



Focus

January 2017

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

Anything New Under the Sun?

One of the most intriguing books in the Bible is in the Wisdom portion, the Book of Ecclesiastes. This little book of wisdom reads somewhat like an advice column in the newspaper, and the essence of its message seems to be, "Life is a riddle and a cycle of vanity, and when we try to find meaning and purpose we are left with utter futility. There's nothing new under the sun," is the theme.

But the key seems to be that "under the sun" life is futile and meaningless. But we are not left to evaluate everything "under the sun," which is the perspective of the faithless world apart from God. We who belong to the Kingdom are given a heavenly perspective "above the sun" and we can hope and work for a new beginning and a better future of God's righteous rule.

Indeed, in Christ all things are made new, says the Apostle Paul (2 Corinthians 5:17). We are born again to a living hope and are even now living on a higher plane of resurrection power. So we can say to the writer of Ecclesiastes, "Yes, there is something new for us as God's Kingdom people." We can enter 2017 with the assurance that our forgiven sins and past disappointments are buried in the depths of God's forgiving love and grace. We can enter the New Year knowing that Christ is living in us and is giving us the assurance of his love, and that he is working out his purposes in us and through us, purposes that include sharing our faith, and praying and working for justice and peace in our community and throughout the world.

Continued...

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I invite you dear friends at Dale Heights to join me in a new beginning of simple trust in God's presence, power, and provision, and in the peaceful rest and assurance that he will give us his wisdom and guidance as we follow and serve him. Let's remember that we don't live our lives "under the sun" but rather "above the sun" because Jesus, the Son of God, is living in us.

May God bless you dear friends and fellow pilgrims at Dale Heights.

Yours in his love and service,

—*Pastor Roger*

January 1	First Sunday after Christmas Day
Liturgist: Wendy Weber	Ushers: Roy Lembcke, Gale Oakes, Wendy Weber
January 8	First Sunday after Epiphany
Liturgist: Melanie Klump	Ushers: Bonnie Savonne, Otty Schaefer
January 15	Second Sunday after Epiphany
Liturgist: Mike Holland	Ushers: Janice Krall, Rick Shannon, Vreni Straubhaar
January 22	Third Sunday after Epiphany
Liturgist: Gale Oakes	Ushers: Mike Holland, Elizabeth Ndafooka, Nathan Tripp
January 29	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Liturgist: Vreni Straubhaar	Ushers: Keith Chan, Jim Tracey, Kris Tracey

January New Beginnings

The December New Beginnings Lunch will be Tuesday, January 17 at 11:30 at Prairie Café, 3109 Pheasant Branch Rd, Middleton.

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.

January Birthdays

January 5	Vicki Klump
January 9	Andy Lembcke
January 11	Jim Lundgren
January 12	Keith Chan
	Michelle Shannon
January 18	Colleen Shannon Longua

January Anniversaries

January 1	Bill & Lenore Mercer
January 17	Keith & Edi Chan



Church Women United

Everyone is invited to the Church Women United 2017 Human Rights Celebration on January 7, 2017! The morning begins with brunch at 9:00am, followed by the program "Kindling New Fires of Hope" at 10:00am. The celebration will take place at Bethany United Methodist Church, 3910 Mineral Point Rd.

—Ellie Metzloff, Key Woman

Property & Finance Highlights

November 8, 2016

- Memorial gardens: mulch spreading has concluded for the year. A review of memorial plaques in the garden has been moved to the spring. The committee will update the policy on memorial garden “adoption” selections.
- Redecorating task force: Sah-lang has selected some window blind options for consideration in the next few weeks. Session has approved the projection screen chosen by Sah-lang.
- Sound system: the system’s wiring has been rerouted to eliminate tripping hazards and improve the overall appearance at the front of the sanctuary.
- Red garage: the new roof is in place and the dumpster has been collected.
- Stewardship campaign: pledges are coming in. Pledges will be dedicated on November 13.
- Finance: financial statements for period ending 10/31/2016 were reviewed. The committee will send to session a recommendation of \$500 for Theological Education and \$3000 for Unified Mission for Presbytery in 2017.
- Giving statements for 2016 will go out around the first week of December.
- Other: heard a brief report on completed chimney repairs, door repairs, and discussed other maintenance issues.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, December 13, 7:00pm.

Highlights from the December meeting will appear in the February Focus.



Outreach & Mission

January *Outreach* News

The Christmas Joy Offering

It's not too late to make a gift to the Christmas Joy Offering or the Giving Catalog. The information is on the Outreach table in the Concourse. In summary, for the giving catalog, please select an item from the order form, fill it out, write a check to PC(USA) and give it to an Outreach member. Giving a gift for the Christmas Joy Offering requires simply writing a check to Dale Heights, noting "Christmas Joy Offering" in the memo space, and put it in the offering plate or give directly to the office. Please make these choices if you are interested in the next couple of weeks. Thanks!

The Road Home

Our Road Home commitments for 2017 are the following dates: February 24, May 19, August 4, and October 27. Mark your calendars to help out with food, fun, and fellowship!

Pres House

We are scheduled to serve dinner at Pres House on March 5. This is another great opportunity for food, fun, and fellowship! Please see Wendy Weber if you're interested in helping out!



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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