

HAPPENING AT MDPC

2nd Annual Young Adult Christmas Party

Come ready to mix, mingle, mistletoe, assemble care packages for our college students, have deep conversations in a corner, or just people watch. It's BYOB + pot luck, so please bring something to share.

Saturday, Dec 1 | 7:00 PM

Details and address on the MDPC Young Adult Facebook Page, or text Christyn at 281-734-0914. 20s & 30s, we'll see you there!

Turn Black Friday into BLESS Friday!

Be a part of BLESS Friday and share God's love!

This Friday, Nov 23

Details inside this bulletin.

Christmas for Kids

MDPC Women is partnering with Small Steps Nurturing Center to provide 160 siblings of children in their programs with Christmas gifts. We hope you will join us on this journey of generosity.

Sundays in Nov: Pick up forms and a large bag to put gifts in. Return wrapped gifts by Dec 3.

More information: gifts.mdpc.org

Treats For Your Feast!

Pumpkin Pie \$12 • Pecan Pie \$16

Chocolate Chip Cookies: Half-dz \$6 • Baker's dz \$12

Cranberry Bread \$7 (with or without nuts)

Pick up Nov. 20-21 • 8:00 AM-2:00 PM

Order deadline is TODAY: treats.mdpc.org

Advent Silent Retreat

Everyone is welcome. Villa de Matel provides a beautiful, quiet, reverent setting to stop and listen to God.

Monday, Dec 3 | 9:00 AM-2:30 PM

Villa de Matel | \$30 (includes lunch and supplies)

Register: silentretreat.mdpc.org

Women's Christmas Coffee

Join MDPC women for a fun kick-off to the Christmas season! Invite your friends and come enjoy the festivities, coffee, wassail, and treats at this holiday tradition.

The Yellow School kiddos will lead us in a few carols.

Tuesday, Dec 4 | 9:30-11:00 AM | Parlor

Free childcare by reservation: coffee.mdpc.org

Merry & Bright

The Contemporary Music Program and REACH art classes will host an art show and Christmas music concert with a special performance art piece.

Wednesday, Dec 12 | 6:30 PM

Art viewing begins at 6:30 PM (Chapel Hallway), then the concert at 7:00 PM (Chapel), followed by a reception hosted by Fuente Ministries (Summit Room).

Toy Train Is Here!

All year long, MDPC's Mobile Unit offers low-cost and free home goods and necessities to nearby low-income neighborhoods. At Christmastime, it hands out toys! Donations of new, unwrapped toys for ages newborn to 12 would be very much appreciated.

Collecting toys through Tuesday, Dec. 18

More information: toys.mdpc.org

Concert Series: Choral Christmas Concert

The concert features Karl Jenkins' *Gloria*, along with the highlight of this year's Series: The world premiere of a multi-movement work by acclaimed Mormon Tabernacle Conductor/Composer-in-Residence, Mack Wilberg, commissioned by the MDPC Sanctuary Choir.

Sunday, Dec 16 | 6:00 PM | Sanctuary

concerts.mdpc.org

College Ski Trip 2K19

Start 2019 with a memorable few days tearing up the Colorado slopes! Cost includes lodging, meals on non-travel days, lift tickets, and ski/board rentals.

Tuesday-Sunday, January 1-6

\$495 (\$200 deposit due Dec 1, balance by Dec 20)

Learn more: collegeskitrip.mdpc.org

Married Life Prep

Couples are invited to join us for a four-week course taught by Brett and Kellie Hurst of Home Encouragement. It combines Biblical teaching with the best current marriage research. Open to engaged couples and those in their first 2-3 years of marriage.

Sundays, January 6-27 | 10:00 AM-Noon | CLC 171

Register: mlp.mdpc.org

Today's Chancel Flowers are given by

• Gertrud Schroeder, in honor of Hermann Schroeder.

This week, please pray for these MDPC Ministry Partners:

Souper Bowl of Caring is a global youth-led mission that raises money for people who are hungry and hurting. A Houston citywide food drive is held every February. Since 1990, hundreds of thousands of young people have experienced the joy and satisfaction of giving and serving, inspiring people of all ages to follow their generous example. souperbowl.org

SIRE Therapeutic Equestrian Centers improves the quality of life for disabled individuals through therapeutic horseback riding. Equestrian therapy improves muscle tone, balance, and coordination, and increases cognitive skills. Students benefit emotionally by building feelings of self-reliance and accomplishment, and socially by developing meaningful relationships with volunteers, and bonding with the horse. sire-hitec.org

New Life With Education in Guatemala is a Christ-centered school providing education for disabled students through the sixth grade. These children struggle to gain an education in the overcrowded Guatemalan school system. Judy Kerschner, MDPC member and partner in ministry, designed this school to give dignity and education to students who would otherwise be forgotten. newlifeguatemala.com

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

2018 Operating Budget	\$ 11,600,000
Expected Income to Date	\$ 7,564,236
Actual Income to Date (11/11/18)	\$ 7,808,190
Current Income Surplus	\$ 243,954
Needed to Meet 2018 Budget	\$ 3,791,810

Sunday, November 18, 2018

HOW TO GET CLOSER TO GOD

A New Way to Study | Psalm 1

8:30 AM BLENDED

WELCOME

Rachel Poysky

*SONGS OF PRAISE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Phil Warman

SONG OF RESPONSE

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

MESSAGE

A New Way to Study
Psalm 1

Martha Moore

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

9:45 AM CONTEMPORARY

WORSHIP INVITATION

BAPTISMS

Zachary Lynn Carwile, son of Ryne and Jessica Carwile
Rhodes Theodore Davis, son of Theodore and Emily Davis
Julia Bentley Knoop, daughter of Alex and Christyn Knoop

Rachel Poysky

*MOMENT OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Sarah Stone

MESSAGE

A New Way to Study
Psalm 1

Martha Moore

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

PRELUDE

Fugue from Sonata No. 2

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rachel Poysky

CHORAL INTROIT

O Clap Your Hands

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

#446; Vs. 1, 2, 3 | AUSTRIAN HYMN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Dan Aikins

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Apostles' Creed

ANTHEM

Ubi Caritas (Where Charity and Love Are Found)

Ola Gjeilo (b.1978)

OFFERTORY

Sing to God (from The Creation)

Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

MESSAGE

A New Way to Study
Psalm 1

Martha Moore

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

We Gather Together

#559; Vs. 1, 3 | KREMSE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

God of Grace and God of Glory

arr. Hal Hopson (b.1933)

Musicians in this service: Charles Hausmann, conductor; Kathryn White, piano/organ; Sanctuary Choir

* Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374



MDPC

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

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

When HOPE was Born

Family Christmas Festival

Sunday, December 2 | 5:00-7:00 PM

Dinner*, Bingo, Face Painting, Advent Calendar Jars, a Hot Chocolate Bar, a Service Project, and more!

*RSVP for dinner at hope.mdpc.org (\$8/adult • \$4/child • \$28 family max).



Partner+ in Prayer

Partners In Prayer commit to praying for their fellow MDPC members and a mission partner, each day for one year. Pastor Alf's goal is to have 1,000 or more Prayers for 2019. Help make it happen!

To learn more and sign up:

pip.mdpc.org

YOUTH CONFIRMATION 2019

For students currently in 8th grade or above. It's a time to **focus** on what it means to **follow Jesus** and be part of His church.

Confirmation classes begin **Sunday, January 6, 2019**

Details at the link. Register by December 3:

confirmation.mdpc.org

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.



Preview Episode 1! Available now with more coming soon: beinghuman.mdpc.org

Mission Market Opens Soon!

Sundays, December 2-23
Sanctuary Lobby between services

When you purchase MM Christmas cards to gift to friends and family, **100% of money received** is sent to the MDPC ministry partner(s) of your choice. Your cards **support medical mission** in Guatemala, **spread the Gospel message** in our community, **minister to children orphaned by AIDS**, and so much more.

missionmarket.mdpc.org

Mission Market
Christmas Cards



New card for 2018!

THIS FRIDAY!

BLESS FRIDAY

BLACK FRIDAY IS ABOUT SHOPPING BLESS FRIDAY IS ABOUT SERVING

Friday, November 23, 2018

Giving thanks for all God has blessed us with can be as simple as serving lunch to moms and their children at a local mission or filling shoeboxes with small surprises for seafarers far from home. Be a part of BLESS Friday this year and share God's love!

Registration for service projects and instructions for at-home projects are at the link below.

blessfriday.mdpc.org

Open Door Mission

On Friday, Nov. 23 • Registration required

We will take down Thanksgiving decorations, pack for storage, and decorate the campus for Christmas. As we work, we'll pray over the rooms and for the residents and staff. Wear a festive outfit and be ready to spread some good cheer! Must be at least 10 years old.

Contact Dick Ebling with questions: richardebling@gmail.com

Cornerstone Community

On Friday, Nov. 23 • Registration required

Share God's love as you prepare and serve lunch to the moms and their children living at Cornerstone Community. Must be in high school or older.

Contact Trevor Harris with questions: tharris@mdpc.org

Houston Food Bank

On Friday, Nov. 23 • Registration required

Help feed hungry families. We will work on several projects in HFB's kitchen and warehouse. Ride the church bus from MDPC. Must be 6 years & older.

Contact Sharon Fox with questions: ssfox@icloud.com

Houston International Seafarers

At-home project

Fill Christmas Shoeboxes to brighten and lift the spirits of lonely seafarers, away from home and confined on board in the Port of Houston. Fill shoeboxes with items listed at blessfriday.mdpc.org, wrap in Christmas paper, and bring to the Sanctuary Breezeway on Sun, Nov. 25.

Contact Robert Casteel with questions: robert.casteel@us.ibm.com

Kids' Meals

At-home project

Help feed hungry preschool children by making non-perishable meal packs for the 4,000 preschool age children that KM feeds daily. Assemble the packs at home (instructions at blessfriday.mdpc.org) and bring to church Breezeway on Sun, Nov. 25.

Contact Julie Hempel with questions: hempeljulie@gmail.com

MDPC Food Pantry

At-home project

Bag Beans and Rice, a staple for the over 200 families that visit the pantry weekly on our campus. Fill baggies according to instructions at blessfriday.mdpc.org, then bring them to the Sanctuary Breezeway on Sun, Nov. 25.

Contact Jan Roe with questions: jroe@mdpc.org

We continue our three-Sunday series on *How to Get Closer to God*. James 4:8 says, “Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.” There are many spiritual disciplines believers turn to that bring them closer to God. During this brief series, we focus on praying, meditating on, and memorizing God’s word.

1. Last week, Pastor Alf encouraged us to draw closer to God by praying the psalms. What was your experience in this “means of grace” this week?
2. This week, we draw closer to God through the practice of meditation. What comes to mind when you hear the word *meditation* – apprehension or anticipation? Tell us more about that.
3. What energizes you about the purpose of meditation? What are some of the benefits you most want to experience in your own life?
4. How does knowing some of the pitfalls of meditation equip you to begin this practice in your own devotional life?
5. It was said that you can’t learn to meditate by reading about it in a book, but rather that we learn to meditate by meditating. With that in mind, consider spending the remaining time together engaging in one or more of the following methods of meditation. Whether a lifelong practitioner or a new beginner, give yourself and others grace.
Using Psalm 1, pick one verse to which you feel drawn, and emphasize one-by-one each of the different words in that verse. This may be done silently or aloud, verbally or written. The point is not to just say the words, but to think deeply, to notice closely what leaps up in your heart as you turn the words over in your mouth.
But they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night
But they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night
But they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night...
6. Rewrite Psalm 1 in your own words, paraphrasing the text and personalizing it to your current life situation. Ruthlessly cut out all “religious” words like sinners or righteous.
7. Draw a picture, find one in a magazine, sing a song, write a poem, or use some creative expression available to you that illustrates how you are experiencing God through this psalm.
8. Listen for how God is speaking to you personally through this psalm. Is there a promise for you to trust? A command to obey? An encouragement to share with another? A task to complete? Donald Whitney counsels us to say to ourselves, “I will not close my Bible until I know at least one thing the Lord wants me to do with this verse.”

HOW TO GET CLOSER TO GOD

A New Way to Study

Psalm 1

Martha Moore preaching

