

MDPC Coordinating Team

Mauricio Chacón | Latino Ministries Pastor
 Amy Delgado | Interim Outreach Director
 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 Kookon | 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

**STUDY & SMALL GROUP
 SPOTLIGHT**

Heights Women's Group



Women in their 20s & 30s gather over a home-cooked meal to discuss stories from the Bible and grow in community. Come join us!

Alternating Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 PM

Contact Sarah Stone with questions: sstone@mdpc.org

The White Rose is given in memory of:

Michelle Lynn Villareal, who passed away January 28, 2017.

The Red Rose is given in honor of:

Hudson Milo Timby, born January 24, 2017, to Robert Timby and Jennifer Spiva. He is the grandson of Marsha Timby.

Ministry Partners 2017

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

Boys and Girls Country helps children of families in crisis by loving and nurturing them in a Christian environment, helping them grow up to become self-sustaining and contributing adults.
boysandgirlscountry.org

Bridges to Life ministers to prisoners and victims by showing them the transforming power of God's love and forgiveness. It connects communities to prisons in an effort to reduce the recidivism rate (particularly to violent crimes) and number of crime victims, and enhance public safety.
bridgestolife.org

An MDPC Partner living in New York is building relationships for the Kingdom within the Bangladeshi community. Please pray for God to cover this family, to keep them safe and healthy, and to strengthen them as they reveal Christ's grace by connecting with immigrants and sharing stories of Jesus.

MDPC Dollar-for-Dollar in Action

MDPC Sewing for Missions group sews many items for the local and global community, everything from walker caddies for Med Center patients to colorful sundresses for Ugandan orphans. It also coordinates an annual **Cookies for Troops** project to send homebaked goodies to U.S. military serving abroad. The 2017 project was on February 2, and the group packed almost 5,000 cookies into 38 delicious care packages! Your generosity enables ministry like that of Sewing for Missions, a group which has been "at it" for over 50 years. >



The Temptations

The Temptation to Take a Short-cut
Matthew 4:5-7

Coming Up at MDPC

Congregational Meeting

MDPC Session has called a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of approving the Pastors' terms of call for 2017.

Sunday, February 26 | Following 9:45 Worship

2nd & 3rd Grade Pizza Party

Come eat pizza & play games at your grade's Pizza Party! K and 1st grade partied in January, but there still is lots of food and fun in store.

Sunday, February 26 | 12:30-2:30 PM

4th & 5th Grade: Friday, March 31, 6:00-8:30 PM

Please RSVP: pizza.mdpc.org

BSD Visitor Days

Knowing God's Word and will are important for us in our daily living. Join us for a BSD Visitor Day to see how meaningful and rewarding Bible Study can be. You potentially could dive into our new unit on the Apostles' Creed the following week!

Thursday, February 16, 9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 19, 9:45 or 11:15 AM, MC 102

Weds, February 22, 5:00 (122) or 6:30 PM (102)

bsd.mdpc.org

The Well Speaker Series Is Back!

April Topic: "Why I Hope"

Stuck. Unsure. Hurting. Sometimes, life throws us more than we can handle. When we feel overwhelmed, where can we find hope? Women in all life stages are coming together to hear a panel of real, honest women share personal stories of hope.

Wednesday, April 19 | 6:30-8:00 PM | Chapel

Refreshments at 6:00 PM in the Parlor.

To help us plan, please RSVP: thewell.mdpc.org

Reserve childcare at childcare@mdpc.org

A Very Special Dinner & A Marriage

Volunteers needed for this event for parents of children with special needs and foster/adoptive parents. More volunteers mean more families can be served!

Event Date: February 18, 5:30-7:30 PM

Contact Keri Mosk: kmosk@mdpc.org, 713-490-9265

Save the Date: Mo-Ranch Registration

Plan to be at this year's Memorial Day weekend retreat with Pastor Alf and the whole church family!

Registration opens Saturday, February 25, 8:00 AM

Details and (eventually) registration: mo.mdpc.org

Blood Drive at MDPC

Pre-registering helps Blood Center staff provide enough technicians so you won't have a long wait.

Walk-ins on the day of the drive are welcome!

Next Sunday, February 19, 8:00 AM-2:00 PM

Pre-register with Katie: knippres@giveblood.org

The 7 Last Words from the Cross

Eat Pray Lent: 7-week Study (March 5-April 20)

Jesus' words on the cross were few, but they are packed with meaning. Seven phrases that provide a view into the Savior's soul, and a way for us to comprehend both the depth of His sacrificial love, and the impact of the cross on our faith.

This year's Lenten devotional guide leads your small group or class to discuss, in community, how God's Word and Spirit are impacting your lives! There are a variety of Eat Pray Lent seasonal groups to join, or start your own with friends or family.

Visit epl.mdpc.org for more information

Questions? Contact Christyn Knoop:

cknoop@mdpc.org or 713-490-0940

MDPC MORNING WORSHIP

*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

8:30 AM SERVICE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

Rick Myers

*SONGS OF PRAISE

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Dan Aikins

SONG OF PREPARATION

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE

The Temptation to Take a Short-cut
Matthew 4:5-7

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

9:45 AM SERVICE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Tara Reynolds

BAPTISMS

Alf Halvorson

Molly Jane Mueck, daughter of Michael and Kara Mueck

Konrad Kramer Wittenbraker, son of Kyle and Kathryn Wittenbraker

Kampbell Kate Wittenbraker, daughter of Kyle and Kathryn Wittenbraker

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

Kyle Collins
Morris and Aidah Ogenga of Lulwanda Children's Home

MESSAGE

The Temptation to Take a Short-cut
Matthew 4:5-7

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

Prelude No. 1

Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rick Myers

CHORAL INTROIT

Come, Ye That Love the Lord

arr. Alice Parker

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Lift High the Cross

#371; Vs. 1, 3 | CRUCIFER

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

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

BAPTISM

Alf Halvorson

Marcos Robert Perez, son of Martin and Elizabeth Perez

ANTHEM

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Dan Forrest (b.1978)

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

Morris and Aidah Ogenga of Lulwanda Children's Home

OFFERTORY

On Eagles' Wings

Edwin Ferguson (1910-1987)

MESSAGE

The Temptation to Take a Short-cut
Matthew 4:5-7

Alf Halvorson

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

#426; Vs. 1, 3 | CANONBURY

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Presto from Concerto I

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Musicians in this service: Jason Amos, Lisa Borik, Monica Isomura, and Gregory Walker, Offertory quartet; Emily Borling, guest organist/pianist; Charles Hausmann, conductor; Ben Schaefer, Anthem soloist

MORE ON MDPC SUNDAY MORNINGS

11:00 AM FIFTH SERVICE: Join folks in the Amphitheater for energetic worship, dynamic teaching from a diverse line-up of guest speakers, and casual community. 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.

MDPC Food Service Ministries
invites you to

All-Church Lunch

Today! All Are Welcome.
11:00 AM-1:00 PM • Fellowship Hall

Entrée Choice \$10

Cajun Shrimp & Sausage Pasta or Blackened Chicken
Served with Yellow Rice or Mac & Cheese,
and Veggie Medley or Creamed Spinach

Child Portion \$4

Entrée Salad \$8.50

Asian Chicken

Meals include coffee, tea, milk, lemonade, and dessert

SPRING BREAK SERVICE DAY



Let's serve our neighbors on the island with
Galveston Urban Ministries!

SATURDAY, MARCH 11 • 9:00 AM-12:30 PM

Register by March 1: springbreak.mdpc.org



Join us for Next Steps, a follow-up
to Men's Life: Faith & Reason.
Led by Ken Harris.

Tuesdays through February 28
6:30-7:45 AM | Amphitheater

nextsteps.mdpc.org

Walking the Mourner's Path™

TRANSFORMING GRIEF INTO JOYFUL LIVING

This Christ-centered eight-week grief program is limited to ten participants, creating a safe place to share feelings with each other and with God. Two trained facilitators will guide the group.

Wednesdays, March 22-May 17 | 3:30-5:00 PM

Chapel Bride's Room (116) | Cost: \$30 (Scholarships available)

Register online at grief.mdpc.org or with Beverly Fluke of Caring Ministries (bfluke@mdpc.org, 713-490-9542).



TUESDAY FEB. 21

FELLOWSHIP HALL

TIM GARVIN SINGS COUNTRY

DETAILS
ON FLYERS
AROUND
CAMPUS.

★ GET READY FOR THE
RODEO BY WEARING
YOUR WESTERN DUDS!

FREE PROGRAM AT 11:00 AM
LUNCH (\$9.50) AT NOON

Presented by
Prime Timers

The Temptations

The Temptation to Take a Short-cut
Matthew 4:5-7

This is the second in a four-part series on Jesus' Temptations in the Wilderness at the beginning of His ministry. This second temptation in verses 5-7 is full of *holy* things. The devil took Jesus to the *holy* city, placed Him on top of the *holy* temple, and

quoted from *Holy* Scriptures. Dale Bruner says, "Where the first temptation smelled like a bakery, the second has the aroma of a Greek Orthodox Church at Easter." The first temptation tried to reach Jesus through a weak spot, His stomach. The devil now tries to reach Jesus through his strong spot, his trust in God's Word. It is easiest to get us where we are weakest; next easiest to get us where we are strongest.

1. In verses 5 and 6, what does the devil actually do and say?
2. Jesus quoted Scripture in verse 4 to dismiss temptation one. What does it mean to you that the devil quotes Scripture (Psalm 91:11-12) in his second temptation in verse 6? Have you ever thought that the devil knows the Bible? The devil doesn't walk out Scripture faithfully, but he is familiar with its promises and commands.
3. It's almost as if the tempter is saying to Jesus, "You quoted Scripture before. Put Your money where Your mouth is. You believe in the Word of God? Then step out on it." Why is that such a devious and subtle temptation? Read Psalm 91. Does it really tell us to throw ourselves off a building to prove that God will catch us?
4. In verse 7, Jesus says, "Again it is written" or "It is written in another place." Then He quotes Deuteronomy 6:16: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." What is Jesus showing us here? What does He mean? What can we learn from this example?
5. Is one Scripture right and the other wrong? Or are both right under certain circumstances? How do you determine when a Scripture applies to your situation and when it doesn't?
6. The devil uses a Scripture for when we are under duress to trust God's promise of care and help. Was Jesus really under duress? Jesus uses a Scripture that teaches reverent caution before God's holiness. Why is Jesus correct here? How has the devil misapplied his verse?
7. If Jesus threw Himself down right there and right then as the devil tempted Him to do, then He/we become the tester of God. We tell God how, when, and where God is supposed to fulfill God's promise from Psalm 91. Putting God to the test reverses our relationship to God. We are in charge, and God is our servant—at our beck and call when we order. Why is that not okay?
8. Where are you tempted to use God as simply "a means to your ends"? Or to try to force God's good ends when not needed or in your timeframe? Do you (do I) follow God, or must God follow us?

