

THE
Messenger
From Memorial Drive Christian Church

11750 MEMORIAL DRIVE · HOUSTON, TEXAS · www.mdccdoc.org 713-789-0060

I was at a retreat in January and the speaker announced this was going to be a weekend to “Breathe and remember that God is our refuge and strength.” She went on to say when you fall into a man-hole in life – don’t panic – be still and know that God is with you. This month I have needed those words with the virus and the relocation of MDCC pending.

So I ask you to “Breathe and remember that God is our refuge and strength” as we go through the next two months.

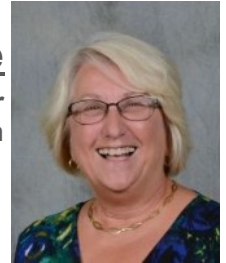
As you know, the closing has been delayed, but should take place by July 6, 2020. Paratus Classical Academy has released some of the earnest money to us and should release more on May 1, 2020.

We are in negotiations with the Korean American Association and Community Center of Houston (KAACCH) to meet there on July 12, 2020 or when we close the sale. The address is 1809 Hollister Street. It is the corner of Long Point and Hollister in Spring Branch. About 5 miles north of MDCC.

The KAACCH is a nonprofit organization that strives to serve the Korean American and neighboring communities through education, cultural, and community service programs. The Hollister Center (The Center) is being used by various organization as the Houston Korean School, Houston Community College, various Korean American Organizations, and non-Korean neighborhood organizations, groups, and families.

New Beginnings Steering Committee

Contact: Carol Neal, Chair
cneal9915@aol.com



At the KAACCH we will have use of the Main Auditorium, two children’s classrooms downstairs, two large and one medium classroom upstairs (there is an elevator), kitchen for catered food, office space and some storage, a large room with piano on Wednesday evenings for choir practice, and access to a classroom for one or two meetings a month. There is plenty of parking.

KAACCH has been so welcoming and are looking forward for us to be there. They are hoping that we can work together on outreach programs and ministry in the community.

The Admin. Council, Steering Committee and Task Force members are in the process of looking at the inventory prepared by Camille Westbrook and her committee. A big thank you for their hard work going through the buildings and writing it all down. Together we will decide what is necessary for us to begin our new ministry. We are also in discussions on what to sell, store, give away, trash, or leave for Paratus.

This is an exciting time for MDCC and I am looking forward to seeing what God has planned for us.

Carol Neal

Herschel Moore, Minister
Contact: 164hem@gmail.com
or 713-459-0846

From Our Minister

Isn't it great to have *The Messenger* back? Thanks to Teri Villoutreix who managed to get it done while maintaining social distance. We only missed one issue, but it seems like more.

We all are learning something about what we can and cannot do while keeping ourselves safe from Covid19. Just as important is keeping others safe from us! Even if we think we are not carrying the virus, others cannot be so sure about us, so keeping our distance, not shaking hands, and other measures can be ways of showing concern for our neighbors.

Another thing we can do to show concern for our neighbors is to invite them to church! Joining online for worship makes it easier than ever to invite people. As soon as we get the URL address and phone number for each upcoming service, why not email it to a whole bunch of other people? We could include a note of invitation like, *"If you are not involved with your own church Sunday morning at 11:00am, I hope you will link in with us at Memorial Drive Christian Church."* You might want to invite them to the online Sunday school also. It's at 9:30am. And the Wednesday prayer meeting at 4:00pm.



On one recent Sunday, nearly 50 computers and phones were connected to our Zoom service. Many of those connections were with two or more people, so we very likely had 70 or 80 people joining us for worship. Wouldn't it be just like God to turn this crisis to an opportunity to reach people with the good news of Christ – perhaps people we never could have reached otherwise? Our online skills are improving, and we may want to continue the livestreaming even after we start meeting again in person.

How good it is to follow Christ step by step, seeing new things we could not have imagined! Thanks for inviting me to join you on this journey.

Faith, Hope, Love,
 Herschel

Health Update

Bottom Line on Masks & Gloves:

- Wear a mask when you are in “exposure” zones (mainly places with other people.)
- Treat your home, car, and yard as safe places (no mask or gloves.)
- Be on high alert on what you are doing with your hands when you are in “danger zones.” *This is when you must not touch your face.*
- Consider wearing gloves (even winter gloves or work gloves can be helpful) but only for short periods of time and only when in “touch exposure” danger zones.
- Remove your gloves (and mask) when you return to your safe place.
- Wash your hands *every single time* you take off your gloves or mask or move from a danger zone back to a safe zone.

When you are at home and after washing up, you can relax, scratch your nose, rub your eyes and floss your teeth...without worry.

(Submitted by Joyce Stones)

Outreach Ministries

Contact: Judy or Frank Conner, Co-Chairs
fwconner@sbcglobal.net

I never met A. or Nell Dreselly. They were former members before I ever arrived at MDCC. However, they must have been great stewards of the church. While at MDCC, they had the foresight to open a Trust account at the Christian Church Foundation. MDCC still periodically receives the accumulated income from their Trust account for use in relief of the needy and hungry.

The distribution amount was equally split this year – half to the Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries (beans and rice) in the Valley and half to the East Spring Branch Food Pantry locally.

This distribution from the Dreselly Fund was received and forwarded during the Corona Virus Pandemic. With more people than ever out of work and out of hope, MDCC was able to send money for food for the hungry.

God bless the Dreselly family and God bless you. Your gifts allow the Outreach Committee to continue to reach out.



Treasurer's Report

Contact: John E. Lindley, Treasurer
treasurer.mdcc@gmail.com

General Fund Income vs Expense

	March	YTD	YTD Budget
Pledged Income	12,458.33	44,430.77	77,000.00
Other Income	4,734.64	14,816.91	17,900.00
Expense	28,056.34	80,176.97	114,142.65
Balance	(10,863.37)	(20,929.29)	(19,242.65)
Txfer From DF	0.00	0.00	0.00
Final Balance	(10,863.37)	(20,929.29)	(19,242.65)

The budget numbers are from the 2019 budget.

Cash Assets & Debt

General Fund	
Checking	9,114.53
Liabilities & Amortized Inc, Exp	32,168.55
Savings (Charles Schwab)	2,478.80
Undesignated Memorial Funds	238,640.83
Designated Funds	<u>86,375.05</u>
Total	368,777.76
Mortgage Balance	473,359.20

Comments

“Pledge income” and building income were down in March as would be expected given we have had to go virtual. April could easily be worse. On the expense side, that is not going to change much. We are continuing to pay our employees and the other major bills still need to be paid. Despite that we are not in any immediate financial danger. I have initiated the process to begin taking money from the Living Endowment Fund with \$50,000 coming in early May and we will receive \$35,000 in the earnest money shortly so we will have plenty of cash on hand to weather this current crisis for the next two to three months. If you have any questions, please ask me at church or send an email to treasurer.mdcc@gmail.com.
 John E Lindley, Treasurer. 4/12/2020

Community Joys and Concerns

Our condolences to family and friends of Jo Dale, who died on Easter Sunday, April 12. A private graveside service was held on April 15, officiated by Rev. Herschel Moore. Cards and memorial gifts may be sent to MDCC, 11750 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX 77024; cards will be forwarded to the family.



Member Development

Contact: Maudeen Eccles, Chair
maudeenfeccl@gmail.com

Wishing you all well at this unbelievable time. We had wonderful quarantine Easter Holy Week services and our special Easter Service on April 12 through Zoom. We hope most of you were able to tune in. Many thanks for the leadership of Rev. Herschel Moore, Rev. Carolyn Allen, Deb Busch, Sondra Tucker, John Lindley, and John Caviar-Johnson and anyone else who helped with these services. The recorded pieces by Phillip Durham and the Handbell Choir were a special and meaningful addition. The solos by Deb Busch and the recorded hymns helped this new type of church. We have many more of these to look forward to in the near future.

We also have great news of our new place of meeting, Korean American Association and Community Center of Houston. The formalities are being finalized. Many of us have seen this special place. It is so much nicer than most of the other places we looked at or thought about.

Please continue to lift up in your prayers our church, our city, the state, country, the leaders, ALL helpers, and people suffering everywhere from this particular pandemic crisis along with so many other hardships that preceded this troubled time.

We turn to God now as we face the challenges of each new day. “Stay safe” has become our new farewell.

Peace, Maudeen



**“For we are co-workers
in God’s service;
you are God’s field,
God’s building.”**

—1 Corinthians 3:9

 **Find MDCC on
Facebook**



Disciple Oaks Retreat Center is in the process of planning for summer camps. Go the website for the most updated information:
<https://www.discipleoaksretreat.net/>

If you have not registered your camper, please do so in our CampDoc online program. Please make sure you complete their profile to 100% as this will help us get the best information to you about our summer program and information to our camp event directors on your camper. Here is the link for CampDoc

app.campdoc.com/register/oaks



From Our Associate

Contact: Rev. Carolyn Allen, Associate Minister

Zoom Information

Here are the meeting IDs, passwords, and dial in phone numbers to access Zoom for our reoccurring gatherings.

Sunday School at 9:30am:

Meeting ID: 934 5263 6490

Password: 228202

Dial-in: 1 (346) 248-7799

This Sunday School class is beginning a study of the book, *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything: a Spirituality For Real Life*, by James Martin, SJ.

Sunday Worship at 11:00am:

Meeting ID: 981 148 527

Password: 049412

Dial-in: 1 (346) 248-7799

Wednesday Prayer Service at 4:00pm:

Meeting ID: 754 486 502

Password: 018425

Dial-in: 1 (346) 248-7799

I hope having all this information in one place makes it easier for everyone to join us. I will still send out the email reminders before each meeting. I truly miss meeting with you all in person, but I'm grateful for these opportunities to connect virtually!

Peace and love,

Carolyn



May 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:30a Sunday School-Zoom 11a Worship-Zoom	27 7p Hudson Oaks 2	28 11a Staff Meeting-Zoom 6:30p Hudson Forest HOA 7p Admin Council/Steering Committee	29 4p Prayer Service-Zoom	30 6:30p Simply AA Group	1 Office closed on Fridays	2
3 Rev. Allen is preaching 9:30a Sunday School-Zoom 11a Worship-Zoom	4	5 11a Staff Meeting-Zoom	6 4p Prayer Service-Zoom	7 6:30p Simply AA Group	8 Office closed on Fridays	9
10 Mother's Day Rev. Moore is preaching 9:30a Sunday School-Zoom 11a Worship-Zoom	11	12 11a Staff Meeting-Zoom	13 4p Prayer Service-Zoom	14 6:30p Simply AA Group	15 Office closed on Fridays	16 2p Swain Party
17 Rev. Allen is preaching 9:30a Sunday School-Zoom 11a Worship-Zoom	18 6:30p Elders' Meeting 7:30p Hudson Oaks 1-A	19 11a Staff Meeting-Zoom 6p Hudson Oaks 1B 7p RAD Self Defense Class	20 Newsletter Deadline 4p Prayer Service-Zoom 7p RAD Self Defense Class	21 6:30p Simply AA Group 7p RAD Self Defense Class	22 Office closed on Fridays	23
24 Rev. Moore is preaching 9:30a Sunday School-Zoom 11a Worship-Zoom	25 Memorial Day holiday office is closed 7p Hudson Oaks 2	26 11a Staff Meeting-Zoom	27 4p Prayer Service-Zoom	28 Newsletter Published 6:30p Simply AA Group	29 Office closed on Fridays	30
31 Rev. Allen is preaching 9:30a Sunday School-Zoom 11a Worship-Zoom	1	2 11a Staff Meeting-Zoom	3	4 6:30p Simply AA Group	5 Office closed on Fridays	6