

MDPC Coordinating Team

Mauricio Chacón | Latino Ministries Pastor
Amy Delgado | Interim Outreach Director
Brandon Gaide | Young Adult Pastor
Ginny Glass | Communications & Media Director
Meliza Gómez | Contemporary Music Director
Alf Halvorson | Senior Pastor
Charles Hausmann | Traditional Music Director
Brett Hurst | Relationships Pastor
Christyn Knoop | Adult Ministries Director
Gena Kookan | Senior Leadership Ministry Coord.
Laura Miller | Youth Director
Rick Myers | Caring Ministries Pastor
Rachel Poysky | Children's Pastor
Becky Riggs | Business Administrator
Dave Steane | Executive Pastor
Kathryn White | Coordinating Music Director
Karen Winship | Human Resources Director

Pastors Emeritus

Dave Peterson
Gary Bowker

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers are given in honor of the January 7, 2017 wedding of Hayden Hulings and Megan Adams.

The White Rose is given in memory of

Esther Parks, who passed away December 26, 2016.

Ministry Partners 2017

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

Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse provides support services, education, and legal representation to individuals impacted by domestic violence; battering intervention and services for individuals who commit violence; and educational curriculum to prevent violence in the future.

avda-tx.org

AIDS Foundation Houston leads the innovative efforts in prevention of new HIV infections. It empowers individuals, families, and communities affected by HIV/AIDS to create and sustain healthy lives. Each client meets with a case manager to develop an individualized plan that includes referrals to housing, health, and employment resources.

aids-help.org

MDPC Field Partner Urgessa works and serves in Ethiopia as the founder of Light of Hope Ministry. Light of Hope's vision is to bring the Good News of God's love, expressed in the life and death of Jesus, to Muslim people groups, beginning with the Arssi Oromo in both Ethiopia and North America. MDPC partners with Urgessa through Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship.

STUDY & SMALL GROUP SPOTLIGHT

Martha & Rachel's Bible Study



All are welcome to join us as we study the book of Matthew. We are a friendly group and love to see new faces!

Tuesday Mornings, January 9-April 5
9:00-10:00 AM | MC 122

No registration is required. If you have questions, contact Rachel Poysky (rpoysky@mdpc.org) or Martha Moore (marthamoore@mdpc.org).

Our apologies to those inadvertently omitted from Christmas Eve Poinsettia dedication list:

Carrie, Jim, William, and Michael Goolsby in memory of June and Jack Long.

Sunday, January 8, 2017



Without Vision ...the people perish.

—Proverbs 29:18 KJV, Psalm 42:7 NRSV

Coming Up at MDPC

All-Church Lunch Is Today

Everyone is welcome! Entrée (\$10), entrée salad (\$8.50), and children's meal (\$4) all come with coffee, iced tea, milk for kids, and a choice of dessert.
Today in Fellowship Hall | 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

Discover MDPC with Alf

Want to know more about MDPC? Interested in membership? Attend an Informational Meeting to find out more about who we are and how we operate, both in our community and around the world.
Today, 10:45-11:15 AM | Gathering Room
membership.mdpc.org

Bible in 90 Days

Read the entire Bible with lots of support and insight through the Bible in 90 Days 14-week course. In 2017, we'll finish just as Holy Week begins.
Sundays, January 8-April 9 | 11:15 AM | MC 101
Email Jeff Wells with questions: tjwells54@gmail.com

2017 Partner in Prayer Packet Pick-up

Are you excited to see who you're praying for this year? We're excited to show you!
Packets are available in the Lobby this morning. You still can sign up! Details at pip.mdpc.org.

New Member Classes

This series is taught by the associate pastors and elders and includes a Saturday service project at one of our local mission partners.
Sundays, January 15-February 19 | 9:45-11:00 AM
Contact Diann Turet to register: dturet@mdpc.org or 713-490-9553

Kids' Meals Monthly Service Project

In Houston, one in four preschool children goes to bed hungry - you can make sure there is one less empty tummy! Give one hour of your time, bring two loaves of bread per sandwich-maker, and make sandwiches for Kids' Meals. That's all it takes to make a difference.

Wednesday, January 11 | 5:00-6:00 PM
Contact Julie for information: hempeljulie@gmail.com

Master Dance Class

Join some of Houston's best exercise dance instructors to get an amazing workout and support Living Water International, which drills drinking-water wells all over the world for people living in poverty.
January 14 | 1:00-3:00 PM | SSQQ Dance Studio
\$25/person - All money goes to LWI
Sign up at eventbrite.com (Search "Team Living Water"), or contact Sarah Stone at ssstone@mdpc.org.

Prime Timers January Luncheon

Beloved pianist Rob Landes returns to play songs from Broadway. You're sure to love listening to this concert of music from Broadway shows!
Tuesday, January 17 | Fellowship Hall
Free Program: 10:30 AM | Lunch (\$9.50): Noon
Checks for lunch made out to MDPC must be received by January 11. Visitors are welcome for the program but must make a reservation for lunch.

Gems & Jewels and SCUBA

Bible studies for 3rd-5th grade boys and girls.
Wednesdays starting January 18
children.mdpc.org

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

The weekly financial update will be shown on the screens in this morning's services.

Pictured: Your giving helps support AIDS Foundation Houston, which provides resources counseling, case management, housing, and food and nutrition assistance to low-income, HIV-positive men, women, and children. AFH also runs Camp Hope for HIV-positive kids, where they learn important life skills to manage life with HIV/AIDS in a healthy and secure environment. >



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



PLEASE place your cell phone in airplane mode so the sound system will not experience interference. Thank you!

MDPC MORNING WORSHIP

*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

8:30 AM SERVICE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

Dave Steane

*SONGS OF PRAISE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Rick Myers

SERVICE OF ELDER ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

CONGREGATIONAL SONG OF RESPONSE

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE Without Vision...the People Perish
Proverbs 29:18 KJV, Psalm 42:7 NRSV

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

9:45 AM SERVICE

WORSHIP INVITATION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*MOMENT OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Tara Reynolds

SERVICE OF ELDER ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

CONGREGATIONAL SONG OF RESPONSE

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

Dave Steane

MESSAGE Without Vision...the People Perish
Proverbs 29:18 KJV, Psalm 42:7 NRSV

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 SERVICE

PRELUDE Meditation for Organ George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Dave Steane

CHORAL INTROIT Behold Now, Praise the Lord Everett Titcomb (1884-1968)

*HYMN OF PRAISE We Three Kings of Orient Are #66; Vs. 1 & 5 | THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE Rick Myers

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from The Apostles' Creed

ANTHEM How Lovely Are the Messengers Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

SERVICE OF ELDER ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN OF RESPONSE Here I Am, Lord #525; Vs. 1 | Daniel Schutte (B.1947)

OFFERTORY Be Thou My Vision John Rutter (b.1945)

MESSAGE Without Vision...the People Perish
Proverbs 29:18 KJV, Psalm 42:7 NRSV Alf Halvorson

*CLOSING HYMN When Morning Gilds the Skies #339; Vs. 1 | LAUDES DOMINI

POSTLUDE When Morning Gilds the Skies arr. Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Musicians in this service: Charles Hausmann, conductor; Kathryn White, organist

MORE ON MDPC SUNDAY MORNINGS

11:00 AM FIFTH SERVICE: Join folks in the Amphitheater for energetic worship, dynamic teaching, and casual community. Pastor Alf will preach this Sunday. 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.

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.



Parent Palooza

Free Parenting Seminar!
Location: MDPC Fellowship Hall
Registration: palooza.mdpc.org

**Wednesday Evenings,
January 11 and 18**



FAMILY MISSION DAY 2017 HOUSTON

Family Mission Day 2017
On the MLK Day holiday, we will take buses out into the Houston community and serve the city together.

Monday, January 16 | 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
\$10 per person includes lunch
Register online at register.mdpc.org.



Mission Trips

Middle School Mission Trip San Antonio • June 4-10 Open to current 7th-8th graders	6th Grade Mission Trip Houston • June 28-29 Open to current 6th graders
High School Mission Trip June 18-24 Open to current 9th-12th graders	Uganda Mission Trip July 18-27 Open to current Juniors and Seniors

Registration opens today: youthmissions.mdpc.org • For Uganda, email Kyle Collins to apply: kcollins@mdpc.org



Lunch Connection

This monthly small group for parents of children with special needs includes a brief presentation by a community resource provider as well as time for discussion and questions. Lunch is provided.

**Second Tuesday of the Month
12:00-1:00 PM | MC 102**

For more information about this and other offerings for special needs children, contact Keri Mosk, Special Needs Ministry Director, at kmosk@mdpc.org or 713-490-9265.



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

1:00-5:00 PM | Spring Valley Village Park
(1025 Campbell, 77055)

- An alcohol-free family event, open to the community
- Free tastings and live entertainment
- Activities for kids throughout the park
- All teams & groups are welcome to compete
- With a new Cook-off Category: Dessert!

cbgr.mdpc.org • \$35 per team





Michelle Chambers Children's | Elementary
Michelle is married to MDPC member, John, and is mother to three sons, Andrew (17), Thomas (15), and James (10). Michelle graduated from TCU and the University of Tennessee and worked in a variety of healthcare settings (physical rehabilitation, long term healthcare, and an out-patient brain injury program). Michelle is now a stay-at-home mom who enjoys walking, tennis, reading, college football, and volunteering at her children's schools. Since joining MDPC, Michelle has served on The Yellow School Board, and has been an Elementary Sunday School and Summer Celebration teacher for about 13 years. Michelle looks forward to serving as Elementary Elder, sharing God's love with the kids, and helping them grow in Christ.



Marty Chapman Children's Ministries | Preschool
(1-year term, Class of 2017)
Marty Lillioth Chapman grew up at MDPC. She was confirmed as a member in the 6th grade, was active in the youth group and the Joyful Noise in high school, and worked as a summer youth intern in 1992. Marty graduated from Texas A&M and holds a Master's degree in Speech Language Pathology from The University of Texas at Dallas. She and her husband, Rick, were married at MDPC in 1997 and are the proud parents of Julia, Jake, and Lexie. Marty keeps busy by volunteering with her kids' elementary school, Blessings in a Backpack, Sister School Solution, HUG, and NCL. She's excited to serve as Preschool Elder and help shepherd our church's littlest lambs.



Charmaine Denny Administration | Food Service
Charmaine joined MDPC 25 years ago when she married her husband, Dave. She and Dave and their children—Tyler (22), Blake (21), and Dana (18)—have fond memories of “camping out” on the MDPC soccer field, Pheasant Run at Mo-Ranch, Summer Celebration, and making gingerbread houses. Looking back, every family memory or milestone involves MDPC in some way. It was at Bible Study Discussion (BSD) that Jesus Christ stole Charmaine's heart and wooed her into a personal relationship with Him and with His people. She is very humbled to be asked to serve as the Food Service Ministries Elder and cannot think of a place she would rather be than at a dinner table surrounded by family, friends, good food, fellowship, and fun, with Jesus as the centerpiece.



Tim Fenn Personnel | Elect-elect
Tim and his family have been members of MDPC since 2003. Tim first accepted Christ in 1976 in Jackson, Mississippi and grew up as an active member of the youth group at Tallowood Baptist. He studied accounting at Baylor University, received a law degree from Georgetown University, and is a partner at Latham & Watkins LLP where he specializes in business taxation. He has been married to Sharalynn for 24 years, although they met in 1982 at Spring Forest Junior High. Tim's two sons—Charles, a junior at MHS, and Greydon, an 8th grader at MMS—both accepted

Christ and were baptized at MDPC. Tim has served on the board and as the treasurer of The Yellow School, taught Preschool Sunday School, and as a Men's Life small group leader. Tim is excited to be part of God's continued work at MDPC.



Paul Helbling Outreach | Connections
Paul and his wife, Robin, have been MDPC members since 1993, and their daughters, Dana and Sydney, were raised and married at MDPC. After a start with Ernst & Young, Paul spent most of his career as a financial executive for oilfield service and technology companies. He is now enjoying retirement. He and Robin have been members of the Seekers Sunday School class since the '90s. In 2000, Paul joined an MDPC men's small group that still meets weekly and, in 2002, he began serving as an MDPC Stephen Minister. In 2013, Paul joined the board of Houston Graduate School of Theology as a Trustee. Each of these has been a successive step in his lifelong walk with Christ. Serving as Connections Elder feels like a natural next step, tapping his innate personality to enact hospitality throughout the church's ministry.



Lydia Junek Administration | Treasurer Elect-elect
Lydia and her husband, Gary, have been members of MDPC for over 20 years. They are proud parents of two daughters, Alexa and Amanda, who have grown up at MDPC. Lydia has been an Elder in Children's and in Fuente Ministries, served on the Discernment Team, and is currently a member of the BSD Steering Team. Lydia also served on Outreach Ministries' Spring Branch Committee and currently serves on the board of the Spring Branch Community Health Center. Professionally, she was Managing Director of Citigroup's Energy Corporate Bank in Houston and founder of Piney Point Capital Advisors. Lydia is humbled to be called to serve on Session at this important time in the life of MDPC as we look forward to God's plan for our community of faith.



John Kemper Caring Ministries | Healthcare
(1-year term, Class of 2017)
John has attended MDPC since 1979. He was married to Linda Kemper for 38 years, until she passed away in 2015. Their children, Ginny and David, both grew up at MDPC. Ginny presently is serving as an Elder for Equipping Ministries. After attending Tulsa University, John worked for Sears for 10 years in eight different cities. He moved to Houston in 1979, started a small manufacturing company, and sold it in 2014. John previously served as an Elder, taught fourth grade Sunday school, participated in Men's Life for many years, attends a small group, and currently serves as an advisor for Newspring. He is board chairman of the Spring Branch Community Health Center, which MDPC helps support. The organization has four clinics and serves over 4,500 patients per month.



Susanne McClean Worship & Music
Susanne has volunteered throughout her life in school, at church, in her daughters' activities, and now is concentrating on opportunities at MDPC. Susanne, a widow of five years, is mother to two daughters, Allison Daughtry and Darby Suman. She owned an antiques business for twenty years and currently is lovingly grandparenting six grandsons.



Ted Meyer Equipping | Prayer Initiatives
Ted has been an MDPC member since 1990, and is married to Jenny. They are active in Bible study groups and classes and look forward to leading The Spoken Word this Lenten season. Through their relationship with Brett and Kellie Hurst, Ted and Jenny believe strongly in the critical role of Christ as a living and active presence in their marriage. Ted credits his close relationship with late MDPC member Gay Hudson as igniting his passion to become deeply and actively involved in MDPC's leadership. Ted and Jenny head up a blended family of four children: Sarah (24), Daniel (22), Francie (21), and Mia (1). Ted has been a management side labor and employment lawyer for over 25 years. He is passionate about leadership and teaching, and is honored to serve as an Elder at this exciting time at MDPC.



Cheryl Moore Administration | Clerk Elect-elect
MDPC has been Cheryl's church home for most of her life. Though her family moved in and out of Houston growing up, they always returned to this church. She married her husband, Preston, here in 1986, and they became members after moving back from New York in 1993, and raised three children—Preston (25), Kathryn (24), and Kristen (20)—at MDPC. Cheryl credits BSD, weekly worship, and countless small groups for leading her to study scripture and, because of her acceptance of Christ at an earlier age, to seek to live a life worthy of that calling. She stays involved with Lulwanda Children's Home in Uganda and works for the beautification of Houston through the accessibility of public gardens. In her spare time, Cheryl enjoys being in her kitchen with family and friends, reflecting in a garden, or walking through the neighborhood.



Barbara Mueller Children's | Special Blessings
Barbara grew up in Refugio, Texas, where she was blessed to be part of a loving Lutheran church that helped her develop a solid foundation in her faith. She has been an MDPC member since 1996. Barbara was active in the Blueprint Class, expanding her study of the Bible and understanding how God wanted her to grow in her Christian walk. When her mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 1995, Barbara learned to rely on God and the MDPC community for support and guidance. An MDPC friend, Anita Bullers, encouraged her to help with the ministry for children with special needs. Though Barbara was reluctant, Anita persisted. Looking back, Barbara now realizes that it was God and the Holy Spirit guiding her to His current plan for her to grow in her faith through service to Him. Barbara has two sisters, Beverly May and Brenda Mueller, who also are members at MDPC.

Without Vision ...the people perish.

—Proverbs 29:18 KJV, Psalm 42:7 NRSV

Happy New Year! I hope you had a great Christmas and are excited about what God has in store for us in the New Year. All fall, MDPC Staff and Elders have been doing strategic planning using the book *The Advantage*, written by

sought-after consultant Patrick Lencioni. He has organizations (from businesses to not-for-profits to churches) answer six questions: *Why do we exist? How do we behave? What do we do? How will we succeed? What is most important, right now? And who must do what?* These six questions allow a group to find clarity, alignment, and then goals around which they can rally. I hope Session will approve our plan at its end-of-January retreat, but I would like to share with you many of what we believe are God-given emphases worth sacrificing for in this next important season in our life together.

1. I started with Proverbs 29:18: “Where there is no vision, the people perish: but happy are those who keep the law.” What does it mean to you individually, and for MDPC collectively, that we have not been able to look forward for the last half-decade until now? Does the chance to vision-cast excite you or cause you anxiety?
2. Sometimes it is said that people do not like *change*. I don’t think that is true in all cases. We *change* to get married, to go to school, to have a baby, or to buy a new house or car. Change often is very positive. What we do not like is *loss*. As we move forward as a church, what do you hope we preserve? What, in your mind, would it be a shame to lose?
3. Psalm 42:7 says, “Deep calls to deep.” There is something deep in God that calls to that which is deep in us. We yearn for a deeper connection with the living God; a deeper investment with one another; and a deeper engagement with the world for which Christ died. Of the thoughts and plans that I shared, which one(s) excited you the most? Why?
4. Was there anything not included that should be? Was there something included that could be dropped?
5. I quoted Winston Churchill, who stepped forward at a critical juncture in history and made a profound difference. Where might God want you to step forward right now? Where is *deep calling to deep*? When will you worship? How might you grow, study, stretch? Where might you serve?

