

Welcome to MDPC!

app.mdpc.org

connectonline.mdpc.org

give.mdpc.org

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.



BETTER TOGETHER

LESSONS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



8:30 AM Service

Sunday, September 12, 2021

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

[Acts 21:1-17 \(NRSV\)](#)

Welcome and Call to Worship

Beth Case

Songs of Praise

*Here for You
Holy, Holy, Holy*

Matt Maher
TRADITIONAL

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Brett Hurst

Song of Response

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

TRADITIONAL

Moment of Prayer

Beth Case

Song of Preparation

This Is My Father's World

TRADITIONAL

Message

Better Together
[Acts 21:1-17](#)

Alf Halvorson

Song of Response

Jireh

Maverick City Worship

Opportunity to Give and Benediction

Alf Halvorson

Musicians in this service:

Josue Sapon, drums; Daniel Martinez, keys; George Heathco, guitar; Uvaldo Callejas, bass;
Nani Nicole, Michael Middleton, & Meliza Gómez, worship leaders



Sunday Worship Playlist

[Click here to listen.](#)

[Give Online](#)
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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.

BETTER TOGETHER

LESSONS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



9:45 AM Service

Sunday, September 12, 2021

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

[Acts 21:1-17 \(NRSV\)](#)

Invitation to Worship

Song of Praise

My Testimony

Elevation Worship

Moment of Confession and Assurance

Scott Fuller

Baptisms

Alf Halvorson

Elizabeth Hazel Limbacher and Emily Arden Limbacher,
daughters of Andrew and Madison Limbacher

Songs of Preparation

*Here for You/ Holy, Holy, Holy
Tremble*

Matt Maher

Mosaic MSC

Message

Better Together

Alf Halvorson

[Acts 21:1-17](#)

Song of Response

Jireh

Maverick City Worship

Opportunity to Give and Benediction

Alf Halvorson

Musicians in this service:

Josue Sapon, drums; Daniel Martinez, keys; George Heathco, guitar; Uvaldo Callejas, bass;
Nani Nicole, Michael Middleton, & Meliza Gómez, worship leaders

BETTER TOGETHER
LESSONS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



Sunday Worship Playlist

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BETTER TOGETHER

LESSONS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



11:15 AM Service

Sunday, September 12, 2021

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

[Acts 21:1-17 \(NRSV\)](#)

Prelude *Chorale in B Minor* César Franck (1822-1890)

Welcome and Call to Worship Beth Case

Choral Introit *Ye Followers of the Lamb* arr. Edwin Earle Ferguson (1910-1999)

***Hymn of Praise** *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* #446; Vs. 1, 3 | AUSTRIAN HYMN

***Prayer of Confession and Assurance** Dave Steane

***Affirmation of Faith** from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20

Baptism Alf Halvorson
Tatum Lee Reid, son of Michael and Muriel Reid

Anthem *Ascribe to the Lord* Rosephanye Powell (b.1962)

Pastoral Prayer Beth Case

Anthem of Preparation *Thy Will Be Done* arr. Craig Courtney (b.1948)

Message **Better Together** Alf Halvorson
[Acts 21:1-17](#)

***Hymn of Response** *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* Vs. 1, Refrain | CLOSER WALK

Opportunity to Give and Benediction Alf Halvorson

Postlude *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* arr. Don Hustad (1918-2013)

Musicians in this service:

Charles Hausmann, conductor; Kathryn White, organ/piano

MDPC Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

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give.mdpc.org

Sunday, September 12, 2021

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

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

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE as of September 5, 2021

2021 Annual Budget	\$ 11,300,000
Income to Date	\$ 6,647,450
Needed to Meet Budget	\$ 4,652,550



Sat, Sep 18 • 6-9p • Free admission!

Come celebrate the many cultures of Latin America represented here in our church! Culinary, musical, and artistic traditions will be exhibited. Learn more at flavor.mdpc.org.



Wed, Thu, OR Fri starting Sep 15 • Times/locations vary!

Join our new small groups for women. It's simple! Pick the book you'd like to study and you'll be placed in a group with other women who have chosen the same title. Learn more and sign up at commonbonds.mdpc.org.



Saturday, Sep 25 • 9-11a

Join us via Zoom for fabulous marriage enrichment. Open to all ages and stages of marriage. Enhance marital enjoyment without breaking your budget! Sign up at staycay.mdpc.org.



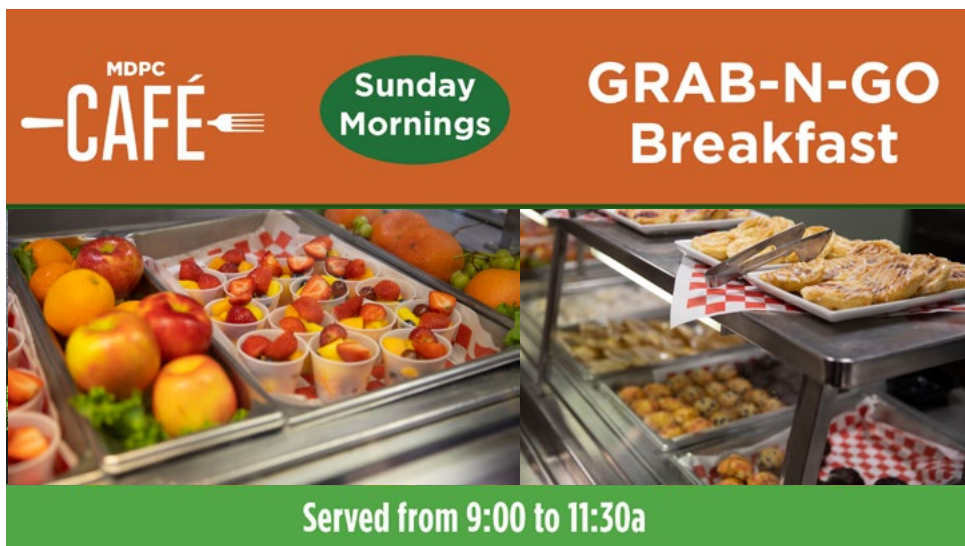
Starts Tue, Sep 14 • In person with free food.

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



Thu, Sep 30 • 7p

Attend **The Antioch Partners'** Virtual Fundraiser and see what the Lord is doing cross-culturally! The main speaker, Marta Bennett, will share how God is using leadership development to grow the church in Africa and impact the world. Visit antioch.mdpc.org to register!



Sunday mornings • MDPC Kitchen (off Fellowship Hall)

Delicious, carry-friendly options for those rushed Sundays when there's no time for breakfast! Stop by to see what items are for sale each Sunday.



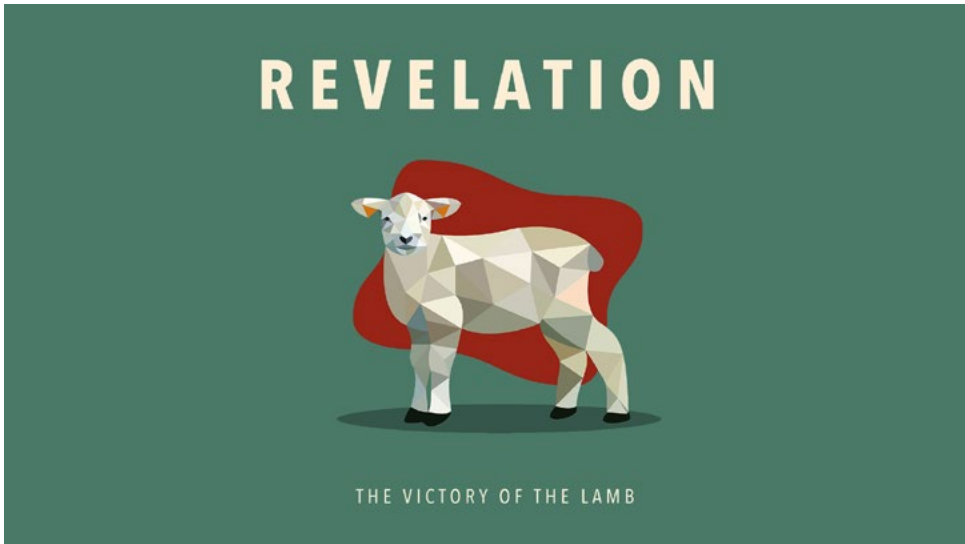
Tue, Sep 19-Oct 17 • 9:45-11a

Led by Associate Pastors, Elders, and staff, you will be invited to explore if becoming a member is the right next step in your faith in Jesus. Learn more at membership.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.



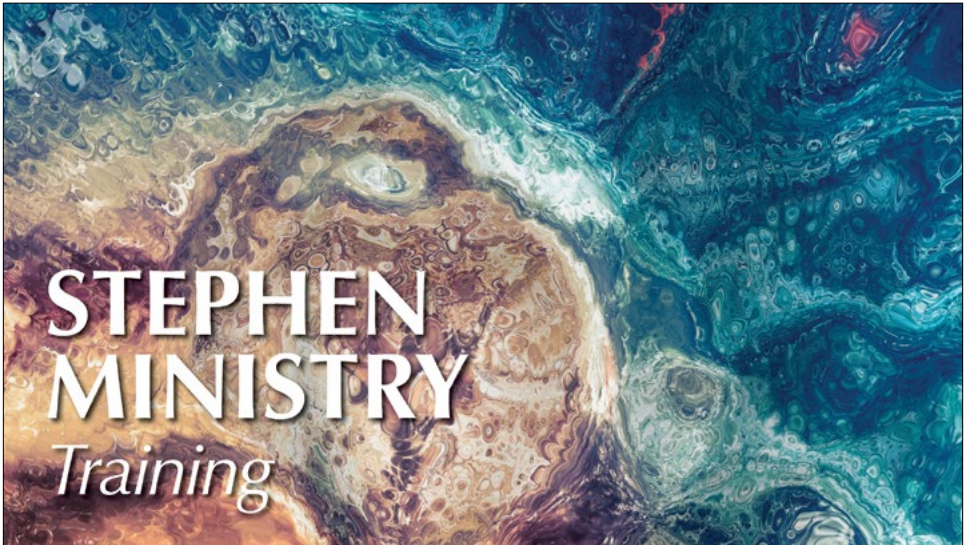
Sun, Wed, or Thu • Sep 9, 2021-Apr 21, 2022

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.



Thu, Sep 23-Nov 11 • 3-4:30p

While there is no timeline to grief, there is always hope. This Christ-centered program is designed to help those dealing with the loss of a loved one. Visit grief.mdpc.org for more.



Training Begins January 2022

Have you found that people trust you to listen to their struggles? Do you enjoy supporting, caring and praying for others? If so, consider becoming a Stephen Minister! Learn more at stephen.mdpc.org.

BETTER TOGETHER

LESSONS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



Acts 21:1-17 (NRSV)

This is the fourth of five messages in our fall series here on the “we” passages in the second half of the book of Acts. When you hit chapter 21, it seems as if the narrative accelerates; the story speeds up like an approaching Texas-sized thunderstorm or maybe more accurately like riding into the path of a tornado or hurricane. The prediction of suffering does not deter Paul from going forward, though. His sheer determination to go on (no matter what lies ahead) is impressive and humbling to ponder. But let’s ponder...

1. Share an example when someone or some group headed into a challenge from which most were running. When, if ever, have you done something similar? Share stories.
2. Read Acts 21:1-17, and also Acts 19:21, 20:22-24, and 9:15-16. How do the last three Scriptures inform the first one? How do you react to Acts 21:4? Is the Spirit contradictory? Did Paul brush aside appropriate warnings? How do you make sense of it all?
3. Read Luke 21:12-19; Heb. 12:1-3, and Rom. 8:31-39. Does faithfulness sometimes involve suffering? How is the Prosperity Gospel’s message of *health* and *wealth* dangerous to Biblical Faith?
4. Agabus’ prediction (prophecy) of Acts 21:10-11 looks a lot like Old Testament prophecies (Is. 20:3-4; Jer. 13:1-11; Ez. 4, 5:1-4; 1 Kings 11:29-31). Why is it so helpful and important to normal people at times to see messages acted out?
5. I made the case near the end of the sermon that my takeaways from the passage were two: Paul *stayed the course* and he *stayed in community*. React to my takeaways. Do you agree or disagree? Would you add another? What are your takeaways?
6. I ended the message with two short clips from *The Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien. On your journey of life and faith, who are your Sam Gamgee and Frodo? Are you one or both to others? And if you don’t have a team yet, how will you go about creating one or joining one or pursuing that goal with God’s help? If you don’t know where to start, try filling out the form at connectonline.mdpc.org, checking out the calendar at events.mdpc.org, or visiting pastors.mdpc.org to speak to a pastor.

