



FOCUS

June 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)

Guided by God

The headline read, "Man follows GPS directions and drives car into river." The driver of the car said he was traveling at night, and the road was dark and covered in fog. He believed that the directions his GPS gave him were correct, unaware that the unfamiliar road ahead ended in disaster.

How easily we can be misled or distracted as we travel through life! Our world can offer any number of tempting paths, which may or may not prove to be the right direction for us. Other people can persuade us to think that we are making right choices. But sometimes those options can lead us down roads that are potentially dangerous.

Fortunately, through prayer, we can ask God for daily guidance and wisdom to know which paths are right for us. From God we can receive the kind of wisdom that goes beyond human reasoning.

Centering our lives in daily prayer helps us find the way, guiding us toward joyful living and an eternal home.

***There is a way that seems right to a person,
but its end is the way to death.***

– Proverbs 14:12

Adapted from an essay by Jerry Bragalone for the Upper Room

June



Saturday, **June 20**, 2026.

Serving will begin at 8:30 am.
The suggested donation is \$5.

RSVP to Roy L. or sign up
on the sheet in the concourse.



June Birthdays:

1	Mike Holland
1	June Zeeh
7	Kim Chan
11	Edi Chan
16	Dominic Brown

June Anniversary

29	Jennifer Jones & Jack Rose
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*Please note the date change to accommodate
Sah-Lang's Vacation Bible School*



Just one week of rehearsal in June

- Thursday, June 11 at 12:30pm
- Sunday, June 14 at 9:15am

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday

9:30am - 1:30pm

Wednesday

10:30am - 2:30pm

*The deadline for article submissions for the July-
August issue of the FOCUS is June 25, 2026.*



Invitation to Hymn Sing **June 14th** at Sun Prairie UMC

Greetings to all!

We cordially invite you to join us for an unforgettable old-fashioned hymn sing! Get ready to experience the uplifting power of music under the expert direction of our talented musician, Michael W. Hillestad.

No matter your religious background –whether you are Lutheran, Catholic, Pentecostal, Baptist, Presbyterian, or any other denomination – we share a common bond through the timeless and cherished hymns of faith. This event is designed to be inclusive and welcoming to people from all walks of life. In these challenging times, it's heartwarming to know there are gatherings that foster community and shared joy. There's nothing quite like the pure exhilaration of singing inspiring songs together, and the sense of unity we find in these shared moments is truly special.

We warmly encourage you to participate and sing along, but if you prefer to simply listen and soak in the beautiful melodies, you are more than welcome to do so. While we will have a selection of hymns prepared in advance, we will also be accepting your requests! We'll have handy note cards available so you can jot down your favorite hymn requests throughout the event. Many who have attended these gatherings in the past have expressed their deep appreciation for the uplifting atmosphere and the incredible artistry of Michael, who brings these hymns to life with his passion. We sincerely hope you will join us for this joyous celebration!

This exciting event will begin at **1:30pm on Sunday, June 14th** at the Sun Prairie United Methodist Church which is located at 702 North Street in beautiful Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. We will collect a free will offering for Rays of Hope. These funds are used in the Sun Prairie Community to help those in need of utilities assistance.

Be sure to invite everyone you know and we look forward to seeing you!

Amanda Hinthorn
Director of Community Engagement
Sun Prairie United Methodist Church



The HighPoint church Youth Group is doing their Mission to Madison this year from **July 13-July 16**. This year, as in past years, they have volunteered a day to do projects for our church.

In previous years this involved spreading mulch, weeding and painting/staining of the garages, outdoor signs and benches. We felt there was less of that to do this year and **they have agreed to make their services available to our congregation members** who could use help.

These are 5th and 6th graders usually numbering 5 or 6 kids plus an adult. Usually one group works in the morning 9-11:30 and the other in the afternoon 1-3:30. They would be able to do yard work and general projects.

If you have anything you would be interested in having them do, let Gerry Klump know.

Please remember their age and the skill level they will have. We will provide them with water and a snack, but if you wish to give them something as well it would certainly be appreciated.

Access to your home would only be needed in case of bathroom break.



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.*



Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

Peace Gathering at General Assembly!

Friday, June 26 • 6:30-8:30 PM

Immanuel Presbyterian Church

1100 N. Astor Street, Milwaukee

Sandwich Buffet & Dessert

(Cost: \$20 Suggested donation)

- **Keynote by Osamah Khalil**
"From Gaza to Minneapolis:
Confronting America's Forever Wars"
- **Updates on GA Peace Actions**
- **Presentation of 2025 and 2026 Peaceseeker Awards** to Presbyterians for Earth Care & Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis



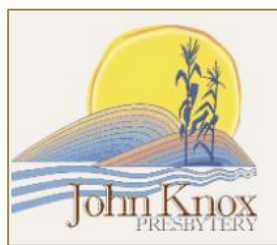
If you are coming to Milwaukee for **#GA227** we invite you to join the **Presbyterian Peace Fellowship** on Friday, June 26th at 6:30pm for the Peace Gathering at Immanuel Presbyterian Church (walking distance from the Baird Center)!

Join us to honor Presbyterian Peaceseechers, discuss key issues being considered at the GA, learn more about the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, and hear from keynote speaker Dr. Osamah Khalil, Professor of History at Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. Light fare will be served and we will have exhibit tables from partner organizations.

Register at this link: <https://bit.ly/ppfpg26>

• *Sponsored by the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship* •

Having a Good Time at Presbytery!



Your church's per capita dollars make it possible to hold four presbytery meetings every year at different churches around the presbytery. Those same dollars allow folks the option of in-person or online attendance. The May 19 gathering of John Knox Presbytery was an enjoyable time to learn about the work of our presbytery. In-person attendees were treated to the superb hospitality of the folks at United Presbyterian Church in Wisconsin Dells. They welcomed us, fed us two meals and took great care of us all day long!

Highlights of the meeting include the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) sharing a brief summary of those in their care. There are currently six folks on track to become teaching elders and three working to become commissioned ruling elders. That's nine people answering the call to lead God's people! Both paths to ministry have several steps and it's the members of our CPM who listen to their stories, answer their questions, and walk with them throughout the process. No one goes through this alone!

The Commission on Ministry (COM) introduced us to pastors at various stages of ministry. Michelle Yardley, a member of the host church, was examined on the floor of presbytery and, right after she aced it, was commissioned to serve First Presbyterian Church in Baraboo, Wisconsin, as a commissioned ruling elder. Congratulations to Michelle and to the folks in Baraboo!

Rev. Dr. Paul Snyder, our host pastor for the day, welcomed us and shared the fact he has only served this congregation since April. The Commission on Ministry helps to connect pastors and congregations and this one is off to a great start.



Rev. Dr. Kristin Frederich smiled throughout a liturgy of retirement. She has served many churches in her 36 years of ministry, including 18 years as pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Cambria, Wisconsin. Well done, good and faithful servant!

As an added bonus, **over 50 pastors took advantage of boundary training.** Our presbytery covered the cost for two members of Leaderwise® to meet with us and provide the required boundary training our church leaders need every three years. Taken separately, going to boundary training might cost as much as \$80.

All of these things, the work of our committees, our staff and our officers, as well as providing boundary training are supported by the financial gifts of our churches through per capita and mission pledges. Rev. Clara Thompson, chair of the Committee on Representation, hit the nail on the head during her report saying, "We would not exist as a body if we did not have people to serve on our committees." The identical thing can be said for the dollars our churches contribute to the work of the presbytery. Per capita dollars support training to be ordained as a teaching elder or commissioned as a ruling elder. Per capita dollars support the work of matching pastors and congregations as well as celebrations of a pastor's lifetime body of work.

The per capita and mission pledge dollars our churches provide come back to pastors and congregations in many ways. **Thank you for your continued financial support.** It is allowing us to grow...as congregations, as pastors and as a presbytery!





Dale Heights Presbyterian Church Imagines a New Future Through Affordable Housing Partnership

Dale Heights Presbyterian Church in **Madison** is discerning a bold new chapter in its ministry that seeks to sustain the congregation's future while responding to one of Dane County's most urgent community needs: affordable housing.

After several years of prayer, study, congregational conversations, and planning, the congregation voted on May 3 to proceed with a proposed redevelopment project and to request approval from John Knox Presbytery to contribute church land to the project. In exchange, Dale Heights would receive **newly constructed church space** that the congregation would fully own, along with an ownership position in the overall development project that would provide **ongoing income** for the church.

The proposed project was also shared during the stated meeting of John Knox Presbytery on May 19.

The redevelopment proposal, being developed in partnership with [Threshold Sacred Development](#), would create approximately 122 units of affordable housing on the church property at 5501 University Avenue in Madison. The apartments would serve households earning approximately 60-70% of Dane County Area Median Income, helping address the region's ongoing housing shortage. More than 18,000 additional homes are projected to be needed in Dane County by 2030, while roughly one-third of renters are considered cost-burdened, spending more than 30% of their income on housing.

Alongside the housing, the project would create a newly designed 6,000-square-foot worship and community space for Dale Heights Presbyterian Church. The congregation would fully own this new space, which is intended to support the church's ministry and community engagement into the future.

Church leaders began participating in the Presbyterian Foundation's Project Regeneration process beginning in 2023. Through that work, the congregation recognized its financial challenges and began considering how its property could serve both the church and the wider community in new ways. In late 2024 they began seriously exploring the future of the property

which included working through RootedGood's [How to Develop Well](#) resource to deepen their understanding of property development.

Dale Heights Presbyterian applied for, and received, a \$40,000 [Good Next Step](#) grant from RootedGood to fund the feasibility and early-predevelopment process that led to this exciting project proposal.

The redevelopment will also help relieve the congregation of significant long-term maintenance costs while creating an ongoing income stream to support ministry. The church would not be responsible for financing or managing the housing development itself. Threshold Sacred Development and its partners would oversee financing, construction, and property management. The church and JKP will not be taking on any debt associated with this project and will not have to put any additional funds into the project.

If JKP, churches, or individuals want to invest in the project they will have a purely optional opportunity to make an equity investment. Investors will receive a competitive financial return while owning a piece of affordable housing in Madison and helping create the sort of community where everyone can thrive.

The project reflects a broader conversation taking place across many congregations about faithful stewardship of church property and how church assets can continue serving God's mission in changing communities.

Threshold Sacred Development has worked on several similar Madison-area projects that combine affordable housing, community space, and church redevelopment. More information about Threshold Sacred Development can be found at: <https://www.thresholdsacred.com/>

The next major step in the process will take place on **June 10**, when the Presbytery Council meets to review the proposal. The request from Dale Heights Presbyterian Church will come back to the full presbytery at the August meeting for a vote.

If approved, design and predevelopment work would continue through 2026 and early 2027, with construction potentially beginning in spring 2027. The new church space would be completed during the project's first phase, with the full development projected to conclude in 2029.

Those with questions about the project are invited to contact JKP Teaching Elder, Mark Elsdon at mark@thresholdsacred.com.

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 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.

While Wisconsin is home to over 400 native bee species, at least 11 bumblebee species are in serious decline, and the rusty patched bumblebee 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!



The Buzz in our Garden:
Helping Wisconsin's
Threatened Native Bees
Judy Cardin

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

Mums the Word for Fall Flowers



Chrysanthemums, better known as **mums** for short, are the traditional flowers to provide color to porches, decks, and home landscapes each autumn. Garden centers throughout Wisconsin typically have a wide variety of mums ready to bring home and add instant color. You can also grow mums in landscapes to provide fall color every year.

The reason chrysanthemums put on dependable floral displays about the same time each fall is they are short-day plants. As days get shorter through summer, increasing darkness each night triggers processes within mums to initiate flowering. In commercial plant nurseries, potted mums are kept bushy and full of blooms through timely maintenance, including pinching stems and manipulating daylength with greenhouse lighting.

Numerous types of mums exist, varying in flower style, color, plant size, and timing of bloom. Potted mums blooming (or ready to bloom) purchased now are most often used as annuals. Trying to establish them out in the yard and survive the upcoming winter is difficult. Mums have shallow fibrous root systems that may freeze and be damaged over winter. In addition, potted mums purchased this fall have put so much energy into blooming they are unlikely to develop many roots prior to winter setting in.

When considering adding mums as more permanent additions to the home landscape, spring is ideal timing for planting. Early-season hardy garden mums, as the name implies, bloom earlier than late-season mums and are the best choice for planting in landscapes throughout Wisconsin, so they bloom prior to hard freezes. Choose an area in full sun, or a minimum of six hours of sunlight each day. Soils should be well-drained, as a common reason mums fail is wet soil, especially in winter. Adding organic matter to the soil, including compost, well-rotted manure, or peat, is suggested, especially on soils higher in clay or sand.

Mums growing in the landscape require more attention than most perennials. **Make sure they are watered throughout the season to avoid drought stress.** Fertilize mums on a regular basis in the first half of the growing season, such as with soluble complete fertilizer mixed in water. The practice with the biggest impact on blooming is pinching, either using your fingers or shears. Pinch back mums after they get at least six inches tall in spring and repeat one or two times before July. The result is shorter, bushier plants loaded with more blooms.

After blooming in fall, **leave foliage standing through winter.** Mums significantly benefit from winter mulching to help survive Wisconsin winters.

***Bruce Spangenberg** is a Horticulture Outreach Specialist with UW-Madison Division of Extension. Get answers to your lawn, landscape and garden questions anytime at ["Ask Your Gardening Question."](#)*

DALE HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5501 University Ave.

Madison, Wisconsin 53705



JUNE CALENDAR

- 07 Sunday worship
- 09 Property & Finance
- 11 Choir practice 12:30pm
- 14 Sunday worship
- 20 Church breakfast 8:30am*
- 21 Sunday worship / Fathers Day
- 28 Sunday worship

**Note date change to accommodate
Sah-Lang's Vacation Bible School*

LITURGISTS

- June 7: Melanie Klump
- June 14: Wendy Weber
- June 21: Roy Lembcke
- June 28: Edi Chan