

Loving God: Worship

Glorify God by increasing worship participation by **10%** annually for five years.

POINT PERSON: Alf Halvorson (ahalvorson@mdpc.org)

This committee is working on a multipronged approach that will be unveiled during the summer of 2017. Already in implementation are plans to increase the visibility of children, youth, and young adults in our services, particularly the 9:45 Contemporary Service. This year, the Music Box Kids helped lead worship several times, and youth and young adults have participated in many different facets of worship, including music, offering collection, reading Scripture, and leading the Prayers of Confession.

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Loving God: Bible Study

Treasure God's Word in our hearts by adding **5** strategic, deep **BIBLE STUDY** opps for under-represented groups.

POINT PERSON: Martha Moore (marthamoore@mdpc.org)

Three strategic and deep Bible study opportunities will launch Fall 2017:

- 1. LIVE JUSTLY facilitated by Gena Etherton an in-depth scriptural and practical 10 week study to help people live justly in 6 key areas of life: advocacy, prayer, consumption, generosity, creation care and relationships.
- 2. LIFE GROUPS (tentative name) facilitated by Jane and Bart Henson a school year-long weekly multi-generational Bible study and small group focusing on making disciples. (begins this summer with book study on DiscipleShift)
- 3. Sacred Rhythms (tentative name) facilitated by Martha Moore and Jeanmarie Tade a ten week study of spiritual practices that open us to God's transforming love using Sacred Rhythms by Ruth Haley Barton
- 4. New Young Married class a collaborative effort between Equipping, Relationships and Young Adults
- 5. Several ideas under consideration including an After Alpha opportunity, Scripture Memory class, How To 101 (how to grow in faith, how to pray, how to love neighbor, how to use spiritual gifts), stay tuned!

Loving God: Prayer

Increase Partner In Prayer participation to 1,000+ people.

POINT PERSON: Rick Myers (<u>rmyers@mdpc.org</u>)

Caring Ministries continues to invite new and current membes to become a Partner in Prayer. Signups will be available at the Connection Center Sunday, May 28, as Pastor Halvorson's sermon unpacks Jesus' prayer to His Father.

Intentionally **MENTOR 25** new key servant-leaders annually. **POINT PERSON: Brett Hurst (bhurst@mdpc.org)**

The mentoring initiative, entitled "Partners in Leadership", is currently more than halfway to its initial projected goal. People can find out how to become part of a leadership pairing process by visiting <u>partnersinleadership.mdpc.org</u>. Brett Hurst may be reached at <u>bhurst@mdpc.org</u>.

Proclaiming Christ: Small Groups

DOUBLE SMALL GROUPS meaningfully connected in fellowship.

POINT PERSON: Jeanmarie Tade (jtade@mdpc.org)

Equipping is working with Young Adults, Relationships, and Youth to determine a baseline number of those currently involved in small groups. This will be completed in summer 2017. We are identifying participants for a multi-generational lay leaders and church staff committee. Also, we are researching small group initiatives from other churches (Grace Presbyterian, Kingwood Presbyterian, Christ Evangelical). Finally this summer (June/July) a Wednesday night group of interested individuals will study DiscipleShift by Jim Putman, Bob Harrington, and Robert Coleman. We have a target of at least two small group initiatives fall 2017, one congregation-wide book study or Bible study and one or more small groups based on DiscipleShift. Please let us know if you or someone you know would be interested in joining any of these efforts. Jeanmarie Tade, Interim Adult Ministries Director, jtade@mdpc.org.

Proclaiming Christ: Speakers Series

Bring in **4 HIGH-PROFILE SPEAKERS** annually to inspire and integrate faith and life.

POINT PERSON: Alf Halvorson (ahalvorson@mdpc.org)

In January of 2017, shortly before the Super Bowl, MDPC hosted Hall of Famer Bruce Matthews, who spoke about his career, family, and faith. In April, an overflow crowd in the Chapel enjoyed hearing from the winsome Admiral Margaret Kibben. We look forward to Dr. Adam Winn of Fuller Theological Seminary in June, as he concludes our Wednesday Night Study - Heartbreaks, Hopes & Heroes series. Dr. Winn will talk about the 400 years of "silence" between the Old and New Testaments. Additionally, MDPC has just recently booked nationally-acclaimed author Eric Mataxas for Tuesday, October 10. Mataxas is best known for his biography of Deitrich Bonhoffer.

We are currently putting a task force together of church members who have interest or influence or both to help shape this initiative and start identifying and booking speakers for the future. If you are interested or have suggestions for the committee, please contact Jeanmarie Tade, Interim Adult Ministries Director, <u>jtade@mdpc.org</u>.

Highlight 1-2 MISSION THEMES or emphases annually to "rally" congregational engagement.

POINT PERSON: Amy Delgado (adelgado@mdpc.org)

Children's Hunger: In the Houston region, the percentage of food insecure children last year increased from 24.7% to 26%. Food insecurity in this young population is on the rise, and statistics show that nutrition plays the most critical role in brain development in ages 3 and under. The Children's Hunger team has been meeting since mid-March to develop a strategy for engaging the MDPC congregation in hunger relief efforts in Houston with a special consideration for children/families. Meetings with agencies and key players in the hunger arena have taken place as the team works to solidify the strategy and activities for this initiative. Plans are being made to launch this fall with volunteer opportunities and ways to engage in our community.

Human Trafficking: Houston is known to be hub for domestic and international human trafficking. Our Human Trafficking core team is actively working to educate themselves on the current situation of our city, gather information on counter-trafficking efforts, meet with agencies, and develop a strategy for MDPC to engage our members and our community, and with God's help, affect change. The team recently took a bus tour to observe trafficking "businesses" not far from the church. The team is looking forward to launching efforts later in the year related to education and awareness, legislative and community engagement, and volunteering with trafficking non-profits.

2

Living Generously: Increase Giving

Increase pledgers and those committed to percentage GIVING/TITHING BY 5% annually.

POINT PERSON: Dave Steane (dsteane@mdpc.org)

The 2018 Generosity Committee is meeting monthly. In addition to developing the 2018 campaign, they are looking at a variety of ways to postively affect giving and tithing.



Living Generously: Sunday Serve

ONE Sunday annually, WORSHIP BY SERVING in our community, side by side with partners and friends.

POINT PERSON: Rachel Poysky (rpoysky@mdpc.org)

Rachel and her team have just begun meeting, and have set a date for Sunday, February 25, 2018 for an all church Serve Sunday. They are studying a variety of different options and ministries where the congregation might serve on that day.

Engaging All: Hospitality

Create a **HOSPITALITY DEPARTMENT** to increase evangelism and congregational involvement and buy-in. Goal of **5 BELIEVER BAPTISMS** annually.

POINT PERSON: Dave Steane (dsteane@mdpc.org)

This committee is close to finishing the job description, reporting structure, and duties of a Hospitality Director, but the position probably won't be filled until 2018 when funds are allocated.

Engaging All: Young Adults

2% INCREASE annually of new connections for the Gospel with **YOUNG ADULTS** and **INTER-CULTURALLY**, so that MDPC will more accurately reflect our city's diversity.

POINT PERSON: Christyn Knoop (cknoop@mdpc.org)

MDPC made a strategic investment in the future of Young Adult ministry by building out the team, which now includes Christyn Knoop (Young Adult Director), Sarah Stone (Young Adult Outreach Director) and Trevor Harris (Young Adult Discipleship Director). We are hard at work setting up lunches, coffees, and happy hours with young adults, as well as organizing pub trivia events, theology on tap, kickball, Bible studies, service projects, MOPS, new small groups/married life groups, and guys/girls nights to meet, encourage, and build up the faith of MDPC's young adults and their friends. One of the key values we are seeking to build into every element of the ministry is an 'outreach mentality.' We are doing church in a relatively post-Christian society. Millennials don't go to church anymore because "it's good for them." To-day's unchurched young adults need multiple positive interactions with a faithful, intelligent, kind, transformed-by-Jesus Christian before ever darkening a door of a church. For us, this means equipping our more committed members with resources, training, and encouragement to take the gospel out to their workplaces, neighborhoods, and social groups, and also creating a culture of service as a key feature of our young adult program. This service focus is a way that we can differentiate ourselves, tap into MDPC's DNA, and meet a desperate desire of millennials: *to lead lives that matter*. We are busy organizing a leadership team and establishing a "baseline" number of young adults from which to grow from.

Here's how you can help: If you're a young adult (college through mid/late-30s) and want to get involved or help, contact Christyn Knoop at <u>cknoop@mdpc.org</u>. If you're born before 1980 and want to help, contact Brett Hurst (<u>bhurst@mdpc.</u> org) about becoming a mentor. This is a critical way to invest in wand impact the life of one young adult, which can have a tremendous impact.

Engaging All: Technology

Responsibly launch **5 NEW TECHNOLOGY/MEDIA** initiatives to reach more people for Christ. **POINT PERSON: Ginny Glass (gglass@mdpc.org)**

The Communications and Media teams have been at work implementing and strategizing new technology initiatives. These range from an interactive prayer wall on the website (currently under development), employing Facebook Live for a variety of recent events including The Spoken Word and Admiral Kibben (These two events alone engaged approximately 4,000 online viewers). Other projects in the wings are new demographic specific email strategies, interactive social media options during Sunday sermons, and text to give. We also will launch a Summer 17 campaign to invite the congregation to share photos of their summer activities, whether it be vacation, mission, or family. Overall, we have 11 seperate projects that we are considering, so there are too many to detail here - but stay tuned!

Have ideas or a desire to get involved in these initiatives? Contact Ginny Glass at gglass@mdpc.org.