



TEACHABLE  
**MOMENTS**  
LEADERSHIP  
Mark 10:35-45

Sun, Jan 9, 2022

Mark 10:35-45

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson preaching

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**8:30 SERVICE**

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Welcome & Call to Worship Dave Steane

Songs of Praise *Forever/In Christ Alone*

\*Prayer of Confession & Assurance Amanda Grace Caldwell

Song of Preparation *Fresh Wind*

Message **Leadership** Alf Halvorson

Song of Response *Send Me/Here I Am, Lord*

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**9:45 SERVICE**

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Welcome & Call to Worship Dave Steane

Song of Praise *Never Gonna Stop Singing/Our God*

Moment of Confession & Assurance Meliza Gómez

Song of Preparation *Fresh Wind*

Message **Leadership** Alf Halvorson

Song of Response *Send Me/Here I Am Lord*

Service of Officer Ordination and Installation

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**11:15 SERVICE**

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

Welcome & Call to Worship Dave Steane

Choral Introit *Behold Now, Praise the Lord* Everett Titcomb (1884-1968)

\*Hymn of Praise *Holy, Holy, Holy* NICAEA  
#138; Vs. 1, 3, 4

\*Prayer of Confession & Affirmation of Faith Christyn Knoop

Anthem *Give to My Eyes, Lord* Ronald Corp (b.1951)

Service of Officer Ordination and Installation

Hymn of Response *Here I Am, Lord* Daniel Schutte (b.1947)

Anthem of Preparation *The Servant Song* David Schwoebel (b.1957)

Message **Leadership** Alf Halvorson

\*Hymn of Response *More Love to Thee, O Christ* MORE LOVE TO THEE  
#359; Vs. 1, 2

Postlude *Holy, Holy, Holy* arr. Rhonda Furr (b.1951)

# SERMONNOTES

To view the sermon archive, visit [sermons.mdpc.org](https://sermons.mdpc.org).

## TEACHABLE MOMENTS LEADERSHIP

Sun, Jan 9, 2022

[Mark 10:35-45](#)

Alf Halvorson preaching

Now that Christmas has passed and we are in a New Year, we take up again *Teachable Moments* from Scripture on important topics, before we go full-bore into Lent and Easter.

This weekend, we also ordain and install MDPC Elders and Deacons. What do they need to know to lead well? And what do all Jesus-followers need to know to use our power and positions of influence appropriately? In the news and on social media, it seems we repeatedly see many more negative examples of leadership than positive ones. They get the attention and promotion. Jesus suggests in our passage that the world has a certain way it leads (because of the Fall), and that Jesus' followers are not to follow that unhealthy path. Whoever would be great in His mind and kingdom can follow another, less-traveled path. Let's wrestle with Jesus' words and life regarding leadership.

1. Who have been the best leaders in your life? The worst? What qualities were exhibited in each? And where have been *your* blind spots or mistakes in leadership? When have you led well?
2. Look briefly at the context of Luke chapter 10 as a whole. Who has been his audience? What questions has Jesus been answering? Or, what has Jesus been teaching or correcting? And to where is Jesus travelling in verses 32-34?
3. Read Mark 10:35-45. Why do you think James and John come to Jesus then, on His way to Jerusalem and the cross? What is their need or concern or worry or hope?
4. How does Jesus respond to their request in verse 37? How do they respond to His answer and question in verse 38? And how does Jesus answer their response of "we are able" in verses 39-40?
5. In verse 41, the other ten disciples show their anger with James and John for their ambitious power play. If you were Jesus, what might you have said or done? What does Jesus say and ultimately do in verses 42-45? What is shocking about His words? Share an example(s) of each of the two kinds of leadership Jesus describes. Do your examples match up well with the examples you gave in question #1?
6. I gave some examples of poor leadership in my sermon, and then said we all have chances to lead well based on the place God has put us and the gifts He's given us. When you evaluate your place and gifts (and what others have told you are your gifts of time, talent, and treasure), where or how might God be inviting you to serve in 2022? Or, like Jesus going to Jerusalem, are you called to lead in a new place and in a new and sacrificial way? Finally, in what ways might you nurture a *servant heart*, after the example of Jesus, "who came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many"?



Sun, Jan 9, 2022

# MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

To see more events at **MDPC**, visit [events.mdpc.org](https://events.mdpc.org).

**GIVING:** Weekly financial updates will be printed here after the 2022 budget is approved by Session in January.

**Give Online**  
[give.mdpc.org](https://give.mdpc.org)



**Thurs, Jan 13-Mar 3  
4:30-6:00pm**

Have you been grieving the loss of a loved one? If so, you are not alone. Learn more about our 8-week grief recovery program at [grief.mdpc.org](https://grief.mdpc.org).



**Sat, Jan 29 • 9:00-11:30am**

Invest a couple/few hours on a Saturday morning into the life-long relationship with your kids! A free light breakfast is included in the offerings. Learn more at [dadpal.mdpc.org](https://dadpal.mdpc.org).



**Fri-Sun, Feb 18-20 • In Willis**

Enjoy fellowship and relaxation at the luxurious Historic Hill House! Come for connection, gourmet food, and a chance to rest in the presence of God. Details at [getaway.mdpc.org](https://getaway.mdpc.org).



**Sat & Sun, Feb 26 & 27  
Registration opens Today**

Make a comeback! Church in the City is the Sunday when MDPC leaves the pews to serve our city. Save the dates and stay tuned to [citc.mdpc.org](https://citc.mdpc.org) for details.



**Every other Thursday • 9:30-11a**

After a season of living smaller, this is the year of "All For Love." Come for free childcare, breakfast, and time with other MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)! Learn more: [mops.mdpc.org](https://mops.mdpc.org)

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS:

Connie Gullickson passed away Dec 23, 2021.

Carol Kasper passed away December 30, 2021.

## 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.

Sun, Jan 9, 2022

# New Officer Installation

Today, we install 17 new Officers to our Session. These new Elders and Deacons will play a vital role in the ministries and administration of Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church. Please pray for energy, wisdom, and discernment as they help guide us through the next three years and beyond.

## DEACON BIOGRAPHIES | CLASS OF 2024



### Karen Austin

#### *Second Family & Mobile Meals*

Karen has been a member of MDPC for 28 years. She went to Kilgore College where she was a Rangerette and enjoyed that honor and experience. She worked in the commercial real estate industry in San Antonio and Houston for over 20 years. Karen was blessed when she met her husband, Greg, and they were married in the MDPC Chapel 25 years ago. They have four adult children together and one-year-old twin granddaughters. They have attended church and the

various activities for many years, and their children participated in the youth groups and mission trips. Karen has volunteered in many areas of the church and currently is the co-director of Second Family/Mobile Meals. She knows she was called to be the Deacon of Caring Ministries because Jesus knows how much she loves to help people and He knew this would be a challenge for her. She accepted this challenge and feels honored to be the Deacon of the ministry she has been working with for several years.



### Nancy Blurton | *Worship (Choir)*

Nancy and her husband, Jerry, have been married 52 years and have been in Houston and members of MDPC for about 25 years. They are blessed with three adult children and six grandchildren. Nancy has served in many roles at MDPC and in the community including Youth Elder, elementary and middle Sunday School teacher, Summer Celebration co-leader, Sanctuary Choir member, Bible Study Fellowship leader, BSD participant, IMPACT mentor, and volunteer working with Alzheimer Gatherings. She also has worked

on mission trips to Guatemala with Faith in Practice and with Transitions. After graduation from the University of Oklahoma, she moved to Texas to teach elementary school students in Dallas. Music has always been a central part of her life and she is anxious to fulfill her newly established role of Deacon for Worship and Choir. This will provide a challenge to serve God and the members of MDPC as we continue the ministry of Jesus Christ.



### Penny Bryant | *Caregivers & Dementia*

A native Californian, Penny Heap Bryant moved to Houston in 1970 when her husband's architectural firm was hired to do the master plan for The Woodlands. Penny taught elementary school in California, Japan, and Hawaii before spending 28 years at Memorial Drive Elementary in Spring Branch ISD. After her first husband died, she married Jim Bryant and was ultimately one of his caregivers until he passed away in 2020. Penny has always been a Presbyterian, accepted Christ as a teenager, and joined MDPC 25 years

ago. She has been and is a HUG tutor, Outreach committee member, and Word and Worship leader. She serves on the Board of The Willbern Heritage Scholarship Foundation, The Buckingham's Resident Council, and is Co-chairman/Treasure of The Buckingham Foundation. She lives with her two rescue dogs, Anderson Cooper and Bear Bryant, exercises regularly, reads daily, and photographs any and everything. Penny believes that God has called her to be a Deacon in Caregivers and Dementia because of her interest and experience, and she is looking forward to faithfully serving MDPC and the community.



### David Harkins | *Relationships (Men's)*

David, a native Houstonian, graduated from Texas A&M University with a Finance degree, and works as a Wealth Management Advisor. David is a frequent and sought-after speaker on investment planning for retirement, which has been a primary business focus for him and his team for decades. David and his wife, Sue, have three children, Zachary, Rachel, and Jack, and dog, Bo. David is a current youth leader (known affectionately by the kids as "Dave the Wave") and has participated in a variety of confirmations,

retreats, and mission trips. He is enthusiastically involved with volunteering and fundraising for organizations such as MD Anderson, Child Advocates, Blueprint Ministries, and other volunteer work.



### CC Roberts | *Welcoming*

Clortis (CC) is married to Oliver Anthony Roberts. CC accepted Christ at an early age. Her father was a minister, and she was taught to love and respect all. She loves working with people and has a special love for children. She has taught in Children's Ministries at MDPC, and also has worked with various other MDPC ministries. CC has won numerous awards for community service. Wherever God leads her, she will follow with grace, love, and kindness.



### Lisa Shelfer | *Adult Discipleship (Prayer)*

Lisa and her husband, David, have been members of MDPC since 1987. They are the parents of two grown sons, Mark and Brian, and grandparents to six wonderful children.

Lisa is a retired teacher of the hearing impaired and worked in many different school districts over her 22-year career after graduating from TCU. She has served as an Elder in Equipping Ministries, as a Stephen Minister, and has been a member of the Seekers Sunday School class. Bible study with several different groups has been a very important part

of her life. Lisa loves to needlepoint, garden, and read. She is excited about her call to

work as a Deacon in Caring Ministries focusing on Partners in Prayer. This ministry is one of the cornerstones established at the founding of MDPC and Lisa is looking forward to supporting and expanding ways that we as disciples of Jesus Christ can continue to pray for one another.



## Laura Tingleaf

### *Kaleidoscope/Special Blessings*

Laura is married to MDPC member, Drew Tingleaf, and is the proud mother of Claire, a senior in college; Gregory, a sophomore in college; and Luke, a sophomore at Memorial High School in the Life Skills Program. Laura grew up attending Catholic school and church. After getting married, she and Drew attended the Episcopal Church before finally joining MDPC 12 years ago so their kids could participate in the strong youth program. Laura graduated from the

University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston with a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy, and she taught elementary Sunday school when her youngest was in kindergarten. She worked in physical rehabilitation for 10 years before staying at home to raise her children. Laura has served on the PTA board, National Charity League board, Spring Branch Education Foundation board, and volunteered at many school functions. She feels called to serve as a Kaleidoscope Deacon, where she can share and relate to families that are raising a child with special needs. She looks forward to the challenge of furthering her faith through helping others.

## ELDER BIOGRAPHIES | CLASS OF 2024



## Rick Bradford | *Youth Discipleship*

Rick is the grateful and proud husband of Carla and father to Bennett, a college freshman, and Campbell, an 8th grader. Rick's faith journey began when he accepted Christ in middle school, but he did not truly start following Christ until participating in one of MDPC's first Alpha programs, almost 20 years later. Since marrying Carla and joining MDPC, Rick has participated in Sunday school classes, taught elementary Sunday School, co-led a youth Life Group, participated in middle school mission trips, and

volunteered in Youth Ministries over the last two years. He has also participated in a men's small group from MDPC for 15 years. Rick has worked as an engineer, a business and IT consultant, and now in corporate IT. Both of Rick's children have grown up participating in MDPC children and youth programs. Having seen the way God uses MDPC to impact his family and many others, Rick feels called and privileged to serve as a Youth Elder. He is committed to helping MDPC continue training our youth in the way they should go.



## Tom Braschayko | *Local Outreach*

Tom and his wife, Marcia, joined MDPC in 1991. Their son, Andre, was active in MDPC Youth activities and mission trips, and is now pursuing his career in Dallas. Tom had a long career in the energy industry and has since been actively volunteering in MDPC Outreach activities. Tom knows that his salvation comes through his faith in Jesus Christ. He is grateful for the love of the MDPC community, and has experienced the Holy Spirit's presence as a leader in Men's Life, an Elder for Stewardship/Generosity, a member/

chair of staff/pastor nominating committees, and a teacher in The Galaxy, Summer Celebration, and adult Sunday School/Wednesday night classes, as well as through participation in BSD, Word and Worship, small groups for men and for married couples, Spring Branch/Hunger Outreach Committee, Fuente Food Pantry, Church in the City, and Bless Friday activities. Tom's heart for service drives his acceptance of the call to Session for Local Outreach. He is keen to be involved in directing and observing the impact of MDPC's generosity in the community.



### **Mariel Braun** | *Local Outreach*

Mariel grew up in Houston, Texas and has called MDPC her church home since early childhood. A graduate of Texas A&M, Mariel is a Certified Financial Planner™ and provides financial guidance and wealth planning/management to individuals and families. She is a member of The Parish young adult Sunday school class, MDPC Young Adult Lead Team, has volunteered on mission trips, and served in Children's Ministries. Mariel enjoys hiking, cooking, gardening, travel, and spending time with her dog, Murphy. A desire to give

back led Mariel to serve on the Spring Branch/Hunger Outreach Committee in 2021, giving her new appreciation for the work our mission partners are doing locally.

Mariel accepted the call to serve as a Local Outreach Elder and is excited to support and further the work of the Church's mission to others.



### **Bob Davis** | *Treasurer Elect-elect*

Robert "Bob" Davis was born in Houston and moved or transferred with his father and family to many states before graduating from the University of Kentucky and ending up back in Houston - for good. He, his wife, Rebecca, and his 12-year-old son, Jonathan, live in Spring Valley and have attended MDPC for the last three years. Bob has been a Bible Study Fellowship member for 18 years and was a children's leader for six of those 18 years. At MDPC, Bob and Rebecca became faithful members of the Daily Bread Sunday School

class, where Bob has occasionally begun to "substitute" teach. For the last two years, he has served on the Spring Branch/Hunger Outreach Committee. Bob works within the insurance and construction industry as a surety bonding agent. When he is not working, he is with his family, most likely watching his son play football and baseball, or slowly learning how to fish. Bob has had a lifelong passion for aviation and is a licensed commercial pilot for multiple fixed-wing aircraft types and helicopters.



### **Bob Holloway** | *Clerk Elect-elect*

Bob and his wife, Cindy, have been married for 30 years have been BLESSED to be MDPC members for 28 of those years. He has two stepsons and four grandchildren who live in Denver and Las Vegas, so the Holloways travel there often. Bob has been active at MDPC participating in many of programs, teaching, and serving as the Stewardship/Generosity Elder. Bob and Cindy have been very active in international mission work with both Free Wheelchair Mission and Faith in Practice. They have been blessed to go to China, Uganda, Peru, and Chile with Free Wheelchair Mission, and twice to Guatemala with Faith in Practice. Bob was a founding board member of the Outreach Center of West Houston and the Houston Barnabas Group. He is also an active supporter of other non-profits including SEARCH, CanCare, Children International, The Pocket Testament League, GROUNDWIRE, Memorial Assistance Ministries, Houston Food Bank, Alpha Houston, and First Liberty. Bob graduated from The University of Texas

at El Paso with a BBA in Finance and was honored to serve in the Air Force, which included a tour in Vietnam. He retired in 2020 after working for forty-six years as a Commercial Insurance Broker. Bob and Cindy enjoy traveling and are glad to see the reopening trend in travel opportunities. Bob considers the call to accept the position of Clerk an honor and certainly a personal growth opportunity to serve God and MDPC with a Purpose.



### Kay Lynn Kuper | *Personnel Elect-elect*

Kay Lynn Kuper has attended MDPC since 1988. She grew up in the Presbyterian church, knowing the love of Jesus through devoted and kind Sunday School teachers, and a congregation who lived the word of God in the community. Kay Lynn graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Music Education degree, emphasis in piano and voice. She has two sons, J and Collins, who grew up at MDPC and live in Boerne, Texas with their wives and Kay Lynn's six grandchildren. She is the sole proprietor of Kuper

Resources Inc, a talent acquisition business, and the coordinator for Baker Mediation LLC, a mediation and arbitration firm. She has previously served as an Elder at MDPC in the Equipping area, as an at-large member of the Personnel Committee, and as an elementary Sunday school teacher. As an Elder assigned to the Personnel Committee, Kay Lynn is excited to again work to help the staff as they minister to the needs of the congregation, and to give back to the church she calls home.



### Leigh McLeroy

#### *Adult Discipleship (Bible Study)*

Leigh joined MDPC in the summer of 2019 after serving 14 years at City of Refuge EPC. She is a published author, writer, and Bible teacher, a long-time Houstonian, and the founder of Words That Work LLC, a full-time writing consultancy that creates content for businesses, non-profits, and faith-based organizations. At MDPC Leigh is a Partner in Prayer, a volunteer in Caring and Women's ministries, and a teacher for Word and Worship and the Crossroads

Sunday school class. She is a graduate of Texas A&M University (BS in Journalism) and Houston Baptist University (MA in Cultural Apologetics) and a spiritual director-in-training through Leadership Transformations' Selah Spiritual Direction program. Leigh enjoys spending time with family and friends, watching Astros baseball and Aggie football, reading, traveling, and learning, and is especially grateful for the opportunity to invest more deeply in God's Kingdom by supporting the work of Adult Discipleship and Bible Study at MDPC.



### Kathy Redden

#### *Caring (Vision & Planning)*

Kathy Redden has been a member of MDPC for 40 years. She has two children, Forrest and Rebecca, and three grandsons. They are a precious gift she cherishes. Kathy has been involved in many ministries here at MDPC, serving as both a Deacon and an Elder. She is a Stephen Minister and a small group leader for Word and Worship, both of which she truly enjoys. She has had the privilege, too, of participating in Faith in Practice mission trips to

Guatemala. She stays involved in her community as well, volunteering on the boards of Brazos Presbyterian Homes, UT Health School of Nursing – PARTNERS, and Houston Bar Association Auxiliary. A nurse by profession and a nurturer by nature,



MDPC has provided many opportunities to serve. She has a heart and a calling to serve in Caring Ministries and looks forward to seeing God's hand in directing this essential ministry.



### Dillon Shindler | *Worship & Music*

Dillon grew up attending MDPC from a young age. He went through Confirmation at MDPC as an 8th grader, after which he became involved with the high school youth programs. He attended The University of Texas at Austin as a music performance major for string bass, where he then pursued and received a degree in Music Business from the Butler School of Music. Dillon stayed in Austin for a few years before finding his way back home to MDPC, where he and his wife, Danielle, were married by Pastor Alf. They now have a little girl, Amelia, who was baptized at MDPC last year. Dillon professionally works within the music business, where he establishes and fosters community cohesion through cross-cultural collaborations within the arts in regions all over the world. In his free time, Dillon enjoys spending time with family, golf, and flying.



### Bill Swenson | *Generosity*

Bill and his wife of almost 40 years, Sandy, have been MDPC members for over 20 years. Sandy and Bill have two grown children, a son-in-law, and two grandchildren. Bill accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior while growing up in a small Presbyterian Church in Austin. Bill graduated from UT Austin and UH Law School and retired as General Counsel of Hilcorp Energy Company in 2018. Bill served six years on the Board of Directors of Memorial Assistance Ministries and has spent the last year serving on MDPC's Outreach Committee for Children, Family, and Housing. Through this service, Bill has come to appreciate the importance of MDPC's dollar-for-dollar giving and the continued need to support our outreach partners. God has blessed Bill and his family in so many ways and he feels a strong call to serve MDPC as an Elder on the Generosity Committee and is looking forward to this opportunity.