

Welcome to MDPC!



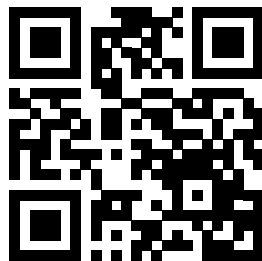
Easy Check-in!

Download the free MDPC app to your iPhone or Android.



Guest Registry

5 quick questions to help us get to know you better!



Give Online

Make one-time or recurring gifts with ease.



unburdened

Finding Freedom in Christ Alone



8:30 AM Service
Sunday, August 8, 2021

Rev. Dave Steane preaching
[Galatians 5:16-25 \(ESV\)](#)

Welcome and Call to Worship		Beth Case
Songs of Praise	<i>Forever (Give Thanks to the Lord)</i> <i>Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus</i>	Tomlin TRADITIONAL
Prayer of Confession and Assurance		Lyndsey Dottavio
Song of Response	<i>How Great You Are</i>	Israel Houghton
Moment of Prayer		Beth Case
Song of Preparation	<i>Waiting Here for You</i>	Passion Worship
Message	Unburdened Galatians 5:16-25	Dave Steane
Song of Response	<i>Like Incense (Sometimes by Step)</i>	Brooke Ligertwood
Opportunity to Give and Benediction		Dave Steane



Sunday Worship Playlist

[Click here to listen.](#)

[Give Online](#)
give.mdpc.org

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 to find this week's (three) prayer recipients.

unburdened

Finding Freedom in Christ Alone



9:45 AM Service
Sunday, August 8, 2021

Rev. Dave Steane preaching
[Galatians 5:16-25 \(ESV\)](#)

Invitation to Worship		Meliza Gómez
Song of Praise	<i>Never Gonna Stop Singing</i>	Jesus Culture
Moment of Confession and Assurance		Hillary McMullen
Children's Moment		
Songs of Preparation	<i>How Great You Are</i> <i>Waiting Here for You</i>	Israel Houghton Passion Worship
Message	Unburdened Galatians 5:16-25	Dave Steane
Song of Response	<i>Like Incense (Sometimes by Step)</i>	Brooke Ligertwood
Moment of Prayer		Beth Case
Opportunity to Give and Benediction		Dave Steane



Sunday Worship Playlist

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Finding Freedom in Christ Alone



11:15 AM Service
Sunday, August 8, 2021

Rev. Dave Steane preaching
[Galatians 5:16-25 \(ESV\)](#)

Prelude	<i>Praeludium in D Minor</i>	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Welcome and Call to Worship		Beth Case
Choral Introit	<i>Behold Now, Praise the Lord</i>	Everett Titcomb (1884-1968)
*Hymn of Praise	<i>Standing on the Promises</i>	#271; Vs. 1, 2, 4 PROMISES
*Prayer of Confession and Assurance		Amy Delgado
*Affirmation of Faith	from the Apostles' Creed	
*Congregational Response	<i>The Gloria Patri</i>	Hymn #579
Anthem	<i>Spirit, Sing</i>	Joseph Martin (b.1959)
Pastoral Prayer		Beth Case
Anthem of Preparation	<i>The King of Love My Shepherd Is</i>	Ryan Murphy (b.1971)
Message	Unburdened Galatians 5:16-25	Dave Steane
*Hymn of Response	<i>Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart</i>	#145; Vs. 1, 2 MARION
Opportunity to Give and Benediction		Dave Steane
Postlude	<i>The Pilgrims' Chorus</i>	Richard Wagner (1813-1883)

Steffanie Dean, guest conductor

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Sunday, August 8, 2021

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

To see more events at MDPC, visit events.mdpc.org.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE as of August 1, 2021

2021 Annual Budget	\$ 11,300,000
Income to Date	\$ 5,917,490
Needed to Meet Budget	\$ 5,382,510



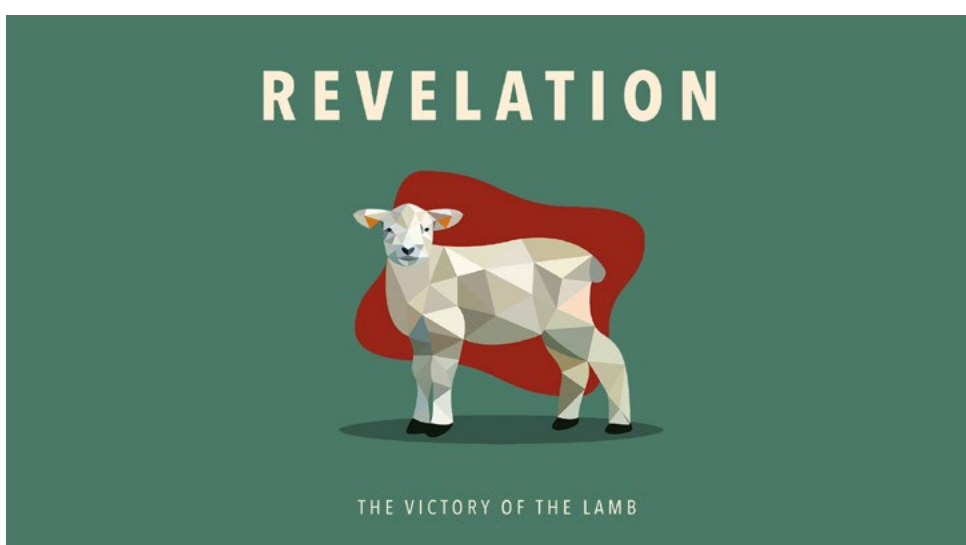
Drive starts this Sunday!

Please consider sponsoring a local child. You'll send a youngster to school ready to learn! Your donation of any amount will help kids succeed in school and in life. Learn more at mambts.mdpc.org.



Wed, Aug 11 • 4:30-6p • Fellowship Hall

Texas is number one in the U.S. in food insecurity for children - but you can help! Come make sandwiches for Kids' Meals that will feed Houston preschoolers. Learn more and sign up at kidsmeals.mdpc.org.



Sun, Wed, or Thu • Sep 16, 2021-Apr 21, 2022

There are several group options to choose from, and you still may attend via Zoom. To learn more and choose a group, visit wordandworship.mdpc.org.



Tue, Sep 14-Nov 30 • 6:30-7:45a

Since 2003, Men's Life at MDPC has encouraged thousands of men to walk more fully with God and live in meaningful relationship with others. Join us this fall for Men's Life 2021: Connecting. Learn more at ml.mdpc.org.



CONNECTION is our Sunday program for Middle and High School students where we come together for fellowship, teaching, and worship. 11:15 AM in the Youth Loft; more info at connection.mdpc.org.



Through Tue, Aug 24

MDPC needs your help in identifying those who would make good Elders and Deacons. Hard copy forms are available around campus and online at nominations.mdpc.org.



Tue, Aug 17 • 6-9p • \$20 for food & drink

Men, invite your buddies to join us for a fun night out, with Astros on the big screen, Tex-Mex, beer, and fellowship with other men. Tickets at mensnight.mdpc.org.



You Belong Here! This fall, we will celebrate three very special Sundays: Aug 22 (Kickoff Sunday); Aug 29 (Ministry Fair); and Sep 5 (Labor Day Cookout). For details of each Sunday's events, stay tuned to homecoming.mdpc.org.



Landscaping in the Prayer Garden and Columbarium has been updated following the February freeze. An effort was made to use low-maintenance plants, reducing the need for seasonal planting. We invite you to take a walk through this beautiful part of the church campus! columbarium.mdpc.org

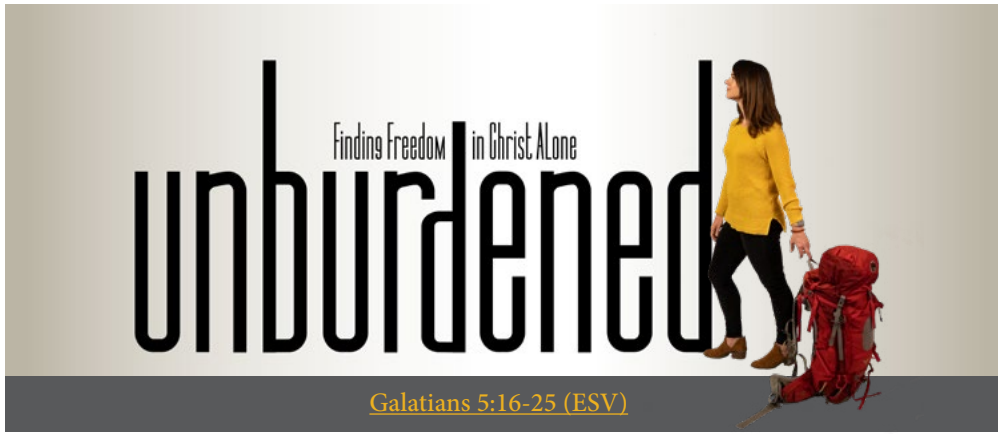


Starting Tue, Sep 14 • In person with free food.

Try it the first week or come all 10 weeks for no pressure conversations about life, faith, and meaning. Find details at alpha.mdpc.org.



Children's Ministries Sunday School is on YouTube! We offer Sunday school lessons for preschool and elementary kids on the MDPC Kids YouTube channel, Sundays at 10:45-11:15a. [Click here](#) to learn more.



Today, we continue our summer sermon series on the powerful New Testament letter from the Apostle Paul to the Galatians. The series is called *Unburdened* because Galatians spotlights the power of God's grace in and through Jesus Christ to unburden us from the of trying to earn our salvation through human effort. Galatians is a letter about the joy and implications of being set free by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and what an important message that is for us today.

Throughout the epistle, Paul has confronted the Galatian Christians regarding being misled by false teachers who asserted that it was necessary to conform to the Old Testament laws in addition to having faith in Jesus Christ. Galatians 5:1 sums up Paul's argument: *"For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery."*

Freedom is a powerful and beautiful thing, but freedom also calls us to make choices about how we will choose to live. In Galatians 5:16-25, Paul offers a contrast between two very different ways to live. One way is the desire or works of the flesh, and the other way is the fruit of the Spirit.

1. In Galatians 5:16, Paul begins this section by instructing the Galatians to *"walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."* The Greek word for "walk" is best understood as "conducting one's life in a certain manner." Paul is drawing on a Hebrew idiom his audience would have understood regarding their conduct as it relates to obeying the Old Testament Law. To what extent do you pay attention to your "walk"?
2. Several times Paul references "the flesh" in this passage. The Greek word for "flesh" is much broader than skin or improper sexual desire. Rather, it describes a comprehensive reality of the totality of fallen humanity. It is *everything* that is in opposition to God. For Paul, the flesh is in opposition to the Spirit and there's conflict and tension with this reality. Reflect on the ways you've experienced this conflict and tension.
3. Lists of vices and virtues were common in the ancient world. These can be found in the writings of many ancient thinkers. Paul uses that same approach to illustrate the differences between the desires of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit. These flesh vices listed in verses 19-21 include: *"sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies and things like these."* Reflect on the ways that each vice is in opposition to God's design for humanity.
4. Paul then offer a list of virtues as the fruit of the Spirit: *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."* Compare this passage with Jesus' words in Luke 6:43-45 and in Matthew 12:33. Reflect on the different fruit listed in Galatians 5:22-23. Which ones do you recognize in your own life? Which ones may be lacking somewhat?
5. Some people have interpreted this passage as a choice between two lists; a choice between two sets of behaviors aimed at earning God's favor. To think this way is to continue the false teaching that we need good works in addition to having faith in Christ. Rather, Paul seems to say that when we receive God's grace through Jesus Christ, the Spirit takes up residence in us and that Spirit will cause us to bear God-honoring fruit in response to God's mercy and goodness. In what ways have you experienced this type of freedom?