



Focus

May 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

Encouragement in Prayer

(Jesus) was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."

Recently, I have become aware, perhaps as never before, of the mystery and power of prayer. In my life, I have sensed the power of intercession for my health, as well as other blessings to me, my family and friends. But also, I'm perplexed by the many prayers that seem to go unanswered, such as prayers for a friend or loved one's healing, or, on a broader scope, for relief from national and international ills that bring destruction and death.

Even with us Christians, we resort to prayer to obtain God's protection or provision of something we want, either for ourselves or for others. We know the importance and prevalence of prayer in the Bible, particularly in the Psalms. We know we should pray, and yet we find that our practice, discipline, and experience of prayer often leaves us disappointed, either with ourselves or with the results we expect from prayer. If we're honest, we'll admit there are times when we doubt if prayer works. Maybe we need to go to Jesus and ask, "Lord, teach us to pray!"

Jesus gave us as our model (outline?) what we call The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4). Jesus taught us to address our prayers to the Father, who is to be honored and whose will is to be sought. When we seek the kingdom and we submit to the Father's will, we're ready to ask for our daily bread. What does this mean in our day and culture of fully stocked cupboards and refrigerators? It means that we're to realize and to never forget our absolute dependence on God, for even the material needs of life.

The Lord's Prayer is in the plural, so we're also praying for the Father to meet the needs of others, in the awareness of our responsibility to help meet their needs—whether material, emotional, or spiritual. Prayer without compassionate action on behalf of the needy is empty.

Continued...

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Jesus teaches us to continue to pray to the Father with continual asking, seeking, and knocking (Luke 11:9f), literally “Keep on asking, keep on seeking, and keep on knocking.” Prayer is an ongoing conversation that is the essence of our relationship with God.

Prayer is also the way we engage in spiritual warfare against the Evil One and his kingdom of darkness that is opposed to God’s love and goodness in the world. God didn’t create evil, but his perfect love allows freedom to resist his will, and this rebellion against the Father’s will by angels and our first parents is what brought randomness, suffering, and illness into the world. Prayer takes us to the front lines of spiritual warfare. But it is also the key to peace with God and others, and assurance that we are joining God in his kingdom work.

Yours in his love and service,

—*Pastor Roger*



May 1	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Liturgist: Gerry Klump	Ushers: Roy Lembcke, Gale Oakes, Wendy Weber
May 8	Seventh Sunday of Easter	Liturgist: Gale Oakes	Ushers: Bonnie Savonne, Otty Schaefer
May 15	Day of Pentecost	Liturgist: June Zeeh	Ushers: Janice Krall, Rick Shannon, Vreni Straubhaar
May 22	Trinity Sunday	Liturgist: Otty Schaefer	Ushers: Mike Holland, Elizabeth Ndafooka, Nathan Tripp
May 29	Second Sunday after Pentecost; Guest Preacher: Susan Vergeront	Liturgist: Elizabeth Ndafooka	Ushers: Keith Chan, Jim Tracey, Kris Tracey

May New Beginnings

The May New Beginnings Lunch will be Tuesday, May 17 at 11:30 at Prairie Café and Bakery, 3109 Pheasant Branch Rd 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.

May Birthdays

- May 5 Paul Holland
- May 9 Anne Lembcke
- May 11 Hannah Eldridge
- May 15 Dagmar Bartels
- May 16 Maggie Rogers
- May 20 Janet Jones
- Rick Shannon
- May 24 Jim Tracey
- May 29 Roger Roberts

May Anniversary

- May 27 Anne & Grant Lembcke



Church Women United

On May 6th, Church Women United will host their annual Friendship Day with worship and a catered lunch. Everyone is invited! We will gather at Plymouth UCC, 2401 Atwood Ave in Madison. The annual meeting will begin at 10:30, followed by the catered lunch at 11:30, then the worship service at 12:15. Lunch cost is \$8.00. Please send your check (made out to CWU) to Marleen Lippert, 6329 Scandia Lane, McFarland, WI 53558 by May 2nd.

Please see the poster on the CWU board for all the details. Hope to see you there!

—Ellie Metzloff and Kate Dooley
Co-Key Women

Session Highlights

April 18, 2016

- Pastor Roger will be off on Sunday, May 29.
- We received confirmation that the Session minutes are now in storage at the Presbyterian Historical Society.
- Watch for information about a fall Bible Study.
- We continue to tweak a member survey to be distributed in the fall.
- Presbytery meets Tuesday, May 17 at First Presbyterian in Waukon, IA.
- Next meeting: Monday, May 23, 2016.

Property & Finance Highlights

April 12, 2016

- Memorial Gardens: an order for Peace Pole garden perennials has been sent in for pickup in April or May. Our church's In Memoriam book, which lists garden donors' commemorative trees and shrubs has been updated. The wooden plaque by the back doors will be updated as well.
- Flooring: a new lounge floor was installed the week of April 4. The floor was laid after adhesive and underlying concrete were ground down, the surface buffed, and a two-part epoxy sealer was put down. Thank you to the Sah-lang congregation for their assistance with this lounge flooring project, and a thanks to all for your patience while this issue was being resolved.
- Concrete: we should be receiving a bid soon for cracked, broken, and lifted cement areas between the office and front side of the church.
- Various: new closers were installed on the back entrance concourse doors. Sanctuary fire-door closing problems have also been addressed. A list of other lawn, garden, and building needs has been prepared to take up at future meetings.
- Spring work days: the April 9 work day was canceled due to weather. The first work day of the season will be April 16 at 9am.
- Financial status: financial reports as of 3/31/16 were examined.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, May 10, at 7:00pm.



Music News

We are fast coming to the end of the choral season here at Dale Heights. Your Dale Heights choir continues to excel and presented four new anthems in the 2015-2016 season! Please thank a choir member for their hard work!

After a lengthy hiatus, the Dale Heights Bell Choir will be starting back up! Rehearsals will take place from 9:15-9:45 on Sunday mornings beginning on June 12. We need a minimum of 7 people to participate, so please let Maggie know as soon as possible if you would like to join!

It's also time to sign up for summer special music! If you would like to present a musical performance this summer, please see Maggie to reserve your date. This is a low-pressure way to share your musical talents with the always-appreciative congregation, and we're always looking for new performers.

And as always, thank you for your support of the Dale Heights music program!

Worship & Music Committee Highlights

April 24, 2016

- Learned Pastor Roger will be off on May 29. Susan Vergeront will fill the pulpit.
- Discussed need to provide a cue (Maggie will play chimes) for congregation to return to their seats during Passing of the Peace. Greeting "the people around you" was also suggested.
- Heard that bell choir will start in early June, aiming for a performance in late August.
- June will sub for Maggie on July 3. A backup sub has been secured in case of short notice or June is unavailable.
- Special services: Annual hymn festival will be on June 12. "Christmas in July" hymn sing in the concourse (no sermon) is scheduled for July 24.
- People who bring treats are asked to help with clean up after fellowship time. Cards indicating who brought the treats will be provided.
- Funeral & Memorial Service guidelines were discussed and approved as written.
- Committee needs to develop guidelines for Lenten/Advent candlelighters.
- Next meeting: September 11, 2016.

Outreach & Mission



May *Outreach* News

Looking back on April...

We heard a wonderful presentation on April 17th by our newest congregational members, Joe and Olivia Ishikawa. They talked about the history and background of the Waldensian movement and some of their experiences during the 20 years they spent living in Italy. Thanks to everyone who brought food to share and joined in for fellowship time!

Outreach members and others joined together for The Road Home shelter, serving food and enjoying fellowship together at St. Luke's in Middleton on April 29th. Thanks to all who helped!

Upcoming and Continuing Service...

- We began the One Great Hour of Sharing offering and have been listening to Minutes for Mission on Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Self-Development of People, and the West Africa Initiative. Please remember to turn in your fish boxes or checks (marked for OGHS) as soon as possible!
- Please continue to add your pull tabs to the Ronald McDonald House container in the concourse. Thanks to Gerry Klump for spearheading this collection for a worthy cause!
- Look for upcoming potlucks and presentations in May!



Next Outreach Meeting: Sunday, May 8 at 11:30am.

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

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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