



Focus

April 2016

www.daleheightspc.org

A Message from Pastor Roger

Dale Heights Staff

Pastor:
Reverend Roger Roberts

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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

God and Politics

For the past several months we've heard, read and seen more than we'd like regarding the subject of politics and the looming Presidential election this fall. Here in Wisconsin, we'll be voting in the April 5th Primary Election, expressing our preference for local and national leadership. Of course, as followers of Christ we're members of two kingdoms—the Kingdom of God as well as the kingdom of this world, i.e. our local, state and national governments. Jesus taught us to render proper regard to the kingdoms of this world, but that our primary loyalty is to his kingdom, which in fact gives us the guidelines we need to be responsible citizens of the worldly kingdom, which is part of our Christian duty.

Of course, one of the basic duties we have as “citizen Christians” (since our primary identity is to be Christians, i.e. “Christ’s ones,” we use “citizen” as a modifier with less importance than “Christian,” else we would call ourselves Christian citizens) is to exercise the privilege and right to vote. Because of our respect for the separation of church and state, and with the awareness that as a church we cannot endorse one political candidate over another, we teach that each one of us should study and consider the position (platform, if you will) of each candidate and how she or he best represents and supports our nation’s constitution and the public good of our citizens. As followers of Christ, we are called to be his salt and light, to permeate culture and society with the influence of Christ’s call for righteousness and justice.

Because our calling is to be God’s influencers, we should support candidates who will allow our government to provide for the public good, including supporting the needy and all victims of economic injustice, including those who struggle to maintain their families with a sub-standard wage. We should also care about the ongoing issues of racial injustice and give support to those who seek to address racial inequality and opportunity. Another issue that’s being debated is the needed reform of our immigration policy. Our desire should be to encourage our leaders to remember how our nation was in its beginning and foundation a nation of immigrants.

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And of course there's the issue of needed reform in our policies and practices of law enforcement and the judiciary, mass incarceration of non-violent offenders, and a needed pathway for former offenders, i.e. those released from prison, back into society. And, last but not least, we should weigh the value that political candidates place on public school education, all the way from preschool through college.

I like what a pastor friend of mine urged his congregation on the Sunday prior to a recent election. He suggested they prayerfully give much forethought to each candidate and issue on the ballot, and then, before marking the ballot in the voting booth, bow their heads and pray for God to be honored in their desire to be a good citizen Christian.

Yours in his love and service,

—Pastor Roger



April 3 Second Sunday of Easter

Liturgist: Wendy Weber

Ushers: Roy Lembcke, Gale Oakes, Wendy Weber

April 10 Third Sunday of Easter

Liturgist: Dick Corey

Ushers: Bonnie Savonne, Otty Schaefer, Nathan Tripp

April 17 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Liturgist: Barb Fleishman

Ushers: Janice Krall, Rick Shannon, Vreni Straubhaar

March 27 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Liturgist: Marcia Holman

Ushers: Mike Holland, Elizabeth Ndafooka, Nathan Tripp

April New Beginnings

The April New Beginnings Lunch will be Tuesday, April 19 at 11:30 at Craftsman Table & Tap, 6712 Frank Lloyd Wright Ave in Middleton. Please call or e-mail Mary Towne at 692-3885 or marytowne45@gmail.com for reservations.

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.

April Birthdays

April 7	Bill Mercer
April 9	John Hicks
April 10	Ndazona Ndafooka-Holland
April 22	Gale Oakes
April 23	Leon Bernido
April 30	Gerry Klump



Church Women United

You are invited to join Church Women United on Friday, April 1st at Oakwood Village West (University Woods), 6209 Mineral Point Rd for a presentation from the Wisconsin Network of Peace and Justice. A representative from WNPJ will meet with us and update us on their current work. Gathering is at 9:00am with the presentation at 10:00am.

We celebrated the World Day of Prayer at Mt Zion Baptist Church. The women of the congregation provided a wonderful brunch, and Rev. Dr. Leonard Thompson Sr. led a worship celebration written and created by the women of Cuba. The CWU Human Rights Award was given to Emily Auerbach, director and co-founder of The Odyssey Project at the University of Wisconsin. The Project has empowered more than 350 low-income adults through higher education.

—Ellie Metzloff and Kate Dooley
Co-Key Women

Session Highlights

March 21, 2016

- Olivia and Joseph Ishikawa expressed a desire to become members of Dale Heights. Session approved welcoming them into membership by letter of transfer. They will be publicly welcomed during a service at a later date.
- A sheet describing funeral and memorial service guidelines at Dale Heights was approved. It will be placed in the Manual of Operations in the office.
- The Session records of the congregation (May 1957 through August 2014) have been sent to the Presbyterian Historical Society, a climate controlled repository, for safekeeping.
- Next meeting: Monday, April 18, 2016.

Property & Finance Highlights

March 8, 2016

- Peace Pole Garden: In April we will select and plant perennials. Bulb plantings will be done in the fall.
- Saturday work days: Beginning on April 9, weather permitting.
- Equipment: Air Quality pump replacement will be done when the weather warms up.
- Sidewalks and parking lot: we will obtain a bid for replacement of five cracked sidewalk blocks and discuss possibility of a seal coat on the parking lot.
- Lounge flooring: we will meet with Sergenian's representatives on Thursday, March 10.
- Financial status: financial reports as of 2/29/16 were examined.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, April 12, at 7:00pm.

Batter Up!



Are you interested in attending a Madison Mallards Presbyterian Night game on Thursday, August 4? Reverend Scott Marrese-Wheeler has reserved 150 tickets on field level along the first-base side. He will be contacting churches to gauge interest and needs to have a count by May 1. Please contact the church office before then if you are interested. The cost is \$20 and includes a tailgate buffet from 5:30pm till game time, 7:00pm.

Outreach & Mission



April **Outreach** News

Potluck!

Please join us after worship on April 17 for a potluck presentation from Olivia and Joseph Ishikawa! They will talk about their lives while living in Italy as well as background and experiences from their Waldensian worshipping community. The Waldensian movement has its origins in the 12th century when a rich merchant of Lyons, Valdes or Valdesius, decided to dedicate himself to preaching of the gospel to the lower classes of society. In 1975, the Waldenses in Italy joined with the Methodists, but have also maintained their own faith affiliations. This will be a great opportunity to get to know and welcome Olivia and Joe to our Dale Heights family with delicious food and meaningful fellowship! Invite a friend or neighbor to join us as well!

Community Outreach

We enjoyed worshipping with and serving the Pres House community on Sunday, March 6. Thanks to all who played a part in getting the food on the table: Edi Chan, Bonnie Savonne, Gale Oakes, Elizabeth Ndafooka, Jane Williams, Roy Lembcke, Otty Schaefer, Ellie Metzloff and Roger Roberts. What a great team!

Outreach members and others who would like to join us will be serving supper for The Road Home shelter at St Luke's in Middleton on Friday, April 29. Please let us know if you'd like to join us!

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Thank you to all those who purchased Easter flowers to beautify our sanctuary on Easter morning!

Sandy Weigt, Rick Shannon, Vreni Straubhaar, Elizabeth Ndafooka, Otty Schaefer, Wendy Weber, Bonnie Savonne, Gale Oakes, Dick Corey, Jennifer Jones, Gerry Klump, Roger Roberts, Margie Shumate, and Marcia Holman



Outreach & Mission

April *Outreach* News, cont.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)

Started in 1949, OGHS is a long-standing ecumenical effort aimed at raising the funds necessary to provide relief and reconstruction for communities in the aftermath of disaster. What started as an hour-long radio appeal has evolved over the years, varying from eight to 29 participating denominations, and has become the most-participated-in Offering in the PC-USA.

OGHS, traditionally received around the season of Lent, makes a difference in the world through three impactful programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP), and Self-Development of People (SDoP).

- PDA works within communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or man-made disasters. It receives 32% of the total funds raised.
- PHP takes action to alleviate hunger and its systematic causes, and helps create access to healthy food for entire communities. It receives 36% of the total funds raised.
- SDoP partners with people and communities with tools for development and education to alleviate poverty, oppression and injustice. It receives 32% of the total funds raised.

This year, Dale Heights will receive the OGHS Offering from Easter Sunday to Sunday, April 24th when the gifts will be dedicated. If you need an extra week to complete the Sharing calendar available in the Concourse or to gather your funds, please simply turn in your checks (marked for OGHS) or fish boxes at your earliest convenience.

There are two meaningful ways to connect with the recipients and their lives. First of all, you may participate as described in the above manner and contribute to the traditional offering. Or you may choose to participate in the form of a gift from the 2015-2016 Presbyterian Giving Catalog, also available in the Concourse. Check it out!

Dale Heights collected over \$2000 for OGHS last year. Get inspired by the educational Sharing calendar or the Gift catalog to learn about people and their lives and struggles!

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



sharing resources. changing lives.

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.

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