



# Focus

January 2018

[www.daleheightspc.org](http://www.daleheightspc.org)

## *A Message from Pastor Roger*

### Dale Heights Staff

**Pastor:**  
Reverend Roger Roberts

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

**Treasurer:**  
Wendy Weber

**Custodian:**  
Rick Geiger

### Dale Heights Session

**Moderator**  
Reverend Roger Roberts

**Clerk**  
Gale Oakes

Edi Chan  
Melanie Klump  
Roy Lembcke  
Rick Shannon  
Wendy Weber

### **Nothing's New; Everything's New!**

Another year has come and gone, as we turn our calendars to the Year 2018. When you reach my age, it's almost amusing (if it weren't so sad!) to reflect on the many unattained resolutions I've made this time of year. So, I turn to my Bible to see if there's any "suggestion" on making a resolution I can finally and actually achieve.

The most discouraging verse in the Bible is probably from the wisdom book of Ecclesiastes, which reads: "There is nothing new under the sun" (1:9). From the perspective of a cynic, possibly even an elderly cynic ( a curmudgeon?), there's not much hope of things being changed for the better, so we might as well expect the same old disappointments in life. But, as people of faith, we need to "jump over" to a verse in the New Testament that opens up the window of hope for a better tomorrow, which reminds us that "if anyone is in Christ, he (and she) is a new creation: the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Cor. 5:17).

This tells me that, whatever our age and whatever our past mistakes, flaws, sins, and failures, God is the God of new beginnings. He takes his giant "eraser" and wipes out the negative, and gives us a clean slate which we can fill with our prayers, goals and plans that God can shape into his perfect will for us.

The success of my resolutions won't depend on me, but will be subsumed under one key resolution—to live each day with God's guidance and in the awareness of his love for me. God's love and daily blessings are NOT dependent on my performance, but will come from his loving purpose and guidance in my life. And his key purpose for me is to make me ever more into his "new creation."

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As the people of Dale Heights Church, let's ask God to fulfill his purpose for us, to allow his loving Spirit to flow into and through us into the lives of others. Year 2018 doesn't need to be "the same old same old," but rather can be a year of new transformation of lives of hope, God's people being remade into the image of Christ. God has a purpose for us individually, but also for our church family: being an even more loving, caring, and encouraging family of faith than ever before. Let our resolution be one that cannot fail—to be God's Spirit-led people of faith, hope, and love. That will bring about something new and exciting at Dale Heights Presbyterian Church.

Yours in his love and service,

—*Pastor Roger*



<b>January 7</b>	Baptism of the Lord
<b>Liturgist:</b> Jim Lundgren	<b>Ushers:</b> Roy Lembcke, Gale Oakes, Wendy Weber
<b>January 14</b>	Second Sunday after Epiphany
<b>Liturgist:</b> Melanie Klump	<b>Ushers:</b> Bonnie Savonne, Otty Schaefer
<b>January 21</b>	Third Sunday after Epiphany
<b>Liturgist:</b> June Zeeh	<b>Ushers:</b> Vreni Straubhaar, Keith Chan
<b>January 28</b>	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
<b>Liturgist:</b> Marcia Holman	<b>Ushers:</b> Alicia Shumate, Margie Shumate, Nathan Tripp

### Dale Heights Library

Have you noticed? We have a beautiful library here at Dale Heights. It is filled with many different kinds of books for adults, young adults, and children. We have had some great donations, which include a book by our very own Pastor Roger and books written by other church members.

When browsing the library bookshelf (located on the west wall of the foyer), feel free to check out a book or two by completing a check-out slip and depositing it in the check-out box. When returning the book(s), please place in the return box instead of shelving it. This way we can keep a better inventory.

If you have a Dale Heights library book at home, returning it to make it available for other church members will be much appreciated.

—June Zeeh, Dale Heights Librarian

### 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

### 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.*



### Church Women United

The Church Women United Slogan for the January 6 Celebration is "Reaching for Wholeness in Solidarity with God's Creation." There will be a brunch at 9am at Monona United Methodist Church, 606 Nichols Road, Monona, followed by welcome and at 10am the Human Rights Day Worship Celebration. The highlight will be the awarding of the Human Rights Award to a deserving person. All are invited.

—Ellie Metzloff, Key Woman

## Property & Finance Highlights

**December 12, 2017**

- Office equipment: reviewed information on HP computer. A new computer is needed to replace the old one which is very slow.
- Fire alarm system: Tyco was requested to put together a system upgrade for the church.
- Gutters: thanks to volunteers who blew out the leaves from gutters on the church and on the two garages.
- Stewardship campaign: some pledges have been received on and prior to December 10, which was Pledge Sunday.
- Lighting: PKK Lighting has said that they would honor the existing proposal for sign lighting even though the work must be postponed until warmer weather.
- Giving statements: statements as of the end of November have been mailed or picked up last Sunday.
- 2018 Budget: work has begun.
- Money Market: with returns improving, some checking account monies will be transferred to a savings account at the same bank.
- Concourse/Office wing boiler: a crucial boiler part could go at any time. Air Quality has ordered the part and will also check to see if it is under warranty.
- Financial status reports: reports as of November 30, 2017 were reviewed.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, January 9, 2018.





# Outreach & Mission

January *Outreach* News

## **The Christmas Joy Offering**

We dedicated this year's Christmas Joy Offering on Christmas Eve. The total collected was \$739.00, which will go to efforts to help current/retired church workers, and racial-ethnic schools. Thank you for your generosity!

## **The Road Home**

Our next commitment for The Road Home shelter is Friday, February 16. If you are able to help out, please see Wendy Weber. This is a great opportunity for food, fellowship, and fun!

## **CROP Walk**

The 2017 CROP Walk raised a total of \$33,244.74 in the Madison area. Dale Heights contributed \$1005.00 to that total! Thank you for your generosity in fighting hunger and poverty locally and throughout the world!

## **"Guess Who" with Outreach**

Congratulations to Ellie Metzloff, who was the winner for last month's "Guess Who" with Outreach! Ellie has won a bag of fair-trade coffee.

## **Souper Bowl of Caring**

Mark your calendars for the annual Souper Bowl of Caring, to take place on Sunday, February 4. We will be serving soup and grilled cheese. All donations will go to Middleton Outreach Ministry. If you are able to help with setup on February 3, please contact Vreni Straubhaar.



Check out our website:

[www.daleheightspc.org](http://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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