



Focus

For Members & Friends of Dale Heights Presbyterian Church

January 2012

Pastor Marilyn's Monthly Musings

In the beginning was . . . God.

That's how the first book of our Bible begins - with God.

Genesis begins with God and the blank canvas of a new world into which our Creator would create and add all kinds of wonders.

As we turn our calendars to January and begin a new year we have a blank canvas of possibilities, a blank canvas of potential opportunities. As we turn the calendar page, what are the creative wonders we might be a part of in the new year?

On the grandest of scales, will this be the year when there's finally peace on earth? On the global scale, will this be the year when economies recover? Will this be the year when no one is hungry or homeless or abused in any way?

On the national scale, will this be the year when political discourse focuses on issues that promote the well-being of humanity instead of vilifying and seeking to destroy one's opponent?

Can we set aside our jaded cynicism for at least a little while and give our imaginations free rein to dream of a different world, a new world filled with hope and wonder and possibility, as it was in the beginning?

That's my dream for us as we enter this new and 55th anniversary year as a church family as well. We will be continuing our transformation journey in the new year, exploring the possibilities, the opportunities to join God's mission in our community in new and creative ways. Let's do so with open wonder and awe and appreciation for the ways God is already at work ahead of us, loosing our creative imaginations to the possibilities that await us, and with a sense of hopeful expectation that Emmanuel is with us every step of the way.

Toward that end I invite you to look forward to participating in our next four-week transformation Bible study beginning in late January, as well as in and through our various other studies, ministries, and opportunities for enjoying fellowship together.

See you in church and serving in our Madison/Middleton area community!

Shalom in Christ Jesus,

Marilyn

January Worship Messages

January 1, 2012 - 1st Sunday after Christmas/New Year's -
"God Sightings: Being Recognized" - Luke 2:22-40 - Communion

January 8, 2012 - Baptism of the Lord Sunday - "God Sightings: Being Claimed" - Mark 1:4-11 -
Reaffirmation of Baptism and Installation of Church Officers

January 15, 2012 - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany/Race Relations Sunday - "God Sightings:
Being Known Fully" - John 1:43-51

January 22, 2012 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany - "A People of Salt and Light: Jesus' Model for
Community - The Blessings of the Reign of God" - Matthew 5:1-12

January 29, 2012 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany - "A People of Salt and Light: Jesus' Model for
Community - A Church Living for the World" - Matthew 5:13-16

Liturgists for January

Jan. 1	Vreni Straubhaar
Jan. 8	Caroline Pope
Jan. 15	Sandy Weigt
Jan. 22	Rick Shannon
Jan. 29	Kelsey Shannon

Ushers for January

Jan. 1	Communion Servers
Jan. 8	Janice Krall & Rick Shannon
Jan. 15	Vreni S. & Otty S.
Jan. 22	Gale Oakes & Dale Buske
Jan. 29	Sunday School

Un-Hanging of the Greens January 1

Our annual Un-Hanging of the Greens will follow worship Sunday, January 1. Many hands make light work – please help us take down the Advent and Christmas decorations.

Church Officer Installation Sunday, January 8

We will install newly-elected Ruling Elders Tom Jones and Sandy Weigt during morning worship Sunday, January 8.

Annual Congregation/Corporation Meeting

The Session has called the annual congregation/corporation meeting for Sunday, January 29th following morning worship. Please plan to attend.

Annual reports are due to Maggie by January 19th.

Nursery Available

Children at Dale Heights are always welcome and encouraged to attend and participate in Sunday worship. The nursery is available when parents have a need to take their children out of church for whatever reason, but it is not staffed.

Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

Although we prefer not to have to cancel worship, sometimes winter weather makes it necessary. So we do have a plan in place for getting the word out if worship is cancelled.

When Pastor Marilyn has to cancel worship, she will do the following: send an email, put a cancellation notice on the website, and change the answering machine by 8:00 a.m. on Sunday morning to indicate the cancellation.

If you are at all unsure about whether or not to come to church, please check your e-mail, check the website or call the church. **Above all, play it safe.**

Happy Birthday!

January 5	Vicki Klump
January 9	Andy Lembcke (2008)
January 12	Keith Chan Michelle Shannon
January 16	Amelia King
January 18	Colleen Shannon Longua
January 26	Jenny Dachel

Happy Anniversary!

January 1	Bill and Lenore Mercer
January 17	Edi and Keith Chan

Choir News

Thanks to the choir for their hard work on this year's Christmas cantata! The choir will be hosting another "Fill the Robes" Sunday on January 22nd. If you wish to participate, please see Maggie and come to rehearsal on the 19th. All are welcome and appreciated!

January New Beginnings

The January New Beginnings Lunch will be Tuesday, January 17th at 11:30 at Olive Garden, 7017 Mineral Point Rd. Please call or e-mail Mary Towne at 831-6635 or marytowne@chorus.net for reservations. Thank you.

Dale Heights Web Site

Check out our church web site for the latest news: www.daleheightspc.org
Pastor Marilyn's weekly sermons are posted on the website every Sunday afternoon.

Church Women United

Dale Heights members and friends are welcome to attend The Church Women United Human Rights Celebration and Awards Ceremony, on Saturday January 7th, 2012 at the Memorial UCC, 5705 Lacy Rd, Fitchburg. Breakfast will be served at 9:00am. The Celebration and Awards Ceremony will start at 10am.

Elma Metzloff, CWU Key Woman

Invitation to be on the Prayer Tree

The power of prayer is remarkable. Someone notifies Pastor Marilyn of a prayer concern and she passes it on by e-mail. Those who do not have e-mail will be called with the prayer concern. Your responsibility is to keep the individual in your prayers. If you are not on the list and wish to be on the prayer tree, please let Sandy Weigt know by phone (238-9402) or e-mail d_weigt@sbcglobal.net.

Weekly Church School

Our weekly Sunday School will resume January 1. The 2-7 year-old class meets from 9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. in the Sunday School Wing. Join us as we share the stories of our faith as you and your children are able to participate. Thanks to our Children's Sunday School teachers!

Everyone is welcome!

New Wednesday Lunch & Learn Studies

On Wednesday, January 4 we will begin a three-week Epiphany series with the theme of "God Sightings." We'll be exploring particular appearances by God through Scripture as well as contemporary manifestations by God.

Then on Wednesday, January 25 we'll begin a new four-week transformation Bible study titled "A People of Salt and Light: Jesus' Model for Community."

Join us when and as you are able at 11:45 a.m. Wednesdays!

Transformation Team Report

A journey begins with one step. We at Dale heights started our transformational journey in 2011 and have taken many steps already. We had opportunities for shared study, reflection and conversations. We have learned where our roots are (Conference on the Past) and where we are now (Conference on the Present).

We begin 2012 with more steps. We will have another all church Bible study beginning the week of January 22. It is called A People of Salt and Light, Jesus' Model for Community. The study is based on the Sermon on the Mount. There will again be numerous opportunities to join this study during the week.

A Vision Panel is also being formed. This panel will work alongside the Coordinating Team. The focus of the Vision Panel will be to create a series of drafts of a Guiding Vision for the congregation.

We can look forward to this next part of our journey together.

Poinsettia Thanks!

Thank you to those who shared poinsettias during this Advent and Christmas season: Sandy Weigt, Gerry Klump, Vreni Straubhaar, Dick Corey, Joan Hicks, Jennifer Jones, Bob Jorgenson, Marcia Holman, Bonnie Savonne, Margie Shumate, Mary Towne, and Elizabeth Holland.



Souper Bowl of Caring

February 5, 2012, is the Super Bowl. We don't yet know who will be playing this year.

February 5, 2012, is the Souper Bowl of Caring. We know there will again be a simple lunch of soup (plus some other stuff) following worship in the lower concourse. There will be a vegetarian and a non vegetarian soup on the menu. A free will donation will be taken and 100% of the donated money will go to the Middleton Outreach Ministry.

Last year \$9.5 million in dollars and food was collected for local hunger-relief charities. This year's goal is \$11 million collected for hunger-relief charities in local communities.

The simple prayer that was said at the first Souper Bowl of Caring continues to inspire: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat".

Hope to see you there.



Inquiring Into Membership Conversations

Persons interested in becoming members of Dale Heights are invited to make an appointment with Pastor Marilyn at a mutually convenient time throughout the month.

Session Meeting Highlights – December 20, 2011

- During the Clerk's report, approved the minutes of the November 9, 2011 stated Session meeting, and the December 4, 2011 called congregational meeting
- During the Property & Finance Committee report received a brief report on the November monthly and year-to-date financials; heard an update on replacing the sanctuary sound system; approved a new HVAC maintenance contract with Air Quality Systems for \$1,200; approved a preliminary budget projecting income of \$148,684, expenses of \$143,310, and a surplus of \$5,374; approved designating any 2011 and 2012 operating budget surpluses for a capital improvement fund, which is particularly looking ahead to replacing the church parking lot; and received an update on church redecorating plans, including that the office entry welcome sign is finished and ready to be hung.
- Received the monthly Pastor's report, during which approved three days of compensatory time off February 7-9, 2012 to make up for her lost vacation time November 21-23, 2011; and approved her vacation request for March 19-25, 2012
- Approved a motion documenting the recall petition events and reaffirming the church's compliance with IRS law and PC(USA) policy
- During the Christian Education Ministry Team report celebrated the gorgeous children's Christmas pageant, and heard an update on the Wednesday Lunch & Learn class
- During the Personnel Committee report approved Music Director Maggie Rogers' request to rollover her 2010 continuing education funds into the 2012 amount for her to attend a conference; and approved Music Director/Administrative Assistant Maggie Rogers' and Custodian Rick Geiger's annual reviews
- During the Transformation Team report heard an update on recruiting Vision Panel members; heard a report on the next congregation-wide Bible study; called a Session meeting to meet with the Transformation Team following worship January 15, 2012; and learned the Transformation Team will meet with the Vision Panel for training by Coach Clara Thompson on January 11, 2012
- During the Outreach & Mission Committee report learned that the Christmas Joy Offering is currently being received; and was reminded that the next Pres House Supper will be March 25, 2012
- During the Worship & Music Committee report reviewed the weekly Christmas carol sing-a-long during Advent; heard that plans are set for the candlelight Christmas Eve worship and the Christmas Day Lessons & Carols service; approved the 2012 communion schedule; and that the next meeting will be January 22, 2012
- During the Care & Fellowship Committee report, approved moving Scott Hicks from the Inactive to the Active Roll and transferring his membership to Okemos Community Church in Okemos, MI; approved transferring Laura Doty's membership to St. Martin's Lutheran Church in Cross Plains, WI; and approved moving Richard King, Zack and Jenny Dachel, and Johanna Osten from the Active to the Inactive Roll
- During the Nominating Committee report, received with regret and thanks Barb Fleishman's resignation from Session; learned the committee needs to seek a nominee to fill Barb's two-year unexpired term; shared expressions of thanks to retiring Session members Barb Fleishman, Bill Mercer and Vreni Straubhaar; and approved installing Ruling Elders Tom Jones and Sandy Weigt during worship January 8, 2012
- Approved calling the annual Congregation/Corporation meeting, including electing a Ruling Elder to the Class of 2013, following worship January 29, 2012
- Set the next Session meeting for January 25, 2012 with Kim leading devotions

Property & Finance Meeting Highlights – December 13, 2011

- Painting/redecorating task force on office entrance indoor sign is finished and ready to be hung.
- University Ave reconstruction: the main gas line project, including moving the church meter outside has been completed. We have also received our payment for the University Ave reconstruction project from the city, but probably won't receive our assessment bill till December, 2012.
- Heat tape for roof has been laid out on office entrance and back entrance; will be hooked up at a future date.
- Recommended Session approve a new HVAC maintenance contract with Air Quality Systems for \$1,200
- Financial Status: As of November 30, 2011, net year-to-date income is -\$6,893 below net budgeted income figure—situation usually picks up in December, and Dick is projecting a year-end budget surplus.
- The through-November pledge statements are ready to give out.
- Recommended to Session a 2012 draft budget projecting income of \$148,684, expenses of \$143,310, and a surplus of \$5,374.
- Next meeting: Tuesday , January 10, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Care and Fellowship Meeting – November 27, 2011

- Individuals who have not been in church during the last year or so will be contacted to see what can be done to bring them back or find out if they have joined another church.
- Emergency Church closing notification is working well.
- We are aware of rides being given to those who do not drive. If someone notices that someone might need a ride, we will see what can be done.
- The church directory, emergency calling list and prayer tree will be updated.
- The set up for Christmas Eve will be at 10 a.m. Christmas Eve day.



Question: “What evidences have you seen of God at work in your life this week?”

Read through the Bible in 1 Year!

Each month we are offering daily Bible reading suggestions which when you follow the guideline by this time next year you will have read the entire Bible!

Some Tips for reading through the Bible:

READ...the passage for the day, listening closely for what God is saying.

EXPLORE...what the Bible has to say by asking questions.

ACT...on the truth by finding one thing you can DO.

PRAY... the verses you have just read back to God

In the Beginning

Jan-1 Genesis 1-3

Jan-2 Genesis 4-6

Jan-3 Genesis 7-9

Jan-4 Genesis 10-12

Jan-5 Genesis 13-15

Jan-6 Genesis 16-18

Jan-7 Genesis 19-21

Jan-8 Genesis 22-24

Jan-9 Genesis 25-27

Jan-10 Genesis 28-30

Jan-11 Genesis 31-33

Jan-12 Genesis 34-36

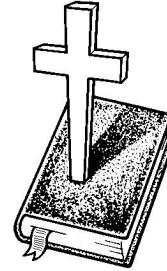
Jan-13 Genesis 37-39

Jan-14 Genesis 40-42

Jan-15 Genesis 43-45

Jan-16 Genesis 46-48

Jan-17 Genesis 49-50



The Story of Moses

Jan-18 Exodus 1-4

Jan-19 Exodus 5-7

Jan-20 Exodus 8-10

Jan-21 Exodus 11-13

Jan-22 Exodus 14-16

Jan-23 Exodus 17-19

Jan-24 Exodus 20-22

Jan-25 Exodus 23-25

Jan-26 Exodus 26-28

Jan-27 Exodus 29-31

Jan-28 Exodus 32-34

Jan-29 Exodus 35-37

Jan-30 Exodus 38-39

Jan-31 Exodus 40

January 2012

1 Happy New Year! New Year's Worship with Communion 10 a.m.	2	3 SMART 7:00pm	4 Lunch & Learn 11:45 a.m.	5 Pastor Marilyn to COM Choir 7:30pm	6	7
8 Reaffirmation of Baptism & Officer Installation Worship 10 a.m.	9	10 Property & Finance 7:00 p.m. SMART 7:00pm	11 Lunch & Learn 11:45 a.m. Transformation Team 7:00 p.m.	12 Pastor Marilyn to COM Retreat NO Choir	13 Pastor Marilyn to COM Retreat	14 Men's Breakfast 8:00am
15 Session & Transformation Team 11:30 a.m.	16	17 New Beginnings Lunch 11:30am Pastor Marilyn to JKP Pastors' Prayer Group Noon SMART 7:00pm	18 Lunch & Learn 11:45 a.m. Bosom Buddies 6:45pm	19 Choir 7:30pm	20	21
22 Worship & Music Committee 11:30 a.m.	23	24 SMART 7:00pm	25 Lunch & Learn 11:45 a.m. Session 7:00 p.m.	26 Choir 7:30pm	27	28
29 Annual Congregation/ Corporation Meeting 11 a.m.	30	31 SMART 7:00pm				

Community Activities Held At Dale Heights

Madison Sah-lang (Agape) Church

We are the nesting site for this evangelical church belonging to Presbyterian Church in America.

Furniture Loan for International Students:

Call Madison Friends of International Students office at 238-1046 for an appointment.

Bosom Buddies Breast Cancer Support Group:

Third Wednesday of the month, 6:45 p.m. in the lounge.

Wisconsin Tibetan Association:

Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. in the lounge.

SMART Recovery Self-Help for Addiction and Alcohol Abuse

Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. in the lounge

Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts:

There is a Girl Scouts and a Cub Scouts troops meeting at various times.

Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association:

There are various committees meeting at various times.

Dale Heights Mission Statement:

Our open-minded congregation affirms and celebrates God's gifts of love and grace.

*We seek to share God's love by inviting others to join us in following Jesus
and by serving those in need in our community and world.*

Dale Heights Presbyterian Church

5501 University Ave.

Madison, WI 53705 233-0134

daleheights@sbcglobal.net

www.daleheightspc.org

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m.

Christian Education

for all ages

September-May

10:00 a.m.

Worship

Child care provided

11:00 a.m.

Fellowship