



Senior Adults

Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church • Houston, Texas

April 2020



Presented by
Venturers at MDPC

So Much to Do in Houston Speaker Gerry Aitken of MFAH and HGO

Gerry Aitken, a retired HISD school counselor, is an active docent with Museum of Fine Arts-Houston and also very involved with the Houston Grand Opera. She will share her passion for the rich cultural opportunities in Houston by highlighting the history, growth and expansion of MFAH on the main campus as well as at Rienzi and Bayou Bend.



Monday, April 6

6:00 PM Social Hour, Dinner/Program at 7:00
Westchase Hilton Hotel (9999 Westheimer Rd)

Dinner Reservation: \$33 per person

Guests and visitors welcome.

RSVP and check must arrive at MDPC by Mar. 31.

Contact Carolyn Anglum with questions:
713-978-6680 or carolyn9334@gmail.com



Vintage & Thrift Store Shopping The Blue Bird Circle • The Guild Shop

Have you ever admired a friend's outfit, and was then told she purchased it at either The Guild Shop or The Blue Bird Circle for an unbelievable price? Or are you looking for a particular pattern of china or tableware? Do you need a cute table or interesting chair to complete a special look in your home? Come with Prime Timers to see what these two shops have to offer by way of vintage and thrift shopping.

We'll go to The Blue Bird Circle to look around, then over to Niko Niko's for lunch. Then we'll stop in at The Guild Shop for more great hunting. We will play our return by ear, depending on everyone's success in finding treasures.

Tuesday, April 21

9:45 AM Board Bus at MDPC (Depart 10:00)

Return to MDPC around 2:30 PM

Please let Tammy Allyn know if you are interested in this fun day as soon as possible to reserve your seat on the bus: 832-816-6254.

Encore Fellowship Events

You are invited to a preview performance of *The Spitfire Grill* at A. D. Players at The George Theater. This award-winning musical triumph, with its modern folk score and inspiring story, is a celebration of fresh starts and the power of love and redemption.

Thursday, April 23

7:30 PM | 5420 Westheimer, 77056

Tickets are \$33. Drop checks made out to Encore Fellowship at MDPC, or send to PO Box 79876, Houston, TX 77279-9876. Checks must be received by April 5.

SAVE THE DATE for our Rienzi, Museum of Fine Arts, Twilight Tour on June 10, 6:00-8:00 PM. Bus service will be provided. More information to follow.

To receive email invitations to all Encore Fellowship events, send your email address to betsychalmersfarver@gmail.com.

Venturers News

The following members have been appointed to lead our Venturers Committees for 2020-2021:

Christmas Party Cindy Cochran
Meredith Austin

Hospitality Billie Carol McMillan

Membership Connie Whelchel

Name Tags & Place Cards
Meredith Austin
Linda Fountain

Please contact them if you have any suggestions or are interested in helping!



Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church
11612 Memorial Drive • Houston, Texas 77024
mdpc.org • 713-782-1710

Venturers Member Highlights

Several years ago Connie and Paul Whelchel planted milkweed in their garden and soon the Monarch Butterflies arrived and have continued to return year after year. Vern and Betty Irwin were fascinated by this and decided to start their own “low maintenance” butterfly garden, too. It truly is as easy as getting some milkweed plants from a location that does not spray the plants with a pesticide and planting them in either large pots or in the ground.

The life cycle is simple: the Monarch Butterfly drinks the nectar from the milkweed blooms and then lays its eggs on the milkweed leaves. The eggs hatch into the yellow, black and white-striped caterpillars who devour the plant’s leaves. In 9-14 days, each caterpillar crawls to a safe place nearby, hangs upside down, and sheds its skin to reveal a jade-colored chrysalis. In another 9-14 days, Monarch Butterflies emerge. This repeats year-round as the milkweed makes them distasteful to birds, lizards, and other predators and both the plant and the butterflies can survive through the Texas season changes. The Monarch Butterfly was adopted as Texas’ insect in 1995!

Texas is part of a six-state initiative to turn Interstate 35 into a corridor for Monarch Butterflies on their annual migration between Canada and Mexico and will have signs calling the road “Monarch Highway.” TxDOT already plants milkweed and other flowering plants along the way and restricts the use of pesticides in order to provide safe passage for the butterflies.

The opportunity to watch the Monarch-Milkweed relationship, search for the chrysalis, and marvel as the beauty emerges is a fun-filled learning experience for kids and adults alike! Betty commented that this hobby gives her great pleasure and Connie remarked that the butterflies are her “Sign of God’s Love.” Just be sure to place your Butterfly Garden where you can see it from a window because you will want to be able to sit and watch the action all day long!