

Greetings,

Thursday, April 30, 2026

Lately, I have taken to reading poetry. I have always read poetry, off and on (If I am to be honest, more off than on), but one day, I got lost in short videos on my Facebook feed, and I stumbled upon a British poet by the name of Harry Baker. He was sharing some of his works in front of a packed house of people at a TEDtalk, and the audience was so affected and I, watching through a small two inch by 1.5 inch transmission was mesmerized. So, I bought all of his poetry, and I can't stop reading it. He is funny and serious, all in the same line. He is playful in nature. What is most important is that he is human – the Harry you meet in person is the Harry you meet on the page. I find myself reading one of his poems, “Wonderful” almost every day. Here is a snippet:

May you be seriously silly, may you be wickedly kind.
May you be brilliantly dumb sometimes and yet stupidly bright.
May you certainly have doubts, may your weirdness be the norm.
May the coolest thing about you be your warmth.
May you be powerfully vulnerable, or at least mightily soft.
May you be a contradiction, and yet at the same time not.
And whether you are any, none or all of the above,
Above all, may you know that you are loved. (Harry Baker “Wonderful”)

Words are powerful things, and I get to wondering, sometimes, “what would happen were we to speak words – like the ones above – to folks on a consistent basis?” If everyone in the world – all 8.3 Billion of us – heard words like this every day, how different our lives would be.

Here's what's coming up in the life of the church...

Gordy Kraemer Celebration of Life Service will take place on May 9, at 11:00 a.m. Thank you to all the people who responded to the e-mail to bake desserts. We still need ONE volunteer for NURSERY, ONE volunteer for SERVING lunch from approximately Noon to 1:30, and TWO volunteers to help with CLEAN-UP. If you are available, please signup on Sunday, or e-mail Pastor Dave at dgaeth@greendalecommunitychurch.org.

Sandwiches for Guest House During the warmer months of the year, we provide The Guest House of Milwaukee with Sandwiches, which they distribute to folks who drop in during the day. We gather on the second Friday of the month, which will be May 8, from 9:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. (or so) and make 200 sandwiches. The more hands we have, the less time it takes. The more people we have, the more conversation, fellowship, compassion, and laughter there is around the tables. Come join us.

Teacher Appreciation Sunday On May 10, during the service of worship, we will give thanks for our teaching staff. They have worked marvelously with our children and youth this year.

Confirmation Sunday May 17! This year, we have eight wonderful young people who have been on a Confirmation journey together. During worship on May 17, they will share their Faith Statement with the congregation, and they will be receive The Rite of Christian Confirmation. I hope that you will all join us for this wonderful day, as we welcome these eight young people into full membership in the church.

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Please see newsletter below for all other volunteer opportunities, activities, events, and classes.

Peace, Pastor Dave

GREENDALECOMMUNITYCHURCH

A close-up photograph of several vibrant purple iris flowers with yellow and white markings on their petals, set against a blurred green background. The flowers are the central focus of the top half of the poster.

SUN
DAY

MAY 2026

A close-up photograph of several vibrant purple iris flowers with yellow and white markings on their petals, set against a blurred green background. The flowers are the central focus of the bottom half of the poster.

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