

FOCUS



MDPC
Memorial Drive
Presbyterian Church

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW & SOON

Fall 2019

Who will you bring?

Try it once or come each week. No pressure to keep attending, and no harm if you only keep coming for the food and the company.



Alpha is for Christians, too. The conversations can rekindle a faith that has cooled off. And with no question, belief, or idea off limits, it's a comfortable setting to talk about difficult seasons, like experiencing doubt or fear or inadequacy (feels we all sometimes feel). It also lends itself well to inviting a friend of any faith or non-faith along to try it together.

**Tuesdays,
Sept. 24 to Nov. 19
6:30-8:15 PM**

Free dinner, **free** childcare

Info and RSVP: alpha.mdpc.org

Nothing transforms you like studying the words and deeds of Jesus Christ in Scripture! Starting August 18, hundreds of **MDPC** members and friends will grow by exploring the Gospel of Luke.

transformed by **HOPE**

A Study of the Gospel of Luke

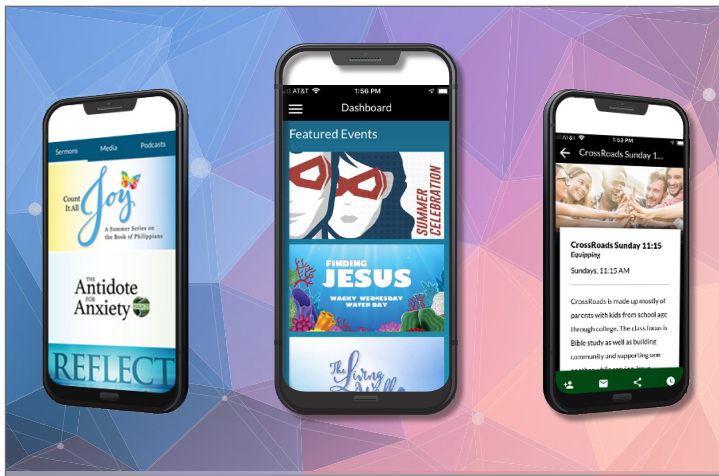
Class and Small Group Options:

- **9:45 AM and 11:15 AM** 11 participating Sunday morning classes
- **9:45 and 11:15 AM** A Pastor's study will begin August 18 in the Amphitheater.
- **9:45 AM** New in-depth group study of Luke (*Together in the Word*) starting September 1. Weekly preparation and readings, registration required, limited participants (14).
- **6:30-7:30 PM** Wednesday study and discussion group will begin August 21.



ONLINE RESOURCES include brief weekly audio overviews of each passage by Dr. Clay Brown, **MDPC** Equipping Pastor, starting the week of **August 11**.

Learn more:
luke.mdpc.org



New **MDPC** Mobile App Launches in August

MDPC is rolling out a new mobile app! Its new tools and design deliver an experience that's simpler, yet more useful and enjoyable. We've customized many of the features to meet your specific needs, all with the intent of making it easier to engage in the life of MDPC.

This is a great time to upload or update a personal photo on your MyMDPC account. To learn how, visit app.mdpc.org.

The first thing to do is to install the app on your phone. Android and iPhone users can find quicklinks to download the app at app.mdpc.org.

Once the app is installed, the next step is to log in to your account. Most members, attenders, and guests have a profile in the MDPC database, meaning they also already have an account. The easiest way to log in is with your email address or phone number. (Note: You will only be able to log in with a phone or email if MDPC has one on record for you.)

The few who may not have an account can create one easily. On the app's opening screen, tap the drop-down bars in the upper left corner and the Dashboard will appear. Tap "My Profile" at the bottom of the screen, and you'll be prompted to create a new account.

Sunday, August 18: Still having trouble accessing the app? Visit The Nook (next to MDPC's Front Office), where volunteers will be happy to help.

If you need app help in the meantime, don't hesitate to ask for assistance by sending an email to help@mdpc.org.

Download Links at app.mdpc.org



We got you, mom!

Are you a mom of young children? Would you like a little break in the week to drop off the kids, relax, and chat with other moms? Then Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is for you! Come for breakfast, connection, solid content, and adult conversations.

**Alternating Thursdays
beginning August 29 • 9:30-11:15 AM**

**FREE
childcare
for both!**

Are You a Working Mom?

Join us for a special evening edition of MOPS. Come for dinner and meaningful conversations.

**Monthly
Wednesdays
beginning Sept. 18
6:00-7:00 PM**



Register: mops.mdpc.org



Look for our table to give:
Sunday Mornings
August 4-18

What your gift will buy:

- \$20** Extras like a belt, underwear, & socks
- \$50** A new uniform and a pair of shoes
- \$100** Two children outfitted head to toe!
- \$** Your donation of any amount will help kids succeed!

Credit card, cash, or checks made out to MAM (designated "Back 2 School") accepted.



MAM will help **6,000** students in Spring Branch ISD go back to school with new clothes and shoes.

These families need our support!



Contact: Jan Roe at jroe@mdpc.org



HUNGER INITIATIVE

Two Programs to Fight Hunger in Houston

MDPC's Hunger Initiative Task Force continues seeking ways to keep you engaged in the fight to keep Houston-area families fed! Visit the link below to learn how you can get involved.

Kids' Meals Monthly Service Project

Wednesdays, August 14, September 11, October 9, November 13, December 11
4:30-6:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

Contact Julie Hempel: hempeljulie@gmail.com

MDPC Houston Food Bank Team

Mondays, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11, December 9 | 8:00 AM-Noon

Sign up for a Monday: hfb.mdpc.org

Contact Jan Roe: jroe@mdpc.org

Learn more: hunger.mdpc.org



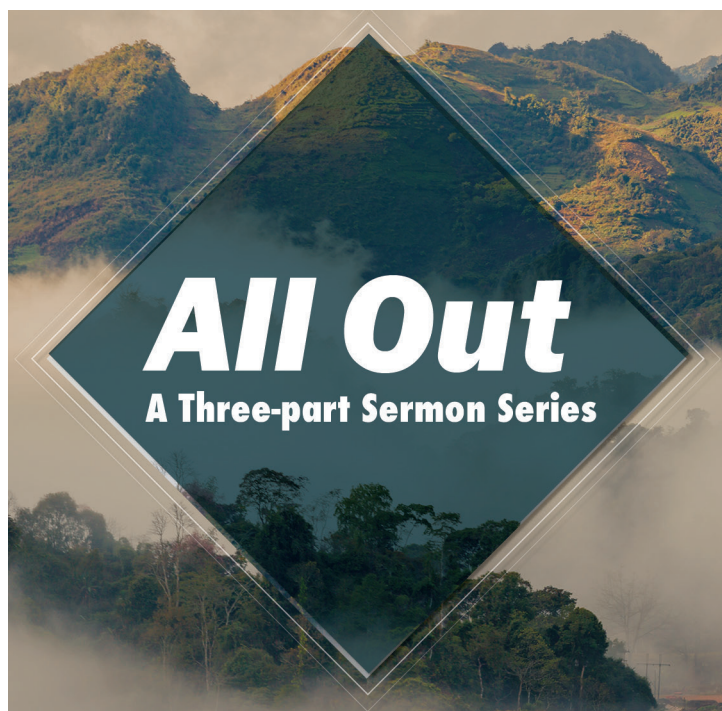
HELPING HANDS DAY

Join MDPC
for a
Housman Elementary
Work Day

Volunteer at Housman Elementary
Friday, August 9 • 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

We want to let staff at this special Spring Branch school know they matter and are making a difference in the lives of students and families! Volunteers will help with projects to get teachers ready for the first day of school, shower them with encouragement, and serve lunch.

Register: helpinghands.mdpc.org



Planting • Tending • Reaping

August 18 & 25, and September 1
Alf Halvorson preaching

upcomingsermons.mdpc.org



MDPC Youth
Parent Open House

Parents of Youth (6th-12th Grade),
 join us on Kickoff Sunday!

Sunday, August 18 • 11:15 AM-12:15 PM
MDPC Gym

Meet our Youth Elders and hear about
 MDPC Youth's mission and vision!

Contact: Charlotte Adams at cadams@mdpc.org



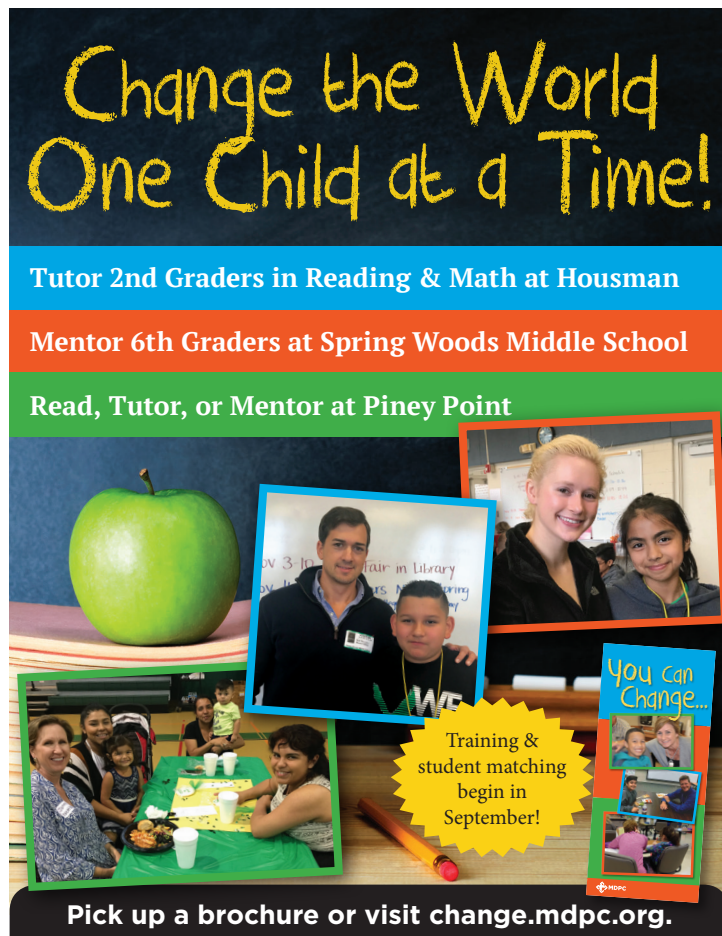
REACH
 Recreation
 Ministry

MDPC REACH FALL 2018
 Recreation Ministry
 Recreational and Instructional Classes for
 CHILDREN, YOUTH, and ADULTS

This fall is full of fun and
 educational classes for
 children, youth, and adults. Art,
 sports, singing, cooking, piano,
 yoga, ballet, coding, tumbling,
 and more - and new this year:
 adults can learn to play Bridge, or
 improve their game!

Pick up a copy of the
 REACH fall booklet or
 visit us online to learn
 more and sign up.

REACH.mdpc.org



**Change the World
 One Child at a Time!**

Tutor 2nd Graders in Reading & Math at Housman

Mentor 6th Graders at Spring Woods Middle School

Read, Tutor, or Mentor at Piney Point

Training & student matching begin in September!

Pick up a brochure or visit change.mdpc.org.



**Savvy
 CAREGIVER COURSE**

Are you caring for someone with memory issues?

Are you concerned about what lies ahead and how to manage? To learn more about dementia/Alzheimer's and how to have a better quality of life with your loved one, join us for this free 6-week course at MDPC, taught by our friends from Amazing Place. It will provide facts about stages and reasons for behavior changes, making you better equipped as a caregiver.

Wednesdays, September 4-October 9
9:30-11:30 AM | MDPC Room 122
 Register with Sharon (see below). Sponsored by Caring Ministries.

Sharon: scantrell@amazingplacehouston.org

Walking the Mourner's Path™

Does it seem like you should be over your grief? While there is no timeline to grief, there is always hope. Walking the Mourner's Path is a Christ-centered grief program for those dealing with the loss of a loved one. Limited to 10 participants and guided by trained facilitators, the group is a safe place to share feelings with each other and with God. Sponsored by Caring Ministries.

Thursdays, September 5-October 24*
3:30-5:00 PM • MC 116 (Chapel Bride's Room)
\$30 fee for materials

Contact Member Care Director Beverly Fluke with questions at bfluke@mdpc.org or 713-490-9542.

*Offered twice per year; contact us to be notified of future series.

Registration: grief.mdpc.org

INTO THE MARGINS

THE PARABLES OF LUKE

A Sermon Series
by Alf Halvorson

Last year, MDPC Sunday School classes and small groups spent several months studying the Book of Romans. This year, we'll open our Bibles to the Gospel of Luke (see cover for details).

Beginning **September 8** and continuing through Advent, Pastor Alf will complement that study with a sermon series on select parables from Luke.

upcomingsermons.mdpc.org

word AND worship

Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday Options
September 2019 through April 2020 • Cost: \$40

What to expect at Word and Worship:

You are invited to join us as we study the book of Exodus together! Exodus tells the story of how God rescued His people from oppression in Egypt and led them through the wilderness. God remains faithful to His covenant and demonstrates His great love for His people countless times throughout this book. Join us as we learn more about our faithful God.

Schedule Options

Thursdays, beginning September 5

Women • 9:30-11:30 AM

Childcare (free) for ages 3 months to 5 years

Sundays, beginning September 8

Co-ed • 9:45-10:45 AM **or** 11:15 AM-12:15 PM

Wednesdays, beginning September 11

Co-ed • 5:00-6:00 PM **or**

Women • 6:30-7:30 PM

E X  D U S

Contact: Laurien Hook at lhook@mdpc.org

SPEAKER SERIES WELCOMES
RADIO PERSONALITY & AUTHOR

Carmen Fowler LaBerge



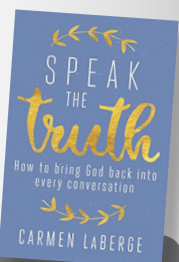
MDPC welcomes Carmen LaBerge, host of *Mornings with Carmen*, a nationwide morning show on The Faith Radio Network. She is the author of numerous articles and of *Speak the Truth: Bring God back into the Conversation*.

Carmen will talk about friendship and how to have meaningful discussions with people who are not Christians. Her passion is helping people reconnect the eternal with the everyday by equipping Christians to engage the culture in ways that honor Jesus.



**Thursday,
September 19 • 7:00-8:30 PM
Fellowship Hall**

**Two Wednesday
evening classes** will expound on this important subject. Follow the link to learn more.



Learn more: speakers.mdpc.org

Discover MDPC with Alf

This is a no-pressure opportunity to meet Pastor Alf and learn about MDPC.

September 8

10:45-11:10 AM • The Nook

Drop-ins welcome!

New Member Classes

The New Member Classes are taught by the Associate Pastors and Elders, and include a Saturday service project at one of the organizations supported by MDPC.

Sundays, September 15 - October 6

9:45-11:00 AM • Room 122

Register: membership.mdpc.org

The Living Well

Revival of Heart
Renewal of Mind
Rest for Soul



An 28-week Study of Jesus through Matthew's Gospel

Come as you are to seek God at dawn through His Living Word and prayer. Be encouraged by personal testimony and Gospel Scriptures read aloud followed by a time of solitary personal reflection, responding to God's Word and Voice through journaling, prayer, and provided study guide. Discover the "more" God has for you, as we women of all ages meet together to build up our faith.

"Man shall ... live by every word that comes from the mouth of God." - Matthew 4:4

Wednesdays, September 11, 2019-April 22, 2020

6:00 AM Gather, 6:15 AM Start • Amphitheater

Register: tlw.mdpc.org

MEN'S LIFE: Man Alive!

Interesting talks,
meaningful group
conversations.

Tuesday Mornings

September 10-December 3

6:30-7:45 AM



**Kickoff
Breakfast**
with Dave Peterson

Saturday, August 24

8:30-9:30 AM | \$10

Register: ml.mdpc.org or mlkickoff.mdpc.org

Books WITH A Message

Beginning this fall, Equipping Ministries will host periodic series on important works by talented Christian authors. The first offering will be Carmen LaBerge's 2017 book, *Speak the Truth: How to Bring God Back into Every Conversation*. LaBerge, who is the host of *Mornings with Carmen LaBerge* on Faith Radio, has much to say on Christian witness and popular culture.

Wednesdays, September 11 & 18

6:30-7:30 PM • Room 122

Dr. Clay Brown, Equipping Pastor, will lead this course on the major themes and insights of the book (available online and locally). Pre-reading is recommended but not required.

LaBerge will be our next Speaker Series presenter on Thursday, September 19 (see page 5).

Register: books.mdpc.org

It's time for a fun getaway weekend created for both newly married and longtime married couples! Join Brett and Kellie Hurst of Home Encouragement for a retreat featuring excellent food, a one-on-one date night with your spouse, and expert teaching focused on your married life together.

Don't miss this opportunity to grow deeper in love with your "sweetie" in Sugar Land!

September 28-29
Sugar Land Marriott

Register: marriageretreat.mdpc.org



Has life gone differently than expected? Have you wrestled with envy, contentment, joy?

Join us at **THE WELL**, our semi-annual gathering for women of all ages and life stages to commune and connect. This fall, we have the honor of hearing from Meliza Gómez, Teri Adair, Debbi Nager, and Rachel Poysky.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

Light refreshments at 6:00 PM; program begins at 6:30. Reserve your free childcare.

thewell.mdpc.org

MDPC Women
CONNECT WITH FRIENDS
CONNECT WITH JESUS

Theology Matters

Equipping Ministries is launching a new series of college/ seminary level studies! Each of the **five stand-alone subjects** will consist of four Wednesday evening sessions revealing both "matters about theology" and "how theology matters" in your Christian growth.

Participation is limited to the first 20 registrants. Please note that attendance at previous sessions is not required for participation in later courses.

Classes will be taught by Dr. Clay Brown, Equipping Pastor.

1 Theology & Faith

Wednesdays, October 2, 9, 16, & 23
6:30-8:00 PM • Ministry Center Room 122
(registration will be open September 4-30)

2 God & Creation

Wednesdays, October 30, November 6, 13, & 20
6:30-8:00 PM • Ministry Center Room 122

Additional resource materials and outside study required.

Learn more and register: theology.mdpc.org

MDPC Concert Series
2019-2020

Hymn Festival

All the Hymns You Love.

MDPC SANCTUARY CHOIR conducted by Charles Hausmann. Six brass players, timpani, percussion, cello, piano, and organ. Free and open to the public.

Sunday
October 13, 2019
6:00 PM | Sanctuary

MDPC Concert Series

concerts.mdpc.org



A Fall to Connect

Ladies, A Fall to Connect is here! Try something different, meet someone new, or do something you love.

There are groups to fit any and every schedule with morning, daytime, and evening options.

Pick up a brochure or visit the website for a complete listing of opportunities.

Learn more and register: ftc.mdpc.org



YOUNG ADULTS & PARENTS

On Sunday mornings, we have a space for you! Grab a cup of coffee and meet other 20s and 30s in all sorts of life stages.

Preschool Parents Bible Study

Couples with kids 6 and under, Bible study, 8:30 AM

Nearly & Newly

Couples in 20s & 30s, marriage/Bible discussion, 11:00 AM

Fifth Community

All 20s & 30s, sermon discussion, 11:00 AM

The Parish

All 20s & 30s, Bible study, 11:00 AM

Life 2.0

Couples with kids elementary and younger, 11:15 AM

Sunday School or childcare is available for infants through elementary age. Learn more: kids.mdpc.org

Learn more: ya.mdpc.org



THE MUSIC BOX KIDS CHOIR

Do you love music? Are you a kid in grade K-5? Come join us to learn all about music and choral singing in a fun and worshipful environment!

WEDNESDAYS, SEPT. 18 - NOV. 13
4:45-5:30 PM | CHAPEL

PROGRAM DIRECTOR:
MELIZA GÓMEZ,
MDPC CONTEMPORARY
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Registration: themusicbox.mdpc.org



2019 Global Mission Trips

Living Water International Mission Trip

Honduras • Dec. 7-14, 2019
Cost: \$2,200 Total

On a LWI trip, you'll witness firsthand the transformational power of access to clean water as you drill a water well, teach sanitation and hygiene lessons, and share God's love with the people of Honduras. The work you do will impact the community you visit forever!



Kelsi McCormack at kmccormack@mdpc.org