



ALL *Together*

Peter's Sermon & The People's Response Acts 2:14-41 | Alf Halvorson preaching

8:30 AM Service

Sunday, August 23, 2020

Alf Halvorson preaching

[Acts 2:14-41](#)

Welcome & Call to Worship

Rachel Poysky

Songs of Praise

*My Testimony
In Christ Alone*

Elevation Worship
Arr. Getty

Prayer of Confession & Assurance

Beth Case

Song of Response

Cornerstone

Hillsong Worship

Moment of Prayer

Rachel Poysky

Song of Preparation

Great Are You, Lord

All Sons & Daughters

Message

Peter's Sermon and the People's Response

Alf Halvorson

Communion

Pastor Alf will give instructions. All who confess their faith in Christ are welcome to the table.

Song of Response

Living Hope

Phil Wickham

Opportunity to Give & Benediction

Alf Halvorson



Sunday Worship Playlist

[Click here to listen](#)

Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

Each week, we pray for three of **MDPC's** local and global mission partners. During these difficult days, our partners truly covet your prayers! Visit [**partners.mdpc.org**](https://partners.mdpc.org) to find this week's (three) prayer recipients.

ALL Together

Peter's Sermon & The People's Response

Acts 2:14-41 | Alf Halvorson preaching

9:45 AM Service

Sunday, August 23, 2020

Alf Halvorson preaching

[Acts 2:14-41](#)

Welcome & Call to Worship

Meliza Gómez

Song of Praise

My Testimony

Elevation Worship

Kids' Moment

Children's Ministry

Moment of Confession & Assurance

Hillary McMullen

Songs of Response

*The Passion
Great Are You, Lord*

Hillsong Worship
All Sons & Daughters

Message

Peter's Sermon and the People's Response

Alf Halvorson

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Song of Response

Living Hope

Phil Wickham

Opportunity to Give & Benediction

Alf Halvorson



Sunday Worship Playlist

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ALL Together

Peter's Sermon & The People's Response Acts 2:14-41 | Alf Halvorson preaching

11:15 AM Service

Alf Halvorson preaching

Sunday, August 23, 2020

[Acts 2:14-41](#)

Prelude

Vocalise

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1941)

Welcome & Call to Worship

Rachel Poysky

Anthem

Light of the World

arr. Karen Marroli (b. 1975)

Hymn of Praise

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Beth Case

Anthem of Preparation

Arise, My Soul, Arise

Dan Forrest (b. 1978)

Message

Peter's Sermon and the People's Response

Alf Halvorson

Communion

Pastor Alf will give instructions. All who confess their faith in Christ are welcome to the table.

Hymn of Response

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

ST. THOMAS

Opportunity to Give & Benediction

Alf Halvorson

Postlude

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

arr. Richard Warner (1908-1983)

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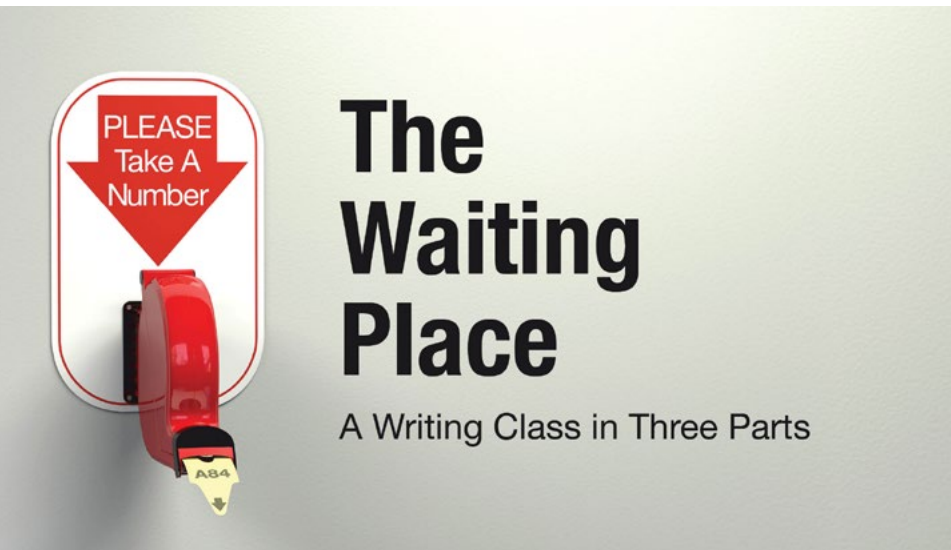
MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, August 23, 2020

It's Kickoff Sunday, and even though it looks differently this year, there are still many programs and studies starting up again. Look over the featured opportunities here, or to view all upcoming events, visit events.mdpc.org.



MDPC's annual MAM Back to School drive is happening now, and your support is needed this year more than ever! Please visit mambs.mdpc.org to learn more and support local kids.



Waiting for anything can be difficult, but, as believers, we know it's not useless (1 Cor. 15:58). Join us as we write our way through. Sign up [here](#) for this class led by Leigh McLeroy, Beth Case, and Amanda Grace Caldwell.



Even in these difficult times, our MDPC Mission Partners are still hard at work providing needed services to their clients and sharing the love of Jesus. To hear some of their stories, visit stories.mdpc.org.



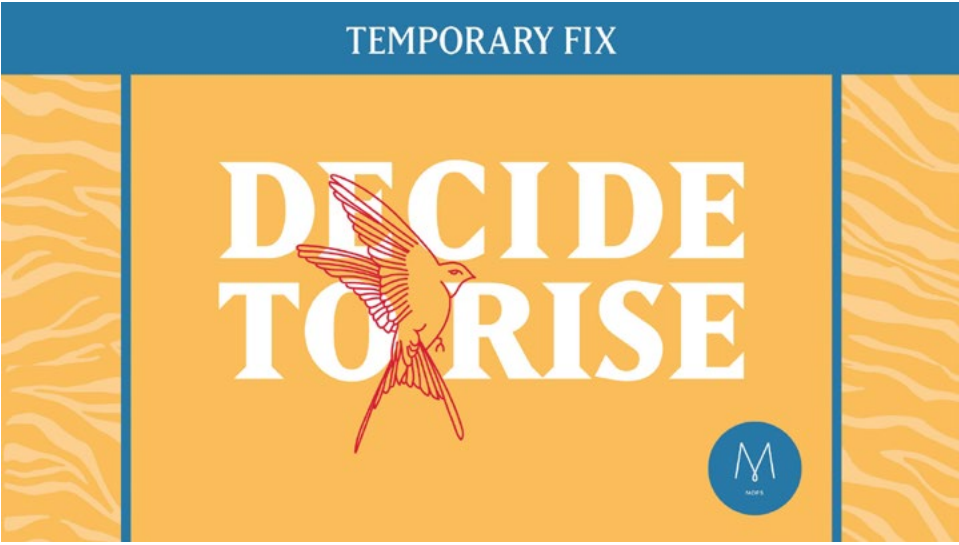
This three-part book discussion is on [One Blood](#), what *Christianity Today* describes as, "civil rights hero [John Perkins]... 'final manifesto' on race and the church's call to unity." Check out the book and [join us](#) via Zoom starting September 14.



Our church family has so many stories of God's faithfulness and action and presence...we want them to be heard. Life Is More is an effort to collect these stories to encourage individuals, and to grow the Kingdom. Will you share? Visit lifeismore.mdpc.org to learn more.



MDPC is seeking its next class of Elders and Deacons. Who do you know who's equipped to lead our church into the new-normal future we're facing? Visit nominations.mdpc.org to submit your nominations by August 25.



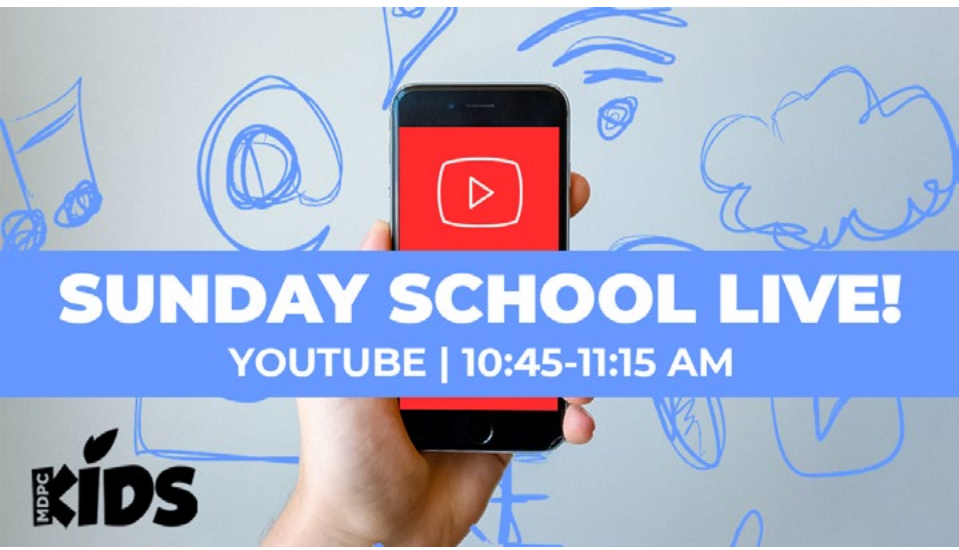
Our MOPS program this fall will be adapted to the needs of this time and adequately called, "MOPS: Temporary Fix." We hope all Mothers Of Preschoolers will join us! See what's on offer and sign up at mops.mdpc.org.



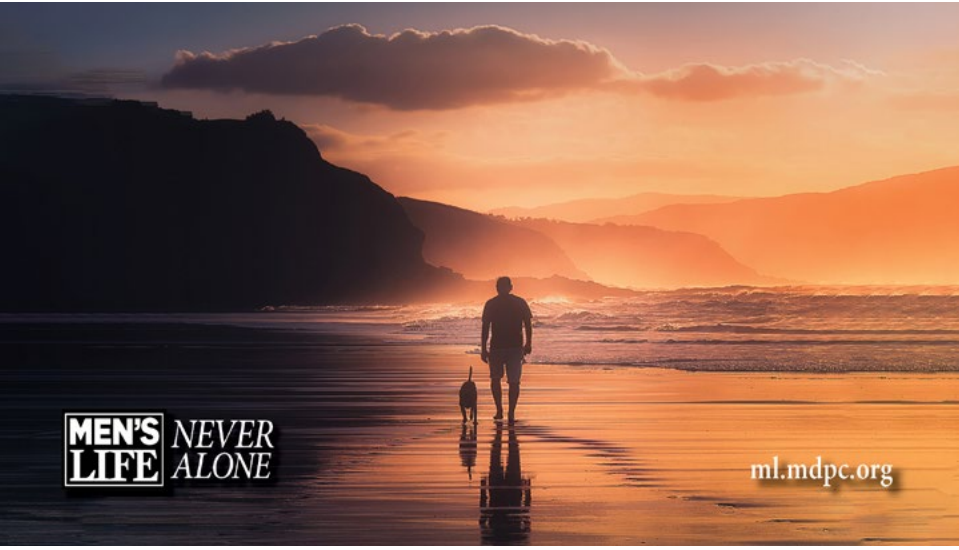
Registration is now open for the fall series of Word & Worship. This year's study of the Book of Hebrews will leave us with a deeper knowledge of Jesus and more complete understanding of the Bible as a whole. Learn more at hebrews.mdpc.org.



This fall, **MDPC** will study the Book of ACTS, beginning the week of August 16, and will include existing Sunday School classes, Sunday morning [pastor-led classes](#), and a Wednesday night small group. Visit [ACTS.mdpc.org](https://acts.mdpc.org) for details. No registration required.



Children's Ministries Sunday School is moving to YouTube! We will have Sunday School for Preschool and Elementary Kids on our YouTube channel from 10:45-11:15 AM for our Preschool and Elementary Kids. [Click here](#) to learn more.



Join us this fall for Men's Life: Never Alone, an impactful 11-week uncovering the realities of loneliness in America and what men can do about it. These should be life-changing conversations! Learn more and sign up at ml.mdpc.org.



This is the second in our four-part kickoff sermon series on Acts [chapter 2](#) and [chapter 8](#). I said last week that “the Spirit is the power that enables believers to ‘go public.’ It turned and continues to turn former cowards into courageous witnesses.” As Jesus said in Acts 1:8, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be *My witnesses* in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” The Book of Acts reveals how the church carried out that mission and witness; it can help us regarding our mission and witness today.

1. When have you been afraid to speak (or share your faith or try to answer someone’s question or accusation) as a Christian? Who intimidated you? Why were you tempted to shrink back? Was it more about them or you or both?
2. Read [Acts 2:14-41](#). What strikes you “right off the bat” in verse 14 about the phrase “with the eleven”? Rarely in Acts is “witness” viewed as a solitary act. Most often it is seen as a team effort—with Peter and others or Paul and a group like Silas and Mark and Luke. Does that change your view of witnessing at all? In what way(s)?
3. Peter begins by responding to an accusation in verse 13 and a question from verse 12. Why is that a key regarding being a witness? Shouldn’t we listen to what the questions are of our family and friends and try to respond to what people *really* want to know? Where they *really* are confused or angry or wondering about some aspect of the faith?
4. English priest and Theologian John Stott says about our passage, “Two events (Christ’s death and resurrection), as attested by two witnesses (prophets - Joel and David - and the apostles), on the basis of which God makes two promises (forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit), on two conditions (repentance and faith.)” Mine this sermon and the people’s response in verses 16 through 39 to find each of the jewels in Stott’s poetic and symmetrical summary.
5. To witness is to “tell the truth about what you have seen or experienced.” Richard Halverson, the former Chaplain of the U.S. Senate, puts it this way: “*For the NT Christians, witness was not a sales pitch. They simply shared, each in his own way, what they had received. Theirs was not a formally prepared, carefully worked out presentation with a gimmick to manipulate conversation, and a ‘closer’ for an on-the-spot decision...but the spontaneous, irrepressible, effervescent enthusiasm of those who had met the most fascinating Person who ever lived. The Gospel is not theology. It’s a Person. Theology doesn’t save. Jesus Christ saves. The first-century disciples were totally involved with a Person. They were followers of Jesus. They were learners of Jesus. They were committed to Jesus. They were filled with Jesus. They had encountered Jesus Christ and it simply could not be concealed. They witnessed not because they had to, but because they could not help it. Their school of witnessing was the school of the Spirit where they learned continuously. Authentic Christian witness is born of the Spirit. Madison Avenue, with all its sophisticated know-how, can’t improve on the strategy. Nothing is more convincing than the simple, unembellished word of a satisfied customer.*” Based on Halverson’s words, how might you more confidently and joyfully witness?