

### Mother's Day Photo Booth

Take a photo with the special momma-figure in your life in our beautiful photo backdrop!

All Morning | Sanctuary Courtyard

### Volunteer Appreciation Sunday

Pastor Alf will recognize volunteer groups during all the services. Be here for snacks, stickers, and more!

Next Sunday, May 20 | In All Services

### Summer Celebration Needs

Donate your old electronics and small appliances (toasters, vacuums, old phones, mixers, radios). No glass or screens, please! Also needed are adult T-shirts, preferably in bright colors for use in weaving projects.

### 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 at [giveblood.org](http://giveblood.org).

### Men's Summer Series: GOD IS...

Scripture says in various verses that *God is love; God is light; God is Spirit; God is fire*. How do we personally see those differing characteristics as we walk with Him? Ken Harris and other teachers will lead men in discovering the amazing attributes of God that are revealed in His Word!

Tuesdays, June 5-26 | 6:30-7:45 AM | Amphitheater

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

### Kanakuk KAMPOUT! Day Camp

Kanakuk returns to MDPC! Kids age 5-12 will love ziplining, wall climbing, water slides, and learning about Jesus.

August 6-10 | 9:00 AM-4:00 PM | \$250

Families are needed to host three counselors, providing a place to stay plus breakfast and dinner each day. We also need medical volunteers for the week (CPR and First Aid trained).

Register at [kanakuk.com](http://kanakuk.com). Please email Alicia if you can be a host family or medical volunteer ([aboykin@mdpc.org](mailto:aboykin@mdpc.org)).

### Today's Chancel Flowers are given by

Ginger Benfield and Steve Jarvis, in memory of mothers Corinne Bowden, Merle Jarvis, and Eunice Benfield.

### Please Pray for MDPC Ministry Partners

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

**Freedom Place** is a safe house for girls age 10 to 18 rescued from sex trafficking. These young victims receive up to 18 months of treatment to address their educational, developmental, psychological, and spiritual needs. When they are ready to move out of the treatment program to independent living, onsite housing is provided. [freedomplaceus.org](http://freedomplaceus.org)

MDPC's **Fuente Food Pantry** serves approximately 200 families every Saturday with bagged groceries, produce, and bread. It is considered one of the more generous giving pantries in the Houston area. Twice a year, Spring Branch Family Health Clinic holds a wellness fair offering health screenings for Pantry clients. [fuente.mdpc.org](http://fuente.mdpc.org)

**Faith Ministry** aims to meet the basic physical needs of families living in poverty on the Mexican border, and in so doing, it shares the love of Jesus Christ. Through home construction, medical, feeding, child sponsorship, and skills training programs, it cares for the community and makes Christ's Name known. [faithministry.org](http://faithministry.org)

### Summer Alpha Is Coming...

Explore Christian faith. Alpha is for everyone, but especially for those who are questioning, seeking, or even who would not call themselves Christian.

Tuesdays, June 5-August 7 | 6:30 PM

More info and registration: [alpha.mdpc.org](http://alpha.mdpc.org)

### We're All in This Together!

*Psalm 133:1 "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity..."* Mark your calendar for Annual Teacher Training for volunteers in Equipping, Youth, Children's, Relationships, and anyone in discipleship, teaching, or leadership ministry! It'll include lunch, prayer & commissioning, and breakout time with your ministry area.

Sunday, August 12 | 12:30-3:00 PM

Details will be sent out closer to event.

### Perspectives

This 15-week experience is designed around four vantage points or "perspectives" — Biblical, Historical, Cultural, and Strategic. Each one highlights different aspects of God's global purpose.

Monday evenings, August 20-Dec. 10 | Grace Bible

### MOPS This Fall

Mothers: Are you looking for friends? A tribe? Rest? Do you have kids ages birth to kindergarten? This is for you! MOPs (Mothers of Preschoolers) supports and equips moms through connection, solid content, and fun. If you are longing for a place to belong or a place to connect, we have a seat for you. Childcare provided.

Begins August 30 | 9:30-11:15 AM | Parlor

First and third Thursday each month

Learn more and register: [mops.mdpc.org](http://mops.mdpc.org)

### Married Life Prep

Are you engaged? Did you get married in the last few years? Then grab your spouse-(to-be) and join us for Married Life Prep! Taught at MDPC by Brett and Kellie Hurst of Home Encouragement, it combines Biblical teaching with the best current marriage research.

Sundays, July 8-29 | 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Register: [mlp.mdpc.org](http://mlp.mdpc.org)

### WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

2018 Operating Budget	\$ 11,600,000
Expected Income to Date	\$ 3,312,119
Actual Income to Date (5/6/18)	\$ 3,482,322
Current Income Surplus	\$ 170,204
Needed to Meet 2018 Budget	\$ 8,117,678

Sunday, May 13, 2018



# PRAY LIKE JESUS

LIFE LESSONS FROM THE LORD'S PRAYER



Forgive Us Our Debts | Matthew 6:12, 14-15

## 8:30 AM BLENDED

WELCOME

Dave Steane

\*SONGS OF PRAISE

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Rachel Poysky

BAPTISMS

Charles "Charlie" Thomas Marshall, son of Ross and Natalie Marshall  
Finley Rose Tharp, daughter of Daren Tharp and Evelyn Fisher (Tharp)

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE

Forgive Us Our Debts

Alf Halvorson

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

## 9:45 AM CONTEMPORARY

WELCOME

BAPTISMS

Sutton Ann Canfield, daughter of Benjamin and Kathryn Canfield  
Theodore "Theo" Fitzgerald Ollison, son of Christopher and Amanda Ollison  
Anna Claire Raymer, daughter of Stephen and Lindsay Raymer  
Lucy Shawn Thomas, daughter of Matthew and Lindsey Thomas

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Sarah Stone

\*SONGS OF PRAISE

MESSAGE

Forgive Us Our Debts

Alf Halvorson

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

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

## 11:15 AM TRADITIONAL

PRELUDES

Congregational Hymn Sing

Charles Hausmann

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Dave Steane

CHORAL INTROIT

Lord, I Want to Be A Christian

arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

Standing on the Promises

verses 1, 2 & 4 | PROMISES

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from Romans 8

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Standing on the Promises (Refrain)*

ANTHEM

Worthy to Be Praised

Byron J. Smith (b. 1960)

OFFERTORY

Amazing Grace

arr. Jack Schrader (b. 1942)

MESSAGE

Forgive Us Our Debts

Alf Halvorson

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE

I Surrender All

Vs. 1, 2 | SURRENDER

POSTLUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

Musicians in this service: Laura Coale and Cassandra Black, soloists • Charles Hausmann, conductor • Julio Sanchez, percussion • Kathryn White, pianist/organist

\*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374



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

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



## MARRIAGE RETREAT


September 29-30

Woodlands Waterway Marriott

\$220/couple

Space is limited! [marriageretreat.mdpc.org](http://marriageretreat.mdpc.org)

Contact Anna Vickers with questions: [avickers@mdpc.org](mailto:avickers@mdpc.org)



Led by Brett and Kellie Hurst, newlyweds and newlyweds will have fun learning how to build a strong, joy-filled, and successful marriage.

**Sundays, July 8-29 • 10:00 AM-Noon**

Contact: Anna Vickers, [avickers@mdpc.org](mailto:avickers@mdpc.org)



MORE than 3 years

HOW LONG have you been married?

LESS than 3 years

**START HERE!**  
Are you married?

Are you ENGAGED?

Are you CONSIDERING engagement or marriage?

We would love for you to join us!

**MEN'S LIFE**  
Contact: Brett Hurst, [bhurst@mdpc.org](mailto:bhurst@mdpc.org), 713-490-0930

**MDPC WOMEN**  
Contact: Amanda Grace Caldwell, [acaldwell@mdpc.org](mailto:acaldwell@mdpc.org)

**YOUNG ADULTS**  
Contact: Trevor Harris, [tharris@mdpc.org](mailto:tharris@mdpc.org)  
or Sarah Stone, [ssone@mdpc.org](mailto:ssone@mdpc.org)

We would love for you to join us!

**DINNER AND A MARRIAGE**

**MARRIAGE TO THE MAX PODCAST**

**MARRIAGE TUNE UP**

Visit: [homeencouragement.org](http://homeencouragement.org)



YES

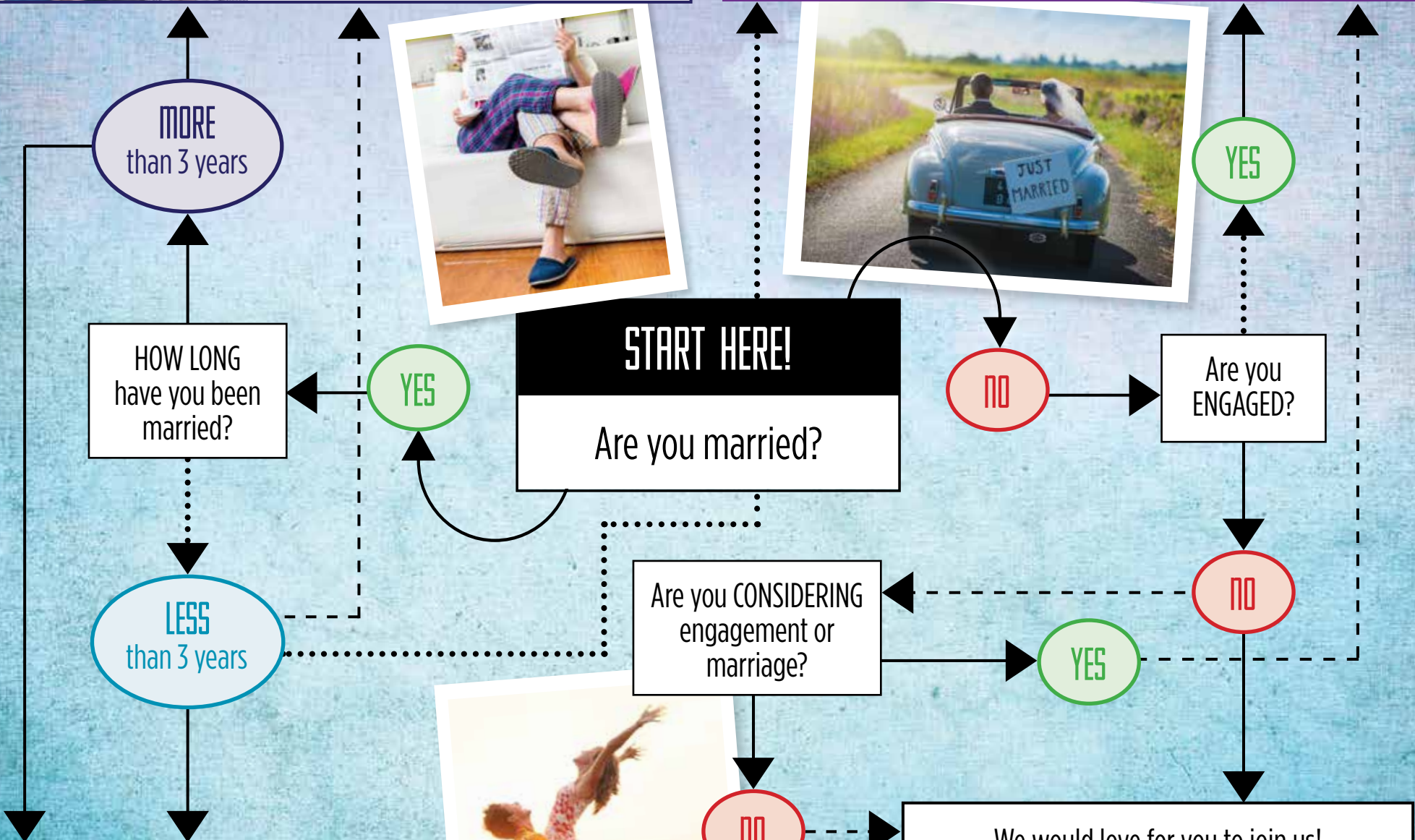
NO

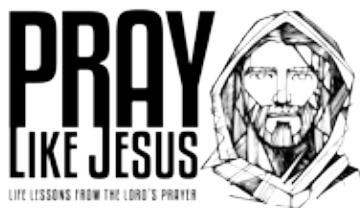
YES

NO

YES

NO





## “Forgive Us Our Debts...”

Matthew 6:12, 14-15 • Alf Halvorson Preaching  
Sermon Notes written by Rev. Beth Case

### The Lord's Prayer

1. Jesus begins the Lord's prayer with a plural first-person pronoun: *Our Father...*” The plural pronoun is used again to speak of our debts, and our debtors. What significance does this carry?
2. William Barclay says, “The fact that Jesus taught all [persons] to pray this prayer shows the universality of sin; and to pray this prayer a sense of sin is a prior requirement.” What does Barclay mean? Agree or disagree?
3. Lewis Smedes writes extensively about forgiveness. Which of his following statements connects best with your understanding of forgiving others?
  - “When we forgive evil we do not excuse it, we do not tolerate it, we do not smother it. We look the evil full in the face, call it what it is, let its horror shock and stun and enrage us, and only then do we forgive it.”
  - “You will know that forgiveness has begun when you recall those who hurt you and feel the power to wish them well.”
  - “To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you.”

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*During this series, Pray Like Jesus, the sermon notes will discuss various models of prayer. Following a brief introduction and discussion of the week's prayer practice, you will find some practical suggestions for exercising that model of prayer. We encourage you to try these individually, or as a small group.*

### Praying Through Barriers

Scripture teaches that prayer can and does make a positive impact in the world and in our personal lives (see Isaiah 38 or Acts 12:1-19). But Scripture also gives evidence of times when our requests seem to go unanswered. Maybe you have been consistent in prayer. You have trusted. You have pled. You have even postured before God. And yet you find yourself confused, disappointed, hurt, or even angry at God. You may even be ready to give up on prayer.

Did you know that the Apostle Paul and Jesus experienced disappointment in prayer? Ultimately, prayer is not simply about results, but about relationship. God is not a magic genie, waiting to fulfill our every wish. Rather, God wants us to interact with him, to tell him our hopes, our fears, our frustrations. God wants us to wrestle with him in prayer until our desires mirror His. And all the while, He promises never to leave us. And He wants us to be involved with Him as He works out His will here on earth, as in heaven.

Read the following Scriptures one-at-a-time. What does each one say about prayer?

- Psalm 66:18 - *If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.*
- Proverbs 16:9 - *The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps.*
- Isaiah 55:9 - *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.*
- Isaiah 59:2 (ESV) - *But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your*

*God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.*

- Matthew 26:39 - *And going a little farther, Jesus threw Himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not what I want but what You want."*
- 2 Corinthians 12:8-9 - *Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." (Paul's words)*
- James 5:16 - *Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.*

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## **Put It Into Practice**

(Choose one to practice with your small group, and one to practice on your own.)

Scripture tells us that when sin is unconfessed, or obedience incomplete, our prayers can be hindered. In other words, our relationship with our Heavenly Father is in need of repair.

1. Set aside some time to think about other people in your life. In the presence of God, ask "Who have I hurt with my words, or actions, or attitudes?" When the Holy Spirit brings to mind a name, confess your feelings about that person to God. Ask for His forgiveness (He promises it! - 1 John 1:9). If appropriate, apologize to the one you have injured.
2. Read Psalm 103:8-14 aloud (or have it read to you). Remember how deeply God loves you, and how willingly He offers forgiveness. Turn to the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17). Read slowly, asking God if there is:
  - a. a sin to confess
  - b. a command to keep
  - c. a step to takeAsk God for help. If in a group setting, return to the group. Re-read Psalm 103:8-14 (in unison).
3. Read the following Scriptures about God's forgiveness. Write your honest response as a prayer:

*Isaiah 43:25-26	*Micah 7:18-19
*Romans 5:8	*Ephesians 4:31-32

Have you received this forgiveness? Is there someone whom you need to forgive? What would it take for you to offer forgiveness?
4. Discuss, or journal about, this quote by C. S. Lewis: "The terrible thing, the almost impossible thing, is to hand over your whole self--all your wishes and precautions--to Christ. But it is far easier than what we are all trying to do instead. For what we are trying to do is to remain what we call 'ourselves.'"

*"Forgiveness is the fragrance that the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it."*

-Mark Twain



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