



Focus

February 2016

www.daleheightspc.org

A Message from Pastor Roger

Dale Heights Staff

Pastor:
Reverend Roger Roberts

**Office Manager &
Director of Music:**
Maggie Rogers

Financial Secretary:
Dick Corey

Custodian:
Rick Geiger

Dale Heights Session

Moderator
Reverend Roger Roberts

Clerk
Sandy Weigt

Roy Lembcke
Gale Oakes
Caroline Pope
Rick Shannon
Wendy Weber

Tough Love

We've all heard the expression popularized by a self-help book on parenting, "tough love," which advises parents to properly discipline their children as an expression of strong parental love. If you really love your child, writes the counselor, you'll practice a "tough love" that enforces positive behavior and punishes improper behavior and disobedience. None of us would likely object to that advice.

But during February, with Valentine's Day on the 14th, we seize the opportunity to express our love, especially those of you who have a special sweetheart in your life, sometimes with a card, flowers, candy, or an evening out for dinner (husbands, don't forget!). Love is a precious gift, both to be loved by someone special and to be able to love someone dear to us. The Greeks had various words for love, which in most cases meant love for family, close friends, or romantic love. But the New Testament introduced a radically different love called agape. Simply put, it's the love that God has for us and that he enables, even commands, us to have for one another. And it can be described as tough love.

God's love for us is so tough that it led him to give his only Son to suffer and die for us (John 3:16). The cross of Christ was no light thing for the Father or the Son, but was tough. And, as Jesus tells us, we're to love others in the same way he has loved us—sacrificially, unconditionally, and wholeheartedly. With tough love! When we love like God loves, we don't love cautiously or stingily, but are willing to invest in the lives of others, even those who don't "deserve" our love, any more than we deserved Jesus' love for us.

I know I need to learn to love God more completely, which is the Great Commandment in Scripture. But such love is naturally too tough for me, which is why John says we love as a response to God's love for us: "We love because he first loved us." And James reminds us of the other part of the Great Commandment, to love our neighbor as ourselves, saying this means we love the poor and needy, receiving them and caring for them as an expression of the authenticity of our faith. We love them with tough, i.e. strong, practical, sometimes costly love.

Continued...

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On Valentine's Day I'll enjoy expressions of love for me, remember the love Nancy had for me till the end of her too-short life, and will enjoy sharing thoughts and gifts of love to family and close friends. But I hope I'll be faithful to love, even when it's not convenient, and even when I'm called to welcome, care for, and give to those who might be hard to love, such as the needy who can't reciprocate and those who might seem ungrateful and undeserving. Sometimes we at Dale Heights are visited by those who seem interested only in a "handout" and we suspect wrong motives. But whatever we do, may we respond to them with caring, Christlike, tough love.

Yours in his love and service,

—Pastor Roger

Dale Heights will not be holding any special Lenten services. If you are interested in attending Ash Wednesday or Good Friday worship, other local Presbyterian churches will be holding them.

February 7	Transfiguration of the Lord; Souper Bowl of Caring	Liturgist: Vreni Straubhaar	Ushers: Roy Lembcke, Gale Oakes, Wendy Weber
February 14	First Sunday in Lent	Liturgist: Sandy Weigt	Ushers: Bonnie Savonne, Otty Schaefer, Nathan Tripp
February 21	Second Sunday in Lent	Liturgist: Roy Lembcke	Ushers: Janice Krall, Rick Shannon, Vreni Straubhaar
February 28	Third Sunday in Lent	Liturgist: Gale Oakes	Ushers: Mike Holland, Elizabeth Ndafooka, Nathan Tripp

February New Beginnings

The February New Beginnings Lunch will be Tuesday, February 16 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.

Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

Although we prefer not to have to cancel worship, sometimes winter weather makes it necessary. If the decision is made to cancel worship, Maggie will send an email and change the answering machine by 8:30 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 email or call the church.

Above all, play it safe.

Home Communion

Communion is served in the sanctuary on the first Sunday of the month. Those who are homebound and wish to have Communion brought to them either Communion Sunday afternoon or the Wednesday following Communion Sunday should call the church office by the Thursday before.

February Birthdays

February 3 Marlowe Elizabeth Eldridge
February 4 Madalitso Wright

February Anniversary

February 21 Joan & John Hicks



Church Women United

The January CWU gathering was educational—Florence Chenoweth gave an update on her native country, Liberia, from the 23-year civil war to the present. On February 5 at 9am, CWU will meet at St. Paul's AME Church, 4525 Diamond Drive, for a presentation titled "Conversations on Racial Justice" presented by the Reverend Joseph Baring. The Human Rights Award will be presented to Emily Auerbach for her work with The Odyssey Project as well.

—Ellie Metzloff and Kate Dooley
Co-Key Women

Souper Bowl of Caring

The Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina, began the Souper Bowl of Caring in 1990. The prayer said at that first Souper Bowl is appropriate today: “Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat.”

A simple meal of tomato soup and grilled cheese sandwiches will be served following worship on Super Bowl Sunday, February 7. If you wish to bring something to fill out the menu, you are welcome to but it is not necessary. A free will donation will be taken and all of the money collected will be given to Middleton Outreach Ministry. Donations can be placed in the offering plate (marked for Souper Bowl) or in the donation basket at the serving table.

We will also be treated to a presentation by Gerry and Jamie Klump on their mission trip to Guatemala!



Session Highlights

January 18, 2016

- The minutes of the Session and the rolls and registers of Dale Heights were approved without exception at the Presbytery Stated Meeting on November 17, 2015.
- The Pastoral Agreement Relationship between Dale Heights and Reverend Roger Roberts has been approved.
- Sandy Weigt was elected clerk and Gale Oakes was elected treasurer for 2016.
- Next meeting: Monday, February 15, 2016.

Worship & Music Committee Highlights

January 10, 2016

- Discussed Lenten services and decided that those desiring to attend special services for Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are encouraged to attend a church offering such services.
- Learned that Christmas music went well, including the cantata, and that Maggie will be off on February 28. June Zeeh will sub.
- Discussed continuing problem of dirty cups left in the Concourse kitchen each Sunday after the clean-up at 11:30. Because all facilities that serve the public must have dishes and utensils washed and dried in a dishwasher for sanitary reasons, those who want to enjoy their coffee a bit longer should use disposable cups which are available on the table.
- Next meeting: April 17 at 11:15.

Property & Finance Highlights

January 12, 2016

- Lounge flooring: On Wednesday, December 9, a local representative from Mohawk, the company that supplied the flooring to Sergenian's, visited to examine the lounge flooring which is cupping and lifting. She forwarded her findings to Mohawk's claim department. At tonight's meeting, the committee discussed both the initial flooring failure and the current one. The committee will forward these ideas to Sergenian's, along with another request for the Mohawk traveling representative to visit soon.
- Office wing boiler: forwarded a request to session to approve an expenditure (Air Quality Systems, our twice-yearly service contractor) for a replacement pump. Current pump is loud, indicating a problem with the bearings.
- Repairs: noted that drainage problems in men's restrooms have been addressed. Tank leaks in the basement women's restroom have also been addressed. Concourse doorstop and concourse restroom door handle have been fixed.
- Financial status reports as of 12/31/2015 were received and reviewed. The stewardship campaign is completed. A second draft of the 2016 budget was reviewed—a few items still need to be updated. The committee will prepare a general report for the annual meeting.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, February 9, at 7:00pm



February *Outreach* News

Looking back on January...

Dale Heights members spent the night on Thursday, January 14th, and hosted dinner for **The Road Home** on Friday, January 15th. Good food and fellowship were enjoyed by all!

Gerry and Jamie Klump traveled abroad on their **Guatemala Mission Trip** from January 13th-18th. Dale Heights members helped to contribute over 100 pounds of donated items for children and families—a huge thank you to all for donations and prayers!

Upcoming and Continuing Service...

- Gerry and Jamie Klump will give a presentation along with a Q&A session about their time spent in Guatemala during the Souper Bowl lunch following worship on Sunday, February 7th.
- Please continue to add your **pull tabs** for **Ronald McDonald House** to the container in the Concourse. Thanks to Gerry Klump for spearheading this collection for a worthy cause!
- Keep an eye out for upcoming potlucks in 2016!

Next Outreach meeting: TBD, 11:15am.

—Pastor Roger Roberts (*ex officio*), Kate Dooley, Barb Fleishman (*chairperson*), Jamie Klump, Ruby Meyer, Gale Oakes, Aundrea Price, and Wendy Weber

Fellowship Time

Fellowship time following worship needs to be cleaned up no later than 11:30 to make room for the Sah-lang congregation. All facilities which serve the public must wash and dry dishes and utensils in a dishwasher for sanitary reasons. Because of this, all coffee cups and other dishes **must** be placed in the dishpans by 11:30, no exceptions. If you would like to enjoy your coffee beyond that time, styrofoam disposable cups will be available. Thank you for your help ensuring that Dale Heights continues to operate in a sanitary fashion.

Also, a **big thank you** goes out to Jane Williams for her service as hostess during our fellowship time, and also to Bonnie Savonne for her work setting up for Communion every month.

Check out our website:

www.daleheightspc.org

Sunday Schedule

9:00-10:00am

Adult Christian Education

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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