



## THE WELL: WHAT DO WE FEAR?

Women in all life stages are coming together to hear a panel of real, honest women talk about the things they fear, and how Christ has brought peace in the midst of dark places.

Meet us at The Well, a gathering place for women of all ages to commune and connect.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28 • 6:30-8:00 PM • CHAPEL**

Light snacks @ 6:15 PM • Childcare by reservation: [childcare@mdpc.org](mailto:childcare@mdpc.org)

▲ [women.mdpc.org](http://women.mdpc.org)

▼ [parenting.mdpc.org](http://parenting.mdpc.org)

## Purely Parenting


For any adults currently in the parenting trenches! These stand-alone discussions on select Sundays throughout the year are opportunities to exchange new ideas and proven strategies. Open to all!

Sunday, November 1 at 11:15 AM, Summit Room:

**How to Emotionally Connect with Your Kids**  
with Jill Gilbert



▼ [study.mdpc.org](http://study.mdpc.org)



## Partner In Prayer 2016

Your time given through PIP ensures thousands of people are prayed for every day! As Pastor Alf writes in his invitation letter, "Prayer is one of the key avenues God uses to transform us. We need your help in this ministry, but helping will help you grow in your faith as well."

To be a 2016 Partner In Prayer, **sign up today in the Lobby** or register at [pip.mdpc.org](http://pip.mdpc.org).

Partner In Prayer  
Memorial Drive  
Presbyterian Church

▼ [seniors.mdpc.org](http://seniors.mdpc.org)

The Venturers at **MDPC** present

## Meet Alf

Get to know MDPC's new Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson in a unique setting of dinner and fellowship among friends. All members, attendees, and friends of MDPC, age 55+, are welcome.

**Monday, November 2 | Westchase Hilton**

Social Hour: 6:00 PM  
Dinner/Program: 7:00 PM  
Cost: \$30 for dinner

RSVP by October 28:  
Betty and Vern Irwin  
12331 Meadow Lake, 77077



Next Sunday

## All-Church Lunch

Sunday, November 1 | 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

*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): Fried Chicken Tenders

Join us! *Everyone is welcome.*



▲ [food.mdpc.org](http://food.mdpc.org)

▼ [health.mdpc.org](http://health.mdpc.org)

## MDPC Blood Drive

Pre-register today in the Lobby or at [giveblood.org](http://giveblood.org). This helps the Blood Center schedule enough technicians—but walk-ins on the day of the drive are welcome!

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

*He shed His blood to save me,  
I donate mine to serve Him.*



▼ [mdpc.org](http://mdpc.org)

## FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL IN GREECE AND TURKEY

**March 28 - April 11, 2016**  
Led by Rev. Dave Steane

Join Executive Pastor Dave Steane for a fantastic two-week tour following the footsteps of the Apostle Paul. You'll visit Athens, Thessaloniki, Philippi, modern-day Ephesus, Patmos, Crete, Istanbul, and more.

**For more info: [mdpc.org](http://mdpc.org)**



▼ [women.mdpc.org](http://women.mdpc.org)

Therefore, I am going to allure her; I will lead her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her. —Hosea 2:14

When was the last time you sat still and felt your breath slow? Join us for a spiritual retreat as we commune with God and one another in His beautiful creation. We will delight in God's goodness and love for His daughters.


**Saturday, November 14**  
9:30 AM to 4:00 PM  
Brenham, Texas (option to stay overnight)

The cost of the retreat is \$20, and spots are limited to the first 20 women who sign up.

Women Spiritual Retreat



Sunday, October 25, 2015




# I the Heart of the Matter

— Luke 12:15-21, 33-34

Hearts Touched. Lives Changed.

## Sowing

*Alf Halvorson preaching*



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



## MDPC HIGHLIGHTS

### Daylight Savings Time Ends

Before you go to bed next Saturday, set your clocks back one hour.

**Next Sunday, November 1**

### Session Has Called a Congregational Meeting

For the purpose of electing the Elder Class of 2018 and the 2016 Nominating Committee.

**Today following 9:45 Worship | Sanctuary**

### Luke-A-Palooza!

It's Luke Gordon's last Sunday on the MDPC staff! Everyone is invited to a special send-off. We'll come together in the Gym to affirm Luke for his impact on our church body and to pray over him and his family. At noon, we'll move to the Ball Field for a pizza lunch and fun and games! Parents and students, this is in place of the regular Connection hour.

**Today, 11:00 AM-1:30 PM | Gym, Ball Field**

### Elementary Pizza Parties

Come eat pizza & play games at your grade's Pizza Party!

**2nd & 3rd Graders party today! 12:30-2:30 PM | The Galaxy**

**4th & 5th Grade: Friday, November 13 | 6:00-8:30 PM**

Contact Mallory Moore: [mmoore@mdpc.org](mailto:mmoore@mdpc.org) or 713-490-9262

### Discover MDPC with Alf, then Join!

Want to know more about MDPC? Interested in membership? Attend **Discover MDPC with Alf**, an informational meeting to learn about who we are and how we operate.

**Sunday, November 1 | 10:45-11:15 AM | Gathering Room**

MDPC's **New Member Class** series is taught by the associate pastors and elders. The series includes a Saturday service project at one of our local mission partners.

**Sundays, November 8-December 13 | Room 171-172 | 11:00 AM-12:15 PM**

Contact Diann Turet: [dturet@mdpc.org](mailto:dturet@mdpc.org) or 713-490-9553

### Help Struggling Families Have a Happy Thanksgiving

MDPC has been supporting East Spring Branch Food Pantry for years, and it recently was named "Best Food Pantry in Houston" by the Houston Food Bank! It urgently needs able-bodied men to help unload the trucks on Thursday mornings (about 1 hour of work).

**Thursdays | 8:00 AM | Holy Cross Lutheran (7901 Westview, 77055)**

Contact Mary White for information: 281-799-6752

### Help Wanted: Special Blessings and Safe Haven

Special Blessings (Special Needs Ministry) and Safe Haven (Foster Care & Adoption Ministry) are in need of adults and teens to volunteer on Sunday mornings, as well as for monthly Parents' Night Out events. No experience is necessary and no prep work is required. We just need people to show up and love on some really neat kids!

Please contact Keri Mosk for more information: [kmosk@mdpc.org](mailto:kmosk@mdpc.org) or 713-490-9265

### Use Your Business Skills: Newspring Business Plan Competition

Over the past eight years, over 100 MDPC members have participated as advisers to community college students, helping them draft business plans. It's a great opportunity to witness to your Christian faith in a secular world. Advisers work in pairs, mentoring their contestants throughout this annual competition.

**Begins January 2016**

For details, please contact Robert Westheimer at [rwestheimer1@comcast.net](mailto:rwestheimer1@comcast.net).

### Refugee Crisis Update: Meeting Jesus on the Refugee Trail

MDPC Global Partner Tihomir Kukolja, Director of Renewing Our Minds, recently traveled to Serbia to mobilize his ministry to meet thousands of Syrian refugees on their journey to central Europe. Tihomir will share stories and photos of encounters along the Hungarian and Croatian borders where his team served, giving food and water, as well as hugs, kind words, and empathy. See how the love of Christ can transform lives.

**Wednesday, November 4 | 6:30 PM | Parlor**

## MDPC WORSHIP

\*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

### 8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

WELCOME

Dave Steane

\*SONGS OF PRAISE

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SONG OF PREPARATION

NEW MEMBERS

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE

*The Heart of the Matter: Sowing*

Alf Halvorson

### 9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

WORSHIP INVITATION

Michael Middleton, Tara Reynolds

\*WORSHIP MUSIC

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Brandon Gaide

NEW MEMBERS

Dave Steane

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE

*The Heart of the Matter: Sowing*

Alf Halvorson

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

### 11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

PRELUDE

*Adagio for Strings*

Samuel Barber (1910-1981)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Dave Steane

CHORAL INTROIT

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Rene Clausen (b. 1953)

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

#281; Vs. 1, 2, 3 | CWM RHONDA

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brandon Gaide

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from the United Church of Canada*

CHORAL ANTHEM

*Blessed Be the Name of the Lord*

Dale Grotenhuis (1931-2012)

NEW MEMBERS

OFFERTORY

*The Servant Song*

David Schwoebel (b.1957)

MESSAGE

*The Heart of the Matter: Sowing*

Alf Halvorson

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE

*This Is My Father's World*

#293; Vs. 1, 2 | TERRA BEATA

POSTLUDE

*Celebration March*

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

### OTHER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SPANISH SERVICE

11:15 AM | Chapel

[fuente.mdpc.org](http://fuente.mdpc.org)

FIFTH SERVICE

5:00 PM | Chapel

[fifthservice.mdpc.org](http://fifthservice.mdpc.org)

## MDPC INFO

### Coordinating Team

Mauricio Chacón | Associate Pastor for Fuente

Brandon Gaide | Associate Pastor for Next Gen

Ginny Glass | Communications & Media Dir.

Meliza Gómez | Contemporary Music Dir.

Luke Gordon | Youth Ministries Dir.

Alf Halvorson | Senior Pastor

Charles Hausmann | Traditional Music Dir.

Kristin Huffman | Associate Pastor for Outreach

Brett Hurst | Relationships Minister

Gena Kookan | 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](mailto:briggs@mdpc.org) or 713-953-2570.



### MDPC Turns 60...

*In 2015, we celebrate 60 years of faith and ministry!*

Our Sanctuary Choir has been blessing this church with music for 60 years! Choir members Linda Weinmann, Tattin Harvin, and Tamara Ham in the Sanctuary Courtyard at a 2013 choir photo shoot.

*Do you have classic MDPC photos? Email scans to Eva Kaminski ([ekaminski@mdpc.org](mailto:ekaminski@mdpc.org)) or drop prints at the Front Office. Originals will be returned.*

### Ministry Partners

Pray for these MDPC partners working to make a difference in the lives of others:

**Spring Branch Family Development Center** enhances the well being of local families through health, educational, recreational, and social services. More than 6,000 residents live in 1,500 apartment units within walking distance of the Center.

[sbfcd.org](http://sbfcd.org)

**Spring Spirit Baseball** focuses on the personal development of at-risk youth through baseball, softball, and educational programs. It provides a safe and healthy outdoor environment to enrich the lives of youth through sports and mentoring relationships.

[springspiritbaseball.org](http://springspiritbaseball.org)

**Faith In Practice** works to improve the physical, spiritual, and economic conditions of the poor in Guatemala through short-term medical mission trips and health education. Doctors, nurses, and dentists volunteer on these missions.

[faithinpractice.org](http://faithinpractice.org)

### Please Pray...

**Today's Chancel Flowers are given**

- in honor of Virginia Upchurch's 93rd birthday, with love and admiration from daughters Martha Blecher and Molly Tipton and their families.

- by Gale Kot, in loving memory of Mike Kot, who passed away on October 30, 2014.

**The White Rose is in memory of**

- Bob Gee, who passed away on September 29, 2015.

- Pat Fortney, who passed away on October 8, 2015.

### WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

#### OPERATING INCOME

2015 Budget	\$ 10,500,000
Expected Income to date	\$ 6,293,175
Actual Income to date	\$ 5,958,444
Current Income Deficit	\$ 334,731

Pictured: Supported by your giving, Spring Spirit Baseball brings positive role models into the lives of at-risk kids - *and* gives them a place to play!



**MDPC**

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

11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024 | [mdpc.org](http://mdpc.org) | 713-782-1710

# Prayers for Our Military

*Please pray for these men and women serving in the Armed Forces, at home and abroad.*

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

An up-to-date list always is available at [military.mdpc.org](http://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](mailto:ekaminski@mdpc.org). Please notify us when you are blessed with the return home of your loved one.



## MDPC CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, October 25, 2015

### Motion One: To elect the presented slate of nominees for the position of Elder, Class of 2018

#### ADMINISTRATION

Clerk Elect-Elect		Buz Jochetz
Personnel Elect-Elect		David Baay
Treasurer Elect-Elect		Joe Warren
Food Service		Debra Cordell
Generosity		Charlie Chaffin

#### CARING

Memorial Services Receptions		Fran Gantt
Visitation		Jody Jordan

#### EQUIPPING

Curriculum & Resources		Jim Armstrong
Leadership Development		Ginny Trevino

#### FUENTE

John Hartman (1-year term, class of 2016)

#### OUTREACH

Global		Rick Owen
Local		Jen Harold
Local		Robin Sturgis

#### WORSHIP & MUSIC

First Year		Debbi Nager
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#### YOUTH

Middle School		Bryan Fleener
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### Motion Two: To elect the following Elders to the position of Trustee, 2016

Ray McLaughlin		Personnel Elder
Buz Jochetz		Clerk Elect-Elect
Joe Warren		Treasurer Elect-Elect

### Motion Three: To elect the presented slate of nominees for the 2016 Nominating Committee

Martha Moore		Clerk Elect, Moderator
David Thomas		Immediate Past Clerk
Oliver Aldrich		At-Large
Charlotte Crawford		At-Large
Laura Guthrie		At-Large
David Harkins		At-Large
Don Leever		At-Large
Buz Jochetz		Clerk Elect-Elect, Ex Officio
Dave Steane		Executive Pastor, Ex Officio





## **MDPC NEW MEMBERS** Sunday, October 25, 2015

Today, we warmly welcome 15 new members to our church family! We look forward to helping them get connected into the **MDPC** community.



**Reagan and Claudia Burch** – Reagan is retired and enjoys reading and travel. Claudia is a retired attorney, and enjoys traveling, reading golfing, and Bible study. She volunteers as a Houston Ground Angel, an organization that provides complementary transportation between airports and the medical center for patients arriving in Houston.



**Sue Dorsey** has three adult children. She is a retired banker who is new to Houston, and she is committed to organizations that serve the less fortunate, such as Memorial Assistance Ministries, where she currently volunteers. Sue is glad to have found MDPC and its inviting atmosphere, and a comfortable environment for Christian growth.



**David and Nicole Durham** are the parents to Zachery (2) and anxiously awaiting the birth of their second child! David is a Natural Gas Liquids market analyst and enjoys running. Nicole is a stay-at-home mom and enjoys, cooking, baking, and taking walks with Zachery. David and Nicole both enjoy spending time with family and friends.



**Shari Halvorson** is the wife of our new senior pastor, Alf Halvorson. They have two adult children, Matt and Kristen. Shari is a registered nurse and has worked in community health with mom and baby programs. She enjoys reading, knitting, crocheting, and playing the guitar.



**Gale Kot** is the mother of two adult children, David and Dennis. She is a legal secretary and enjoys oil painting and golfing.



**Josh and Megan McCrimmon** – Josh is a senior maintenance engineer and enjoys reading and golfing. Megan is a banker. She enjoys do-it-yourself projects and thrifting.



**Bob and Janet Menzie** are the parents of Amanda; Heather, who passed away in May 2015; and MDPC new member, Morgan. Bob is a senior manager in oil and gas working with the environment, health, and safety. He enjoys singing and the outdoors. Janet is the choir director at Clements High School in Sugar Land. She enjoys singing with the Houston Symphony Choir and the Houston Camerata.



**Morgan Menzie** is the daughter of new members Bob and Janet Menzie. She is a veterinarian, who earned her undergraduate degree from Ohio State University and her veterinary medicine degree from Texas A&M. She enjoys reading, writing short stories, singing in the choir, training for triathlons, and hanging out with her cat, Dalhery's. She also loves football and tailgating.



**Chris Morgan** is the husband of MDPC member, Kelly Morgan. They are the parents of baby boy Hudson (7 weeks). Chris is a regional sales manager with Climax Portable Machine Tools. He enjoys playing golf and spending time with family and friends.



**Kuruvilla Parackalkoshy** is a missionary.



**Irene Sumolang** is a compliance analyst. She was born and raised in Indonesia. She moved halfway across the globe to become an Aggie! Irene became a Houstonian seven years ago and is now working in oil and gas equipment. In her free time, she loves to cook.



**Zulma Juarez** is married to **Rigoberto Antonio Vasquez**. They have three children: Rigoberto (20), Malachi (9), and Abigail (7). She works in word processing and enjoys working out and crafting. He works in remodeling and enjoys going to the gym and playing soccer.

**New Member Classes** participate in a service project at one of our local ministry partners, such as the East Spring Branch Food Pantry.



### Is it Time for You to Join MDPC?

Visit [membership.mdpc.org](http://membership.mdpc.org) for more information and to register for upcoming classes, or contact Diann Turet, Membership Director: [dturet@mdpc.org](mailto:dturet@mdpc.org) or 713-490-9553

## *the Heart of the Matter*

### **Sowing**

Genesis 12:1-4a and 2 Corinthians 9:6-12 (NRSV)

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson Preaching

This is the second in a series of messages and studies on Generosity, preparing us for Covenant Sunday on November 8, when we offer our pledges to God in worship. Last week, I said that the man in Jesus' parable in Luke 12 missed the boat because he only cared about himself and about this life. Today, we look at *Sowing* seeds: sowing sparingly or bountifully. In 2 Corinthians 9:6, Paul says, "The point is this: The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."

1. What factors in the world right now make you worry about your finances and your security? For example, the rising costs of goods and services, low barrel prices for oil, etc.
2. Where do you see scarcity in your life, in our community, and in our world?
3. Genesis 12:1-4a comes after The Fall by Adam and Eve, Cain killing Abel, The Flood, The Tower of Babel story, and, finally, a genealogy ending with the information that Sarah is barren and has no child. The writer is piling up examples of significant problems in the wider world at that time, and also that there is no heir for Abraham and Sarah in that particular family. If you were they, how would you have heard the words from God in Genesis 12:1-4a? What would you have thought? How might you have responded?
4. Abraham and Sarah's story after Genesis 12 includes the couple going down to Egypt and Sarah almost being stolen, having Hagar supply a child for Abraham, and then the near sacrifice of Isaac. Where do you see fear displayed and where do you see faith offered?
5. In 2 Corinthians 9:6-12, Paul compares faith to sowing seeds, and that we reap what we sow. If we sow sparingly, we will reap sparingly; if we sow abundantly, we will reap abundantly. Do you agree or disagree with the image? Share examples from work, home, and your faith life to explain your position.
6. Paul goes on to suggest in verses 7-12 that we have all been given blessings, resources, gifts, treasure, and seeds, and we are blessed to be a blessing. God will enrich us if and when we sow our seeds and that the result will not only be needs met, but also an overflowing of thanksgiving to God. What might that look like in your life and in our community? How will that influence your pledge to God this year?

