



SESSION DOCUMENTS

Mon, Aug 26, 2024

Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church

Loving God. Proclaiming Christ. Living Generously. Engaging All.

Session Meeting Agenda

August 26, 2024



Strategic Goals

2023-2028



1. **Call to Order and Opening Prayer** (Alf Halvorson)
2. **Establishment of Quorum** (Joe Stockdale)
3. **Master Planning Status Report** (Alf Halvorson)
4. **Clerk's Report** (Joe Stockdale)
 - a. Upcoming ECO Texas Presbytery Meeting – First Presbyterian, San Antonio-September 20-21
 - b. ECO National Gathering - Highland Park Presbyterian- Dallas, TX- January 27-29, 2025
5. **Officer Nominations** (Laura Miller)
6. **Finance Report** (Bob Davis)
7. **Omnibus Agenda**
 - a. **Motion** to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2024, Session Meeting.
 - b. **Motion** to approve the following Baptisms performed in July 2024:

Name	Age	Parents	Member	Date
Noah Uzoma Emihe (Hylton)	Infant	Judene Hylton and Charles Emihe	Mom-No Dad-No	7/21/2024 Sprinkle
Hallie Russell Horacek	Infant	Meredith Furst and Sean Horacek	Yes-both	7/21/2024 Sprinkle
Faith Annette Shindler	Infant	Rebecca and Will Allen Shindler III	Yes-both	7/21/2024 Sprinkle

c. *Motion to approve Outreach Partner Funding for August as follows:*

Outreach Ministry – Partner Funding Recommendations

Consent Agenda items:

Partner Funding Recommendations

Designated

Boys and Girls Country	\$10,000		CFH
Child Advocates	\$10,000		CFH
Alpha USA	\$15,000		DE
Home Encouragement	\$18,000		DE
Bo's Place	\$12,000		HSN
ECHOS	\$25,000		HSN
Lifehouse Houston	\$10,000	Furnishing for 2 new Apartments	HSN
Magnificat Houses, Inc.	\$22,500		HSN
Reach Unlimited	\$20,000	Documentation System	HSN
African Enterprise	\$15,000		Global
Faith Ministry	\$20,000	Berea Bible Institute	Global
Faith Ministry	\$1,500	Berea Bible Institute -Stove	Global
Frontier Fellowship	\$25,000		Global
Totaling:	\$204,000		
Year to Date:	\$1,677,350		

8. Calendar Reminders

September 1	Alf Halvorson Preaching “Unshakable Truth: Building a Rock-Solid Faith” <i>Christ’s role & ours now Q’s 49-51</i> Labor Day All-Church Lunch
September 8	Alf Halvorson Preaching Fall Sermon Series on the Book of Esther
September 15	Dave Peterson Guest Preaching
September 20-21	ECO Texas Presbytery Meeting- First Presbyterian Church, San Antonio
September 22	Alf Halvorson Preaching
September 23	Session Meeting

Remaining 2024 Session Meeting Dates

September 23

October 28

November- No Meeting

December 16

Looking Forward: 2025 Dates

New Officer Installation- January 12, 2025

Officer and Staff Retreat – January 24-25th in Houston- Details TBD

ECO National Gathering-Highland Park Presbyterian- Dallas, TX- January 27-29, 2025

9. Luke Funderburk -MDPC Resident

10. Announcements and Additional Business

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the August 2024 Session Meeting.

12. Prayer (Beth Case)

Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church
Balance Sheet Thru June
MDPC Summary Balance Sheet-2024

Name	Month to Month			June 2023
	June 2024	May 2024	Difference	
ASSETS				
Unrestricted Cash & Cash Equivalents	3,427,619.56	4,129,460.75	(701,841.19)	4,203,256.37
Current Investments (Unrestricted)	1,422,480.17	1,484,177.67	(61,697.50)	2,153,761.51
Total Unrestricted Cash & Cash Equivalents	4,850,099.73	5,613,638.42	(763,538.69)	6,357,017.88
Current Investments (Restricted)	2,386,722.83	2,379,737.37	6,985.46	2,301,112.24
Legacy Restricted Cash & Equivalents	5,639,596.21	5,611,211.77	28,384.44	4,371,965.39
Total Restricted Cash & Equivalents	8,026,319.04	7,990,949.14	35,369.90	6,673,077.63
Prepaid Expense, Deposits, Inventory	687,623.70	313,580.63	374,043.07	622,813.47
Miscellaneous Receivables	18,300.81	26,115.81	(7,815.00)	37,081.12
Property & Equipment	55,618,502.77	55,618,502.77	-	54,571,872.49
Accumulated Depreciation	(47,575,114.53)	(47,575,114.53)	-	(46,273,756.61)
Note Receivable	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS	21,625,731.52	21,987,672.24	(361,940.72)	21,988,105.98
LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	178,570.37	250,199.88	(71,629.51)	1,335,175.15
Other Payables	88,104.99	89,173.38	(1,068.39)	49,075.90
Prepaid Tuition and Fees	140,030.00	140,782.50	(752.50)	131,380.00
Custodial Accounts	33,055.28	37,212.17	(4,156.89)	48,089.21
Note Payable-PNC /PPP	-	-	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	439,760.64	517,367.93	(77,607.29)	1,563,720.26
NET ASSETS				
Unrestricted Net Assets	12,476,027.11	12,673,690.67	(197,663.56)	12,237,645.01
Temp. Restricted Net Assets	3,005,742.80	3,007,968.45	(2,225.65)	2,935,224.96
Perm. Restricted Net Assets	433,857.59	433,857.59	-	433,857.59
Restricted Legacy Net Assets	5,270,343.38	5,354,787.60	(84,444.22)	4,817,658.16
TOTAL NET ASSETS	21,185,970.88	21,470,304.31	(284,333.43)	20,424,385.72
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	21,625,731.52	21,987,672.24	(361,940.72)	21,988,105.98

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 6 - June
SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENSE - 2024
Company#: 1 Name: Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church
Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2024

Description	Jun-24	2024 Actual		Over (Under)		% Variance		Budget 2024	
			YTD	2024 Budget YTD	Budget	YTD	2023 Actual YTD	Full Year	
OPERATING INCOME									
Contributions	\$ 1,328,345	\$ 6,344,354	\$ 5,496,035	\$ 848,319	15.44%	\$ 5,177,912	\$ 13,719,797		
Ministry Events Revenue	\$ 218,348	\$ 1,634,805	\$ 1,717,107	\$ (82,302)	-4.79%	\$ 1,632,286	\$ 3,061,907		
Other Operating Income	\$ 5,966	\$ 256,898	\$ 50,000	\$ 206,898	413.80%	\$ 228,670	\$ 100,000		
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	\$ 1,552,659	\$ 8,236,057	\$ 7,263,142	\$ 972,915	13.40%	\$ 7,038,869	\$ 16,881,704		
Ministry Operating Expense									
Pastoral Ministry									
Caring Ministry	\$ 38,653	\$ 208,296	\$ 224,013	\$ (15,717)	-7.02%	\$ 208,568	\$ 448,929		
Fuente	\$ 14,558	\$ 88,545	\$ 52,618	\$ 35,927	68.28%	\$ 26,290	\$ 106,765		
Children's Ministry	\$ 82,497	\$ 406,738	\$ 426,936	\$ (20,198)	-4.73%	\$ 384,465	\$ 885,876		
Youth Ministry	\$ 46,043	\$ 262,863	\$ 274,620	\$ (11,757)	-4.28%	\$ 275,706	\$ 567,216		
Relationships	\$ 22,921	\$ 177,057	\$ 199,945	\$ (22,888)	-11.45%	\$ 180,412	\$ 393,813		
Sports and REACH Programs	\$ 90,061	\$ 254,039	\$ 224,763	\$ 29,276	13.03%	\$ 224,682	\$ 417,441		
Outreach (Admin)	\$ 54,714	\$ 325,683	\$ 307,330	\$ 18,353	5.97%	\$ 281,880	\$ 607,660		
Adult Discipleship	\$ 36,529	\$ 201,998	\$ 201,727	\$ 271	0.13%	\$ 170,871	\$ 403,494		
Young Adult	\$ 13,037	\$ 68,335	\$ 106,140	\$ (37,805)	-35.62%	\$ 136,165	\$ 213,538		
Worship	\$ 33,351	\$ 250,421	\$ 268,853	\$ (18,432)	-6.86%	\$ 211,223	\$ 529,786		
Traditional Music	\$ 33,387	\$ 231,481	\$ 206,887	\$ 24,594	11.89%	\$ 204,366	\$ 426,904		
Contemporary Music	\$ 29,116	\$ 170,226	\$ 171,898	\$ (1,672)	-0.97%	\$ 160,352	\$ 337,296		
Brazilian Ministry	\$ 16,906	\$ 95,379	\$ 98,814	\$ (3,435)	-3.48%	\$ 74,930	\$ 197,624		
Total Pastoral Ministry	\$ 511,776	\$ 2,741,059	\$ 2,764,543	\$ (23,484)	-0.85%	\$ 2,539,909	\$ 5,536,342		
Support Ministry									
Communications & Media	\$ 74,265	\$ 478,886	\$ 452,650	\$ 26,236	5.80%	\$ 450,900	\$ 905,300		
Administration	\$ 102,595	\$ 446,484	\$ 433,829	\$ 12,655	2.92%	\$ 496,521	\$ 820,741		
Food Service	\$ 13,616	\$ 79,466	\$ 77,500	\$ 1,966	2.54%	\$ 69,715	\$ 155,000		
Facilities & Technology	\$ 243,350	\$ 1,440,122	\$ 1,181,407	\$ 258,715	21.90%	\$ 1,162,987	\$ 2,380,816		
The Little School	\$ 81,488	\$ 592,757	\$ 622,073	\$ (29,315)	-4.71%	\$ 565,485	\$ 1,255,145		
The Yellow School	\$ 64,548	\$ 397,725	\$ 376,843	\$ 20,883	5.54%	\$ 405,443	\$ 758,233		
Total Support Ministry	\$ 579,862	\$ 3,435,441	\$ 3,144,301	\$ 291,140	9.26%	\$ 3,151,052	\$ 6,275,235		
Anticipated Budget Reduction	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!	\$ -	\$ -		
Total Ministry Operating Expense	\$ 1,091,638	\$ 6,176,500	\$ 5,908,844	\$ 267,656	4.53%	\$ 5,690,961	\$ 11,811,577		
Outreach Expense									
Outreach - Ministry Sponsored	\$ 151,376	\$ 577,535	\$ 683,398	\$ (105,863.63)	-0.15%	\$ 587,444	\$ 1,293,639		
Outreach - Ministry Partners	\$ 458,100	\$ 1,474,381	\$ 1,010,600	\$ 463,780.77	0.46%	\$ 1,552,023	\$ 3,181,488		
Total Outreach Expense	\$ 609,476	\$ 2,051,916	\$ 1,693,998	\$ 357,917.14	0.21%	\$ 2,139,468	\$ 4,475,127		
Other Operating Expense									
Insurance & Legal	\$ 45,042	\$ 278,170	\$ 272,500	\$ 5,670	2.08%	\$ 207,370	\$ 545,000		
Capital Additions/Reserve	\$ 4,167	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 25,000	\$ 50,000		
Total Other Operating Expense	\$ 49,209	\$ 303,170	\$ 297,500	\$ 5,670	1.91%	\$ 232,370	\$ 595,000		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 1,750,322	\$ 8,531,586	\$ 7,900,343	\$ 631,243	7.99%	\$ 8,062,798	\$ 16,881,704		
Other Income(Loss)									
Total Other Income(Loss)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ -	\$ -		
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ (197,664)	\$ (295,529)	\$ (637,201)	\$ 341,671	-53.62%	\$ (1,023,929)	\$ 0		
Restr & Enrichment Inc/(Exp)	\$ (86,670)	\$ 382,650	\$ -	\$ 382,650	0%	\$ 288,608	\$ -		

Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church
Balance Sheet Thru July
MDPC Summary Balance Sheet-2024

Name	Month to Month			July 2023
	July 2024	June 2024	Difference	
ASSETS				
Unrestricted Cash & Cash Equivalents	2,990,328.96	3,427,619.56	(437,290.60)	2,763,471.63
Current Investments (Unrestricted)	1,479,298.38	1,422,480.17	56,818.21	2,177,127.84
Total Unrestricted Cash & Cash Equivalents	4,469,627.34	4,850,099.73	(380,472.39)	4,940,599.47
Current Investments (Restricted)	2,386,722.83	2,386,722.83	-	2,301,112.24
Legacy Restricted Cash & Equivalents	5,639,596.21	5,639,596.21	-	4,371,965.39
Total Restricted Cash & Equivalents	8,026,319.04	8,026,319.04	-	6,673,077.63
Prepaid Expense, Deposits, Inventory	616,075.71	687,623.70	(71,547.99)	562,548.70
Miscellaneous Receivables	63,053.01	18,300.81	44,752.20	38,742.42
Property & Equipment	55,618,502.77	55,618,502.77	-	54,571,872.49
Accumulated Depreciation	(47,575,114.53)	(47,575,114.53)	-	(46,273,756.61)
Note Receivable	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS	21,218,463.34	21,625,731.52	(407,268.18)	20,513,084.10
LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	579,844.58	178,570.37	401,274.21	365,706.07
Other Payables	88,877.88	88,104.99	772.89	49,831.91
Prepaid Tuition and Fees	112,332.50	140,030.00	(27,697.50)	105,805.00
Custodial Accounts	31,113.50	33,055.28	(1,941.78)	47,954.22
Note Payable-PNC /PPP	-	-	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	812,168.46	439,760.64	372,407.82	569,297.20
NET ASSETS				
Unrestricted Net Assets	12,089,622.10	12,476,027.11	(386,405.01)	12,036,639.30
Temp. Restricted Net Assets	2,991,843.43	3,005,742.80	(13,899.37)	2,728,982.50
Perm. Restricted Net Assets	433,857.59	433,857.59	-	433,857.59
Restricted Legacy Net Assets	4,890,971.76	5,270,343.38	(379,371.62)	4,744,307.51
TOTAL NET ASSETS	20,406,294.88	21,185,970.88	(779,676.00)	19,943,786.90
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	21,218,463.34	21,625,731.52	(407,268.18)	20,513,084.10

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 7 - July
SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENSE - 2024
Company#: 1 Name: Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church
Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2024

Description	Jul-24	2024 Actual		2024 Budget YTD	Over (Under)		2023 Actual YTD	Budget 2024 Full Year
		YTD			Budget	% Variance YTD		
OPERATING INCOME								
Contributions	\$ 748,159	\$ 7,092,513	\$ 6,218,067	\$ 874,446	14.06%	\$ 5,944,485	\$ 13,719,797	
Ministry Events Revenue	\$ 248,390	\$ 1,883,195	\$ 1,875,591	\$ 7,604	0.41%	\$ 1,799,959	\$ 3,061,907	
Other Operating Income	\$ (27,649)	\$ 229,249	\$ 58,333	\$ 170,916	293.00%	\$ 228,924	\$ 100,000	
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	\$ 968,900	\$ 9,204,957	\$ 8,151,992	\$ 1,052,966	12.92%	\$ 7,973,368	\$ 16,881,704	
Ministry Operating Expense								
Pastoral Ministry								
Caring Ministry	\$ 33,406	\$ 241,702	\$ 260,586	\$ (18,884)	-7.25%	\$ 242,021	\$ 448,929	
Fuente	\$ 12,852	\$ 101,397	\$ 60,922	\$ 40,475	66.44%	\$ 32,771	\$ 106,765	
Children's Ministry	\$ 116,944	\$ 523,682	\$ 535,692	\$ (12,010)	-2.24%	\$ 526,007	\$ 885,876	
Youth Ministry	\$ 46,826	\$ 309,689	\$ 318,090	\$ (8,401)	-2.64%	\$ 323,734	\$ 567,216	
Relationships	\$ 26,439	\$ 203,496	\$ 230,470	\$ (26,974)	-11.70%	\$ 201,217	\$ 393,813	
Sports and REACH Programs	\$ 51,608	\$ 305,647	\$ 280,557	\$ 25,090	8.94%	\$ 279,313	\$ 417,441	
Outreach (Admin)	\$ 52,013	\$ 377,696	\$ 356,925	\$ 20,771	5.82%	\$ 327,647	\$ 607,660	
Adult Discipleship	\$ 30,226	\$ 232,224	\$ 235,348	\$ (3,124)	-1.33%	\$ 202,720	\$ 403,494	
Young Adult	\$ 13,718	\$ 82,053	\$ 123,302	\$ (41,249)	-33.45%	\$ 151,041	\$ 213,538	
Worship	\$ 36,758	\$ 287,179	\$ 311,435	\$ (24,256)	-7.79%	\$ 244,469	\$ 529,786	
Traditional Music	\$ 28,430	\$ 259,911	\$ 240,294	\$ 19,617	8.16%	\$ 231,911	\$ 426,904	
Contemporary Music	\$ 23,011	\$ 193,236	\$ 199,298	\$ (6,061)	-3.04%	\$ 189,204	\$ 337,296	
Brazilian Ministry	\$ 13,563	\$ 108,942	\$ 115,283	\$ (6,341)	-5.50%	\$ 89,380	\$ 197,624	
Total Pastoral Ministry	\$ 485,794	\$ 3,226,854	\$ 3,268,202	\$ (41,349)	-1.27%	\$ 3,041,436	\$ 5,536,342	
Support Ministry								
Communications & Media	\$ 65,699	\$ 544,586	\$ 528,092	\$ 16,494	3.12%	\$ 528,336	\$ 905,300	
Administration	\$ 78,016	\$ 524,500	\$ 497,464	\$ 27,036	5.43%	\$ 543,880	\$ 820,741	
Food Service	\$ 13,074	\$ 92,540	\$ 90,417	\$ 2,124	2.35%	\$ 81,996	\$ 155,000	
Facilities & Technology	\$ 244,551	\$ 1,684,673	\$ 1,387,257	\$ 297,416	21.44%	\$ 1,354,530	\$ 2,380,816	
The Little School	\$ 85,056	\$ 677,813	\$ 735,905	\$ (58,092)	-7.89%	\$ 642,586	\$ 1,255,145	
The Yellow School	\$ 63,005	\$ 460,731	\$ 445,210	\$ 15,521	3.49%	\$ 479,018	\$ 758,233	
Total Support Ministry	\$ 549,401	\$ 3,984,843	\$ 3,684,345	\$ 300,498	8.16%	\$ 3,630,345	\$ 6,275,235	
Anticipated Budget Reduction	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Ministry Operating Expense	\$ 1,035,196	\$ 7,211,696	\$ 6,952,547	\$ 259,149	3.73%	\$ 6,671,781	\$ 11,811,577	
Outreach Expense								
Outreach - Ministry Sponsored	\$ 81,799	\$ 659,334	\$ 779,079	\$ (119,745.77)	-0.15%	\$ 719,580	\$ 1,293,639	
Outreach - Ministry Partners	\$ -	\$ 1,474,381	\$ 1,272,000	\$ 202,380.77	0.16%	\$ 1,527,023	\$ 3,181,488	
Total Outreach Expense	\$ 81,799	\$ 2,133,714	\$ 2,051,079	\$ 82,635.00	0.04%	\$ 2,246,603	\$ 4,475,127	
Other Operating Expense								
Insurance & Legal	\$ 45,042	\$ 323,212	\$ 317,917	\$ 5,295	1.67%	\$ 250,752	\$ 545,000	
Capital Additions/Reserve	\$ 4,167	\$ 29,167	\$ 29,167	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 29,167	\$ 50,000	
Total Other Operating Expense	\$ 49,209	\$ 352,379	\$ 347,083	\$ 5,295	1.53%	\$ 279,919	\$ 595,000	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 1,166,203	\$ 9,697,789	\$ 9,350,710	\$ 347,079	3.71%	\$ 9,198,303	\$ 16,881,704	
Other Income(Loss)								
Total Other Income(Loss)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ -	\$ -	
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ (197,303)	\$ (492,832)	\$ (1,198,718)	\$ 705,886	-58.89%	\$ (1,224,935)	\$ 0	
Restr & Enrichment Inc/(Exp)	\$ (393,373)	\$ (10,724)	\$ -	\$ (10,724)	0%	\$ 9,015	\$ -	

MINUTES OF THE STATED MEETING OF THE SESSION
Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church
June 24, 2024

- Elders Present:** Jeannie Able, Chris Arend, Sandy Ballard, Rick Bradford, Tom Braschayko, Ellen Davidson, Bob Davis, Stephanie Espinoza, Jennifer Fernelius, Ginny French, Bob Holloway, Michael Kringel, Sara Kuhn, Marc Laney, Madison Limbacher, Stefano Lugo, Rafael Moreira, Mike Pelton, Kathy Redden, David Shelfer, Nathan Stedham, Bill Swenson, Ryan Taylor, Mandy Todd
- Elders Excused:** Alex Knoop, Tarryn Lankford, Michael McCormack, Laura Miller, Christina Morse, Sharon Roark, Leslie Sloan, Joe Stockdale
- Elders Absent:** Mariel Braun, Dillon Shindler, Jeff Taylor, Kyle Wienert, Mat Yelvington
- Pastors Present:** Dan Aikins, Clay Brown, Almir Dias, Alf Halvorson, Brett Hurst, Rachel Poysky, Guillermo Yela
- Other Staff Present:** Amy Delgado, Beverly Fluke, Sally Henien, Ashley Michels, Amanda Shockley, Jennifer Vajdos, Marcus Vajdos

Call to Order: Pastor Alf Halvorson called the meeting of the Session of Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church to order at 6: 33pm in the Chapel.

Call for Quorum: The Clerk, Bob Holloway, affirmed that a quorum was present.

New Members

Alejandro Almeida, Marian Barroso, Gustavo Bravo, Rebecca Gorsuch, Laurie Grimm, Angie Hernandez, Mitchell Kearney, Fabiana (Eleni) Kotzabassis, Carlos Matute, Desire Melean, Sergio Melean, Rafael E Meza, Yelitza Monhammad, Rafael Jose Meza Moreno, Nubia Olvera, Raul Pineda, Nestor Arana Solís , Jason Tanous, Jenny Tanous, Josh Weber, Amanda (Mandy) Weber, Ciria Yela, Annette Zuanich, Greg Zuanich, RosaEva Zuñiga

The above candidates were invited by Dan Aikins and Guillermo Yela to introduce themselves, telling Session why they were attracted to MDPC and one place they want to serve. Alf noted that the only requirement for membership is a faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. We ask that one question in three questions here. Alf asked those three questions and Guillermo translated each. Alf then asked for the **Motion:** *to receive the above-named friends as Covenant Partners at MDPC*, which was made and seconded. The motion was approved unanimously and with great joy. Alf offered a challenge...who are the best evangelists in any congregation? Usually the newest members. If someone does not have a faith community, maybe you will invite them. Guillermo prayed a blessing over our newest members and Alf dismissed them with the invitation to remain for the duration of the meeting or to be excused.

Time with Alf:

Alf highlighted what Dana Allin, who is head of ECO administratively, shared last week with the senior pastors of the 15 largest churches in ECO: **1.** PCUSA begins their national gathering tomorrow. There is an overture that would force officers and pastors to support LGBTQ+ ministers, marriage, and in all offices of the church going forward. This should produce many more inquiries from churches that have stayed about a transition to ECO. If this passes, more and more churches may want to come to ECO. Dana asked that we pray, if the congregations come, about how difficult or easy to make the process and realize there is a fine line between a “why now?” and a “come on, come all” response. Let’s be prayerful for our former partners in PCUSA and what they have ahead of them. **2.** When ECO was formed, we joined The World Communion of Reformed Churches. Most of the churches that lead are in the USA and Europe but they are leaning more liberal progressive and Imploding. They will have

their International Gathering in Fall 2025 and Dana Allin predicts it will disband. This would leave us not having an international body. What is encouraging is that in America and England we are the one evangelical egalitarian body. People in the south-ex: Africa and east- ex: Korea, etc. want ECO to be a partner going forward and an anchor if the World Communion of Reformed Churches remains or if a new body forms. 3. ECO is trying to plant 1K churches by 2030 – very aggressive timeline- 25 formally in the process, but 140 have reached out to ECO and are pre-vetted to go through process to be church planters... 175 that could launch churches. Dana Allin asked that for the 15 largest churches in ECO, is church planting on our radar? For some it means launching a satellite or launching and then releasing after a few years. Alf described MDPC as the Incubation Model – we brought in Fuente 15years ago when lease ended- we have 27 countries represented in this thriving congregation. We’ve also added BPC. MDPC is aware and open for another congregation. We are hosting an Iranian congregation once every month at 1:30 in the chapel. Church planting can take many forms. As we go forward is this on our radar? Certainly, something to be prayerful about. The ECO Flourish Institute that we gave 250K to start is in second full year- getting students and quality has gotten higher. When fully accredited, Dana thinks the numbers will follow.

Clerk’s Report: (Bob Holloway)

Committees have been asked to look at their Job Descriptions as we look to provide the most updated information to our new officer candidates when asked to serve. Bob reminded us of that you can find nominations information and open job descriptions on the website. He stated that we are reviewing our Policy and Procedures – the clerk chain with the leadership of Jennifer has begun this process and once we get into the details, we will ask some committees to look at their sections and provided any necessary changes and updates.

Background Checks (Rachel Poysky)- We background check any volunteers that work with children and youth under 18 and vulnerable adults. We also require Child Protection Training. While our officers have been required to take an online child protection training, we have not been background checking our officers. We need to do our due diligence and be proactive. Jennifer will be initiating these requests through Sure Hire, so expect it and please turn in timely.

Finance Report: (Bob Davis and Marcus Vajdos)

Marcus stated that we are 670K ahead of budget and well ahead of last year’s pace. Each department receives a monthly report on expenses for staff to review. Bob noted that we went through our annual audit and the finance team met with the auditing firm last week to go over the report. Bob acknowledged the accounting department for a job well done and it is a testament to Dena’s hard work that we received an “unmodified opinion” from the auditors. Please thank Dena Bankett, Carrie Goolsby and Carrie Kobe!

Master Plan Update: (Marcus Vajdos)

Omnibus Agenda:

Alf introduced the Omnibus Motion below for June. He asked if there were any items that needed to be removed for separate consideration. Alf then asked for a motion to approve the Omnibus Motion as presented, which was forthcoming, seconded, and affirmed by unanimous voice vote.

- a. **Motion** to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2024, Session Meeting.
- b. **Motion** to approve the following individuals as Communion servers:
 - Diana Orozco, Willman Parraci, Jenny Rodriguez, Ciria Yela.
- c. **Motion** to approve the following Baptisms performed in June 2024:

Name	Age	Parents	Member	Date
Jack Bennett Sturdevant	Infant	Jordan Wilson and Chase Sturdevant	Mom-Yes Dad-No	6/16/2024 Sprinkle
Thomas Charles Sturdevant	Infant	Jordan Wilson and Chase Sturdevant	Mom-Yes Dad-No	6/16/2024 Sprinkle

- d. **Motion** to approve Outreach Partner Funding for June as follows:

June 2024

Consent Agenda items:

Partner Funding Recommendations		Designated	
Urban Catalyst	\$5,500	Justin Elder's House Church Collective	DE
Bridges to Life	\$15,000		DE
Fuller Theological Seminary	\$20,000	Texas Student Scholarships	DE
Loving Houston	\$15,000		DE
Prison Entrepreneurship Program	\$25,000		DE
Theology by the Pint	\$15,000		DE
WorkFaith	\$25,000		DE
Archway Academy	\$15,000	Scholarships	HSN
Cancare, Inc.	\$25,000		HSN
Joyride Center	\$23,000		HSN
Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse	\$15,000		SBH
ChildBuilders	\$10,000		SBH
Christian Community Service Center	\$6,600	Martha's Way Training Program	SBH
Houston Achievement Place	\$10,000		SBH
Newspring	\$25,000		SBH
Far East Broadcasting Company	\$45,000		Global
Free Wheelchair Mission	\$35,000		Global
Frontier Fellowship	\$63,000	Light of Hope Ethiopia	Global
Nueva Vida	\$30,000		Global
One for Israel	\$10,000		Global
YWAM Budapest	\$25,000		Global
Totaling:	\$458,100		

Year to Date: \$1,473,350

Announcements and Additional Business

Next Session Meeting is August 26th.

Rick Bradford shared about the Navajo mission trip in June with 35 kids, 12 leaders. Ashton, Amamda, Megan did a great job with planning. A lot of our kids love SATX- great tradition, great trip; this was equal to if not, better. Humbling conditions that they live in. Took Michael Middleton- leading worship each night added a lot to the trip and there were many wonderful God moments. Alf noted it was a payoff to bring Michael up to full time from part time. He truly has a minister's heart, and this was a good move by Personnel. **Amanda Shockley** added that having Michael lead worship on Life Group nights has been what they hoped for. Their vision for youth is that they experience worship everywhere that they go in every context.

Amanda told us about Taylor Coleman, the new High School Discipleship Director and the yearlong search for her! she found us through a google search- she is high energy, relational and a great compliment to Ashton. She started her time with us on SATX!

Rachel shared plans for Summer Celebration- will be our largest at 725 elementary, leaving a few on waitlist. 100 preschool, teen helpers 250-275. Excited and prayerful. She can find a place for you if you have not signed up yet to volunteer. **Sally Henein** gave a brief background on Matthew Adair who just joined us as our College Ministries Director- Really excited he's here and on the team! Already connecting with recent graduates in

their college prep- Sunday Morning College Connection and mid-week programming.

Brett Hurst – Women’s Ministry has had a great full summer! Men’s Astros watching first week of August at HRR and Men’s kickoff breakfast-August 24th- Doug Dawson will be the speaker- invite your friends and those on the periphery.

Alf shared community news that Ed Young- in his late 80’s -retired. No one knew that there was a Leadership Succession plan and his son, Ben, will be the next pastor- Not a simple move. Be prayerful for the Second Baptist family. Also, Russ Levinson at St Martin’s- younger at 62, also retired. In the search for a replacement, the bishop has a very big say in who the next Rector will be. Bishop is not at same point theologically where they are, and they are the largest Episcopal church in the United States. Keep them in prayer.

Sabbatical Plans- Rachel- will be here a week after Summer Cel then taking her celebration trip that she was not able to take in 2020 when she got her doctorate. Will audit a class at Fuller- Habits of a Healthy Leader- will attend the ECO Women’s Pastor retreat in Colorado in September-Hallie’s senior year- Joel admitted to Houston Christian University and will start in fall. Rachel has been with MDPC 22 years total minus 3 years when she was gone when Hallie was little. She thanked us for the gift of Sabbatical and will use her time well. She will return in October.

There being no additional business or announcements, Alf asked for a motion to adjourn which was forthcoming, seconded and approved. We closed the meeting at 7:50 and ended with prayer led by Dan and Alf.

Minutes respectfully submitted on behalf of Bob Holloway, Clerk.

Jennifer Vajdos, June 2024

Outreach Ministries
Funding Recommendations
August 2024

CFH

Boys and Girls Country

2023 Funding: \$10,000 + \$5,000 O&A

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$10,000

Boys and Girls Country provides a Christian home for children from families in crisis and ensures their care, welfare, safety, and security. In doing so, they work with each child toward building healthy relationships, acquiring responsibilities, and setting realistic short- and long-term goals. Spiritual formation, family life, education, physical and mental health, and preparation for life beyond high school make up their core services.

boysandgirlscountry.org

Child Advocates

2023 Funding: \$10,000

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$10,000

Child Advocates mobilizes court-appointed volunteers to break the vicious cycle of child abuse. Its volunteers speak up for abused children in Harris County who are lost in the system and guide them into safe environments where the children can thrive.

childadvocates.org

DE

Alpha USA

2023 Funding: \$25,000

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$15,000

Alpha Houston trains, equips, and encourages Christian communities to effectively utilize the Alpha Course as an evangelism tool. This discipleship program is taken to churches, homes, businesses, and, more recently, prisons and jails with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

www.alphausa.org

Home Encouragement

2023 Funding: \$15,000 plus \$5,000 O&A

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$18,000

Home Encouragement strengthens marriages and encourages strong families in the Greater Houston area. They offer dinner dates for married couples, premarital training classes, relationship coaching, marriage retreats, and other enrichment programs.

www.homeencouragement.org

HSN

ECHOS

2023 Funding: \$25,000 + \$5,000 O&A

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$25,000

Epiphany Community Health Outreach Services (ECHOS) connects people in need with health, social and educational resources that improve lives. Collaborating with over 30 organizations, ECHOS offers benefits application assistance and education for Medicaid, CHIP, Harris Health System, and SNAP benefits; health screenings; food from a food pantry; and more for families in Houston.

<https://www.EchosHouston.org>

Bo's Place

2023 Funding: \$12,000

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$12,000

Bo's Place exists to enhance the lives of those who have experienced the death of a loved one. They offer grief support groups for children, families, and adults, special programming for support group participants, and bereavement-specific workshops for professionals supporting the bereaved.

<https://www.bosplace.org/>

Reach Unlimited

2023 Funding: \$0

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$20,000 (designated: documentation system)

REACH Unlimited provides support services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. With 22 group homes, an educational/relational day program, nursing care, and supported employment, they foster growth and independence so every individual has the opportunity to be all they were created to be.

<https://www.reachunlimited.org/>

Magnificat Houses

2023 Funding: \$20,000

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$22,500

Magnificat House is a safe and welcoming faith-based community offering alternatives to life on the streets for men and women in Houston. They have 15 neighborhood homes, an emergency shelter for women, a soup kitchen, vocational training, and a Clubhouse day program for those with a mental health diagnosis.

<https://www.mhihouston.org>

LifeHouse Houston

2023 Funding: \$2,500

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$10,000 (designated: furnishings for 2 new apartments*)

LifeHouse is a Christ-centered ministry ensuring life for unborn children by providing opportunities for housing, help, and hope for women during their pregnancies and beyond. Programming includes maternity housing, aftercare housing, LifeLine (their alumni program), counseling services and social work.

www.lifehousehouston.org

*These funds will be used to fully furnish two one-bedroom apartments at their new apartment complex. It costs \$5,000 to completely furnish one unit. Each unit is being furnished with kitchen appliances (large and small), a washer and dryer, living room furniture, bedroom furniture including a pack and play, baby swing and changing table.

GLOBAL

African Enterprise

2023 Funding: \$25,000

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$15,000 - Final gift and dismissal *

African Enterprise (AE) is a global partnership that focuses on proclaiming the Gospel to the residents of Africa's major cities, making a special effort to reach the continent's leaders, since Godly governance can result in major transformations of whole countries. AE has played a pivotal role in Africa for the past 60 years by bringing peace and reconciliation during conflict, introducing hundreds of thousands of people to church, training pastors, and providing vulnerable people with new life opportunities through apprenticeship programs.

*While we recognize they are doing good ministry, we also recognize that we no longer have a personal relationship with their ministry or their director. The only contact we have had with them over the past many years has been through the site visit team and their newsletter. Due to our history with them, the site visit team recommended to gracefully dismiss them with a final parting gift of \$15,000.

Berea Bible Institute (c/o Faith Ministry)

2023 Funding: \$20,000

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$20,000 + \$1,500 One-time gift for Stove

This small Bible college began as one family's dream to educate young leaders in Scripture and prepare future ministers to serve God in areas of great need in Mexico. Students are ingrained with a love for serving and for teaching their communities to reach out in service to their neighbors. Each year, graduates are sent into remote parts of Mexico where they lead churches and teach the sacrificial love of Christ through the way they live.

Frontier Fellowship

2023 Funding: \$25,000 + \$10,000 O&A

2024 Funding Recommendation: \$25,000

God is at work in the world in unprecedented ways, and Frontier Fellowship (FF) is privileged to help churches join in what He is doing. FF works with congregations and individuals to help them understand God's passion for unreached peoples, what God is doing in the world, and how they can be involved. FF's goal is to see every ethnic group have its own church, reflecting its own cultural characteristics. frontierfellowship.com

Combined Minutes of the Session Committees August 2024

Caring Ministries Committee Minutes:

August 20, 2024

Attendees: Beth Case, Annette Erickson, Beverly Fluke, Luke Funderburk, Christine Gentil, Kathy Redden, Lisa Shelfer, Suzanne Tobin, Paul Whelchel

Not in Attendance: Karen Austin, Penny Bryant, Judy Gordon, Jim Newlin, Christine Roskamp, Judy Stockton, Sue Warren

Opening Prayer & Devotional: Annette Erickson

Ministry Reports

Card-writing:

- The Branches group held its monthly meeting in July to send handwritten notes to MDPC members who had been in the hospital/rehab, lost a loved one, or just needed encouragement. Two new volunteers were welcomed to the group this summer.
- The five dedicated Prayer Chain writers took turns writing to those on the Prayer Chain list.

Dementia and Caregiver Support:

- **The Gathering Place:** The Gathering met August 7. Attending were 5 care partners, 5 caregivers, 7 volunteers, 3 from caring ministry and 2 from Care Partners (a roomful!). Nancy Blurton's exercise had an Olympic theme with flags. The entertainment was Brenda Guy singing Elvis, Patsy Cline, and others. Three new care partners are moving off the wait list and into the group as we go into the fall. Note: more male volunteers are needed, so please contact deacon Penny Bryant or Gathering Place coordinator Susanne McClean to learn more.
- **Caregiver Support Group:** The group meets for lunch at MDPC to support one another on the 3rd Thursday of each month. For more information, contact Beverly Fluke or deacon Penny Bryant at phb14@comcast.net.

Grief Support:

- **Transforming Grief:** The fall series of the Transforming Grief program is scheduled for 2:00-3:30pm on Monday afternoons, Sept 23 – Nov 11, and registration is now open at grief.mdpc.org. Contact Beverly Fluke for more information.
- **The Widows Connection:** Meets the third Tuesday of each month in room 101. Between 8-12 ladies have been attending and more are expected in the fall. The August meeting is on Tuesday, August 20 at 11:30am.
- **Ministry of Presence:** Caring Ministries staff and officers send out cards and grief books to MDPC members during their first year of losing a loved one.

Health Ministry -- Blood Drive:

- Our next MDPC Blood Drive will be October 27, 2024.

Home Communion:

- Anyone who is not able to participate in the regularly scheduled communion services on campus is invited to request at home communion. Requests can be made by contacting Beth Case or Beverly Fluke or online at homecommunion.mdpc.org.

Home Visitation:

- The Home Visitation team, comprised of 12 volunteers, visits 32 homebound church members every month. This is our chance to lift up and brighten their days and reduce feelings of loneliness. If you have a caring heart for our older members, this would be a wonderful ministry in which to get involved. Please

contact Jim Newlin, Visitation Deacon, at jlnewlin@comcast.net or Beverly Fluke if you would like to join the team or learn more about this ministry.

Memorial Services:

- July – 4 memorial services with receptions at MDPC. There was also one inurnment service in the Columbarium.

Prayer Ministry:

- On August 26, 9:30am-10:00am all are invited to join our **Concert of Prayer for Schools**. The organization and leadership come from Lisa Shelfer, Prayer Deacon and Luke Funderburk, Pastoral Resident.

Second Family:

- Second Family volunteers expended 77 hours to support their care partners during July.
- We are happy to announce we have two new volunteers, and we are assigning them to areas of need.
- We currently have 10 care partners and have been busy attending to each care partner's special needs. We assisted one care partner who lost power during the second storm of the season and made special arrangements to relocate her to alternate housing for the week. Then again assisted the care partner with cleaning out the refrigerator and freezer upon her return. Two of our volunteers drove north of town to give home communion to a care partner who can no longer attend church. She was overjoyed and very thankful for this meaningful experience. Visitation keeps us very busy each month and is most beneficial to check on their health and wellbeing. Several care partners are taken on long walks and to lunch every week with long visitations. Others are taken to the grocery store weekly and others to doctor appointments. Our care partners are very thankful and that makes it very rewarding for "Second Family".
- Mobile meals are delivered on Mondays and Thursdays of every week. We currently have 2 deliveries with 2 stops.

Senior Adult Ministry:

- The monthly Senior Adult newsletter is mailed to 110 families (September to May). The newsletter contains descriptions of upcoming activities of Venturers, Encore Fellowship, Prime Timers, and Senior Adult Fellowship Lunch. Information for Senior events and activities are also online at seniors.mdpc.org
- **Venturers:** does not meet June, July, or August. The next meeting will be on September 9 at Fratelli's Restaurant with Pastor Alf Halvorson as the guest speaker.
- **Encore Fellowship:** They met at Carrabba's Restaurant on June 13 and then went to see "Fiddler on The Roof" at The George Theater on July 20.
- **Prime Timers:** Hosted the summer movies series in the Amphitheater. *Ordinary Angels* was shown June 12, *Boys in the Boat* on June 26, *Golda* on July 17, and *Journey to Bethlehem* on July 30. Attendance ranged from 10 to 28.
- **Senior Adult Fellowship Lunch:** The monthly Senior Adult Fellowship Lunch is held at MDPC Café to have lunch, meet new friends, and learn more about existing friends. Lunches are on the third Monday of each month, (in July with MDPC Café closed, we met at Fuzzy's Pizza) with each lunch meeting having collections, crafts, hobbies, talents, etc., which our Senior Adults want to share with others. We are in the process over several months of mailing postcards and phoning (by several callers) some 450 church members to inform them of Seniors Lunch.
- **Special Event:** Deputy Hernandez of Precinct 5 made a presentation on Active Shooter Response on August 8 in the Fellowship Hall. About 50 attended.

Stephen Ministry:

- The Stephen Ministry team met for its Supervisory meeting on June 25th and welcomed 10 newly-commissioned Stephen Ministers.
- July 23rd meeting was a continuing education presentation by our own Stephen Minister Jeanmarie Tade, FPC Pastoral Resident. Jeanmarie gave a presentation on "What is Prayer" that covered: what is prayer, what are some prayer obstacles, examples of prayer practices, table discussion and feedback plus an opportunity to write individual prayers.

- Harvey Trammell just completed training to become a Stephen Leader and will be commissioned on Sept 15th.
- The Stephen leadership team invites referrals for potential care receivers who would benefit from a Stephen Ministry relationship as well as members whose giftedness may make them good candidates to become future Stephen Ministers.

Deacons:

- Nominations are open for the next class of officers! Please pray for these and nominate at least one person for one of the 20 open officer roles (13 elders; 7 deacons). Deadline August 31, 2024.
- Deacons (and elders) who are rolling off have been asked to consider their role descriptions and make edits as necessary. This is profoundly helpful for the next class of officers!

Other Updates:

- **Kick-off:** Caring Ministries is one of the focus ministries on the first Sunday of Kick-off, August 18. Please stop by the CM table being hosted by staff and volunteers. There will be refreshments and a giveaway!
- **Pastoral Residency:** Caring Ministries is honored to have MDPC's first Pastoral Resident, Luke Funderburk, spending two months serving and learning alongside us. Luke has made many visits and phone calls. He has led prayer and prayer events. He will continue to connect with people as he serves in other ministries around the church. We know you will love meeting him and be blessed by his ministry!

Closing Prayer: Beverly Fluke

Next CM Meeting: Tuesday, Sept 17th, at 10:00 am in room 101 (Devotional – Lisa Shelfer; closing prayer – Sue Warren)

Finance Committee Minutes:

Aug 19, 2024

The meeting was opened in prayer by Kyle Wienert at about 5:20

Bob Davis and Marcus led the meeting, and we discussed the following topics:

1. Following previous discussion about various insurance topics, coverages, and premiums and deductibles, we agree that we should establish a new Insurance Committee that would be comprised of individuals with the knowledge and expertise in the various insurance coverage areas that MDPC incurs. This new committee would report to the Finance Committee.
2. Marcus and Dena presented the June and July financial statements. We had 2 months to review since there was no Finance Committee meeting in July to review the June statements.
 1. As of the end of July, we were ahead of projected contribution revenues by \$874,445. The rest of the revenues are close to expectations, with the Reach and Sports revenues being slightly higher than expected, and the Little School was slightly less than expected.
 2. We aren't sure, but Ava believes that we might be ahead of contributions due to a few larger contributors that have potentially contributed their contributions earlier in the year vs towards the end of the year.
 3. The expenses all appear to be in line with projections, with the exception of Facilities and Technology, which is currently \$297,000 more expenses than budgeted at this point in the year. Marcus and Dena explained that most of this increase is due to higher pay for safety officers. There has been an increase in requests for safety resulting in more charged hours including overtime hour. Also, inflation has been listed as a cause of higher expenses than budgeted.

3. Marcus presented some facts regarding the Columbarium revenues and expenses. The current cost of a single niche is \$2100, while a double niche is \$3900. There are currently 572 available niches.
 1. The discussion is that the expenses to maintain the Columbarium (landscaping, and fountain) are continuing to grow quicker than the revenue generated by niche sales and investment gain/interest earned. The Columbarium fund has approx. \$500k which is invested with the TPF.
 2. Chris Arend suggested that we need to go back to the Columbarium Committee to suggest plans on how to make this Fund self-sufficient in terms of generating enough revenue to cover the expense of maintaining the Columbarium. It is also suggested that the companies who perform the maintenance should have their agreements renegotiated to lower the costs.
4. Roof – The original bids came in around \$500,000, however Bob Davis with his knowledge of roofing companies, costs and products, reached out to additional companies to get additional bids. These newer bids ranged in costs from approx. \$190k to \$359k. Bob and Marcus are vetting and meeting with these companies to ensure their financial strength and ability to complete the project as required. This follow-up is expected in the new week or so, with ultimately, the cost of the roof being significantly less than originally expected.
5. The Memorial Fund currently has \$114k in it, and this fund is restricted to the money being spent on capital projects. The Fund currently is overseen by the Advisory Committee. It was recently discovered that the church organ needs some maintenance and repair costs of approx. \$250k. However, there is a 2 plus year wait for service, so we will be submitting a deposit of \$25,000 for the organ repair company to come out in the next 2 years or so.
6. Restrooms – the 2 restrooms in the long main hallway should be completed in the week or 2. The other restrooms will be done in a few additional weeks.
7. Pickleball – The project has been delayed slightly due to a change in the structure, thickness and composition of the court and design.
7. 2025 Budget – Marcus will start to with the staff for their input on suggested budgets. He will also ask them for suggestions on ways to save money and ask them for their wishes list. The process of budget review and approval will be similar to the 2024 budget process.
8. Facilities Long term Plan- Marcus is continuing with the interview and reports and he expects to have the final report in May 2025.

Bill Swenson closed us in prayer

Generosity Committee Minutes:

Generosity Committee Meeting

Wednesday, Aug 14, 2024

Prepared by Ginny Glass

In attendance: Bill Swenson, Kate Brock, Ava Caliendo, Colby Mueck, Michael McCormack, Joe Stockdale, Alf Halvorson, Hunter Smith, Marcus Vajdos, and Ginny Glass

Absent: Chris Arend, Jeannie Able, and Nathan Stedham

Bill Swenson opened the meeting in prayer.

Talk about whether or not we should continue to pass the plate monthly, or, even pass it twice a month? Ava will provide data for the Worship Committee so that they can make a recommendation going forward.

Discussed the upcoming pledging season. Should mention pledging at the September Session Meeting. Also, give updates in November and December.

Suggested that we should keep encouraging monthly giving so that December budget is not so far behind. Noted that Outreach has already paid out their distributions for 2024.

Discussed the possibility of having National Christian Foundation make a presentation on Donor Advise Funds. Any presentation would be previewed by the Generosity Committee before it goes to Session. Alf suggested that perhaps Trey Little could look at our online materials for the purpose of advice and review. Colby Mueck is going to meet with Trey of NCF to discuss these ideas further and report back to the committee.

Ginny gave an update from Communications on both the 'thank you' videos and the full-length videos for the Generosity season.

Ava gave an updated financial report; discussion followed. The committee feels positive about the increase in the small dollar donors that we saw this season since it appears that these are new givers.

Covenant Sunday will be Nov 3; time-change Sunday.

Next Generosity Meeting is Sep 11.

Alf Halvorson closed the meeting in prayer.

Outreach Committee Minutes:

August 12th 6 p.m. Parlor

Attendees: Tom Braschayko, Mariel Braun, Amy Delgado, Jennifer Fernelius, Marc Laney, Julie LaRue, Kelsi McCormack, Mike Pelton, Joe Stockdale, Kyle Wienert, and Street Grace representatives: Bob Rodgers, Michelle Sacks, Shanita Hart

Not Present: Sharon Roark

Responsibility

Julie La Rue

Tom Braschayko

- I. Devotional "Being Present" by Leigh McLeroy
- II. Introduction

III. Street Grace

Bob Rodgers, Michelle Sacks, Shanita Hart

Street Grace is a nonprofit organization targeting the eradication of sexual exploitation of children. Representatives provided an overview of its activities which focus on four key areas: prevention, protection, policy, and pursuit.

Feedback and discussion among Committee members followed the presentation. Review of this organization's 2024 funding request submission will take place at a future committee meeting.

IV. Committee Reports: Funding Recommendations & Meeting Debriefs

A. Global

Kelsi McCormack

1. African Enterprise - \$15,000 - *Final gift/dismissal*
2. Berea Bible Institute - \$20,000 + \$1,500 for stove (*budgeted O&A*) (via Faith Ministry designated for Berea Bible Institute)
3. Frontier Fellowship - \$25,000

Motion: to approve as presented **Vote:** Approved

B. Children Families and Housing

Mariel Braun

1. Boys and Girls Country - \$10,000
2. Child Advocates - \$10,000

It was noted that Child Advocates needs volunteer advocates (training is required).

Motion: to approve as presented **Vote:** Approved

C. Health and Special Needs

Marc Laney

1. ECHOS - \$25,000
2. Bo's Place - \$12,000
3. Reach Unlimited - \$20,000 (designated: documentation system)
4. Magnificat Houses - \$22,500
5. LifeHouse Houston - \$10,000 (designated: furnishings for 2 new apartments)

Motion: to approve as presented **Vote:** Approved

D. Discipleship and Education

Jennifer Fernelius

1. Alpha - \$15,000
2. Home Encouragement - \$18,000

Motion: to approve as presented **Vote:** Approved

E. Spring Branch and Hunger (*Meeting debrief only*)

Mike Pelton

V. Discussion

Anyone

- *In part a result of the impact of this summer's derecho and early hurricane, ~39% (<40) of the total Partner funding requests for 2024 remain to be addressed, and will be reviewed at the September and October committee meetings*
- *September 29 is Outreach Sunday, when MDPC partners are invited to attend and be recognized for their community efforts*
- **Elder Nominations are due:** *Outreach Elders are requested to identify potential candidates already serving as volunteers on their committees*
- **Next meeting:** *September 16. Mike Pelton will provide dinner and a devotional.*

VI. Staff reports

A. Local

Julie LaRue

Julie LaRue reminded the committee elders that she is available to assist in communications with partners and to stand in as a substitute for committee volunteers during site visits.

B. Global

Kelsi McCormack

- The recent 4-day **“The Micah Project” mission trip** was a successful opportunity for the eight MDPC participants to observe all aspects of this ministry. Attendees were able to learn as well of the ministry's positive impact on family members of one of the boys at the project
- MDPC is partnering with churches in Houston to promote the **Perspectives** course, which will be offered this fall at **Grace Bible Church (Aug 19-Dec 9)**. Perspectives is a fifteen-lesson discipleship course exploring different aspects of God's global purpose by way of examining the story of God fulfilling His promises from four vantage points or “perspectives” — Biblical, Historical, Cultural, and Strategic. These sections confirm the hope we have with the invitation to co-labor with God in His mission.
- **Prayer request:** for peace, protection and spiritual growth for our MDPC global partner, **“One for Israel,”** in light of recent reports of threats in this region from Iran
- **Celebrate God's Grace:** for the observed significant growth in the social media outreach of **“One for Israel,”** during this time of strife in Israel, Gaza, and the Middle East

C. General

Amy Delgado

- **MDPC Kickoff beginning Sunday August 18:** this 4-Sunday event in the Nook will showcase different MDPC's ministries each week; **Outreach will be highlighted on Sunday August 25**
- The updated **‘Outreach Wall’** display (across from the ministry offices) will be completed the week of 11 August.
- Reminders for volunteer activities beginning soon:
 - **Mentoring at Spring Woods M.S.** – Volunteers are needed
 - **MAM Back to School** – sign up to purchase a school uniform for a child
- Upcoming mission trips:
 - **Germany (Sep 9-19)** – with Outreach Foundation
 - **Turkey (Nov 6-23)** – MDPC will lead along with Frontier Fellowship and Pars

Closing Prayer

Marc Laney

Young Adult Committee Minutes:

August 4th

Opening in Prayer:

Argentina led the meeting with a prayer, shared scripture, and her personal testimony about recent life events. She reminded the group of God's unconditional love.

Lead Team Connection:

Ednea proposed ways for the lead team to connect, which was well-received.

Suggested activities include:

Escape room | Saturday dinners together | Attending all-church lunches

Ushering at MDPC on Sunday mornings | Sara also offered to host a gathering at her house.

Upcoming Event Planning:

Slip 'n Slide Kickball Game:

Date: August 24 | Time: 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Details: Suggested as a semester kick-off event. Sally emphasized the need for significant preparation and participation from the YA Lead team.

Taste of Alpha:

Date: Tuesday, August 27 | Time: 7:00 PM | Location: MDPC

Details: MDPC's evangelism program featuring dinner, a video, and a round table discussion. A great opportunity for outreach and inviting non-believers.

Worship Night:

YA- LEAD
meeting notes.

YA FRAMEWORK
Connect | Grow | Engage

PARTICIPANTS
Edneia Moreira, Sally Henien,
Lacee Dusek, Argentina Barrios,
Luke Tucker, Nicholas Okal

Feedback: The format is well-received, with requests for more speakers and a Fall theme for October.

Upcoming Dates: Thursday, September 19 & Thursday, October 24

Action: Sally requested continued feedback and volunteers for roles such as décor, food, and general organization. A YA Worship Night committee is the goal to help manage the event. Nicholas offered himself to help with setup and cleaning.

Dinner and a Marriage:

Date: Thursday, October 10 | Time: 7:00 PM

Details: An event for married and engaged couples, costing \$30 per couple, hosted by MDPC Relationships (Pastor Brett + Home Encouragement).

Pumpkin Carving Event

Date: October 12 | Time: TBD

Action: YA lead team is encouraged to attend and invite others.

Halloween Event:

Suggestion: Consider a harvest party or trunk-or-treat.

Action: Sally will check with the church about hosting this event and possibly involving the kid's ministry.

YA Friendsgiving:

Date: Saturday, November 16

Location: MDPC

Christmas Party:

Date: December 13 | Location: TBD

Action: Luke suggested the Ranch Office space. Sally will check availability and consider hosting options, including reaching out to a local church member for potential hosting.

Follow-Up Actions:

Edneia to organize YA lead team first connection meeting. Escape Room, Saturday morning.

Sally to verify field availability for the Slip 'n Slide Kickball game on August 24 and coordinate setup with the YA lead team. (Confirmed!)

Sally to confirm with the Church if we could host a Trunk or Trick event around Halloween data. If yes, we may need to engage with the kid's ministry.

Luke to check availability and logistics for a visit to Dewberry Farm or a similar location.

Sally to ask Megan about the availability of the Ranch Office space for the Christmas party and explore other hosting options.

Sally encouraged the group to continue sharing space ideas for the Christmas Party via Discord.

The group is encouraged to participate in and invite others to the upcoming events.

Final Thoughts and Closing:

We concluded the meeting with gratitude and anticipation for the next steps in our journey. The date for our next meeting will be decided through Discord.

