

MDPC NEW MEMBERS

Sunday, June 25, 2017

Today we are so happy to introduce these 34 new members of the MDPC family! Learn a little more about each in the brief bios below, and join us in warmly welcoming them to MDPC.



Francisco Javier Salgado Delgado and Maria Elisa Baquero are married. They have three children, Ginna Elisa Garcia Baquero, Shirley Nahir Garcia Baquero, and Charlie Stump. Francisco is an electrician and enjoys traveling and event planning.



Paul Bitner is managing director for Brokerslink AG. He enjoys football, basketball, soccer, photography, music, food, and wine.



Kevin and Courtney Cadwell are the parents of Addison (4). Kevin is a lawyer with Akin Gump. He enjoys hunting, fishing, tennis, golfing, and family time. Courtney is a homemaker and education consultant. She enjoys gardening, cooking, traveling, and serving as a leader with Community Bible Study. Courtney also loves going on adventures with Addison!



Charles Chang is the husband of member Linda Chang. They have three children and four grandchildren. Charles is retired from NASA and Chevron Oil. Charles loves helping people.



Mike and Angela Dina are the parents of Caroline (14) and Charlie (9). Mike is a director at UHY Advisors. Angela is the executive director at Turn It Gold. They enjoy traveling and time with family and friends. Following their son's battle with childhood cancer, they founded the non-profit Turn It Gold, which raises awareness and money for childhood cancer research.



Christy Engvall is the mom of Trey (13) and Seth (11). She is a fifth-grade science teacher at Frostwood Elementary in SBISD. Christy enjoys running with friends, reading, volunteering in Houston, and serving on mission trips around the world. She loves working with kids and special needs kids.



Leara Higginbotham is a retired CPA. She enjoys reading historical fiction and Christian literature, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, and Southern and Gilded-age architecture.



Geoff and Catherine King are the parents of Cooper (12), Carter (9), and Charlotte, (6). Ron works for RLI Surety. Catherine is a stay-at-home mom. She enjoys tennis and movies.



Ron and Pat Larson between them have four children, 22-and-counting grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Ron is a retired pharmacist and retired Colonel from the U.S. Army. He received his PHD from The University of Minnesota. Pat is a retired real estate broker from Coldwell Banker and was a previous leader with Community Bible Study. She enjoys knitting with the MDPC knitting group. They both enjoy square dancing.



Ken and Diane Lawson have three adult children and three grandchildren. Ken is a project director for Methodist Hospital. He enjoys hunting. They both enjoy gardening and raising Monarch butterflies.



Doris Lim enjoys volunteering in the kitchen with MDPC Food Service Ministry. She likes yoga and taking long walks with her dog Lucy.



Andrea Magaña is a college student at the University of Houston studying psychology and nursing. She enjoys reading, yoga, and traveling, and likes to spend a lot of time at church!



Kristin Martin is the mother of Melanie (22), Stuart (15), and Archie (13). She is a stay-at-home mom and family coordinator. She enjoys running, gardening, traveling, cooking, and her friends.



Mitchel and Sara Nieto are newly-weds and have recently moved to Houston from Southern California. Mitchel is a senior IT administrator with MHI Shared Services. He is a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan where he served in the United States Army with Able Company 2-503rd Airborne Infantry. He loves golfing, woodworking, barbecuing, and photography. Sara has a bachelors degree in Neuroscience. She loves to craft and play golf.



Maria Reyes is the mother of Mauricio Aguilar, Rafael Aguilar, and Rosalía Ruiz. She works as an interpreter and enjoys reading and cooking.



Sheryl Sanchez is married to Julio and they are the parents of Alec (19). She is the Creative Arts Director at MDPC. She enjoys traveling, reading, yoga, learning, skydiving, hang gliding, and is working toward obtaining her pilot's license.



John Schwartz works for Sharpest Knife in the Drawer, a knife sharpening company. He enjoys guitar building, music, traveling, and Spanish culture.



Matt and Elizabeth Schwieder are the parents of Jackson (10), Mary Margaret (8), and Stuart (5). Matt works as a trader for Mabaft. He enjoys coaching youth sports and watching sports on TV. Elizabeth is a stay-at-home mom. She enjoys tennis and cooking.



Brittany Tinkler is newly married to Dan Tinkler. She has two children, Landon Long (13) and Payton Long (11). Brittney is an interior designer for K. Rouse-Long Designs. She enjoys cooking, golfing, working out, sports, and spending time with friends and family. She loves the Texas Longhorns!



Roberto and Sylvia Varela are the parents of Jeshua (11). Roberto works in management for Westmont Hospitality Group. He enjoys reading, baseball, movies, photography, and making videos. Sylvia is an assistant teacher at MDPC's Yellow School. She enjoys running, biking, dancing, and reading the Bible with her son.



Blanca Lilia Veloza is a widow. She enjoys sewing, crocheting, and music.



Kyle and Susan Wienert are the parents of two children, Carter (14) and Everett (12). Kyle is an oil analyst at Vitol Inc. He enjoys traveling, boating, coaching and watching sports. Susan is a stay-at-home mom. She enjoys exercising, reading, traveling, and volunteering with Spring Branch ISD.



Rick and Connie Wittenbraker have two adult children and five grandchildren. Rick is a retired lawyer, formerly with Bracewell Law Firm and the law department at Waste Management. He enjoys golfing, reading, cycling, TCU sports, and especially chasing his five grandkids. Connie enjoys traveling, gardening, and enjoying her grandchildren.

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, August 27 | 10:45-11:10 AM | Gathering Room

NEXT NEW MEMBER CLASS SERIES

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, September 10-October 15 | 9:45-11:00 AM | Summit Room

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).

SUPPORTING Lesser-Known Heroes of the Bible CHARACTERS

Andrew

Matthew 10:1-4, John 1:35-42
Pastor Alf Halvorson preaching

This is the fourth in our summer sermon series on the “behind-the-scenes” figures in the Bible - the *Supporting Characters*. Simon Peter’s brother, Andrew, always has intrigued me. I have two older sisters who are quite accomplished academically. Every teacher that I had, when they saw my last name on the first day of school, would ask me, “Are you the brother of Kari or Andrea?” When I nodded, they would say, “Well, I expect a lot out of you.” I intensely disliked being compared

to my older sisters from Day 1. Andrew was someone who had to figure out how to live in the shadow of *his* brother, Simon Peter.

1. Read Matthew 10:1-4. How does Matthew identify certain disciples, including Andrew, and including himself? Who is first? Who is second?
2. In verse one, the twelve are identified as disciples. In verse two, they are named apostles. What are the differences? Why does *disciple* come first and *apostle* come second?
3. John 1:35-42 records the calling of the first disciples of Jesus. Read the passage and look first for how Jesus gently and patiently engages them. What is His first question? What is His answer to their answer?
4. What does Andrew do during this amazing day? How is he a seeker of spiritual things? How is he a bringer of his brother to Jesus?
5. Would you describe yourself as a seeker? At this stage of your life, what does your spiritual seeking look like? As Jesus puts it, “*What are you looking for?*” And who do you need to hang around? Where might you need to “*come and see?*”
6. Andrew serves as an evangelist to his brother in this passage. In my sermon, I talk about how Andrew brings people to Jesus over and over again. He does that in John 6:1-14 by bringing the boy with the loaves and fishes to Jesus; in John 12:20-26, he brings the Greeks. He repeatedly seeks to connect people with Jesus. Andrew is not the savior, he just helps people to meet the Savior. Who in your life might benefit from that crucial service? I bet Peter thanked Andrew his whole life.
7. We will not accomplish our goal of worship growth here at MDPC if we do not get a widespread buy-in into becoming more like Andrew. We don’t take on the role of Andrew to just increase numbers, but rather to help people satisfy the deep hunger they have in their lives for meaning and community and depth and “life and it more abundant.” Will you consider this specific plan this summer? Pray for God to put five people in your mind and path. When they get identified to you, pray daily for their spiritual health and growth. Ask God to give you an opportunity to naturally invite them to something of the faith that would feed their souls (worship, Sunday school, grief recovery, a meal, kickball, a lecture, etc.). Invite them to “*come and see.*” Often it helps if you pick them up or meet them there.

