

CELEBRATE CINCO DE MAYO With All-Church Lunch!

All-Church Lunch Is Today! Served 11:00 AM-1:00 PM in Fellowship Hall

Entrée (\$10): Pork, Beer-battered Fish, or Ground Beef Tacos
Served with Mexican Rice, Refried Beans, Corn, Squash

Entrée Salad (\$10): Southern BLT with Chicken

Children's Menu (\$4): Chicken Tenders

*¡Todos son bienvenidos!
Everyone is welcome!*



The Continuing Refugee Crisis

MDPC partner, Renewing Our Minds Ministry, presents an evening with humanitarian activist and Croatian pastor Mihal Kreko regarding his work with refugees from Syria, Iran, and Afghanistan. Come hear encouraging stories from the front lines.

Tuesday, May 8 | 6:30 PM | MDPC Parlor

Kids' Meals Monthly Service Project

One in four Houston preschoolers goes to bed hungry - you can make sure there is one less empty tummy! Bring 4 loaves of bread per volunteer, and come make sandwiches for Kids' Meals. That's all it takes to make a difference.

Wednesday, May 9 | 4:30-6:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

Contact Julie with questions: hempeljulie@gmail.com

Blood Drive

Giving one hour to donate may save 3 lives! Blood banks still are low since Harvey. Please help if you can.

Sunday, May 20 | 8:00 AM-2:00 PM

Sign up in the Lobby on May 6 or 13, or anytime at giveblood.org.

"Old Time Religion" Celebration

Sundays in May we'll sing Gospel congregational hymns, have a hymn sing or two, and the choir will perform rousing renditions of favorite old-time tunes.

Sundays, May 6-20 | 11:15 AM Worship Service

Contact Tracy Stidam with questions:

tstidam@mdpc.org, 713-490-0946

Please Pray for MDPC Ministry Partners

This week, join us in lifting in prayer these MDPC partners in ministry:

Family Point Resources empowers children and families in the Nottingham Park area of West Houston to overcome the cycle of poverty. Its programs include a community library; after-school educational enrichment; art, theater and dance classes; and a full schedule of summer activities and camps.

familypointresources.com

The Forge for Families is a Christ-centered ministry that works to rebuild and strengthen distressed families in Houston's Third Ward. Its programs include Bible study, discipleship, mentoring, and tutoring.

forgeforfamilies.org

Faith In Practice works to improve the physical, spiritual, and economic conditions of the poor in Guatemala through short-term medical mission trips and health education. Doctors, nurses, and dentists volunteer on these missions, called by God to demonstrate the love and compassion that is a sign of His presence among us.

faithinpractice.org

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

2018 Operating Budget	\$ 11,600,000
Expected Income to Date	\$ 3,194,165
Actual Income to Date (4/22/18)	\$ 3,250,193
Current Income Surplus	\$ 56,028
Needed to Meet 2018 Budget	\$ 8,349,807



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

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

Sunday, May 6, 2018

See the Future Today! Legacy Sunday

This great church is built on a legacy of prayer, mission, and generosity. Those who came before us modeled how to build and maintain a thriving ministry to our church, our community, our city, and around the globe. As a Legacy Giver, you become a key part of the continuing mission of MDPC that's building tomorrow's disciples, starting today.



What is Legacy Giving?

The purpose of Legacy Giving is: 1) to insure the future of MDPC; *and* 2) to enhance MDPC ministries *now*. A common misconception of Legacy Giving is that it's only made through your will or estate - that you are "planting a tree under which you will never sit." Though estate bequests are an important part of any Legacy program, giving today to initiatives about which you are passionate means you get to see the effects of your gift - and possibly even participate in enacting them!

Here are some important points to remember:

- Regular giving goes toward the annual budget, critical in maintaining the church's programs for children, youth, and adults *and* supporting our ministry partners. Legacy gifts support initiatives beyond our normal annual budget.
- Legacy gifts may be given at any time
- There is no minimum amount
- You choose whether your gift is unrestricted or designated for a specific fund.
- There are several funds you may choose to support with your Legacy Gift. To learn more about these individual funds, visit legacy.mdpc.org.

GIVING OPTIONS

Here are three examples of legacy giving projects and initiatives:

- One great example of legacy giving is the endowment given for the **Alpha Houston** program and its Hub Director, Dan Aikins. A single private donor underwrote Alpha's costs for a period of three years at a declining annual rate (100%, 60%, and 40%), after which MDPC assumes financial responsibility for the program and associated salaries. Alpha's outreach to the non-churched and even church-averse is an important part of our mission to the lost. The spring 2018 Alpha course already is bearing fruit! Help build upon the foundation that's being laid.
- Legacy gifts will be used in the near future to **resurface and reconfigure the North Parking Lot and add LED lighting**. Dangerous situations have been caused by cars speeding through our parking lot to avoid the busy intersection at Blalock and Memorial. The project will enhance the safety of our children as they enter and exit The Yellow School, and also others as they walk to and from their cars. In addition, new and expanded lighting will enhance safety at night for our members, staff, and guests.
- One of MDPC's Strategic Goals is to host nationally known **speakers** each year, events which create opportunities for us to invite in friends and neighbors of many interests and faiths. This project was not budgeted, but discretionary funding last year allowed the five speakers that have visited thus far. Your legacy gift is needed to continue to have high quality speakers and keep this engaging outreach going!

Some of the other projects that need funding include scholarship support for seminary students and mission trips, and deferred facilities maintenance.

To learn more about how to make a legacy gift, contact
David Eyre at legacygiving@mdpc.org or 281-797-6916, or
Bob Giles at bgiles@mdpc.org or 713-953-2570.

You also may visit the website at legacygiving.mdpc.org.

8:30 AM BLENDED

WELCOME		Dave Steane
*SONGS OF PRAISE		
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE		Dan Aikins
SONG OF PREPARATION		
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE		
MESSAGE	Generational Generosity (Psalm 145:1-13a)	Alf Halvorson
RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE		

9:45 AM CONTEMPORARY

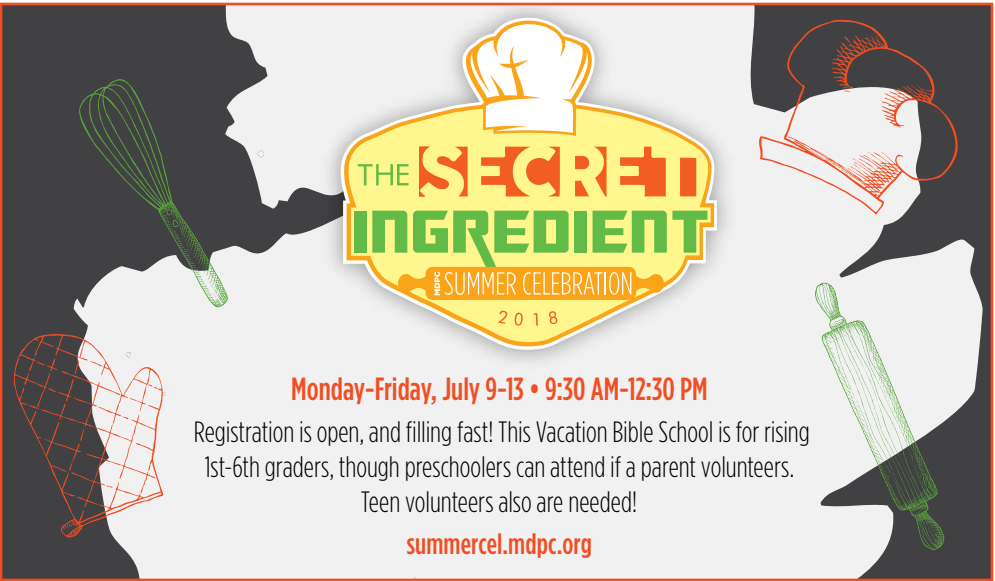
WELCOME		
*SONGS OF PRAISE		
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE		Christyn Knoop
SONG OF RESPONSE		
MESSAGE	Generational Generosity (Psalm 145:1-13a)	Alf Halvorson
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE		

Musicians in these services: Meliza Gómez and Michael Middleton, worship leaders • Daniel Amaya, bass • Andrew James, guitar • Daniel Martinez, keys • Asher Pudlo, drums

11:15 AM TRADITIONAL

PRELUDE	<i>Jesus Paid it All/O Sacred Head Now Wounded</i>	arr. Brant Adams (b.1944)
WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP		Dave Steane
CHORAL INTROIT	<i>Jacob's Ladder</i>	arr. Kent Newberry (b. 1925)
*HYMN OF PRAISE	<i>What a Friend We Have in Jesus</i>	#403; Vs. 1, 2, 3 CONVERSE
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE		Beth Case
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	from The Apostles' Creed	
*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE	<i>The Old Rugged Cross</i>	Vs. 1, 4 THE OLD RUGGED CROSS
ANTHEM	<i>How Great Thou Art</i>	arr. Fred Bock (1939-1998)
OFFERTORY	<i>Let Everything That Hath Breath</i>	Jeffery L. Ames (b. 1970)
MESSAGE	Generational Generosity (Psalm 145:1-13a)	Alf Halvorson
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus</i>	Vs. 1, 4, TRUST IN JESUS
POSTLUDE	<i>How Firm a Foundation</i>	Gordon Young (1919-1998)

Musicians in this service: Jason Amos, soloist • Charles Hausmann, conductor • Adrian Vasquez, French horn • Kathryn White, piano/organ • Dennis Whittaker, electric bass



Monday-Friday, July 9-13 • 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Registration is open, and filling fast! This Vacation Bible School is for rising 1st-6th graders, though preschoolers can attend if a parent volunteers. Teen volunteers also are needed!

summercel.mdpc.org

We take a one-week break from our *Lord's Prayer* series to focus on the idea from Psalm 145:4 that "One generation shall laud Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts." In other words, praise is to be intergenerational—passed on from one generation to the next. If it is not passed on, the church is one generation away from extinction. To put it another way: The faith has no grandchildren.

Legacy Sunday **Generational Generosity**

Psalm 145:1-13a | Alf Halvorson Preaching

1. Read Psalm 145:1-13a. It appears that verses 1-3 are a block; 4-7 are a block; 8-9 a block; and 10-13a a block. What is going on in each block? How would you categorize them?
2. Last Sunday was Youth Sunday. We had six Senior Sermons in the three English-speaking services that were personal and meaningful. What, in your mind, are we doing right in passing on the faith to the next generation? Where might we improve?
3. How are you part of that transference of knowledge, faith, praise, mentoring, and service?
4. I talked in my sermon about the money side of that transfer. MDPC has a tradition of annual giving/pledging and, on occasion, a capital campaign. But it has not really had a vibrant and working endowment/foundation/legacy giving program to fuel initiatives that are above and beyond the annual budget, but not really capital campaigns. In the three prior churches that I served, they had an active legacy giving emphasis. Why do you think MDPC has not had the middle bucket? Could you see positive reasons to have the middle tool to facilitate scholarships, parking lot safety and repair upgrades, or Alpha/evangelism efforts?
5. I commented that "one generation can laud God's works to the next" by estate planning and putting the church in their wills. And that people who have no end in sight can give to the Legacy Program and *see* the impact of their efforts as they live for many more years. They can partner now with the next generation in creative and faith-filled ways. Have you pondered putting the church in your will or giving a gift above and beyond your regular annual pledge to inspire and partner with the next generation now?
6. If you are in your teens or 20s or 30s, does this conversation make sense to you and apply to you? How or what would be a way you could "laud God's works to another generation"? What might a stewardship of time or talent or treasure look like for you?
7. I ended with a story about Al Capone, Easy Eddie, and Butch O'Hare. What were your takeaways from this story and from the sermon as a whole?

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