



Focus

For Members & Friends of Dale Heights Presbyterian Church

March 2010

Pastor Marilyn's Monthly Musings

Top O' de Mornin' to ya! Yes, 'tis once again the "high holy month" of St. Patrick! At least for those of us who claim some Irish descent. Amidst the fun and foolishness, did you know St. Patrick's Day is a traditional day for spiritual renewal and offering prayers for missionaries? Without spoiling anyone's fun, I invite and encourage you to consider at some point in any of your own St. Patrick's celebrations to engage in something for your own spiritual renewal and to offer prayers for the missionaries and the ways they minister in Jesus' name around the world.

March is also the month of "madness" – the annual marathon of college basketball games till one exhausted team prevails as champion.

We ask every year whether March will come in as a "lamb" or a "lion" and deal with whatever additional winter weather Mother Nature may dole out to us. Either way, spring arrives on the calendar at least on March 20!

And here at Dale Heights, March is when we again serve and share supper with the Pres House students. If you've never joined us for worship and supper at Pres House I invite and encourage you to do so this year. For one thing, our Pres House co-pastors are doing a marvelous job with the students. For another, it's an opportunity to experience the kind of worship that is attracting these students to our Presbyterian campus ministry. And for another and perhaps best of all, it's an opportunity to sit around tables and have conversations with these students about what's going on in their lives and what's of interest to them.

March is also our annual opportunity to share church officer/leader training with other laypeople and clergy in the greater Madison area. This year's event is March 13 at Westminster Presbyterian Church with the theme of "Being Faithful in Challenging Times," something those of us on the planning team thought might be of interest to all our church leaders. This year you'll also see elsewhere in this issue of *Focus* an opportunity to explore the question "Church with a Mission or Mission with a Church? What Kind of Church is God Looking For? A Missional Church Conversation for Pastors and Lay Leaders" on March 20. I plan to attend and hope others of you will try to do so as well.

And last, but not least, Lent continues this month, which is our annual opportunity to particularly focus on our spiritual lives and the meaning of Jesus' self-sacrifice from out of God's great love for us. This year during Lent we are also learning about Malawi in a variety of ways that will hopefully enrich our understanding of not only that country and her people, but also our own.

See you in church!

Shalom in Christ Jesus, *Marilyn*

March Worship Messages

March 7, 2010 - 3rd Sunday in Lent/Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday -
"Keeping the Message Alive: Lydia" - Acts of the Apostles 16:11-15 - Communion

March 14, 2010 - 4th Sunday in Lent - "Partying with God" - Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

March 21, 2010 - 5th Sunday in Lent - "Perceiving God's New Thing" - Isaiah 43:16-21

March 28, 2010 - Passion/Palm Sunday - "Welcoming the New King to Town" -
Luke 19:28-40 and Luke 22:14-23:56

Ushers for March

March 7 Communion Servers

March 14 Youth of the church

March 21 Janice Krall, Rick Shannon

March 28 Vreni Straubhaar

Liturgists for March

March 7--Melanie Klump

March 14--Gale Oakes

March 21--Roy Lembcke

March 28--Lenore Mercer

A Malawian Lent and Easter this Year!



This Lent and Easter Dale Heights will be learning about Malawi as a country, its people, its foods, and its traditions, especially as related to Lent and Easter.

A BIG thank you to Sandy Weigt for making our new purple African paraments as part of our Malawian Lenten observance.

Also, a BIG thank you for researching some Malawian recipes for folks to prepare and share during our weekly fellowship time Sunday mornings – recipes are available for pickup in the Concourse.

Watch the weekly bulletins and e-News for more details and information about how to be involved.

Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday



honors women who contribute their gifts to

the church and community, and lifts up issues of women's rights. March 7, 2010, is Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday, the day before International Women's Day on March 8. From Eve, the mother of all living, through the tears of Esther, through an angel to Mary, through Mary and Martha at their brother's death, through the women who came to the tomb, through Priscilla during the time of Pentecost, through women in the church today, God's word is kept alive. From sermons preached to lessons taught, from emails sent to text messages received, from inscriptions on papyrus to internet blogs, the message is still being sent and received by women. We rejoice in and celebrate God's message to women, along with the way women continue to keep God's word alive.

Happy Birthday!

March 23 Don Weigt
March 28 Elizabeth Holland

Happy Anniversary

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

New Beginnings Monthly LUNCH!

New Beginnings will meet for lunch on the third Tuesday of the month. We will meet next on March 16 at 11:30 at the Pancake House, 5518 Univ. Ave.

Adult Church School

Our adult church school class continues most Sunday mornings.

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

Wednesday Lunch & Learn Class

New Wednesday Lunch & Learn Class

Our Wednesday Lunch & Learn class has begun using the study *Landscapes of Faith* by MaryAnn McKibben Dana.

Geography plays a fascinating role in the Bible. Human history begins in the GARDEN of Eden. Moses went up MOUNT Sinai and crossed the Red SEA. The children of Israel wandered through the DESERT. Jesus went off to pray in the WILDERNESS. Much of the Lord's ministry takes place in the CITY of Jerusalem and in the TOWNS of the Decapolis.

Did you ever wonder why God chose these locales? Was it mere chance or part of a larger spiritual and symbolic design? *Landscapes of Faith* helps you explore these and many other fascinating questions.: Join us when and as you are able at 11:45 a.m. Wednesdays!

\$1,630 For Haiti Love Offering Feb.14

Thank, thank you, thank you to all who gave to the Haiti love offering through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance on and leading up to Sunday, February 14.

Dale Heights Presbyterian Church

CWU February Forum Report

The February 5 Church Women United forum was at Dale Heights. People shared fellowship around tables decorated in red to mark the GO RED FOR WOMEN campaign of the American Heart Association. The Rev. Ray Bayley welcomed the group on behalf of Pastor Marilyn. His description of the many groups that share our building, from the Korean Church to the Boy Scouts, showed a church actively involved in the Madison community

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 22 prayer shawls and 63 skull caps. Everyone welcome to join us in this ministry.

Dale Heights Serving Pres House Supper March 7 – Coordinator Needed

Our Dale Heights family will once again be sharing food and fellowship with the Pres House college students Sunday, March 7. Worship is at 4:30 p.m., followed by the supper provided by Dale Heights. Hope to see you there!

And if you're willing to coordinate the supper and/or help with the preparation and serving, please contact the church office ASAP. Thanks!

SOUPER BOWL of CARING was SUPER!

Many people helped to make Souper Bowl Sunday a real success. Thank you to all who brought food, helped set up and helped clean up.

The total contributed which will go directly to Middleton Outreach Ministry is \$400. Thank you for your generosity. Please be assured that if you still want to contribute to MOM through the Souper Bowl of Sharing, Dick Corey will make sure it gets there.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Sunday, March 7

World Day of Prayer

“Let Everything That Has Breath Praise God

3:00 p.m. Worship Service

First Baptist Church, 518 N. Franklin Ave., Madison



Church Leader Training: “Living Faithfully in Challenging Times” Coming Up March 13



Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Madison Area Presbyterians church leader training Saturday, March 13 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Madison.

This year's theme is “Living Faithfully in Challenging Times,” with the Rev. Dr. Anna Case-Winters as the keynote speaker. She is a professor of Theology at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, and is author of *Divine Power: Traditional Understandings and Contemporary Challenges* (Westminster Press, 1990). Dr. Case-Winters brings tested wisdom to the issues that churches and leaders face today. In addition, a wide variety of workshops will help both new and experienced church officers become better equipped for faithful leadership in today's world.

While active Elders are particularly encouraged to attend, this church leader training is open to all.

Joint Maundy Thursday Worship with Covenant and Westminster Presbyterian Churches at Covenant on April 1 – no fooling!

This year Dale Heights will join with Covenant and Westminster Presbyterian churches for a joint Maundy Thursday supper and worship. Tentative plans include a potluck supper to begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by worship that will include Last Supper vignettes presented by the Covenant, Dale Heights and Westminster pastors. Please watch the bulletins and e-News for my details, and plan to join us!



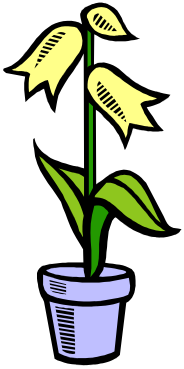
Field Trip – Dead Sea Scrolls for Lent



Would you like to see the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at the Milwaukee Public Museum but don't want to drive to Milwaukee? How about a carpool trip sometime in March during Lent? Tickets to the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit allow admission to the entire Museum for the day of your visit. The Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit started January 22. Fifteen people are needed for group ticket rate: Adults \$20, Seniors (60+) Teens with school ID (13-17) \$18 for weekdays, \$24 and 22 respectively for weekends. If fewer than 15 are interested, add \$2 to each of the prices listed.

This great opportunity won't come again soon! Should the trip be on a weekday or weekend? Only you will decide by expressing your preference. Currently it's looking like either a Monday or a Friday in March. Final guest number and full payment are due two weeks prior to the tour date, so time is of the essence.

To sign up contact Marcia Holman at 249-2233 or email wghmch@chorus.net.



Sanctuary Flowers for Easter 2010

If you would like to share a flower to decorate the sanctuary on Easter morning, please sign up in the concourse. All plants are \$8.00.

Ordering deadline is Sunday, March 28. You may put payment in offering plate and indicate 'flowers' or make check payable to Dale Heights Presbyterian Church, indicating 'flowers'.

You may take your floral plant home with you after the Easter Service.

Session Meeting Highlights – February 24, 2010

- Approved the January 20, 2010 Session meeting minutes
- Heard reports from the Clerk of Session that our annual statistical report had been filed, as well as the Clerk's annual survey
- Continued signing up to serve on 2010 Committees and Ministry Teams
- During the Property and Finance Committee report, learned that Dale Heights received \$1,630 for the Haiti love offering; received a brief report on the January monthly and year-to-date financials, which showed a net loss of nearly \$5,500; \$3,900 of that was replacing one furnace and repairing another furnace; approved paying off the last two years of the remaining sidewalk loan from the recent \$25,000 gift to the church, pending agreement by the city letting us do so; received a first report from the joint Dale Heights-Sah-lang painting and redecorating task force; and heard an update on possibly doing audio/visual re-wiring for the Concourse, Nursery, and fellowship halls.
- Received the monthly Pastor's report
- Heard a report that someone had referred to Dale Heights as "the Middleton Presbyterian church," and discussed ideas for capitalizing on such a perception in Middleton
- During the Christian Education Ministry Team report, heard reports on the pre-school and an additional children's 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 approved the employee annual review for Rick Geiger
- There was no Inviting and Welcoming Ministry Team report
- Received the February 20 John Knox Presbytery meeting report
- During the Outreach and Mission Committee report, learned Gale Oakes is planning a meeting soon, possibly following worship February 28; and heard an update on the knitting/crocheting ministry
- During the Worship and Music Committee report, heard updates on plans to celebrate Lent and Easter Malawi-style; and heard an update on plans for a joint Maundy Thursday worship service at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Madison
- The next meeting will be March 24, 2010 with Caroline Pope leading devotions.

Property & Finance Committee Meeting Highlights – February 14, 2010

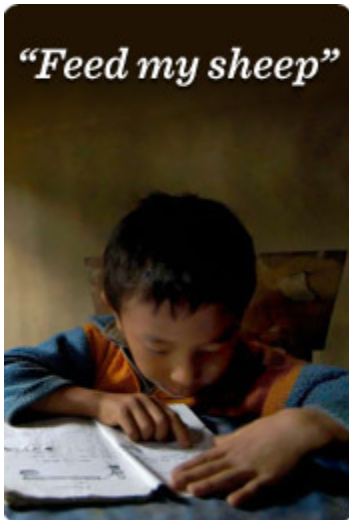
- Discussed an unsolicited bid to clean up the downed limbs, etc. from the church yards, and decided to seek additional bids
- Discussed and decided to recommend to Session a suggestion that some of a recent undesignated gift of \$25,000 be used to pay off the remaining two years of the sidewalk loans with the city this year
- Reviewed the financial status through January, which showed a net loss of nearly \$5,500; \$3,900 of that was replacing one furnace and repairing another furnace
- Continued discussion about hard-wiring speakers and added thoughts about audio/visual wiring for the Concourse and Nursery, and added the Fellowship halls so that folks outside the sanctuary may still hear both the Dale Heights and Sah-lang worship services, along with increasing usability of our overall facilities for the two churches and other using our facilities
- Learned the first joint Dale Heights and Sah-lang task force to plan redecorating the church through painting and artwork would be meeting February 16
- The next meeting will be February 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Winter Weather & Flu Cancellations

Although we prefer not to have to cancel worship, sometimes we may have to do so.

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.



One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Being Received Now Through Easter

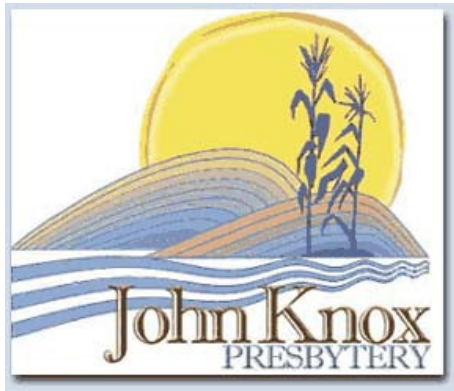
Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge,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

After deducting administrative costs (up to 5 percent) and the costs of creating and distributing promotional materials (roughly 5 percent), the remaining undesignated gifts are divided among three programs as follows:

Presbyterian Hunger Program (36 percent) For ministries working to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes, responding with compassion and justice to poor and hungry people in local communities, in the nation and throughout the world, as well as ministries addressing homelessness and affordable housing.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32 percent) For disaster response and ministries with refugees.

Self-Development of People (32 percent) For partnerships with groups of people who are oppressed by poverty or social systems, who want to take charge of their own lives, have organized to do something about their own condition, and have decided what they need to do to produce long-term benefits for themselves.



John Knox Presbytery Meeting Highlights

Here are some highlights from the February 20 John Knox Presbytery Meeting:

- Shared worship led by the Presbytery Mission Team that served in Texas with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance over the Christmas break, during which 2010 Moderator Lon Foree and Vice Moderator Dale Chapin were installed.
- During the Committee on Preparation for Ministry report and meeting in executive session, by written ballot approved by an 81-25 vote a motion to ordain Scott Anderson as Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council of Churches.
- Heard announcements about the Madison Area Church Officer Training event on March 13
- Heard a report from the Mission Planning Task Force about the recent Texas trip; and approved spending \$10,000 from the Presbytery's Undesignated Funds to meet a challenge from South Alabama Presbytery for the 173 presbyteries together to raise \$1,730,000 for Haiti Earthquake Relief through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- Received the Missional Transformation Coordinating Team's (the Go-Team) report, which included a Bible study as part of the Presbytery's intentional transformational journey together asking who and what God is calling presbyters as leaders, as churches, and as the Presbytery to be and do and go
- Heard a report from Camp Wyoming Director Kevin Cullum that the camp is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year
- Heard a report from the Rev. Taylor Hayley on the First Presbyterian Church, La Crosse, WI's mission trip to Haiti and their experiences there after the January earthquake
- Received the Committee on Ministry report. Approved moving the Revs. Dan Yeazel, Susan Li, Linda Kuhn, and Cindy Stover Carlisle from the Active to the Member at Large rolls; approved validating the ministry of the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council of Churches, as performed by Scott Anderson, pending his ordination; approved an Administrative Commission for ordaining Scott Anderson at 3p.m. on May 15, 2010 at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Madison, Wisconsin; and approved the annual appointing of the COM as an Administrative Commission of the Presbytery to act in particular ways through the February 2011 Presbytery meeting.
- Received the Commissioned Lay Pastor Committee report, and approved an addition to the Manual of Operations stating "The CLP Committee shall conduct an annual review with each Seeker, Learner, and Commission-ready but without a commission person to determine their status in the program."
- Received the Moderator, Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, and Stated Clerk's reports; and during the Stated Clerk's Report approved dismissing with thanks the Committee of Counsel that had represented the Presbytery in the matter of Caledonia v. John Knox Presbytery; approved the Annual Report of the Stated Clerk; approved spreading upon the minutes the summary of the Annual Statistical Reports for Churches of the John Knox Presbytery to the General Assembly for 2009 – it was noted 100% of the presbytery's reports have been submitted; and that the Stipulation to Dismissal on Consent settlement of the Caledonia v John Knox Presbytery be spread upon the minutes.
- The next meeting will be May 18, 2010 at Community Presbyterian Church, Postville, IA.

Church with a Mission or Mission with a Church?

What Kind of Church is God Looking For?

A Missional Church Conversation for Pastors and Lay Leaders



A church with a mission usually sees mission as one activity alongside many activities of the church -Christian education, worship, acts of service, hospitality and other programs.

Mission with a church focuses all of its activities around its participation in God's mission in the world.

A church with a mission sends others to witness on its behalf.

Mission with a church understands the congregation itself is sent by God to proclaim and to be a sign of the reign of God.

If you are part of a congregation that is wondering about its future, this workshop is for you!

Join workshop leaders Rev. Betsy Miller and Scott Anderson for a day-long workshop to discover the kind of church God is looking for in the 21st century. Our focus for the day will be:

- Identifying the cultural changes that are creating such enormous challenges for congregations in Wisconsin;
- Discovering the missional practices of the New Testament church through Bible study and discernment;
- Connecting these missional practices to the new realities facing congregations today; and
- Building an action plan of concrete "next steps" for your congregation as it seeks to be faithful to God's mission in this new century.

Bring a leadership team from your congregation - and join in on the conversation!

Saturday, March 20

9:30 am -3 pm

[Our Savior's Lutheran Church](#)

Sun Prairie, WI

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Email address: _____ or Phone: _____

Denomination (optional): _____

\$50 one participant \$75 two participants from same church

\$85 three or more participants from same church

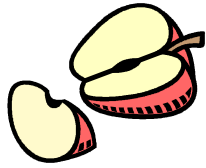
\$10 Late registration-add to above after March 12

[Online registration](#) and payment by credit card available at: www.wichurches.org under "Events"

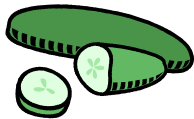
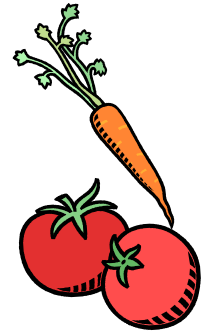
Scott D. Anderson is the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council of Churches. He spent his sabbatical in 2008 studying the missional church movement in five denominations.

The Rev. Betsy Miller is a graduate of Moravian Theological Seminary and served as pastor of Lake Mills Moravian Church until her appointment in 2005 as Director of Congregational Leadership and Resources for the Western District, Northern Province, Moravian Church in North America. She provides congregational assessments, resources and training for the Western District. Betsy is completing her D. Min. in Congregational Mission and Leadership at Luther Seminary.

Wisconsin Council of Churches
750 Windsor Street, #301
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
(608) 837-3108
www.wichurches.org



FOOD, FAITH AND EARTH DAY



2010



The Sacred Act of Eating

Sunday afternoon, April 25

First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive, Madison WI 53705

FEATURING

- ❖ **Keynote Address by Prof. Jack Kloppenburg**, Professor of Community and Environmental Sociology at UW-Madison and founder of REAP (Research, Education, Action, and Policy on Food Group). REAP publishes the annual Farm Fresh Atlas, organizes the annual Food for Thought Festival, developed the Wisconsin Homegrown Lunch farm-to-school project, and inaugurated the Buy Fresh, Buy Local initiative for Southern Wisconsin.
 - ❖ **Panelists responses** to Jack's address will provide insights on how faith traditions manifest the sacred act of eating
 - ❖ **Opportunities** for congregations to enrich their practice of earth stewardship
 - ❖ **Fellowship** with people of faith who share your concerns for the earth
 - ❖ **Community Meal** from locally-grown food prepared by chef Barbara Wright of The Dardanelles Restaurant.
-

*The event is free with the exception of the meal.
Ticket price will be announced in February.*

*For more details and reservations,
The Food, Faith, and Earth Day website and phone number
will soon be available.*

*During the celebration, a free will offering
will be taken for various organizations
that support local farmers and others in need.*

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 to God

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

March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MOM Food Pantry Needs for March Canned Meats (especially Turkey and Chicken)	1	2 Joint Re-decorating Task Force 11 am	3 Lunch & Learn 11:45 am	4 Knitting/Crocheting Group 10 am; NO Choir	5	6
7 3rd Sunday in Lent; Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday; Pres House Supper 4:30 pm	8	9 Property & Finance Committee 7 pm	10 Lunch & Learn 11:45 am	11 Knitting/Crochet Group 10 am; Pastor Marilyn to COM Choir 7:30pm	12	13 Men's Breakfast 8 am; Church Officer Training @ Westminster Presbyterian
14 4th Sunday in Lent; Daylight Savings Time Begins – set clocks ahead 1 hour Sat. night	15	16 Monthly Lunch 11:30 a.m Alz. Support 6:45 pm	17 Happy St. Patrick's Day! Lunch & Learn 11:45 am Bosom Buddies 6:45 pm	18 Knitting/Crocheting Group 10 am; Choir 7:30pm	19	20
21 5th Sunday in Lent	22	23	24 Lunch & Learn 11:45 am Session 7 pm	25 Knitting/Crocheting Group 10 am; Choir 7:30pm	26	27
28 Passion/Palm Sunday	29	30	31 Lunch & Learn 11:45 am	 H O L Y · W E E K		

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