

WORSHIP AT MDPC

8:30 AM BLENDED

WELCOME		Dave Steane
*SONGS OF PRAISE		
PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE		Beth Case
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	from the 2018 Confirmation Class' Statements of Faith	
Taken from the Statements of Faith by MacLean Arnett, Brayden Beardsley, Ian Casteel, Ruben Chavez, Henry Finnilla, Lucy Gaines, Lainie Hampton, and Anna Claire Raymer		
NEW MEMBERS		
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE		
MESSAGE	From Anger to Faith	Alf Halvorson
RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE		
*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION		

9:45 AM CONTEMPORARY

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP		Worship Team
MESSAGE	From Anger to Faith	Alf Halvorson
GIFTS OF GRATITUDE		Laura Miller
NEW MEMBERS		Dave Steane
CONFIRMATION		
Confirmands are listed on the back of this bulletin.		

BAPTISMS

Brayden Taylor Beardsley, daughter of Brett and Dayna Beardsley
 Collin Eric McKnight, son of Scott and Jennifer McKnight
 Ethan William McKnight, son of Scott and Jennifer McKnight
 Brennan Michael McKnight, son of Scott and Jennifer McKnight
 Aidan Maddox McKnight, son of Scott and Jennifer McKnight
 John Dylan Schick, son of John and Maria Schick
 Lauren Taylor Wall, daughter of Charles and Kristy Wall

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Musicians in these services: Meliza Gómez and Michael Middleton, worship leaders • Daniel Amaya, bass • Joe Gavito and Elliot Tate, guitars • Daniel Martinez, keys • Asher Pudlo, drums

11:15 AM TRADITIONAL

PRELUDE	<i>Blessed Is He</i>	Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP		Dave Steane
*HYMN OF PRAISE	<i>Rejoice, the Lord Is King</i>	#155; Vs. 1, 2, 3 DARWALL'S 148TH
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE		Beth Case
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	from the Statements of Faith of the 2018 Confirmation Class	
Taken from the Statements of Faith by MacLean Arnett, Brayden Beardsley, Ian Casteel, Ruben Chavez, Henry Finnilla, Lucy Gaines, Lainie Hampton, and Anna Claire Raymer		
ANTHEM	<i>Salvation Is Created</i>	Pavel Chesnokov (1877-1944)
NEW MEMBERS		
OUTREACH MOMENT		
OFFERTORY	<i>God of Grace and God of Glory</i>	Paul Langston (b.1928)
MESSAGE	From Anger to Faith	Alf Halvorson
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i>	#383; Vs. 1, 2 OLIVET
*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE	<i>Rejoice, the Lord Is King</i>	arr. Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)

Musicians in this service: Charles Hausmann, conductor • Kathryn White, organist • Brian Yeakley, soloist

*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

TODAY'S CONFIRMANDS

These youth, confirmed this morning, have been instructed in the Word of God and in the faith of the Christian church, have affirmed the promises of baptism, and have made public confession of faith in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

MacLean Arnett	Joanna Corona	Landon Long	Isla Ritchie
Matthew Arrascue	Noemi Corona	Archie Martin	Preston Rouse
Elaina Barrett	Miles Daughtry	Lauren Mavergeorge	David Satterwhite
Zach Bassett	Mitchell DeAyala	Collin McKnight	Dylan Schick
Brayden Beardsley	Jack Denny	Dylan Milam	Aiden Seidensticker
Michael Benes	Trey Engvall, III	Gracie Mitschke	Remi Sirmons
Harrison Brandt	Henry Finnilla	Jack Napier	Caroline Stiles
Kallie Carlson	Duncan Fry	Isaac Norris	Timothy Stone
Ian Casteel	Lucy Gaines	Bennett Odegard	Steven Tacconelly
Drew Caver	Drew Gilbert	Luke Peters	Lane Vandervoort
Julia Chapman	Lainie Hampton	Sam Puhala	Julia Walker
Alondra Chavez	Jack Harkins	Anna Claire Raymer	Lauren Wall
Ruben Chavez	Sebastian Keener	Stephanie Reyes	Clark Walton

HAPPENING AT MDPC

Registration Is Open! The Spoken Word

Experience God's Word in a special way and prepare your heart for the miracle of Easter! Come to read or to listen, strengthen your faith, and enjoy the fellowship experience of this Holy Week tradition at MDPC.
6:00 AM, March 26-Maundy Thursday, c. 4:00 PM
 Sign up to read: spokenword.mdpc.org

Save the Date: Dr. Mark Labberton

MDPC's Speaker Series welcomes Fuller Seminary President, Dr. Mark Labberton, a leader with a deep awareness of the urgency of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
Thursday, April 26 at MDPC
 Details coming soon at speakers.mdpc.org.

GO TEXAN

All-Church Lunch

Today in Fellowship Hall
 Served 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

We're serving up barbecue to get you in the rodeo spirit! Plates are \$10 per adult, \$4 per child under 12, or \$25 per family (2 adults, 3 kids).
food.mdpc.org

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

2018 Operating Budget	\$ 11,600,000
Expected Income to Date	\$ 1,454,364
Actual Income to Date (2/25/18)	\$ 1,549,744
Current Income Deficit	\$ 95,380
Needed to Meet 2018 Budget	\$ 10,050,256

Today's Chancel Flowers are given

- in memory of son, brother, and father Robert Steven Howard (June 14, 1968-Feb. 27, 2017), by Randy & Jo Howard and Ron Howard.
- for James Sartin, in loving memory, from his big sister Carolyn Moore.
- by Steve Jarvis and Ginger Benfield, in celebration of 33 years of marriage.

Please Pray for MDPC Ministry Partners

This week, we're lifting in prayer these MDPC partners:

Camp Aranzazu is a year-round barrier-free camp for children and adults with disabilities and chronic illnesses.
camparanzazu.org

Camp Blessing shows the love of Christ to people with disabilities and their siblings in a summer camp setting.
campblessing.org

Camp For All is a barrier-free camp that enriches the lives of individuals with special needs and challenging illnesses.
campforall.org

CanCare volunteers are cancer survivors, or family members of those affected by cancer, who offer long-term emotional support to cancer patients and their families.
cancare.org

Tihomir and Christine Kukulja direct *Renewing Our Minds*, a reconciliation program in Croatia that brings together different faiths using the teachings of Jesus.
forumforleadership.blogspot.com

Dr. M practices and teaches dentistry while sharing the Good News of Jesus with tribes living in poverty in South Asia. Please pray for Dr. M and his family.



Loving God. Proclaiming Christ. Living Generously. Engaging All.
 11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024 | mdpc.org | 713-782-1710



Third Sunday of Lent
 March 4, 2018



From Anger to Faith

Proverbs. 29:11; Ephesians 4:25-27; Mark 3:1-6
 Alf Halvorson preaching



Don't be late for church next Sunday! Set clocks forward one hour on Saturday night.

Next Sunday, March 11

MDPC NEW MEMBERS

Today we are so happy to introduce these 26 new members of the MDPC family! Learn a little more about each in the brief bios below, and join us in warmly welcoming them to MDPC.



Cathy Brown is the wife of MDPC's new Equipping Pastor, Clay Brown. They are the parents of three adult children, Taylor, Collin, and Blake. Cathy has previously been an English and Biology teacher for 6th–12th grades. She enjoys refinishing furniture, cooking, traveling, going to concerts, theater, and movies.



Prentiss Crowe is the father of an adult child, Dana Beck. He is a retired pharmacist. He enjoys leather working and making belts, and volunteering with The Gathering.



Mitch and Carlye Graydon are the parents of Cole (14) and Emily (11). Mitch is a division director for Unity Search. He enjoys running, biking, basketball, and coaching youth sports. Carlye is a veterinarian with Memorial-610 Hospital for Animals. Carlye is an avid endurance athlete. She enjoys swimming, jogging with her family, and flying over fences on hunter-jumper horses.



Jay and Jenny Lewis – Jay works in sales for Pivotal Software. He enjoys deep-sea fishing. Jenny is a 1st grade teacher at The Kinkaid School. She enjoys reading.



Dave Locascio is the husband of Vicki and they have three children, Alexis (21), Jackson (17), and Spencer (15). Dave is a lawyer for Hogan Lovells US LLP. He enjoys physical fitness and his kids' activities.



Chase and Caitlyn Luburger are the parents of Charlie (3) and Oliver (10 months). Chase is general manager for the Pappas Company. Caitlyn is a testing coordinator for Spring Branch ISD. They both love spending time with their children and extended family and are so excited to be joining MDPC.



Kimberlee Martin is a dental hygienist and business manager for Thomas R. O'Brien, DDS, Inc. Kimberlee has been a hygienist for 39 years. She is the founder of the Honduras Dental Project and has been leading mission trips to Honduras for the past 18 years. The Honduras Dental Project works in tandem with MDPC Global Mission partner, The Micah Project. Kimberlee is the aunt of Jennifer and James Wallis and great-aunt to Carter and Brynn Wallis, and newborn baby, Brooke.



Chad and Mimi Meacham are the parents of Mae (4) and Hazel (2). Chad is a general contractor for D.L. Meacham, LP. Mimi is a stay-at-home mom. Chad enjoys golfing and grilling. Mimi enjoys reading and exercising, especially yoga and walking. She also enjoys playing in the park, dressing-up, and art & crafts with her daughters.



Tom Moore is the husband of MDPC member Barbara Moore. They have three adult children and two grandchildren. Tom is retired and loves to volunteer at MDPC, especially in the kitchen.



Steve and Christina Morse are the parents of Emily (15), David (13), and Elizabeth (11). Steve works for Russell Reynolds Associates and Christina is a stay-at-home mom. They both enjoy golf, tennis, and water and snow skiing.



Blair and Lisa Nevins are the parents of Abbie (21) and Blake (19). Blair is an engineer with Nevins Engineering. He enjoys history, architecture, sports, and ranching. Lisa is a compensation analyst for Cypress Fairbanks ISD. She enjoys sewing, reading, and swimming.



Marc Palmer has a son, Marc (12). He works for Tahoe Ventures, Ltd. Marc enjoys traveling and spending time with his family.



Greg and Carrie Pearson are the parents of Lainey (15), Bennett (12), and Connor (8). Greg is a dermatologist with Memorial Dermatology. He enjoys golf, guitar, and snow skiing. Carrie is a CPA for Memorial Dermatology. She enjoys volunteering, tennis, traveling, and being with family and friends.



Lisa Ritchie is the wife of Norman Ritchie and they have two children, Isla (14) and Kian (12). She is a realtor with Keller Williams Memorial.



Phyllis Rouse is the wife of MDPC member, Barrett Rouse, and they are the parents of Preston (14), Brooks (12), Claire (11), and Emily (9). She is a stay-at-home mom. Their family enjoys spending time at their youth camp, Stoney Creek Ranch, working together and participating in the urban summer program. She also enjoys cheering on her children in various sports.



Kay Threet is married to husband, John, and they are the parents of two adult daughters, Emily and Libby. Kay is a settlement analyst with Texon. She enjoys leisure reading and walking for exercise.



Edgar Torres graduated from Texas A&M in 2015 and is now a graduate student at University of Houston studying Mechanical Engineering. He enjoys traveling internationally, especially to Italy, and running for Living Water International with his girlfriend, Ellie Tendall.



Violeta Valazquez is the mother to one son, Johnny (15). She works in cosmetology. She enjoys traveling and volunteering.



Ed Watson is the father to three adult children and their spouses and is the grandfather to six grandchildren. He is retired. He enjoys volunteering in the MDPC kitchen.

New Member Service Day at EAST SPRING BRANCH FOOD PANTRY

New Member Classes end with a Saturday spent serving in the community. This time, they helped out a long-time MDPC ministry partner, East Spring Branch Food Pantry. It provided 1,000 turkeys and meals-in-a-bag to clients last Thanksgiving, and YOUR generous bag donations played a huge part in making that outreach possible!



IS IT TIME FOR YOU TO JOIN MDPC?

DISCOVER MDPC WITH ALF

Want to know more about MDPC? Thinking about membership? Discover MDPC is a brief informational meeting 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.

Sunday, March 25 | 10:45-11:10 AM | Gathering Room

NEXT NEW MEMBER CLASS

If you are interested in membership, or in becoming a Christian, any of our pastors would love to meet you and discuss your questions! Taught by our Pastors and Elders, the class includes an outreach service project.

Sundays, April 8-29 | 11:00 AM | Parlor

Visit membership.mdpc.org to register for the next New Member Class.

Contact Diann Turet with questions: dturet@mdpc.org, 713-490-9553



Deadly Sins and Saving Virtues

Author Les Carter wrote a book about anger. In it, he listed 13 steps to a life of misery. Thirteen ways to mold yourself into a living, walking volcano. Here is his summary:

- 1) Take pride in being a perfectionist.** Some of the angriest people in the world are perfectionists. People who expect perfection from others or from themselves are guaranteed to find frustration. The picky person wants each and every little thing to fit in its prescribed position. Everything and everybody has its place and function. This person will angrily busy himself in trying desperately to make the world perfect.
- 2) Don't listen to anybody else's point of view.** If a person is dedicated to being angry, he won't allow any give and take. He will insist that no one else knows what he's talking about. He will not stop until he has completely expressed his opinions - at least eight times. Who cares what anybody else has to say!
- 3) Hold down so firmly to your religious convictions that you can't help but condemn someone who disagrees with you.** Most Christians know that they're correct in their beliefs. This must mean that anyone else that has any other idea must be wrong. Angry people will have scorn rather than love and patience for people who hold different beliefs.

- 4) **Never have a good time.** The next time you are engaging in some light conversation, throw in some gloomy comments about the state of the economy. Talk endlessly about the rising crime rate. Angry people will think only of the dark side of life.
- 5) **Overload your schedule.** People who load up their free time with one responsibility after another will sooner or later protest that they aren't getting their fair share out of life. By being so busy, they'll probably lose a lot of sleep and this can be an extra bonus, since anyone who does not get proper sleep is going to become irritable.
- 6) **Expect others to cater to your every whim: be selfish.** Have high expectations for what other people ought to do for you.
- 7) **Constantly demand your rights.**
- 8) **Make fun of things such as love and gentleness.** You might as well face it, it's a competitive world out there, especially men, make it clear that it's strictly a woman's duty to do the loving things of life...like spending time with children or buying cards for relatives. Concern yourself with real men's work and pride yourself on being tough.
- 9) **Practice shouting.** Common sense tells us that speaking in a soft caring voice will help create an atmosphere of harmony. Since your goal is to create the opposite, you'll want to try to be intimidating in the way you talk to people. In discussions, if other people don't agree with you right away, just yell at them! Not only does it create tension, but it also teaches them the role modeling of how they should behave. By setting this type of example in your home, perhaps your children or spouse will imitate you. Think of all the wild scenes this will create.
- 10) **Worship money and material possessions.**
- 11) **Don't ever look at your personality to examine your strengths and weaknesses.** If you are ever going to succeed at becoming a "volcanic" person, don't try to improve yourself. Anyone who looks seriously at his own personality flaws might actually find ways to become more mature. Don't do that. One way to keep from looking at your weaknesses, he, is to simply deny that you have any.
- 12) **Have no compassion for people who are suffering, you are a self-made person.** You've picked yourself up by the boot straps to make yourself what you are, everyone else ought to do the same.
- 13) **Learn to nag and criticize.** Look for the worst in people and focus on it. Whatever you do, don't ever try to find ways that you can be of help in someone else's troubled spots. Think only of how you can make people aware of their faults. If you don't point out their problems, who will?

So, there you have it. Thirteen easy steps to a life of anger and misery. Some of you say, "My boss is on that plan! He's several steps down the pike there." Some of you are saying, "My spouse must have read that book!" Or, my mom or my dad.

But today, perhaps you will look at your own heart and discern *your* AQ...your Anger Quotient.



From Anger to Faith

Prov. 29:11; Eph. 4:25-27; Mark 3:1-6
Alf Halvorson preaching

and asking the Holy Spirit to help us grow more like Jesus, naturally exhibiting more of the virtues than the sins.

As we talk about deadly sins and saving virtues, please remember we do not create a relationship with God by our obedience to God's law or through our inherent goodness. Instead, we experience a relationship with God solely by God's initiative, by "grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone" in the terminology of the Protestant Reformation. This week, as we turn to the deadly sin of anger and the virtue of faith, it is important to remember that we are not working our way into God's favor, but we are being realistic about our sinful nature

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Proverbs 29:11

ESV: *A fool gives full vent to his spirit, but a wise man quietly holds it back.*

NLT: *Fools vent their anger, but the wise quietly hold it back.*

Ephesians 4:25-27

ESV: *Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.*

NLT: *So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, for anger gives a foothold to the devil.*

Mark 3:1-6

ESV: *Again He entered the synagogue, and a man was there with a withered hand. And they watched Jesus, to see whether He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him. And He said to the man with the withered hand, "Come here." And He said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. And He looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. The Pharisees went out and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against Him, how to destroy Him.*

NLT: *Jesus went into the synagogue again and noticed a man with a deformed hand. Since it was the Sabbath, Jesus' enemies watched Him closely. If He healed the man's hand, they planned to accuse Him of working on the Sabbath. Jesus said to the man with the deformed hand, "Come and stand in front of everyone." Then He turned to His critics and asked, "Does the law permit good deeds on the Sabbath, or is it a day for doing evil? Is this a day to save life or to destroy it?" But they wouldn't answer Him. He looked around at them angrily and was deeply saddened by their hard hearts. Then He said to the man, "Hold out your hand." So the man held out his hand, and it was restored! At once the Pharisees went away and met with the supporters of Herod to plot how to kill Jesus.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Introducing: Getting Ready to Discuss the Passage

- For the benefit of new members to the group, introduce each other again (like you did last week). Share briefly something that happened last week that made you angry – such as Houston traffic, a misunderstanding with a spouse or friend, unfair treatment at work, life's irritations, etc.
- Do you view anger as a catalyst to positive action or do you view anger as always destructive? Is it a "both/and" or an "either/or"? Why?

Discovering: What the Passages Say

- In Galatians, Paul tells us that a fruit of the Holy Spirit is self-control (Galatians 2:22). In Proverbs 29:11, who shows more self-control: the fool or the wise person? Which one is more likely to exact collateral damage with their behavior? Share briefly your experience with venting.

- In both versions of Proverbs 29:11, what is it that the wise person holds back? It does not say that the wise person gets rid of their anger. Do you think this distinction is important? Discuss.
- In the translations of Ephesians 4:25-27, it appears that verse 25 is unrelated to verses 26 and 27, however, when you look at the original language (Greek) you see that they are related. How are lying and anger connected?
- Compare the two translations for Ephesians 4:25-27, especially the first part of verse 26. Does the dynamic equivalence translation (New Living Translation) help you to understand the essentially literal (English Standard Version) translation? Discuss briefly when anger has controlled you or when you have seen someone controlled by anger. What was the outcome?
- What miracle does Jesus perform in Mark 3:1-6? When does He perform it? What opportunity does this miracle provide for Jesus' enemies?
- In Mark 3:5, Jesus is angry. Who or what is the object of His anger? How does He challenge them (it)? What other emotion does He experience besides anger?

Exploring: What the Passages Mean

- Donald Capps in *Deadly Sins & Saving Virtues* (p. 30) says that anger is “emotional agitation aroused by great displeasure.” We cannot control being angry, but we can control how we react to it and how we feed it. For example, Capps defines rage as “a violent outburst of anger in which self-control is lost, and fury is an overwhelming rage of such frenzy that it borders on madness.” How do we avoid letting anger become rage or fury? How do we practice the advice of “holding back” anger in Proverbs 29:11?
- In Ephesians 4:27, Paul gives us practical instructions not to let the sun go down on our anger. What does this mean? How do we do this? What are the consequences of not doing this? How does avoiding this advice give the devil a “foothold” or “opportunity” in our lives?
- In the Mark passage, the Pharisees demonstrate their stern code for the Sabbath, and Jesus interjects a criterion of compassion for practicing the Sabbath. What are your Sabbath practices? How important are they to you and why?
- How do we manage anger in the face of the day-to-day irritations of life? For example, would people guess by your driving in Houston traffic that you are a Christian? If not, what are practical ways of exercising self-control in this context?
- How does faith intersect with anger? Discuss.

Applying: Wrestling with the Implications of the Passages for Our Lives

- One implication of this study is we all have the possibility of anger controlling our lives. How does the Bible speak to this problem? How does faith in God's grace through Jesus help?
- Another implication is we may choose, at least in part, to control our anger. What changes do you need to make to control anger in your life? As you reflect on this, consider the following areas:
 - My behavior and/or attitude with family members, work colleagues, good friends, neighbors, and others with whom I spend time
 - My response when someone wrongs me
 - My schedule
 - My personal priorities and goals
 - Other areas not listed.
- Still another implication is anger can be dangerous and destructive. What causes you to be angry? What patterns or habits can you establish to resolve anger before the sun goes down?
- Yet one more implication of this study is our responsibility to self-manage. There is a story from the mission field of a tribe that would visualize in their minds a black dog and a white dog fighting, one representing evil and one representing good. When a missionary asked a tribesman which dog wins, the answer was, “the one who gets fed.” What emotions are you feeding? Where do these emotions lead you in word and deed?

