



SUPPORTING CHARACTERS

Lesser-Known Heroes of the Bible

EPAPHRODITUS

Philippians 2:25-30, 4:15-20
Alf Halvorson preaching

Coming Attractions at MDPC

Sunday, June 11, 2017

Preschool Playground Play Date!

Come and meet our summer interns! Snow cones and fun provided. Preschoolers must be accompanied by a parent.

Wednesday, June 14 | 2:30-3:30 PM

RSVP to Becky Funderburk: bfunderburk@mdpc.org

Call for Camp Volunteers!

Super Place Camp at MDPC is an exciting VBS experience for children with special needs. We need LOTS of volunteers (age 13+) to serve as buddies for these special campers.

Camp Dates: July 31-August 4, 9:00 AM-12:30 PM

Contact Keri Mosk to volunteer: kmosk@mdpc.org

June Is MAM Month

Please help our Spring Branch neighbors by donating needed items like toothpaste, razors, bar soap, deodorant and shampoo for Memorial Assistance Ministry's pantry. "Shopping list" fliers are available at info centers. Place donations in the carts you see around campus this month!

Contact Maritza Pujols-Holguin: mpujols@mdpc.org

Married Life Prep

Taught by Brett and Kellie Hurst of Home Encouragement, you'll start building your marriage upon a firm foundation.

Sundays, July 9-30 | 10:00 AM-12:00 PM | CLC Room 171

Details and registration: mlp.mdpc.org

Community Event on Flooding

Hear the scientific truth about Houston's preventable urban flooding. No political or media spin, just facts from Dr. Sam Brody, PhD, who is conducting research for FEMA on how to alleviate urban flooding across the United States.

Tuesday, June 20 | 7:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

More info: mcdcc.org

#Adulting

Where am I going? What career do I choose? Who do I marry? Why am I here? If this sounds like you and you're a woman age 22-34, join us for a new processing group led by LPC-Interns Katie Ashby and Amanda Grace Caldwell.

Wednesdays, July 19-August 23 | 6:30-8:00 PM | MC 116

Group size is limited, so sign up quick! Contact Amanda Grace at acaldwell@mdpc.org.

Make a Legacy Gift

Help insure the future of MDPC by making the church a beneficiary of assets like appreciated securities, real estate, and bequests. Your gift enhances our ministries and missions and provides financial resources for special projects and initiatives.

To learn more, contact David Eyre at 281-797-6916 or legacygiving@mdpc.org, or visit legacygiving.mdpc.org.



MDPC needs your help! Share your summer-fun photos with us using the hashtag #MDPCSummer17 on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Pictures posted to MDPC social media accounts by August 6 will be used in a look-back photo montage and shown in worship in August.

8:30 & 9:45 AM SERVICES

WELCOME

Dave Steane (8:30), Meliza Gómez (9:45)

*SONGS OF PRAISE

*MOMENT OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Trevor Harris (8:30), Christyn Knoop (9:45)

SONGS OF RESPONSE

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

Dave Steane (8:30), Christyn Knoop (9:45)

MESSAGE

Supporting Characters: Epaphroditus

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Musicians in these services: Uvaldo Callejas, bass • Meliza Gómez and Michael Middleton, worship leaders • George Heathco, guitar • Daniel Martinez, keys • Asher Pudlo, drums

11:15 AM SERVICE

PRELUDE

Fantasy from Sonata No. 2

Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Dave Steane

CHORAL INTROIT

Laudate, Laudate Dominum

Christopher Walker

*HYMN OF PRAISE

All Creatures of Our God and King

#455; Vs. 1, 5, 6 | LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from The Apostles' Creed

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

The Gloria Patri

Hymn #579

ANTHEM

How Great Thou Art

arr. Fred Bock (1939-1998)

OFFERTORY

O Light of Life

Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

MESSAGE

Supporting Characters: Epaphroditus

Alf Halvorson

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

#387; Vs. 1, 3 | BRADBURY

POSTLUDE

Prelude in C Major

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Musicians in this service: Charles Hausmann, conductor • Kathryn White, organist

MDPC FEATURES



GOD WORKS
BEHIND THE SCENES

MDPC Summer Celebration VBS
July 10-14 • sc.mdpc.org

NOW COLLECTING!
PLEASE HELP BY DONATING:

- OLD ADULT-SIZE T-SHIRTS
- ELECTRONICS
(NONE WITH GLASS OR SCREENS CAN BE ACCEPTED)
- SNACKS/DRINKS FOR VOLUNTEERS
(NUT-FREE, PLEASE)



BINGO NIGHT

Wednesday, June 14

Come out for a **Family Fun Night** at MDPC! The evening by making sandwiches for **Kids' Meals**, have **dinner** and then join us for **Bingo!** Everything takes place in the Fellowship Hall.

- Kids' Meals** 4:30 PM
- Dinner** 5:00 PM
- BINGO** 6:00 PM

SUMMER FREE ADMISSION & POPCORN!
FILM SERIES

Sponsored by Prime Timers

SELECT WEDNESDAYS 3:00PM | AMPHITHEATER

STAY FOR A BRIEF GUIDED DISCUSSION OF EACH FILM AND ITS IMPACT ON OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH
led by Associate Pastor Rick Myers and Jeanmarie Tade, Interim Adult Ministries Director. Children must be accompanied by a parent.



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

Today's Chancel Flowers are given by
• The Riedel Family, in memory of Alan Riedel.

The White Rose is in memory of these MDPC members:

- Raymond Britton, who passed away May 19, 2017
- Howard Blauvelt, who passed away May 22, 2017.
- Bruce Clauson, who passed away May 27, 2017.
- Tommie Jaks, who passed away June 1, 2017

Outreach Ministry Partners 2017

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

Hope for Youth builds Christian mentoring relationships with at-risk urban youth, primarily those whose families are staying at Star of Hope shelter. It organizes weekend outreach activities and ongoing development programs. A popular event is Friday Night Live, which includes games, dinner, and a pastor-led Gospel lesson.

hopeforyouth.org

Houston Achievement Place helps children and their care-providers develop the relationships and skills necessary for success at home, in school, and in life. It provides foster care, adoption programs, and life skills classes.

h-a-p.org

The Micah Project ministers to young men who have spent anguished childhoods in impoverished homes or on the streets of Tegucigalpa, Honduras. These youths are taught to be Christian leaders through discipleship, education, and service to others. *Act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. Micah 6:8*

micahprojecthonduras.org

MDPC Coordinating Team

Mauricio Chacón | Latino Ministries Pastor
Amy Delgado | Interim Outreach Director
Bob Giles | Interim Business Administrator
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 Adults Director
Gena Kookan | Senior Leadership Ministry Coord.
Laura Miller | Youth Director
Rick Myers | Caring Ministries Pastor
Rachel Poyksy | Children's Pastor
Dave Steane | Executive Pastor
Kathryn White | Coordinating Music Director
Karen Winship | Human Resources Director

Pastors Emeritus: Dave Peterson • Gary Bowker



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

Operating Income

2017 Annual Budget	\$ 11,400,000	100%
Actual Income to Date (June 4, 2017)	\$ 3,567,838	31%
Needed to Meet 2017 Budget	\$ 7,832,162	69%

SUPPORTING Lesser-Known Heroes of the Bible CHARACTERS

Epaphroditus

Philippians 2:25-30, 4:15-20

Alf Halvorson preaching

This is the second Sunday in our summer sermon series, *Supporting Characters*, about the often-hidden or underrepresented pillars of our faith. These people may have barely been mentioned in the Bible, but each of them impacted a Biblical “star” in a way that furthered the work of Christ. Many of us can relate to them, living and working in the wings rather than on center stage.

Today we look at a young man named Epaphroditus, from Paul’s letter to the Philippians. Epaphroditus was sent by his home congregation, the church at Philippi, to bring money and support to Paul during the apostle’s imprisonment in Rome. Epaphroditus stayed with Paul, helping until he took ill himself. Recovering, he asked to return home, and Paul sent his letter to the Philippians back with Epaphroditus, and made sure Epaphroditus was welcomed home, even though he did not complete his assignment with Paul.

1. Read Philippians 2:25-30. From what Paul wrote, what can you gather about Epaphroditus and his stay with Paul?
2. What does Paul hope will be the response of the people in Philippi when Epaphroditus returns home?
3. Why do you think Paul feels it is necessary to tell the people to welcome Epaphroditus home? He even says to “honor such people” (vs. 29). Read between the lines here.
4. Epaphroditus did not finish the work for Paul that he had been given to do. Have you ever had to quit something before it was finished? How did you feel? How did others respond?
5. Why are Paul’s words so important both for Epaphroditus and for the church at Philippi? Have you ever had a mentor or person senior to you stand up for you, advocate for you, help you over a hard patch? Where might you offer something similar to what Paul offered Epaphroditus? Explain...
6. Read Philippians 4:15-20. What other information do you gather from this passage?
7. Paul says in verse 18 of chapter 4, “I have been paid in full.” Why, do you think, is that necessary? Why is it important in relationships to thank people for their help and sometimes release them from future obligations?
8. What does Paul teach here about the balance of give and take in any relationship? How are you doing with that equation in your relationships? Where might you “risk your life” (2:30) for another, like Epaphroditus and Paul?

