



# Focus

October 2012

[www.daleheightspc.org](http://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.

As I'm writing this month's *Musings* I'm preparing to preach for Craig's (re-) installation as Pastor of Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in Cottage Grove, WI. I'm both honored and humbled he wanted me, his spouse, to preach for such a momentous occasion. I'm thankful they have one another as pastor and congregation, where they have been doing wonderful ministry together these past three years Craig has served Bryn Mawr as their Designated Pastor. Please pray for them and their ministry.

This month Craig and I will also be exchanging pulpits for the first time in our shared ministry as clergy spouses. What that means is that on Sunday, October 28 he will preach at Dale Heights and I will preach at Bryn Mawr. Hopefully this will be a fun and inspiring experience for all of us.

Another exciting thing for us here at Dale Heights is the most recent revisions by the Vision Panel to the Guiding Vision Statement draft. This month Session under Coach Clara's guidance will begin using it to identify Key Result Areas for our congregation as we continue our transformation journey process. Please continue praying for our journey and the mission to which God is calling us.

Our 5th annual joint World Communion Sunday bi-lingual worship with our Korean sisters and brothers in the Sah-lang Church will be October 7 at 11:00 a.m. This continues to be a wonderful cross-cultural opportunity for our two congregations to share not only worship, but food and fellowship together.

Two opportunities to participate in mission this month are the CROP Walk on Sunday, October 21 and serving the Pres House students following their afternoon worship on Sunday, October 28. Please see Barb Fleishman to participate in the CROP Walk, and Kim and Edi Chan and Wendy Weber to help with food or serving the Pres House supper.

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

Shalom in Christ Jesus—Marilyn

### Liturgists for October

October 7	June Zeeh
October 14	Gale Oakes
October 21	Edi Chan
October 28	Vreni Straubhaar

### Ushers for October

Oct 7	Marcia Holman, Gale Oakes, Wendy Weber
Oct 14	Joan Hicks, Bonnie Savonne, Otty Schaefer
Oct 21	Vreni Straubhaar, Janice Krall, Rick Shannon
Oct 28	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.

### Adult Sunday School Books Available

The adult Sunday School class over-ordered on the book, *The Problem of Pain* by C.S. Lewis. If you would like a gratis copy, see Tom Jones.

### October New Beginnings

The October New Beginnings Lunch will be Tuesday, October 16th at 11:30 at The Original Pancake House, 5518 University Ave. Please call or e-mail Mary Towne at 831-6635 or [marytown@chorus.net](mailto:marytown@chorus.net) for reservations. Thank you.

### 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

Church Women United's October Forum, entitled "Mental Health in Aging," will be held at 1st Baptist Church, 518 N. Franklin Ave. on Friday, October 5. Gathering and coffee will be at 9:00am, followed at 9:30 by Welcome and Announcements. The program will be presented by Faith Lerner of Mobile Outreach to Seniors Team. All are invited.

Ellie Metzloff, CWU Key Woman

### Wednesday Lunch & Learn

Our Wednesday Lunch & Learn group continues studying the biblical book of Genesis. Genesis, meaning “origin,” is a book of stories of God’s early dealings with the world and, in particular, with the early Israelite, or Hebrew, people. We are exploring together 2-5 chapters covering particular stories per week through the summer and early fall.

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!

### Pres House Worship and Supper Sunday, October 28

Dale Heights is responsible for providing supper for the Pres House students Sunday, October 28. Worship with the students is at 4:30 p.m., followed by serving and sharing supper with them around 5:30 p.m.

Please talk to Wendy Weber, Edi and Kim Chan to help provide food and to serve! A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Concourse.

### October Birthdays

October 3 Christine Bellport

October 6 Sautsani Ndafooka  
Wendy Weber

October 9 Mary Towne

October 24 Marlowe Eldridge

October 31 Barb Fleishman

Ryan Shannon (1984)

### September Anniversaries

October 3 Caroline Pope and Marlowe Eldridge

October 25 Frank and Jeanne Rodriguez (2003)

### Make a Difference in a Child’s Life!

The Schools of Hope Project is seeking volunteers to improve literacy and math skills of elementary-aged children. Volunteer opportunities exist at schools in Madison, Middleton, and Sun Prairie. No previous experience is necessary. We’ll provide the training and ongoing support.

For more information on elementary school opportunities, please call 441-7895 or email [tutor@schoolsofhope.org](mailto:tutor@schoolsofhope.org).

### 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.

**Fifth Annual Joint World Communion Worship with Korean Sah-lang Church**

**Sunday, October 7 at 11:00 a.m.**

Sunday, October 7, is World Communion Sunday, for which we are having another joint worship service with our Madison Sah-lang Church sisters and brothers at a special time – **11:00 a.m.**

After worship, we will share a joint fellowship of our traditional Dale Heights international breads and other goodies provided by our Korean sisters and brothers.

**Pulpit Exchange for Morning Worship Sunday, October 28**

During morning worship Sunday, October 28 Pastor Marilyn will be preaching at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in Cottage Grove, WI and her spouse, the Rev. Dr. Craig Howard, will be preaching at Dale Heights in their first pulpit exchange for their respective churches.



**With Sympathy**

Our deepest sympathy to Sandy and Don Weigt and family as they mourn the death and celebrate the life of Don’s sister, Nita on August 23.

**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

**MOM Needs:**

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

**September Worship Messages**

**Sunday, October 7**—Joint World Communion Sunday Worship with Sah-lang Korean Church at 11:00 a.m.—  
“Being Stewards of Peace” - Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12—Communion

**Sunday, October 14**—20th Sunday after Pentecost—“Can’t Buy Me God’s Realm” - Mark 10:17-31

**Sunday, October 21**—21st Sunday after Pentecost—“Wanting the Top Spot”—Mark 10:35-45

**Sunday, October 28**—22nd Sunday after Pentecost—Pulpit Exchange with Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, Cottage Grove, WI—Pastor Marilyn will be preaching there and Pastor Craig Howard will be preaching at Dale Heights

## **News from "Dale Heights East"**

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

I have been a member of Dale Heights Church since 1980. I have visited other churches with friends and family so had an "in" at those churches because of them. It is rather intimidating visiting a church without knowing anyone. My desire to worship with others and to meet other people helped me overcome my concerns. I also wanted to see how I was greeted and I have to say, warm welcomes were given at all three churches I visited.

My first worship experience was at the First United Methodist Church, a large white frame building about a half mile from my apartment. I walked. I was greeted warmly at the door by two men who asked that I sign the guest book. They gave me a "packet" of information about the Methodist Church in general with information specifically about the FUMC. The packet included a copy of the most recent newsletter which I found very informative. I was told where the sanctuary was and was welcomed by a number of people on my way up the steps to the sanctuary. Following worship was coffee hour. I think it must be done by committee because there was a huge variety of food (pie, cake, cookies, chips, dip, pasta salad, cheese crackers). I took some cheese and crackers (made me feel a little like I was in Wisconsin) and made my way to a table with a number of women. Very friendly. Someone came up to me and said "I know you" and we decided we didn't know each other. A good experience.

Second I went to the Congregational Church downtown, about 3/4 of a mile from my apartment. Again, I walked. It is a beautiful stone building. I was a bit early for the service and there were classes somewhere in the building. I was looking around the entrance and a woman who reminded me of Trudi came and greeted me and gave me a bulletin. I signed the guest book and sat down. Prior to the service, the pastor, Hector Mendez, walked up and down the aisle talking to everyone, including me. He also said "I know you" so I must have a twin in this area. Wonder if I will meet her. All visitors were acknowledged by name during the service. There were four visitors in a group of about 40. Coffee hour was again a large variety of food and conversation. I was not able to stay too long because I had a play date with Elliot so Matt could do some studying.

This past Sunday I went to the Lutheran Church about a quarter mile from my apartment. I walked. It is identified as "Slovak" and is affiliated with the ELCA. My neighbor, Chris, was the greeter. The service is pretty much outlined in the hymnal with the bulletin indicating what pages to turn to. Chris went through the service with me in the bulletin prior to the service and it was a real help. He also sat with me part of the time. They all knew what was going on but not me. They had a passing of the peace where it seemed that everyone greeted everyone. They did not have a coffee hour so the passing of the peace was pretty much their social time.

Anyway, all churches I visited were very welcoming. I think every church had some kind of meeting following worship, but it did not take away from including me in their fellowship. It is a comfort to know that I will feel at home when I decide which church I will attend.

I would recommend everyone visit another church where you don't know anyone. I have not done this for more than 30 years and my experience has been that the Christian Community is a warm and welcoming one, just like Dale Heights was when I first visited and continues to be. It also makes me appreciate knowing I have a place called Dale Heights to call my home church.

Elliot continues to be a real joy to be around. He is so close to crawling, Guess I will grow with that when he does. Apparently he is showing real interest in electrical outlets. Hmmm. I hope he gets into the cat food the first time while Lisa or Matt is watching him rather than me.

Peace Sandy Weigt (Dale Heights East)

## Outreach Committee Highlights September 16, 2012

- Over the next 4 weeks, Dale Heights will be collecting donations for the Peacemaking offering. The Peacemaking offering will be dedicated on Sunday, October 14. The Minutes for Mission will discuss how this money will be used.
- Our church is responsible for providing supper for the Pres House students on Sunday, October 28 at 5:30pm. The service begins at 4:30pm. Please look for the sign-up sheet in the Concourse, and more information elsewhere in this newsletter.
- The next opportunity to get involved in the Road Home 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.
- The next Outreach meeting will be Sunday, November 4 at 11:30am. All are welcome to attend.



### CROP Walk 2012

Madison Area CROP Hunger Walk 2012 will be held on 10/21/2012

Location: First Congregational UCC  
1609 University Ave.

Registration: 12:45pm; Walk 1:30pm

Contact person: Jeff Rabe, 608-233-9751

The Walk is 1, 3, or 5 miles.....it's your choice!

CROP Hunger Walks help children & families worldwide & right here in the USA to have food for today, while building for a better tomorrow. Our local efforts are making a huge difference & you are part of it! Ask someone to sponsor you.

Impact your community & the world.....walk with us!

### The Road Home's HOMES FOR FAMILIES BREAKFAST

We invite you to our 8th Annual Homes for Families Breakfast, a one-hour free fundraising event to benefit The Road Home's families, on Thursday, November 8th from 7:30 to 8:30am at the Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall.

The program includes presentations from The Road Home staff, board members and program graduates, a video about our work, and a direct appeal for financial support. The breakfast is the culmination of an entire year of donor development work and is intended to raise operating funds to help us reach our goals for homeless families. In total, over 2,900 people have attended this event over the past seven years!

The Homes for Families Breakfast raises over one-third of our annual budget, which allows us to continue providing excellent service to homeless families with children. We hope you can join us.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Reservations are required. RSVP by Friday, October 26th to Cyndi Wood, Development Director, at [cyndiw@trhome.org](mailto:cyndiw@trhome.org) or 608-294-7998 ext. 311.



## Transformation Coordinating Team Update

The Transformation Team has now received a revised Guiding Vision Draft from the Vision Panel, and has recommended it on to the Session for affirmation. Although the Session has requested the Vision Panel consider making one more revision, it is also moving ahead with meeting with Coach Clara in October to begin identifying Key Result Areas that may emerge from the Guiding Vision Statement. The current revised Guiding Vision Statement is below. It is also posted along with the first version on the Vision Wall in the Concourse, and will be used in worship periodically 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 August 19, 2012 stated Session meeting minutes; approved the September 16, 2012 called Congregation meeting minutes; and approved Membership corrections to the Clerk's Report in the 2009, 2010 and 2011 Annual Congregational Meeting Reports, resulting in a total church membership of 68 on December 31, 2011
- During the Property & Finance Committee report, heard a brief report on the August and year-to-date financials; heard updates on various new and continuing projects; expressed concern about the lounge and Concourse carpeting that it needs replaced; learned that two paving contractors have been contacted to bid on replacing the parking lot, and that one of those bids is in; heard an update on plans for the fall Stewardship Campaign; heard an update on replacing the sanctuary sound system, including that one bid has been received and another is being sought; and heard an update on the church redecorating projects
- Received the monthly Pastor's report
- During the Christian Education Ministry Team report learned that children's Church School is meeting every other week until there are more children; that the Adult Church School is reading *The Problem of Pain* by C.S. Lewis; and that the Lunch & Learn study on Genesis will wrap up in October
- During the Nominating Committee report welcomed newly elected and installed Ruling Elder Bill Mercer back onto Session; and noted that it will need to meet soon to begin seeking nominees to fill two Class of 2015 Ruling Elder openings on Session
- During the Outreach & Mission Committee report learned that promotion of the Peacemaking Offering is underway; that the CROP Walk is October 21; that Dale Heights serves 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 reviewed an abridged draft of the Guiding Vision Statement, and requested that the Vision Panel consider making one more change to it; and approved calling a Session meeting for October 7, 2012 with the Transformation Team and Coach Clara for her to lead the Session through the setting Key Result Areas process
- During the Worship & Music Committee report learned that the World Communion Sunday service will be a joint one with the Sah-lang Church on October 7, 2012 at 11 a.m.; 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
- The next stated Session meeting was set for Sunday, October 21, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. with Gerry Klump leading devotions



## **Property & Finance Committee Highlights**

**September 11, 2012**

- The financial report for January - August of 2012 shows the total income received is at \$98,299 and the total amount expended is at \$92,348. There are three points of interest about these figures. First is that the estimated amount of total income used for the calendar year 2012 operating budget is \$147,484 and after eight months, or 66.7% of the year, the \$98,299 received to-date equates to 66.7% of the total estimated income for the year. We are right on track to meet the planned income level. Second, despite the heat, and greater use of the air conditioners, our year-to-date expenses are at 62.6% of the total planned budget of \$147,484. And third, having more income year-to-date than expenses gives a positive variance of \$5,951 but with frost having visited already, we know the heating and snow plowing bills over the next four months will reduce this "surplus." Stay tuned.
- Cement Work: the cement slab in front of the office door needs repair or replacement. One bid for \$750 to do a replacement was received. Additional review of repair options will be done this month.
- Parking Lot: two estimates have been requested for resurfacing the parking lot, The estimates are expected later this month.
- Carpets: options for cleaning, repairs and replacement are being investigated.
- Stewardship: the first draft of a Fall Stewardship letter that will be sent to members and friends for Dale Heights was read and discussed. Committee members will review and share thoughts and suggestions at the next meeting. Again, stay tuned.
- Next meeting is likely to be Thursday October 11th at 7:00 p.m. Normally the Property and Finance Committee meets the second Tuesday of the month but Pastor Marilyn is not available for October 8th. Once again, please stay tuned.

## **Worship & Music Committee Highlights**

**August 29, 2012**

- Learned that September 9 is Casual Sunday, with a "Welcome Back" potluck commemorating the beginning of fall Church School and Choir.
- Pastor Marilyn will arrange a pulpit exchange with Craig and will coordinate it with the Concourse service which is being planned for October or November.
- Pulpit supply for November 25 is Sam Buffat.
- October 7, World Communion Sunday, has been confirmed as a joint service with Sah-lang. Communion will be served using international breads.
- The annual stewardship emphasis will probably be October 28, November 4 and November 11, with the pledge dedication as part of our Thanksgiving communion service on November 18.
- Cultural emphasis for Advent-Christmas-Epiphany will be Eastern European countries.
- Communion will be held on October 7, November 4, November 18, and December 2.
- Tom Jones is scheduling communion servers, ushers, and a greeter at the front door. First Sunday liturgists will come down and help serve communion. Reintroducing the use of name tags tabled.
- Maggie acquired a few new pices for the choir this year from her attendance at the American Guild of Organists annual convention.
- Next meeting will be held November 11, 2012.

# 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**

## **The Good News!**

October 1 Matthew 1-4

October 2 Matthew 5-6

October 3 Matthew 7-9

October 4 Matthew 10-11

October 5 Matthew 12

October 6 Matthew 13-14

October 7 Matthew 15-17

October 8 Matthew 18-20

October 9 Matthew 21-22

October 10 Matthew 23-24

October 11 Matthew 25-26

October 12 Matthew 27-28

## **The story of Jesus**

October 13 Mark 1-3

October 14 Mark 4-5

October 15 Mark 6-7

October 16 Mark 8-9

October 17 Mark 10-11

October 18 Mark 12-13

October 19 Mark 14-16



## **Joy to the world**

October 20 Luke 1

October 21 Luke 2-3

October 22 Luke 4-5

October 23 Luke 6-7

October 24 Luke 8-9

October 25 Luke 10-11

October 26 Luke 12-13

October 27 Luke 14-16

October 28 Luke 17-18

October 29 Luke 19-20

October 30 Luke 21-22

October 31 Luke 23-24

Check out our website:

[www.daleheightspc.org](http://www.daleheightspc.org)

### Sunday Schedule

9:00-10:00am

Christian Education for all ages

10:00am

Worship

11:00am

Fellowship

### **Dale Heights**

#### **Mission Statement:**

*Our open-minded congregation affirms and celebrates God's gifts of love and grace. We seek to share God's love by inviting others to join us in following Jesus and by serving those in need in our community and world.*

Dale Heights Presbyterian Church

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