



Focus

November 2012

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.

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

As I'm writing this month's *Musings* two things are on my mind—our Thanksgiving holiday, and our annual stewardship campaign culminating with the dedication of our 2013 financial pledges on November 18.

Throughout our Bibles we are encouraged to approach God with thanksgiving for the many blessings we have received, to prayerfully ask for our needs to be met, and to not worry because our Creator will provide for us. At the same time, as we look around and see people who are hungry, who are homeless, who are unemployed or underemployed, who are struggling spiritually, mentally, or physically, we may think God is not holding up the Divine end. And indeed those living in such straitened or otherwise challenging circumstances have a right to be discouraged, even angry, questioning God's provision for their needs—though we do also sometimes hear about those extra special souls who even in their hard times find reasons to offer God thanks and praise.

This Thanksgiving season it is important to remind ourselves that God has made us stewards of all of creation, calling us and working through us to provide for not only people's spiritual but also their physical needs. While most of us may not feel we have all of the resources to meet the challenges before us, when we share in pooling our various material and other gifts, God does use them to provide blessings beyond our imagining.

Believing that brings peace to my heart and my mind, and as you prayerfully consider how you may share from your resources this season and in the coming year, I hope it will bring peace to your hearts and minds as well.

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

Shalom in Christ Jesus—Marilyn

Liturgists for November

November 4	Marcia Holman
November 11	Jennifer Jones
November 18	Barb Fleishman
November 25	Roy Lembcke

Ushers for November

Nov 4	Marcia Holman, Gale Oakes, Wendy Weber
Nov 11	Joan Hicks, Bonnie Savonne, Otty Schaefer
Nov 18	Vreni Straubhaar, Janice Krall, Rick Shannon
Nov 25	Rick Geiger, Mike Holland, Tom 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.

November New Beginnings

The November New Beginnings Lunch will be Tuesday, November 20th at 11:30 at Olive Garden, 7017 Mineral Point Rd. Please call or e-mail Mary Towne at 831-6635 or marytown@chorus.net for reservations. Thank you.

Looking Ahead...

Our annual Advent/Christmas/Epiphany cultural emphasis will be Eastern European countries.

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?”

Church Women United

The theme for World Community Day this year is “Abiding in Community” under the umbrella theme of **Sights and Sounds of Harmony**. On Friday, November 2, we will gather at Bashford United Methodist Church (329 North St, Madison) at 9am for coffee and fellowship, followed by welcome and announcements, with the program beginning at 10am. Please join us for this worldwide service of Christian women.

Ellie Metzloff, CWU Key Woman

Upcoming New Wednesday Lunch & Learn Studies

If the backordered books come in, our planned Lunch & Learn Study October 31, November 7 and 14 will be *The Life of Prayer: Mind, Body, and Soul* by Allan Hugh Cole, Jr.

Our Advent Lunch & Learn study will be *When God Comes Down* by James A Harnish and will begin Wednesday, November 28.

Join us when and as you are able – we begin gathering for fellowship at 11:45 a.m., with class beginning at 12 Noon, Wednesdays!

Baby News!

A belated congratulations to Edi and Keith Chan on the birth of their second grandson to daughter Carrie and her husband Jason Szymanski. Aaron Keith Szymanski was born August 22 at 9:21 p.m. He weighed 9 lbs. 1 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. Congratulations to Carrie and Jason, and proud Aunt Kim as well!



November Birthdays

November	5	Carolyn Chan Szymanski
November	8	Bob Jorgenson
November	15	Brad Harris
November	16	Ian Rogers (2007)
November	17	Abram Rodriguez (2008)
November	23	Eli Rodriguez (2005) Andree Jakovich (2011)
November	25	Jeanne Rodriguez
November	26	Larry Schaefer
November	29	Tom Jones
November	30	Sophie Jakovich Abigail Rogers (2004)

Personal Safety and Belongings

Reminder

For your personal safety, whenever you are working alone in the church, or during the week after your group has gathered, please ensure that the building doors are locked.

Please do not ever leave your wallets, purses, or other valuable personal belongings unattended in or around the church. In late May a Sah-lang Church member's wallet was stolen from her purse while she was teaching Sunday School.

*Pastor Marilyn will be on
Vacation November 19-25*

*Sunday, November 25
Guest Preacher
Rev. Sam Buffat*

Music News

Choir rehearsals continue on
Wednesdays at 7:30pm. We're still looking
for some more women's voices to join us!

*"Use what talents you possess: the woods
would be very silent if no birds sang there
except those that sang best."*

-Henry Van Dyke

2013 Financial Pledge and Stewardship Campaign November 4-18, 2012



The fall stewardship letter came to you in the last week of October. Thank you for looking it over and prayerfully considering your financial giving to Dale Heights for 2013. Financial pledges will be dedicated during our Thanksgiving Communion Worship on Sunday, November 18.

MOM Needs:

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

November Worship Messages

Sunday, November 4—Stewardship Campaign Worship with Communion—"Loving Through Our Giving" - Mark 12:28-34—Communion

Sunday, November 11—Stewardship Campaign Worship—"Multiplying Our Giving" - Mark 12:38-44

Sunday, November 18—Thanksgiving Worship with Communion & Dedication of 2013 Financial Pledges—"Challenging Our Thanks-Giving"—Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25—Communion

Sunday, November 25—Christ the King Sunday Worship with Guest Preacher: Rev. Sam Buffat

News from "Dale Heights East"

an occasional column by Sandy Weigt during her grand-parenting sabbatical in Connecticut

9/30/12: I attended the Sunday service at three different churches in my effort to find a church that would become my church home away from Dale Heights. I hoped to have a "sign" that would point me in the direction of the church I should attend.

The First United Methodist Church has a service most like Dale Heights. Pastor Joe (Chamberland) was at the entrance to the sanctuary when I came in and introduced himself to me. This is an older church building and the pews are separated in the middle. It has a pipe organ. They use the Faith We Sing black hymnal for many of the songs so that was familiar. The children's story time was interesting. A child of the congregation goes home with a brown paper grocery sack and brings it to church on Sunday morning and Pastor Joe bases his children's sermon on what is in the paper bag. The week I visited it was a baseball bat. I think this would be quite a challenge every week (please correct me if I am wrong, Pastor Marilyn). Intercessory Prayer time was like our Joys and Concerns. After each brief joy or concern was expressed, a brief prayer was said by Pastor Joe. Communion was served and we went to kneel at the rail. I was served Communion by Pastor Joe and he remembered my name. This is a talent I think most pastors have. After the dismissal with blessing, everyone stood in a circle around the edge of the sanctuary, held hands, and sang "God Be With you Till we Meet Again." I figured that was a "sign" because that hymn is what I used as my prayer following the devotion at the last Session meeting I went to.

The Stafford Springs Congregational Church service was also quite familiar. Members of the congregation were involved and they went up to the front when it was their turn to do something. Then they went back to their seat. The joys and concerns for their congregation were written on a sheet of paper by the pastor and then after the prayers were said, that sheet of paper went into a box at the front. It was explained that it symbolized the continuing presence of those joys and concerns. Following the Benediction, we sang "God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again." Hmmm. Another "sign"! The passing of the peace also followed that song and included the invitation to go to Fellowship Hall.

The Holy Trinity Lutheran Church service was most foreign to me. The joys and concerns were names called out with no explanation. It is a very close church and I think everyone knows what the joy or concern is. The sermon was appropriate for me since I am trying to find a church to attend in my temporary home of Stafford Springs, CT. It was about getting out of your comfort zone. It was not about worshiping outside your comfort zone but it made me think about where I wanted to worship. I have always felt that you need to worship where you feel comfortable. It is not to say that you should just accept everything that is said, but you should feel comfortable with the worship experience and be able to question what is being said.

I have decided that the Methodist Church is the church I plan to attend while here. I am most comfortable there with the order of service. I went again this morning and was greeted warmly by all who remembered me and made to feel very welcome by all I had not met. The children's sermon this morning was based on what Riley (about a three year old) brought: her favorite acorn.

10/6/12: Elliot has discovered splashing in his bath. Quite an experience, especially for Lisa who gets all wet. Don has arrived for his visit. The trees are really beautiful. I have had three visitors (other than family) and all have said they don't envy me driving here in the winter. Lots of hills. I understand the winters here are milder, but this is the area that was out of power for a couple of weeks last October because of the weather. I'll keep you posted.

Sandy Weigt @ Dale Heights East

Transformation Coordinating Team Update

The Vision Panel is meeting again November 1 to consider one more revision to the draft Guiding Vision it wrote last April, was discussed by the congregation in July and August, and revised in September. Please share any additional comments about this draft with Joan, Jennifer or Gale by November 1.

The current revised draft Guiding Vision Statement is below. It is also posted along with the first version on the Vision Wall in the Concourse, and was used in worship in October. We are grateful for your continued thoughts and reflections as you interact with the revised Draft, and for your active participation as we look for where God is leading Dale Heights on this exciting journey as a people of God.



Dale Heights Guiding Vision Statement

Draft # 3: September 19, 2012

WE ARE A PEOPLE OF SALT AND LIGHT

Bold in action, resisting despair, advocating for those whose voices go unheard, seeking peaceful resolution rather than escalation of conflict, challenging our culture of materialism with one of contentment and creativity, countering the culture of arrogance with one of humility, we speak into our culture the truths of Jesus Christ. We trust in God's faithfulness, and trust that as a church we are in company with a God that never sleeps.

This faithful God gathers us together in a wide variety of worship opportunities in which we experience and offer reconciliation and hope in a world that desperately yearns for both. We are a place for all to rest when weary, to come and be transformed to our very roots, to learn faith, love and hope, and to radiate these gifts. We are an open-minded and caring church, called to be salt and light in the world through serving people's essential needs, among them food, fellowship and spiritual connection as we continue our tradition of outreach mission projects. We feel called to be a church in and for the neighborhood, an intimate and diverse place where "everybody knows your name."

Jesus commands us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength—and our neighbors as ourselves. Therefore we claim God's loving acceptance of all as a cornerstone on which we build. All are equal and equally welcomed at Christ's banquet and at our tables. Recognizing Christ with outstretched arms, we seek to stretch our own arms out to the world, embracing all.

We believe that in prayer we encounter an awesome, living God. We pray with the expectation that prayer will move aside all that stands between us and God. Our prayers equip us to live in harmony with one another and with the earth; to accept all, forgive all and live in hope. We believe that through praying and acting we are shining God's light, making a difference in the world. Through our prayerful actions, we are God's loving hands on earth.

As a people of salt and light, we are a gathered and sent community seeking to be faithful witnesses through prayer and action. We look to break the bonds of despair. We say to hopelessness—"begone!"—we are following One who carries hope like a glorious banner for all to see. In a world of doubt and fear we choose to trust and hope.

Session Highlights

September 23, 2012

- During the Clerk of Session report, approved the September 23, 2012 stated Session meeting minutes; approved the October 7, 2012 called Session meeting minutes; noted an error in the Membership corrections to the Clerk's Report made last month, resulting in a total church membership of 69 on December 31, 2011; and learned that as part of the minutes and church rolls review Presbytery Stated Clerk Alyson Janke also offered suggestions for setting up a Session Manual of Operations.
- During the Property & Finance Committee report, heard a brief report on the September and year-to-date financials; reviewed the two paving contractors' bids on replacing the parking lot, and discussed when and who to do the capital campaign to pay for it, establishing tentative plans to begin the campaign in January for an April parking lot replacement project; heard an update on plans for the fall Stewardship Campaign; learned the prices for the winter snow plowing contract are the same as last year; discussed replacing the Lounge carpet with linoleum or tile, adding a recommendation to do the same in the kitchenette off the Concourse; discussed and are recommending getting what is needed for the floor buffer so it is useable again; and heard an update on replacing the sanctuary sound system.
- Received the monthly Pastor's report.
- During the Christian Education Ministry Team report learned that children's Church School meeting every other week is not going very well and discussed how having unexpected guest children would be handled; that the Adult Church School is reading *The Problem of Pain* by C.S. Lewis; and that the Lunch & Learn study on Genesis has concluded, that a new study on prayer has been ordered, and that the Advent study for December is in.
- During the Nominating Committee report noted that it will need to meet soon to begin seeking nominees to fill two Class of 2015 Ruling Elder openings on Session; and approved calling a Congregational meeting following morning worship Sunday, December 9, 2012 for the purpose of electing two Ruling Elders to the Class of 2015, electing three persons from the congregation to the 2013 Nominating Committee, and to announce the 2013 capital campaign to replace the parking lots.
- During the Outreach & Mission Committee report heard and update on Dale Heights serving the Pres House supper October 28; and that there are tentative plans to host a SERRV booth for a potluck in November.
- During the Personnel Committee report learned all employee and volunteer background checks are current; and that employee annual reviews will begin being scheduled soon.
- During the Transformation Team report that the Vision Panel will meet November 1 to consider making additional changes to the draft Guiding Vision Statement; that Coach Clara hopes to meet with the Transformation Team in November; and that there are tentative plans for another suitcase presentation during morning worship on Sunday, November 11.
- During the Worship & Music Committee report learned that Pastor Marilyn and Craig Howard will exchange pulpits for morning worship Sunday, October 28, 2012; that the 2013 pledge dedication will be part of the Thanksgiving service Sunday, November 18, 2012; and that the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cultural emphasis will be Eastern Europe.
- During Miscellaneous Business received information about various configurations of possible neighborhood mailings for future consideration.
- The next stated Session meeting was set for Sunday, November 18, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. with Mike Holland leading devotions.

Property & Finance Committee Highlights

October 12, 2012

- Memorial Gardens: 10 yards bark mulch received and spread. Bulb plantings started.
- Fan motor: squirrel damage fixed for approximately \$325.
- Sound system extension and improvements: 3-part bid received from Sonic for discussion of price, warranty and further maintenance. Bid has been shared with Sah-lang.
- Office entrance concrete repair: accepted bid from K.K. Concrete for \$750 to break up and pour new concrete slab.
- A/C condensate line problems: discussed option of adding two 3' x 2' trap/access doors in concourse ceiling. Cost \$500 plus labor, and requires contractor to ensure work is up to code.
- Thanks to Sah-lang for cleaning hall and concourse carpeting. Discussed lounge flooring—replacing carpeting, using linoleum over entire surface for better wear.
- Parking lots: received bids from Poblocki Paving Company and Tri-County Paving Inc. ranging from \$42,325 to \$52,585. Projected timetable for Spring 2013.
- Snow removal: estimate for winter 2012-13 received and approved.
- Stewardship campaign draft letter read and revised.
- Financial Reports as of 9-30-12 reviewed. Year-to-date, we have a net budgeted income of \$6,223.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 7pm.

Greetings!

Please remember to return your 2013 giving commitment card by November 18, 2012, so that it can be included as we prepare for managing our financial resources in relation to our mission for the coming year.

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

Outreach Committee Highlights

- The next opportunity to get involved with the road is in November. It is a blessing and privilege to meet and minister to these guests in a small way. So watch and listen for the next time we host guests as a 'buddy church' to St. Luke's.
- Thanks to all members and friends of Dale Heights who donated items for the Pres House meal on October 28th, as well as those who helped serve and host.
- Next Outreach committee meeting: Sunday, November 4th, 11:30am.

HOME *for the* **HOLIDAYS**

It's a Wonderful Life

A LIVE RADIO PLAY
BY JOE LANDRY

A benefit to
prevent
homelessness



A production by



HEARTLINE
THEATRICALS

with music by
John Mescolore & Friends



Thanks to-

willy street co-op

Stanion Financial



Hors d'oeuvre & Dessert Reception, Live Music and more
Saturday, December 8 at 7pm {\$20}
Sunday, December 9 at 2pm {\$15}
MIDDLETON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Tickets available November 1

MOM will have a hors d'oeuvres and dessert reception on both days of the event. They hope to have over 1,000 people in attendance for the two day event, and are requesting help from MOM churches with providing finger foods and baked goods.

Please let Roy Lembcke know of your willingness to help out.

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

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

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
5501 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53705
608.233.0134
dalehghts@sbcglobal.net
www.daleheightspc.org