



# Focus

November 2014

www.daleheightspc.org

## A Message from Pastor Roger

### Dale Heights Staff

Pastor:

Rev. Roger Roberts

Director of Music & Office Manager:

Maggie Rogers

Financial Secretary:

Dick Corey

Custodian:

Rick Geiger

### MOM Needs

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

### Thanksgiving

*"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits..." —Psalm 103*

Nancy and I expect to celebrate Thanksgiving a day later than the official national celebration date of November 27th, since our children and their families arrive the day after being with their in-laws. So, we'll be carving our turkey on Friday the 28th.

But whatever the actual Day, my season of Thanksgiving has already begun. With Nancy's illness, this past year has been loaded with challenges for us, and when we're in the midst of dealing with difficulties, we're likely not to "bless the Lord" and are apt to "forget all his benefits."

When I focus on the Lord God and his benefits, I realize anew his absolute goodness and faithfulness. Although when in the "thick of the battle" as a caregiver I'm likely to forget the presence of the Lord and even doubt his faithfulness, I eventually come to my senses and realize that he's been with me all the time and is always seeking to draw me closer into his love and transform me more into the likeness of his Son. Blessing the Lord is not as constant a practice as it should be, so I must make praising God a habit!

This Thanksgiving I'm grateful for a loving wife, who despite her dementia remains sweet, loving and kind, and caring for her is a privilege that reminds me of Christ's love, and provides me the opportunity to express his love for her.

I'm grateful for our two children, their spouses and children, who are a growing source of pride and joy, and who give us immeasurable support. Our extended family members also surround us with their thoughts and prayers and numerous expressions of love.

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We also enjoy the benefits of our delightful community, with thoughtful and considerate friends and neighbors. Wherever God has allowed us to live and serve, we've made life-long friends who continue to stand with us in prayer and with acts of love.

And not least of all, God has given us the blessing and benefit of ministry with Dale Heights Church. I continue to thank God for your accepting us and welcoming us into your circle of friendship and love. Every Lord's Day for us has been a feast of worship and fellowship. You've been more than patient and tolerant while I transition from my "Baptist ways" to serving a Presbyterian Church.

May God bless each of you during this Thanksgiving season!

—*Pastor Roger*

### 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.

### Inquiring Into Membership Conversations

Persons interested in becoming members of Dale Heights are invited to make an appointment with Pastor Roger at a mutually convenient time throughout the month.

<b>November 2</b>	21st Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Liturgist:</b> Mike Holland	<b>Ushers:</b> Roy Lembcke, Gale Oakes, Wendy Weber
<b>November 9</b>	22nd Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Liturgist:</b> Jennifer Jones	<b>Ushers:</b> Joan Hicks, Bonnie Savonne, Otty Schaefer
<b>November 16</b>	23rd Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Liturgist:</b> Dick Corey	<b>Ushers:</b> Vreni Straubhaar, Janice Krall, Rick Shannon
<b>November 23</b>	Christ the King Sunday	<b>Liturgist:</b> Marcia Holman	<b>Ushers:</b> Elizabeth Ndafooka, Mike Holland, Tom Jones
<b>November 30</b>	1st Sunday of Advent	<b>Liturgist:</b> Otty Schaefer	<b>Ushers:</b> Keith Chan, Kris Tracey, Jim Tracey

### Church Women United

Ellie attended the State Assembly of CWU in Platteville along with 10 other Madison women. The Mission Project for Platteville school kits was very successful, with 266 bags distributed to the Platteville and surrounding area schools. Speakers were from the Aging & Disabilities Resource Center.

On November 7th, CWU will be celebrating World Community Day with a presentation titled "Through God Our Hands Can Heal". The celebration begins at 9am at Bashford United Methodist Church, 320 North St, in Madison.

Again this holiday season we will share CWU's Book Project, which provides a new book for each woman and child at the ARC Protective Services Centers for incarcerated women. In September we heard Filicia Jones, a former addict who turned her life around, got free from drug/alcohol dependency, received her college degree, and became a mother, Christian speaker, and poet. A simple gift of a book from someone she didn't even know started her on the way to success. This was an inspiration for our giving to the Christmas Book project. Please contribute what you can when asked. Thank you.

—Ellie Metzloff and Kate Dooley, CWU Co-Key Women



### 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) Andrzej Jakovich (2011)
November	25	Jeanne Rodriguez
November	26	Larry Schaefer
November	29	Tom Jones
November	30	Sophie Jakovich
November	30	Abigail Rogers (2004)

### November New Beginnings

The November New Beginnings Lunch will be Tuesday, November 18 at 11:30 at Olive Garden, 7017 Mineral Point Rd. Please call or e-mail Mary Towne at 692-3885 or marytowne45@gmail.com for reservations. **Please note new phone number and email.** Thank you.

## Transformation Team Update

*Movin', Movin', Movin'  
We're a church that's movin'  
Dale Heights!*

The Transformation Journey continues. The Session reaffirmed the Guiding Vision Statement of November 1, 2012 at its October 20th meeting. Coach Clara Thompson will continue to walk with us on our journey. Watch for more information in future newsletters.



## Property & Finance Highlights

**October 14, 2014**

- Memorial Gardens: two blue spruce trees have been purchased and planted to replace the dead/dying Gebhardt trees.
- Peace Pole Garden: Kittleson will deliver the paver tiles this week. Little planting can be done this fall because low temperatures are coming.
- Lounge tiling: meeting is scheduled for October 22 to discuss options with a flooring company.
- Parking Lot: Wolf Paving representative on September 17 noted that the blacktop is holding up well and that they would give us an estimate for sealing next year if desired. Fill around the edges of the lot is mostly completed by needs to be seeded. Small cracks will be fixed if/when weather permits.
- Drain tile in the southwest garden is still under consideration.
- Kitchen faucets: both need to be replaced or repaired. New shut-off valves will make this job easier.
- Contribution Record-Keeping Software: Realm used for the first time on October 12. Online giving option is free to set up until December 31. No monthly fee makes it a good idea, even we are not sure we'll use it. Note: online giving is no charge until a transaction is made; transaction fee paid by church.
- Pledge drive: reviewed the first draft of a stewardship letter, with another meeting scheduled for Sunday, October 19.
- Copier: approved spending \$439 for new copier. Repair costs for old copier would have been \$354.
- Snow plowing: renewed contract with Boley.
- Financials: reviewed a rough draft of the 2015 budget. Reviewed the financial reports year-to-date for 2014.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, November 11, 2014, 7pm.



# Outreach & Mission

November *Outreach* News

## Peacemaking Offering

Thank you for your gifts, and the total amount given to the Peacemaking Offering will be available soon. A reminder: 75% will be used for Presbyterian-sponsored programs here in the US as well as internationally, and the remaining 25% is retained for local churches to use as they wish!

## Potlucks

***Please note: the potluck by Pastor Roger originally scheduled for Sunday, October 26, has been rescheduled for Sunday, November 16.*** Pastor Roger will be helping us get to know Nancy and himself as he shares photos, experiences, and reflections about the 9 years he and Nancy spent in ministry in Brussels, Belgium. Come for the presentation and delicious food! Pastor Roger, we look forward to this and thanks for agreeing to present!

## The Peace Pole Garden

Your Peace Garden is ready to begin its life and presence at Dale Heights. You may have noticed the bricks, which have been delivered and are ready to be installed. Many (if not all) of the plants and shrubs will be planted in the spring when the Garden will be completed. We can anticipate a wonderful and meaningful dedication! There are still forms and envelopes available in the Concourse if you are still interested in donating to the fund. An outright donation either in cash or by check (designated Peace Pole in the memo line) may be made. It is also possible to pledge a gift to the fund to honor or in memory of a person or an event and payment may be made in the future. How about making a gift to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, Christmas, or in memory of someone? Plans are to offer donors the opportunity to briefly explain the purpose for the gift and include those in an existing binder. Please see Gale Oakes for further information.

## Pres House *(Report from Barb Fleishman)*

Once again we gathered together to feed the hungry students and others who come to the church for the excellent service. This time around, Wendy Weber prepared most of the meal the day before, then the rest of us put the ingredients together to serve: a delicious salad, sloppy joes, cold veggies, and seemingly endless amounts of chips, brownies, cookies, ice cream, milk and juice. There was plenty for all, including the cooks and servers! There was special music at the service before the dinner with a 4-piece musical ensemble, communion, a great deal of singing, and a message.

Special thanks to Edi Chan for organizing the “crew” and coordinating food items needed. Also thanks to Wendy for preparing so much salad and sloppy joes on Saturday. And thanks to the other crew members: Roy Lembcke, Otty Schaefer, and Barb Fleishman. This Outreach activity is always great fun...come join us!

## The Road Home

Our next commitment to The Road Home shelter will be Thanksgiving weekend. We will join forces with the Waunakee Presbyterian Church to provide the meal, children’s activities, and overnight coverage that Dale Heights has provided by itself in the past.

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# Outreach & Mission

*November Outreach News, continued*

## **CROP Walk**      *(Report from Barb Fleishman)*

A crowd gathered at the First Congregational UCC on October 19th (a lovely day for a walk) for the 2014 CROP Walk. After registration in the parking lot, we all gathered inside the sanctuary for entertainment from an accordion ensemble, and directions were given to the walkers and rockers. After a prayer, the new director of the district was introduced, and then we were on our way! Walkers from Dale Heights were June Zeeh, Edi Chan, Barb Fleishman, and Gale Oakes, with Ray Bayley as the sole Dale Heights rocker. After the walk, there were refreshments and more entertainment. All the money donated by sponsors goes to help feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and provide water to those in need around the world, with 25% staying in our country. What a special event for such a worthwhile cause! Thanks to all the sponsors and participants!

**Please stay tuned to hear about our future Outreach activities! We have several potluck speakers in mind, but we would love to hear your ideas!**

*—Barb Fleishman, Chairwoman, Ray Bayley, Kate Dooley, Ruby Meyer, Gale Oakes, and Wendy Weber*

## **Worship & Music Committee Highlights**

**September 7, 2014**

- Maggie reported the great response for summer special music left only two Sundays unfilled compared to almost half the Sundays last year.
- Heard that choir rehearsals resumed August 28 and the choir returned to the loft on September 7.
- Learned that June Zeeh will be subbing for Maggie on September 14th and that Maggie has one vacation day remaining.
- Saw several sample redesigns to improve clarity, readability, and user-friendliness for the prayer cards in the pews. The cards will be in black print on cardstock. Maggie will decide on the final design.
- Discussed communion services with final decision that communion will be served on the first Sunday of each month. Communion on October 5th to be served in the pews and November 2nd by intinction.
- Discussed special dates for the rest of the year: September 14—Peace Garden potluck; September 21—International Day of Peace, and a special coffee hour to be held for Pastor Roger's contract affirmation; October 5th—World Communion Sunday; December 30th—Lessons & Carols.
- Advent/Christmas preparations discussed. Poinsettias will be ordered from Klein Floral & Greenhouses.
- Next meeting date: January 4, 2015.

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.*

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