



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC ZUMBROTA
and
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ORONOCO**

October 2016 Newsletter

**All Welcome!
(Z) Country Store Proceeds to Support
Zumbrota Food Shelf and UCC Youth Programs**



These cooler autumn days remind us that Country Store time is coming up at First Congregational. This is a fun, community building event you won't want to miss!

This year's Store promises the usual wonderful food, including those homemade pies, plus the bake sale and crafts galore. Homemade wild rice soup and vegetarian chili, barbecues and shredded turkey sandwiches will be served. Your free will offering will support the Zumbrota food shelf and the UCC youth programs. It's a great time to do some early Christmas shopping, but most of all, it's a time to join with friends and neighbors for fun and fellowship.

Country Store is on **Saturday, October 29th, from 11:00am to 1:00pm**. Mark your calendar, save the date, invite your friends!

We are in need of goods for the craft/bake sale, or if you are interested in serving or working in the kitchen, please call Don or Cindy DeBlieck at 732-7545 or Bob Hawley at 612-245-1445 or Connie Hawley at 507-250-1469.

We hope you can come to the Country Store, enjoy a delicious lunch, and shop at the bake and craft sales. The money you spend there will help our church youth and support our community food shelf.

Come join the fun. Everyone is welcome!



A Message from Our Pastor



We find ourselves once again in the fall. The leaves are beginning to change colors. It's (finally!) cool enough at night to leave windows open. We can leave the house dressed in 5 layers in the morning and come back in the evening having shed 4 of those layers. And pumpkin spice seems to have invaded **EVERYTHING** (though why, I'm not really sure).

As I've been thinking about the world around us during this season, I've noticed something interesting. During the fall, all the plants and flora around us are dying.

We're putting our gardens to bed for the winter – pruning things back, digging up bulbs (and maybe even planting others in hopes that they will lie dormant until their beautiful emergence in the spring), covering various shrubs and bushes, and spreading straw over the beds to protect them over the winter and nourish them again in the spring.

In the fields around us, the corn and soybeans are necessarily drying out – essentially dying – in order to prepare for the harvest.

As we watch the beautiful reds, oranges, and yellows pervade the treetops around us, we know that those colors signify the leaves dying – one final, stunning flare before falling to the ground and waiting for our vigorous (and sometimes reluctant) rakes.

The grass around us that has been so lush and green throughout the spring and summer is beginning to brown, from our own lawns to the tall prairie grasses lining the ditches along the highways.

And yet, in the midst of all this fading glory, our schedules are ramping up again.

School has begun again with all the associated hustle and bustle: homework, field trips, extracurricular activities, conferences, Homecomings, and so on.

Many other groups are resuming after taking a summer hiatus – various clubs and social groups like the Readers of OZ. Welcome back!

And our church activities are picking up again –

Sunday school, confirmation, the Dorothy Day dinner, luncheons, and so on. We have some big events and fundraisers right around the corner – another Chocolate Affaire at Oronoco and another Country Store at Zumbrota.

I'm finding a very theological juxtaposition in all of this – nature laying down and the busyness of our lives picking up, nature slowing down and the busyness of our lives ramping up, nature dying and the busyness of our lives reviving. There is death and resurrection in this. There is old life and new life in this.

Paul speaks to this kind of juxtaposition in his letter to the Christians in Rome:

A person who has died has been freed from sin's power. But if we died with Christ, we have faith that we will also live with him. We know that Christ has been raised from the dead and he will never die again. Death no longer has power over him. He died to sin once and for all with his death, but he lives for God with his life. In the same way, you also should consider yourselves dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

~ Romans 6:7-11 ~

We know that death is a part of life. It's a cyclical part of the world around us – the turning of the seasons from one to the next – and it's a part of the span of our days, our time here on this earth. But because of God's grace and because of Christ's death and resurrection, the assumed finality of death is no more. There is life – activity, vitality, light and hope – even in the face of death. It's like it says in one of our favorite hymns:

*“In our end is our beginning;
In our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing;
In our life, eternity;
In our death, a resurrection;
At the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.”*

~ “In the Bulb There is a Flower,” verse 3
Natalie Sleeth, #433 in the New Century Hymnal

Pastor Lisa

(O/Z) Pastor Out of the Office

Pastor Lisa will be out town Sept. 29-Oct. 2 for continuing ed. I will have my cell phone with me in case of emergencies.

(O/Z) Contacting Pastor Lisa



Pastor Lisa has a new phone!!! The phone number remains the same (507-696-8753), but **now you can text me!**

A big thank you to the ICC for helping me get this all sorted out and to Lance Sorensen for donating a phone for me to use. Here we go, into the 21st century!

(O/Z) Readers of OZ

The next book selection for our book discussion group is "The Road to Character" by David Brooks. We will meet on Tuesday, October 11 at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Parker and Linda Quammen (690 Warren Ave, Zumbrota). All are welcome to join us. A reviewer on the Barnes & Noble site had this to say about our selection:

David Brooks presents a contrast between what he calls resume values and eulogy values. The former being skills, the latter virtues. Then the author recognizes two opposing sides of our nature. The career-oriented ambitious side of our nature wants to build, create, discover and produce; it is called Adam I and wants to win victories and achieve high status. The other side called Adam II is concerned with morality, transcendent truth, in a word the soul. Adam I wants to conquer the world, Adam II wants to serve it. There is a tension between both Adams because they live by different logics. Our culture nurtures Adam I and neglects Adam II. To strengthen Adam II we need to straighten the "crooked timber" that we all are built with. That is the beginning of building the road to character and this book is about people who cultivated strong character.

David Brooks is one of the nation's leading writers and commentators. He is an op-ed columnist for The New York Times and appears regularly on PBS News Hour and Meet the Press.

Visitors are welcome. We always have a good time!

(O) The Chocolate Affaire



The Chocolate Affaire ... it's BACK!! And ONCE AGAIN, it will be a fun-filled night of great live entertainment and delicious chocolate.

WHAT: We're asking everyone to bring their favorite chocolate concoction divided up into small portions. The evening will be a chance to come, sample a wide variety of dishes (plus coffee, sparkling cider, and, of course, milk) and enjoy some live music. Free will donations accepted at the door, and boxes can be purchased to take some of your favorite goodies home with you!

WHEN: Fri., Oct. 28 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Children are welcome as well! There will be a "Decorate your own brownie" station for the kids.

Keep an eye out for the Chocolate Affaire sign-up sheet on the bulletin board!

We will be decorating for the Chocolate Affaire in the evening on Thurs., Oct. 27. If you're interested in helping with that, please contact Pastor Lisa or Brenda Longman.

(O) Pine Haven Birthday Bingo Celebration October 19, 2016, 7:00PM



POC will again be calling Bingo and serving treats to the residents of the Pine Haven Care Center in honor of their October birthdays! The event is Wednesday, October 19th at 7pm. We will need a bingo caller, several helpers (6-7), and treat makers. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. It was a lot of fun last year. Come and treat the residents to a great celebration! Contact Janice or Dick Ostrom at 507-843-4088 for information.

(O/Z) Food Shelf Sunday is Oct. 2

The Food shelf is collecting the 1st Sunday every month. All members are invited to bring non-perishable food items on that Sunday. Monetary donations are always welcome. Thank you for your generosity!!

(O/Z) Confirmation

As the school year picks up again, we will also be picking up again with our confirmation class. We will keep the same schedule as last year: 6-8 p.m., 1st Wed. of the month in Oronoco, 3rd Wed. of the month in Zumbrota. We will also be needing meals again, so there are sign-up sheets in both churches.

(O) Presbytery Meeting

The next Presbytery meeting is **Tues., Nov. 15 at 4:00 p.m.** at House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul. As always, Presbytery meetings are open to anyone. If you're interested in coming, please contact Pastor Lisa.

(Z) Outdoor Labyrinth

Our labyrinth has been fully installed! Walking the labyrinth in a meditative practice that has been used for more than 4000 years. So how do I walk the labyrinth? How do I use this as a spiritual practice? *"The entrance can be a place to stop, reflect, make prayer or intention for the spiritual walk you are about to take. The walk around the design to the center can be a "letting go" – a quieting of the thoughts, worries, lists of tasks to do, a letting go unto the experience of being present in the body. Arrival at the center rosette – a place of prayer/meditation – "letting in" Gods guidance, the divine into our lives. When ready, the walk out "letting out" takes us back into our lives, empowered by spirit to transform our lives and actions."* (from "Guidelines for Walking a Labyrinth," <http://sacredwalk.com/guidelines>)



Our labyrinth, located out on the east lawn, is roughly 40' in diameter and even has a beautiful stone bench in the middle, giving you the opportunity to sit and pray, think, meditate, or listen for God as long as you like before journeying out again. We are also working on a sign that will explain the purpose and function of a labyrinth to anyone that chooses to stop by.

(O/Z) Executive Presbyter Visit

On Sun., Nov. 6, we will be welcoming the Rev. Dr. Jeff Japinga, current transitional Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, into our worship. He will be sharing God's Word in a sermon and presiding alongside Pastor Lisa at the table for communion. Please plan to stay after worship for a little while so Rev. Dr. Japinga can get to know our wonderful OZ congregations a little better!

(O) Peace and Global Witness Offering (World Communion Sunday) October 2, 2016

We make a special point of remembering our unity with Christians worldwide on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of October (10/2/16). The Peace and Global Witness Offering encourages all parts of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to work for peace. Each congregation is invited to find ways to promote peace within the congregation and within the community. The Peace and Global Witness Offering supports the peacemaking efforts of the church at every governing body level and provides an opportunity to witness to God's gift of peace in the world. Please watch for the special envelopes and consider how you may help.

(Z) Special Offering

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

We will receive the NIN offering on **October 2, 2016** as part of their World Communion Sunday observance.

(O) October Casserole Luncheon
Wednesday, October 19, 2016
11:30a.m.-1:00p.m.



We will serve a variety of casseroles, salads and desserts. All are welcome to join us and your free will offering will support our outreach programs. Check the sign up sheet on the fellowship room bulletin board and sign up to help by preparing food, setting up, serving or cleaning up after. It's a fun time serving members of our community and others who come for good food and conversation.

(Z) Habitat for Humanity Workday

First Congregational is assigned to work at the Habitat for Humanity project in Red Wing on Saturday, October 15. The project is a 518 – 17th Street in Red Wing (two blocks west of Bush Street (Highway 58) on 17th Street), and the workday goes from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We will be helping with the final stages of the project. We are looking for a crew of 6 or so construction workers and also several people to help prepare and deliver the noon meal. Each construction worker should bring the following items: hammer, tape measure, pair of gloves, a pencil. We have a long history of helping with Habitat projects and have had many enjoyable, productive experiences helping to build God's kingdom in this world. Please contact Parker at 507-732-7761 to let him know you can help or add your name to the sign-up sheet at church.

(O) Painting Fundraiser



We will be hosting a wonderful night of painting, refreshments, and fellowship! We will be joined by Nicki Novotne from Art on the Go in Rochester (www.artonthegorochester.com). There will be painting (all materials provided)! There will be delicious treats! There will be gourmet coffee and wine! And all the funds raised will go toward Peace Camp 2017!

When: **Fri., Dec. 9, 6:30-9:00 p.m.**
Where: **Presbyterian Church of Oronoco**
Cost: **\$10** per person

Pre-registration for this event IS REQUIRED, and space is limited. So sign up soon! To register, go to the Art on the Go website, click on "Calendar," then find Dec. 2016 and click on "Peace Camp for Kids."

(O/Z) Advent Readers

Believe it or not, Advent is just around the corner. If you're interested in being one of our advent readers/candle lighters, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary (Z) or on the bulletin board (O). Pastor Lisa will get the readings to you as soon as she can.

(O/Z) 50th Anniversary of the Yoke

Believe it or not, we are coming up on this incredible milestone – on the 50th anniversary of the OZ yoke!! We are in the process of planning a joint celebration (including a joint worship service) for April 2017, but we need your help ... especially those of you who have stories about the yoke. Maybe it's a story of your own experience. Maybe it's a story that you heard from one of our dearly departed saints of the church who was present during the yoking. Please feel free to share those stories with Pastor Lisa or anyone on our planning committee:
- Z: Nattalie Vath, Hailey Vath, Bonnie Rolland
- O: Jenny Rand, Gail Rucker

Also, if you're interested in being a part of this planning committee, please let Pastor Lisa know. The more, the merrier!

IN THE COMMUNITY

Harvest Home Dinner, Bazaar and Silent Auction
Pine Island United Methodist Church
Saturday, October 8th. 4:00-7:00pm.

The menu includes Roast Turkey with Dressing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Pickles, Cranberries, Fresh rolls & Beverage, Apple, Pumpkin or Mincemeat Pie.

Ticket prices: Adults (11+): \$13.00, Children (ages 5-10): \$5.00, Children under 5: free, takeout orders available call 507-356-4553. All proceeds from Bazaar will go to the Red Bird Mission Trip.

Shopko Senior Discounts

Shopko would like to extend an invitation to attend a special shopping event for senior citizens. Seniors, age 55 and older, will receive a 15% discount off their total purchases on **Wednesday, October 5, 2016**. *Some restrictions do apply.*

Readings for the Month of October



Sun., Oct. 2 – *guest preacher, Rev. Dick Eick*
World Communion Sunday

Sun., Oct. 9 – Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Sun., Oct. 16 – Psalm 17:1-9, 15; Luke 19:1-10

Sun., Oct. 23 – Jeremiah 1:4-10; 1 Cor.13:1-13

Sun., Oct. 30 – 1 Samuel 1:19-28; Luke 2:41-52

October Birthdays

10/2 Makayla Arendt

10/3 Chris Brown

Derek Matthees

10/4 Terin Matthees

10/6 Cassie Sapp

10/8 Ted Midthun

10/10 Keanan Peterson-Rucker

10/12 Pat Webster

Molly Hunt

10/19 Dick Eick

10/28 Ellen Simon

10/29 Lucas Pahl

10/30 Connie Hawley



Church Staff

Organist: Katha Johnson
Secretary: Sue Johnson
Custodians: (O) Sue Johnson
(Z) Debbie Floan
Pastor: Rev. Lisa Johnson

UCC Leadership Team

Chad Vath, Moderator
Cindy DeBlicke, Clerk
Amy Pahl, Financial Clerk
Parker Quammen, Treasurer
Connie Hawley, Trustee
Bob Hawley, Trustee
Arlen Kylo, Trustee
Sandy Pahl, Deacon
Nattalie Rolland-Vath, Deacon
Hailey Vath, Deacon
Marlene Kosobucki, Deacon
Kayn Wilshusen, Deacon
Wendy Kylo, Deacon

Presbyterian

Leadership Team

Kim Stanton, Treasurer
Kay Erdahl, Asst. Treasurer
Ron Peterson Rucker, Ruling Elder
Brenda Longman, Ruling Elder
Janice Ostrom, Ruling Elder
Mike Rand, Ruling Elder
Peter Johnson, Ruling Elder
Lance Sorensen, Ruling Elder
Sandy Bowers, Deacon
Deb Nelson, Deacon
Joanne Schenck, Deacon
Karen Peterson Rucker, Deacon
Jenny Rand, Deacon
Gail Rucker, Deacon

People of the Church

Janice Ostrom Co-Moderator
Joanne Schenck, Secretary

In Our Prayers

*The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
And His ears are open to their cry...
The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears,
And delivers them out of all their troubles.*
Psalm 34:15,17

Joyce Rucker, Eunice Markham, Sue Wedge and
Monica Blue (sister-in-law to Dick & Janice
Ostrom).

Secretary's Office Hours

Tuesdays in Oronoco 10:00am 3:00pm
Thursdays in Oronoco 10:00am—3:00pm

Office Phone # 1-507-367-4711
Email: oronocopc@bevcomm.net

October 2016 Daily Lectionary

These Scripture readings are from the two-year daily lectionary of the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship (Westminster John Knox Press 1993). The readings from the three-year Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals are not included in this document.

Saturday, October 1

Morning: Pss. 63; 149
Evening: Pss. 125; 90
Hos. 5:1–7
Acts 22:17–29
Luke 6:27–38

Sunday, October 2

20th Sunday after
Pentecost
Morning: Pss. 103; 150
Evening: Pss. 117; 139
Hos. 5:8–6:6
1 Cor. 2:6–16
Matt. 14:1–12

Monday, October 3

Morning: Pss. 5; 145
Evening: Pss. 82; 29
Hos. 6:7–7:7
Acts 22:30–23:11
Luke 6:39–49

Tuesday, October 4

Morning: Pss. 42; 146
Evening: Pss. 102; 133
Hos. 7:8–16
Acts 23:12–24
Luke 7:1–17

Wednesday, October 5

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 1; 33
Hos. 8:1–14
Acts 23:23–35
Luke 7:18–35

Thursday, October 6

Morning: Pss. 97;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 16; 62
Hos. 9:1–9
Acts 24:1–23
Luke 7:36–50

Friday, October 7

Morning: Pss. 51; 148
Evening: Pss. 142; 65
Hos. 9:10–17
Acts 24:24–25:12
Luke 8:1–15

Saturday, October 8

Morning: Pss. 104; 149
Evening: Pss. 138; 98
Hos. 10:1–15
Acts 25:13–27
Luke 8:16–25

Sunday, October 9

21st Sunday after
Pentecost
Morning: Pss. 19; 150
Evening: Pss. 81; 113
Hos. 11:1–11
1 Cor. 4:9–16
Matt. 15:21–28

Monday, October 10

Morning: Pss. 135; 145
Evening: Pss. 97; 112
Hos. 11:12–12:1
Acts 26:1–23
Luke 8:26–39

Tuesday, October 11

Morning: Pss. 123; 146
Evening: Pss. 30; 86
Hos. 12:2–14
Acts 26:24–27:8
Luke 8:40–56

Wednesday, October 12

Morning: Pss. 15;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 48; 4
Hos. 13:1–3
Acts 27:9–26
Luke 9:1–17

Thursday, October 13

Morning: Pss. 36;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 80; 27

Hos. 13:4–8
Acts 27:27–44
Luke 9:18–27

Friday, October 14

Morning: Pss. 130; 148
Evening: Pss. 32; 139
Hos. 13:9–16
Acts 28:1–16
Luke 9:28–36

Saturday, October 15

Morning: Pss. 56; 149
Evening: Pss. 118; 111
Hos. 14:1–9
Acts 28:17–31
Luke 9:37–50

Sunday, October 16

22nd Sunday after
Pentecost
Morning: Pss. 67; 150
Evening: Pss. 46; 93
Micah 1:1–9
1 Cor. 10:1–13
Matt. 16:13–20

Monday, October 17

Morning: Pss. 57; 145
Evening: Pss. 85; 47
Micah 2:1–13
Rev. 7:1–8
Luke 9:51–62

Tuesday, October 18

Morning: Pss. 54; 146
Evening: Pss. 28; 99
Micah 3:1–8
Rev. 7:9–17
Luke 10:1–16

Wednesday, October 19

Morning: Pss. 65;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 125; 91
Micah 3:9–4:5
Rev. 8:1–13
Luke 10:17–24

Saturday, October 22
Morning: Pss. 122; 149
Evening: Pss. 100; 63
Micah 7:1–7
Rev. 10:1–11
Luke 11:1–13

Sunday, October 23
23rd Sunday after
Pentecost
Morning: Pss. 108; 150
Evening: Pss. 66; 23
Jonah 1:1–17a
1 Cor. 10:15–24
Matt. 18:15–20

Monday, October 24
Morning: Pss. 62; 145
Evening: Pss. 73; 9
Jonah 1:17–2:10
Rev. 11:1–14
Luke 11:14–26

Tuesday, October 25
Morning: Pss. 12; 146
Evening: Pss. 36; 7
Jonah 3:1–4:11
Rev. 11:14–19
Luke 11:27–36

Wednesday, October 26
Morning: Pss. 96;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 132; 134
Nahum 1:1–14
Rev. 12:1–6
Luke 11:37–52

Thursday, October 27
Morning: Pss. 116;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 26; 130
Nahum 1:15–2:12
Rev. 12:7–17
Luke 11:53–12:12

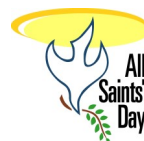
Friday, October 28
Morning: Pss. 84; 148
Evening: Pss. 25; 40
Nahum 2:13–3:7
Rev. 13:1–10
Luke 12:13–31

Saturday, October 29
Morning: Pss. 63; 149
Evening: Pss. 117; 139
Nah. 3:8–19
Rev. 13:11–18
Luke 12:32–48

Sunday, October 30
24th Sunday after
Pentecost
Morning: Pss. 103; 150
Evening: Pss. 117; 139
Zeph. 1:1–6
1 Cor. 12:27–13:13
Matt. 18:21–35

Monday, October 31
Morning: Pss. 5; 145
Evening: Pss. 82; 29
Zeph. 1:7–13
Rev. 14:1–13
Luke 12:49–59

(O/Z) All Saints' Day Commemoration



This year, we will once again be taking some time to commemorate those who have gone before us – those who have been beacons of hope and grace and love in our lives but whose light now fills the halls of heaven. Throughout the month of October, we will have the colorful prayer flags and some markers available in the back of the sanctuary. Putting one name on each flag, please feel free to honor as many people as are near and dear to your heart so that during our All Saints' Day commemoration on Sun., Nov. 6, we may be surrounded by the vibrant color and light of those whom we love and miss.

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(507) 732-7015



Presbyterian Church of Oronoco
PO Box 118
Oronoco, MN 55960
(507) 367-4711



Check out our websites at
www.oronocochurch.org
www.ucczumbrota.org

Worship Times for the Month of October 2016



10/2 9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)
10/9 9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)
10/16 9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)
10/23 9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)
10/30 9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)

(Z) Sunday School at 10:15am

OZ Confirmation
10/5 at O 6-8PM 10/19 at Z 6-8PM

Reverend Lisa Johnson - Contact Information
Cell Phone 1-507-696-8753 Email address: pastorlisaj@gmail.com