

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.
 Alf Halvorson | Senior Pastor
 Charles Hausmann | Traditional Music Dir.
 Kristin Huffman | Associate Pastor for Outreach
 Brett Hurst | Relationships Minister
 Christyn Knoop | Adult Ministries Dir.
 Gena Kookon | Sr. Leadership Ministry Coor.
 Laura Miller | Youth Ministries Dir.
 Rick Myers | Associate Pastor for Caring
 Rachel Poyosky | 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 or 713-953-2570.



Today's Chancel Flowers are given

- in memory of Carol Townsen, by Jim Townsen.
- to the glory of God by the family of D. Kent Anderson in remembrance of his birthday.

- in memory of Scott Kelso, by Jean Stoneburner.
- by the Harkins Families, in celebration of the marriage of Ann Bixby and Sonny Harkins.

Ministry Partners 2016

This week, we ask that you please pray for these partners in ministry that MDPC assists with your support:

East Spring Branch Food Pantry is a small, completely volunteer-run organization. Located at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, they distribute food four days per week to families residing in 77055, 77043, 77024, 77092, and 77080.
eastspringbranchfoodpantry.com

Easter Seals ministers to physically and cognitively disabled adults, most of whom are low to extremely low income and have few (if any) opportunities for activities or social engagement. They meet weekly at MDPC for yoga, crafts, speakers, and lunch. The needs of mentally and physically disabled adults far exceed the available resources.
eastersealshouston.org

Evangelical Theological Seminary (Cairo) produces many of the leaders of the Evangelical Church in Egypt. The seminary equips students to witness to the Gospel in and beyond Egypt in the midst of political and cultural transitions, especially in neighboring Sudan. Pray for the Body of Christ in Egypt and for ETSC's Dr. Atef Gendy and his team as they share the love of Jesus.
etsc.org

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

OPERATING INCOME

2016 Budget	\$ 11,050,000
Expected Income to Date	\$ 2,036,061
Actual Income to Date	\$ 2,316,742
Current Income Surplus	\$ 280,681

Evangelical Theological Seminary trains the next generation of leaders for the 400+ Presbyterian churches in Egypt and beyond. Their presence encourages local Christians, inspired by the church's bold, progressive mission vision. >



Loving God. Proclaiming Christ. Living Generously. Engaging All.
 11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024 | mdpc.org | 713-782-1710

Sent

By the Savior

Sunday, April 10, 2016

You Will Be My Disciples If...

John 13:33-35; Exodus 17:1-7 | Alf Halvorson Preaching



Building Confident Families

ESCAPE Family Resource Center and MDPC present a dynamic seven-session program that equips parents to create a harmonious family life. Learn to encourage kids to succeed, how to deal with family stress, the link between children's needs and behaviors, and more.

Thursdays through May 19 | 6:00-8:00 PM

Childcare available (infant/toddler babysitting, DVD movie for teens). To register or with questions, contact Nimia Tillmann (nimia.tillmann@pchas.org, 713-490-9570). More info at learntoparent.org.

The Parish

A new Sunday class dedicated to growing together in our understanding of God and His purposes for our lives. Open to all young adults. Get in on the ground floor!

Sundays starting April 24 | 11:15 AM | Room 101

Moving Forward: How Exercise Can Enhance Brain Health

Can 30 minutes of aerobic activity really decrease your chances of developing dementia? Emile Unverzagt of The Amazing Place will discuss how exercise benefits our brains.

Wednesday, April 20 | 5:45 PM | Parlor

Please RSVP to Bitsy Cleveland: bcleveland@mdpc.org or 713-490-9542

The Living Well: Revival of Heart. Renewal of Mind. Rest for Soul.

A 24-week study led by Charlotte Crawford. Come as you are to seek God at dawn through His Living Word. Women of all ages and stages of faith are invited to come and discover the growing freedom, peace, and joy that Jesus promises through the Gospel of John.

Wednesdays, September 14-April 5 | 6:00 AM Gather, 6:15 AM Start | Amphitheater

More information and registration at women.mdpc.org.

Indoor Camping Where You'd Least Expect It

Volunteers are needed this summer! Camp For All 2U hospital camps bring the camp experience indoors and in-town for campers who can't travel easily. Canoeing, archery, s'mores, zips—you name it, it's happening! Volunteers can work mornings, afternoons, or the entire day.

Camps in or near the Medical Center: July 11-15, July 25-29, August 8-12

More details and volunteer requirements are at outreach.mdpc.org.

4th & 5th Grade Pizza Party

Come eat pizza and play games at a Pizza Party. K through 3rd grade partied earlier in the year, and now it's your guys' turn for food and fun!

4th & 5th Grade: Friday, April 22 | 6:00-8:30 PM

PLEASE silence or place your cell phone in airplane mode upon entering worship. Thank you!



MDPC MORNING WORSHIP

*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

8:30 & 9:45 AM SERVICES

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME Dave Steane (8:30), Meliza Gómez (9:45)

*SONGS OF PRAISE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE Rachel Poysky (8:30), Brandon Gaide (9:45)

BAPTISMS Alf Halvorson

Andrew Timothy Hefty, son of Christopher and Melinda Hefty (8:30)

Hudson Dean Canfield son of Benjamin and Kathryn Canfield (9:45)

Hannah Elizabeth Zabor, daughter of Robert and Lori Zabor (9:45)

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE *Sent By the Savior: You Will Be My Disciples If...* Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Musicians in these services: Joe Gavito, guitar; Meliza Gómez, worship leader; Craig Gysler, keys; Michael Middleton, worship leader; Asher Pudlo, drums; Dennis Whittaker, bass

11:15 AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

PRELUDE *Invocation* Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Dave Steane

CHORAL INTROIT *Behold Now, Praise the Lord* Everett Titcomb

*HYMN OF PRAISE *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* #403; Vs. 1, 2, 3 | CONVERSE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 & Colossians 1:15-20

ANTHEM *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* arr. Moses Hogan

BAPTISM Alf Halvorson

Hannah Annette Durham, daughter of David and Nicole Durham

OFFERTORY *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

MESSAGE *Sent By the Savior: You Will Be My Disciples If...* Alf Halvorson

*HYMN OF RESPONSE *Here I Am, Lord* #525; Vs. 1 | Schutte

POSTLUDE *Choral in A Minor* César Franck (1822-1890)

Musicians in this service: Charles Hausmann, Sanctuary Choir conductor; Kathryn White, organ

11:15 AM SPANISH SERVICE

MDPC's Fuente Hispanic Ministries worships in the Chapel. For more information on Spanish-language and bilingual community events and programs, visit fuente.mdpc.org.

5:00 PM FIFTH SERVICE

MDPC's Fifth Service is a worshipping community that encourages a more casual atmosphere and an intimate worship experience. Join them Sundays in the Chapel. Visit fifthservice.mdpc.org for more info.

VISITORS: If you are visiting MDPC today, we are delighted that you have come to worship with us! Allow us to welcome you personally at the Connection Center located in the Sanctuary Lobby.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP? For inquiries on how to become a member of MDPC, contact Diann Turet at dturet@mdpc.org and join one of our New Member Classes that run throughout the year.

From Boko Haram to My Broken Heart... WHY DOES GOD ALLOW EVIL AND SUFFERING?

A panel of pastors and special guest, Jerry Walls, Professor of Philosophy at HBU, discuss the Theology of Evil. Q&A follows.



Question freely. Think deeply. Drink a little.
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TUESDAY, APRIL 12

7:00 PM | 8584 Katy Fwy

Free craft beer and food



MDPC Concert Series 2015-2016



Mercury Orchestra Music of the Nations

Hear Telemann's suite and Dvořák's musical illustration of his journey to America brought to life by the full string section of Mercury.

TELEMANN: Suite "Les Nations"

DVOŘÁK: "American" String Quartet



Saturday, April 16
2:30 PM | Chapel

Tickets start at just \$19 and may be purchased at the door or at mercuryhouston.org.

THE WELL: WOMEN'S SPEAKER SERIES

WHAT IS THE DESIRE OF YOUR HEART?

Delight yourself in the LORD, and He will give you the desires of your heart. - Psalm 37:4

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

6:30-8:00 PM • CHAPEL



GLOW FOR GOD

MDPC Summer Celebration 2016

Summer Celebration 2016

MDPC's version of Vacation Bible School

July 11-15 • 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

For children who have completed Kindergarten through 5th grade. Preschool children can attend if a parent volunteers.

Registration is open at sc.mdpc.org!

Worried About Your Memory?

It's Not Necessarily Dementia!

Many adults over 50 worry about becoming forgetful; however, memory lapses may simply be the result of normal aging changes, not a serious illness. How can you tell the difference? Sally Davis, RN, MSN, will review situations attributed to age-related changes and share lifestyle habits that can increase your chances of aging successfully.

Tuesday, April 19 | Fellowship Hall
(Free) Program and (\$9.50) Lunch: 10:30 AM-Noon

Lunch reservations needed. Pick up a flier for details.



Sent

By the Savior

You Will Be My Disciples If...

John 13:33-35; Exodus 17:1-7

Pastor Alf Halvorson Preaching

Last week, Jesus (in John 17:18 and 20:21) tells the disciples, “As the Father has sent Me, so I send you.” We are all *sent ones, apostles, missionaries*. Some go far away and many do their missionary work in “third places” close to home. Jesus prays for oneness because of the love the Father and Son and disciples share, and also because they are sanctified in the word (John 17:17-23).

This week, we need to flesh out what the love of God looks like between believers. Jesus, on the same night that He prayed to the Father about love and oneness and being sent, also gave the disciples a new commandment in John 13:33-35. He had to give this command because in the world, even among believers, the opposite is often demonstrated.

1. Read Exodus 17:1-7. The People of God had been freed from Egypt. God helped them miraculously, but the people were not satisfied or happy. With whom did they quarrel? Why? What did Moses do? How did God respond?
2. Was God with them or not (vs. 7)? Is division or dissension a byproduct of feeling that God is not among us? Yes or No. Explain your position from Exodus 17:1-7 or other texts.
3. What are other reasons for division and quarreling? Where do you see bickering and feuding in your family, neighborhood, the world, and in the church?
4. Jesus gives the new commandment to *love one another* in John 13:33-35. He says, “Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” How has Jesus loved them? What did His love look like? What shape did it take?

5. Jesus goes on to say in verse 35, “By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” Why does He use the word “if”? What choices do we have?

6. Jesus also seems to suggest in verse 35 that the defining characteristic of being His disciple is love. In other words, our love for each other lets the world know that we are disciples of Jesus. What happens when Christians aren’t loving toward each other? How might our witness to Christ suffer?

7. If people know about Jesus through you, what are they seeing or learning about Jesus from your life and relationships?

8. As we go through Denominational Discernment, I am not suggesting that people not have strongly held positions. But, according to Jesus, our posture of love might be just as important (or maybe even more important) than our positions. Do you agree or disagree? Over the door at the YMCA in Jerusalem is the statement: “In the essential, unity; in the non-essentials, liberty; and in all things, charity [love].” Can you/we commit to that during our time of Discernment?

