

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 Young Professionals of MDPC



Dinner, bible study, trivia, life stories, movie nights, turtle races, friendship, and laughs. All 20s are welcome!

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 PM | The Heights
 Kaitlyn Wilson, kwilson@mdpc.org, 713-490-2914

Today's Chancel Flowers...

- have been gifted in honor of the marriage of David and Sandra Voigt.

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

- Patsy Brister, December 30, 2016
- Bob Evans, January 8, 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



Ministry Partners 2017

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

Amazing Place is an interactive, affirming, state-of-the-art daytime wellness center for adults with mild to moderate memory loss. It serves participants age 51 to 98 who suffer from Alzheimer's or related dementia, and their care-giving families.

amazingplacehouston.org

Austin College is a private, co-educational college founded in 1849 in Sherman, Texas. Its mission is to educate students in the liberal arts and sciences in order to prepare them for rewarding careers and full, engaged, and meaningful lives.

austincollege.edu

MDPC Field Partners Steve and Natalie Hall base their ministry in Alaska and the Northern Territory. Working through SEND North, the Hall family focuses on the unreached people of the 60-70 parallel, who deal with elevated depression, alcoholism, and suicide rates. The Hall's ministry spreads the light of Jesus into dark places to bring hope and healing to their community.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

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

Pictured: Your giving helps MDPC support Amazing Place, a memory care and wellness center for adults. Volunteers are a critical part of its day-to-day operations, if you feel called to give in another way! Opportunities include assisting with daily activities, interacting with small groups of participants, or working with the administrative team on office and clerical work. >



DISCOVER Develop Deploy Your Spiritual Gifts

Developing Your Gifts

Matthew 25:14-30

Coming Up at MDPC

Cookies for the Troops

Bake and bring cookies for Sewing for Missions group to package and send to our 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.

Details: cookies.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)

A Very Special Dinner & A Marriage

Parents of children with special needs and foster/adoptive parents: Sit alone with your spouse, enjoy a low-key dinner, and learn ways to stay connected in the midst of raising your very special family.

Saturday, February 18 | 5:30-7:30 PM
 Register by February 7: special.mdpc.org
 \$15/couple (includes dinner and childcare)

Volunteers are needed for this event. More volunteers mean more families can be served!
 Contact Keri Mosk to learn more about this volunteer opportunity: kmosk@mdpc.org, 713-490-9265

New MDPC Women's Newsletter

Pick up the latest issue for articles, restaurant and book reviews, fit tips, and more!

Available around campus

Join Full Life for a New Study

Today Full Life Sunday school class begins a new study on the book of Acts. We are parents of young children who are looking to keep Christ at the center of our FULL lives! We hope you'll join us.

Sundays, 11:15 AM-12:15 PM | MC 218

Contact Michelle Enszer: m.enszer@comcast.net

Faith Training

Looking for fresh ways to work-out your faith in the New Year? Join Christyn and Martha of Equipping Ministries to explore how to train for spiritual fitness. Optional meals will be available for purchase.

February 8, Lunch (11:30 AM) or Dinner (6:00 PM)
 February 12, Breakfast (8:30-9:30 AM)

Email Martha with questions: marthamoore@mdpc.org

The Breakfast Club

With resolutions come and gone and bleak weather, January may have you feeling sad, alone, or depressed. Come enjoy coffee and light breakfast items while LPC-interns Nancy Cofran and Amanda Grace Caldwell discuss ways to shake the blues.

Next Sunday, January 29 | 8:30-9:30 AM | Parlor
 RSVP: counseling.mdpc.org

Super Bowl Party Packs

With a choice of seven dips, three crunchys, and four types of extras, Food Ministries Party Packs offer something for everyone. Plus, proceeds benefit Souper Bowl of Caring - it's a win-win!

Order deadline: Tuesday, January 31

partypacks.mdpc.org



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

Kaitlyn Wilson

SONG OF RESPONSE

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE

Developing Your Gifts
Matthew 25:14-30

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

9:45 AM SERVICE

WORSHIP INVITATION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*MOMENT OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Christyn Knoop

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

Dave Steane

MESSAGE

Developing Your Gifts
Matthew 25:14-30

Alf Halvorson

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

PRELUDES

March
The Call

Toivo Kuula (1883-1918)
Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Dave Steane

CHORAL INTROIT

Lord, Thy Glory Fills the Heaven

Glenn Rudolph (b.1951)

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Eternal God, Whose Power Upholds

#412; Vs. 1, 2, 5 | FOREST GREEN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from The Apostle's Creed

ANTHEM

Jubilate Deo (Sing Joyfully to God)

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

OFFERTORY

Faithful Over a Few Things

Glenn Burleigh (1949-2007)

MESSAGE

Developing Your Gifts
Matthew 25:14-30

Alf Halvorson

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

#411; Vs. 1, 4 | FESTAL SONG

POSTLUDE

Toccata in A

Johann Kobrich (1714-1791)

Musicians in this service: Jose Castejon, soloist; Charles Hausmann, conductor; Julio Sanchez, percussionist; Kathryn White, organist/pianist

MORE ON MDPC SUNDAY MORNINGS

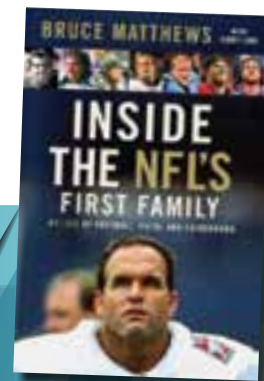
11:00 AM FIFTH SERVICE: Join folks in the Amphitheater for energetic worship, dynamic teaching from a diverse line-up of guest speakers, and casual community. Visit fifthservice.mdpc.org for more.

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.

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.

OILER TITAN CHRISTIAN BRUCE MATTHEWS



TUESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 31

Limited seating! Registration is required to attend:

BRUCE.MDPC.ORG



K & 1st Grade

Next Sunday, January 29

12:30-2:30 PM | The Galaxy

Food, fun, more fun, and more food...you don't wanna miss it!

2nd-3rd and 4th-5th grade parties coming soon!

THE MUSIC BOX KIDS' CHOIR

All kids in grades K-5 are welcome!

WEDNESDAYS THROUGH APRIL 12

4:45-5:30 PM | CHAPEL

Register today:
kidsmusic.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



New Dessert Category!

Wednesday Night Bible Study for Boys and Girls!

FOR GIRLS!

Gems & Jewels
Finding Treasure in God's Word

Wednesday Evenings

5:30-6:30 PM | The Galaxy

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



FOR BOYS!

Wednesday Evenings

6:30-7:30 PM | The Galaxy

3rd-5th grade boys who'd like to dive deeper into their faith.

DISCOVER Develop Deploy Your Spiritual Gifts

Developing Your Gifts
Matthew 25:14-30

This is the second in a short series in the New Year on *Spiritual Gifts*, playing off my Vision Sermon to start 2017. I hope many of you were able to take the brief but important Gift Inventory at spiritualgifts.mdpc.org. Every Christian is given at least one spiritual gift for the common good, for building up the body of Christ, and for experiencing joy and purpose (working side by side with God) with your one and only life. The question becomes, “What will you and I do with the gifts God has given us?” Jesus tells a parable near the end of His life that serves as both a warning and a positive challenge to His followers.

1. Read the whole parable, Matthew 25:14-30. Initially, what happens to the master? In other words, where does he go and for how long (see verses 14-15, 19)? Have you ever felt like God was far away and that you were on your own? C.S. Lewis said in *The Screwtape Letters* that God props up the beginning believer with feelings and crutches for a while, but, as he or she matures in faith, God often removes the supports to see if we will follow even without the feelings or extra helps. Describe a time when you have felt “supported” and when you have felt “alone in your faith.”
2. Does it bother you that one person got 5 talents, another 2, and another 1? Explain your answer. I shared that 1 talent equaled about 15 years’ wages. Does that knowledge help your answer above or not?
3. In verses 16-18, describe what each servant did or did not do.
4. In verse 19, the text says that the master returned and settled accounts with them. What does it mean to you that Jesus says there will be “an accounting” for all of us? Does that generate comfort, fear, hope, closure...?
5. Reflect on verses 20-30. What is identical, and what is different in the three scenarios?
6. The 1-talent man had a particular view of God. What do verses 24-25 say? Was his view correct? How did his view influence his actions? And how did the master respond to him?
7. Is the master mean in verses 28-30? What about the axiom, “Use it or lose it”? One way to read this part of the story is that the master took a talent that was put on a shelf and gave it to someone who would put it in the game. How do you see it?
8. Where and how does this parable of Jesus speak to you? How might your spiritual giftedness dovetail with our potential 12 priorities/goals, which ideally will be approved at this weekend’s leadership retreat?

