

Sunday, September 17, 2017



MDPC

OUTREACH SUNDAY

Coming Up at MDPC

Flu & Tetanus Shots Available Today

Medicare Part B and most major insurance plans accepted. Pneumonia, whooping cough, influenza, and tetanus vaccines available. Tetanus shots particularly are worth considering if you've been in floodwaters. All shot recipients receive a 10% off voucher to Randall's.

9:00 AM-Noon | Caring Ministries Office

Questions? Email ashley.mcfalls@albertsons.com.

Kids' Meals Is This Week

Bring 4 loaves of sandwich bread and come help feed hungry tummies! KM delivers sack lunches to Houston preschoolers from families dealing with food insecurity.

Wednesday, Sept. 20 | 4:30 PM | Fellowship Hall

Contact Julie with questions: hempeljulie@gmail.com

BSD Starts This Week

Bible Study Discussion is about more than Biblical teaching and a closer walk with Jesus (though it has those, too!). It also offers friendships, support, a deeper prayer life. Join us for the 2017-2018 study, *The Word Made Flesh*.

5 day/time options. Groups begin meeting this week!

Details and registration: bsd.mdpc.org

New Member Class Begins Today

Learn about membership, or be refreshed on what it means to be Presbyterian. Taught by MDPC pastors and elders.

Sundays, Sept. 17-Oct. 8 | 9:45-11:00 AM | MC 122

Learn more and register: membership.mdpc.org

Live Justly

An 8-week in-depth scriptural and practical study to help all of us "live justly" in six essential areas of life. Unearth truths through class teaching, small group discussion, individual journaling, and class projects.

Starts today! Sundays thru Nov. 5 | 11:00 AM | MC 218

Learn more: livejustly.mdpc.org

Marriage Retreat

Spend time relaxing and reconnecting with your spouse! Get away for a weekend of fabulous amenities, a comfortable atmosphere, one-on-one date night, and expert teaching from Brett and Kellie Hurst.

Oct. 21-22 | Woodlands Waterway Marriott | \$215

Details and registration: marriageretreat.mdpc.org

The Living Well Bible Study

A study of Jesus through Mark's Gospel, facilitated by Charlotte Crawford. Scripture will be read aloud, followed by a brief devotional, and a time of solitary response to God's Word. 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

The Well Women's Speaker Series: "Pursued"

As women, we long to be pursued. But we don't always feel worthy. Join us at The Well, our semi-annual gathering for women of all ages to connect. Hear a panel of real women tell their stories of God's relentless love.

Wednesday, Oct. 18 | 6:30-8:00 PM | Chapel

Join us for refreshments at 6:00 in the Parlor.

RSVP: thewell.mdpc.org

The Music Box Kids' Choir

Kids (K-5th) will learn about music and choral singing in a fun and worshipful environment. They'll perform seasonal programs, and have the opportunity to lead Sunday worship. Rehearsal start postponed to Sept. 20. Sign up today!

Wednesdays, Sept. 20-Nov. 29 | 4:45-5:30 PM | Chapel

Info and registration: themusicbox.mdpc.org

IMPACT Training

Commit to one year of meeting with a student during lunch. Training and ongoing support provided! These kids just need some encouragement and guidance from a trusted adult. IMPACT mentoring relationships lead to improved academic performance and self-confidence.

Training: Sunday, Sept. 24 | 12:20 PM | Parlor

Details: change.mdpc.org

The Prayers of Paul

The Apostle Paul confessed that he didn't know how to pray as he ought. If one of the greatest Christians of all time didn't know how to pray, then perhaps there's hope for all of us in our prayer lives. This Bible study series will focus on four of Paul's prayers. Led by MDPC Pastor Emeritus Dave Peterson and Senior Pastor Alf Halvorson.

Wednesdays, Sept. 20-Oct. 11 | 6:30 PM | Chapel

Details: paul.mdpc.org

ERIC METAXAS

#1 New York Times BESTSELLING AUTHOR

Tuesday, October 10

Tickets are required, but free when you register:

speakers.mdpc.org



Coming to MDPC this Fall



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

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

8:30 AM Blended • 9:45 AM Contemporary

WELCOME		Rachel Poysky (8:30), Worship Team (9:45)
*SONGS OF PRAISE		
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON		Christyn Knoop (8:30), Kyle Collins (9:45)
SONG OF RESPONSE		
OUTREACH MOMENT (9:45)		Amy Delgado
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE		
MESSAGE	The First Disciples: Matthew and Simon (Matthew 9:9-13)	Alf Halvorson
RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE		
*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION		

Musicians in these services: Daniel Amaya, bass • Meliza Gómez, worship leader • George Heathco, guitar • Daniel Martinez, keys • Asher Pudlo, drums

11:15 AM Traditional

PRELUDE	Solemn Entry	Richard Strauss (1864-1949)
WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP		Rick Myers
*HYMN OF PRAISE	Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah	#281; Vs. 1, 3 CWM RHONDDA
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE		
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	from the United Church of Canada	
CHORAL ANTHEM	Trinity Psalms	Z. Randall Stroope (b.1953)
CONGREGATIONAL HYMN OF RESPONSE	Here I Am, Lord	#525; Vs. 1 Daniel Schutte (b.1947)
OUTREACH MOMENT		Amy Delgado
OFFERTORY	Upon This Rock	John Ness Beck (1030-1987)/arr. White
MESSAGE	The First Disciples: Matthew and Simon (Matthew 9:9-13)	Alf Halvorson
*CLOSING HYMN	Just As I Am, Without One Plea	#370; Vs. 1, 3, 4 WOODWORTH
POSTLUDE	Toccata from Suite Gothique	Leon Boellmann (1862-1897)

Musicians in this service: Kendall Gray, French horn • Charles Hausmann, conductor • Dave Kirk, tuba • John Parker, Danny White, trumpet • Julio Sanchez, timpani • Kathryn White, organist • Rick White, trombone

PRAY FOR MDPC MINISTRY PARTNERS

This week, please pray for these partners MDPC assists with your support:

Prayers of the People, which began at MDPC in 1974 as POPS Ministry, visits patients in the Medical Center and hospitals throughout greater Houston. The volunteers purpose in visiting is to listen, offer comfort and support, and affirm God's loving, healing presence. popministry.org

Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services offers a future with hope to children in need. Through group and foster homes, adoption services, outreach, single-parent family support, and an education/aftercare program, it serves over 4,000 children and families each year. pchas.org

The Antioch Partners equips and sends cross-cultural servants into the world who demonstrate the love of Christ in tangible ways. Its goals are to see people become followers of Jesus, and to foster the formation of worshipping communities among the unreached. theantiochpartners.org

HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF EFFORTS

Cleanup Crews from MDPC have been helping at homes in our community. As folks go back to work, the wellspring of volunteers is drying up - we need your help! Volunteers should be 15 years or older; ages 12 to 14 may come if accompanied by an adult. Details and links to sign up are at harvey.mdpc.org.

Relief Fund: If you'd like to donate to the MDPC Harvey Fund, please visit give.mdpc.org.

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE GIVEN

in memory of Vi Livingston, from her children and grandchildren.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

2017 Operating Budget	\$ 11,400,000
Expected Income to Date	\$ 5,830,028
Actual Income to Date (Sept. 10, 2017)	\$ 5,476,437
Current Income Deficit	\$ 353,591
Needed to Meet 2017 Budget	\$ 5,923,563
Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund	\$ 303,726

9th Annual NOCHE DE SABOR

Saturday, September 23
6:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

Our "Night of Flavor" celebrates culinary, musical, and artistic traditions of the many cultures that make up MDPC!

flavor.mdpc.org



THE FIRST DISCIPLES

Lessons from the Master

Simon & Matthew

Matthew 9:9-13

Alf Halvorson preaching

This is the fourth in a series of sermons on learning discipleship by seeing how Jesus called, challenged, and inspired *The First Disciples*. Which of the ones that we have covered do you identify with so far?

This week we look at Simon the Zealot and Matthew the Tax Collector. What do you know already about Simon and Matthew?

1. I spent the first half of the sermon providing context regarding the Essenes, Sadducees, Pharisees, and Zealots. I also explained how the Romans used local Jews to collect taxes and how those locals were hated by their family and friends. Jesus put sworn enemies and strange bedfellows together in His small band of disciples. Have you ever been in groups that were that diverse politically and theologically? Did they work out or disintegrate because of tensions?

2. Read Matthew 9:9-13. The Pharisees, in verse 11, ask the million-dollar question, “Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” In other words, Why does he put these unlikely people together? What was Jesus thinking? Was He crazy, or did He have something bigger in mind?

3. Look specifically at verses 12 and 13. Who are the sick? Who are the sinners here?

4. In verse 13, Jesus is quoting either Hosea 6:6 or Micah 6:6-8 or both. Read and discuss the implications. Luke 19:10, 1 Timothy 1:15, and 1 John 3:5 share the same idea. Why do the Pharisees need to be told this message? And why is it important for disciples to realize that all the other disciples around them (including themselves) are sinners saved by God’s grace through Christ?

5. Matthew gave up riches to follow Jesus. I shared what I thought Matthew lost and found by being an apprentice of Christ. What do you think he gained by becoming a disciple?

6. Simon gave up his goal of murder and a regime change. What did Simon gain by attaching himself to Jesus?

7. At or through MDPC, are you willing to work side by side with someone radically different from you, as long as Christ is the head of the church? (Note: My guess is that Jesus will give you and I the opportunity to affirm that “yes” *this very week*.)



To: Jesus, Son of Joseph, Woodcrafters Carpenter Shop, Nazareth
From: Jordan Management Consultants, Jerusalem

Dear Sir:

Thank you for submitting the resumes of the twelve you picked for management position in your new organization. All of them have now taken our battery of tests, and we have not only run the results through our computer, but also arranged personal interview for each of them with our psychologist and vocational aptitude consultant.

It is the staff opinion that most of your nominees are lacking in background, educational, and vocational aptitude for the type of enterprise you are undertaking.

They do not have the team concept. We would recommend that you continue your search for persons of experience in managerial ability and proven capability.

Simon Peter is emotionally unstable and given to fits of temper. Andrew has absolutely no qualities of leadership.

The two brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, place personal interest above company loyalty.

Thomas demonstrates a questioning attitude that would tend to undermine morale.

We feel it is our duty to tell you that Matthew has been black-listed by the Greater Jerusalem Better Business Bureau. Simon is under investigation by the authorities for several violations.

James, the son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus definitely have radical propensities and they both registered a high score of the manic-depressive scale.

One of the candidates, however, shows great potential. He is a man of ability and resourcefulness, meets people well, has a keen business mind and has contacts in high places. He is highly motivated, ambitious, and responsible. We recommend Judas Iscariot as your controller and right-hand man.

Sincerely Yours,
Jordan Management Consultants

*Before Jesus, no undesirables were allowed.
Because of Jesus, there are no undesirables.*