



FOCUS

September 2023

Daleheightschurch.org

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A Message from Pastor Roger

New Beginnings

In the final chapter of the Bible, the Lord God speaks from his throne to declare, "See, I am making all things new" (Revelation 21:5). At the close of history and the beginning of the new heaven and earth, the Lord God will renew his creation and accomplish his redemption of all of his people. But even before then, God is making us new, in eternal life, hope and a new beginning. As God's children, we all have this blessed hope that God is always giving us a new beginning, an opportunity to start all over again, whatever our circumstances, mistakes and misadventures of our past.

This summer seemed to simply fly by, and already we're facing the beginning of the fall season, which is a beautiful time in Wisconsin. By the time you receive this, children will be preparing to return to school (to many parents' relief!), and some of our Dale Heights people will be returning from vacations and resuming responsibilities with work and with our ministries and worship at Dale Heights. We can look forward to the resumption of the good worship music ministry of our instruments and choir, led by our very talented Music Director, Alissa Freeman.

Hopefully we'll welcome new residents who've moved to our community and are searching for a new church home and may visit our worship services. As we're well aware, the apartment complex on the corner will soon be completed. We're sending a welcome postcard to new residents, inviting them to a special reception for them, simply to give them an opportunity to experience our worship and fellowship. Hopefully this will result in their finding a new church home with us at Dale Heights. At the very least, we'll want them to discover our friendliness and receptivity as their new neighbors.

On a sad note, we were disappointed to receive Donna Bucholtz's notice of her retirement as our Office Manager, to be effective October 31. She appears way too young to retire, especially when she continues to master hiking all the trails in Wisconsin! Donna has been a great asset to the oversight of our church office, and has always displayed a kind and godly spirit, as well as excellent skills and organizational ability. Let's say "Thank you, Donna," for your year and a half service to the Lord and the church at Dale Heights.

Pastor Roger

Dale Heights Staff

Pastor:
Reverend Roger Roberts

Treasurer:
Wendy Weber

Music Director
Alissa Freeman

Accounts Manager:
Dawn Westhoff

Office Manager:
Donna Bucholtz

Custodian:
Felipe Ruiz
and Lily Fabella

Grounds Keeper:
Rob Carpenter

Session Members

Moderator:
Reverend Roger Roberts

Clerk:
June Zeeh

Edi Chan (2023)
Bonnie Savonne (2023)
June Zeeh (2024)
Verena Straubhaar (2025)
Gerry Klump (2025)



Schedule for PC(USA)

Peacemaker Visit to JKP

Gaia Magdalena Lucsek

Gaia Magdalena Luczak is an International Peacemaker from Poland, sponsored by the PC(USA) Peacemaking Program, that will be visiting the JKP October 2-9, 2023. She will be sharing her story with the 5 JKP Regions, Pres House, and UDTs, as well as providing two presbytery-wide events, an educational event on Saturday, October 7th, at Westminster, Madison, 9-11 am, and worship experience on Sunday, October 8th, at First, Lancaster, 9 am.

Gaia Magdalena Łuczak is a humanitarian activist working in Poland. Professionally associated with the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, she works in cooperation with Grupa Granica, focusing on the rights of minorities at the Polish-Belarusian border. Gaia Magdalena's humanitarian activism history includes working on a rescue team in the Greek Island of Lesbos and in refugee centers in Berlin, Germany.

In addition to being a therapist, Gaia Magdalena is an English and Political Science graduate. Her thesis was on American history and culture. Gaia Magdalena has a passion for protecting animals and the environment. She splits her time between Poland, Germany and the USA.

We hope you will plan to join us in welcoming Gaia Magdalena!

Tuesday morning, October 3rd: Region 4 (Madison)—Lunch & Regional Gathering

Thursday evening, October 5th: Pres House (University of Wisconsin, Madison Campus), Dinner & Discussion with Students/University Community

Saturday morning, October 7th, 9-11 am: Presbytery-Wide Educational Event (Westminster, Madison)

September Birthdays

4	Bill S.
9	Alicia S.
17	Carey F.
18	Jack R.
20	Sandy W.
25	Roy L.
28	Mary B.
30	Ellie M.

Anniversaries

21	Roger & Jan R.
24	Jamie & Matt E.

BREAKFAST

Once again, the Dale Heights breakfast group will be hosting the monthly breakfasts on **Saturday, September 9, 2023**. Serving will begin at 8:00 am.

The suggested donation is \$ 4. The sign-up sheets are on the table in the Concourse or contact Roy L. or the church office to RSVP.

Be Still
AND KNOW
THAT I AM GOD
-PSALM 46:10

The deadline for article submissions for the October issue of the FOCUS is September 26, 2023.

OUTREACH



Food Donation Guidelines

We Accept

Non-perishable food
Fresh produce
Laundry detergent
Personal care items
Diapers/wipes
Paper towels
Toilet paper
Household cleaners

We Can't Accept

Expired food
Open containers or partially used items
Frozen/cooler items
Light bulbs
Glass containers
Venison

Donations for Personal Care Items

As explained in the last Focus article, Dale Heights received a letter from an inmate at Redgranite Correctional Institution asking for financial assistance with personal care items. The original handwritten request is on the sideboard in the Gathering Space along with a copy of the request form.

The request from this individual is **\$23.00 quarterly and \$92.00 annually**.

Outreach is proposing this as a mission project for Outreach and Dale Heights to undertake and support collaboratively.

Outreach is responsible for the funding and commitment. If you are interested in donating to this outreach effort, you may offer an annual donation, quarterly or whatever works for you. No donation is too small and we discourage any one person from paying too much. **You may pay by cash or check and please**

note Redgranite on the envelope along with your name. Outreach is prepared to assist to pay any remaining funds needed from the Outreach budget.

Outreach thanks you for considering support for this project!



A Potluck on October 15!

John Givens from JustDane (formerly Madison Urban Ministry/MUM) will be our speaker. John will offer his insight about life in prison from his own personal experience. He is the director of the reentry program, [Circles of Support](#), a JustDane initiative that helps people transition back into the community after release from prison.

John has worked in the criminal justice field for the past 40 years. His passion is "Working with juveniles age 14 to 17. They are misguided kids who need some direction."

We hope this program will help us more readily understand and connect with Randy Schiff and his life as an inmate at Redgranite Correctional Institution.

- When? **Sunday, October 15 – 11:30**
- Who? You and bring a friend or neighbor...or two if you would like!
- What to bring? The usual!
- **What you don't have to bring? Dessert!** John will be bringing dessert for us fresh from another JustDane program, JustBakery. We will be supporting this program as well by buying dessert!
- **Mark your calendars today!!!**

Come join us to hear more about JustDane, which we have support for years **and** to enjoy a delicious lunch and heartwarming time of fellowship!



UPPER HOUSE

The Sound of Life's Unspeakable Beauty: Reading Group

Meeting bi-weekly on Thursdays from
4:30 - 6:00 PM

9/7 | 9/21 | 10/12 | 10/26

Upper House

In [*The Sound of Life's Unspeakable Beauty*](#), master luthier Martin Schleske describes each phase of handcrafting a violin, from selecting the wood to stringing the instrument, while artfully interweaving observation of God's power, gentleness, and love. Scripture, life experience, and craft open windows into the resonant character of the Master Maker. This remarkable book won the 2021 Christianity Today Book Award in Culture and the Arts—for good reason.

Violinist Kangwon Kim and Upper House's Cam Anderson will co-facilitate the four discussion sessions. Kangwon's deep familiarity with stringed instruments and her extensive performance repertoire will elevate the particulars of Schleske's personal narrative and biblical thinking, paired with real-time musical experience. This promises to be a unique and powerful reading group.

"In the final analysis, music is prayer cast into sound." Join us as we learn what that means.

Resources

Attendees will need to purchase and read their own copy of Martin Schleske's book, [*The Sound of Life's Unspeakable Beauty*](#) (Eerdmans, 2020), from their preferred book vendor.



Friday

September 8, 2023

CWU Forum

ARC

ARC Community Services and their projects
Serving women and children

9:30 am

In Person

First Baptist Church

518 North Franklin Avenue

Madison, WI 53705

Via Zoom as well

Linda Van Tol, M.S., MFT, CSAC – guest speaker at 10 am at the Sept. 8 Forum

Presentation on **ARC Community Services** and their projects serving women and children.

Linda started her career as a Relief Counselor for ARC Community Services, Inc, and has since served in a variety of positions. She has been a licensed Clinical Substance Abuse Counselor since 1998.

Linda has worked in the correctional field in Wisconsin since 1993. Her current position is Chief Operating Officer for ARC. She works closely with the Department of Corrections with ARC's five residential treatment programs funded primarily through the DOC.

[Contact the church office for Zoom information]

The Healthy and Faithful Climate Corner



Dale Heights is invited to view *Kiss the Ground* on Friday, Sept. 22

I highly recommend this film about food and the climate. FCCA is a faith and climate organization I am involved with. We offer zoom events quarterly and have good in-person events as well and this is a great movie event. - Wendy (contact me if you have questions).

If you've never heard of this great movie before, watch the trailer at [here](#).

Here is the invite:

Faiths Connect for Climate Action and the Middleton Community Church Green Team will host a free public showing of *Kiss the Ground* on Friday, September 22, 2023, at 7 p.m.

Kiss the Ground (2020) (1 hr. 24 min.) is an uplifting, feel-good, inspirational, and family-friendly documentary movie about how the way we grow our food can help solve the climate crisis.

Science experts and celebrity activists unpack the ways in which the earth's soil and regenerative farming practices are keys to combating climate change and preserving the planet. Come restore your hope in the future!

The movie will be shown outdoors (in the event of rain we'll move indoors) at Middleton Community Church, 645 Schewe Road, by Old Sauk Rd. in Madison. Free fresh popcorn and lemonade will be provided. Bring your own lawn chairs, and bring along your family, friends, and neighbors!

Hope you can join us!

Carol Phelps
Faiths Connect for Climate Action
Green Team Lead, Middleton Community
Church

Submitted by Wendy Weber

"Daffodils"

By William Wordsworth

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

*"He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed,
miracles that cannot be counted." Job 5:9 NLT*

Have you considered where you have seen the
wonders of God lately?



DALE HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5501 University Ave.

Madison, Wisconsin 53705

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

03	Sunday Worship/communion
09	Family Breakfast – 8:30 am
10	Sunday Worship
12	Property and Finance meeting 7:00 – 8:30 pm
17	Sunday worship
23	Session 1:00 pm
24	Sunday worship

Liturgists

September 03	Roy L.
September 09	Edi C.
September 16	Otty S.
September 23	Barb F.