

# The Venturers at MDPC

## ANNUAL DUES and MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

\$15/individual; \$25/couple. You will receive the monthly Senior Adults Newsletter and Dinner Reservation Form and an annual Venturers Membership Pictorial Directory.

## 2020-2021 VENTURERS OFFICERS

**Bart Henson**  
President  
713-780-2138  
bartshenson@gmail.com

**Bob Chesshir**  
VP Programs

**Paul Whelchel**  
VP Arrangements

**Oliver Aldrich**  
Treasurer

**Cindy Cochran**  
Secretary

**Connie Whelchel**  
Membership

**Carol Ann Shipp**  
VP Communications  
catowl@aol.com

**TBD**  
Hospitality

**Meredity Austin**  
**Cindy Cochran**  
Christmas Party

**Tamara Ham**  
VP Dinner Reservations

## DINNER RESERVATIONS

Contact **Tamara Ham** no later than 6 days prior to the event:  
713-339-1502, hamtamara@gmail.com

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Contact **Connie Whelchel**:  
713-785-7701, connie.whelchel@att.net



**MDPC**

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

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN

# The Venturers at MDPC

## WHO

All MDPC 50+  
Senior Adults:

Couples

Singles

Working

Retired

Guests and  
visitors always  
welcome.

## WHAT

Monthly Dinners

Distinguished  
Speakers

Informative  
Programs

Inspirational  
Discussions

Enjoyable  
Fellowship

Fun Evenings



**ven'tur-er:**

one who undertakes  
or embarks upon a venture

# Venturers 2020-2021 Season

Dinner Meetings: 1st Mondays at 6:00 PM (exceptions noted)

**NOTE:** Fall programs will be presented virtually on Facebook live. Members and guests will be sent links to connect before each program.

**September 14, 2020** (Second Monday)

## Loneliness and Isolation

**Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson**, MDPC Senior Pastor, helps us reconnect virtually during this time like no other.



**October 5, 2020** Tentative Speaker

## PROSPECTS FOR CANDIDATES IN POLITICS

**Richard W. Murray**, Ph.D., discusses prospects for candidates in key political races, Dr. Murray is Bob Lanier Chair in Urban Public Policy, Department of Political Science, University of Houston, and Director, Survey Research Institute, University of Houston Center for Public Policy.



**November 2, 2020**

## FROM SKY TO SEA – Astronaut to Maritime

**Col. Michael Edward Fossum** is a former American astronaut, engineer, and the Chief Operating Officer of Texas A&M University at Galveston. He flew into space on board the NASA Space Shuttle missions STS-121 and STS-124; he also served as a mission specialist of Expedition 28 and commander of Expedition 29 aboard the International Space Station.



**December 8, 2020** (Tuesday)

## VENTURERS CHRISTMAS

Enjoy food, fun, and fellowship as we celebrate the Christmas season together! Fratelli's Restaurant, 1330 Wirt Road



**January 4, 2021**

## TRAITORS I HAVE KNOWN

**James Olson**, former Chief of CIA Counterintelligence, will enthrall with stories of the world of espionage as he lived it during his 31-year undercover career. He will also provide an overview of his new book, *To Catch a Spy: The Art of Counterintelligence*.



**February 1, 2021**

## GREAT WOMEN IN TEXAS HISTORY

**Judge Mark Davidson** served in 11th District Court for twenty years before his retirement in 2009. He is now serving as the Multi-District Litigation Judge for all asbestos cases in the State of Texas, being named to that position by Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson and the Multi-District Litigation Panel of the Texas Supreme Court. In 1993, he was named "Trial Judge of the Year" by the Texas Association of Civil Trial and Appellate Specialists.



**March 1, 2021**

## CHASING AWE: Conserving Our Natural Heritage

**Jay Kleberg** is the producer of *Deep in the Heart: A Texas Wildlife Story*, a feature-length natural history documentary premiering in 2022. He is also co-founder of Explore Ranches, connecting travelers with more than 500,000 acres of historic ranches in the American West.



**April 5, 2021**

## CHECK IT OUT: So Much To Do in Houston

**Gerry Aitken**, an active volunteer with the Museum of Fine Arts, Bayou Bend, Speakers Bureau of the Museum Guild, Houston Grand Opera Guild, and Arts and Crafts Committee for the Fort Bend County Fair, brings a passion for the rich cultural opportunities in Houston.



**May 3, 2021**

## PREDICTING THE UNPREDICTABLE: Tropical Storms

**Dr. Neil Frank, PhD** in Meteorology, addresses the complex impact tropical storms have had on Houston. Dr. Frank is a nationally and locally well-known expert in tropical meteorology, having been the Director of the National Hurricane Center prior to serving as Chief Meteorologist at KHOU-TV in Houston for 20 years.

