins by noting that the ministry that has been entrusted to him has come through God's *mercy*. In what ways have you received God's mercy? What ministries have been entrusted to you?
- It was because Paul believed that God had given him this ministry that he did not lose heart in the face of opposition. What things cause you to lose heart? How does God's presence and truth provide hope and assurance in your life?
- Rather than resorting to deception to preach and teach, Paul was committed to *setting forth the truth plainly*. In what ways can making things more complicated than needed cause the truth to become less clear? If you were asked to *set forth the truth plainly* about Jesus, what would you say?
- Paul mentions the gospel being *veiled*. How does the gospel become veiled? What are the results? How can it become unveiled?
- Paul notes that the minds of unbelievers have been blinded. Reflect on how you have experienced this. What role can you play in helping people to be un-blinded? What is the role of the Holy Spirit in this?
- Paul said that his preaching is not about himself, but about Jesus Christ as Lord. What does this teach about the role of the preacher? What are the perils of preaching about yourself?
- In verse six, Paul notes that God *made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ*. What does this teach about the process of knowing Jesus Christ as Savior? In what ways do you find God's light in your life? How is God glorified in the face of Christ?

Sermon notes written by Executive Pastor, Dave Steane