



Sat & Sun, Feb 21-22, 2026



Visit citic.mdpc.org or scan the QR code below to learn more and register!

KIDS' MEALS AT MDPC (SAT & SUN OPTIONS)

Intended for our youngest volunteers, ages 4+ with adult, and their families, and for those with limited mobility. Make ham and cheese sandwiches to be delivered to preschool-aged children in Houston.

PARTNER PROJECTS AT MDPC (SUN)

Intended for our youngest volunteers, ages 4+ with adult, and their families, and for those with limited mobility. Bag beans & rice, fill Easter eggs, assemble teacher appreciation gifts, and more!

HOUSTON FOOD BANK (SUN)

Ages 6+ with adult. Inspect/sort food, re-pack dry food into family-sized bags, and more!

THE BEACON (SAT)

Ages 13+ with adult. Assemble bags of essential items at MDPC 7am on Saturday, then head to The Beacon to distribute the bags, serve coffee, and pray with clients.

MISSION OF YAHWEH (SUN)

Ages 10+ with adult. Landscape cleanup and drainage improvements, arts & crafts with resident children, wardrobe & space-saving hacks, painting picnic tables, and organizing & sorting in the retail store.

SANTA MARIA HOSTEL (SUN)

Ages 10+ with adult. Join us to clean, paint, landscape, assemble welcome kits, teach, lead craft projects, and more.

SPRINGSPIRIT (SUN)

Ages 10+ with adult. Help make improvements at the Pitner Road location. Paint trim, install window blinds, remove a couple of fallen trees.

PROJECTS FOR THOSE AT HOME

All ages. Not able to attend Church in the City in person? We have an opportunity for you to serve as well!



Details, more ways to help, and registration:
CITC.MDPC.ORG



WORSHIP FOR WORKERS' CONCERT

Join us for the theologically rich music and prayer of **Porter's Gate**—a collective of theologians and singer-songwriters including Sandra McCracken, Taylor Leonhardt, Paul Zach, Josh Garrels, and others.

Porter's Gate brings theologians and musicians together around a shared theme. In this project, theologians led workshops on the theology of work while musicians listened, wrote poetry, and crafted songs throughout the week. The result is **Worship for Workers**—music meant to give language for deeper, more honest conversations with God about the complexities of the work week.

This album and concert is crafted especially for teachers, attorneys, accountants, chefs, engineers, child-care professionals, therapists, researchers, designers, administrators, dentists—and anyone whose work includes pressure, responsibility, good days, and hard ones.

Each song speaks to the heart of a different kind of worker, offering prayerful reflection, hope, and reminder that our daily labor matters to God.

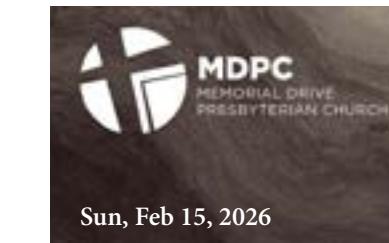
Come be refreshed, named, and reminded that you are not alone in your work. Sample some of their music using the QR codes below.



Free childcare by reservation: workers.mdpc.org

FEB 27
7-8:30PM

FREE CONCERT
OPEN SEATING



Help Fellow Houstonians!

Please consider donating socks, toilet paper, and feminine hygiene products to benefit clients of The Beacon. The items will be used to assemble and distribute kits during Church in the City. Drop off anytime at the tables around campus. Also needed are loaves of white or wheat sandwich bread for the CITC Kids' Meals projects! Nothing fancy and no Texas Toast. Thank you!



playing bingo, Scrabble, dominoes, board games, cards, mahjong, and more, or bring your favorite game to play! Learn more: seniors.mdpc.org

College Prep

Sundays, Mar 1, Apr 12, May 3 | 11:15am

A 4-part series for high school seniors. We'll gather in the Youth area to hear from an amazing guest speaker on one important topic for life in college. Food provided. March topic: *Healthy Boundaries & Relationships*. Learn more: youth.mdpc.org

Taste of Alpha

Sun, Mar 8 | 12:30-2:15pm | Fellowship Hall

A chance for you to see what Alpha is about and get a sense of the "why" behind the way we do things. Perfect for anyone who'd would like to learn more before inviting friends to the Alpha course.

Join a Local Outreach Committee!

Encounter God through the work of our outreach partners while helping steward MDPC's radical generosity. Interested? Contact Julie LaRue (jlarue@mdpc.org).

New Member Classes

Led by associate pastors, elders, and staff, you'll explore whether becoming a covenant partner is the right next step for you! The next class is in April. To register or for more 2026 dates, visit newmembers.mdpc.org.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Join your MDPC family for this annual all-church event, when we leave the pews to serve Houston! Look for details in today's bulletin.

citic.mdpc.org

Sat & Sun, Feb 21-22, 2026 • An All-Church Weekend of Service

DAD CAMP

SAT-SUN FEB 28-MAR 1
4PM-8AM | MDPC FIELD
DADCAMP.MDPC.ORG

MDPC
CHURCH IN THE CITY

Online Giving give.mdpc.org

All Events events.mdpc.org

As you enter worship, we kindly ask that you silence your cell phones.



8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

GATHERING

Call to Worship	Clay Brown
Worship Songs	<i>Forever (Give Thanks)</i> <i>Jesus Paid It All</i>
*Confession & Assurance Prayers of the People	Amy Delgado
Worship Song	<i>Bless the Lord (10,000 Reasons)</i>

HEARING THE WORD

Message	Beautifully Built Up 2 Corinthians 13:1-13 (NRSV)	Alf Halvorson
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RESPONDING

Song of Response	<i>Give Me Faith</i>
Introduction of New Covenant Partners Congregational Response	Dan Aikins
SENDING	
*Benediction	Alf Halvorson

9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

GATHERING

*Call to Worship	Dan Aikins
Worship Songs	<i>Freedom in this House</i> <i>Great Are You Lord</i>
*Confession & Assurance	Christyn Knoop
*Worship Song	<i>Jesus Paid It All</i>

HEARING THE WORD

Message	Beautifully Built Up 2 Corinthians 13:1-13 (NRSV)	Alf Halvorson
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RESPONDING

Song of Response	<i>Give Me Faith</i>
Introduction of New Covenant Partners Congregational Response	Dan Aikins
SENDING	
*Benediction	Alf Halvorson

Musicians in these services: Asher Pudlo, drums | Chris Parrot, guitar | Uvaldo Callejas, keys
Abraham Uribe, bass | Angel Uribe & Michael Middleton, worship leaders

*Please stand, if comfortable.

11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

GATHERING

Prelude	<i>Meditation</i>	George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)
Call to Worship		Rachel Poysky
Choral Introit	<i>Praise Ye the Lord</i>	arr. Charles Hausmann
*Hymn of Praise	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy</i>	Vs. 1, 3, 4 #138 NICAEA
*Confession and Assurance of Pardon		Amy Delgado

*Affirmation of Faith from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 & Colossians 1:15-20

*Congregational Response	<i>Gloria Patri</i>	#379 GLORIA PATRI
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HEARING THE WORD

Anthem of Preparation	<i>Peace I Give to You</i>	Craig Courtney (b. 1948)
Message	<i>Beautifully Built Up</i>	Alf Halvorson

2 Corinthians 13:1-13 (NRSV)

RESPONDING

*Hymn of Response	<i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i>	Vs. 1, 3, 4 #383 OLIVET
Introduction of New Covenant Partners Congregational Response		Dan Aikins

SENDING

*Benediction	Alf Halvorson
Postlude	<i>Agincourt Hymn</i>

Musicians in this service: MDPC Sanctuary Choir
Charles Hausmann, Traditional Worship Director | Kathryn White, organist/pianist

Our pastors are here to help. We'd love to hear from you!



Alf Halvorson
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Beth Case
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Remember Our Frontline Mission Partners

MDPC partners in local and global ministry truly covet your prayers! Find out this week's prayer recipients by picking up the prayer booklet available around campus or visit partners.mdpc.org.

Financial Update as of Feb 8, 2026

2026 Annual Budget	\$ 14,728,728
Actual Income to Date	1,821,186
Needed to Meet 2026 Budget	12,907,542

Births and Deaths

Rick Hazard passed away Feb 9.
June Langford's brother, Edward (Ted) Russell of Arkansas, passed away Jan 24.
More information at memorials.mdpc.org.

Sermon Notes

2 Corinthians 13:1-13 by Pastor Alf Halvorson

1. A Warning (vv. 1-4)

- Paul reaches a point where a direct confrontation is necessary. In your own life, what is something you've been avoiding that now requires clarity and courage to address?

- How do you discern the difference between something that can be "benignly neglected" versus something that will cause real harm if not confronted?

2. A Wish (vv. 5-8)

- Paul asks the church to "examine yourselves." What spiritual "warning lights" might be on in your life right now?
- When you look in the mirror of Scripture or prayer, where do you sense Jesus is active in you? Where do you feel resistance?
- Lent invites us to take on or give up practices to grow spiritually. What practice might help you draw closer to Christ this season?

3. A Hope (vv. 9-12)

- In what area of your faith do you sense growth? In what area do you feel stuck?
- Paul urges unity, peace, and a willingness to receive hard exhortation. Why is it so difficult to hear correction?

4. A Blessing (v. 13)

- Of the grace of Jesus, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit—which do you personally need most right now, and why?
- How does understanding the Triune nature of God shape your relationship with Him and others?
- Where do you long for God-given serenity in your life?

5. Bringing It Home

- What part of this passage or sermon most challenged you?
- What encouraged you or gave you hope?
- What is one concrete step you will take this week to live more faithfully, courageously, or lovingly?

COVENANT PARTNERS

We are excited to welcome these **10** new covenant partners to the MDPC family! Learn a little more about them below, and join us in welcoming them to **MDPC**.



David and Lisa Bogert have two adult children, Kirsten and Devin. Kirsten has a 22-month-old son, David, and she loves being an at-home mom. David and Lisa enjoy spending time with their family, playing golf, and traveling.



Kirsten Bogert has one child, David (22 months). She is a stay-at-home mom who enjoys spending time with her son and traveling with family.



Wilson and Cynthia Jeckovich are lifelong Houstonians with their son, Parker (7 months). Wilson works in oil and gas private equity and Cynthia is in residential real estate. They love to play tennis and spend time with friends and family.



Heidi Oates and her husband, Scott, have two adult married children, Jennifer and Stephen. Heidi's a retired clinical nurse specialist and loves swimming, being outdoors, learning new things, traveling, and reading.



Cole and Erin Patchell have two children, Callum (7) and Luke (4). Cole works in oil and gas and Erin chases their boys. They love to travel and spend time with friends and family.



Sam and Ashtyn Rayburn have one child, their 8-month-old daughter, Lily. They enjoy spending time with their family and friends, traveling, and exploring new restaurants in Houston.