

All-Church Lunch

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

Join us for the warmth of food and fellowship...

↑ food.mdpc.org

↓ parenting.mdpc.org



Parenting a Child's First 5 Years

Various MDPC parents will give these free monthly talks to educate and encourage parents of kiddos in *The First Five* years of life.

January 14 (Second Wednesdays)
6:30 PM | Parlor

↓ global.mdpc.org

China

A Mission of Encouragement

March 21-31, 2015

Beijing • Tianjin • Xining

global.mdpc.org

↓ seniors.mdpc.org

Prime Timers presents:



Calling All Readers!

Valerie Koehler, owner of Houston's Blue Willow Bookshop, will present the best books of 2014, and a preview of this year's best.

Tuesday, January 20
Fellowship Hall

Free Program: 10:30 AM

Lunch: (\$9.50) Noon

Your (\$9.50) check is your reservation.

Make it out to MDPC Prime Timers and mail to or leave at the Front Office.

Check must be received by
Wednesday, January 14.



Sunday Mornings
9:45 or 11:15 AM
or Wednesday Evenings
6:30 PM

↑ bind.mdpc.org

A New Year's Challenge:

Read attentively every
word of the Bible
in 90 days.

Begins January 18

↓ study.mdpc.org



Be inspired by some of the great Christian leaders of the past who changed the course of history! Learn more about the legacy we have inherited from those who dared to take a stand.

Wednesdays in January | 6:30 PM | Free



This Week: Luther: A Hero of the Faith Who Stood for Truth and Grace

Joseph Fiennes stars as Martin Luther, the priest whose determination to understand and teach the meaning of "by faith through grace," based upon the Word of God, put his life at risk and eventually began the Protestant Reformation. Film moderated by Vicky Jones.

↓ epl.mdpc.org

rest.

Six gifts of rest from God to you
A six-week Bible Study during Lent

epl.mdpc.org



↓ retreats.mdpc.org



Prayer Retreat at
Museum of Fine Arts Houston

Friday, January 23
9:30 AM-2:30 PM

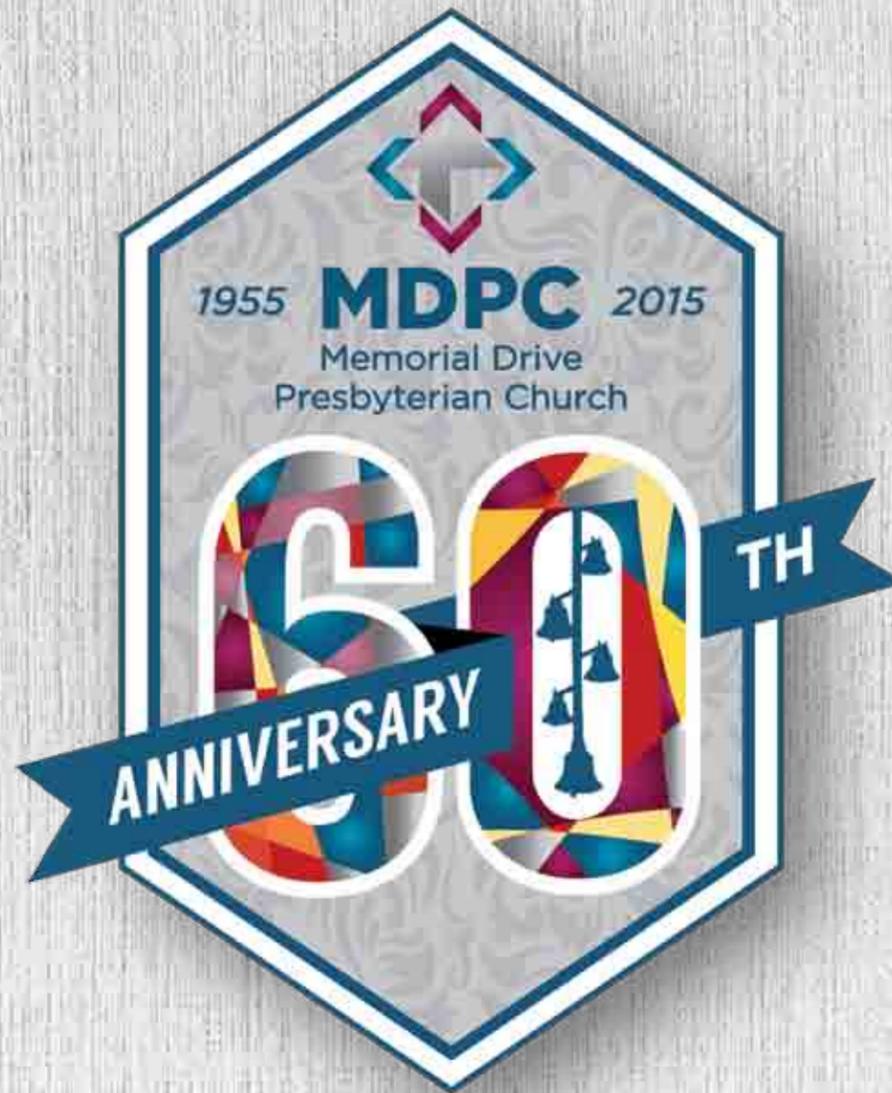
Museum Admission:
\$23/Adults; free for members
\$8/Seniors 65+

Join us as we prayerfully enjoy God's creation of water and light through the MFAH Monet exhibition. The day will include:

- an overview of *Visio Divina* or "holy seeing"
- free time at the museum for viewing other works;
- lunch on your own (buy or bring), and
- a time of sharing observations and reflections.

retreats.mdpc.org

Sunday, January 11, 2015



1955 MDPC 2015
Memorial Drive
Presbyterian Church

ANNIVERSARY

TH

Why I Believe in

The Church and in This Church

Matthew 16:13-20
Howard Edington preaching

Please silence all devices, and refrain from consuming food or beverages during worship.

MDPC HIGHLIGHTS

Get to Know and Pray for Our Ministry Partners

The 2015 Ministry Partner booklet is being handed out this morning. MDPC has over 150 local and global ministry partners and ministries and YOU are a vital part of their work. Be sure to take the booklet home to get to know and pray for them.

Questions? Contact Outreach Ministries' Jan Roe (jroe@mdpc.org) or Amy Delgado (adelgado@mdpc.org).

Understanding Your Young Adults:

An Inside Look at the Values and Lifestyles of Your Grown Children

As a parent of the so-called "Millennial" generation (those born between 1980 and 2000), you may find yourself asking questions about your grown children like, *When is he going to get serious about getting a job? When is she going to move out of our house? Why don't they want to go to church? Why do they share so much of themselves online? When will he grow out of this?* Rev. Brandon Gaide will offer a Millennial's perspective on Millennials.

Sundays, January 18 and 25 | 11:15 AM | Room 103

Visitor Days at BSD

Looking for a Bible Study but don't want to commit before you sample? Join Bible Study Discussion (BSD) on one of our official visitor days for a sneak peak of Foundations & Fulfillment, a study of selected passages from Luke. Adults of all ages participate in the study.

Co-ed: January 18 (9:45 or 11:15 AM in Room 102) or January 21 (5:00 PM in Room 122)

Women's: January 15 (9:30 AM in the Chapel) or January 21 (6:30 PM in Room 102)

bsd.mdpc.org

2015 Partner In Prayer: Pick Up Your List Today!

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

Prayer Packet Pick-up: Today and Next Sunday, January 18 | Between services

For more information on what it means to be a Partner In Prayer: pip.mdpc.org

Bible Studies for Kids Begin This Week

Gems & Jewels: Finding Treasure in God's Word

Wednesdays, January 14-April 1 | 5:30-6:30 PM | Galaxy

A Bible study for 3rd-5th grade girls seeking to learn more about the Bible and Jesus!

Scuba: Diving Deeper Into Your Faith

Wednesdays, January 14-April 1 | 5:30-6:30 PM | Galaxy

A Bible study for 3rd-5th grade boys who want to get to know Jesus and the Bible better!

Parents of Confirmands

MDPC is excited to offer for the fourth time the Parents of Confirmands class. This popular class is offered to all parents/guardians of youth taking the Confirmation class. Each week includes a presentation from MDPC staff or a local counselor and time for discussing these important topics with other parents.

Four Sundays, January 18-February 8 | 11:00 AM-12:15 PM | Parlor

register.mdpc.org

Help Us Make Fifth Service Better

If you've been to Fifth Service before, join us this evening for an open conversation. We want to determine if it's making a difference in your life, or how we could move more in that direction. As a result of Fifth Service, are you growing in your love for God? Are you becoming a more faithful disciple of Jesus Christ? Are you more prone to serve, to forgive, to worship? This is an opportunity for you to help shape this service. Come add your voice!

Tonight after 5:00 PM Worship | Chapel

Theology On Tap

Once a month, MDPC Singles and Single Parents meet up at a fun Houston venue to enjoy good questions, good food, and good company! Anonymous questions about Christianity and the Christian life are discussed in a lively, compassionate conversation, where all perspectives and beliefs are welcome.

Next TOT: Monday, January 26 | 6:30 PM

Contact Sarah Stone: sstone@mdpc.org or 832-605-8129

MDPC WORSHIP

*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

WELCOME		Dave Steane
*SONGS OF PRAISE	<i>10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)</i> <i>This Is My Father's World</i>	Redman/Myrin TERRA BEATA
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON		Kristin Huffman
SERVICE OF ELDER ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION		
HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>Here I Am, Lord</i>	#525; Vs. 1 Daniel Schutte
MESSAGE	Why I Believe In The Church and In <i>This Church!</i>	Howard Edington
SONG OF RESPONSE	<i>The Church's One Foundation</i>	AURELIA

9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

*SONGS OF PRAISE		
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION		Rachel Poysky
SERVICE OF ELDER ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION	Dave Steane and Kristin Huffman	
CONGREGATIONAL SONG OF RESPONSE		
OFFERTORY		
MESSAGE	Why I Believe In The Church and In <i>This Church!</i>	Howard Edington
SONG OF RESPONSE		

11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

PRELUDES	<i>Adagio from Sonata No. 1</i> <i>Marche Héroïque</i>	Felix Mendelssohn Camille Saint-Saëns
WELCOME		Dave Steane
*CALL TO WORSHIP		
*CHORAL INTROIT	<i>Jesus Shall Reign</i>	arr. Carl J. Nygard (b. 1947)
*HYMN OF PRAISE	<i>O Worship the King</i>	#476; Vs. 1, 5 LYONS
*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON		Kristin Huffman
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	<i>The Apostles' Creed</i>	
ANTHEM	<i>On Holy Ground</i>	arr. Clayton White Cassandra Black, soloist
SERVICE OF ELDER ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION		
HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>Here I Am, Lord</i>	#525; Vs. 1 Daniel Schutte
OFFERTORY	<i>Joined Together as One Body</i>	James Biery (b. 1956)
MESSAGE	Why I Believe In The Church and In <i>This Church!</i>	Howard Edington
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>The Church's One Foundation</i>	#446; Vs. 1, 5 AURELIA
POSTLUDE	<i>Trumpet Tune</i>	John Stanley

OTHER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SPANISH SERVICE	11:15 AM Chapel	fuente.mdpc.org
FIFTH SERVICE	5:00 PM Chapel	fifthservice.mdpc.org

MDPC INFO

Coordinating Team

Mauricio Chacón | Associate Pastor for Fuente
 Howard Edington | Interim Senior Pastor
 Brandon Gaide | Associate Pastor for Next Gen
 Ginny Glass | Communications & Media Dir.
 Meliza Gómez | Contemporary Music Dir.
 Luke Gordon | Youth Ministries Dir.
 Charles Hausmann | Traditional Music Dir.
 Kristin Huffman | Associate Pastor for Outreach
 Brett Hurst | Relationships Minister
 Victoria Jones | Associate Pastor for Equipping
 Gena Kooken | Sr. Leadership Ministry Coor.
 Rick Myers | Associate Pastor for Caring
 Rachel Poysky | Children's Ministries Dir.
 Becky Riggs | Business Administrator
 Dave Steane | Executive Pastor & Head of Staff
 Kathryn White | Coordinating Music Dir.
 Karen Winship | Human Resources Dir.

Dave Peterson | Pastor Emeritus
 Gary Bowker | Pastor Emeritus

MDPC Foundation

For information, contact Business Administrator
Becky Riggs at briggs@mdpc.org or 713-953-2570.

Ministry Partners

Pray for these MDPC partners working to make a difference in the lives of others:

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. Clients meet with their case manager to develop an individualized plan that includes referrals to housing, health, and employment resources.

aidshelp.org

Aldine Family Hope is for residents of all ages in Aldine, a low-income, unincorporated, often overlooked area of Harris County. Its educational, vocational, social, recreational, and spiritual programs empower positive change in the lives of youth and families.

aldineyouth.org

MDPC Field Partner Jeff Burns has a call on his life to reach North American Muslims with the love of Jesus Christ. He and his family live in Raleigh, North Carolina, where he teaches Christians ways to reach out in friendship to Muslims in peaceful, respectful witness. He has trained Presbyterian Church members in the U.S. and around the world.



MDPC Turns 60!

Throughout 2015, we will celebrate 60 years of faith and ministry at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church.

Pictured above (from left) are former pastors **Mac Turnage** and **Dave Peterson**; our current Outreach pastor **Kristin Huffman**; and former pastors **Gary Bowker** and **Dave Carpenter**, circa 2000.

Praises and Prayers

Today's Chancel Flowers are given:

- in joyful celebration of Moscelene Myers' 98th birthday, by David and Susan Myers Eyre.
- by the Hey Lollies Square Dancers, in appreciation of 50 years with MDPC.

The White Rose is given in memory of:

- Connie Sabom, who passed away December 30, 2014.

Senior Pastor Nominating Committee

Please pray for the committee, for our congregation, and for the new pastor that God is calling to our church.

Visit pnc.mdpc.org for updates.



Access for MDPC Guests

1. Laptops: In the lower left hand corner, right click on the wireless connection and choose "View Wireless Networks". iDevices: Tap on Settings, then Wi-Fi.
2. Choose "MDPC Guest." You will see a splash page with a disclaimer.
3. Once you click "Proceed" you will be redirected to mdpc.org. From there you will be able to browse the web.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE: The 2015 budget is pending Session approval.



MDPC

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

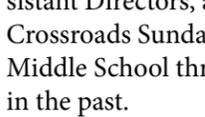
**Martha Moore****Clerk Elect-Elect**

An MDPC member since 1989, Martha Moore finds great joy engaging with others while studying God's word. One of her favorite verses is Romans 1:12: "that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith." Over the years, she has been encouraged by others at MDPC, especially through her involvement with Summer Celebration, Crossroads, Bible Study Discussion, and Life Groups. Martha is married

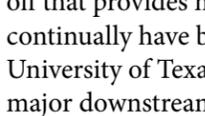
to Leigh, and they have three children: Mollie, Josh, and Abby. She loves to run, read, cook, and garden.

**Jenny Nettles****Connection | New Members**

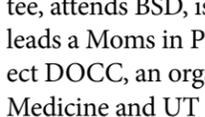
Jenny and her husband, Larry, have been members of MDPC since 1990. They raised three children at the church and Jenny has been active in every area of Children's Ministries, as well as Youth Ministries. She is a former teacher and has taught children's Sunday school for most of her adult life, and currently is teaching third grade. Jenny has served on the Search Committees for the Executive Pastor, the Youth Director/Assistant Directors, and the Children's Ministries Director, and is a member of the Crossroads Sunday school class. She also is currently a mentor at Spring Woods Middle School through MDPC and has served as a Collegiate Challenge mentor in the past.

**AJ Phipps, Jr.****Caring Min. | Memorial Services Usher**

AJ and his wife, Joan, joined MDPC in 1966. This is AJ's third time as an Elder. He was active in a variety of youth work during his three sons' middle and high school years, and later served young adults as a Summit sponsor. He was involved with the startup and 20+-year continuation of the Faith Explorations Sunday school class, and in a variety of leadership and mission roles with Faith In Practice, an MDPC nonprofit spin-off that provides medical service to the poor of Guatemala. Covenant Groups continually have been important to AJ's Christian growth. He is a graduate of The University of Texas and Harvard Business School. He spent his career with two major downstream energy/chemical companies, plus 24 years in consulting.

**Kristina Seiler****Youth Ministries | Middle School**

Kristina and her husband, Brian, along with their three children, Lindsey, Jacob, and Matthew, have been members of MDPC for six years. She has been involved in Bible Study Discussion (BSD) for over ten years, taught elementary Sunday school, was a teacher at Summer Celebration, and served on an Outreach subcommittee for three years. Currently, she is a Cub Scout den leader, serves on the Boy Scout Troop 1089 committee, attends BSD, is a member of First Junior Women's service organization, hosts/leads a Moms in Prayer group for Stratford High School, and volunteers with Project DOCC, an organization that helps train Pediatric Residents at Baylor College of Medicine and UT in working with families with children who have special needs. She attended The University of Texas. Kristina is a retired CPA who is blessed to be a stay-at-home mom.

**Wendy Spence****Children's Ministries | Preschool**

Wendy Spence has been a member of MDPC since 2011. She enjoys helping with MDPC's preschool children on Sunday mornings. Over the summer, she volunteered for Summer Celebration and has become a participant in Lead Team at MDPC as a preschool volunteer. She is also a board member at The Yellow School where her daughter attends pre-K. She thoroughly enjoys serving at MDPC and showing God's love

for all of His children.

**Drew Tingleaf****Treasurer Elect-Elect**

Drew and Laura Tingleaf began attending MDPC in 2009 and joined the church in 2011. Drew serves as a teacher in the Daily Bread Sunday school class, and as a leader of the 7th Grade Boys Life Group. Drew is a 1989 (BBA) and 1993 (MBA) graduate of The University of Texas at Austin, and is the Chief Financial Officer of NET Midstream, a natural gas pipeline company. Drew and Laura have three children:

Claire, 14 (Go 'Stangs!); Gregory, 12 (Go Eagles!); and Luke, 10 (Go Tigers!).

Drew loves to travel with Laura, play volleyball with Claire, bird hunt with Gregory, and go boating with Luke.

**Paul Whelchel****Food Service Ministries**

Paul and his wife, Connie, have been members of MDPC for 14 years. He has been in Bible Study Discussion several years as a participant and as a leader of a co-ed class. He has been in Men's Life since its inception, is a Partner In Prayer, and enjoys the fellowship of Venturers. Paul graduated from Georgia Tech and NYU and worked in the refining and petrochemical industry before retiring recently. He now spends time

on woodworking projects in his shop, and has assisted young woodworkers in Summer Celebration. Paul and Connie are blessed with four children and seven grandchildren. Paul appreciates the opportunity of worship, service, and spiritual growth at MDPC.

**CLASS OF****2017****New Elder Installation**

Sunday, January 11, 2015

Elders play a vital role in the ministries and administration of Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church. Today, we install 23* new Elders to our Session. We congratulate them on their new positions, and we pray for their wisdom and discernment as they help guide us through the next three years and beyond. Take a moment to learn more about their journeys of faith and service.

*Jody Harrington will be installed on January 18

**Larry Bryan****Caring Ministries | Healthcare**

Larry became a member of MDPC seven years ago when he married Cheryl. Larry has served as a preschool teacher and as a member of the Outreach Committee, where he has worked with the Children, Family, & Housing and Healthcare & Special Needs sub-committees of Local Missions for the past five years. He currently is on the teaching team for a Bible Study Discussion class that meets on Sunday mornings. Larry

is a graduate of The University of Texas and has been involved in the upstream and downstream sides of the energy business for over 35 years. Between them, he and Cheryl have four sons, two daughters-in-law, and one grandson.

**John Chambers****Technology**

John and his wife, Michelle, have been members of MDPC for 15 years. They have three sons. John has been an active participant in Men's Life for the past seven years and is an MDPC Partner In Prayer. He has worked for Fiserv for 20 years and currently serves as a Director of Network Services. John is an active leader in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. In his free time, he enjoys outdoor activities, including hunting and fishing.

**Dick Ebling****Equipping Ministries | Adult Studies**

Dick has been a member of MDPC for over 15 years. He served on Session for two previous terms, first with Visitors and New Members, and then with Global Missions. He has been involved in many areas of the church such as Men's Life, local outreach, men's small groups, Bible studies, teaching Sunday school, and with Second Family. He has enjoyed other bite-sized opportunities with MDPC partners such as Piney

Point Elementary, Spring Woods Middle School, Kids' Meals, SEARCH Homeless Services, and Open Door Mission. Dick and his wife, Judy, have made several mission trips to Central America to support MDPC in its global mission activities. He looks forward to serving the church in Adult Studies.



Nancy Cofran Relationships Ministries
Nancy and her husband, Scott, have been married for 17 years and members of MDPC for 14 years. They have been blessed with two daughters, Bella and Ava. Nancy has volunteered at MDPC Summer Celebration and also taught elementary Sunday school. She is a Court-Appointed Child Advocate and recently graduated from the University of Houston with her Master's degree in Counseling (LPC). Nancy has a passion

for working on and improving relationships, and enjoys playing tennis with her family in her free time.



Susan Fargason Connections Ministries
Susan has been attending MDPC since 2011, when she relocated from New York City. Since joining MDPC, Susan has served on the Mo-Ranch planning team, the Full Life curriculum and teaching team, and two years as the Summer Celebration Chair. Susan previously has served as an Elder at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York, where she was an Elder for Family Ministries. Susan and her husband, Chad, are

blessed with three amazing young children: Tyler (7), Caroline (4), and Kathryn (2). Susan is a graduate of Rice University and is thrilled to be back in Texas.



Lyn Gentry Caring Ministries | Memorial Services
Lyn and her husband, Art, have been active members of MDPC since the early 70s and enjoyed raising their three children here. Lyn was ordained as an Elder at River Glen Presbyterian in Chicago. Since returning to Houston, she has served a previous term on MDPC's Session, and currently works in Equipping Ministries. Lyn has held leadership roles with the Mariners, Mother's Day Out, Communion servers, Summer Celebration, Youth Confirmation classes, Bible Study Discussion, and has taught children's and youth Sunday school. She volunteers at Texas Children's Hospital, making rounds as a lay pastor and joyfully holding babies in the NICU. Lyn retired from Ernst & Young after 20 years as a financial analyst.



Walter Going Worship & Music Ministries
Walter and Mary Lee have been members since 1979 and reared their two sons at MDPC. Both sons reside in Houston and have blessed them with five grandchildren. Walter began retirement from an engineering career at the start of 2015. With the increase in discretionary time, he is looking forward to being more engaged at MDPC, including resuming participation in the Sanctuary Choir. He has served previously as a

Deacon and Outreach Elder. He also enjoys using his home repair and carpentry skills on MDPC service projects. Over the years, he has taught children's Sunday school and later was a member of the teaching team for the Covenant Class.



Kelly Handel Next Gen Ministries
Kelly and her husband, Mike, have been members of MDPC since 1989. Over the years, she has taught Sunday school, chaired Summer Celebration, been involved with Bible Study Discussion, served as a Summit (young adult) mentor, played handbells, and, most recently, volunteered as a HUG mentor and served on the Spring Branch/Hunger outreach committee. Kelly is a graduate of Baylor University. She and Mike have

been blessed with two daughters, Kristi and Kaitlin.



Sonny Harkins Strategic Issues Committee
Sonny, with his late wife, Margie, and their family, became members of MDPC in 1966 when Charlie Shedd was serving as Senior Pastor, and he also served with MDPC's most recent Senior Pastor, David Peterson. Sonny had a long international career in the power generation industry, most recently as CEO of a large E&C Company. His work included international speaking and authoring position papers in several professional

organizations. Past and current experiences in leadership/strategy programs have been applied to Sonny's activities at MDPC, including serving on the Denominational Issues Task Force and, more recently, on the Strategic Issues Committee.



Clint Harrington Relationships Ministries | Men's
Clint is a Christian, a father, and President of Apex Advisory Group and Senior Asset Manager with Digital Realty Trust. He has two children, Hank and Hannah. Clint has been a member of MDPC since 2006 and is very active in its Men's Ministries, including MDPC DADS, Men's Life, Next Steps, the annual MDPC Men's Retreat, CBGR, Dads & Kids Overnight Tailgate, and Men's Core Leadership Team. He is serving

currently on the Senior Pastor Nominating Committee. Clint is a teacher for the Daily Bread adult class and leads a weekly small group called the "Sons of the Bible." Clint grew up primarily in Dallas, earned his undergraduate degree from UCLA, and his MBA degree from Texas A&M. He recently is engaged.



Jody Harrington Personnel Elect-Elect
Jody and her husband, Mike, have been members of MDPC for seven years. Jody, a former attorney, has served MDPC as past Clerk of Session and commissioner to the 2014 General Assembly of the PC(USA). She is a past moderator of Presbyterian of New Covenant and served as moderator of the Ministries Division Steering Committee on General Council of Presbytery from 2013 to 2014. Jody is a co-teaching leader of

the Bible Study Discussion (BSD) program and administrator of the BSD Facebook page. Jody and Mike are blessed with two wonderful daughters and sons-in-law: Averill and David Conn, and Jane and Paul Fowler. They also have three grandsons: Graham and Jamie Conn, and Andrew Fowler.



Mary Gwen Hulsey Generosity
Mary Gwen and her husband, Ben, have been members of MDPC since 2007. Their "pride and joy" consists of their two daughters, Laura and Amanda; their son-in-law, William; and their two grandsons, Wilson and Carter. Mary Gwen was the choir president from 2011 to 2012. She has been on an Outreach Committee for three years, and also serves at SEARCH Homeless Services with the MDPC team. Inspired by God

and the amazing members of MDPC, Mary Gwen and Nancy Blurton feed "our friends under the bridge" once a week. Mary Gwen serves on the Board of Austin College (her alma mater), and on the Board of Interfaith Ministries in Houston.



Melinda Nelson Jackson Outreach Ministries | Local
Since being born into the fold of MDPC with Charlie Shedd baptizing her, Melinda has been an active Presbyterian wherever she has lived. She rejoined MDPC when she returned to Houston in 2009, and has enjoyed being a part of two Outreach committees. Melinda feels energized and blessed to be an eyewitness to the work of God in our community.

Interacting with the outreach ministries with which MDPC partners is an invigorating blessing. She is married to her college sweetheart and biggest supporter, Chris Jackson. Together they have two boys: Luke (8) and Alex (3). Melinda works at Cadence Bank where she is a commercial lender and works with the bank's alternative investments.



Lori Keeter Children's Ministries | Elementary
Lori and her husband, James, have been members of MDPC for almost 25 years. They were married in the "old" MDPC Chapel in 1991, and their daughter, Cristi (18), was raised in the church. Lori first dived into volunteer life at MDPC by teaching preschool Sunday school for several years. Thereafter, she migrated to teaching elementary children. Lori was called to be an Elder (Class of 2008) in Children's Ministries.

In 2004, she made a life-changing decision to become a participant in Houston Presbyterian Cursillo (HPC #29) and has supported and staffed many Cursillos (now called Pilgrimages) since then. Lori has worked in the land and real property sector of the oil and gas industry for the past 30+ years.



Mike Kelly Outreach Ministries | Global
Mike has attended MDPC since the early 60s when he went through Youth Confirmation classes, was baptized, and joined the church. He has had the opportunity to experience the growth of MDPC over the course of many years. Mike has enjoyed participating in a number of the programs and classes, including Men's Life and Bible Study Discussion. He currently is a member of the Global Outreach Committee and is looking forward to participating in mission trips. Mike has practiced law for over 35 years and is a graduate of Trinity University and Baylor Law School. Both of his children went through Confirmation at MDPC.



Bob Lehman Facilities
Bob and his wife, Lillian, became members of MDPC in 2004 just prior to moving to the Memorial area. They both have been actively involved, serving as ushers for many years. Their son, Carter, has long been a participant in MDPC Youth programs. Bob has been a supporter of Men's Life since its inception, and served on the Board of Directors of Mo-Ranch for over twelve years. He spent his early business career in the Houston commercial banking industry and currently owns a residential construction company.



Janet Miertschin Outreach Ministries | Local
Janet and her husband, Mark, have been members of MDPC and the Crossroads Sunday school class for over 15 years. Janet has been an active participant in several areas of MDPC, including serving four years on the Outreach Committee, participating in the Second Family program as a caregiver, teaching elementary Sunday school, and assisting with New Member classes. She also has been blessed to participate in Bible

Study Discussion for several years. Janet graduated from Texas A&M, works in the petrochemical industry, and enjoys travel, staying fit, and spending time with family. Janet and Mark have two wonderful children, Emma and Travis.

CHOIR FOR AGES 3-½ TO KINDERGARTEN

Starts January 14! • Room 208

THE GLORY BEES PRESCHOOL CHOIR



Wednesdays*, 2:30-3:15 or 5:30-6:15 PM

*Plus performances at occasional Sunday morning services and Dinner Theater (date TBA).

Come sing with me and the Glory Bees! "May the GLORY BE to the Father!"
Sing, Dance, & Play - Christ's way!

CHOIR & DRAMA FOR GRADES 1-5

Start January 14! • Sanctuary



J.A.M. Sessions (Jesus AND Me)

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 PM

Includes a Dinner Theater performance this spring!

Learn choreography, songs, and percussion. No experience necessary, just a fun attitude! If you have the acting bug, then stay for Actors' Studio...

ACTORS' STUDIO

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 PM

Includes a Dinner Theater performance this spring!

Building Character, Teaching Character, Sculpting Character...Characters that will crack you up!

Oh my!
Surprised!

Angry! Grr!

Happy!



For more info about Children's Choirs and to register, visit kids.mdpc.org or contact Sheryl Sanchez (ssanchez@mdpc.org, 713-490-0944).

Sunday, January 11, 2015

Why I Believe in

The Church *and in This Church*

Matthew 16:13-20

Howard Edington preaching

A group of pioneers met in a kitchen in the mid-1950s and cast a courageous vision. The pioneers were part of a group from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Houston, and the courageous vision was to start a new Presbyterian church in the Memorial Area, which became MDPC. The new church was to be rooted in the Lordship of Jesus Christ, and be committed to radical generosity and fervent prayer. Sixty years later, MDPC continues to thrive with those foundational principles, and our ministries continue to impact many people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To God be the glory!

The great hymn of the Christian faith affirms that *the Church's One Foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord*. Likewise, in Matthew 16:13-20 the foundation of the Christian Church was set when Jesus affirmed Peter's confession that Jesus was the Messiah, *the Son of the living God*.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" He asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by My Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then He ordered His disciples not to tell anyone that He was the Messiah.

- There were a variety of opinions about who Jesus was. If that same question was asked today, what would be some of the likely answers to the question of who Jesus is? How would you answer that question personally?
- The expectation of the coming Messiah was a major piece of Israel's identity. But their expectation was mostly rooted in One who would come and deliver Israel from oppression, and establish Israel in its rightful political and social standing. What do you think Peter saw that convinced him that Jesus was, in fact, the Messiah? What has convinced you that Jesus is the Messiah?
- Jesus told Peter that God had revealed to him the truth about Jesus' identity. What truths has God revealed to you? How have you recognized this revelation? How has this affected your faith?
- Jesus responded to Peter's confession with, *"You are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church."* How do you understand Jesus' statement? What is the rock? What do you see as important elements of building the Church of Jesus Christ?
- What difference does it make to you that Jesus promised that even the powers of Hades (evil) will not be able to overcome the Christian Church? What role can you play to help the Church continue to grow and be faithful to the mission of Jesus Christ?

Digging Deeper is written by Executive Pastor, Dave Steane. It explores Dr. Edington's weekly Scripture passage selection, but not necessarily his sermon message.