

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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

BIBLE BASICS

A new adult class begins today!

Bible Basics is a place for parents to connect with other parents and to begin to learn some basics about the Bible. We begin with a 4-week series called *The Bible for Dummies*. A great place to get comfortable with your Bible and meet new friends!

Rachel Poysky will be teaching for our first two Sundays, today and August 28, then Brett Hurst teaches on September 4 and 11.

Sundays, 11:15 AM | Room 127

Contact Catherine King:
catherine.cooper.king@gmail.com

Today's Chancel Flowers are given by
 Dr. Jim and Janet Terry, in celebration of their 63rd wedding anniversary.

The White Rose is in memory of
 • Liz Schuette, who passed away August 2, 2016.

Ministry Partners 2016
 This week, we ask that you pray for these partners in ministry that MDPC assists with your support:

Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services offers a future with hope to children in need. Through group and foster homes, adoption services, outreach programs, single-parent family support, and an education/aftercare program, it serves over 4,000 children and families each year.
pchas.org

Presbytery of New Covenant provides programs and training opportunities for individuals in leadership in our Presbytery. They are a southeast Texas community of 37,000 Presbyterians, 96 congregations, and 10 new church development projects.
pbyofnewcovenant.org

MDPC Field Partners Tihomir and Christine Kukulja direct Renewing Our Minds (ROM), a reconciliation program in Croatia that brings together different faiths, ethnicities, and cultures in the Balkan region by sharing how following the teachings of Jesus transforms lives. Participants in the ROM program are chosen based on leadership potential, with the hope that they will return to their home countries and impact their spheres of influence.
forumforleadership.blogspot.com

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

OPERATING INCOME		
2016 Annual Budget	\$ 11,050,000	100%
Actual Income to Date (August 14, 2016)	\$ 5,501,666	50%
Needed to Meet 2016 Budget	\$ 5,548,334	50%

Pictured: Your giving helped enable MDPC partners Tihomir and Christine Kukulja to bring humanitarian aid to Syrian, Afghani, and Iraqi refugees. When life has become a march of countless miles, farther and farther from home, an apple and a kind word can make a world of difference. >



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, August 21, 2016

What Do You Want Me to Do for You?

Mark 10:46-52 | Pastor Alf Halvorson Preaching



Teens & Tweens Group Starting

This will be a time to connect and build friendships with other adopted and foster children, ages 12-18. There will be food, games, a movie, and more! Bring your favorite bean bag chair, blanket, and/or pillow. Registration is required.

Saturday, August 27 | 11:00 AM-3:00 PM
 Contact Ann Rome at mdpcsafehaven@gmail.com.

The River

An introductory Bible course for those exploring, or new to the Christian faith. We will learn how to read Scripture together with an eye toward discovering who God is and how we can come to know Him personally. All are invited to dip, dive, or cannonball into The River!

Wednesdays, Sept 7-Nov 16 | Noon | MC 126
 Register at register.mdpc.org.

Companion | with•bread

"I am the bread of life; those who come after Me will not hunger." Join other companions for this sermon-series small group to feast on Jesus' words from the Sermon on the Mount. Weekly lectio divina, plus centering prayer using Sunday's scripture.

Tuesdays, August 30-November 22 | Noon
 Facilitated by Martha Moore, Teacher-in-Residence

BSD: Becoming & Being the Church

We will explore the development of the early church in Acts, then turn to 2 Timothy, in which Paul passes leadership to the next generation. BSD classes begin meeting September 8; offered at five days/times throughout the week to fit any schedule.

Find out more at our Welcome Coffees:
Thurs, Sept 1 | 9:30-10:30 AM | Fellowship Hall
Sunday, Sept 11 | 9:15-11:00 AM | MC 101
 Program details and registration: bsd.mdpc.org

Discover MDPC with Alf

Want to know more about MDPC? Interested in membership? Attend this casual half-hour meeting to learn about who we are as a church family.

Sunday, August 28 | 10:45 AM | Gathering Rm
 Contact Diann Turet: dturet@mdpc.org, 713-490-9553

The Music Box Kids' Choir

This ensemble is for all elementary school kids to learn about music fundamentals and choral singing in a fun and worshipful environment. They'll be featured in seasonal programs and even have an opportunity to lead Sunday worship!

Wednesdays, Sept 14-Nov 30 | 4:45-5:30 PM
 Contact Meliza Gómez: mgomez@mdpc.org

The Living Well

In this new women's study led by Charlotte Crawford, women of all ages and stages of faith are invited to come and discover the freedom, peace, and joy that Jesus promises through the Gospel of John.

Wednesdays, Sept 14-April 5 | 6:00 AM
 More info and registration: women.mdpc.org

Walking the Mourner's Path

This Christ-centered grief program is designed to help those dealing with the loss of a loved one. It is limited to ten participants, creating a safe place to share feelings with each other and with God. Trained facilitators guide the group.

Wednesdays, Sept 14-Nov 2 | 3:30-5:00 PM
 Contact Beverly Fluke: bfluke@mdpc.org, 713-490-9542

Run Like Clean Water

Miah Collins is here with info about running with Team Living Water at the Houston Marathon in January. Last year, MDPC runners raised over \$16,000 for Living Water International.

Today, between Services | Lobby

Do you have any burning questions?
 Turn the page to ask them!



MDPC MORNING WORSHIP

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.

*Please stand if able. CCLI # 182374

8:30 AM SERVICE

WELCOME		Dave Steane
*SONGS OF PRAISE		
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE		Brandon Gaide
SONG OF RESPONSE		
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE		
MESSAGE	<i>What Do You Want Me to Do for You?</i>	Alf Halvorson
RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE		

9:45 AM SERVICE

WORSHIP INVITATION		Meliza Gómez
*CALL TO WORSHIP		
*MOMENT OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE		Tara Reynolds
WELCOME		Dave Steane
SONG		
CHILDREN'S MOMENT		
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE		
MESSAGE	<i>What Do You Want Me to Do for You?</i>	Alf Halvorson
RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE		

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

11:15 AM SERVICE

PRELUDE	<i>Gabriel's Oboe</i>	Ennio Morricone (b. 1928)
WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP		Dave Steane
CHORAL INTROIT	<i>Joined Together as One Body</i>	James Biery (b.1956)
*HYMN OF PRAISE	<i>Lead On, O King Eternal</i>	#447; Vs. 1, 3 LANCASHIRE
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON		Rick Myers
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20	
ANTHEM	<i>The Lord Is My Shepherd (from Requiem)</i>	John Rutter (b. 1945)
OFFERTORY	<i>Amazing Grace</i>	arr. David Ashley White (b.1944)
MESSAGE	<i>What Do You Want Me to Do for You?</i>	Alf Halvorson
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult</i>	Vs. 1, 5 GALILEE
POSTLUDE	<i>Jesus Calls Us</i>	arr. Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

Musicians in this service: Charles Hausmann, hymn leader; Xiaodi Liu, oboist; Kathryn White, organist

Know the Joy that Comes from Making Music Together

The MDPC Choir is seeking additional singers as we start the fall season. Our ensemble of singers ranges from novice to professional. Singing with a choir empowers your worship and your voice, and we encourage and invite your participation. Contact Tracy Stidam (tstidam@mdpc.org) for details, or come to a rehearsal:

Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 PM | Choir Room

OTHER MDPC WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

11:15 AM Spanish Service: MDPC's Fuente Hispanic Ministries worships in the Chapel. For more information on Spanish and bilingual community events and programs, visit fuente.mdpc.org.

Cheeseburger in Paradise
MEN'S LIFE

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

MAM
MEMORIAL ASSISTANCE MINISTRIES
Back to School

Send kids back to school with needed clothes and shoes!

Visit our table TODAY to give kids a great "Back to School." What your gift will buy:

- \$20** Supply a belt, socks, shoes, and underwear
- \$50** Purchase a new uniform and a pair of shoes
- \$100** Outfit two children from head to toe
- \$___** Your gift of any amount will help kids succeed!

Sanctuary Breezeway | Today, Aug. 28, or Sept. 11
Thank you for supporting kids and MAM!

FAITH & REASON

Tuesdays
September 13 - January 24
6:15-7:45 AM | Fellowship Hall
Continental Breakfast 5:45 AM

MEN'S LIFE
FAITH & REASON

Register: ml.mdpc.org

Wednesdays with Alf

Start with Wednesday Night Dinner
Food service begins at 5:00 PM
Fellowship Hall

End with Wednesday Bible Study
6:30 PM | Amphitheater

The Book of Jonah

September 14-October 5

Wednesday Night Bible Study for Boys and Girls!

FOR GIRLS!
Gems & Jewels
Finding Treasure in God's Word

Begins Wednesday, September 14
5:30 to 6:30 PM | Galaxy
3rd-5th grade girls who'd like to know more about the Bible and Jesus.

FOR BOYS!
SCUBA
Dive Deeper into Your Faith

Begins Wednesday, September 14
5:30 to 6:30 PM | Galaxy
3rd-5th grade boys who'd like to dive deeper into their faith.

QUESTIONS

You've Always Wanted to Ask

▶ WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW?

In our 2016 summer sermon series, we've been looking at **Questions God Asks of Us** – but you may have some questions of your own.

After today's sermon, Pastor Alf will try to answer a few questions from the congregation. If you have a question about 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 your form 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 _____



QUESTIONS

God Asks Of Us

What Do You Want Me to Do for You?

Mark 10:46-52

Pastor Alf Halvorson Preaching

This is Kickoff Sunday and the last in a series of messages on Questions God Asks of Us from Scripture. MDPC is a safe place to ask our questions; and it is also a key place where we can discern and answer (in community) the questions God has for us.

1. What question from God, up to this point in the series, has spoken to you most directly? Why? How are you answering it with your mind and hands and feet?
2. In Mark 10:46-52, Jesus is headed to Jerusalem to be crucified. Verse 32 (before our text) reveals that Jesus is walking in front of the disciples with a determination they have not seen before. The followers are amazed and afraid of what will happen when He arrives at the great city. But on their way to Jerusalem, they pass through Jericho and Jesus encounters Blind Bartimaeus. From verses 46-47, who initiates the encounter? What is said or done?
3. In verse 48, how do those around Bartimaeus react? Why do they react the way they do? How does Bartimaeus react to the crowd? What is his response?
4. I said in my “first-person” sermon, “Sometimes you want something so badly that you don’t care if you look like a fool to those around you.” I talked about a runner in the Corinthian Games and a man proposing to his wife. Can you think of times when you or others around you were willing to ignore the crowd to pursue some worthy goal or relationship? How might this apply to your faith journey right now?
5. In verse 49, what does Jesus say? What might that suggest about the character and commitment of Christ to humanity in general, and to you and me in particular? Jesus doesn’t call Bartimaeus, but rather asks the crowd to call him. Why?
6. In verse 50, Bartimaeus throws off his cloak and comes to Jesus. What might you need to “throw off” in order to really approach Jesus right now in your life?
7. In verse 51, Jesus asks Bartimaeus the famous question, “What do you want Me to do for you?” Bartimaeus says, “Let me see” (‘blepo’ in Greek, meaning physical sight, but also to be able to see the way Jesus sees). What other things could he have asked for that day? Jesus asks us the same question. What is your real answer? Not the answer you think others might want you to say. What is your true answer to Jesus?
8. In verse 52, Jesus says to Bartimaeus, “Go; your faith has made you well.” What do you think Bartimaeus did or said to show Jesus faith? What risk of obedience does Jesus want you to take? There is always a cost to following Jesus—a cloak to throw off, a crowd to overcome, etc. C. S. Lewis wrote, “A familiar captivity is sometimes more desirable than an unfamiliar freedom.” What captivity might you need to leave to follow Jesus into new life this fall?

