

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 Kooken | Sr. Leadership Ministry Coor.
 Laura Miller | Youth Ministries Dir.
 Rick Myers | Associate Pastor for Caring
 Rachel Poysky | 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 Mary Henney, by Howard Henney.

Ministry Partners 2016

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

Palmer Drug Abuse Program
 Palmer helps youth and their families recover from the devastating effects of drug and alcohol abuse. The program is run in Houston-area churches, providing 12-step programs, support, and education and prevention workshops. It offers free counseling to individuals and families.
pdaphouston.org

Panther Pals: MDPC partners with the children and staff at Piney Point Elementary through programs including tutoring, teacher help days, staff appreciation events, campus upkeep work days, field trips, classroom help, and a bilingual knitting group for mothers and teachers.
 Contact Jan Roe: jroe@mdpc.org

MDPC Field Partners Chris and Jamie work in the Middle East in community development, sharing their faith while building relationships with their neighbors. The couple met in their mid-20s while serving in Iraq and Jordan. Please pray for Chris, Jamie, their two young children, and their team to be strengthened by God as they learn the language, and share His love and grace with whomever He places in their path.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

OPERATING INCOME		
2016 Annual Budget	\$ 11,050,000	100%
Actual Income to Date (July 24, 2016)	\$ 5,009,136	45%
Needed to Meet 2016 Budget	\$ 6,040,864	55%

Our local schools benefit from your generous giving, and from gifts of your time! Panther Pals, MDPC volunteers who serve as tutors and helpers, make students and teachers at Piney Point Elementary feel important and cared for, supporting their emotional and spiritual health. >



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

QUESTIONS

God Asks Of Us

AND WHY OUR ANSWERS MATTER.

Sunday, July 31, 2016

Who Is My Mother? Brother? Sister?

Mark 3:31-35 | Dan Aikins Preaching



Handbell Group Reunion

Coming from six states, the ringers were members of MDPC youth bell choirs, 1974-1992. Former MDPC organist Emily Borling organized the reunion and directs the choir today. Welcome back to MDPC!
 Today at the 11:15 AM Service

Wacky Wednesday Water Day!

Parents, bring your preschooler to WWWD! We provide lunch, snow cones, and lots of water.
Wednesday, August 10 | 10:00 AM-Noon
 Bring a towel, sunscreen, and change of clothes.
 Register by August 4: register.mdpc.org

Needed: Volunteers with Trucks

East Spring Branch Food Pantry has an opportunity to collect more food, but we need your help! You'd pick up food in the local area early (even 6:00 or 8:00 AM), and deliver to the pantry on Mondays or Thursdays. If you work, you can go early and be done before going to work!
 Call Mary White: 281-799-6752

Disabled Christians in Action

Join us weekly for fun, fellowship, and food. Share in learning new songs and singing old songs in a new way as we use our voices to worship. Then, we study the Bible, pray, and break bread together.
Wednesdays, 2:30-5:30 PM | MC 103
 Contact Pattie Barrett: pattieslp@yahoo.com

Honduras Mission Trip: December 3-11

An amazing opportunity to see two MDPC mission partners at once. We'll drill a water well with Living Water with The Micah Project working alongside us! Come be part of blessing and transforming a community through the gift of clean water, then spend time with Micah boys and staff as we end our trip at The Micah Project.
 Ready to go? Contact Amy Delgado for details (adelgado@mdpc.org). Registration closes August 8.

Kickoff Sunday Brunch & More

Our new chef, Corby Wimp, will serve a delicious brunch to kick off our program year! Invite your neighbors, and come enjoy a choice of egg benedict casserole, chicken-fried chicken, or biscuits and gravy, served with a choice of corn casserole, sliced bacon, or a fruit cup. Optional light entrée is a Cobb salad, and children's meal is chicken-fried chicken (\$8 for adults, \$4 for children). Bacon. Need we say more? Also that Sunday, Pastor Alf returns to the chancel, Youth Ministries hosts an Open House, teacher commissioning at all services, and more!
Sunday, August 21 | Brunch: 9:30 AM-1:00 PM

Young Adult Hangout

Mix and mingle with other young adults over breakfast tacos and coffee. No matter what service you choose for worship, this is a space for anyone college-thru-40ish to hang out.
Sundays, 10:30 AM | Amphitheater Hallway

Sunday School SPOTLIGHT

Life 2.0: Finding the Great Commission in Your Life

The Life 2.0 Sunday school class hosts guest speaker Mike Falkenstine, one of MDPC's mission partners and President/Founder of One Eight Catalyst (OneEightCatalyst.org). Mike will be speaking on "Finding the Great Commission in our Own Lives." Visitors are welcome and encouraged to come hear Mike's talk.
 Today at 9:45 AM | MC 122
 Life 2.0 meets every week. We're mostly in our 30 to 40s, married, and study marriage materials and the Bible. We're a pretty laid-back and open-minded group that loves to talk.

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



Now it's YOUR turn to ask the questions. Turn the page to find out how.



MDPC MORNING WORSHIP

*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

8:30 AM SERVICE

WELCOME	Dave Steane
*SONGS OF PRAISE	
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE	Christyn Knoop
SONG OF RESPONSE	
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE	Rick Myers
MESSAGE	Questions God Asks of Us: <i>Who Is My Mother? Brother? Sister?</i> Dan Aikins
RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE	

9:45 AM SERVICE

WORSHIP INVITATION	Meliza Gómez
*CALL TO WORSHIP	Dave Steane
*MOMENT OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE	Christyn Knoop
SONG	
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE	Rick Myers
MESSAGE	Questions God Asks of Us: <i>Who Is My Mother? Brother? Sister?</i> Dan Aikins
RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE	

Musicians in these services: Gus Alvarado, drums; Daniel Amaya, bass; Joe Gavito, guitar; Meliza Gómez, worship leader; Craig Gysler, keys

11:15 AM SERVICE

PRELUDE	<i>Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken</i>	Linda McKechnie (b.1941)
WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP		Dave Steane
*HYMN OF PRAISE	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty</i>	#138; Vs. 1, 2, 3, 4 NICAEA
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON		Rick Myers
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	The Apostle's Creed	
*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE	<i>The Gloria Patri</i>	Hymn #579
ANTHEM	<i>Psalm 23</i>	Albert Hay Malotte (1895-1964)
OFFERTORY	<i>To God Be the Glory</i>	arr. Mark Hayes (b.1953), William Doane
MESSAGE	Questions God Asks of Us: <i>Who Is My Mother? Brother? Sister?</i>	Dan Aikins
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>Our God, Our Help in Ages Past</i>	#210; Vs. 1, 2, 5 ST. ANNE
POSTLUDE	<i>Fantasy on 'St. Anne'</i>	Gordon Young (1919-1998)

Musicians in this service: Reunion Bells; Emily Borling, guest conductor of Reunion Bells; Kathryn White, pianist/organist; Brian Yeakley, soloist and hymn leader

OTHER MDPC WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

11:00 AM Fifth Service: Join the folks at Fifth for energetic worship, casual community, and dynamic teaching. Everyone is welcome! Worship is in the Amphitheater. Visit fifthservice.mdpc.org for more info.

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.

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.

SUMMER FILM SERIES

Sponsored by Prime Timers

FREE Admission & Popcorn for All Ages

Wednesday, August 3: *God's Not Dead* (PG)

3:00 PM | Amphitheater

All ages are welcome, but not all movie content is appropriate for everyone. Please visit pluggedin.com to verify it's suitable for your family.



Is there someone YOU know who would make a great

MDPC ELDER?

Nominations are currently underway, and we need your help in identifying members who possess the spiritual and leadership skills needed to serve on the MDPC Session.

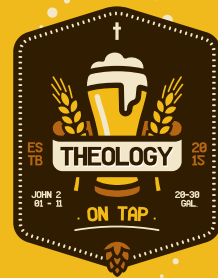
Nominate online by August 29 at nominations.mdpc.org, or turn in a printed form, available around campus.

MDPC Food Service Ministries invites everyone to

All-Church Lunch

Next Sunday, August 7 | 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

A selection of two fresh entrées (\$10) will be on offer, or enjoy entrée salad (\$8.50) and vegetable plate (\$7) options. The children's meal is just \$4.50! Meals include coffee, tea, milk, or lemonade, a choice of side salad, and a selection of desserts.



THEOLOGY ON TAP
Question freely. Think deeply. Drink a little.

Theology On Tap: What I Hate About Church Is _____

Do you have a love/hate relationship with church? If church is God's prized creation, then why do so many people hate it, and why is it so broken? At our August get-together, leaders of local churches (including our very own Alf Halvorson) will be there to hear your grievances as we seek answers for this dilemma. You'll be able to text in questions of your own to the panel, all while enjoying yummy food and craft beer! Open to young adults, 21-40-ish.

Monday, August 15 | Doors open 6:45, Discussion at 7:00
8584 Katy Freeway, 77024 (Look for the yellow signs)



Details: ya.mdpc.org

TOT IS OFFICIAL! CHECK US OUT:

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QUESTIONS

You've Always Wanted to Ask

▶ WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW?

In our 2016 summer sermon series, the Associate Pastors will be looking at **Questions God Asks of Us** – but we bet you have some questions of your own.

After the sermon (most weeks), the preaching pastor will try to answer a few questions from the congregation. If you have a question about God, Scripture, or today's sermon, fill out the form below (contact info is optional). Tear off the completed form, and pass it down the aisle, where an usher will collect them after the sermon. Please do not place them in the offering plate.

While there may not be time at the end of the service to answer every question, the pastoral staff will try to answer the remaining questions over the coming week at questions.mdpc.org.

My Question: _____

Please contact me personally about my question:

Name _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email _____

Another way to ask your questions: There's a chalkboard just north of the Front Office where you're encouraged to leave your questions for (or about) God. The pastors also will answer some of these questions on Facebook. You'll find chalk, pens, and Post-its near the board.



Celebrate the beginning of Men's Life with cheeseburgers, pie, and a visit from Alf!

Wednesday, August 31
6:45-8:00 PM | Parlor
men.mdpc.org

BACK ★ TO SCHOOL

Workday at Housman Elementary



Thursday, August 18

8:00 AM-Noon • 6705 Housman Street, 77055

We'll have loads of projects! Help Housman teachers:

- * Prep classrooms
- * Decorate bulletin boards
- * Assemble parent packets
- * Laminate
- * Sort and file papers
- * And more!

Work assignments will be made that morning. Children 8+ are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult.

To sign up, visit register.mdpc.org, or turn this form in at the Connection Center. Contact Maritza Pujols with questions: mpujols@mdpc.org

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____ DOB _____



MDPC

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QUESTIONS

God Asks Of Us

Who Is My Mother? Brother? Sister?

Mark 3:31-35

Dan Aikins Preaching

Jesus responds to His searching family with a phrase that seems dismissive of His earthly family. Why would Jesus be so brisk, maybe even a little rude, to His family who is simply looking for Him? When we search the Scriptures a little deeper, we realize that Jesus' family had some ulterior motives in there for Him.

Instead of a rude Jesus, we find in this passage a Jesus who is singularly focused on doing God's will and whose earthly family is inadvertently impeding that great purpose. Two thousand years later, we read Jesus' words to His family and encounter both a challenge to our own assumptions and a grace-filled invitation to enter into Jesus' family.

1. What was your first reaction to how Jesus responds to His family? Did Jesus' reaction seem rude and dismissive? Appropriate and on target? Or did it strike you in some other way entirely?
2. To understand this passage, it is important to understand what Jesus means by *the will of God*. Mark's Gospel defines God's will in a particular way. What is Mark's definition? (Hint: Look to Jesus' first words in the Gospel.)
3. In your own words, describe how Jesus' response to His family challenges our own assumptions and definition of the Gospel or good news of God.
4. How would you define the Gospel? What are some aspects of the Gospel that you emphasize in your own faith, and what may be some of your blind spots?
5. How do Jesus' words to His family offer an implicit invitation to become members of Jesus' family?
6. How might Jesus' definition of His family affect our relationships with other churchgoers at MDPC? How might it affect our relationships with other Christians around Houston and the globe?
7. As we at MDPC continue to move through life-after-discernment, how ought we to apply this passage in our interactions with each other? How could Jesus' words affect our attitudes and dispositions toward one another?

