



FOCUS

October 2023

Daleheightschurch.org

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A Message from Pastor Roger

Dale Heights Staff

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Reverend Roger Roberts

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Reverend Roger Roberts

Clerk:
June Zeeh

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

Stewardship, Gratitude and Faithfulness

As I shared with our congregation in a recent sermon, I long ago ceased striving to achieve goals for my life that are now unrealistic and unachievable. In these my very senior years I'm becoming more reflective of the past and realistic about my future. Instead of measurable goals for ministry and pastoral achievement, I'm much more introspective and reflective about the quality of my faith, including my relationship with Christ and with others. My goal is to grow in the quality of faithfulness, to be faithful to grow daily in my relationship with Christ and in my relationship with the people he has placed in my life, beginning with my spouse, children, grandchildren, and also friends who have been crucial in my social, vocational and spiritual growth.

I also add to this list of important, life-enriching relationships are those in the Dale Heights Church family. Almost daily I'm impressed and inspired by the quality of Christ-like characteristics in our church family, the way our people love, pray for and serve one another. And even though the number of our active, regular congregants is slowly diminishing because of age and declining health issues, I'm gratefully impressed by those who make almost heroic efforts to attend worship and serve one another.

I want to be faithful in service, gratitude and giving back to those who mean much to me. This includes the way I give to my church family, which means my financial stewardship through the church. Later this month will be our annual stewardship emphasis and "pledge drive" to seek support for our church budget. My appeal this year to you our people is to join me in my personal resolve to give as God has blessed and enabled me and to seek to be faithful with all he has entrusted to me. May we experience the type of motivation that prompted the Apostle Paul and the Macedonian believers to give even beyond what seemed a logical amount (2 Corinthians 8:3). May their motivation become ours, as we too realize our incredible privilege of being part of God's loving family, blessed beyond measure by our God, who has given to us the "indescribable gift" of his Son (2 Cor. 9:15).

Pastor Roger



Schedule for PC(USA) Peacemaker Visit to JKP Gaia Magdalena Lucsek

Dear John Knox Presbytery:

The PC(USA) Peacemaking Program’s sponsored International Peacemakers have arrived in the US! Here in the John Knox Presbytery, we are excited to welcome Gaia Magdalena Luczak from Poland next week, October 2-9th! What an opportunity we have to hear the stories of a peacemaker and reflect on the practice of peacemaking.

You are invited to participate in any of the events listed below in order to meet and greet Gaia Magdalena and hear her story. Feel free to bring neighbors and friends, too! These stories and conversations move beyond the walls of the church and include meaningful conversation with others in our communities. Here is Gaia Magdalena’s schedule:

October 3-8, 2023

Tuesday morning, October 3rd, 12-1:30 pm (12-12:30 pm Lunch, 1-2 pm Presentation with Q & A): Region 4 (Covenant, Madison)—Lunch & Regional Gathering

Tuesday, evening, October 3rd, 5:00 pm Soup & Sandwich Supper, 6:30 pm Presentation with Q & A (1 hour max): Region 5 (Portage, Portage)—Dinner & Regional Gathering

Wednesday morning, October 4th, 10:00-11:00 am, Presentation with Q & A: University of Dubuque Theological Seminary & Regional Gathering (Regions 2 & 3) (Dubuque)—ZOOM with UDTs Class and folks from Regions 2 & 3

Wednesday evening, October 4th, 6:00-7:00 pm Presentation & Prayer Service with Fellowship After: Region 1 (First, LaCrosse)—Dinner & Evening Prayer Service

Thursday evening, October 5th, 5:30-7:00 pm Dinner, Presentation & Discussion with Q & A: Pres House (University of Wisconsin, Madison Campus), Dinner & Discussion with Students/University Community

October Birthdays

6 Wendy W.
31 Barb F.

Saturday morning, October 7th 9-11 am: Presbytery-Wide Educational Event: Envisioning Peacemaking in Your Own Communities (Westminster, Madison)

Sunday morning, October 8th 9:00 am: Presbytery-Wide Worship Service & Fellowship (First, Lancaster)

Please click on the link below to register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErf-qqqTMvHNTS3yMaX8syVup0suF7x4Ya>

BREAKFAST

Once again, the Dale Heights breakfast group will be hosting the monthly breakfasts on **Saturday, October 14, 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.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.
Psalm 51:10

OUTREACH



Top 10 Food Donations

- Mac and cheese
- Hamburger or tuna helper
- Canned chicken or tuna
- Basmati, jasmine or white rice
- Masa
- Noodles (any kind)
- Pasta (spaghetti) sauce
- Canned beans (all varieties)
- Canned fruit (all varieties)
- Condiments (any kind)

Everyone who comes to the pantry has a story that is uniquely their own — what they all share is the increased stability that comes from access to nutritious food. Together, we're providing food to more people than ever before in our 40-year history. Demand has doubled in the last year due in part to pandemic-era food and rental assistance from the federal government coming to an end. In addition, the cost of housing continues to rise at record levels — a recent national study found that Madison has the fastest-rising rent of any major city in the United States.

We are proud that we continue to meet this need as we grow and change significantly post-pandemic. We are using more donor dollars to purchase food than we did in the past and we work hard to make strategic choices about what and when to buy to maximize our purchasing power. [Your partnership](#) is critical to how we'll sustain what we offer and ensure that everyone who walks through our door has access to a fully-

stocked



pantry.

A Potluck on October 15!

John Givens from JustDane (formerly Madison Urban Ministry/MUM) will be our speaker and educate us about the different roles of JustDane in the here and the now. John will also offer his insight about being an inmate 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. In his own words, "My 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. Hopefully we will have heard back by then about their receipt of our support.

- **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!

Your input is requested...

Please give us ideas about future potlucks. Potlucks are a way for us to bring other people and the community together as

well as offer us an opportunity to learn about living about our faith outside of the walls of Dale Heights. Thank you!



UPPER HOUSE

Visual Artist and Sculptor Marianne Lettieri is coming to Upper House!

Acclaimed artist Marianne Lettieri is interested in the interconnectedness of people and communities through time, the shared human desire to remember, and the intersection of art and faith. She uses a variety of media – especially items destined for landfills and recycling – to explore shifts in cultural values associated with everyday objects and historical artifacts.

In 2017 SVCcreates recognized Marianne with an Artist Laureate Award for achievement in the arts and contribution to the cultural life of Silicon Valley. Her work has also been featured in numerous books and art journals, including *Placemaking and the Arts* by Jennifer Allen Craft (IVP, 2018); *Art-Making Collections & Obsessions* by Lynne Perrella, [Image Journal](#), *SEEN Journal*, *Sand Hill Review*, and *Ruminant Magazine*. Marianne comes to us from Granbury, Texas. Learn more about her [here](#).

Enchantment of the Ordinary Luncheon and Artist Presentation

Friday, October 20 @ 12:00 - 1:30 PM

During this artist’s talk and lunch, Marianne Lettieri will discuss how contemporary artists connect the spiritual and mundane through the use of everyday objects and artifacts.

Lettieri’s first career was in professional marketing; she acknowledged mid-life that she felt called to artmaking and established her second career

creating pieces that feature used, found, natural, and recycled materials: her art demonstrates that materials have metaphoric powers. Even the most ordinary objects – an iron, a pin cushion, sawdust from a studio floor – can exude meaning beyond mere existence and utility. In art, they can invite one to pause, wonder, and reflect on the significance of human effort, memory, community, and place-making. How do artists use the ordinary to convey the extraordinary, even the holy? Join us for

REGISTER NOW

Lettieri’s nuanced and enlightening presentation.



See [here](#) for information regarding her “Beauty for Ashes - Collage Workshop.”

Did you know that our own Ellie M. is one of the contributing authors of “CWU Church Women United-Madison: History Volume II”? Check it out [here](#).

Dear Friends:

It has been a privilege to serve as your office manager for the last year and a half and to get to know you. Sadly, the time has come for me to shift my priorities, so I will be retiring. October 31, 2023 will be my last day in the office. I pray for God’s blessings on the congregation here at Dale Heights now and in the future. Fond regards, Donna B.



11 Important Things to Know About Clover Lawns

by Bob Vila



By [Lori Lovely](#) | Published Jun 21, 2022 10:53 PM

A clover lawn provides many benefits: less watering, less mowing, natural fertilization, and the attraction of wildlife and pollinators. Is a clover yard right for you?

America's biodiverse meadows of days gone were slowly converted to French- and English-style monoculture lawns featuring mostly turf grass. By the late 1800s, the neatly trimmed, aesthetically pleasing [grass lawn](#) became a symbol of wealth. The invention of the lawn mower, as well as planned communities designed by Frederick Law Olmstead (the designer of Central Park) and other landscape architects, further cemented the trend in the U.S.

Here are the 11 Important Things to Know and then the link to more information.

1. You can mow significantly less often with a clover lawn.
2. Clover requires minimal water compared to traditional grass.
3. A clover lawn doesn't need to be fertilized.
4. In areas with heavy foot traffic, clover isn't as durable as grass, but it can grow well with turf grass.
5. There's no need for herbicides or pesticides with a clover lawn.
6. Clover seed is highly affordable.
7. Clover lawns can spread without high maintenance.

8. You can skip aerating with a clover lawn.
9. Clover lawns attract beneficial insects.
10. Clover is more drought- and shade-tolerant than most grasses.
11. Clover is soft underfoot and doesn't discolor from pet urine.

<https://www.bobvila.com/articles/clover-lawns>

Mark your calendars for future events:

Let's Talk Solar (so we understand or get them on the roof)

- Saturday, November 11, 10 – 12 p.m.
- Sequoia Public Library, 4340 Tokay Blvd., Madison
- Our speaker is **Jackie Harrison-Jewell from the Couillard Foundation** and there will be others to offer expertise in related matters
- Bring your own coffee cup or flask for coffee and donut holes

Sponsored by Sequoia Library and the Midvale Heights Green Team

AND Save the Date! Thursday, November 2 at 7 p.m.

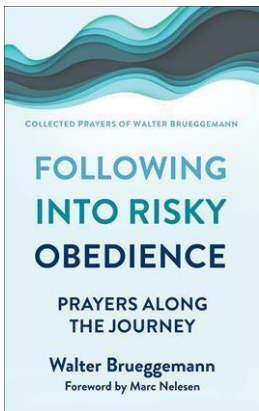
The next quarterly Zoom meeting of Faiths Connect for Climate Action (FCCA) is November 2 at 7pm. We will hear about **shareholder** (yes, our churches have investments as well as individuals) **activism to direct corporations to be more moral, ethical, and sustainable**. FCCA brings together people of faith from many different faith groups to learn and share about how we can faithfully care for God's creation.

Pres House Worship Service and Dinner – Sunday, February 18

Submitted by Wendy Weber

Genesis 1:28 And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Looking for some new additions to your reading list? PC(USA) has these to offer:

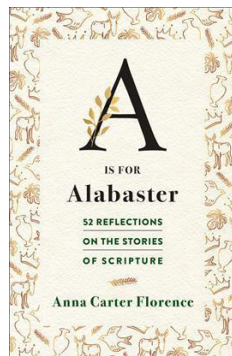


This collection of prayers by noted Hebrew Bible scholar Walter Brueggemann can be used in both public worship and private devotion. These prayers run the gamut from particular days in the church year to special moments in the lives of worshipping communities to events playing out on the world stage. In all cases, the prayers show us how God accompanies us

through all the moments and stages of our life, while simultaneously calling us to do the same for all those whom God has placed alongside us in the journey.

Also – Coming Soon:

Beloved preacher and writer Anna Carter Florence brings winsome insight to an array of characters and stories in the Bible—some celebrated and some overlooked. From courageous Abigail to Zelophehad’s daughters, and from an alabaster jar of ointment to Zacchaeus in the sycamore tree, Florence takes readers on an enchanting tour of the Old and New Testaments with reflections that reveal ancient wisdom and spark imagination anew. In addition to group discussion guides available in the book, a book club guide is also [available to download for free!](#)



There is also a wealth of material for pastors to mine in this volume. To help leaders use this book, Florence has written a [free, downloadable reading guide](#) for preachers to suggest ways a preacher might read this book.

Contact the church office for ordering information.



Fresh Start Focus



CareerPoint’s first cohort

On Monday, September 25, we welcomed participants of the first **CareerPoint** cohort! They will be attending training for the next eight weeks, gaining essential skills for the professional workplace. This curriculum addresses concepts such as basic etiquette, the communication model and public speaking, financial literacy (specifically learning to budget their new salaries, understanding their paystub, and benefit package), the art of networking, self-advocacy, and much more.

Following that, they will start their paid job training with UW Credit Union! More career pathways will be coming in the future.



Red Caboose’s new location

Our Legacy construction crews helped out **Red Caboose Child Care Center** with the incredible playground of their new center on Winnebago Street! Participants constructed the play stage, storage shed, and spread out a literal dump truck’s worth of mulch.

“This group has been fantastic to work with!” said Red Caboose, “Thank you OFS for your support and dedication! We appreciate you!”

DALE HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5501 University Ave.

Madison, Wisconsin 53705

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 01 Sunday Worship
- 08 Sunday Worship/communion (NOTE CHANGE)
- 10 Property and Finance meeting
7:00 – 8:30 pm
- 14 Family Breakfast – 8:30 am
- 15 Sunday worship
- 21 Session 1:00 pm
- 22 Sunday worship
- 29 Sunday worship

Liturgists

- October 01 Janice K.
- October 08 Wendy W.
- October 15 Carey F.
- October 22 Jennifer J.
- October 2 Barb F.