

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 Poysky | Children's Pastor
 Dave Steane | Executive Pastor
 Kathryn White | Coordinating Music Director
 Karen Winship | Human Resources Director

Pastors Emeritus

Dave Peterson
 Gary Bowker

SUNDAY SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT



QUEST CLASS

Led by an inspiring team of teachers, including Rev. Harry Slye, Quest Class is a welcoming community of all ages. Join us as we study *The Letters, Their Lessons, and Life in Christ*, an in-depth look at how the New Testament letters teach us our role of bringing God's kingdom into our world.

Sundays, 9:45-11:00 AM | Parlor

Contact Pattie Barrett with questions:
pattieslp@yahoo.com, 713-784-1273

Please Pray for MDPC Ministry Partners

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

Mission of Yahweh is a faith-based shelter and rehabilitation ministry for abused and homeless women and their children, and a provider of outreach services to low-income families in northwest Houston. It helps empower, enrich, and restore lives.
missionofyahweh.org

The MDPC Mobile Unit serves six designated locations in the community, providing gently used clothing and household goods and some new products at minimal cost to families in need.
 Contact Maritza Pujols-Holguin: mpujols@mdpc.org

MDPC Field Partner Dr. M and his family are called to reach the unreached for Jesus Christ. Dr. M practices and teaches dentistry while sharing the Good News of Jesus with tribes living in abject poverty in South Asia. There, the 98% Muslim population has the least amount of dental care in the world. Pray for their ministry and family's health as they continue working in their community.

Today's Chancel Flowers are given for

Sam and Rose Collier from their children: "Thank you for being our parents. For teaching us about morals, ethics, family, hard work, friends, and Christianity. We miss you both very deeply. We love you both."

The White Rose is in memory of

Sam Evans, who passed away July 26, 2017.
 Kay Parnell, who passed away August 2, 2017.
 Tracy Park, who passed away August 7, 2017.

2017 OPERATING BUDGET	\$ 11,400,000
Expected Income to Date	\$ 5,066,850
Actual Income to Date (Aug. 6, 2017)	\$ 4,919,459
Current Income Deficit	\$ 147,391
Needed to Meet 2017 Budget	\$ 6,480,541



Loving God. Proclaiming Christ. Living Generously. Engaging All.

11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024 | mdpc.org | 713-782-1710

SUPPORTING Lesser-Known Heroes of the Bible CHARACTERS

SKELETONS IN JESUS' CLOSET

Matthew 1:1-17
 Alf Halvorson preaching

Coming Attractions at MDPC

Sunday, August 13, 2017

Theology On Tap: Post-Modern Truth

Is there black and white truth or is everything gray? Come hear a panel of pastors talk about finding and knowing truth in an age of alternative facts. Open to young adults (20s & 30s). Free craft beer & food.
Tuesday, Aug. 15 | 7:00-9:00 PM | Kindred (Montrose)
facebook.com/theologyontaphouston

Sing with the Sanctuary Choir

We have an exciting season planned and you're invited to join us! Sing weekly, or only for concerts. No choral experience needed; childcare available by reservation.
First rehearsal: Wednesday, Aug. 16 | 7:00 PM
 Contact Tracy Stidam: tstidam@mdpc.org, 713-490-0946

Stephen Minister Training

Interested in becoming a Stephen Minister? Contact Beverly Fluke now to apply for the fall training class.
Training begins Sept. 12
 Beverly Fluke: bfluke@mdpc.org, 713-490-9542

First Communion Retreat

The retreat is designed for 1st-5th graders and their parents to prepare for First Communion, giving them a clear understanding of this important sacrament. The children will take their First Communion on Oct. 8.
Sunday, Sept. 17 | 12:30-4:00 PM | The Galaxy
 Registration: communion.mdpc.org

Live Justly

An 8-week in-depth scriptural and practical study to help all of us "live justly" in 6 essential areas of life. Unearth truths through class teaching, small group discussion, individual journaling, and class projects.
Sundays, Sept. 17-Nov. 5 | 11:00 AM | MC 218
 Learn more: livejustly.mdpc.org

Plan to Attend the Marriage Retreat

Fabulous amenities, a date night with your spouse, and expert teaching from Brett and Kellie Hurst.
Oct. 21-22 | Woodlands Waterway Marriott | \$215
 Registration is open: marriageretreat.mdpc.org

Team Living Water - Run With Us!

MDPC members will join TLW to run the Chevron Houston Marathon and Half Marathon on behalf of those around the world who don't have access to safe water. Learn more at a brief info meeting next Sunday.
Sunday, Aug. 20 | After 9:45 Service | West Gallery
 Can't make it? Email Miah Collins at tlw@water.cc to learn more or visit run.mdpc.org.

Parents of All 6-12th Graders: You're Invited!

Come to Youth Ministries' Open House to meet staff and volunteers, and hear about fall programs and events.
Next Sunday, Aug. 20 | 10:45-11:10 AM
 The Youth Loft (upstairs in the CLC)

Food Drive on Labor Day Weekend

As part of MDPC's initiative to fight childhood hunger, we're holding a one-day food drive for East Spring Branch Food Pantry. It provides food free of cost to families in urgent need who reside in Spring Branch. Each month, about 500 families (1,500 people!) are served.
Collection bins will be placed around campus on Sunday, Sept. 3. Consider donating these specific items:

- Canned Soup / Meals
- Canned Diced Tomatoes
- Canned Corn
- Canned Fruit
- PB & J (no glass jars)

IMPORTANT: We cannot accept anything homemade, expired, packaged in glass, or that's been opened.
 Contact Betsy Farver with questions: 832-594-8510

Cheeseburger in Paradise

Join the men of MDPC as we celebrate the beginning of Men's Life with cheeseburgers, pie, and a visit from Alf!
Tuesday, Aug. 29 | 6:45-8:00 PM | Parlor
 Please RSVP: men.mdpc.org

Men's Life: Conversations That Matter

Sometimes pitfalls can be avoided by simply talking—so this fall, we're encouraging men to have more conversations that will make a difference in life. The all-new 12-week Men's Life looks at how to overcome the barriers that keep us from living the abundant life God intended.
Tuesdays, Sept. 12-Dec. 5 | 6:15-7:45 AM
 Details and registration: ml.mdpc.org

Discover MDPC with Alf

Learn more about MDPC and its ministries at this informal meeting. No commitment required! This is a no-pressure opportunity to explore membership and what it would mean to be a part of our faith community.
Sunday, Sept. 10 | 10:45-11:10 AM | The Nook
membership.mdpc.org

Stop "The Crazy Cycle"!

Newly married 20s and 30s - this four-week video series with robust conversation is for you. Discover the unique ways God has designed both men and women and how they can rightly embrace their differences. Keep the happily-ever-after in your marriage!
Tuesdays, Sept. 12-Oct. 3 | 7:00-8:30 PM | The Heights
 Register: crazycycle.mdpc.org

The Living Well

An 18-week study of Jesus through the Gospel of Mark, facilitated by Charlotte Crawford. Scripture will be read aloud, followed by a brief devotional, then a time of solitary response to God's Word through journaling, prayer, and a provided study guide. Women of all ages and stages of faith are warmly welcomed!
Wednesdays at dawn | Sept. 27, 2017-Feb. 28, 2018
 Details and registration: tlw.mdpc.org



Please place your phone in airplane mode so the sound system will not experience interference. Thank you!

MDPC MORNING WORSHIP

*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

8:30 AM SERVICE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

Rick Myers

*SONGS OF PRAISE

*PRAYERS OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

SONG OF PREPARATION

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE Supporting Characters: *Skeletons in Jesus' Closet* (Matthew 1:1-17)

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

9:45 AM SERVICE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*MOMENT OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Tara Reynolds

BAPTISMS

Alf Halvorson

Eli Burk Henderson, son of John and Jennifer Henderson

Eleanor Rose Limbacher, daughter of Andrew and Madison Limbacher

Ella Towsen, daughter of Timothy and Morgan Towsen

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

Trevor Harris

MESSAGE Supporting Characters: *Skeletons in Jesus' Closet* (Matthew 1:1-17)

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

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

11:15 AM SERVICE

PRELUDES

Prayer
The Twenty-Third Psalm

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)
Albert Hay Malotte (1895-1964)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rick Myers

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Lift High the Cross

#371; Vs. 1, 3 | CRUCIFER

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 & Colossians 1:15-20

ANTHEM

Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace

Mary McDonald (b. 1956)

BAPTISMS

Alf Halvorson

Chandler Ryan Martin

Rose Clara Martin, daughter of Abbey and Chandler Ryan Martin

OFFERTORY

Nearer My God to Thee

Dan Forrest (b. 1978)

MESSAGE Supporting Characters: *Skeletons in Jesus' Closet* (Matthew 1:1-17)

Alf Halvorson

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

#316; Vs. 1, 2 | TRENTHAM

POSTLUDE

March

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

Musicians in this service: Charles Hausmann, conductor • Rick Myers, Prelude soloist • Kathryn White, organist



Next Sunday Is Kickoff Sunday and National Lemonade Day

Come see the great programs we have in store for fall, and sample Chef Bernie's homemade lemonades. You'll have a chance to vote for your favorite flavor (Honey Bee, Raspberry, or Watermelon). We'll serve the winning recipe at the **Labor Day Sunday Grilled Burgers & Dogs Lunch!**



#nationallemonadeday • #mdpclemonadeday • #thirstyforgod

MOMS UNITE!

MOPS
Mothers of Preschoolers



MOPs (Mothers of Preschoolers) is for moms of young kids. Come for connection, solid content, and fun. **We'll save a seat for you!**

1ST & 3RD THURSDAYS STARTING SEPT. 7
9:30-11:15 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Free childcare!

Details and registration:
mops.mdpc.org

Walking the Mourner's Path™

TRANSFORMING GRIEF INTO JOYFUL LIVING

This Christ-centered grief program is for those dealing with the loss of a loved one. It is limited to 10 participants, creating a safe place to share feelings with each other and with God. Trained facilitators guide the group.

Wednesdays, September 6-October 25 | 6:30-8:00 PM

Register at grief.mdpc.org or with Beverly Fluke (bfluke@mdpc.org, 713-490-9542).

GREECE

A 13-day Walk in the Footsteps of Paul

Hosted by Dr. Alf and Shari Halvorson

Visiting Kavala, Philippi, Thessaloniki, Meteora, Athens, Corinth, Mars Hill, and more...

Travel Dates: June 11-23, 2018

With Rome Extension: \$7532 (land & airfare)

W/out Rome Extension: \$6207 (land & airfare)

greece.mdpc.org

Register Early! Space is limited - first come, first served.

THE MUSIC BOX KIDS' CHOIR

Learn about music and choral singing in a fun, worshipful environment!
All kids grades K-5 are welcome. Sign up at themusicbox.mdpc.org.

WEDNESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 13-NOVEMBER 29

4:45-5:30 PM | CHAPEL

2 Opportunities to Support Local Kids and Schools!

MAM Back to School Drive

Providing uniforms or school-appropriate clothing is critical for giving children the basics and the confidence they need to succeed! **Visit our table in the Breezeway next Sunday** to give kids a great "Back to School."

\$20 Supply a belt, socks, shoes, and underwear

\$50 Purchase a new uniform and a pair of shoes

\$100 Outfit two children from head to toe

\$__ Your gift of any amount helps!



Help Students & Schools Grow and Succeed

Encourage a teacher, read to a second grader, become a mentor to a 6th grader. MDPC has three ministries inside public schools that tutor, mentor, and support and encourage teachers. We need more volunteers to help with all three of the schools.

Stop by the table in the Breezeway next Sunday to learn how you can get involved!

Visit change.mdpc.org for more info.





Who do YOU know
that would make a great
MDPC ELDER?

We need your help to nominate qualified candidates to serve as Elders on the MDPC Session!

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. –Hebrews 13:7

The Nominating Committee seeks your help in identifying members with gifts that equip them for leadership at MDPC. Please prayerfully consider who God may be preparing to serve as Elder, and then submit his/her name using the online process at nominations.mdpc.org or the printed form on the other side of this page. Additional forms are available throughout the campus. Thank you in advance for participating in this important process in the life of MDPC.

What is an Elder?

Elders are chosen by the congregation. Together with the Pastors, they exercise leadership, government, and discipline, and have responsibilities for the life of our church. Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life, both in the church and in the community, should be a demonstration of the Christian Gospel.

What are the qualifications for Elders?

- A personal and growing relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
- A willingness and commitment to perform all duties required of an Elder, including regular attendance at assigned committee and Session meetings
- A passion for and ability in the ministry area to which they are nominated
- A high level of spiritual maturity, leadership ability, and interpersonal and teamwork skills
- Faithfulness in marriage between a man and a woman, or chaste if single
- Regular attendance in worship services at MDPC
- Identifiable financial contributions to MDPC
- Minimum of one year's membership at MDPC

Is there a limit to the number of nominations that can be submitted by one person?

No. Please submit the names of as many members as you feel called to nominate. Each and every nomination will be given the same consideration.

Deadline and process for nominations:

- Nominations are due Monday, August 28, 2016.
- After due consideration of all candidates, the Nominating Committee will prepare a list of prospective nominees to fill each open position in the upcoming class. Each nominee will then be consulted to determine his or her willingness to serve.
- In October, a Congregational Meeting will be called for the purpose of electing the Elder class of 2020 based on the Nominating Committee's recommendations, plus any nominations from the floor.

Elder Nomination Form

I recommend MDPC member _____.

Briefly describe this person's faith walk with Jesus Christ, considering small groups, spirit of generosity, commitment to worship and Bible study, and commitment to the life of the church.

How is this person's dedication to the Christian life shown through involvement in leadership inside MDPC and out in the world?

Describe the gifts and expertise this person would bring to the leadership of MDPC, including integrity, flexibility, listening and discerning skills, accountability, teamwork, and availability of time.

For which area(s) would you recommend this candidate?

Session Officers

- Clerk Elect-elect
- Personnel Elect-elect
- Treasurer Elect-elect

Administrative Areas

- Food Service
- Generosity
- Legacy Giving

Ministry Areas

- Caring | Memorial Service Receptions
- Caring | Memorial Service Ushers
- Caring | Healthcare
- Children's Ministries | Elementary
- Children's Ministries | Preschool
- Connections Ministries | New Members
- Equipping Ministries | Adult Studies
- Outreach | Local | 2 Positions
- Relationships | Men's Ministry
- Relationships Team
- Worship & Music
- Young Adult Ministry
- Youth Ministries | Discipleship

Recommended by (please print) _____

Email _____

Phone (primary) _____ Phone (secondary) _____

Mail completed form to:

MDPC - Attention: Gena Kookan, Confidential;
11612 Memorial Drive · Houston, Texas 77024

For questions or information, contact:

Buz Jochetz, Nominating Committee Moderator
gjochetz@gmail.com or 713-206-1765

**Online forms
available at
nominations.mdpc.org**

SUPPORTING Lesser-Known Heroes of the Bible CHARACTERS

Skeletons in Jesus' Closet

Matthew 1:1-17

Alf Halvorson preaching

ancestors. It is a short study of a family history. In other words, it is Jesus' lineage. We might be surprised when we take a look.

1. Matthew starts his Gospel with a genealogy, and the church chose to start the New Testament with this passage. Read Matthew 1:1-17 and share initial impressions. If this was a piece of music, would it be a march or a jazz composition or a show tune or some other style?
2. Do you know your family's genealogy? Are there any famous or infamous people in your family tree? Share some of your lineage with the group.
3. In verse one, Matthew lifts up two greats from the past: David and Abraham. Look up Genesis 12:1-3; Psalm 132:11; Isaiah 11:1; Acts 2:29-30; Romans 1:3; and Galatians 3:16. What covenant did God make with Abraham and David?
4. The people of God were looking for the messiah to come from the line of David, and from the line of Abraham. What do you think it meant to them that Jesus fulfilled those prophecies? What does it mean to you?
5. I shared in my sermon that there are a few "skeletons in Jesus' closet." Among the many names listed, at least four are surprising to me (and I'm sure they were surprising to the first hearers or readers of this genealogy). They are definitely surprising names to Biblical Scholars. The names are Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and "the wife of Uriah, Bathsheba." First, it was not normal to find the names of women in Jewish pedigrees at all. And when you look at these specific women, Rahab was a harlot of Jericho (Joshua 2:1-7); Ruth was not even a Jewess, but a Moabite, a foreigner, which puts into question the purity of the line (she belonged to an alien and hated people); Tamar was placed in an extremely difficult situation and resorted to being a seducer and adulteress (Genesis 38); and Bathsheba was a married woman with whom David had an affair, and whose husband was then killed by David so that he could marry her (2 Samuel 11 & 12). If Matthew wanted to shock his readers/hearers, he couldn't have picked better names to lift up than these four. Why, do you think, are they mentioned?
6. Read Galatians 3:27-29. How does Jesus the Christ break down the barriers of Jew and Greek, male and female, slave and free, even saint and sinner? None of us is worthy to be used by God because of our sin, but the examples in Jesus' genealogy show us that God can take unlikely candidates and use them to reveal the Gospel and advance kingdom purposes.
7. If God used the unlikely supporting characters in the genealogy, do you believe that God can use some unlikely supporting characters in the present and future, including you? How can we acknowledge our sin, but not let it sideline us from service for Christ?

