



Focus

March 2013

www.daleheightspc.org

Pastor Marilyn's Monthly Musings

Dale Heights Staff

Pastor: Rev. Marilyn Gamm

Transformation Coach:
Clara Thompson

Music Director/
Administrative Assistant:
Maggie Rogers

Financial Secretary:
Dick Corey

Custodian: Rick Geiger

Calendar

If you receive the Focus electronically, you can access the calendar separately by clicking on the appropriate link (i.e. "May Calendar") on the Newsletter page of the website. The calendar page will still be available in paper form.

After seven years of serving in ministry together I'm sure I've said this to you before, but March is TOO EARLY for Easter! Easter belongs in April! Although I have no idea from where in my own background this conviction comes, it is deeply rooted in my psyche—Easter happens sometime in April. Except when it doesn't. Like this year, when Easter is the very last day of March. Guess we'll have to make the best of it.

Seriously, Easter this year is March 31 and I hope you'll join us both for our traditional Easter Breakfast that morning and for worship with communion and the fragrance of a variety of spring flowers later that morning.

Among other worship opportunity highlights during March, we have cultural minutes for mission on March 3 and 17, and you have the opportunity to share your British Isles artifacts during the fellowship time on March 10. We will also celebrate the "Gifts of Women" Sunday during worship March 3, which is traditionally scheduled on the Sunday closest to International Women's Day on March 8. And we will celebrate Passion Palm Sunday March 24, and observe Maundy Thursday in a congregational potluck with voluntary foot-washing March 28. We will also promote our annual One Great Hour of Sharing special offering throughout March, with the dedication during worship Easter Sunday morning on March 31.

Also on March 24 we hope to be among the first to host and hear from new Middleton Outreach Ministry Executive Director Al Ripp during worship and for a potluck program following morning worship.

Our transformation journey continues in March, with the Session and Transformation Team getting together sometime during the month to finalize goals, identify which entity at Dale Heights to assign implementation of the goal to, and celebrating the "WOWs" gathered from our January "Conference on the Future."

Finally, don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday, March 9—Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 10!

See you in church, and in mission and ministry in our community!

Shalom in Christ Jesus—Marilyn

March 3 3rd Sunday in Lent/Celebrate the Gifts of Women Worship with Communion—"Being Drenched in God's Grace" - Isaiah 55:1-13; Luke 13:1-9; Minute for Mission on Ireland by Janice Krall for Rick Shannon

Liturgist: Edi Chan

Ushers: Marcia Holman, Gale Oakes, Wendy Weber

March 10 4th Sunday in Lent Worship—"Finding Our Way in a Post-Manna World"— Joshua 5:9-12; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Liturgist: Jennifer Jones

Ushers: Joan Hicks, Bonnie Savonne, Otty Schaefer

March 17 5th Sunday in Lent Worship—"Doing a New Thing"—Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:4b-14; Minute for Mission on Scotland by Pastor Marilyn Finley-Gamm

Liturgist: Harold Meyer

Ushers: Vreni Straubhaar, Janice Krall, Rick Shannon

March 24 Passion/Palm Sunday Worship—"Extending Peace" - Luke 19:28-40; Luke 22:14-23:56; Minute for Mission on Middleton Outreach Ministry by New Executive Director Al Ripp

Liturgist: Gale Oakes

Ushers: Rick Geiger, Mike Holland, Tom Jones

March 28 Maundy Thursday Potluck Worship with Communion and Voluntary Foot Washing at 6:00 p.m.

March 31 Easter Worship with Communion—"Transforming Human Life" - Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43; John 20:1-18

Liturgist: Roy Lembcke

Ushers: Keith Chan, Kim Chan, Janet Jones

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.

Maundy Thursday Worship Service

Please join us for a potluck worship service on Maundy Thursday, March 28th, at 6:00pm. The service will include Communion as well as voluntary foot-washing. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service.



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.

"What evidences have you seen of God at work in your life this week?"

British Isles Lent and Easter

This year's Lent and Easter cultural emphasis is the British Isles: Great Britain, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. We are learning during worship and fellowship about these countries' traditions and foods particularly during these seasons of reflecting upon Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. A display of information and items from these countries is planned for March 10 or 17. Cultural objects from these countries that you would be willing to display would be most welcome. Please let Marcia Holman know if you'd like to participate.



March Birthdays

March 23 Don Weigt
March 28 Elizabeth Holland
Aaron Lembcke (2010)

March Anniversaries

March 1 Vreni and Willy Straubhaar
March 19 Kris and Jim Tracey

March New Beginnings

The March New Beginnings Lunch will be Tuesday, March 19th at 11:30 at Imperial Gardens, 2039 Allen Blvd in Middleton. Please call or e-mail Mary Towne at 831-6635 or marytowne@chorus.net for reservations. Thank you.

Our Deepest Sympathy to June Zeeh in the death of her father, Orville Zeeh of Billings, MT, on January 26.



Church Women United

The CWU Valiant Woman Award was given to Mary Jean Bartholomew at the February Forum. The speaker was Barbara Nichols, president of the Dane County U.N. Association and first African-American president of the American Nursing Association. She has worked for global nurse education/competence for 53 years. She spoke about current problems with nurses from overseas emigrating to the United States. Also at the forum, Dr. Richard Harris introduced his new book, "Growing Up Black in South Madison."

The World Day of Prayer 2013 Celebration will be held at 9:00 am on March 1, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 4011 Major Ave, Madison.

Easter Flowers

The sign-up sheet will be in the concourse through Palm Sunday. Daffodils, tulips, lilies and hyacinths are available for \$10 each. Make checks payable to Dale Heights P.C. with a memo note "Easter flowers" and place in offering plate. Flowers displayed on Easter Sunday may be taken home after the service.



Annual Easter Breakfast

Please plan to join us on Easter Morning, March 31, for our traditional Easter Breakfast—menu still being determined so watch the weekly bulletins for more information. Breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m. and after breakfast you can chat over a cup of coffee prior to the Easter Morning service.

Donations will be accepted and the proceeds will be given to a to-be-determined cause.

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.**



MOM Needs:

- Cereal
- Pasta
- Spaghetti sauce
- Peanut butter
- Fruit juice
- Jelly
- Cooking oil
- Sugar
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Diapers (4,5,6)



One Great Hour of Sharing

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God’s love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future.

The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts, while the Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receive 32 percent.

Dale Heights is receiving the offering throughout Lent, and dedicating it on Easter Sunday.

THANK YOU!

Dale Heights Presbyterian Church

raised:
\$262.45

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



February 3, 2013

Tracy Bender

Tracy Bender
President and CEO
Souper Bowl of Caring

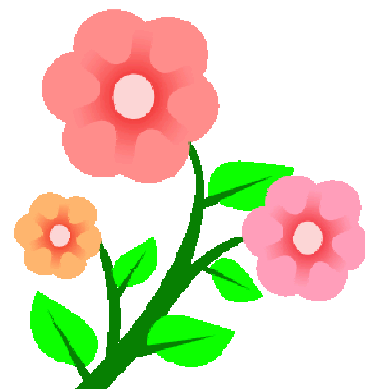
Dear Church Family,

We would like to announce the birth of our long awaited daughter!

Madalitso Khlowe-Shannon Wright was born at 5:41pm February 4th 2013 at St Mary's Hospital. She is now at home with her parents Ndazona Ndafooka-Holland and Marcus Wright. Her grandparents Elizabeth Holland and Micheal Holland are enjoying spoiling their very first grandchild. Many thanks go out to the Dale Heights congregation for their generous gifts to baby Madalitso. She has been sleeping in her crib everyday and feels very safe swaddled in it. See you all on Sunday!

With joyful hearts,
Ndazi and Marcus

"When life touched her chest
Mommy couldn't resist
When Daddy cut the cord she became one.
A person made special from god, touched by christ,
But before the first cry, or the first embrace;
Or the first poop and first milk taste
It was the god in you all that helped
Show us the lords grace, thank you." -Marcus Willie Wright



Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday

March 3, 2013

On Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday, March 3, 2013, we celebrate women through whom God is transforming the church in an emerging era. Your congregation or women's groups may use this resource on March 3, 2013 or on any day you choose.

We know that God has always been at work forming and reforming the church, but these days, the sense that we are being reformed feels heightened. Transformation in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) takes many shapes: movements like NEXT Church and the Fellowship of Presbyterians, as well as new and exciting programs like "For Such a Time as This" and "1001 New Worshiping Communities." God's spirit is clearly stirring up change.

Glimpses of God's vision for the church—as in Isaiah 55:1–13—inspire us to be open to change. Isaiah

paints a picture of God's eternal reality in which all people are valued, drenched in God's grace and full of that which sustains life. Women throughout the PC(USA) ground themselves in the reality of divine



The Overcoming Worshipper, Cassandra Donnelly

Women Transforming the Church in an Emerging Era

promise, thereby discovering their freedom to do new things and older things in new ways.

The Celebrate the Gifts of Women resource, written by Shannon Kershner, includes a worship service and spotlights of two women who are active in God's transforming work. The worship service consists of a call to worship, call to confession, prayer of confession, an assurance of pardon, suggested hymns and scripture readings, and an intercession for healing.

The Celebrate the Gifts of Women resource is available in the November/December 2012 issue of *Horizons* magazine, as a free download from www.pcusa.org/women and free from Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS)—800/524-2612 or www.pcusa.org/store, item 27501-13-001. Order the November/December 2012 issue of *Horizons* from PDS, item HZN12250; \$4 plus shipping. A limited number of bulletin covers are available from PDS while supplies last; item 27501-13-002; \$5.00 for a pack of 25. The bulletin cover also may be downloaded free from www.pcusa.org/women.



Middleton Outreach Ministry



Al Ripp, lifelong Middleton resident, will join Middleton Outreach Ministry as Executive Director, coming to MOM with nearly 20 years of leading corporate initiatives.

"We at MOM feel very fortunate to have someone with Al's dynamic background as our next Executive Director. His leadership skills, strong ties to the community and business acumen will make MOM stronger than ever for many years to come," says Jim Hartlieb, MOM's President of the Board of Directors.

With exciting changes around the corner, Ripp takes the helm as **MOM consolidates into a new building at the beginning of March.** The basic yet functional spaces are located in the heart of Middleton at 3502 Parmenter Street, and will give clients better access to MOM's services, while providing a number of operational efficiencies for the staff.

"I am extremely excited and honored to become a part of MOM as the new Executive Director and look forward to serving the Middleton community and surrounding areas. Having lived and worked in this area all my life I have witnessed why MOM is such a large part of making Middleton the Good Neighbor city. It's all about neighbors taking care of neighbors!"

2012 was a tremendous year for MOM, with more than 500 households each month bringing home over 60,000 pounds of food to nourish their families, and hundreds of volunteers gave over 1,500 hours of service. Case Managers served nearly 130 families each month, helping them end a crisis and get them back on their feet.

Before his retirement from TDS Telecommunications Corp., Ripp served as the Regional Market Manager for Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the Michigan Upper Peninsula, with responsibilities ranging from developing products and programs to enhancing customer service and providing evaluations. He maintained active memberships in all local chambers and business associations, and managed all philanthropic requests across the state of Wisconsin. He has received several "TDS Telecom Inspiring Excellence" awards throughout his career and has provided leadership in service clubs and on boards throughout the Middleton, Verona, Middleton and Cross Plains areas.

Outreach & Mission News

- **Potluck Program with new Middleton Outreach Ministry Executive Director Al Ripp tentatively planned for Sunday, March 24 at 11:30 a.m.**

Transformation Coordinating Team Update

Thank You everyone who traveled in our “time machine” toward 2018 by participating in our “Conference on the Future” January 20!

The Transformation Journey Continues...

This third year of the Transformation Journey is a year of “*Embodying*,” when we will seek to embody Dale Heights’ Guiding Vision and live it out ... at Dale Heights, in the community, and in the world. After the “Conference on the Future,” the Session and Transformation Team then met February 13 to begin using your ideas for Dale Heights’ future, the Guiding Vision Statement, and the Key Areas to develop goals for the congregation that will lead forward in faithfully responding to God’s claim upon our lives, as individuals and as a faith community.

Next Congregational Bible Study Began February 17

Please plan to participate in our next congregation-wide Bible study, *Sign, Foretaste, Instrument: Discerning God’s Vision for the Church*. You will have three opportunities each week to participate in this 4-week study: Sunday mornings—February 17, 24, March 3, 10 at 9:00 a.m., and Wednesdays—February 20, 27, March 6, 13 at 12 Noon and 6:30 p.m.



CHURCH LENDING LIBRARY BEING REFURBISHED

The church’s lending library is being refurbished and should be open for business on Sunday, March 10th.

If you would like to donate a book , write DONATE in pencil inside the front cover of the book and leave it on the top shelf of the book case now acting as our library on the unwindowed side of the concourse.

If you would like to share a favorite book, but would ultimately like to have it back, simply write your name inside the front cover of the book and leave it on the top shelf of the book case. You may retrieve it any time you wish at a time it is not checked out.

Books donated or given on loan should be appropriate to a church library, i.e., religious, philosophical, self-help, art, etc.

To check out a book, simply write the name of the book and your name on a check-out slip and put it in the box provided. Generally a two to four weeks check out is appropriate. When returning the book, leave it on the top shelf of the book case.

Session Highlights

February 13, 2013

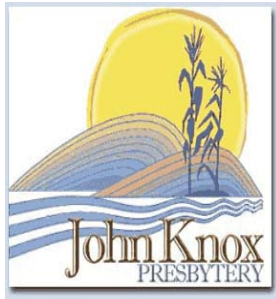
- During the Session's called meeting with the Transformation Team February 13, 2013 we formulated first drafts of goals for the Key Result Areas. These goal drafts will be perfected in the next month, after which they and the ideas shared during the Conference on the Future will be shared with Dale Heights committees and ministry teams toward beginning implementation.
- The next stated Session meeting is Sunday, February 24, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. with Bill Mercer leading devotions.

*Highlights from the **February 24th** stated Session meeting will be published in the April Focus.*

Property & Finance Committee Highlights

February 12, 2013

- Heard a report on storm-water leakage into a back basement storage room caused by a frozen downspout extension.
- Parking lot bids for 2013 will be requested once the snow is gone—probably in April.
- Floor cleaning machine: a few quotes have been received but no decision made yet.
- Per capita assessment is approximately \$25.
- W-2 and W-3 forms have been prepared and sent to employees and the state. Will go to the IRS by their end-of-February deadline. WT 6 & 7 forms have been sent. Giving statements have been sent.
- 2012 budget surplus has been transferred on 2-12-13 to the Capital Improvement fund, resulting in an approximately \$18,000 start to that fund.
- Net budgeted income January 31, 2013 year-to-date is \$3769. This healthy start is in part from those who prepaid pledges.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 7pm.



John Knox Presbytery Meeting Highlights

Here are some highlights from the February 16, 2013 Meeting via videoconferencing:

During the Equipping the Saints time of Bible study began participating in the Presbytery's visioning process of "Discerning God's Call" as part of our transformation journey. The Presbytery's Vision Panel members for this part of the transformation journey are: Dale Chapin, Kathy DeVoe, Pam Gnagy, Bonnie Sue Lewis, Terry McGinley, Scott Anderson, and Clara Thompson.

During the Joys and Concerns and Announcements it was announced that registration through the Presbytery to attend this summer's Presbyterian Youth Triennium is between March 8 and April 8.

Participated in worship and study of the Heidelberg Catechism.

Received the Presbytery Council report, during which it was noted that the May 21 Presbytery meeting site will be Westminster, Madison, and the November 9 Presbytery meeting site will be First, Baraboo; that \$10,000 of the Presbytery's New Church Development/Redevelopment Fund are being designated for up to \$1,000 grants in support of new worshiping communities, with the Fiscal Operations Task Force overseeing the disbursement of funds; and called presbyters' attention to the 2013 Presbytery Council Action Initiatives.

Received the Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church, Cambridge, WI Administrative Commission report, during which approved its request to approve its work, spread its reports on the record, and dissolve the commission with thanks as of February 16, 2013.

Received the Commissioned Ruling Elder Committee Report.

Received the Committee on Preparation for Ministry report, during which examined and approved enrolling Inquirer Callie Hill as a Candidate under the care of John Knox Presbytery.

Received the Committee on Ministry report, during which approved interim pastor contract with Commissioned Ruling Elder Gene Benke, setting aside the Presbytery's Manual of Operations to allow him to remain a member of his congregation outside the bounds of John Knox Presbytery during his time of service within the bounds; noted that the Revs. Stewart Brooks, William King, and Howard Wallace have been removed from the pulpit supply list as per their request with thanks for their service; noted approval of the renewal of Commissioned Ruling Elder contracts; noted the approval of the terms of call for Teaching Elder Charles Berthoud as full-time pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church, Madison, which including Ruling Elder Laurie Jones prosecuting the call before the Presbytery in behalf of Covenant; noted the Administrative Commission that installed Teaching Elder Eunuk Lim as Pastor of the Korean Presbyterian Church of Madison; noted the full-time Bridge Pastor agreement between the Rev. Dr. Mark Achtemeier and Westminster, Dubuque; noted that Commissioned Ruling Elder Learner Cathy Van Landuyt had been approved to administer the Lord's Supper at Town and Country Presbyterian Church, Richland Center; noted the creative contract for pastoral services between the Presbyterian Church of West Salem and First Presbyterian Church, Bangor, WI; and offered presbyters the opportunity to celebrate the ministry of Teaching Elder Craig Howard, who is a candidate for the Executive Director of Mission and Partnership in Milwaukee Presbytery.

Received the Moderator, Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, and Stated Clerk's reports. During the Stated Clerk's Report approved the minutes of the Administrative Commission minutes to install Teaching Elder Kristin Frederich as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Cambria, WI, and of Teaching Elder Eunuk Lim as Pastor of the Korean Presbyterian Church of Madison; First Presbyterian Church, Highland, WI's waiver for the limitation of terms so that Ruling Elder Ed Glanville may serve a third consecutive term; and that the annual Presbytery statistical report to the General Assembly be approved and spread upon the minutes.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Madison, WI.

Read through the Bible in 1 Year!

Some Tips for reading through the Bible:

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

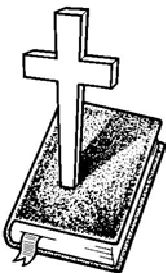
EXPLORE...what the Bible has to say by asking questions.

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

PRAY... the verses you have just read back

Desert wanderings

March-1 Deuteronomy 1-2
March-2 Deuteronomy 3-4
March-3 Deuteronomy 5-7
March-4 Deut.8-10
March-5 Deut. 11-13
March-6 Deut. 14-16
March-7 Deut. 17-20
March-8 Deut. 21-23
March-9 Deut. 24-27
March-10 Deuteronomy 28
March-11 Deut. 29-31
March-12 Deut.32-34



The promised land!

March-13 Joshua 1-3
March-14 Joshua 4-6
March-15 Joshua 7-8
March-16 Joshua 9-10
March-17 Joshua 11-13
March-18 Joshua 14-16
March-19 Joshua 17-19
March-20 Joshua 20-21
March-21 Joshua 22-24
March-22 Judges 1-2
March-23 Judges 3-5
March-24 Judges 6-7
March-25 Judges 8-9
March-26 Judges 10-11
March-27 Judges 12-14
March-28 Judges 15-17
March-29 Judges 18-19
March-30 Judges 20-21
March-31 Ruth 1-4

Check out our website:

www.daleheightspc.org

Sunday Schedule

9:00-10:00am

Christian Education for all ages

10:00am

Worship

11:00am

Fellowship

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

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