Pastors Emeritus

Dave Peterson Gary Bowker

STUDY & SMALL GROUP SPOTLIGHT



Eat, Pray, Lent Small Groups

Call some friends, gather the family, and seek God together through MDPC's Lenten study.

Weekly throughout Lent (Ash Wednesday, March 1 through Easter Sunday, April 16)

There are a variety of groups meeting at different times and locations. Contact Christyn Knoop with questions (cknoop@mdpc.org) or visit epl.mdpc.org.

Outreach Ministry Partners 2017

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

Camp For All is a unique, 85 miles north of Houston. It works in partnership with other nonprofits to enrich the lives of individuals with special needs and those affected by challenging illnesses.

campforall.org

CanCare of Houston provides

barrier-free camp in Burton, one-on-one, long-term emotional support to cancer patients and their families. Cancer survivors volunteer to work with newly diagnosed patients, listening to and encouraging them. Volunteers also visit cancer patients and their family members in 18 hospitals and clinics.

cancare.org

MDPC Field Partner Dr. M and his family are called to reach the unreached for Jesus Christ. Dr. M practices and teaches dentistry while sharing the Good News of Jesus with tribes living in abject poverty in South Asia. There, the 98% Muslim population has the least amount of dental care in the world. Please pray for their ministry and family's health as they continue working in their community.

Art Teachers Needed

Newspring, an MDPC local partner, is looking to hire two part-time, after-school art teachers. Newspring's Visual Arts program encourages Spring Branch-area students to work hard, stay in school, and turn their gift of art into a career. Contact Robert Westheimer: rwestheimer1@comcast.net

Peru Vision Trip: April 1-April 9, 2017

Join MDPC global partner The Antioch Partners to encourage a missionary partner ministering to people with disabilities and their families in Lima (no specific ministry experience required). We also will hike Machu Picchu, one of the 7 wonders of the world.

Estimated cost: \$2,750 (includes all expenses, plus two wheelchairs for mission partner Free Wheelchair Mission) For more information, contact Hope Whitney: admin@theantiochpartners.org, 713-490-9571

Operating Income

2017 Annual Budget \$ 11,348,600 100% Actual Income to Date (Feb. 19, 2017) \$ 1,338,015 12% Needed to Meet 2017 Budget \$ 10,010,585

MDPC Dollar-for-Dollar in Action

At Children's Ministries annual Mission Extreme last summer, the kiddos made pillows for SEARCH's House of Tiny Treasures, a longtime MDPC ministry partner. Mission Extreme will be back this summer! Registration fills up fast, so be on the lookout... >





Loving God. Proclaiming Christ. Living Generously. Engaging All. 11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024 | mdpc.org | 713-782-1710 Sunday, February 26, 2017



The emptations

Temptation Complete: Letting Angels Care for You

Coming Up at MDPC

Ash Wednesday, March 1

Pastor Alf will lead both services, which will include a reflection, communion, and imposition of ashes. Noon in the Amphitheater (45 minutes) 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary (1 hour) Lenten season schedule: easter.mdpc.org

The 7 Last Words from the Cross

Eat Pray Lent: 7-week Study (March 5-April 20) This year's Lenten study encourages you to discuss, in community, how God's Word and Spirit are impacting your lives! There are a variety of groups to join, or start your own with friends or family. Details & registration: epl.mdpc.org

Maundy Thursday

MDPC will celebrate Maundy Thursday with a special interactive service that describes the traditional Jewish Passover Story and ends with the sharing of the Lord's Supper. Children are encouraged to attend (childcare provided for birth-3 years). Thursday, April 13 | 6:30-7:30 PM | Fellowship Hall RSVP at maundy.mdpc.org.

Purely Parenting

Join us each month as we hear from different speakers on a variety of parenting topics. This month's session, led by Mindy and David Bradley, is geared towards parents of kids in junior high and older. Sunday, March 5 | 11:15 AM | Summit Room

Mo-Ranch Weekend

Plan to be at this year's Memorial Day weekend retreat with Pastor Alf and the whole church family! Registration is open: mo.mdpc.org

Opportunity to Serve

We're looking for 10 people with hearts for outreach interested in serving on an outreach committee. Committees connect with local and global ministries to develop partnerships through prayer, site visits for funding consideration, and much more. Contact Ian Roe to learn about this inspiring, faithgrowing opportunity: jroe@mdpc.org

MDPC Young Adult Kickball League

Calling all 20s! Join us at Memorial Park as we vie for the championsip in the City of Houston's kickball league.

Mondays, March 6-May 1 | 6:30-10:30 PM

For schedule and other details, contact Trevor Harris: trevorharris22@gmail.com

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 and two loaves of bread per sandwich-maker. That's all it takes to make a difference.

Wednesday, March 8 | 5:00-6:00 PM

Contact Julie for more info: hempeljulie@gmail.com

Kids These Days Podcast: New Episode!

Rachel Poysky and Tara Reynolds, with guest Keri Mosk, Director of Special Blessings, have released another episode of their popular parenting podcast, Kids These Days. This episode deals with anxiety and depression in children.

Listen for free on-demand: ktd.mdpc.org

MDPC MORNING WORSHIP

Congregational Meeting Today following 9:45 Worship

Called by MDPC Session for the purpose of approving the Pastors' terms of call for 2017, and to provide a Pastor Nominating Committee update. Those interested in the Equipping, Caring, and Outreach associate pastor/director positions should email resume and letter of interest to pnc@mdpc.org.

*Please stand if able CCLI # 182374

8:30 AM SERVICE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME Rick Myers

*SONGS OF PRAISE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

SONG OF PREPARATION

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE Temptation Complete: Letting Angels Care for You Alf Halvorson

Matthew 4:1-11

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

9:45 AM SERVICE

WORSHIP INVITATION The Music Box Kids' Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*MOMENT OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE **Kyle Collins**

NEW MEMBERS Rick Myers

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Amy Delgado

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE Temptation Complete: Letting Angels Care for You Alf Halvorson

Matthew 4:1-11

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Jody Harrington and Tom Braschayko

Musicians in these services: Joe Gavito, guitar; Meliza Gómez, worship leader; Craig Gysler, keys; Michael Middleton, worship leader; Asher Pudlo, drums; Dennis Whittaker, bass; The Music Box Kids' Choir (9:45)

11:15 AM SERVICE

PRELUDE Grand March Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Rick Myers

CHORAL INTROIT Fight the Good Fight arr. John Gardner (1917-2011)

*HYMN OF PRAISE All Hail the Power #142; Vs. 1, 2, 4 | CORONATION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from Romans 8

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE The Gloria Patri Hymn #579

ANTHEM The Omnipotence Franz Schubert (1997-1828)

OFFERTORY Worthy to Be Praised Byron J. Smith (b. 1960) MESSAGE

Temptation Complete: Letting Angels Care for You Matthew 4:1-11

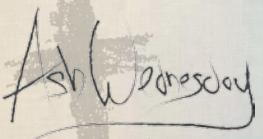
My Shepherd Will Supply My Need *CLOSING HYMN #172; Vs. 1, 3 | RESIGNATION **POSTLUDE** Exaltation Robert Hughes (1916-1999)

Musicians in this service: Cassandra Black and Laura Coale, soloists; Charles Hausmann, conductor; Julio Sanchez, percussionist; Kathryn White, pianist/organist

VISITING MDPC? WELCOME!

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.

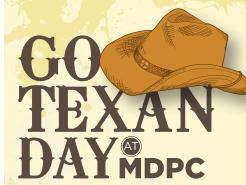


Prepare your heart for the Lenten season... This Wednesday, March 1 • Noon or 6:30 PM Service details on the front of this bulletin.



An Overview

John 1:29: 1 John 4:9-10: Romans 1:18-25 Alf Halvorson preaching



Next Sunday, March 5

Get in the rodeo spirit and wear your jeans or Western duds to church, then plan to stick around for a special BBO All-Church Lunch!

Menu & more: gotexan.mdpc.org

The Venturers at MDPC present

The Effects of WWII on **Generations of Women** with Marion Takehara & Anne Wilson



In the winter of 1942, FDR signed Executive Order 9066, sealing the fate of thousands of Japanese Americans, who would be relocated from their homes to internment camps. Speakers Marion Takehara and Anne Wilson RSVP by will share their family's experiences. Everyone is welcome. March 1.

Monday, March 6 at the Westchase Hilton Social Hour at 6:00 PM • Dinner & Program at 7:00 PM

Join a group from MDPC to pray over concerns for our families and ourselves, our city, nation, and world - all while taking in a lovely nature walk,

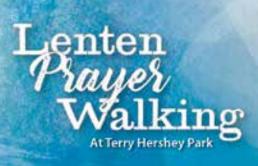
Tuesday Mornings March 7-April 11 - 6:15 -7:00 AM

Amy Delgado

Alf Halvorson

Meet at the the trail entrance at Yorkchester and Indian Creek, in the Wilchester neighborhood.

Contact prayer leader Robin Sturgis with questions at 713-398-4574 or robinsturgis@sboglobal.net



Pick up a flier

for details.

First Communion Retreat

This is a special event for 1st-5th grade children and their parents. The retreat is designed to prepare children for their First Communion, giving them a clear understanding of the important sacrament.

The children who are participating will take their First Communion on Sunday, May 7.

Sunday, March 26 12:30-3:30 PM | The Galaxy

Register: communion.mdpc.org

SPRING BREAK X SERVICE DAY WIRELINGSTREES

Come with us as we serve with Galveston Urban Ministries!

SATURDAY, MARCH 11 9:00 AM-12:30 PM

We will meet at MDPC at 7:45 to carpool down.

GUM is a Christian community development ministry that God is using in a mighty way to love, empower, and transform the neighborhood and families living on the island. Volunteers will serve in opportunities such as children's programs, painting, gardening, and more, and we need you!

Questions: Jan Roe (jroe@mdpc.org) or Kyle Collins (kcollins@mdpc.org)

This event is open to anyone and everyone.

Registration deadline is March 1:

springbreak.mdpc.org







Ryan and Katie Cooper are the parents of Caroline (6) and Natalie (3). Ryan is an attorney. He enjoys spending time with his family, playing tennis, and watching sports. Katie works in development at Texas Children's Hospital. She enjoys playing outside and acting silly with her daughters. They both enjoy working in the yard.





Wade and Karen Jones are the parents of Garrett (23), Graham (22) and Harper Rae (20). Wade is the founder of Infinity Hydrocarbons, LLC, a oil and gas marketing company. He enjoys his family, hunting, fly fishing, golfing, and youth football. Karen is a homemaker. She enjoys Bible study, traveling, volunteering, and being a Texans fan!





Ryan and Courtney Taylor are the parents of Everett (8), George (6) and Anna Lou (4). Ryan works with wealth management for Well Fargo. He loves to BBQ, coach, and play sports. Courtney is a nurse at Texas Children's Hospital. She enjoys working in her vegetable garden and playing outside with her kids.



Matt Thomas is the husband of MDPC member, Lindsey Thomas. They are the parents of 10-month old twins, Cate and Mimi. Matt works for Nabors as Director of Special Projects. He enjoys traveling, hunting, and BBQ.





IS IT TIME FOR YOU TO JOIN MDPC?

DISCOVER MDPC WITH ALF

Come learn more about MDPC. No commitment required! This brief meeting is an opportunity to explore church membership and what it means to be part of our faith community.

Sunday, March 26 | 10:45-11:10 AM | Gathering Room

NEW MEMBER CLASS

The New Member Class series is for those interested in membership. They are taught by the associate pastors and elders, and include a Saturday service project.

Sundays, April 2-May 14 | 11:00 AM-12:15 PM | CLC 171/172

Visit membership.mdpc.org for additional dates and to register for New Member Classes, or contact Diann Turet, Membership Director (dturet@mdpc.org or 713-490-9553).



This is the last in a series of messages on *The Temptations* of Jesus in the wilderness at the beginning of His ministry. This is not just about what happens to Jesus; it also is what happens to us as His followers. There is a seemingly "throw-away" verse at the

end of this episode (verse 11) that warrants our best thoughts and consideration.

- 1. Read the entire passage (Matthew 4:1-11) again from start to finish. Of the three temptations mentioned, which seems to be clearest to you and which is the most confusing? Share, clarify, and assist each other.
- 2. In verse 11, there are three verbs that describe and explain the action that occurs. What are the three verbs (in order)? Begin discussing what each might mean for Jesus.
- 3. Thank God for verse 11. In verses 4 and 7, Jesus refuses both food and Angels. He gets both now when He hasn't asked for them. Why, do you think, were food and Angels wrong to receive in those previous verses, and right in verse 11?
- 4. Can you think of other examples in the Old and New Testaments when believers received help during or after trials? Does the help only come if we succeed, or can it come even if we fail? Cite specific Biblical cases. Does help always mean we are removed from the evil or taken out of the challenging situation?
- 5. If Jesus, the Son of God and Savior of the world, allowed Himself to be served and waited on (fed), what about us? Do you have a regular way to receive grace and help from God? If so, explain. If not, why don't you? Where and how might you "refill your tank"?
- 6. There are books, like Don Postema's *Space for God* or Job and Shawchuck's *A Guide to Prayer for Ministers and Other Servants*, which invite us to receive from God's hand. Is there a book or place or activity or person that feeds you and restores you?
- 7. We cannot share something that we have not received ourselves. However, when we experience rest and help, then we can be channels of it and offer it to others. Have you ever thought that you could be the messenger for someone just coming through a deep challenge? You might be the word of hope to someone in the midst of a temptation. Has a person or situation popped into your head? If not, pray that God might reveal a specific situation to you. Do it now.
- 8. What is your overall takeaway from this four-part series? Of which temptation do you need to be especially cognizant right now? Read Hebrews 4:14-16. How is Christ a present help in times of trouble?