



FOCUS

May 2026

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

Session Members

Acting Moderator:
Kristin Frederich

Clerk:
Gale Oakes

Edi Chan (2026)
Gale Oakes (2026)
Wendy Weber (2027)
June Zeeh (2027)
Gerry Klump (2028)
Melanie Klump (2028)

The Mother Love of God

A couple's son had just been sentenced to five years in prison. The father was deeply disappointed; his son was a lost cause in his eyes. The mother wept. Her son was a good boy who had made a mistake. She had hope for his future.

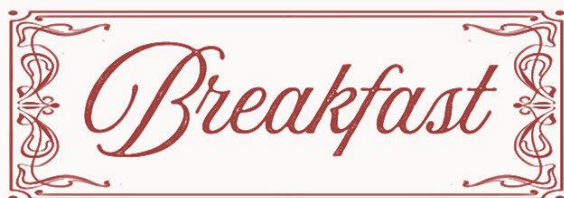
There is often a tenderness in a mother's love that may sometimes be missing from a father's. As Israel was serving hard time in exile, they needed to know that God's love has a tender side. They thought God had forsaken them. God responded by using the image of a mother nursing her infant. *"Can a woman forget her nursing child or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even if these might forget, yet I will not forget you,"* declared the Lord (Isaiah 49:15). It is outrageous to imagine a caring mother forgetting her own newborn child. It is even more unthinkable to imagine God forgetting his own children.

In fact, we are engraved onto God's hands. We are like an open wound on the hand of God, unforgettable, always before his eyes. Surely this is a picture of what Jesus endured for our sake. After dying on the cross and rising on Easter, Jesus showed his followers the nail holes in his hands as evidence of who he is and of the love he has given. We are engraved as scars on Jesus' hands. The scars are a reminder of God's incredible love for us, more tender than even a mother's love for her baby.

He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself..."

Luke 24:38-39

Adapted from an essay by Rev. Rob Jansons



MOTHER'S DAY FAMILY BREAKFAST

Saturday, May 9, 2026.

Serving will begin at **9:00** am.

The suggested donation is **\$5**.

RSVP to Roy if you have not already done so.



Congregational Meeting on Property Development Study:

Mark Elsdon will present the feasibility study to our congregation on

Sunday, May 3

right after the service. A vote will be taken on whether to continue to look at potentially developing our property.

A sandwich lunch will be provided.

May Birthdays:

- 5 Paul Holland
- 15 Dagmar Bartels Krause
- 16 Maggie Rogers
- 24 Jim Tracey
- 29 Roger Roberts



Choir Schedule for May:

- Thursday, May 7 at 12:30pm
- Thursday, May 14 at 12:30pm
- Thursday, May 21 at 12:30pm

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday

9:30am - 1:30pm

Wednesday

10:30am - 2:30pm

The deadline for article submissions for the June issue of the FOCUS is May 27, 2026.



WORSHIP NOTES and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please enter the sanctuary before the start of service at 10 am.

Piano music will begin at 9:50 to allow you to enter, find your seat, and quietly enjoy the music or have some time for silent reflection before service begins.

Fellowship time after service will end no later than 11:45 with a last call being given at 11:30. This is to accommodate Sah-Lang church as they begin their service at 11:45 and will also allow our clean-up volunteers to leave for home at a reasonable time.

Congregational Meeting on Property Development Study: Mark Elsdon will present the feasibility study to our congregation **on May 3** right after the service. A vote will be taken on whether to continue to look at potentially developing our property. A sandwich lunch will be provided.

The next **church breakfast** will be held on **Saturday, May 9** in honor of Mother's Day. Serving will start at **9:00** a.m. You won't want to miss Tracey's Biscuits. Janice Krall will again be helping us with the door prizes and she always has many creative ideas! Thanks Jim and Janice! Please RSVP to Roy or sign up on the sheet in the concourse.

A big **THANK YOU to Rose** from the Sah-Lang congregation for her wonderful work and donation to Dale Heights' grounds! Rose has given us a generous gift of her time and talent in making our flower beds look absolutely beautiful!

**75th Annual National Day of Prayer
Thursday, May 7, 2026**

2026 National Prayer

Almighty God, King of Glory, we confess our sins and repent of our pride that sought our own glory and comfort, allowing evil to take root instead of your fruit in our hearts, homes, culture, and country.

Please forgive us.

Now, with this declaration of rededication, we humble ourselves, pray, and seek your face, turning from our wicked ways, that you would heal our lives and our land. Please purify and renew our hearts with holy attributes, affections, attitudes, and actions -- to love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We give you glory as we repent and rededicate our lives and our nation to you. For 250 years you have guarded and guided America in wisdom, grace, mercy, and love. We praise and thank you for our Founding Fathers, for all who sought you in fervent prayer throughout history and answered your call to defend justice and freedom; to protect and serve, preach and teach, innovate, communicate, learn, work, worship, and establish our laws.

May your Kingdom come, and your will be done in our lives, our Families, the Church, Education, Business, Military, Government, Arts, Entertainment and Media as it is in heaven.

We prayerfully commit to "Glorify God Among the Nations,
Seeking Him in All Generations."

In Jesus' name, Amen!



Written by NDP Task Force President, Kathy Branzell

Age
6 yrs - 10 yrs

VBS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

at **DALE HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

5501 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, MADISON

AUGUST 3, 4, 5, 2026

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

ART SNACKS GAMES MUSIC BIBLE STORIES

PLEASE REGISTER BY JUNE 15

email: dale.heights@gmail.com

phone: 608-233-0134

Registration Form

(One Per Child)

Dale Heights Presbyterian Church Vacation Bible School

August 3, 4, 5, 2026
9-11:30 am

Child's name:	Gender:	
Grade completed:	Birthday:	Age:
Parent(s) names:		
Home address:		
Home phone:	Alternate phone:	
Emergency contact person:		
Relationship to child:		
Home phone:	Alternate phone:	
Food allergies? If so, please list:		
People who may pick up the child:		
Parent's signature:		

Return Completed Form to:
Dale Heights Presbyterian Church
5501 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53705

Questions: Call* or email the church at 608-233-0134 or dale.heights@gmail.com

*The church office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30am-1:30pm and on Wednesdays from 10:30am-2:30pm.
Please leave a message if no answer and your call will be returned during office hours.*



Meeting Call

In accordance with the Form of Government, G-3.0304, and the Presbytery Bylaws I.F.1., the Stated Clerk issues a call for the Stated Meeting of John Knox Presbytery to be held on **Tuesday, 19 May 2026, beginning at 9:00 a.m.**, held by Zoom and in-person at United Presbyterian Church, Wisconsin Dells, WI.

This is a hybrid meeting. Advance registration is required to attend in-person, to receive the link to attend virtually, and for those requesting to be noted as absent with notice.

Registration in advance is required, whether you plan to attend online, in-person, or request to be noted as absent with notice. If you will not be attending, please use the online registration form to indicate so. Registration will close Monday, May 18th, 2026.

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. 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.

- ✓ Cereal
- ✓ Canned fruit and vegetables
- ✓ Canned proteins (tuna and chicken)
- ✓ Canned hearty soups and stews
- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Condiments and spices
- ✓ Variety of pastas and sauces
- ✓ Vegetable oil
- ✓ Baking items (flour, sugar, oil, baking soda/powder)
- ✓ Snack items (fruit snacks, granola bars, etc.)

CITY OF MADISON - COMPOST FOOD SCRAPS

City of Madison FREE food scraps drop off at neighborhood farmers' markets schedule:

Eastside Farmers' Market

- *Dates:* April 28 to October 27, 2026
- *Hours:* Tuesdays, 4:00 to 7:00pm
- McPike Park - 202 S. Ingersoll Street

Westside Community Market

- *Dates:* April 11 to October 31, 2026
- *Hours:* Saturdays, 7:00am - 12:30pm
- University Research Park - 505 S. Rosa Rd

South Madison Farmers' Market

- *Dates:* May 19 to October 27, 2026
- *Hours:* Tuesdays, 2:00 to 6:00pm
- Madison Labor Temple - 1602 S. Park Street

Capitol View Farmers' Market

- *Dates:* May 27 to October 14, 2026
- *Hours:* Wednesdays, 3:00 to 7:00pm
- 5901 Sharpsburg Drive – Near City View Park



WHAT TO SCRAP!

- ✓ Raw Vegetables
- ✓ Raw Fruits
- ✓ Coffee Grounds
- ✓ Corn Cobs & Husks
- ✓ Loose Tea
- ✓ Eggshells

WHAT NOT TO SCRAP!

- Meat ✗
- Dairy ✗
- Paper Products ✗
- Produce Stickers & Twist Ties ✗
- Compostable Plastics ✗
- Baked Goods ✗
- Prepared Foods ✗

Let's talk about Wisconsin Native Pollinators and Bumblebee Conservation and Habitat

- * **Saturday, May 30 • 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**
- * Sequoya Library, Rooms A and B, 4340 Tokay Boulevard
- * Please bring your own mug or flask (coffee will be provided and maybe there will be something of a snack!)



The Buzz in our Gardens: Helping Wisconsin's Threatened Native Bees

Please join local native bee expert, citizen scientist and educator
Judy Cardin
on Saturday, May 30, from 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM.

Judy will discuss Wisconsin native pollinators with a particular focus on bumblebee conservation and habitat. The session will take place at Sequoya Library, Rooms A & B.

While Wisconsin is home to over 400 native bee species, at least 11 bumblebee species are in serious decline, and the rusty patched bumblebee (*Bombus affinis*) is a federally endangered bee species, largely due to habitat loss, pesticides, and climate change.

Learn more about the problem and solutions and leave with practical ideas on what you can do to get a better buzz in your garden, community and state!

- * FYI: Judy Cardin is really the native bumblebee expert and you won't want to miss this!
- * P.S. We really need bumblebees!

This event is co-sponsored by
the Midvale Heights Green Team
and Sequoya Library.

FCCA Quarterly Meeting May 7, 2026: Regenerative Agriculture: Better Farms, Better Food, Better Climate

Farming is important to each and every person as we like and need to eat, right? God's will for us is to learn and do what is good and in the best interests of our world and its people. This is an opportunity to learn about new and exciting ways people are doing good things to benefit all of us.

Regenerative Agriculture: Better Farms, Better Food, Better Climate - Thursday, May 7, 2026, from 7:00–8:30 p.m. VIA ZOOM.

Well, what is regenerative agriculture? Are you curious? We welcome you to join us ...no breakouts where you are invited to talk and you don't even have to be on video...just watch and learn!

Join us for **Faiths Connect for Climate Action's** quarterly meeting- **Regenerative Agriculture: Better Farms, Better Food, Better Climate-** for an engaging conversation on how regenerative agriculture can help address climate change while strengthening farms and food systems.



Dr. Esther S. Durairaj, Education Director at Michael Fields Agricultural Institute will share insights from their research, policy, and education efforts that support environmentally, economically, and socially healthy farming systems.

Chris Wilson of Wilson Organic Farms will tell the story of his family's seven-generation farm in the Driftless Region and their transition from conventional to organic & regenerative practices such as no-till farming, cover crops, crop rotation, and soil health management.

Whether you're new to the topic or looking to deepen your understanding, this event promises practical insights and inspiring stories of real-world experiences.

Register and Spread the Word: [Register for this event and get the Zoom link](https://forms.gle/5DPNBJeXNYbLXuN87) at: <https://forms.gle/5DPNBJeXNYbLXuN87>.

Faiths Connect for Climate Action (FCCA) is a way for members of faith-based Green Teams throughout the region to network and support one another.

UPCOMING SUSTAINABILITY VOLUNTEER EVENTS

Here are a few upcoming events to help you stretch and strengthen your sustainability muscles.

Highway Cleanup

May 2, 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon: Hosted by VFW Post 7591 and Madison College Vets Club. Give back to the community for our annual Day of Service Event. Meet at VFW, 301 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison, WI 53716.

Friends of the Yahara River Headwaters

Stewardship, education, and community connection along the Yahara River:

May 2, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.: **Yahara River Spring Clean-Up**

Meet at Veterans Memorial Park in DeForest to remove debris from river/banks, improve habitat and prepare for the paddling season. Safety and equipment orientation; tools and waders provided.

May 16 10:00 a.m. @ DeForest Public Library: **Annual Meeting**

Presentation, *"Wisconsin Frogs & Toads – Experiences and Insights from the 2025 Wisconsin Frog and Toad Survey,"* by Jeff Craig, ex-science teacher and volunteer citizen scientist.

2026 Earth Day & Repair Fair - Reduce waste, build community, and share skills

May 3, 12 noon – 4 p.m. at Goodman Community Center, Madison – Free! Open to all! Join Green Box Composting & Green Life Trading Co. for their 3rd annual Earth Day Fair, featuring Zero Waste Madison's inaugural Repair Fair and the launch of the Zero Waste Resource Map! Eco-Market with 18+ Vendors, including Dane Buy Local.

Bring your items to be repaired by volunteers. Learn to repair with demos every hour.

International Compost Awareness Week

May 3 – May 9, 2026: Themed "Compost! Feed the Soil that Feeds Us," this initiative highlights the role of composting in building healthy soils and reducing food waste. Set up a [backyard compost bin](#) or find a drop-off site at a [farmers market](#), [Residential Food Scrap Stop](#), or [community garden](#) and learn how to [Recycle Better](#).

- Continued -

Home Efficiency & Electrification Mini Course (with Sustain Dane and MG&E)

Starts Tues., May 5, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Over four evening classes, learn from a Madison Gas and Electric engineer to:

- Understand your home's energy performance
- Boost efficiency and comfort, and reduce your home's carbon footprint
- Plan for home electrification including obtaining contractor quotes
- Navigate state and federal rebates and incentives associated with upgrades

Participants will create a tailored plan for upgrades, a corresponding project budget, and potential contractors. Scholarships are available.

Wisconsin Society for Ornithology

May 15 – 17: [84th Annual Convention, For the Love of Birds](#), Best Western Plus InnTower, 2424 University Ave.

Friends of the Arboretum Native Plant Sale

May 16, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Annual Tent Sale, in front of UW-Madison Arboretum Visitor Center, 1207 Seminole Hwy, Madison, offers 150+ native plant species of flowering plants, ferns, grasses and sedges. [Download a pdf of the plants available](#). (NB: Online ordering has closed).

Holy Wisdom Monastery Native Plant Sale and Fundraiser

Order native trees, shrubs and plants from Johnson's Nursery and support birds and Friends of Wisdom Prairie, Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance, and SOS Save Our Songbirds.

March 13 – May 11, 2026: Online ordering

May 17: Pickup Location 1: Holy Wisdom Monastery (4200 Co. Hwy M)

Friends of the Arboretum Luncheon Lectures

May 20, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.: [Bird Friendly Chocolate and Songbirds You'll Save](#), Lisa Gaumnitz, Save our Songbirds & Amy Haban, Barnwood Coffee Company

June 11, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.: [Eyes on the Skies](#), Dr James Lattis, UW Space Place



DALE HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5501 University Ave.

Madison, Wisconsin 53705



MAY CALENDAR

- 03 Sunday worship (Communion)
Congregational Meeting
- 07 Choir practice 12:30pm
- 09 Mothers Day breakfast **9:00am**
- 10 Sunday worship
- 12 Property & Finance
- 14 Choir practice 12:30pm
- 17 Sunday worship
- 21 Choir practice 12:30pm
- 24 Sunday worship
- 31 Sunday worship

Liturgists

- May 3: Janice Krall
- May 10: Otty Schaefer
- May 17: Carey Fleischmann
- May 24: Gerry Klump
- May 31: Barb Fleishman

