

## 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 | Young Adult 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

## The White Rose is in memory of:

- Kay Lamar, who passed away March 6, 2017.
- Bob Fillpot, who passed away March 11, 2017.
- Walter Workman, who passed away March 16, 2017.
- Paul Ache, who passed away March 19, 2017.

## Outreach Ministry Partners 2017

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

**CCSC Martha's Way** is a vocational training program offered by Christian Community Service Center that helps low-income women increase their earning potential through education and hands-on training. It offers the support they need to begin and operate a professional housekeeping business.

[ccshouston.com](http://ccshouston.com)

**College of Biblical Studies (CBS)** offers a nationally accredited theological curriculum taught by highly qualified faculty. Due to low tuition rates and the availability of need-based scholarships, financial aid, and flexible class schedules, CBS helps many students who otherwise might not be able to successfully obtain college degrees.

[cbshouston.edu](http://cbshouston.edu)

**The Antioch Partners (TAP)** equips and sends cross-cultural servants into the world who demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ in tangible ways. TAP's goals are to see people become followers of Jesus and to foster the formation of worshipping communities among the unreached.

[theantiochpartners.org](http://theantiochpartners.org)

## Help Provide Bibles to Underground Churches in Muslim Countries

If you would like to contribute to Bibles in Iran, the initiative introduced in today's video, MDPC can accept cash, or checks made out to "Frontier Fellowship." To give using a credit card, go to [frontierfellowship.com/give](http://frontierfellowship.com/give). Visit their table outside the Gathering Room after worship today for more information.

## Operating Income

2017 Annual Budget	\$ 11,400,000	100%
Actual Income to Date @3/26/17	\$ 2,107,809	18%
Needed to Meet 2017 Budget	\$ 9,292,191	82%

## Looking for a Place to Serve?

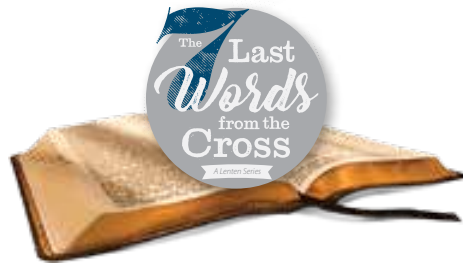
**Cornerstone Family Ministries** is a multicultural Christian nonprofit in Spring Branch partnering with churches to address practical and spiritual needs. In a (less threatening) setting outside the institutional church, its family night includes dinner, worship, recreation, and Bible classes for the whole family.

Lead teachers and assistants are needed to facilitate classroom time on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Contact Rhett Edwards: [rhett@cfmhouston.org](mailto:rhett@cfmhouston.org), 713-255-2945



## STUDY & SMALL GROUP SPOTLIGHT



## Eat Pray Lent Study Groups

Savor Jesus' 7 *Last Words from the Cross* in worship and through the community of an Eat Pray Lent small group. Various groups would be delighted to welcome you, or start your own! This week's group spotlight is on:

For all ages and life stages, Thursdays:

6:30 PM, Member Homes near MDPC

7:00 PM, Member Home on Bering

Details and registration: [epl.mdpc.org](http://epl.mdpc.org)

Sunday, April 2, 2017



**MDPC**  
Memorial Drive  
Presbyterian Church

# The Last Words from the Cross

## The Fifth Word

John 19:28-29

## Coming Up at MDPC

### Book Fair & Family Night

Catch the reading bug at the Yellow School/Little School Book Fair! Buy books for your kids or to donate to receive chances for great door prizes. Also, join us for Family Night on April 4. *All are welcome!*  
**Tuesday-Thursday, April 4-6 | Summit Room**  
*Hours & Family Night details: [bookfair.mdpc.org](http://bookfair.mdpc.org)*

### Poverty Simulation

Living life on the edge...how many of us can say we know what that's like? This interactive experience will give you a better understanding of the day-to-day struggles of many in our community.  
**Tuesday, April 25 | 5:30-7:30 PM | Fellowship Hall**  
*Details and registration: [poverty.mdpc.org](http://poverty.mdpc.org)*

### Stephen Ministry Lunch & Learn

A Stephen Minister walks beside those who are hurting or facing trials in life. Learn more about this special ministry at an informational "Lunch & Learn." You can ask questions, meet current Stephen Ministers, and hear about their experiences.  
**Sunday, April 20 | 12:30-1:30 PM**  
*Contact Beverly Fluke at [bfluke@mdpc.org](mailto:bfluke@mdpc.org) or 713-490-9542 for more information and to RSVP.*

### Special Guest Speaker:

#### Rear Admiral Margaret Grun Kibben

Rear Adm. Kibben is the Navy's chief chaplain, the first female officer to serve in that capacity. She achieved her PhD at Princeton Theological Seminary, and a master's in national security and strategic studies at the Naval War College. The Presbyterian minister has also served as command chaplain in Afghanistan.  
**Thursday, April 27 | 7:00 PM | Sanctuary**  
*[kibben.mdpc.org](http://kibben.mdpc.org)*

### Concert Series: Brahms' Requiem

A new English version performed by our Sanctuary Choir and orchestra, conducted by Dr. Charles Hausmann. Free admission; open to the public.  
**Next Sunday, April 9 | 6:00 PM | Sanctuary**  
*[concerts.mdpc.org](http://concerts.mdpc.org)*

### Journey to the Cross for Families

Walk with us through Holy Week on a guided tour of the stations of the cross.  
**Good Friday, April 14 | Tours run 9:30-11:30 AM**  
*Register to receive a tour time: [journey.mdpc.org](http://journey.mdpc.org)*

### Easter Lily Time

Purchase a lily in memory or honor of a loved one at the Connection Center or at [flowers.mdpc.org](http://flowers.mdpc.org).  
**Deadline: Monday, April 10 | \$9/dedication**

### Stroke Scan

Get three vascular screenings to help prevent stroke, aneurysm, and related health conditions.  
**Thursday, April 13 | Summit Room | \$135**  
*A Stroke Scan rep is here this morning to answer questions. For details and appointments: [strokescan.mdpc.org](http://strokescan.mdpc.org)*

### The Well Speaker Series

Women in all life stages come together to hear personal stories of hope from a panel of their peers.  
**Wednesday, April 19 | 6:30-8:00 PM | Chapel**  
*For details and to RSVP: [thewell.mdpc.org](http://thewell.mdpc.org)*

### Parking on Palm and Easter Sundays

To help guests feel welcome, consider parking at The Kinkaid School (201 Kinkaid School Dr, 77024) to free up on-campus spaces. Shuttles every 15 minutes will drop off right in front of the Sanctuary!  
**Sundays, April 9 and 16 | 6:30 AM-12:45 PM**



**MDPC**

Loving God. Proclaiming Christ. Living Generously. Engaging All.  
11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024 | [mdpc.org](http://mdpc.org) | 713-782-1710



# MDPC MORNING WORSHIP

\*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

## 8:30 AM SERVICE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

Dave Steane

\*SONGS OF PRAISE

\*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Tara Reynolds

BAPTISM

Arden Lynn Marshall, daughter of Ross and Natalie Marshall

Alf Halvorson

SONG OF PREPARATION

MESSAGE

The 7 Last Words from the Cross: The Fifth Word

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

## 9:45 AM SERVICE

WORSHIP INVITATION

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

\*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Kaitlyn Wilson

BAPTISM

Samuel Lee Fowler, son of Paul and Jane Fowler

Alf Halvorson

MESSAGE

The 7 Last Words from the Cross: The Fifth Word

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Musicians in these services: Worship Leaders, Coppelia Acevedo and Meliza Gómez • Guitar, Joe Gavito • Keys, Craig Gysler • Drums, Asher Pudlo • Bass, Dennis Whittaker

## 11:15 AM SERVICE

PRELUDES

*The Lord Will Bless His People with Peace (Psalm 31)*  
*The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation... (Psalm 27:1)*

Douglas Wagner (b.1952)  
Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rachel Poysky

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

#356; Vs. 1, 2, 3 | NETTLETON

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from The Apostles' Creed

BAPTISM

Grace Martha French, daughter of Raymond and Ginny French  
Charlotte Annabella Isaac, daughter of Joel and Karla Isaac  
Joel Brian Isaac, IV, son of Joel and Karla Isaac

Alf Halvorson

ANTHEM

*How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings (from Requiem)*

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

OFFERTORY

*Lenten Song*

Mark Hayes (b.1953)

MESSAGE

The 7 Last Words from the Cross: The Fifth Word

Alf Halvorson

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*

#408; Vs. 1,4 | GERMANY

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Lenten Meditation*

Sir Walford Davies (1869-1941)

Musicians in this service: Conductor, Charles Hausmann • Oboe, Xiaodi Liu • Organ/piano, Kathryn White

MDPC Food Service Ministries  
invites you to

# All-Church Brunch

Today! Served 11:00 AM-1:00 PM  
Fellowship Hall • Everyone Is Welcome

Entrée (\$10)

Cheese Eggs, Scrambled Eggs, or Vegetable Frittata  
Bacon, Sausage, Homestyle Potatoes, Biscuits & Gravy  
Assortment of Pastries • Seasonal Fruit

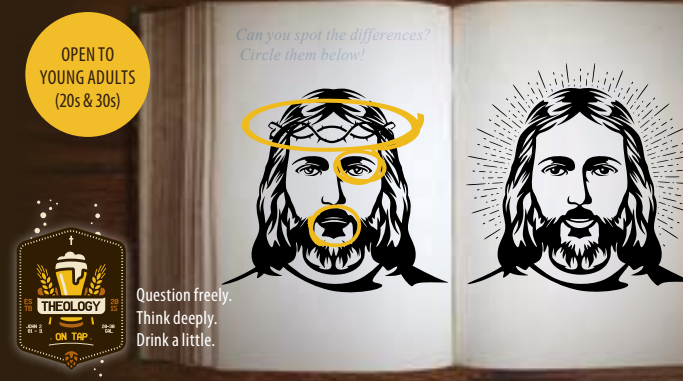
Children's Entrée (\$4)

Small Adult Plate or Cereal

Family Deal (\$25)

For 2 Adults and up to 3 Children under 12

Meals include coffee, tea, and milk or lemonade for kids.

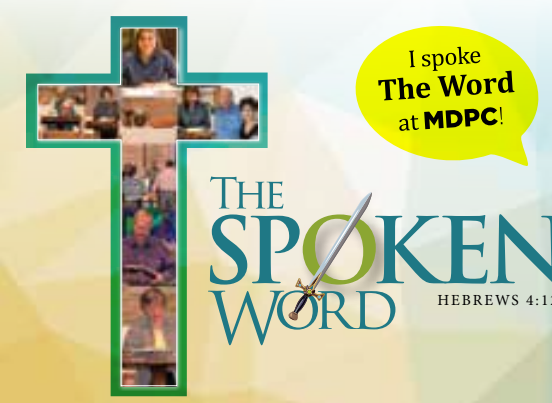


## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Exploring the Denominational &  
Theological Distinctions Between Us

Tuesday, April 11  
7:00-9:00 PM

Location and more info:  
[facebook.com/theologyontaphouston](https://facebook.com/theologyontaphouston)

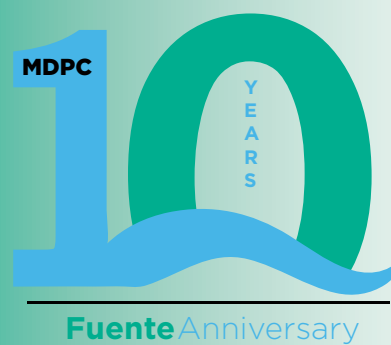


Celebrate Holy Week by  
participating in a continuous cover-  
to-cover reading of the Bible. Sign  
up for one or more 15-minute spots:

[spokenword.mdpc.org](https://spokenword.mdpc.org)

Reading takes place **April 10-13**  
in the MDPC Chapel.

*Come to read. Come to listen.*



**Sunday, April 23**

12:15 PM | Fellowship Hall  
[fuentes10.mdpc.org](https://fuentes10.mdpc.org)

Come celebrate the 10th Anniversary of MDPC  
Fuente Hispanic Ministries! We'll have music,  
testimonies, cultural dances, food, and lots of fun.  
**RSVP to Luz Pérez: [lperez@mdpc.org](mailto:lperez@mdpc.org)**

## Maundy Thursday

**April 13 • 6:30 PM**

A special interactive Celebration of the  
Passover Story and the Lord's Supper

In order to prepare the elements needed, this  
service requires an **RSVP**. Seating will be at tables  
in Fellowship Hall. Visit [maundy.mdpc.org](https://maundy.mdpc.org).



## Good Friday

**April 14 • Noon**

A Good Friday Service at  
Noon in the Sanctuary

Alf Halvorson preaching



For everything Easter,  
visit [lent.mdpc.org](https://lent.mdpc.org).

## Easter Sunday

**April 16**

We'll celebrate Easter morning in five unique services:

7:00 AM **Sunrise**: Acoustic praise music

8:15 AM **Blended**: A mix of traditional and contemporary music

9:45 AM **Contemporary**: A family-friendly service

11:15 AM **Traditional**: Brass, choir-led hymns, and Hallelujah Chorus

11:15 AM **Spanish**: Spanish-language, led by Mauricio Chacón

## The Last Words from the Cross

John 19:28-29

### The Fifth Word: Thirsty ('THərstē) adj.

1. feeling a need to drink something
2. having or showing a strong desire for something

*Spend a few minutes reflecting on this word before reading further. Use the back of this sheet to jot some thoughts.*

Jesus was both human and divine. “Thirst” is the most human of any of His last words. We get it. In a literal sense, we all thirst. In a figurative sense, we all long. To be human is to know desire. It’s what we do. We crave things like success, wealth, understanding, acceptance, love, the list goes on. The experience of unfulfilled desire is like being parched and longing for a glass of water. The thirstier we become, the more aware we are that our desire will never be satisfied on this side of Heaven.

As a single woman, I often feel left behind. I have no spouse, no home, no child to talk about. I long for the next stage in life because I feel stuck in the one I’m in. This is benign compared to many of the stories I hear in the counseling room: parents longing for their children to be healed, marriages needing redemption, and grief constantly throbbing. Desire looks and feels different for each of us, but the thirst is the same. At the heart of all our desires is a longing for God.

The Scriptures tell a similar story of thirst. Hannah was a barren woman. She longed for nothing more than a child of her own. She watched as those around her had multiple children and she thirsted in pain. In her angst, Hannah went to the temple and prayed to the Lord for a child of her own. The priest of the temple, watching the way she trembled and prayed, thought she may be drunk. When confronted, Hannah said she was pouring out her soul to the Lord. Hannah was thirsty enough her lips were mumbling and I’d imagine, her body was shaking.

We see another example in Psalm 13. David cries out: “How long, Lord? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?”

The writer of Ecclesiastes calls everything meaningless. Haven’t we all felt this? The emptiness even after chasing, perhaps even acquiring, the very thing we desire? Meanwhile, crying out, “God, can You hear me? Do You see me? Have You forgotten me? How much longer do I have to wait? When is relief coming?” We may thirst, but there is a source of Living Water. The answer is in this Scripture. These two verses are describing the moments before Jesus died on the cross. Picture Him with arms wide-open, nailed to the cross. Still breathing, but parched. Jesus says “I am thirsty” only after acknowledging that His work on earth was done.

What exactly was His work? Isaiah 53:12 says, “He poured out His life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.” That’s our answer. All desire is in fact a longing for this very Jesus who died so that we may have eternal (and fullness of) life.

Begin by reading aloud the opening reflection followed by the Scripture passage (John 19:28-29).

1. Three stories were mentioned in the reflection concerning people’s thirst in the Bible. Where else have you seen thirst mentioned in the Bible? How have you experienced thirst in your own life? If you are willing, share a personal experience with the group.
2. Jesus doesn’t acknowledge His thirst or take a drink of the sour wine (called posca—a non-alcoholic drink meant to quench) until His work is done. Why is this significant?
3. This Scripture highlights the humanity of Jesus, necessary for our saving. Why do you think Jesus needed to be both human and divine?
4. In verse 29, the word hyssop is used. Hyssop was a plant in Biblical times. This same plant was mentioned several others times in Scripture. The first was in Exodus 12:22 when hyssop was used to sprinkle blood on the doorposts during the Passover. Several other mentions associate hyssop with purification and sacrifice in the tabernacle (Leviticus 14:1-7 and Numbers 19:16-22). There is great power in the parallel between the hyssop used to deliver Christ his last drink and the hyssop used to spread the blood on the doorposts and make someone clean. This was Christ’s final mission. To come to earth and become the very blood that would save us all and make us new. What does this truth do for you personally? Communally?
5. What is your greatest takeaway this week? What has the Holy Spirit stirred up in you as a response to this lesson? How might you now look at life differently? Does this knowledge spark a deeper gratitude for Christ? How might this change your Christian walk?