



For Members & Friends of Dale Heights Presbyterian Church

December 2009

# Pastor Marilyn's Monthly Musings

# Maligayang Pasko!

It means "Merry Christmas!" and merry are our plans for Advent and Christmas at Dale Heights this year as we celebrate Filipino-style! I invite you to check out the article on the next page of this *Focus* to learn a little more about Christmas traditions in the Philippines.

For me, as I imagine for each of you, the Christmas season is a hodge-podge of traditions and memories, expectations and disappointments, joys and sorrows.

As a kid I remember we often got sick somewhere along the way toward Christmas, perhaps in part from the combination of excitement and over-eating and being in close quarters with a lot of other children as we made the rounds to grandmothers' and greatgrandmothers' dinners and celebrations. I was blessed to know three of my four grandparents, and five great-grandparents.

I remember the year that despite all my parents' warnings that Santa makes a list and knows when you've been bad or good that we kids seemed determined to be more naughty than nice, so "Santa" delivered bundles of "switches" to us for Christmas. You better believe we shaped up our act next year!

I remember the sadness of the first Christmases we no longer had the greatgrandparents and later the grandparents to share holiday festivities with.

As I got older, I remember going caroling with the 4-H club and the church youth choir. As I got even older, I remember singing in Handel's *Messiah* every year for many years.

Now, as the years come and go, there are people I no longer see because I or they have moved to new communities, and there are new people to deck the halls with, to share meals with, sing carols with, to simply and quietly or joyfully and loudly celebrate all the meanings of the season with.

And most of all, there's the familiar but never old story from Luke chapter two: "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

# Maligayang Pasko!

See you in church! Shalom in Christ Jesus,

Marilyn

# A Filipino Christmas at Dale Heights

The Philippines is known as the "Land of Fiestas," and at Christmas time, this is especially true. Filipinos are proud to proclaim their Christmas celebration to be the longest and merriest in the world. It begins formally on December 16 with attendance at the first of nine pre-dawn or early morning masses and continues on nonstop until the first Sunday of January, Feast of the Three Kings, the official end of the season.

The Philippines is the only Asian country where Christians predominate, with the majority of its people Roman Catholic. Christmas, therefore, is an extremely important and revered holiday for most Filipinos. It is a time for family, for sharing, for giving, and a time for food, fun, and friendship.

There is no winter or snow in the Philippines at Christmas time. There are very few pine trees. And Santa Claus, though visible in displays and believed by most Filipino children to exist, seldom comes bearing gifts.



Even without snow or pine trees, there's no doubt it's Christmas in the Philippines. Filipino Christmas decorations are abundant and beautiful. The bamboo parol (pah-role), or star lantern, is the symbol of Christmas in the Philippines, representing the guiding light, the star of Bethlehem. It emits a warmth unparalleled among holiday adornments and is unique to the Philippines.

Filipinos enjoy decorating their homes not only with star lanterns but also with all sorts of Christmas decors. Brightly colored buntings or streamers are hung inside and out. Often, Christmas cards that

illustrate scenes in the Philippines are pinned on red and green ribbons. The cards are then hung in the sala, or living room, for all to enjoy. Candles and wreaths are also common adornments. And many houses, particularly those in the urban areas are strung with tiny multi-colored lights both inside and out. Most Filipinos think that decorating their homes for the Christmas holidays is a must.

Christmas Eve in the Philippines is a night without sleep and a continuous celebration moving right into Christmas Day. As December 24th dawns, the last Mass of Simbang Gabi is attended; then preparation begins for Noche Buena, which is a family feast that takes place after midnight.

The **Noche Buena** is very much like an open house celebration. Family, friends, relatives, and neighbors drop by to wish every family member "**Maligayang Pasko**" (Merry Christmas). Food is in abundance, often served buffet style. Among the typical foods prepared in the Philippines during Christmas are: lechon (roasted pig), pancit, barbecue, rice, adobo, cakes (Western and native rice cakes). Jumpia. etc.

In general, the center of a family's Christmas gathering is always the **lola**, the endearing term used for a family matriarch or grandmother, who is deeply respected, highly revered, and always present. Filipinos remember how their lola had their children form a line and step up to receive a small gift of some coins. The older the child, the more coins he or she receives.

Some families have a talent show during Christmas Eve celebration. Children are asked to perform. One might sing a Christmas song, others might play a musical instrument, or others may recite a poem or do a dance. The celebration continues until about 6 o'clock in the morning.

Christmas day is a popular day for children to visit their uncles, aunts, godmothers, and godfathers. At each home they are presented with a gift, usually candy, money, or a small toy. Food and drinks are also offered at each stop. It is a day of family closeness, and everyone wishes good cheer and glad tidings.

Although not beginning as early as September, nor with daily pre-dawn masses nor a midnight Christmas Eve service, Dale Heights will celebrate Christmas in keeping with festive Filipino traditions from Advent through Epiphany this year. And if any of this information has given you ideas for you how may help us add Filipino flavor to our Advent and Christmas celebrations, we invite you to share them with us.

Maligayang Pasko!

# December Worship Messages

December 6, 2009 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent - "Welcoming God's Gift" from Luke 1:68-79 - Communion

December 13, 2009 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent - "Beholding Our Salvation" - Isaiah 12:2-6 - Christmas Pageant - "What the Animals Made Known"

December 20, 2009 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent - "Feasting Fools" - Luke 1:39-45 December 24, 2009 - Christmas Eve - "Embracing the New" - Luke 2:1-10

December 27, 2009 - 1st Sunday after Christmas - Lessons and Carols Service

# Ushers for December

Dec. 6 Communion Servers

Dec. 13 Sunday School and Youth Dec. 20 Mary Towne, Gale Oakes,

Dale Buske

Dec. 24 DHPC Family & Friends

Dec. 27 Roy Lembcke,

Grant Lembcke, Ann Lembcke

# Congregational Meeting December 6

There will be a congregational meeting following morning worship Sunday, December 6 to elect Elders to the 2012 class and members of the congregation to the 2010 Nominating Committee.

The nominees for Elder are:

Kimberly Chan – 1-year term as

Youth Elder

Michael Holland – 3-year term as

Elder

Gerald Klump – 3-year-term as Elder The nominees representing the congregation for the Nominating Committee are:

Edi Chan, Rick Geiger, and Roy Lembcke.

Pastor Marilyn will be on Vacation Dec. 25-Jan. 2

# Liturgists for December

Dec. 6 Sandy Weigt Dec. 13 Dick Corey Dec. 20 Gale Oakes Dec. 24 Tom Jones Dec. 27 Roy Lembcke

# Advent Candlelighters

Dec. 6 Mary Towne Dec. 13 Kim Chan,

Hannah & Marlowe Elizabeth Eldridge

Dec. 20 Tom and Janet Jones
Dec. 24 Bill and Lenore Mercer

# "What the Animals Made Known"

By Judy Gattis Smith Presented by Dale Heights Children Sunday, December 13 at 10:00 a.m.

Lessons and Carols,

and Bell Sunday,

December 27

Please bring a bell to ring with joy for our Savior's birth!

# Happy Birthday!

December 2 Ruby Meyer
December 13 Vreni Straubhaar
December 18 Jamie Klump
December 22 Ray Miller

December 25
December 27
December 27
December 28
December 28
December 29
Caroline Pope

Happy Anniversary

December 16 Otty and Larry Schaefer

# New Beginnings Christmas Lunch/Brunch

Sunday, December 6 -- noon
Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano
601 Junction Rd. Madison
Sign-up sheet in the concourse.

# **New Beginnings Monthly LUNCH!**

New Beginnings will meet for lunch on the third Tuesday of the month. We will meet next on December 15, at 11:30 am at La Brioche, 2862 Univ. Ave.

#### **Adult Church School**

This fall our adult Church School class is using the book *Basic Bible Study* by W. Eugene March.

Join us when and as you are able at 9:00 a.m. Sunday mornings!

## Wednesday Lunch & Learn Class

Our Wednesday Lunch & Learn class is using the book *The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, A Jew – Three Women Search for Understanding* by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, and Priscilla Warner.

In *The Faith Club*, the authors wrestle with the issues of anti-Semitism, prejudice against Muslins, and preconceptions of Christians at a time when fundamentalists dominate the public face of Christianity.

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

# Monthly Home Communion Offered to Our Shut-ins

Pastor Marilyn is now offering regular monthly home communion to our shut-ins, usually on the first Sunday afternoon by appointment. Please call the church office to schedule your appointment or an appointment for someone who would like to receive communion in his or her home before the first Sunday of each month.

#### **New Member 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.

## **Dale Heights Knitters & Crocheters**

Our Dale Heights members and friends are gathering Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. Come to both learn to knit or crochet, and also to work together on knitting or crocheting projects for mission - such as "healing shawls" and skull caps for soldiers' helmets.

To date we have completed and delivered 14 prayer shawls and 38 skull caps.

Everyone welcome to join us in this ministry.

#### Winter Weather & Flu Cancellations

Although we prefer not to have to cancel worship, sometimes winter weather, and this year possibly due to flu, we may have to do so. 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 email, check the website or call the church. Above all, play it safe.



# 2009 Christmas Joy Offering

A Presbyterian tradition for almost 70 years, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to provide congregations direct ways of supporting specific causes that help those in need.

50 percent of the receipts to the Christmas Joy Offering are distributed to the <u>Board of Pensions</u> for assistance programs that provide support to retired and active church workers and their spouses and families. The other fifty percent supports <u>Presbyterian-related racial ethnic education</u> through the General Assembly Council.



# December 4 Forum Pilgrims of Ibillin

presented by the Rev. Joan Deming

Church Women United in Madison invites everyone to join them on Dec. 4 at

Asbury United Methodist Church 6101 University Ave, Madison, WI 53713

Program -- 9:30 a. m.

# Christmas Eve Fellowship

Please bring treats ready to serve on plates for our gathering in the concourse after the evening service.

Marcia Holman has recipes for Filipino Christmas cookies that you are invited to make along with other traditional goodies you like to share.

# MOM's Christmasfest information will be in the concourse soon!

# MOM's Sharing Christmas

Ellen Carlson was invited to speak for an Outreach Potluck on Sunday, November 15, about Sharing Christmas. Ellen offered us reminders and new insights as she spoke of the increase in families requesting inclusion and how meaningful it is to these recipients. The talk addressed the broad parameters of the program as well as the issues which may be meaningful to us as we continue our involvement.

Both she and Roy Lembke addressed the issue in increased demand in all areas of MOM and urged Dale Heights to do whatever we can.

Ellen concluded by offering MOM's appreciation for us in all that Dale Heights does to support MOM.

Thank you Ellen, Roy and all of you Dale Heights members and friends!

# Session Meeting Highlights - October 27, 2009

- Approved the September 29, 2009 Session meeting and August 16, 2009 congregational meeting minutes
- During the Property and Finance Committee report, heard that a contract with for snow removal with cancellation option was signed; tabled action on a recommendation to authorize the Property & Finance Committee to purchase snow removal equipment and sent to the Personnel Committee a request to develop a possible snow removal position description; learned that two storm water management estimates have been requested; learned that Caroline Pope and Mike Holland were working on the annual stewardship letter; and received a brief report on the September monthly and year-to-date financials, which showed a monthly net income of nearly \$5,700 and a year-to-date net income of just under \$12,700
- Received the monthly Pastor's report
- During the Christian Education Ministry Team report, heard reports on the preschool and adult Church School classes; and heard an update on the Lunch & Learn study
- During the Personnel Committee report, learned that background checks for all employees are current, and are on-going for new volunteers
- > There was no Inviting and Welcoming Ministry Team report
- During the Outreach and Mission Committee report, learned that the Zonta of Madison Club had provided a speaker for a potluck October 11; and that there would be a speaker from Middleton Outreach Ministry talking about the Sharing Christmas program November 15
- During the Worship and Music Committee report, approved a recommendation to implement H1N1 safety precautions by a no contact passing of the peace, to reduce the number of times communion will be celebrated the remainder of the year, and to share communion in the pews rather than by intinction; heard a report of plans to celebrate Advent & Christmas Filipinio-style and Lent & Easter Malwaian-style; learned the Christmas pageant is tentatively set for December 13; and continued a group discussion about how to improve worship services
- Noted that the Care & Fellowship and Nominating committees will be meeting in the next couple of months
- Learned the Nominating Committee will be meeting November 1; and set a congregational meeting to elect Elders and 2010 Nominating Committee members for December 6, 2009 following morning worship
- > The next meeting will be November 17, 2009 with Gale Oakes leading devotions.

# Session Meeting Highlights - November 17, 2009

- > Approved the October 27, 2009 and November 3, 2009 Session meeting minutes
- During the Property and Finance Committee report, left tabled action on a recommendation to authorize the Property & Finance Committee to purchase snow removal equipment and on a proposed snow removal position description developed by the Personnel Committee at Session's request; learned that two storm water management estimates have been received and requested Property & Finance seek one more; learned that members are working to clean out the red garage; and received a brief report on the October monthly and year-to-date financials, which showed a monthly net loss of nearly \$4,200 and a year-to-date net income of just under \$8,500
- Received the monthly Pastor's report
- During the Christian Education Ministry Team report, heard a report that rehearsals for the Christmas pageant have begun; heard reports on the preschool and adult Church School classes; and heard an update on the Lunch & Learn study
- During the Personnel Committee report, learned that background checks for all employees are current, and are on-going for new volunteers; and learned that employee annual reviews are being scheduled in December
- > There was no Inviting and Welcoming Ministry Team report
- Received and tabled a request from Middleton Outreach Ministry to become an overflow site for homeless persons
- > Received a report on the November 17, 2009 John Knox Presbytery meeting
- During the Outreach and Mission Committee report, learned the purple silhouettes erected by the Zonta Club of Madison were taken down and stored October 30; heard a report on the Middleton Outreach Ministry Sharing Christmas potluck November 15; and heard a report that the latest completed prayer shawls and skull caps by the knitting/crocheting ministry were dedicated during worship November 8
- During the Worship and Music Committee report, learned that the next meeting is set for January 24, 2010
- Noted that the Care & Fellowship and Nominating committees will be meeting in the soon
- During the Nominating Committee report received and approved the proposed slate of Elders and 2010 Nominating Committee members for presentation to the congregation December 6
- > The next meeting will be December 15, 2009 with Bill Mercer leading devotions.

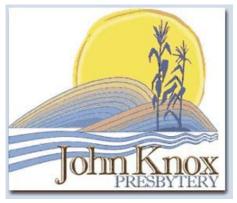
# Outreach.Activity.Report

Many members continued to be involved in numerous ways. We were blessed to be involved and enjoyed the fellowship as well. Thanks for your support!

- > Pencil...Pen...Sharpener...Sticker Campaign for Leon Bernido to take to children in the Phillipines!
- ➤ The Road Home Family Shelter (in September and November!)
- Pres House Sunday Evening Service and Supper...60 people were served!

# Worship & Music Committee Meeting October 25, 2009

- Learned about <u>Music</u> for the upcoming months.
- The choir will be off Nov. 15 & Dec. 13. Maggie will not be off the rest of the year.
- Maggie is working on finding Advent Christmas music. Pastor Marilyn will send Maggie a site for downloadable Filipino Tagalog Christmas Songs.
- ➤ To encourage people to enter the sanctuary in a timely manner for the 10:00 service, it was recommended that Maggie end the prelude on time & the ushers would close the doors after Pastor Marilyn enters. Mary will e-mail Grant & Roy to pass this information on to the ushers.
- > Pastor Marilyn's items:
- ➤ Marilyn's vacation leave dates:
- Nov. 21-27 (Sun. 11/22) Newton Roberts pulpit supply
- Dec. 25-31 (Sun. 12/27) Lessons & Carols
- Advent & Christmas Filipino Style! A Task Force Group to involve more people will meet Nov. 13 & Nov. 14 each at 1:00 p.m. to prepare/assemble Filipino decorations for this festive season. Finger foods will be served during coffee hours. It was suggested to ask the Sah-lang congregation if they would like to share any of their traditional decorations during this Advent & Christmas season as well.
- ➤ Tentative date for the <u>Youth Christmas Pageant</u> is December 13.
- ➤ Pastor Marilyn spoke to Elizabeth Holland regarding Malawi Lenten & Easter season celebrations. She is very delighted & will be talking with her mother about this, one of their top four big yearly celebrations.
- ➤ <u>Liturgists:</u> Marcia has scheduled through November & will now be working on December.
- Advent Candle Lighters are being recruited for Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13, 20 & 24. A sign-up sheet is in the concourse, or people can e-mail or call Marcia.
- ➤ Ushers: Grant Sign up at geevs@yahoo.net or call Grant at 712-2973.
- Recommendations from the National Council of Churches regarding the H1N1, particularly with regards to communion & passing the peace was discussed. Recommendation to the Session will be that until the H1N1 season is over, communion will be once a month using disposable cups & precut bread. Passing of the peace will be done without personal contact by putting hands together in prayer fashion toward one another while remaining in our pews.
- ➤ <u>Communion</u>: The committee is recommending to Session that during Advent and Lent communion will be once a month, on the first Sunday of the month rather than the weekly that is currently scheduled.
- ➤ Thanksgiving communion Nov. 22
- December 6 communion
- ➤ <u>Improving Worship Services:</u> Pastor Marilyn has been selecting up-beat music. Sandy Weigt has volunteered for the children's sermon & Ray Bayley to do the pastoral prayer. It has been difficult to obtain youth involvement.
- ➤ <u>Poinsettias:</u> A sign-up sheet will be in the concourse beginning Sun., Nov. 15. Notices will be in the bulletins Nov. 15, 22 & 29. Deadline for signing up will be Sun., Nov. 29. They will be ordered Mon., Nov. 30 to be delivered Sat., Dec. 5.
- > The next meeting will be Sunday, January 24, 2010.



Here are some highlights from the November 17 John Knox Presbytery Meeting:

Received the newly-formed Missional Task Force's first report, which included an "invitation to a road trip," a two-year Presbytery journey together with a transforming focus on the way we practice our connectionalism, moving the Presbytery from maintenance to mission through asking who and what God is calling presbyters as leaders, as churches, and as the Presbytery to be and do and go; as a beginning

point, presbyters engaged in morning and afternoon Bible studies; and as a "stay tuned," commissioners and visitors were told in 2010 John Knox congregations will be invited to join in the Presbytery's transformation journey in various ways

- Received the Nominating Committee report and elected those nominated to various Presbytery committees and entities, including Elder Lon Foree as 2010 Moderator; Rev. Dale Chapin as 2010 Vice Moderator; Rev. Marilyn Gamm to the Committee on Ministry; Melanie Klump to the Committee on Representation; Elders Jeanne Evert and Derek Pursey, Revs. Marilyn Gamm and Clara Thompson as 2010 Commissioners to General Assembly; and Ndaziona Ndafooka-Holland as 2010 Youth Advisory Delegate to General Assembly
- Received the Presbytery Council report, learned the following have been approved for one-year contracts as Regional Coordinators in the Presbytery: Region 1 – LaCrosse and Minnesota – Rev. Amy Perkins; Region 2 – NE Iowa – Rev. Galen Smith; Region 3 – Dubuque to Richland Center – Rev. Mark Hoehne; Region 4 – Madison Area – Rev. Marilyn Gamm; and Region 5 – Portage Area – Rev. David Hankins; approved granting authority to pursue and finalize the sale of the Presbytery Center buildings and property to the Presbytery Trustees, with profit from the sales being designated 10% for mission outside the Presbytery and the remainder, after relocation expenses, be used at the discretion of the Presbytery Council and reported to Presbytery; approved the proposed changes to the Manual of Operations, Small Church Renewal Grant Application; approved the criteria and application form for grant requests from the Genevieve Butler Fund; approved removing the Lay Leader Application Form from the Manual of Operations; elected to the Presbytery Nominating Committee Marie Langeteig, Lois Berger, Tom Iverson, and Jerry Miller; approved replacing the Transition Executive Presbyter position description with an Executive Presbyter position description in the Manual of Operations; approved replacing the Presbytery Administrator position description with a revised Presbytery Administrator position description in the Manual of Operations; and approved edits to the Stated Clerk position description
- > Heard a report that John Knox Presbytery will reimburse the \$99 subscription to the Presbyterian Leader for churches, and received a presentation on the Presbyterian Leader by Vince Patton from the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation
- > Received an update on the progress of the Sun Prairie New Church Development, including news that Organizing Pastor Doug Resler has resigned to seek a new call
- Received a report on an upcoming John Knox Mission Trip to Texas between Christmas and New Year's

#### JKP Highlights continued

- > Received the Moderator, Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, and Stated Clerk's reports, with the Treasurer's Report noting that 2010 per capita is set at \$26.95; and during the Stated Clerk's Report approved a waiver to the Book of Order's session rotation requirement for First Presbyterian Church of Columbus, WI; approved a correction to the November 18, 2008 minutes to say that First Presbyterian Church, Prairie du Sac, WI's minutes were approved with no exceptions; approved the minutes and dismissing with thanks the Administration Commissions installing Rev. Craig Howard as Designated Pastor of Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, Cottage Grove, WI October 18, 2009 and ordaining and installing Ramona Orton as Co-Pastor of God's New Field Parish, Highland and Muscoda, WI; approved adopting the Report on the Review of Session Records; approved attaching the decision and order of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies Permanent Judicial Commission in the remedial case brought by Caledonia Presbyterian Church against John Knox Presbytery upon the minutes; and it was reported that this decision has been appealed to the General Assembly PJC, who has granted a stay of enforcement to the Caledonia Presbyterian Church against the Presbytery
- > Shared and Prayed for the Presbytery's Joys and Concerns
- > During worship led by outgoing Moderator Amy Perkins, received the 2009 Necrology Report and prayed for church officers who have died during the past year and celebrated the Lord's Supper
- Received the Committee on Ministry report, approved moving Revs. Jim Scaife, Hui David Tark, and Doug Resler from the Active to the Member at Large rolls; approved granting the status of Honorably Retired to Rev. Stewart Brooks; and approved finding the terms of call for Candidate G. Andrew Crandall in order and dismissing him to South Dakota Presbytery
- ➤ Received the Committee on Preparation for Ministry report, affirmation of the CPM action requesting South Dakota Presbytery to ordain Candidate G. Andrew Crandall; approved Revs. Tim Gerarden and Sandra Nuernberg as March 2010 Standard Ordination Exam readers; approved removing Inquirer Charissa Ellis from the Presbytery's care by mutual agreement so she can pursue a worship leading ministry; and approved authorizing CPM to develop and alternative theological competency exam for Candidate Christopher Doyle
- ➤ The next meeting will be February 20, 2010 at Christ Presbyterian Church, Madison, WI.

# 2010 Pledges

It's not too late to turn in your 2010 pledge cards. Please send them in or drop them in the offering plate as soon as possible, and no later than the end of December to facilitate our establishing our 2010 budget. Thanks!

The Finance & Property Committee and The Session

# DANE COUNTY UNITED

Citizens and organizations uniting to work together across our differences to create a better life and a more just and inclusive community for all people of Dane County

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# \*\* SAVE THE DATE \*\*

# Delegates Assembly: Celebration and Where Next?

Thursday, December 3, 2009 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Mt. Zion Baptist Church

<u>Who Should Come?</u> Leaders and members of Dane County faith and community organizations involved, or exploring involvement, in Dane County United. And, anyone interested in organizing for social justice change in our Dane County community. Each organization is encouraged to send 2-6 members.

What Will Occur? Celebration of the successes in advancing 4K and CREd issues in Madison; Discussion of DCU goals for organizing in the next 8 months-what comes next.

# Why Come?

- Because you care about social justice issues in our community and you want to become a more engaged citizen in building your own congregation or organization.
- Because you want to gain skills in developing relational networks and a strategic understanding of how to expand relationships within and without your organization.

# 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

The Stor	y of J	esus

Dec-1 Galatians 1-3

Dec-2 Galatians 4-6

Dec-3 Ephesians 1-3

Dec-4 Ephesians 4-6

Dec-5 Philippians 1-4

Dec-6 Colossians 1-4

Dec-7 I Thessalonians 1-5

Dec-8 II Thessalonians 1-3

Dec-9 I Timothy 1-6

Dec-10 II Timothy 1-4

Dec-11 Titus 1-Philemon 1

# Jesus Finished God's Plan

Dec-12 Hebrews 1-4

Dec-13 Hebrews 5-7

Dec-14 Hebrews 8-10

**Dec-15 Hebrews 11-13** 

**Dec-16 James 1-5** 

Dec-17 | Peter 1-2

Dec-18 I Peter 3-5

Dec-19 II Peter 1-3

Dec-20 I John 1-3

Dec-21 I John 4-5

Dec-22 II John 1-Jude 1



# A Vision for the Church

Dec-23 Revelation 1-2

Dec-24 Revelation 3-5

Dec-25 Revelation 6-8

Dec-26 Revelation 9-11

Dec-27 Revelation 12-13

Dec-28 Revelation 14-16

Dec-29 Revelation 17-18

Dec-30 Revelation 19-20

Dec-31 Revelation 21-22

# December 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Lunch & Learn 11:45 am	3 Knitting/ Crocheting Group 10 am; Choir 7:30pm; Dane County United 7-8:30pm	4	5
6 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent; Congregational Meeting 11am	7	8	9 Lunch & Learn 11:45 am	10 Pastor Marilyn to COM; Knitting/ Crocheting Group 10 am; Choir 7:30pm	11	12 Men's Breakfast 8 a.m.
13 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent; Christmas Pageant	14 Property & Finance 7 p.m.	15 New Beginnings Lunch 11:30 a.m. Alz. Support 6:45 pm; Session 7 pm	16 Lunch & Learn 11:45 am; Bosom Buddies 6:45 pm	17 Knitting/ Crocheting Group 10 am; Choir 7:30pm	18	19
20 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	21	22	23 Lunch & Learn 11:45 am	24 Christmas Eve Worship 7 pm	25 Merry Christmas! Pastor Marilyn on Vacation	26  Pastor Marilyn on Vacation
27 1st Sunday after Christmas; Lessons & Carols; Pastor Marilyn on Vacation	28 Pastor Marilyn on Vacation	29 Pastor Marilyn on Vacation	30 Pastor Marilyn on Vacation	31 New Year's Eve; NO CHOIR; Pastor Marilyn on Vacation	A PPA	PEW THE

## **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.

## **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.

# **Alzheimer's Support Group:**

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

#### **Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts:**

There is a Girl Scouts and a Cub Scouts troops 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 dalehghts@sbcglobal.net www.daleheightspc.org

## Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m.

Christian Education for all ages

May-September

10:00 a.m.

Worship

Child care provided

11:00 a.m.

Fellowship