



Focus

For Members & Friends of Dale Heights Presbyterian Church

November 2009

Pastor Marilyn's Monthly Musings

I don't know which holiday I'm more excited about this year – Thanksgiving or Christmas. I love both of these holidays – the music, the food, the time with family and friends.

When Craig and I got married, we learned that celebrating Thanksgiving with our families was very important to both of us and so have implemented the compromise of being with each of our families on alternating years. Thanksgiving is THE holiday for my Dad, and was for my paternal grandmother, his mother, as well. Thanksgiving is also THE holiday for Craig's family.

Thanksgiving is about first of all, giving thanks. It's about giving thanks for food grown and shared by and with new Native American friends for the Pilgrims, though sadly that mutual relationship didn't last too long. In my own farm family it's always been partly about giving thanks for the literal harvest of the year. We, as well as Craig's family also give thanks for all of the other ways God has blessed and provided for us and our families during the past year.

Thanksgiving here in the church is also first of all about giving thanks. Giving thanks for each person who is a part of our church family, giving thanks for the gifts and talents each brings to our overall ministry, giving thanks for the ways God provides for people and ministry through each one's financial and other offerings to our congregation. I do give thanks to God for each and every one of you and the many and varied ways you bless the world through our congregation's ministries.

Then we shift into Christmas mode, and this year I'm especially excited and looking forward to our Advent and Christmas celebration at Dale Heights. Our Worship and Music Committee has decided to begin celebrating some of our holidays from the cultures of some of our church members and friends, with the first time being this Advent and Christmas. Therefore, you'll see elsewhere in this newsletter plans about celebrating this season Filipino-style this year. There will be intergenerational opportunities to help make and put up special decorations to go with our theme, opportunities to make and share special Filipino foods, hopefully some Filipino music, and more! Please plan to participate as much as you are able – it will be both educational and fun! Watch the bulletins and e-News for more information and opportunities to participate!

(And looking ahead to Lent and Easter, plans are underway to celebrate these seasons Malawian-style.)

See you in church!

Shalom in Christ Jesus,

Marilyn

November Worship Messages

November 1, 2009 - All Saints' Day/Stewardship Emphasis -
"Offering God What is Most Precious to Us" from 1 Samuel 1, 2 - Communion

November 8, 2009 - 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time/Stewardship Emphasis -
"Making Our Entire Being Available to God" - Luke 1:39-56

November 15, 2009 - 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time/Stewardship Emphasis -
"Inviting Others to Share in Our Joy over God's Gifts" - Luke 1:67-79 -
2010 Financial Pledge Dedication

November 22, 2009 - Christ the King/Reign of Christ/Thanksgiving Worship -
Rev. Newton Roberts, Guest Preacher - Communion

November 29, 2009 - 1st Sunday of Advent - "Receiving Our New Name" -
from Jeremiah 33:14-16 - Communion

Ushers for November

Nov. 1 Communion Servers
Nov. 8 Sunday School and Youth
Nov. 15 Janice Krall, Rick Shannon
Nov. 22 Barb Davidson,
Vreni Straubhaar
Nov. 29 Tom Jones, Otty Schaefer

Liturgists for November

Nov. 1 Lenore Mercer
Nov. 8 Tom Jones
Nov. 15 Barb Fleishman
Nov. 22 Mary Towne
Nov. 29 Barb Davidson

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS ARE JUST AHEAD!

*Here is your chance to be an
ADVENT CANDLELIGHTER!*

*All you have to do is light the
appropriate candle and
read the Call to Worship in the bulletin.*

The dates are:
November 29,
December 6, 13, 20, and 24!

Look for the sign-up sheet in the
concourse in early November or contact
Marcia Holman at wghmch@chorus.net
or phone at 249-2233

**Pastor Marilyn will be on
Vacation Nov. 21 -27**

Stewardship Worship Themes

November 1, 8, and 15

This year's three-week
stewardship emphasis is based on
three Scriptures that are songs of
blessing – Hannah's song, Mary's
song, and Zechariah's song.

During these three weeks our
choir will lead our congregation in
singing a beautiful new song, "Mary,
Mary."

Thanksgiving Worship

Our Dale Heights' annual
Thanksgiving communion worship
service will be Sunday, November 22
at 10:00 a.m.

Our Guest Preacher for the service
will be Rev. Newton Roberts.

Happy Birthday!

| | | |
|----------|----|------------------------|
| November | 2 | Boots Hebink |
| November | 5 | Carolyn Chan Szymanski |
| November | 8 | Bob Jorgenson |
| November | 15 | Brad Harris |
| November | 17 | Abram Rodriguez (2008) |
| November | 23 | Eli Rodriguez (2005) |
| November | 25 | Jeanne Rodriguez |
| November | 26 | Larry Schaefer |
| November | 29 | Tom Jones |

New Beginnings Monthly LUNCH!

New Beginnings will meet for lunch on the third Tuesday of the month. We will meet next on, November 17, at 11:30 am at The Blue Spoon Café, 2831 Parmenter St., Middleton, across from the Bruce Company.

Ushers Needed

We are in desperate need of ushers for the upcoming church year. Ushers serve about 6 Sundays per year on an every other month rotation. Please contact Grant Lembcke geevs@yahoo.net or 712-2973 if you are interested in becoming an usher.

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 Muslims, 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.

Everyone welcome to join us in this ministry.

A Filipino Christmas at Dale Heights this Year

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, beginning in September each year! It is a time for family, for sharing, for giving, and a time for food, fun, and friendship.

Although not beginning as early as September, Dale Heights will celebrate Christmas in keeping with festive Filipino traditions from Advent through Epiphany this year. Watch the weekly bulletins and e-News for more details and information about how to be involved. It will be fun!



**World Community Day
November 6
Piecing Earth Together**

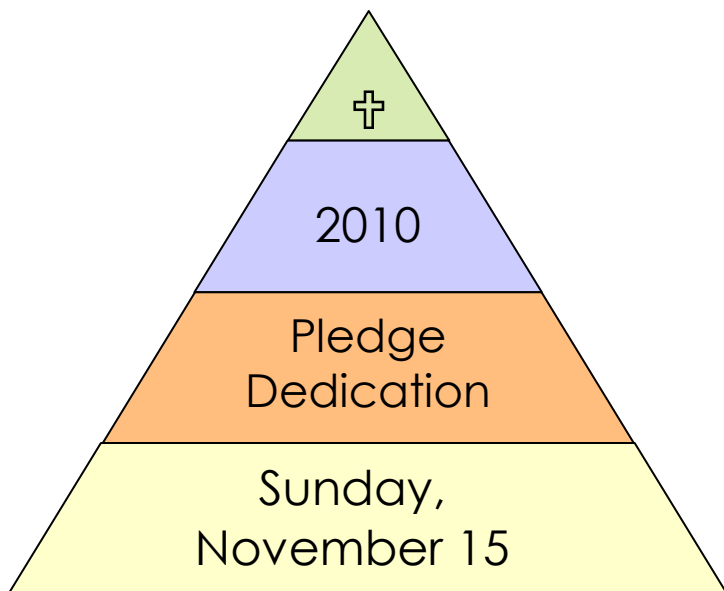
Church Women United in Madison
invites everyone to join them on Nov. 6 at

Mt. Zion Baptist Church
2019 Fisher St, Madison, WI 53713

Coffee -- 9:30 a. m. Worship -- 10 a.m.

ALERT!

The MOM food pantry shelves are bare. Any extra gifts of non-perishable food items or financial donations to purchase food will be very much appreciated.



**Outreach Potluck on MOM's
Sharing Christmas Program
November 15**

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend our Outreach Potluck after worship on Sunday, November 15 when our guest speaker will be Middleton Outreach Ministry's Ellen Carlson. Ellen will be talking to us about the Sharing Christmas program that Dale Heights supports. She will highlight the program and the benefits to the families.

See you there!

MOM NEEDS HELP!

Every so often we see a turnover in volunteers at MOM due to folk moving out of our area, "retiring" to warmer climates, or having life changes (they have to get a job). Right now is one of those times and MOM is in need of volunteers to fill the following openings:

Distribution Center Pantry

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Monday Afternoon | Noon – 2 |
| Tuesday Morning | 10am-noon |
| Tuesday Afternoon | Noon-2 |
| Wednesday Afternoon | Noon-2 |
| Thursday Afternoon | Noon-2 |

Clothing Closet

Monday – Friday Mornings 10am – Noon
Monday--Friday Afternoons Noon- 2pm

Restock Pantry Shelves

Monday 2:00-4:00pm
Wednesday 2:00-4:00pm

POP

4 Drivers needed during the day
4 Volunteers to help with home chores

Main Office

3 Front Desk Subs
to be available when there are vacancies on a weekly basis.

Won't you please help? Please contact Carole Klopp, Volunteer Director, at 826-3409 OR simply apply online at www.mompop.org.

Thank YOU!

Session Meeting Highlights – September 29, 2009

- Approved the August 25, 2009 Session meeting minutes
- During the Property and Finance Committee report, hear updates on snow removal and storm water management options under consideration; approved empowering the Property & Finance Committee to contract for the best snow removal with cancellation option; approved requesting the Property & Finance Committee to seek at least two storm water management estimates before moving forward with a plan; established a Session task force to work on improving the bulletin budget report for greater clarity; and received a brief report on the August monthly and year-to-date financials, which showed a monthly net income of over \$3,600 and a year-to-date net income of just over \$7,000
- Received the monthly Pastor's report
- Shared ideas for future fellowship events, including a sharing hobbies again, and a "travel" potluck showcasing members' and friends' travels
- During the Christian Education Ministry Team report, heard reports on the pre-school 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
- Discussed and by consensus agreed to do another Natural Church Development survey in March or April 2010; and to begin a new mission/vision process for Dale Heights
- During the Outreach and Mission Committee report, approved a proposal to pool our local Peacemaking Offering with those of other Madison-area Presbyterian churches every three years for a bigger shared project; heard updates on plans for informational potlucks and the upcoming Pres House supper; and requested that the knitting/crocheting ministry projects be dedicated during morning worship again as a reminder to the congregation of this ministry
- During the Worship and Music Committee report, learned that the next meeting is set for October 25, when plans for Advent and Christmas will be discussed
- Noted that the Care & Fellowship and Nominating committees will be meeting in the next couple of months
- The next meeting will be October 27, 2009 with Gerry Klump leading devotions.

Session Meeting Highlights – October 27, 2009

- Due to the publication date for the November *Focus* the October 27 Session Highlights will be published in the December *Focus*

Outreach Committee Highlights – September 27, 2009

- Heard a report that the Zonta Club's domestic violence awareness purple silhouettes would be erected on the Dale Heights front lawn October 3 and taken down October 30; it was decided to put brief information about the purple silhouettes in the weekly bulletins and e-News, and invite a Zonta speaker for a potluck October 11 to inform the congregation about the project
- Heard a report that Dale Heights will next serve the Pres House supper October 25; a menu was agreed upon, and it was decided to gather to prepare the food on Saturday, October 24, sharing supper together as part of the preparation
- Received a request from other Madison area Presbyterian churches to occasionally pool our local portion of the Peacemaking Offering for a bigger community project; approved recommending the proposal for every three years to the Session
- Discussion about plans to erect a Peace Pole continued, with conversation about a fund-raiser during Lent and a dedication Easter Sunday
- It was agreed to invite someone from Middleton Outreach Ministry to a potluck in November to talk about the Sharing Christmas program; it was agreed to invite Helen Madsen from Covenant Presbyterian Church, along with Wendy Weber, to talk about their trips to Guatemala this January or February; it was agreed to again try to get someone from Sustain Dane to speak at a potluck in the spring
- Gale Oakes agreed to present the Peacemaking Offering Minute for Mission during worship October 11
- Received a report that Leon Bernido will be doing another medical mission trip to the Philippines in November and it was agreed to help gather supplies for him for the trip
- Learned that Dale Heights upcoming The Road Home dates are January 3, May 9, August 8, and December 5, 2010
- Received a report that Dane County United will be offering a community organizing training October 17

Greetings!

Please remember to return your 2010 giving commitment card by November 15, 2009, so that it can be included as we prepare for managing money for ministry during the next year.

Thank you again for all that you do to make ministry through our congregation possible.

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

**** SAVE THE DATE ****

Delegates Assembly: Celebration and Where Next?

Thursday, December 3, 2009

7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Location to be Announced

Who Should Come? 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

Light for the world

November 1 John 1-3
November 2 John 4-5
November 3 John 6-8
November 4 John 9-10
November 5 John 11-12
November 6 John 13-16
November 7 John 17-18
November 8 John 19-21

The new church



November 9 Acts 1-3
November 10 Acts 4-6
November 11 Acts 7-8
November 12 Acts 9-10
November 13 Acts 11-13
November 14 Acts 14-16
November 15 Acts 17-19
November 16 Acts 20-22
November 17 Acts 23-25
November 18 Acts 26-28



We live by faith

November 19 Romans 1-3
November 20 Romans 4-7
November 21 Romans 8-10
Nov 22 Romans 11-13
Nov 23 Romans 14-16
Nov 24 1 Corinthians 1-4
Nov 25 1 Corinthians 5-9
Nov 26 1 Corinthians 10-13
Nov 27 1 Corinthians 14-16
Nov 28 2 Corinthians 1-4
Nov 29 2 Corinthians 5-8
Nov-30 2 Corinthians 9-13

November 2009

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Communion; Nominating Committee 11:30 am | 2 | 3 JKP Prayer Group 10 a.m. | 4 Lunch & Learn 11:45 am | 5 Pastor Marilyn to COM Knitting/ Crocheting Group 10 am Choir 7:30 | 6 World Community Day 9:30 am @ Mt. Zion Baptist Church | 7 |
| 8 | 9 Property & Finance 7 p.m. | 10 | 11 Lunch & Learn 11:45 am | 12 Knitting/ Crocheting Group 10 am NO CHOIR | 13 | 14 Men's Breakfast 8 a.m. |
| 15 2010 Pledge Dedication; Outreach Potluck 11:30 am | 16 | 17 JKP Meeting; New Beginnings Lunch 11:30 a.m. Alz. Support 6:45 pm | 18 Lunch & Learn 11:45 am Bosom Buddies 6:45 pm | 19 Knitting/ Crocheting Group 10 am Choir 7:30 | 20 | 21 Pastor Marilyn on Vacation |
| 22 Pastor Marilyn on Vacation; Guest Preacher Newt Roberts; Communion | 23 Pastor Marilyn on Vacation | 24 Pastor Marilyn on Vacation | 25 Pastor Marilyn on Vacation NO Lunch & Learn | 26  | 27 Pastor Marilyn on Vacation | 28 |
| 29 First Sunday of Advent; Communion | 30 | MOM Food Pantry Needs Peanut Butter and Jelly | |  | | |

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