



## Christmas for Kids

Grant Christmas wishes for a child in need! Just sign up, shop for gifts, and bring them back to MDPC.

**Sign up this morning!**  
**Please return gifts to MDPC**  
**by December 4.**



*Bless a child this Christmas season!*

▲ [women.mdpc.org](http://women.mdpc.org)

▼ [concerts.mdpc.org](http://concerts.mdpc.org)



**MDPC Concert Series**  
2015-2016

Experience the warmth and joy of a Christmastime concert!

There's no better way to ring in the season than by experiencing a beautiful holiday concert with family and friends! Young counter-tenor Ray Chenez joins Mercury for works by Vivaldi, perfectly paired with familiar carols of the season.

**Saturday, November 28**  
**2:30 PM**  
**MDPC Chapel**

Tickets start at just \$19 and may be purchased at the door or at [mercuryhamilton.org](http://mercuryhamilton.org)

**Vivaldi:** Christmas Concerto  
**Traditional:** Carols  
**Salazar:** Baroque Mexican Carols

▼ [children.mdpc.org](http://children.mdpc.org)



**Family Christmas Festival!**

Join us at MDPC for dinner, crafts, a hot chocolate bar, cakewalk, Advent wreath making, a service project\*, and SNOW!

**Sunday, November 29**  
**4:15 PM • Caroling in the Chapel**  
**5:00 PM • Fellowship Hall**  
Festival is Free!  
Dinner: \$6.50 per meal/\$30 per family max

**\*BRING A BAG OF BEANS**

▼ [pip.mdpc.org](http://pip.mdpc.org)



## Partner In Prayer 2016

Your time given through PIP ensures thousands of people are prayed for every day! As Pastor Alf writes in his invitation letter, "Prayer is one of the key avenues God uses to transform us. We need your help in this ministry, but helping will help you grow in your faith as well."

To be a 2016 Partner In Prayer, register at [pip.mdpc.org](http://pip.mdpc.org).

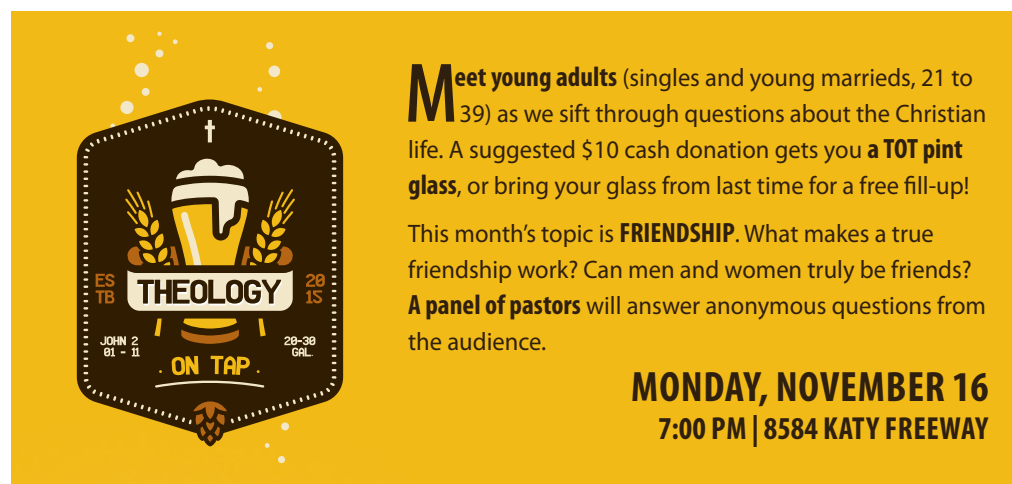


**BLESS FRIDAY**  
BLACK FRIDAY IS ABOUT SHOPPING  
BLESS FRIDAY IS ABOUT SERVING

Friday, November 27  
[blessfriday.mdpc.org](http://blessfriday.mdpc.org)

▲ [blessfriday.mdpc.org](http://blessfriday.mdpc.org)

▼ [ya.mdpc.org](http://ya.mdpc.org)



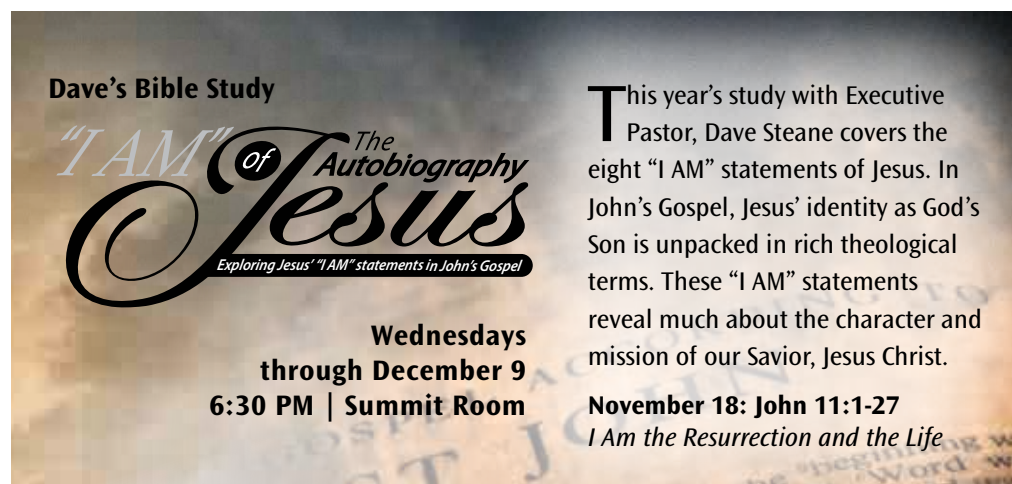
**THEOLOGY ON TAP**

Meet young adults (singles and young marrieds, 21 to 39) as we sift through questions about the Christian life. A suggested \$10 cash donation gets you a **TOT pint glass**, or bring your glass from last time for a free fill-up!

This month's topic is **FRIENDSHIP**. What makes a true friendship work? Can men and women truly be friends? A panel of pastors will answer anonymous questions from the audience.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16**  
**7:00 PM | 8584 KATY FREEWAY**

▼ [mdpc.org](http://mdpc.org)



**Dave's Bible Study**

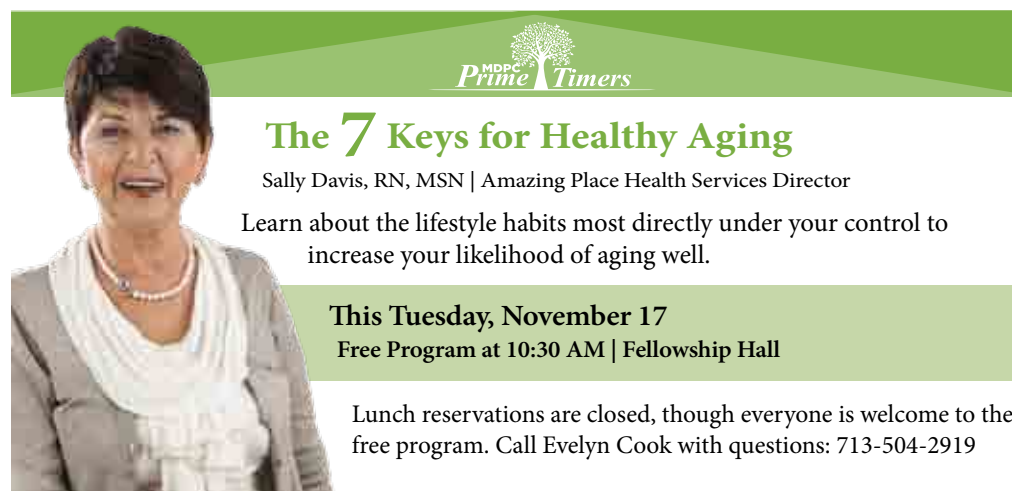
*"I AM" of Jesus*  
Exploring Jesus' "I AM" statements in John's Gospel

**Wednesdays through December 9**  
**6:30 PM | Summit Room**

This year's study with Executive Pastor, Dave Steane covers the eight "I AM" statements of Jesus. In John's Gospel, Jesus' identity as God's Son is unpacked in rich theological terms. These "I AM" statements reveal much about the character and mission of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**November 18: John 11:1-27**  
*I Am the Resurrection and the Life*

▼ [seniors.mdpc.org](http://seniors.mdpc.org)

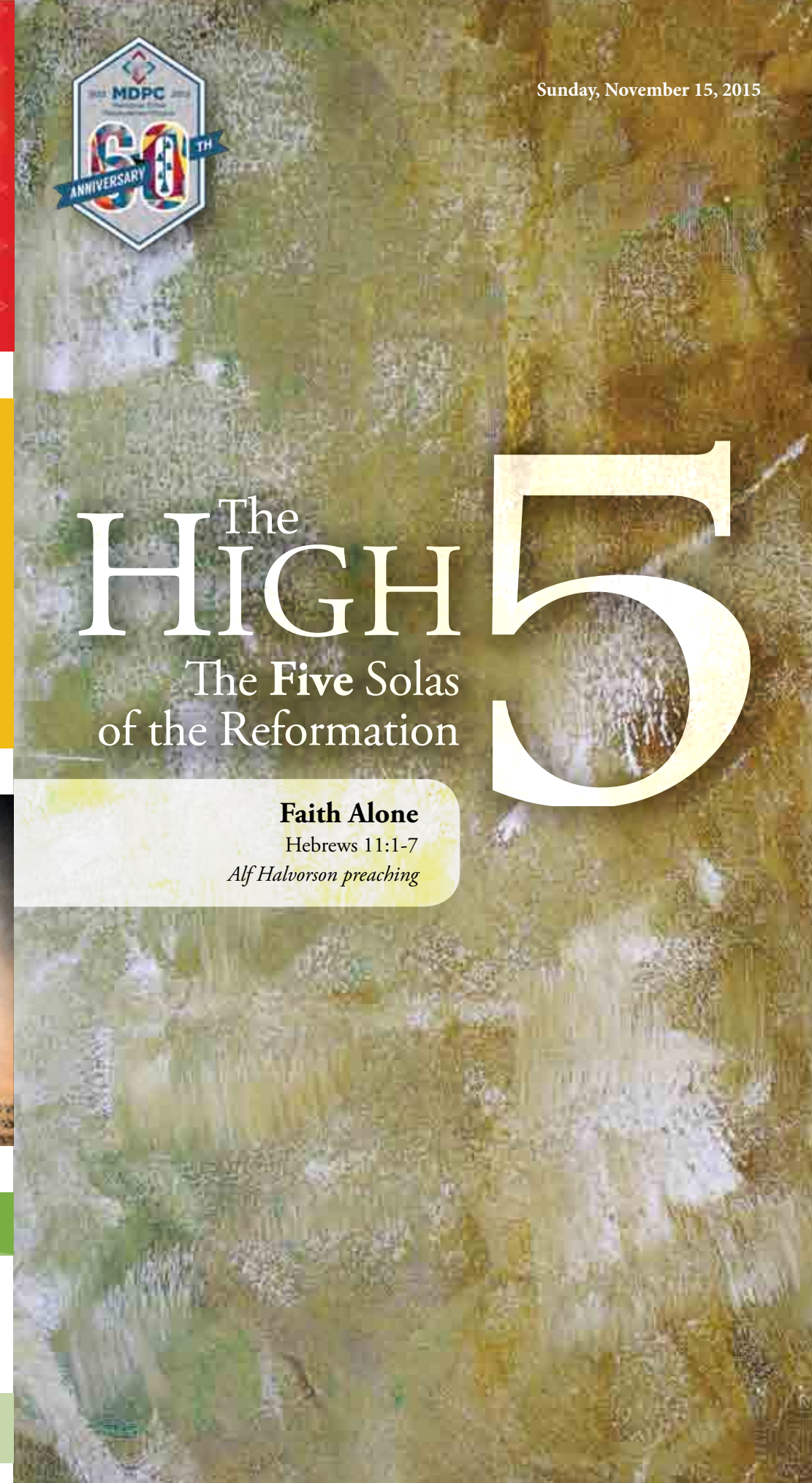


**The 7 Keys for Healthy Aging**  
Sally Davis, RN, MSN | Amazing Place Health Services Director

Learn about the lifestyle habits most directly under your control to increase your likelihood of aging well.

**This Tuesday, November 17**  
**Free Program at 10:30 AM | Fellowship Hall**

Lunch reservations are closed, though everyone is welcome to the free program. Call Evelyn Cook with questions: 713-504-2919



Sunday, November 15, 2015

**The HIGH 5**  
The Five Solas of the Reformation

**Faith Alone**  
Hebrews 11:1-7  
*Alf Halvorson preaching*

Please silence all devices, and refrain from consuming food or beverages during worship.



## MDPC HIGHLIGHTS

### Yummy Desserts for Your Thanksgiving Feast

Food service is offering its usual selection of holiday pies, plus several additional items which we're certain you and your guests will enjoy! Reserve your desserts by visiting the link below, or stop by Food Service or the front office during operating hours for a reservation form.

**Deadline for ordering is Friday, November 20.**

*For details about available items and pricing and to order, visit [food.mdpc.org](http://food.mdpc.org).*

### Thanksgiving Meal-in-a-Bag

Families recommended by school counselors at local elementary schools will be given these bags of food, fresh produce, and a turkey. Last year we served 750 families! Just fill a paper grocery bag with the items listed below and **return it to MDPC by November 16.**

- |                    |                        |                          |
|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| • 2 cans corn      | • 1 can fruit          | • 1 bottle vegetable oil |
| • 1 can jalapenos  | • 1 can tomatoes/sauce | • 2 pkg. cookies         |
| • 1 pkg. spaghetti | • 1 can olives         | • 1 2-lb bag rice        |

*Contact Maritza Pujols: [mpujols@mdpc.org](mailto:mpujols@mdpc.org) or 713-490-9556*

### Sewing for Missions Crafts

There won't be a holiday sale this year, but crafts from last year are available! Stop by on Thursday mornings to see what we have. You can donate what you see fit, or just give a lovingly made piece a good home. Festive fall pumpkins also are available for sale.

**Thursdays, 9:00 AM-Noon | CLC 170**

*Contact Pat Ikard with questions: 713-461-3654*

### Spring Break Mission Trip – ALASKA

Looking for a cool (cold!) Spring Break opportunity for your family? Come hear about a service trip planned for the week of March 14. We're looking for a few great individuals, couples, and families (second graders or older) to pull out their parkas and help conduct a VBS program for missionary children in Anchorage. Plus a day or two of Alaska fun!

**Informational meeting: Today at 12:30 PM | Parlor**

*Contact Amy Delgado: [adelgado@mdpc.org](mailto:adelgado@mdpc.org)*

### November Is Adoption Awareness Month

This year the emphasis is on children that are in our foster care system and missing out on having a forever family. How can you help? Join us in prayer for the more than 400,000 children who are living in foster care this year in the U.S. alone. More than 100,000 are waiting for an adoptive home. More than 23,000 aged out of the foster care system last year without finding a family to call their own. If you feel led to get involved, we are here to help. If you or someone you know from our church, or in the community, is a foster or adoptive parent, and in need of support or a night out, contact MDPC Safe Haven Foster Care and Adoption ministry, now entering its fifth year. We hold an adoption/foster care support group each month, as well as a Parents' Night Out. We also are available for individual guidance and support.

*Contact Ann Rome (adoptive parent) and Sandy Griffith (foster mom): [mdpcsafehaven@gmail.com](mailto:mdpcsafehaven@gmail.com)  
To find out more about our monthly events, go to [safehaven.mdpc.org](http://safehaven.mdpc.org).*

### Help Wanted: Special Blessings and Safe Haven

Special Blessings (Special Needs Ministry) and Safe Haven (Foster Care & Adoption Ministry) are in need of adults and teens to volunteer on Sunday mornings, as well as for monthly Parents' Night Out events. No experience is necessary and no prep work is required. We just need people to show up and love on some really neat kids!

*Please contact Keri Mosk for more information: [kmosk@mdpc.org](mailto:kmosk@mdpc.org) or 713-490-9265*

### Bless Friday

As is our tradition at MDPC, we like to turn Black Friday into Bless Friday by making a difference in our community! This year, we encourage you to participate in one of the many service projects set up by Outreach Ministries, or get creative and come up with your own way to express your Thanksgiving to God while blessing others.

**Bless Friday, November 27**

*To get involved, visit [blessfriday.mdpc.org](http://blessfriday.mdpc.org).*

## MDPC WORSHIP

\*Please stand if able.

CCLI # 182374

### 8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

WELCOME

Dave Steane

\*SONGS OF PRAISE

*O Worship the King*

arr. Gardiner/Tomlin

*This Is My Father's World*

TERRA BEATA

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brandon Gaide

SONG OF RESPONSE

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Chisholm/Runyan

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

*Give Me Faith*

arr. Elevation Worship

MESSAGE

*The High Five: Faith Alone*

Alf Halvorson

### 9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

WORSHIP INVITATION

Meliza Gómez and Michael Middleton

\*WORSHIP MUSIC

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brandon Gaide

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

The Yellow School Children

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

Dave Steane

MESSAGE

*The High Five: Faith Alone*

Alf Halvorson

### 11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

PRELUDES

*Siciliana*

G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

*Trumpet Air*

H. Purcell (1658-1695)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Dave Steane

CHORAL INTROIT

*A Hymn of Unity*

Dr. Jan Taylor, guest conductor

Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

#379; 1, 2, 4 | SOLID ROCK

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brandon Gaide

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*Doxology*

Hymn #592

ANTHEM

*With a Voice of Singing*

Kenneth James (1925-2015)

OFFERTORY

*Amazing Grace*

Arr. David Ashley White (b. 1944)

MESSAGE

*The High Five: Faith Alone*

Alf Halvorson

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Lord Jesus, Think on Me*

#301; Vs. 1, 2, 3, 4 | SOUTHWELL

POSTLUDE

*Postlude*

Alec Thiman (1900-1975)

### OTHER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SPANISH SERVICE

11:15 AM | Chapel

[fuente.mdpc.org](http://fuente.mdpc.org)

FIFTH SERVICE

5:00 PM | Chapel

[fifthservice.mdpc.org](http://fifthservice.mdpc.org)

## MDPC INFO

### Coordinating Team

Mauricio Chacón | Associate Pastor for Fuente

Brandon Gaide | Associate Pastor for Next Gen

Ginny Glass | Communications & Media Dir.

Meliza Gómez | Contemporary Music Dir.

Luke Gordon | Youth Ministries Dir.

Alf Halvorson | Senior Pastor

Charles Hausmann | Traditional Music Dir.

Kristin Huffman | Associate Pastor for Outreach

Brett Hurst | Relationships Minister

Gena Kookan | Sr. Leadership Ministry Coor.

Rick Myers | Associate Pastor for Caring

Rachel Poysky | Children's Ministries Dir.

Becky Riggs | Business Administrator

Dave Steane | Executive Pastor & Head of Staff

Kathryn White | Coordinating Music Dir.

Karen Winship | Human Resources Dir.

Dave Peterson | Pastor Emeritus

Gary Bowker | Pastor Emeritus

MDPC Foundation

*For information, contact Business Administrator  
Becky Riggs at [briggs@mdpc.org](mailto:briggs@mdpc.org) or 713-953-2570.*

### Ministry Partners

Pray for these MDPC partners working to make a difference in the lives of others:

**Urban Outreach** is a Christian apartment ministry operating throughout Houston. Its programs address spiritual, physical, and social needs of inner-city families.

[urbanoutreachinc.org](http://urbanoutreachinc.org)

**Vita-Living** offers lifelong services and support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It is best known for its success with those who have a dual diagnosis of mental retardation and mental illness, and those with behavioral challenges.

[vitaliving.org](http://vitaliving.org)

**Free Wheelchair Mission** (FWM) takes wheelchairs to places around the world where the disabled have little mobility. FWM ministers to each recipient and shares the good news of Christ's call that we are free in Him.

[freewheelchairmission.org](http://freewheelchairmission.org)

### WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

#### OPERATING INCOME

2015 Budget	\$ 10,500,000
Expected Income to date	\$ 6,772,741
Actual Income to date	\$ 6,519,758
Current Income Deficit	\$ 252,983

Pictured: Vita-Living residents got to make fun turkey hats! Thank you for your support, which enables this MDPC partner ministry.



### MDPC Turns 60...

*In 2015, we celebrate 60 years of faith and ministry!*

Kathryn White (then Kathryn Sparks) sits

at the console of the Sanctuary's Schantz pipe organ on its inaugural Sunday, November 10, 2002.

*Do you have classic MDPC photos? Email scans to Eva Kaminski ([ekaminski@mdpc.org](mailto:ekaminski@mdpc.org)) or drop prints at the Front Office. Originals will be returned.*

### Please Pray...

#### Through the gift of today's Chancel Flowers:

- Beverly and Charles Roberts honor and celebrate their 11th wedding anniversary.
- The Bill Randall family honors the 100th anniversary of his birth and expresses eternal affection. *You are with us always, Dad.*
- Mr. and Mrs. Harry Valentine Eicher, Harry William Eicher, Mrs. Ruth Grady, Mrs. Minnie Robinson, and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie G. McCraw celebrate the marriage of Lauren Robinson to Jake Eicher on Saturday, November 14, 2015.

#### The White Rose is in memory of

- Betty Gullickson, who passed away October 27, 2015.
- Meredith Blickwede, who passed away November 3, 2015.

#### The Red Rose is in honor of

- Grady Lee Bergoine, born August 21, 2015, to Jennifer and Andrew Bergoine. He is the grandson of Stan and Janet Simmons.



**MDPC**

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

11612 Memorial Drive | Houston, Texas 77024 | [mdpc.org](http://mdpc.org) | 713-782-1710

## The HIGH 5 The Five Solas of the Reformation

### *Faith Alone*

Hebrews 11:1-7

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson Preaching

With the conclusion of our Generosity Series, we return to *The High Five: The Five Solas of the Reformation*. Remember that,

because of what was going on around them, the leaders of the Protestant Reformation had to affirm or reaffirm that we are made right with God (justified) “by grace alone, through faith alone, because of Christ alone.” We do not trust in what we have done to save ourselves, but we trust in what Christ has done for us on the cross. But what does *faith alone*, “Sola Fide,” really mean? Hebrews 11 is often called “The Faith Hall of Fame Chapter” of the Bible. It fleshes out not only a definition of faith (vs. 1), but also component parts of faith that include aspects from the past, present, and future.

1. If you were to come up with your own definition of faith, what might it be?
2. In verse 1, the writer defines faith as “the assurance (the being sure) of things hoped for, the conviction (being certain) of things not seen.” What does that mean and not mean to you?
3. In my sermon, I suggested that the writer explains what he or she means in verse 1 by the next several verses. Verses 2-5 suggest that one component of faith is learning about the stories, history, and doctrine of the past. In other words, ritual and tradition are part of faith. How are ritual and tradition from the past part of your faith?
4. Jesus instituted certain traditions (like the Lord’s Supper), but He cautioned against tradition becoming traditionalism. [Note: I defined *tradition* as the living faith of dead people. I defined *traditionalism* as the dead faith of living people—just going through the motions.] When have you seen a tradition lose its life and become traditionalism?

How do you stay vigilant against that subtle shift and what can you do to infuse new life into something that has become stale or dead?

5. In verse 6, the writer says that “without faith, it is impossible to please God, for whoever would approach Him must believe that He exists and the He rewards those who seek Him.” The writer has moved from the component of faith that focuses on the past to the component of faith that focuses on the present. What does it mean “to believe that God exists” and “to seek Him”?
6. How do we embrace the ritual from the past and a relationship with Christ in the present?
7. In verses 7 and 8, the writer shares that the final component of faith is future oriented. Do you have a clear hope in the future, because of your faith in Christ? Explain.
8. Which component of faith (past, present, or future) do you need to nurture right now? How will you do that and where can your small group friends help you?



**MDPC**

Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church

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