



FOCUS

July/August 2025

Daleheightschurch.org

Dale Heights Staff

Pastor:
Pulpit Supply

Treasurer:
Wendy Weber

Music Director
Dr. Alissa Freeman

Accounts Manager:
Dawn Westhoff

Office Manager:
Deb Hughes

Custodians:
Felipe Ruiz
& Lily Fabella

Grounds Keeper:
Brian Lorey

Peace is Ours

When we dwell on current events, we can lose our sense of peace and feel anxious. We forget that Jesus said, "My peace I leave with you." God doesn't wait for the storms to pass before giving us peace. Christ's peace is already here; it is ours.

The best way to keep the peace God has given us is to keep our eyes on God. How do we do that when we are bombarded with news of a world that seems to be breaking down? We read God's promises and spend time getting to know the Prince of Peace.

We can only put out what we take in, so let's take God's word into our hearts.

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.

I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

– John 1:4-27

Adapted from an essay in the Upper Room

Session Members

Acting Moderator:
Kristin Frederich

Clerk:
Gale Oakes

Verena Straubhaar (2025)

Gerry Klump (2025)

Edi Chan (2026)

Gale Oakes (2026)

Barb Fleishman (2027)

Wendy Weber (2027)





&



Breakfast

The Dale Heights monthly breakfasts will be held on

**Saturday, July 12
and
Saturday, August 9**

Serving will begin at 8:30 a.m.
The suggested donation is \$5.
RSVP to Roy L. or sign up
on the sheet in the concourse.

*We the People
of the United States,
in Order to form
a more perfect Union,
establish Justice,
insure domestic Tranquility,
provide for the common defence,
promote the general Welfare,
and secure the Blessings of Liberty
to ourselves and our Posterity,
do ordain and establish
his Constitution for
the United States of America*

Westside Warblers

We will meet in the lounge at
11 a.m. on Saturday July 19



July Birthdays

- 1 Kris Tracey
- 2 Debbie Doshier
- 8 Bonnie Savonne
- 11 Melanie Klump
- 12 Marcia Holman
- 12 Stella Engebregtsen
- 23 Otty Schaefer
- 27 Jennifer Jones

July Anniversaries

- 16 Sandy & Don Weigt
- 25 Bill & Marcia Holman

August Birthdays

- 6 Cecilia Martinez
- 8 Lenore Mercer
- 11 Bill Holman
- 19 Janice Krall
- 23 Sam Roecker
- 27 Jane Williams

August Anniversaries

- 11 Gale Oakes & Dale Buske
- 31 Vicki & Gerry Klump

Church Office Hours:

**9:30a-1:30p
Tuesday through Thursday**



Spotlight on

Rev. Duane Beachey

Duane Beachey is an ordained Mennonite pastor who spent most of his career working in various church-related housing programs to repair homes or build affordable homes for low-income or elderly people -- including as director of Habitat for Humanity in both Oklahoma City and San Antonio, TX.

He was ordained in San Antonio where he pastored a Mennonite congregation for eight years before he and his wife moved to Appalachia in Eastern Kentucky to direct another home repair program for low-income families in multiple locations utilizing as many as 1,000 week-long volunteers each year.

They did this for eight years and then stayed for another eight years to pastor two small Presbyterian churches in Isom and Blackey, Kentucky, which are part of the Transylvania Presbytery that covers the eastern half of the state.

When Duane retired 5 years ago, they moved to Madison to be near the family of one of their daughters and Duane has been providing pulpit supply for the John Knox Presbytery for several years.

Duane Beachey is the author of *Reading the Bible As If Jesus Mattered*, (2014).



EASTER BAPTISM CELEBRATION

This simple question, asked in earnest by a curious student, led to an **Easter Sunday where we celebrated three baptisms and two reaffirmations of baptism.** Over the spring semester, students attended three baptism classes, where they learned more about the sacrament through Scripture, literature, and conversation. Each student who participated in baptism also wrote their own baptism statement (available to read on our website at preshouse.org/engage/baptism) detailing their story of faith, why they decided to be baptized or reaffirm their baptismal vows, and what image or metaphor for baptism they found most meaningful. And when one of the students in the class said they wanted to be baptized by immersion, we bought an inflatable pool and did baptisms on the patio!

For many students in the community, this was the first time they saw an immersion baptism – and they loved it!

In the PC (USA), the sacrament of baptism involves the entire community. In addition to making vows to support the newly baptized and those reaffirming their baptismal vows, students offered special blessings for each person participating in the sacrament. Guests from churches in and around Madison also joined us for worship. **It was a wonderful day full of Easter joy, and we look forward to celebrating baptisms again next year!**



Stewardship of church property is faithful work

BY REV. JOSHUA KERR FOR THE PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION

6/12/2025



A wise pastoral colleague of mine, [Rev. AnnAline Drake](#), once told me over lunch, “All ministry is transitional ministry.”

AnnAline is highly experienced and, frankly, right about most things, so I listen carefully when she drops a line like this. While her wisdom rang true at the time — some three years ago — I had no idea how important it would become to my ministry as a [Ministry Relations Officer](#) at the [Presbyterian Foundation](#).

I have the privilege of meeting churches amid significant transitions. Membership numbers, financial resources, volunteer availability, and staffing structures are becoming dramatically different than most of us remember from years past. These changes often initially feel discouraging, but I delight in pointing ministries toward embracing the change already upon them, leaning into the future God is authoring through them, all with generosity in mind.

Embracing transition looks different in each context. God didn’t create humanity or our churches with a cookie-cutter approach, nor is Jesus leading this transitional time with a single plan in mind. Assessing resources and context while discerning Spirit-led passions helps narrow the scope of the “what’s next” conversation.

Click [here](#) to read the full article, which includes examples of churches leaning into a hopeful future with generous hearts.

Printed copies are also available in the concourse.



JUST DANE

Changing Lives. Changing the Community.

Lanterns for Peace

August 6th - 6:30-8:30pm

Join us for music, lantern-making, snacks and drinks

**Tenney Park - John Wall Family Pavilion
402 N. Thornton Ave., Madison**

JustDane is honored to co-sponsor this annual gathering which brings our community together to honor those who were lost, reflect on the lasting impact of nuclear weapons, and share a collective vision for a peaceful, nuclear-free world.

6:30 PM – Event opens to the public & lantern-making begins

7:30 PM – Commemorative program begins

~7:45–8:00 PM – Lanterns launched at dusk onto the Tenney Park Lagoon

This event is free and open to the public.

Bring your friends, family, and your vision for a peaceful world.



Physicians for Social Responsibility Wisconsin (PSR WI) is proud to minimize waste by reusing all lantern materials—including styrofoam bases, candles, and bamboo sticks—for over six years. All materials are removed from the lagoon after the event to ensure we leave no trace behind.

Creating Food Security for Our Neighbors: One Year After Our Letter to the Community

June 17, 2025

Last June, we shared a message with you: for the first time in our over forty-year history, we weren't sure we could meet the need for food in our community. WayForward had led the effort to bring together 36 food pantries from across Dane County to write a letter to the community, which began with, "Dane County, we need your help." We wrote that food pantries across the county were experiencing drastic increases in demand for food. In just two years, visits to WayForward's food pantry tripled—and we were struggling to keep up. The letter ran in the Wisconsin State Journal and was read on the steps of the Capitol at a press conference. You responded with immediate generosity. With this increased support, we were able to purchase more food so that guests coming to get food saw choices instead of empty shelves.

What has happened in the year since our letter to the community? Last year, we told you we didn't expect this increased need for food to go away quickly—and it hasn't. Two years ago, we gave out over 1.6 million pounds of food—a large jump from the year before. The rise was driven by a growing population, food inflation, and, most importantly, higher rent prices that require people to devote more of their limited income toward rent in order to avoid eviction. Last year, the number of pounds we gave out inched up a little more—setting another record for WayForward. However, this number doesn't fully represent the increased pressure we felt this year.

Last year, more people came to WayForward than ever before—and they came more frequently. We had, on average, 120 more unique households coming to the food pantry each month. To meet this large increase in visits with only a small increase in food, we have limits in place to stretch our food further. Thanks to your continued support, we've never had to turn anyone away—and we're proud of that. But unfortunately, people are taking on average less food than they did before because less food is available.

There have also been significant changes in how we get food. As demand has increased throughout the county and beyond, our traditional sources of free and

reduced-priced food have also struggled to keep up, meaning there are fewer options and smaller amounts of this free and reduced-priced food available.

To make sure we have a variety of food on our shelves, we must purchase more food—and the food we purchase is more expensive. Last year, we purchased 63% more pounds than just the year before. Combining this with the higher prices means our food purchasing budget has increased drastically—going up more than six-fold in just five years.

What lies ahead next year? We feel encouraged by the increased conversations about housing across Dane County, but we know price relief is not coming in the immediate future. What may be coming in the immediate future, though, is drastic cuts to other food assistance programs. At the time of this writing, the House of Representatives advanced a reconciliation bill that would cut SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) by about 30 percent, nearly \$300 billion, over the next 10 years, according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). Nearly 8% of people in Dane County use SNAP to meet their nutritional needs. Without some drastic changes to how systems operate, food pantries would not be able to bridge this gap.

What do all these numbers mean, and what can we do about it? These numbers mean making sure our neighbors have access to nutritious food has never been more challenging. And it means your support is more important than ever. We continue to think creatively about how we can get food to people—and we continue to rely on our community to help us. While we had a record-breaking year in demand for our services last year, it was also a record-breaking year in community support. When we see the Middleton Meals Matter high school students standing outside in the freezing cold at the grocery store collecting food donations for us or when we have donors tell us they see the challenges and are increasing their gift to help us meet them, we feel hope that together we can continue to create stability despite the obstacles. Thank you for making our work possible.

[DONATE](#)

***Thank you for all you do to create stability
in our community.***

WayForward's Back-to-School Program



Doesn't it seem like summer vacation just started?

Here's a simple question for you: Are you missing your time in school and/or teaching *or* are you laughing like crazy or cringing at the sheer thought of school again?

Let's get back to business and thoughts of school.

Yes, you may purchase items on WayForward's School Supply List, but WayForward would prefer receiving monetary support.

WHY?

They will purchase *exactly* what they want and need and they can get more bang for your donated bucks!

It may be fun for you to shop for school supplies and make a donation so we've come up with a hybrid model. We will have a display and supply of many of the items on the list and you can choose to donate \$\$ to our Dale Heights backpack & school supply project.

Look for our display soon in the concourse!

Maybe think of it this way? It will be a joy and exciting to pay to *not* have to go back to school. I mean donate knowing full well you don't have to go back to school in the fall!?

Click [here](#) for the Back to School supply list

We strive to meet the needs of our community by providing essential items to those who shop the food pantry. We understand the significance of having a well-stocked pantry, and we constantly work towards ensuring that everyone has access to nutritious meals.

To better serve you, we have compiled a list of our top 10 most needed items.

- Hearty soups
- Paper, plastic and reusable grocery bags
- Canned chicken or tuna
- Basmati, jasmine or white rice
- Masa
- Noodles (any kind)
- Canned tomatoes (any kind)
- Canned beans (all varieties)
- Canned fruit (all varieties)
- Condiments (any kind)

These items are crucial in meeting diverse dietary requirements and ensuring a balanced diet for individuals and families who access food from our pantry. By donating these items, you can make a significant impact and help us provide access to a variety of foods.

Buy items directly from our Amazon Wish List!

Wish List

We wouldn't have been able to make it without you."

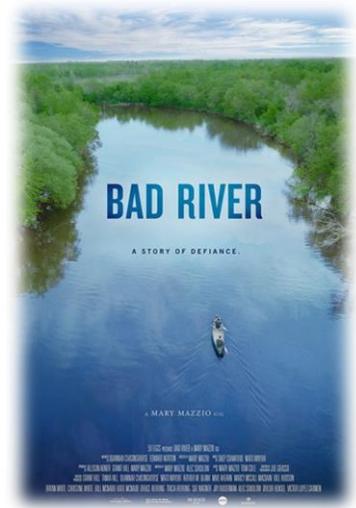
—food pantry client

Let's Watch (and talk about) Bad River (a documentary screening)

- **Tuesday, July 29**
- **6:30 – 8:30 P.M.**
- Sequoya Library Rooms A and B
- 4340 Tokay Blvd., Madison 53711
- **Join us and bring or share it with a friend ... and if you've seen it you may want to view it again!**
- Yes, we will serve popcorn for the viewing!

The Bad River documentary chronicles the Wisconsin-based Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa's ongoing struggle for sovereignty and protection of Lake Superior from the aging Line 5 oil pipeline.

The film highlights the tribe's deep connection to the land and their resilience in the face of historical injustices and current threats, which showcases their David and Goliath battle against the pipeline and corporate interests.



This is a trailer for the documentary and not only about the Line 5 pipeline. You'll see it's a **long and difficult history** with their response of resilience.

https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/bad_river

You are also encouraged to **check out their informative and amazing website**. It offers us insight into who the tribes are and what they offer their members and community and what is good for us to know.

<https://www.badriver-nsn.gov/>

The documentary showing is offered by the Midvale Heights Green Team and Sequoya Library. The documentary is produced by 50 Eggs Productions.

The producers have graciously waived their fee for this screening.

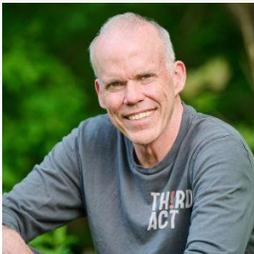
THIRD ACT

Sun Day 2025: Harnessing Solar Power & People Power

Join Bill McKibben in conversation with Third Act staff and Sun Day partners on **Wednesday, July 23 at 5:00 pm CT** to learn about why we must dramatically accelerate and scale-up solar energy and how Sun Day will help achieve this goal.

You'll hear incredible and varied stories from across the country about solar energy: it's here, it's affordable, it works, and it's liberating us from fossil fuels, oil oligarchs, and polluted air and water! Learn how you can get involved with Sun Day to make this a joyous, visible day of action. Get ready to build, rally, sing, and come together to educate our communities, improve laws, cut red tape and grow the clean energy revolution.

> REGISTER NOW



Bill McKibben, Founder of Third Act

Bill is an author, educator, and environmentalist, who helped found **350.org**, the first global grassroots climate campaign, and who has recently helped found **Third Act**, to build a progressive organizing movement for people over the age of 60.

A faithful Third Act (an excerpt)

Environmental stewardship fuels Patricia Tull's work with Baby Boomers to provide a brighter future for generations to come.

BY PATRICIA K. TULL

PUBLISHED IN THE PRESBYTERIAN OUTLOOK: 01/10/2023

Many Presbyterians are voicing alarm over the climate chaos confronting our grandchildren. As mostly gray-haired Christians, we also fret over our church's dearth of younger members. These twin worries can lead us to overlook a source of hope staring at many of us in the mirror: the vigor of baby boom retirees.

“ We boomers can do so much more than we may think. We're a large generation with outsize responsibility and capacity to help save the future. ”

Some of us admit to feeling overwhelmed by the climate crisis. We've never seen anything like this. But we aren't helpless. Baby boomers (in or) approaching retirement can help reset the needle on climate change, and nothing soothes the fretting like getting things done.

Some of us are moved by a troubled sense of fairness. Others are moved by compassion. For some, we are motivated by wanting a credible legacy. What if we nurture our kids, work hard, vote regularly, go to church, tidy our campsites, eat our vegetables and do everything we were taught, but we don't give our grandkids a livable future with stories they will be proud to tell about us?

Our elders' hands through the decades have handled many tools, served many meals and carried many children — these experienced hands have so much more to give.

To read the full article, click [here](#).

Here's a garden tip for chrysanthemums (mums):



Prune your mums around the **4th of July** and definitely **by mid-August**.

You can use your fingers or a scissors.

Why prune in the summer?

- Pruning back stems **encourages bushier growth** so the mum branches out and has a rounder shape.
- Pruning **promotes fall growth** and the plant focuses its energy on developing flower buds for the fall, rather than prematurely in the summer.
- Without pruning, mums can become tall and spindly, with flowers only at the top.

Enjoy your mums in the fall!

DALE HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5501 University Ave.

Madison, Wisconsin 53705

JULY CALENDAR

- 06 Sunday Worship**
- 08 Property & Finance 7p**
- 12 Church breakfast 8:30a**
- 13 Sunday Worship**
- 20 Sunday Worship**
- 27 Sunday Worship**

AUGUST CALENDAR

- 03 Sunday Worship**
- 09 Church breakfast 8:30a**
- 10 Sunday Worship**
- 12 Property & Finance 7p**
- 17 Sunday Worship**
- 24 Sunday Worship**



July Liturgists

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| July 6 | Roy Lembcke |
| July 13 | Barb Fleishman |
| July 20 | Marcia Holman |
| July 27 | Edi Chan |

*(August liturgists will be announced
in the weekly eNews)*

