

All Saints' Sunday, October 29, 2017



# Generous Hearts, Hands, Home.

\*Please stand if able.

8:30 AM BLENDED • 9:45 AM CONTEMPORARY

CCLI # 182374

WELCOME

Dave Steane (8:30), Worship Team (9:45)

\*SONGS OF PRAISE

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rick Myers

TIME OF GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE

**Generous Hands** (Mark 1:14-15; Luke 9:1-2; Acts 1:3, 28:31)

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

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

## 11:15 AM TRADITIONAL

PRELUDE

*Prayer at Notre Dame*

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Dave Steane

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*For All the Saints*

#526; Vs. 1, 2, 3 | SINE NOMINE

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Rick Myers

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from The Apostle's Creed

CHORAL ANTHEM

*Let Me Fly*

arr. Robert DeComier (b. 1922)

TIME OF GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE

OFFERTORY

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

arr. Roy Ringwald

MESSAGE

**Generous Hands** (Mark 1:14-15; Luke 9:1-2; Acts 1:3, 28:31)

Alf Halvorson

POSTLUDE

*Toccato*

Mary McDonald (b. 1956)

Musicians in this service: Jason Amos, offertory soloist • Charles Hausmann, conducting • Kathryn White, organ • Jason Zacher, anthem soloist

# TRUNK or TREAT

Today at MDPC  
Everyone is welcome!  
3:45-5:00 PM  
[treat.mdpc.org](http://treat.mdpc.org)

## Can We TRUST the Bible?

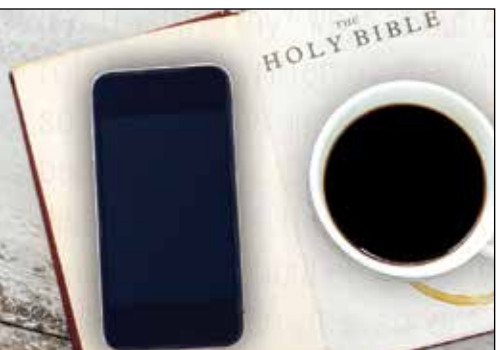
Join Fifth Community to explore the evidence that the Bible IS trustworthy and relevant! Led by Oscar Villanueva. All ages and faith stages are welcome. Bring your skepticism for a weekly Q&A.

Two Sundays at 11:00 AM, Amphitheater

Today: External Evidence

11/5: Internal Reliability

[trustworthy.mdpc.org](http://trustworthy.mdpc.org)



### Pastor-led Study: Lunch or Dinner w/Calvin

*Calvinism at the Airport* will encourage you to live every aspect of life - business, family, education, politics, activities, and more - before the face of a generous, sovereign God. Does Calvinism have anything to do with the 21st Century? Let's find out together.

**Wednesdays, thru Nov. 15 | Two time options!**

**11:45 AM-1:00 PM | Ciro's Restaurant**

**6:30-7:30 PM | Chapel**

*Details: [airport.mdpc.org](http://airport.mdpc.org)*

### Discover MDPC with Alf

Want to know more about MDPC? Thinking about membership? This info meeting is about who we are and how we operate, within our walls and out in the world. No commitment required! Learn what it means to be part of our faith community.

**Today! 10:45-11:10 AM | Gathering Room**

### Next New Member Class Series

If you're interested in membership or in becoming a Christian, our pastors would love to meet you and discuss your questions! Classes are taught by our Pastors and Elders, and include a Saturday service project.

**Sundays, Nov. 5-Dec. 10 | 11:00 AM-12:15 PM | Parlor**

*Registration: [membership.mdpc.org](http://membership.mdpc.org)*

### Save the Date: Bless Friday 2017

This year, Bless Friday is supporting MDPC's Hunger Initiative fighting hunger in Houston. Sign up to serve lunch at one of three local ministry partners, or round up your family and friends for an at-home service project benefitting Kids' Meals and MDPC's Food Pantry.

**Friday, Nov. 24 | At-home, or in the community!**

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

### Pie Love You

MDPC Women are teaming up with Ecclesia to support Jesus Said Love, an organization that shares the revolutionary love of Christ with women in the commercial sex industry. We'll visit local businesses to gift workers with the pies and for a member of JSL to share about the love of Jesus. Here's how you can help:

**Sunday, Nov. 12: Bring donations of canned pumpkin pie mix, 5-ounce cans of evaporated milk, metal pie pans, and cash (for eggs and crusts).**

**Friday, Nov. 17, 10:00 AM-Noon: Help assemble pies!**

*Details: [pies.mdpc.org](http://pies.mdpc.org)*

### Pray for MDPC Ministry Partners

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

**Sewing for Missions** • These special MDPC ladies work on sewing projects for local community needs, such as preemie blankets and walker caddies for hospitals, and for global missions, like clothes for Lulwanda Children's Home in Uganda.

*Contact Pat Ikard: 713-461-3654*

**Spring Branch Community Health Center** is the primary provider of comprehensive healthcare services to indigent and low-income patients in Spring Branch. The need is so great, they have opened four more clinics, including in Katy. [sbchc.net](http://sbchc.net)

**Free Wheelchair Mission** delivers wheelchairs anywhere the impoverished disabled do not have access to mobility. It ministers to each recipient and shares the good news of Christ's call! Pray a life will be transformed with each chair given.

*[freewheelchairmission.org](http://freewheelchairmission.org)*

### Thanksgiving Meal in a Bag Drive

Share Christ's love with a Spring Branch family in need. Simply pick up a grocery bag, fill it from the provided list of food products, and drop it off at MDPC by November 12. We have 1,000 bags to fill this year - it's the most we've ever had, so we need your help!

**Pick up an item list at the Front Office. Drop off filled bags in the grocery carts on campus by Nov. 12.**

### Human Trafficking Evening of Education

To begin fighting this insidious crime, we must first educate ourselves. A victim will share her story, and speakers include Children at Risk's staff attorney; a Houston-area energy executive, anti-trafficking advocate, and father of a victim; and commander of HPD's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

**Tuesday, Nov. 14 | 7:00 PM | Sanctuary**

*[justice.mdpc.org](http://justice.mdpc.org)*

### Volunteer with DIA

Would you like to experience a mid-week blessing? We need volunteers to help with our Disabled in Action group on Wednesday afternoons. This is a great opportunity for individuals or for your small group.

**Wednesdays, 3:00-5:00 PM | MDPC**

*Ready to help? Contact Brett Hurst: [bhurst@mdpc.org](mailto:bhurst@mdpc.org)*

### Kids' Meals Monthly Service Project

In Houston, one in four preschool children goes to bed hungry - you can make a difference! Give one hour of your time, bring FOUR loaves of bread per sandwich-maker, and make sandwiches for Kids' Meals.

**Wednesday, Nov. 8 | 4:30-6:00 PM | Fellowship Hall**

*Contact Julie with questions: [hempeljulie@gmail.com](mailto:hempeljulie@gmail.com)*

### Blood Drive

If you pre-register at [giveblood.org](http://giveblood.org), it helps plan technician staffing - but walk-ins are welcome!

**Sunday, Nov. 12 | 8:00 AM-2:00 PM | Fellowship Hall**

### Holiday Craft Sale

Find lovely hand-made gifts and decorations, like Christmas wall hangings, tree skirts, casserole caddies, fleece coverlets, and wired pumpkins! Pendants in agate, tiger eye, and jasper make great stocking stuffers. All proceeds support Sewing for Missions.

**Nov. 15, 5:00-8:00 PM & Nov. 16, 9:00 AM-1:30 PM**

*Details and item list: [crafts.mdpc.org](http://crafts.mdpc.org)*

### The Red Rose is given in honor of

Bonnie Mercedes Humphreys, born October 4, 2017, to Margaret and Jonathan Humphreys.

### The White Rose is given in memory of

Paul Kors, who passed away October 15, 2017.

#### WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

2017 Operating Budget	\$ 11,400,000
Expected Income to Date	\$ 6,803,312
Actual Income to Date (10/22/17)	\$ 6,452,423
<b>Current Income Deficit</b>	<b>\$ 350,889</b>
Needed to Meet 2017 Budget	\$ 4,947,577
Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund	\$ 721,827



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

11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024 | [mdpc.org](http://mdpc.org) | 713-782-1710





August 25, 2017  
Lyn H. Flynt



September 24, 2017  
Eila Mallard Park



September 25, 2017  
Jim Towsen



September 26, 2017  
Arthur G. Spillette



October 5, 2017  
Esther Mae Fickert



**MDPC**

Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church  
11612 Memorial Drive  
Houston, Texas 77024

# All Saints' Sunday

October 29, 2017

*Today we honor and remember those MDPC members who, in the past year, passed on to the Church Triumphant.*



August 17, 2016  
Catherine Alexander



September 27, 2016  
Lois Depuy Boston



October 16, 2016  
Brian R. Suthers



October 25, 2016  
Martha Helen  
(Arnold) Armistead



October 27, 2016  
Gwen Lawrence Scott



December 7, 2016  
Grant Samuel  
Mavergeorge



December 13, 2016  
Zachary Barker Chittick



December 21, 2016  
Gerald Melvin Walston



December 22, 2016  
Ronald Wade Harlan



December 26, 2016  
Esther Booher  
Brogan Parks



December 30, 2016  
Patsy Smith Brister



January 1, 2017  
Nancy P. Burnett



January 2, 2017  
Mary McHenry Keating



January 3, 2017  
Frances Gayetta  
Hanna Lenser



January 8, 2017  
Robert Joe (Bob) Evans



July 30, 2015  
Phyllis Bethany Evans





January 28, 2017  
Michelle Lynn Villareal



February 3, 2017  
Amy Louise Coll



February 11, 2017  
Earle S. Alexander, Jr.



February 21, 2017  
Frederick Max Schuette



February 25, 2017  
Iris Tyndall



February 28, 2017  
Gloria Boyd Russell



March 5, 2017  
William Thomas  
Sharkey



March 5, 2017  
Anita J. McCollum



March 6, 2017  
Kay Van Hoy Lamar



March 7, 2017  
James Alan Black



March 11, 2017  
Bobby "Bob"  
Gene Fillpot



March 12, 2017  
Sally Hammond Daniel



March 16, 2017  
Walter Edward  
Workman



March 19, 2017  
Paul Smith Ache, Jr.



April 2, 2017  
Norma Jo Pyle



April 8, 2017  
Rachael Marie Talbert



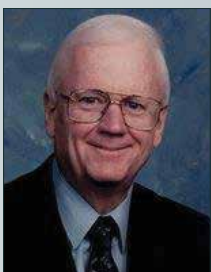
April 12, 2017  
Charles M. Lang



April 13, 2017  
Joseph T. Kohlmaier, III



April 15, 2017  
Richard Marion Berry



April 15, 2017  
Robert L. "Bob"  
Hooker, Sr.



April 16, 2017  
Dorothy Jones Swinney



April 21, 2017  
Shirley "Dolly" LeBlanc



April 26, 2017  
Jack Edward Uselton



May 2, 2017  
George Edward Burgher



May 19, 2017  
Professor Raymond  
L. Britton



May 20, 2017  
Ralph E. Gustafson



May 20, 2017  
Maryann Munroe



May 22, 2017  
Howard Woelfert  
Blauvelt



May 27, 2017  
Bruce Martin Clauson



June 1, 2017  
Tommie Miller Jaksa



June 15, 2017  
Adele Alcorn Read



June 22, 2017  
William "Bill" Biddison



June 23, 2017  
Elizabeth "Libby"  
P. Beard



June 25, 2017  
Brooke Burgher Gibbs



July 8, 2017  
Judith LeGrand  
Jones Snyder



July 19, 2017  
Kenneth N. Robertson



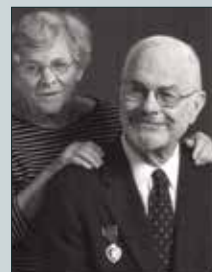
July 22, 2017  
Leonard Nelson Martin



July 26, 2017  
Sam Raynes Evans



August 2, 2017  
Kay L. Parnell



August 7, 2017  
Tracy Samuel Park

Sunday, October 29, 2017

## Generosity Session II

### God Owns Everything

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the lands!  
Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His  
presence with singing. Know that the Lord  
is God. It is He that made us, and we are  
His; we are His people, and the sheep of His  
pasture. – Psalm 100:1-3*

*The earth is the Lord's and the fullness there-  
of, the world and those who dwell therein; for  
God has founded it upon the seas, and estab-  
lished it upon the rivers. – Psalm 24:1-2*

*Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which  
you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glo-  
rify God in your body! – 1 Corinthians 6:19-20*

Not long ago, a man went to McDonald's with his granddaughter for lunch. He was trying to "be good" and stay on his low-cholesterol diet. That's hard to do at McDonald's. The granddaughter ordered her favorite Happy Meal while the grandfather ordered the most low-cholesterol lunch he could find. As the granddaughter began enjoying her lunch, the grandfather looked over and spied her delicious, golden brown French fries. He remembered back to when he had last had a French fry. It seemed like years! When he thought that she wasn't looking, he reached across the table and took two French fries. Before he could put them in his mouth, his granddaughter slapped his hand, knocked the French fries down, and said, "They're mine, Granddad." In that moment, many thoughts swirled through the granddad's mind. First of all, he realized that he had paid for those French fries! Secondly, he realized that he had the money to buy as many French fries as he wanted. Thirdly, he realized that he was strong enough to physically take the French fries away from his granddaughter if that was his desire. In her immaturity, the granddaughter thought that the French fries belonged to her when in reality they were a gracious and generous gift from a loving grandfather who loved her more than she could imagine. Do you see a sermon in here somewhere?

Like the granddaughter, many of us assume that everything we have is ours. We forget that all we have is a gracious gift from a God who loves us more than we can imagine. We also forget that God has the power to take away our gifts and blessings whenever He chooses. God is both sovereign and omnipotent.

One of the brashest assumptions of our humanistic, materialistic society is the assumption that we own everything that we have. We assume that our bodies and possessions belong to us. We say things like, "It's my home, my car, my body, my children, my money, my yard, my future, my job, my spouse, my clothing, my life." The truth is that all of these things are gifts from God. We sometimes forget that God gave us eyesight, hearing, creativity, intelligence, and the ability to work and make money. We forget that these things are not ours...they are simply entrusted to us. How different our lives would be if we came to the realization that God owns everything and we are simply "trustees" of gifts and responsibilities that God has entrusted to our care. Anyone who is retired knows that a job does not belong to us. Anyone who is a parent knows that children are not ours. We simply care for them for a period of time.

In Matthew 25:14-30, Jesus tells the parable of the talents. Read this parable together in your small group and discuss its meaning. It holds a key to



understanding one of the great principles of stewardship: God created us to be trustees of money, gifts, land, people, and the future. How we take care of God's money, God's gifts, God's land, and God's people is the question of stewardship.

## Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

Edwin Markham tells "The Parable of the Builders" that expresses the truth of Matthew 25:14-30. The story is as follows:

"There was a very rich man who owned great expanses of land. One day, he walked over the hillsides and surveyed all the land that he owned. He saw a lovely, sun-drenched hilltop below the hovel cottage of his carpenter. He went to the carpenter and said, 'I have plans for a lovely home on a sunny hill. I want you to build a house there. I want you to build it good and strong. Employ the best workers, use the best materials, for I want it to be a good house.' Then the rich man went away. The carpenter began to build the house, but as he proceeded, he decided to cut costs and pocket the difference. He built the house with inferior materials and poor workmanship. He thought he had outsmarted the owner. When the rich man returned, the carpenter told him that he had finished the house with the best materials and workmanship he could find. 'Good,' said the owner, 'I'm glad that it is a good house. I have intended all along to give it to you. The house is yours!' The carpenter was shocked. 'Oh!' he said, 'If only I had known I was building the house for myself.'"

1. What can we learn from the parable of the builders about stewardship of time, finances, and gifts?
2. What lessons can we learn from the parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30? Keep in mind several points as you discuss this question:
  - a. God gives different people different gifts. No two people have exactly the same creativity, intelligence, amount of money, etc. Rather, each person is unique and must use what they have been given.
  - b. The person who is punished in the story is the one who does not use his talent to the glory of God. When we bury our talents or fail to use them, we disappoint God.
  - c. When we do not exercise our gifts or use what we have been given, we lose what we have. This is a universal principle of life. Isn't it true that if one has a great deal of talent and exercises it, he or she is progressively able to do more with it? If, however, an individual has a skill and fails to exercise it, it most likely will diminish in the near future. This is true in all facets of life.
3. What difference would it make in the way you live your life if you believed that God owned everything? Would it make a difference, or would you live life exactly as you are living it today?
4. What specific differences does it make in your life that you are a trustee of things that belong to God rather than the owner of those things?
5. Can you think of a time in your life when you came to the realization that you didn't "own" something?
6. What are the characteristics of a faithful trustee?

