

Get to Know and Pray for MDPC Ministry Partners

The new 2019 Ministry partner prayer booklet is here! MDPC has over 150 local and global ministry partners and ministries and YOU are a vital part of their work. Three ministries are listed each week to pray for. Pick up a booklet at the Connections Center this morning and get to know and pray for them.
Look for the books today between services!
Email Jan Roe if you have questions about the booklet: jroe@mdpc.org

Outreach Committees Need You!

We're seeking 18 volunteers to join the five subcommittees. When you serve on one of these local or global teams, you have the privilege of seeing God at work through the work of our ministry partners. Between February and September, you'll learn about, pray with, and participate in annual reviews of the ministry partners. Meet monthly to report on the reviews, make recommendations for funding support, and vote, and these are sent to Session for approval.
If you feel God calling you to serve in Outreach, email Stan Simmons (cssimmons49@gmail.com) for details.

Alpha Winter 2019

Alpha is a great place to invite people to explore faith and discuss the big questions of life. An 8-week series of interactive sessions that allows people to experience Jesus for themselves and make their own decisions about faith. Free dinner and free childcare.
Tuesdays, February 5-March 26 | 6:30-8:15 PM
Info and RSVP: alpha.mdpc.org

Girls' Getaway: Spring is Coming!

Join us on our annual retreat for a time of refreshment, laughter, and fun! All adult women are welcome.
February 1-3 | Jordan Ranch in Schulenburg, Texas \$160 (includes all lodging and meals)
Details and registration: getaway.mdpc.org

Walking the Mourner's Path

A Christ-centered grief program to help 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. Guided by trained facilitators.
Wednesdays, Feb 6-April 3 | 3:30-5:00 PM | MC 116 \$30 for materials
Register at grief.mdpc.org or with Beverly Fluke: bfluke@mdpc.org or 713-490-9542

This week, please pray for these MDPC ministry partners:

Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse provides support services, education, and legal representation to individuals impacted by domestic violence; battering intervention and services for individuals who commit violence; and educational curriculum to prevent violence in the future.
avda-tx.org

AIDS Foundation leads the innovative efforts in prevention of new HIV infections. It empowers individuals, families, and communities affected by HIV/AIDS to create and sustain healthy lives. Case managers work with clients to develop individualized plans including referrals to housing, health, and employment resources.
aidshelp.org

MDPC Field Partner Urgessa, founder of Light of Hope Ministry, serves in Ethiopia. His vision is to bring the Good News of God's love, expressed in the life and death of Jesus, to the Muslim people groups of Ethiopia, beginning with the Arssi Oromo people. Light of Hope carries out its mission through building village schools and literacy programs, Bible translation into local dialects, and the vision of establishing a Christian college to train teachers and nurses. We partner with Urgessa through Frontier Fellowship.
frontierfellowship.com

Hunger Bust at Houston Food Bank

MDPC is fighting hunger by sending teams to Houston Food Bank to prep meals that help families struggling with hunger. Come serve with us tomorrow!
Monday, Jan 14 | 8:00 AM-Noon | Meet at MDPC at 8:00 AM to ride the bus, or at HFB at 8:45.
Sign up: bpbuddy.mdpc.org

2019 Church in the City

The entire MDPC family will again serve together on a Sunday morning at Houston Food Bank!
Sunday, February 24
Register today: citc.mdpc.org

MDPC Engineering-YA Meet n' Greet

Young Adult Ministry invites all the engineers at MDPC to an intergenerational meet 'n greet. Whether you're actively working in engineering or have it as a background field of work or study, come on out!
Thursday, Jan 17 | 5:30-7:00 PM | Seasons 52
RSVP or questions, email Christyn: cknoop@mdpc.org

Youth Baseball, Softball, and Volleyball

Baseball and softball is for boys and girls in pre-K to 6th grade. Volleyball is for girls in 4th through 8th grade who are not in club volleyball.
All practices begin the week of March 18.
Games: Saturdays, March 23-May 18
Register by February 17 (\$120): sports.mdpc.org

Discover MDPC

Want to know more about MDPC? Thinking about membership? Plan to attend this brief informational meeting led by Pastor Alf. No commitment required! Learn what it means to be part of our faith community.
Sunday, Jan 27 | 10:45-11:15 AM | Gathering Room

New Member Class Intensive

If you are interested in membership, or in becoming a Christian, any of our pastors would love to meet you and discuss your questions! The February session is an "intensive," condensing the normally four-Sunday course into a Friday evening and Saturday morning.
February 1-2 | Parlor (Friday eve & Saturday morn.)
Register: membership.mdpc.org

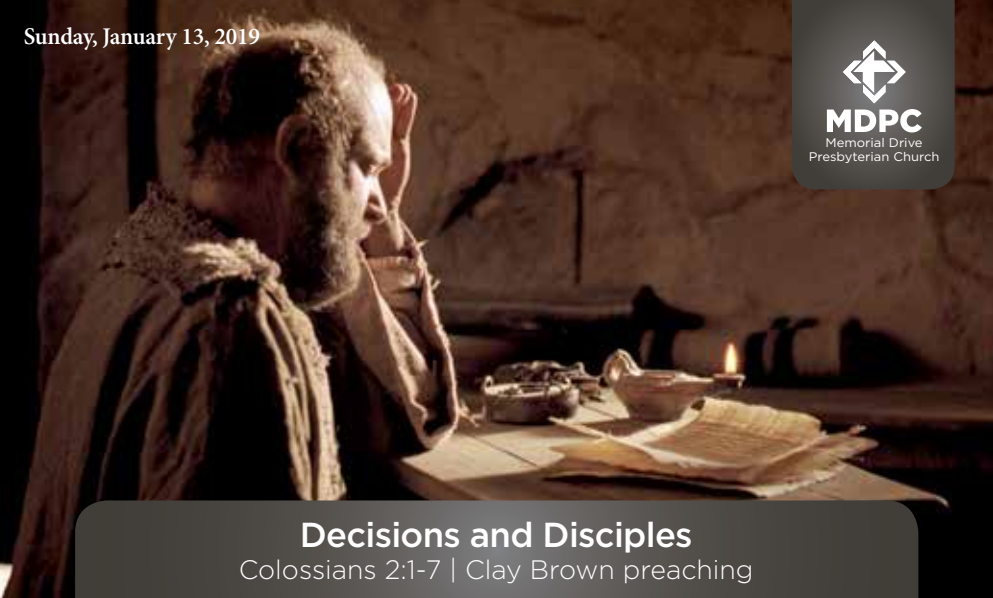
March Dadness

Step up your game as a dad with other MDPC DADS participating in the five-week "March Dadness" study.
Tuesdays, February 5-March 5 | 6:30-7:45 AM
Coffee will be served!
dadness.mdpc.org

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

MDPC's 2019 Operating Budget is pending review and approval by MDPC Session.

Sunday, January 13, 2019



Decisions and Disciples
Colossians 2:1-7 | Clay Brown preaching

* Please stand if able. 8:30 AM BLENDED CCLI # 182374

WELCOME	Phil Warman
*SONGS OF PRAISE	
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON	Dave Steane
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE	
MESSAGE	Decisions and Disciples Colossians 2:1-7 Clay Brown
RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE	

9:45 AM CONTEMPORARY

WORSHIP INVITATION	
SONG OF PRAISE	
PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE	Sarah Stone
MESSAGE	Decisions and Disciples Colossians 2:1-7 Clay Brown
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE	

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

11:15 AM TRADITIONAL

PRELUDE	Sonata in A Minor	C.P.E. Bach (1714-1788)
WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP		Beth Case
CHORAL INTROIT	The Heavens Are Telling the Glory of God (from The Creation)	Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)
*HYMN OF PRAISE	Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken	#446; Vs. 1, 3 AUSTRIAN HYMN
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE		Dave Steane
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from Romans 8		
ANTHEM	Gloria from Lord Nelson Mass	Joseph Haydn
OFFERTORY	Awake the Harp (from The Creation)	Joseph Haydn
MESSAGE	Decisions and Disciples Colossians 2:1-7	Clay Brown
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	I Surrender All	Vs. 1, 2 SURRENDER
POSTLUDE	Fanfare on Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken	arr. Gordon Young (1919-1998)

Musicians in this service: Miriam Belyatsky & Rasa Kalesnykaite, violin; Charles Hausmann, conductor; Kathryn White, piano/organ; Sanctuary Choir; Cassandra Black, Calvet Young, & Jason Zacher, introit soloists; Amanda Menzie, Monica Isomura, Brian Yeakley, & Jason Zacher, anthem soloists

TODAY

Second SUNDAY SUPPER

THE FIRST OF 2019!
SUNDAY, JANUARY 13
 11:00 AM-1:00 PM • Fellowship Hall

TODAY'S MENU
Entrée (\$10)
 Lemon-baked Cod or Grilled Pork Ribeye
 Served with Rice Pilaf, Mashed Potatoes, Honey Carrots,
 Steamed Butter Broccoli

Kids' Entrée (\$4) Chicken Tenders

Entrée Salad (\$10) Tuna Niçoise

Entrées include bread roll, dessert, and beverage, plus a choice of side salad, fruit, or Jell-O!



Partner in Prayer

PARTNER PACKETS ARE HERE! Are you excited to see who you're praying for this year? We're excited to show you!

Pick up today and next Sunday between services.

Through Partner In Prayer, 1,000s of people are prayed for every day. If you haven't signed up yet, you can still be a 2019 Partner In Prayer. Visit pip.mdpc.org.



MDPC Concert Series

2018-2019

Made up of top brass professionals in the Houston area, Gulf Coast Brass will make its debut concert as a group at MDPC. If you love the sound of brass, this is a must-hear concert!

Sunday, January 27
6:00 PM • Sanctuary
concerts.mdpc.org





MDPC CHURCH IN THE CITY

02.24.19





Register today: citc.mdpc.org

MDPC Young Adults on Mission 2019

We're traveling to serve with MDPC's amazing mission partner, The Micah Project. Come see the love of Christ while experiencing the beauty that is Honduras.

Wednesday-Sunday, March 20-24, 2019
\$600 out of pocket/\$600 fundraising

Email Trevor to learn more: tharris@mdpc.org

HUMAN SEXUALITY

MARRIAGE, FIDELITY, & SEXUAL SIN

SPEAKER DR. HARRY SCHAUMBURG
Wednesday, February 13 • 7:00 PM • MDPC

Harry Schaumburg is a speaker, author, and counselor specializing in the area of sexual sin in the church. He is the director of Stone Gate Resources and the author of *False Intimacy: Understanding the Struggle of Sexual Addiction* and *Undefined: Redemption from Sexual Sin, Restoration for Broken Relationships*.

MDPC welcomes Dr. Schaumburg as part of our Justice Initiative, undertaken as part of the fight to end human trafficking. Gaining an understanding of what fuels demand for sex-for-purchase and pornography can help decrease it, thus decreasing supply.

JUSTICE INITIATIVE

justice.mdpc.org

Bake Cookies for U.S. Troops

MDPC: Put on your aprons, dig out your bowls & spoons, and bake!

Sewing for Missions is collecting homemade cookies to make care packages for U.S. military abroad. Our soldiers receive any gift with hearts full of gratitude...but it's homemade treats they really crave.

CARE PACKAGE ASSEMBLY: February 7 • 9:30 AM-1:00 PM • CLC 170
Drop your cookies off or stay to help package. All are welcome!





EPISODE 2
GUEST: PASTOR ALF

Being Human

YOU'RE FINE. I'M FINE. EVERYTHING'S FINE.

Are emotions bad? Is counseling wrong? What does God think of us when we're anxious or depressed? How do the Bible and mental health intersect? Join seminarian Laurien Hook and Amanda Grace Caldwell, MA, LPC, in a podcast seeking answers to these questions and more.

Listen now: beinghuman.mdpc.org



Decisions and Disciples

Colossians 2:1-7 (NLT)

Clay Brown preaching

¹ I want you to know how much I have agonized for you and for the church at Laodicea, and for many other believers who have never met me personally.

² I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love. I want them to have complete confidence

that they understand God's mysterious plan, which is Christ Himself. ³ In Him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. ⁴ I am telling you this so no one will deceive you with well-crafted arguments. ⁵ For though I am far away from you, my heart is with you. And I rejoice that you are living as you should and that your faith in Christ is strong. ⁶ And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow Him. ⁷ Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

1. Think of an important decision you have made in your recent history. What made this decision so crucial? Why do really significant decisions change our lives in ways that go beyond what we think the decision will address?
2. According to Colossians 2:6a, from a Christian perspective, what is the most important decision a person is called upon to make? What does Christianity hold this decision to be singularly crucial?
3. After the decision regarding Christ in Colossians 2:6a, what does Paul urge his readers to do in Colossians 2:6b? Why is this expectation the natural result of the decision mentioned above? Why does Paul use the word "continue" as part of his urging?
4. In the first half of Colossians 2:7a, Paul uses an agricultural term and a construction term to describe what it means to be connected deeply with Christ. Why are these two terms so appropriate for what Paul is emphasizing? What can happen to a person's journey of faith if one or both of the terms is not applied to one's life?
5. In the second half of Colossians 2:7a, Paul states that our faith is meant to grow. By what means does he say this growth will take place. What does this mean imply for our personal lives? Our congregation's life? The life of the Christian community world-wide?
6. Putting Colossians 2:6b through 2:7a together, what do we focus on as Christian disciples in order to put into practice the instruction to "continue to follow Christ"? What spiritual disciplines and activities does this focus suggest? What do we say "no" to as well?
7. Paul concludes his advice to the Colossian believers with a comment about the result of Christian discipleship and its ongoing motivation in Colossians 2:7b. How is this motivation so different from the motivations usually offered by the world in general? By other religious views? By common American practical wisdom? Why is the difference so vital to a vibrant, dynamic Christian faith?

