

# ***Welcome to MDPC!***

[app.mdpc.org](https://app.mdpc.org)

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## ***Easy Check-in!***

Download the free MDPC app to your iPhone or Android.

## ***Guest Registry***

5 quick questions to help us get to know you better!

## ***Give Online***

Make one-time or recurring gifts with ease.



# BETTER TOGETHER

## LESSONS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



8:30 AM Service

Sunday, September 19, 2021

Rev. Beth Case preaching

[Acts 27:13-26; 33-43 \(NRSV\)](#)

**Welcome and Call to Worship**

Dave Steane

**Songs of Praise**

*Forever*

Chris Tomlin

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

TRADITIONAL

**Prayer of Confession and Assurance**

Clay Brown

**Song of Response**

*O Come to the Altar*

Elevation Worship

**Moment of Prayer**

Dave Steane

**Song of Preparation** *See a Victory/What a Beautiful Name*

Worship Together

**Message**

**Better Together**

Beth Case

[Acts 27:13-26; 33-43](#)

**Song of Response**

*It Is Well with My Soul*

TRADITIONAL

**Opportunity to Give and Benediction**

Beth Case

Musicians in this service:

Adrian Martinez, drums; Daniel Martinez, keys; George Heathco, guitar; Uvaldo Callejas, bass;  
Nico Aranda & Meliza Gómez, worship leaders

**BETTER TOGETHER**  
LESSONS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



**Sunday Worship Playlist**

[Click here to listen.](#)

[Give Online](#)  
[give.mdpc.org](https://give.mdpc.org)

**Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry**

Each week, we pray for three of **MDPC's** local and global mission partners. During these difficult days, our partners truly covet your prayers! Visit [partners.mdpc.org](https://partners.mdpc.org) to find this week's (three) prayer recipients.

# BETTER TOGETHER

## LESSONS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



9:45 AM Service

Sunday, September 19, 2021

Rev. Beth Case preaching

[Acts 27:13-26; 33-43 \(NRSV\)](#)

### Invitation to Worship

**Song of Praise**

*Great Things*

Phil Wickham

**Moment of Confession and Assurance**

Dave Steane

**Children's Moment**

Mayra Escamilla

**Songs of Preparation**

*O Come to the Altar*

Elevation Worship

*See a Victory/What a Beautiful Name*

Worship Together

**Moment of Prayer**

Dave Steane

**Message**

**Better Together**

Beth Case

[Acts 27:13-26; 33-43](#)

**Song of Response**

*It Is Well*

Bethel Music

**Opportunity to Give and Benediction**

Beth Case

Musicians in this service:

Adrian Martinez, drums; Daniel Martinez, keys; George Heathco, guitar; Uvaldo Callejas, bass;  
Nico Aranda & Meliza Gómez, worship leaders

**BETTER TOGETHER**  
LESSONS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



### Sunday Worship Playlist

[Click here to listen.](#)

[Give Online](#)  
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# BETTER TOGETHER

## LESSONS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



11:15 AM Service

Sunday, September 19, 2021

Rev. Beth Case preaching

[Acts 27:13-26; 33-43 \(NRSV\)](#)

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Two Marches</i>	G.F. Handel/J.S. Bach
<b>Welcome and Call to Worship</b>		Dave Steane
<b>Choral Introit</b>	<i>Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing</i>	James Mulholland (b.1935)
<b>*Hymn of Praise</b>	<i>How Firm a Foundation</i>	#361; Vs. 1, 3, 5   FOUNDATION
<b>*Prayer of Confession and Assurance</b>		Dan Aikins
<b>*Affirmation of Faith</b>	from the Apostles' Creed	
<b>*Congregational Response</b>	<i>The Gloria Patri</i>	Hymn #579
<b>Anthem</b>	<i>Worthy to Be Praised</i>	Byron J. Smith (b.1960)
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>		Dave Steane
<b>Anthem of Preparation</b>	<i>Entertain the Angels</i>	Heather Sorensen (b.1976)
<b>Message</b>	<b>Better Together</b> <a href="#"><u>Acts 27:13-26; 33-43</u></a>	Beth Case
<b>*Hymn of Response</b>	<i>Dear Lord and Father of Mankind</i>	#345; Vs. 1, 2   REST
<b>Opportunity to Give and Benediction</b>		Beth Case
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>Festive Trumpet Tune</i>	David German (b.1954)

Musicians in this service:

Megan Berti and Cassandra Black, soloists; Kelley Edwards, flute;  
Charles Hausmann, conductor; Kathryn White, organ/piano

### MDPC Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

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[Give Online](https://give.mdpc.org)  
give.mdpc.org



Sunday, September 19, 2021

# MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

To see more events at **MDPC**, visit [events.mdpc.org](https://events.mdpc.org).

**WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE** as of September 12, 2021

2021 Annual Budget	\$ 11,300,000
Income to Date	\$ 6,825,649
Needed to Meet Budget	\$ 4,474,351



**Sun, Sep 19 • 10a-2:15p • Fellowship Hall**

Successful donors at this Sunday's MDPC blood drive get free Hero Socks! Sign up now to reserve your spot by visiting [blooddrive.mdpc.org](https://blooddrive.mdpc.org).



**Wed, Thu, OR Fri • Times/locations vary!**

Join our new small groups for women. It's simple! Pick the book you'd like to study and you'll be placed in a group with other women who have chosen the same title. Learn more and sign up at [commonbonds.mdpc.org](https://commonbonds.mdpc.org).



**Tues through Nov 30 • 6:30-7:45a**

Since 2003, Men's Life at MDPC has encouraged thousands of men to walk more fully with God and live in meaningful relationship with others. Join us this fall for Men's Life 2021: Connecting. Learn more at [ml.mdpc.org](https://ml.mdpc.org).



**Sat, Oct 9 • 8:30a-12:30p or 1-5p**

Let us spoil your kids with attention, games, crafts, and pizza while you have some time to yourself! This is open to ALL parents. Email Mimi with questions ([mwells@mdpc.org](mailto:mwells@mdpc.org)) or sign up at [parentsout.mdpc.org](https://parentsout.mdpc.org). \$25 base, max \$50 per family.



**Thu, Sep 30 • 7p**

Attend **The Antioch Partners'** Virtual Fundraiser and see what the Lord is doing cross-culturally! The main speaker, Marta Bennett, will share how God is using leadership development to grow the church in Africa and impact the world. Visit [antioch.mdpc.org](https://antioch.mdpc.org) to register!

A poster for a 'New Member Class' featuring a diverse group of people standing together. The text 'New Member Class' is written in a large, blue, serif font.

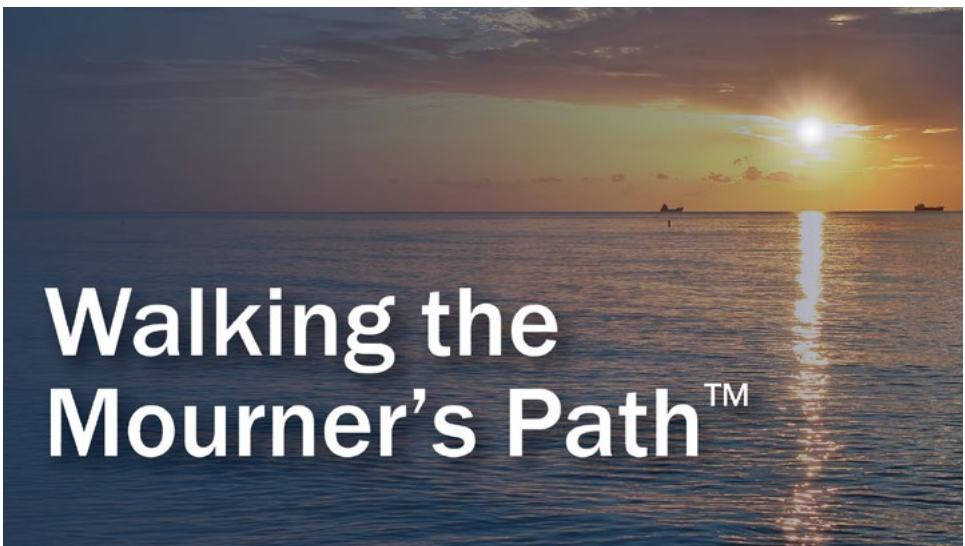
**Tue, Sep 19-Oct 17 • 9:45-11a**

Led by Associate Pastors, Elders, and staff, you will be invited to explore if becoming a member is the right next step in your faith in Jesus. Learn more at [membership.mdpc.org](https://membership.mdpc.org).



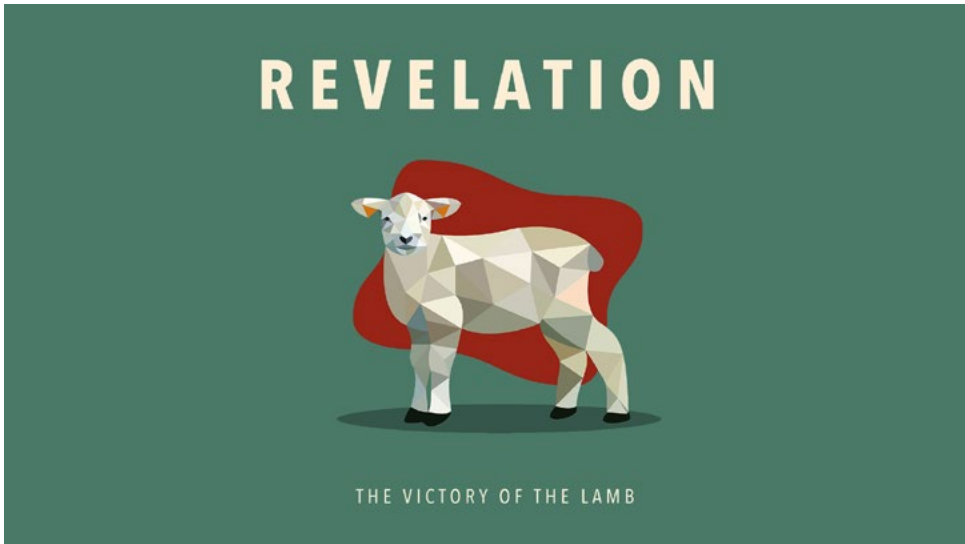
**Saturday, Sep 25 • 9-11a**

Join us via Zoom for fabulous marriage enrichment. Open to all ages and stages of marriage. Enhance marital enjoyment without breaking your budget! Sign up at [staycay.mdpc.org](https://staycay.mdpc.org).



**Thu, Sep 23-Nov 11 • 3-4:30p**

While there is no timeline to grief, there is always hope. This Christ-centered program is designed to help those dealing with the loss of a loved one. Visit [grief.mdpc.org](https://grief.mdpc.org) for more.



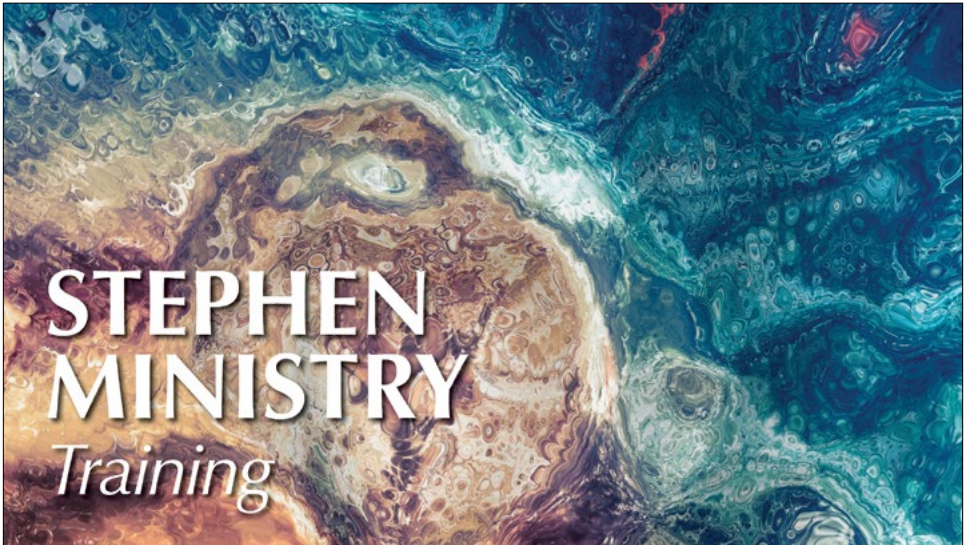
**Sun, Wed, or Thu through Apr 21, 2022**

There are several group options to choose from, and you still may attend via Zoom. To learn more and choose a group, visit [wordandworship.mdpc.org](https://wordandworship.mdpc.org).



**Sunday mornings • MDPC Kitchen (off Fellowship Hall)**

Delicious, carry-friendly options for those rushed Sundays when there's no time for breakfast! Stop by to see what items are for sale each Sunday.



**Training Begins January 2022**

Have you found that people trust you to listen to their struggles? Do you enjoy supporting, caring and praying for others? If so, consider becoming a Stephen Minister! Learn more at [stephen.mdpc.org](https://stephen.mdpc.org).



# BETTER TOGETHER

## LESSONS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



Acts 27:13-26; 33-43 (NRSV)

Since last Sunday's text (Acts 21:1-17), Paul has completed his 400+-mile trip to Jerusalem and been welcomed by believers there. However, in less than a week, riots ensue. Paul is arrested and tried before Festus and Agrippa; he eventually appeals to Caesar. Because of his Roman citizenship, Paul's captors have no choice but to send him to Rome, accompanied by a centurion and protected by a regiment of soldiers. As they board a relatively small grain ship bound for Italy, the soldiers and sailors are included in the "we" of this, the fifth in our Sermon Series on the "We Passages" of Acts.

1. Similar to the footage of *Titanic*, *The Perfect Storm*, or *Jaws*, Acts 27 depicts a terrifying, sea-sick-making, life-threatening sea storm. When have you felt caught by a *nor'easter*, carried along by a wind of indomitable force? What is the greatest pressure you are facing right now?
2. What do we learn about the severity of the storm from looking closely into Acts 27:13-20, 27?
3. In addition to the storm detailed in Acts 27, Paul says he survived two other storms. Read 2 Corinthians 11:23-28; what other difficulties did Paul face? How do you think these experiences shaped his perspective on God? On these challenging situations?
4. I shared of MDPC's Young Adult Lead Team discussing the question: "When have you felt closest to God?" How would you answer that same question? Discuss.
5. In Acts 27:30-32 we read that the sailors attempted an escape utilizing the ship's lifeboat. When Paul discovers this, he employs the soldiers with instructions that if any are to be saved, all must remain aboard. What might this say to us about community, about the "we"?
6. I invited us to consider the purpose of storms throughout Scripture. Which of the following ideas of life's "storms" do you default to (more than one may apply)? How does Acts 27 challenge or affirm your perspective?
  - a) Advice for Escape: the Bible tells us how to avoid/escape life's storms
  - b) Moral Musts: God is punishing me or teaching me a lesson; when I learn it, the storm will stop
  - c) Storms Happen: the presence of trouble may not point to my failure or God's absence
  - d) God is Sovereign & Present in the Storm: God doesn't always stop the storm; sometimes God gives us purpose in the storm and/or saves us through the storm
7. An old song by Scott Krippayne says, "...sometimes God holds us close and lets the wind and waves go wild; sometimes He calms the storm; other times He calms His child." To what extent is this true in Acts 27?
8. Read Acts 27:44. All lives aboard this corn ship are spared! Those who wash up on this island, as well as Luke's earliest readers, would have known that to survive a storm at sea was to be portrayed as righteous. What might this say about Paul's upcoming trial? What can we learn from this passage about God's sovereignty, God's salvation, and God's purposes – even in times of insurmountable pressure?
9. Elements were added to the Golden Gate Bridge so that a source of death would become a source of safety, productivity, and connection. How might this story of engineering and construction provide a metaphor for our relationship with God and others?