Pastors Emeritus

Dave Peterson Gary Bowker

STUDY & SMALL GROUP SPOTLIGHT

Memorial-area Small Group: **Nearly & Newly Marrieds**



We are a community group comprised of young marrieds who get together every week to share life, pray for one another, and follow Jesus. We meet on Monday evenings at a home in the Memorial area. We are open to any young marrieds, engaged, or newly-married couples.

Mondays, 6:30-8:30 PM | Member Home, Memorial Contact Tyler Moore: tylerlanemoore@gmail.com

Today's Chancel Flowers are given by:

- Buz and Cindy Jochetz, in celebration and gratitude to God for 40 wonderful years of marriage.
- Susan and David Eyre, in praise and gratitude to God, celebrating Moscelene Myers' 100th birthday.

The White Rose is given in memory of the MDPC members who recently passed away:

- Zachary Chittick, December 13, 2016
- Mary Keating, January 2, 2017
- Nancy Burnett, January 1, 2017
- Fran Lenser, January 3, 2017

Ministry Partners 2017: The New Outreach Ministry Partner Booklets Are Here!

This morning Outreach Ministries is handing out the 2017 Ministry Partner booklets, which list one global and two local partners to pray for each week. The amazing servants in these organizations care for individuals and communities that have great physical, emotional, and spiritual needs and they need our prayers and volunteers. Each year when we visit or hear from them, our partners tell us how much our prayers mean and how thankful they are to partner with MDPC! Remember to pray for them in committee meetings and Sunday school classes or with your family. For more ways to encourage and volunteer with our partners. contact Jan Roe: jroe@mdpc.org



Aldine Family Hope Center is for residents of all ages in Aldine, a low-income, unincorporated, often-overlooked area of Harris social, recreational, and spiritual in the lives of youth and families. aldineyouth.org

Alpha Houston trains, equips, and encourages Christian communities to effectively utilize the Alpha Course American Muslims with the love of as an evangelism tool. This disciple-County. Its educational, vocational, ship program is taken to churches, homes, business and – more recently es Christians ways to reach out in programs empower positive change - prisons/jails with the Good News of friendship to Muslims in peaceful, Jesus Christ.

MDPC Field Partner Jeff Burns

has a call on his life to reach North Jesus Christ. He and his family live in North Carolina, where Jeff teachrespectful witness. He has trained Presbyterian Church members in the U.S. and around the world.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

alphahouston.org

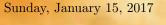
The weekly financial update will be shown on the screens in this morning's services.

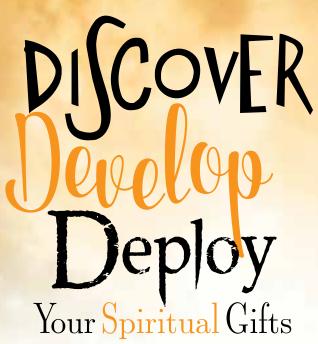
Pictured: Your generosity allows us to support Aldine Youth. Its Buckner Family Hope Centers are child-centered, family-focused places where families go to find hope, support and empowerment in their community to reach their fullest God-given potential. >





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





Discovering Your Gifts Romans 12:1-8

Coming Up at MDPC

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: dturet@mdpc.org, 713-490-9553

Children's Ministries Summer Internship

We're looking for college-age interns who love kids! This is a full-time, paid summer internship. Email Rachel Poysky at rpoysky@mdpc.org for details.

Volunteers Needed for Second Family

Thinking about how to use your time to God's glory in 2017? MDPC's Second Family ministry uses a team approach to support church members facing challenges from illness, disability, and aging. Volunteers provide practical help such as transportation and respite care for caregivers, as well as Christian fellowship. Training Session: January 18 | 3:00-5:00 PM Contact Beverly Fluke with questions or to sign up for the training session: bfluke@mdpc.org, 713-490-9542

Pathways Sunday Class for Women

In Pathways, women can feel comfortable sharing both weaknesses and strengths. Join them today as they begin a new study: Prayer by Richard Foster. Sundays, 9:45 AM | Room 116

K & 1st Grade Pizza Party

Come eat pizza and play games! K & 1st grade party this month; 2nd-5th grade in February and March. Sunday, January 29 | 12:30-2:30 PM | The Galaxy Registration: children.mdpc.org

The Breakfast Club

With resolutions come and gone, cold weather, and the possible letdown of a new year, January may have you feeling sad, alone, or depressed. Have coffee and light breakfast items while Jill Gilbert, LMFT, LPC discusses ways to shake the blues. Sunday, January 29 | 8:30-9:30 AM | Parlor RSVP: counseling.mdpc.org

Former Oiler Bruce Matthews

MDPC hosts hall of famer Bruce Matthews, who will speak about his career and faith: "I played 19 years in the NFL without missing a single game due to injury. While this success has been an incredible gift, all that really matters is knowing Jesus. Everything else is secondary at best."

Tuesday, January 31 | 6:00 PM Limited seating, RSVP today: bruce.mdpc.org

History of the Texas Medical Center

The Venturers senior adult group welcomes Shawn W. Cloonan, Executive VP, General Counsel, Planning & Development at Texas Medical Center. Monday, February 6 | 6:00 PM | Westchase Hilton RSVP by February 1 to Chuck & Linnie Edwards: 9350 Shady Lane Circle, 77063 (713-785-7115)

Cookies for the Troops

Everyone is invited to bake and bring cookies that Sewing for Missions group will package and send to military overseas. Each year the number of cookies donated increases - help us break last year's record! Thursday, February 2: Simply drop off cookies, or stay to help with package assembly.



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 Brett Hurst

SONG OF RESPONSE

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE **Discovering Your Gifts** Alf Halvorson Romans 12:1-8

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

9:45 AM SERVICE

WORSHIP INVITATION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*MOMENT OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE Kyle Collins

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE **Discovering Your Gifts** Alf Halvorson

Romans 12:1-8

Musicians in these services: Joe Gavito, guitar; Jessica Gray, worship leader; Craig Gysler, keys; Michael Middleton, worship leader; Asher Pudlo, drums; Dennis Whittaker, bass

11:15 AM SERVICE

PRELUDES Consolation Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911) A Simple Song from MASS Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Dave Steane CHORAL INTROIT Joined Together As One Body James Biery (b.1956)

*HYMN OF PRAISE Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun #423; VS. 1, 3, 5 | DUKE STREET

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON Amy Delgado

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from Romans 8

MESSAGE

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Doxology Hymn #592

ANTHEM The Call of Wisdom Will Todd (b. 1970)

OFFERTORY Greater Love Hath No Man Than This John Ireland (1879-1962)

Discovering Your Gifts

Romans 12:1-8

Take My Life #391; Vs. 1, 2, 6 | HENDON

Alf Halvorson

POSTLUDE March Alexandre Guilmant

Musicians in this service: Jason Amos, Soloist; Charles Hausmann, conductor; Kathryn White, organist/pianist

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.



USIC BOXKIDS'



All kids in grades K-5 are welcome

WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 18-APRIL 12 4:45-5:30 PM | CHAPEL

into their faith

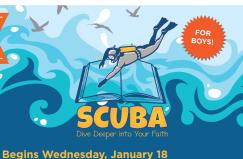
Register today: kidsmusic.mdpc.org

Wednesday Night Bible Study for Boys and Girls!



Begins Wednesday, January 18 5:30-6:30 PM | The Galaxy

3rd-5th grade girls who'd like to know more about the Bible and Jesus



6:30-7:30 PM | The Galaxy 3rd-5th grade boys who'd like to dive deeper

Middle School Mission Trip San Antonio • June 4-10 Open to current 7th-8th graders

High School Mission Trip June 18-24 Open to current 9th-12th graders

6th Grade Mission Trip Houston • June 28-29 Open to current 6th graders

Uganda Mission Trip July 18-27 Open to current Juniors and Seniors

Registrations are open: youthmissions.mdpc.org • For Uganda, email Kyle Collins to apply: kcollins@mdpc.org

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





Discovering Your Gifts
Romans 12:1-8

Last week I attempted to share what is emerging as MDPC's New Vision for this next season in our life together. If you missed it, I recommend that you listen to or watch it so that you can begin praying to see where God might want you to invest, grow, serve, or lead.

For the next three weeks, we will look at what Scripture has to say about *Spiritual Gifts*. Some might be very familiar with the topic, and others not at all aware of it. The idea is that each believer in Christ is given at least one gift from God for the common good.

- 1. Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11. Paul says in verse 1, "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I did not want you to be uninformed." Where does it say that God gives each Christian at least one gift? And where does it talk about the gifts not just being for our own good, but for the good of the wider church and world?
- 2. Is there any other surprising insight that you found in 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 which you want to share with the other members of your group?
- 3. I am asked a lot by people, "How can I know or find God's will?" In fact, it is the number one question pastors are asked by church members. Read Romans 12:1-8. How does the Apostle Paul tie knowing God's will to understanding your spiritual giftedness? Dissect his argument for a minute and try to follow and explain his rationale.
- 4. I talked in my sermon about how "if you have struggled to serve God in the past, it might be because you did not serve out of (or in) your spiritual giftedness." You had to work against the grain or swim upstream and against the current. When has that been true for you? On the other hand, when has your service been meaningful, productive, joy-filled, fulfilling, even if it was hard?
- 5. I told a story about a man named Bruce Bugbee, who moved from California to Iowa. He built a house and went to the nursery and bought trees, shrubs, and flowers for the yard based on plants he liked from CA. A few did well, some didn't. Where did that story hit home for you? I also talked about a man named Ivan from a former church who led a committee but then found his 'sweet spot' in another location. Do you know your sweet spot yet? Ask your group members to share what gifts they see in you and where they think you might thrive.
- 6. A Spiritual Gifts Test is available on the MDPC website at spiritualgifts.mdpc.org. If you have never taken a spiritual gift assessment, now is the time. If you have taken one in the past, perhaps you need a refresher—some new insight or nuance might emerge that you hadn't pondered before now. Don't wait to discover your gifts. It will help you to "do" God's will.