

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC ZUMBROTA
and
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ORONOCO

August 2014 Newsletter

Joint Worship Service
Sunday, August 10, 2014
10:00 AM Community Service
Goodhue County Fairgrounds, Zumbrota, MN



The annual OZ Joint Worship Service will be held on Sunday, August 10, the last day of the Goodhue County Fair. This is the fourth year that the service has been held in conjunction with the Fair. Something new has been planned for this year: Instead of a potluck following the service, we will go next door to the Pork Producers booth and dine on pork sandwiches. Those of you who attended last year's service may remember the wonderful aromas coming from that booth, and many commented that we should just eat there. Presto chango! This year, we will!

A free will donation will be collected to cover the cost of the pork sandwiches, with Council and Session making up cost overrun if there is any. We will enjoy food and fellowship, and we won't even have to cook.

Worship will be at 10:00 a.m., and for our music this year, we will be joined once again by Light45, a band based out of Rochester that play, among other things, great Christian worship music. There is free parking and admission at the fairgrounds for the service if you arrive prior to 10:00 AM. The music and service will be held in the Entertainment Tent at the center of the fairgrounds. Coffee and non-coffee drinks will be available.

This year marks the 48th anniversary of our yoke, an event that celebrates our ecumenical partnership. Please come--and bring your friends. All are welcome.

A Message from Our Pastor



When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness. Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

~ Acts 4:31-33.

This idyllic scene appears in the book of Acts after the miraculous and inspiring events of Pentecost, after a few of Peter's sermons, and after Peter and John have both been arrested and subsequently released.

There is power in this passage: "When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was *shaken*."

There is an intense holy presence: "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness."

And there is sacred harmony: "Now the *whole group* of those who believed were of *one heart and soul*."

"Of one heart and soul ..."

Ahhh ... wouldn't that be beautiful?
Wouldn't that be amazing?
Wouldn't that be perfect?

But alas, this is not always so. In recent months, both the MN Conference of the UCC and the General Assembly of the PC(USA) met to discern aspects of our future as denominations. Each of these gathering spanned hours of discussion about many of the issues that continue to dominate the headlines these days: immigration, peace in the Middle East and other

parts of the world, racial disparity, marriage equality, poverty, and so many others.

I had a wonderful time attending this year's Annual Meeting of the MN Conference in June, and while I wasn't able to be in Detroit to attend General Assembly (GA), I certainly followed along online as much as possible. (Yes, I realize I'm revealing the presby-nerd in me.) At both gatherings, there was prayer. There was worship. There were wonderful connections made between brothers and sisters of faith, and there was definitely the presence of the Holy Spirit.

But there was also disagreement. There were differing opinions. There were definitely times when both assemblies were not "of one heart and soul."

As the two different break-out groups at the MN Conference annual meeting discussed the two resolutions before the body – one having to do with encouraging racial diversity within the conference and the other having to do with immigration – both groups experienced times when not everyone in the room saw eye-to-eye over the wording proposed or the actions recommended. And when the resolutions were brought back to the entire body for a vote, there was still more work to be done; more opinions that didn't quite line up, more ideas to explore, more discernment to be undertaken.

At GA, there were 15 committees that dealt with the 70+ overtures made by the various presbyteries across the country. Each committee deliberates for a few days before bringing their recommendations back to the full assembly for still more discussion, discernment, and, finally, a decision. Again, there was disagreement. There was discord. There were plenary sessions that lasted long into the night as people wrestled with Scripture and with their own personal convictions, trying to follow the elusive leadings of the Holy Spirit. Decisions were made. Votes were taken. Some were left celebrating while others were disappointed.

Friends, as human beings, we have been given minds to think, hearts to feel, and free will to muddle through this life and faith of ours together. We all come from different backgrounds. We bring different

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perspective and different opinions. We hold up different values and issues as near-and-dear to our hearts. As a church, and as the Church universal, we would love to emulate the early church as it's portrayed in Acts – all together in unity of heart and mind. But this is not our reality. Sometimes we disagree. Sometimes we argue. Sometimes we find ourselves caught in the midst of misunderstandings and misrepresentations.

In times like these, can we still love each other? Yes. Can we still pray together? Yes. Can we still worship one God in honesty and humility and integrity together? Yes. Even when we aren't always "of one heart and soul," we can still come together as brothers and sisters in Christ with important things in common, things like faith and love and grace.

Pastor Lisa

(O/Z) We're on Facebook!!



Both congregations now have a Facebook presence, so be sure to check us out and "like" us!

Z: First Congregational Church UCC Zumbrota O: Oronoco Presbyterian Church

We'll be posting various events. Pastor Lisa will be linking her blog posts. Any last-minute changes such as weather-related closings will be posted as well (though *hopefully* we're through with those until next winter rolls around!) We're also hoping to get some pictures up of various events, so if you have ideas for photos (Sunday school, Lenten study, luncheons, etc.), please feel free to either take the pictures yourself and pass them along to Pastor Lisa to post or to post them yourself through your own Facebook account.

(O/Z) Blessing of the Backpacks – Aug. 24

Believe it or not, it's already time for our students (and teachers) to start thinking about heading back to school. As they do that, we want them to go back knowing that we are holding them in our hearts and

minds in prayer because there are a lot of things that they face at school each and every day. So if you're heading back to school in some capacity – as a student (elementary school, middle/high school, or college) or as a teacher (or support staff person), we want to pray for you. **Please remember to bring your backpack** (or something else that you take with you every day) **to the worship service on Sun., Aug. 24.**

(O/Z) Middle/High School Tubing Trip



It's time to enjoy the last dregs of summer before school starts! So we're going to have a joint middle/high school tubing trip down the Zumbro River. We will be renting tubes (unless you have your own) and using the shuttle services of the Zumbro River Ratz and floating from Hammond to Millville (2-4 hr. float). Afterward, we will be picnicking at Reads Park in Millville. Here's the relevant information:

Date: Sun., Aug. 24

Time: 2:00-7:00(?) p.m. (*time subject to change depending on how long it takes to float downriver, picnic time, etc.*)

Place: Meet at Zumbro River Ratz – 59155 County Rd. 2, Millville

Cost: tube rental price (\$10-15, depending on the tube) plus \$5 to cover shuttle

What to bring: towel, sunscreen, bug spray, something for the picnic (meat will be provided)

***Please contact Pastor Lisa*

*(pastorlisaj@gmail.com or 507-696-8753) if you plan on attending. ***

Feel free to bring a friend ... or two ... or ten! You can check out www.zumbroriverratz.com for more information. Let's have some fun!

People are funny;
They want the front of the bus,
Middle of the road,
And back of the church.

(O/Z) Readers of OZ



The book discussion group will reconvene after our annual summer break and will meet on Tuesday, September 9, at the home of Coleen Johnston, 47421 Co. 11 Blvd., Mazeppa. If you need directions or have any questions feel free to call Coleen at 843-4719.

Our selection for this time is "The Bridge on the Drina", a Pulitzer winning book by author Ivo Andric. Spanning generalities, nationalities and creeds the bridge, built in Bosnia three centuries ago, stands witness to the countless lives played out upon it. It is not a novel in the usual sense of the word, it is a wonderful historical chronicle full of local color and characters who might have been living today. From this book, there are lessons to be learned about the futility of war and it's affect on the average person.

Please join us for a provocative discussion.

Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days August 15, 16, 17

The last three years we have been staffing a parking lot in the ballfield but that is the site of the new Oronoco City Shop so that is unavailable for parking. In order to continue the Food Shelf Connection with DOGR there will be coupons in the Ads for a gift if the participant brings a food shelf donation to the Information Booth. So instead of volunteering for Parking Duty we will be volunteering at the Information Booth instead. These are 2 hour shifts starting Friday morning and running through Sunday afternoon. I will have tubs for donation collection at the information booth. Please sign up for a shift at the information booth. Gold Rush as been generous to the food shelf over the last few years so it is a good place to offer some volunteer time. You can phone the gold rush phone 367-2111 or email goldrush@bevcomm.net to reserve a time for volunteering.

I have always had a fun time at the Info booth so join me there. You can contact me if you have questions at lsorens@bevcomm.net or you can call me at 507-421-0340. Thanks!

Lance

In Our Prayers

Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:6-7

The family and friends of Roger Bowers, the family and friends of Cliff Swarouth, Dick Wedge (Jim's brother), Dorothy French, Karen Vallejo, Nick Pahl, Ann Hawkins.

(O/Z) Worship Advisory Team

Just a reminder that the Worship Advisory Team consists of:

Lance Sorensen (O)
Linda Sorensen (O)
Peter Johnson (O)
Connie Hawley (Z)
Hailey Vath (Z)
Sue Wedge (Z)

We are continuing to discuss a number of different things, so if you have any ideas or feedback about worship, please feel free to share your thoughts with one of these people.



(O) Rucker Memorial Plants

Our deepest thanks to Joyce Rucker for planting and caring for the memorial planter on the front of the property. It is so lovely and always enjoyed by the members of the congregation as well as the rest of the community. Thank you, Joyce, you are a blessing!

(O) Per Capita Dues

If you have not yet paid your 2013 Per Capita Dues (\$32.52 per member), please do so if you are able. Session has directed the Treasurer to submit payment for all members by year end.

(O) National Night Out

Oronoco is hosting a National Night Out party at the Oronoco City Park on Tues., Aug. 5. National Night Out was started as a way to heighten awareness about safety and crime prevention and to enhance community relations. This year, the O church will have a table at National Night Out. We will be hosting a couple bean bag toss games and giving out cups for anyone interested.

Celebration starts at 6:00 p.m. at the park, so we'll be meeting at the church at 5:15 p.m. to transport what we need and get set up. If you'd like to come join us at our table, please contact Pastor Lisa, Brenda Longman, or Joy Bertsinger.

(O/Z) Hymnsing Coming Up

On Sun., Aug. 31 (Labor Day weekend) we will be having another Service of Lessons and Songs ... basically, a hymnsing! We had so much fun last time that we decided to do it again. We'll read some Scripture and do some of the things that we normally do during worship, but our hymns will be chosen by you on the spot! Katha has been wonderful enough to agree to this, so we certainly want to thank her for her flexibility. So be thinking about what your very favorite hymn is, and hopefully we'll get a chance to sing it.

(O) People of the Church News

We will once again be filling the busy bags for Ronald McDonald House and the Women's Shelter. Be watching for early school sales to pick up crayons, markers, notebooks, games, coloring books, cars, puzzles, etc. Donations can be dropped off in the fellowship room. If you have any questions, please call Joanne Schenck at 289-0093. Thank you!

In the Community

Shopko Senior Discount

On Wednesday, August 6th, seniors, age 55 and older will receive a 15% discount off their total purchases at Shopko. *Some restrictions do apply.*

42nd Annual Fun Fest Sunday, August 24, 2014

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

Polka Mass at 10:00a.m.

BBQ chicken dinner from 11-1:30

Includes: Potato Salad, Beans, Relish, Pie and drink
\$10 for 1/2 chicken \$9 for 1/4 chicken

Kids meal available also!

Big Raffle drawing—(tickets available at dinner)

Polka music, Bingo, Kiddie Games, Country store...

Garage Sale



**August 21 4pm—7pm & August 22 3pm-7pm
Pine Island United Methodist Church
200 N. Main Street**

All donations of school supplies, backpacks, and gently used clothing welcome.

Drop off sites:

United Methodist Church

Better Brew Coffee House

Island Market

****All proceeds will go to support the Food for Friends Program in our community.*

Directory Additions & Corrections

Judy Wilder's new address:
2440 Crimson Ridge Circle NW
Rochester MN 55901

Sue Johnson's new address & phone #:
38304 County Rd. 3
Lake City, MN 55041
507-884-1243

Readings for the Month of August

August 3

Exodus 16:1-5, 13-18, 35
Matthew 14:13-21



August 10

(Joint Worship at Goodhue County Fairgrounds)

August 17 (Gold Rush weekend)

Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm 133

August 24

Exodus 3:1-15
Matthew 16:13-20

August 31

(Labor Day weekend) – HYMNSING

(O/Z) August Birthdays

8/1 Amy Pahl
8/2 Sandy Bowers
8/3 Katha Johnson
Siddha Hunt
8/5 Mary Sapp
8/7 Don DeBlicke
8/11 Bob Hawley
8/12 Ardith Ottman
8/13 Nancy Tiedeman
8/18 Matthew Pahl
8/19 Craig Langbehn
8/20 Joanne Schenck
Gary Ofstie
8/22 Cindy DeBlicke
8/27 Rachel Stanton



Church Staff

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

UCC Leadership Team

Bob Hawley, Moderator
Linda Quammen, Clerk
Connie Wendt, Financial Clerk
Parker Quammen, Treasurer
David Pahl, Trustee
Rex Wiederanders, Trustee
Arlen Kylo, Trustee
Gary Ofstie, Deacon
Bruce Johnston, Deacon
Nattalie Rolland-Vath, Deacon
Hailey Vath, Deacon
Bob/Bonnie Rolland, Deacon
Coleen Johnston, Deacon

Presbyterian

Leadership Team

Mike Rand, Clerk
Kim Stanton, Treasurer
Kay Erdahl, Asst. Treasurer
Kay Erdahl, Ruling Elder
Ellen Simon, Ruling Elder
Joy Bertsinger, Ruling Elder
Mike Rand, Ruling Elder
Brenda Longman, Ruling Elder
Peter Johnson, Ruling Elder
Sandy Bowers, Deacon
Judy Wilder, Deacon
Deb Nelson, Deacon
Carol Tiede, Deacon
Ted Midthun, Deacon
Jenny Rand, Deacon

People of the Church

Janice Ostrom Co-Moderator
Judy Wilder, Co-Moderator
Joanne Schenck, Secretary
Judy Wilder, Treasurer

Pastor Lisa's Office Hours

Mondays in Oronoco 1-4:00PM

Secretary's Office Hours

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

Office phone# 1-507-367-4711

Email: oronocopc@bevcomm.net

August 2014 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.

Friday, August 1
Morning: Pss. 88; 148
Evening: Pss. 6; 20
Judg. 5:1–18
Acts 2:1–21
Matt. 28:1–10

Saturday, August 2
Morning: Pss. 122; 149
Evening: Pss. 100; 63
Judg. 5:19–31
Acts 2:22–36
Matt. 28:11–20

Sunday, August 3
8th Sunday after Pentecost
Morning: Pss. 108; 150
Evening: Pss. 66; 23
Judg. 6:1–24
2 Cor. 9:6–15
Mark 3:20–30

Monday, August 4
Morning: Pss. 62; 145
Evening: Pss. 73; 9
Judg. 6:25–40
Acts 2:37–47
John 1:1–18

Tuesday, August 5
Morning: Pss. 12; 146
Evening: Pss. 36; 7
Judg. 7:1–18
Acts 3:1–11
John 1:19–28

Wednesday, August 6
Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 132; 134
Judg. 7:19–8:12
Acts 3:12–26
John 1:29–42

Thursday, August 7
Morning: Pss. 116; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 26; 130
Judg. 8:22–35
Acts 4:1–12
John 1:43–51

Friday, August 8
Morning: Pss. 84; 148
Evening: Pss. 25; 40
Judg. 9:1–16, 19–21
Acts 4:13–31
John 2:1–12

Saturday, August 9
Morning: Pss. 63; 149
Evening: Pss. 125; 90
Judg. 9:22–25, 50–57
Acts 4:32–5:11
John 2:13–25

Sunday, August 10
9th Sunday after Pentecost
Morning: Pss. 103; 150
Evening: Pss. 117; 139
Judg. 11:1–11, 29–40
2 Cor. 11:21b–31
Mark 4:35–41

Monday, August 11
Morning: Pss. 5; 145
Evening: Pss. 82; 29
Judg. 12:1–7
Acts 5:12–26
John 3:1–21

Tuesday, August 12
Morning: Pss. 42; 146
Evening: Pss. 102; 133
Judg. 13:1–15
Acts 5:27–42
John 3:22–36

Wednesday, August 13
Morning: Pss. 89:1–18; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 1; 33
Judg. 13:15–24
Acts 6:1–15
John 4:1–26

Thursday, August 14
Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 16; 62
Judg. 14:1–19
Acts 6:15–7:16
John 4:27–42

Friday, August 15
Morning: Pss. 51; 148
Evening: Pss. 142; 65
Judg. 14:20–15:20
Acts 7:17–29
John 4:43–54

Saturday, August 16
Morning: Pss. 104; 149
Evening: Pss. 138; 98
Judg. 16:1–14
Acts 7:30–43
John 5:1–18

Sunday, August 17
10th Sunday after Pentecost
Morning: Pss. 19; 150
Evening: Pss. 81; 113
Judg. 16:15–31
2 Cor. 13:1–11
Mark 5:25–34

Monday, August 18
Morning: Pss. 135; 145
Evening: Pss. 97; 112
Judg. 17:1–13
Acts 7:44–8:1a
John 5:19–29

Tuesday, August 19
Morning: Pss. 123; 146
Evening: Pss. 30; 86
Judg. 18:1–15
Acts 8:1–13
John 5:30–47

Wednesday, August 20
Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 48; 4
Judg. 18:16–31
Acts 8:14–25
John 6:1–15

Thursday, August 21
Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 80; 27
Job 1:1–22
Acts 8:26–40
John 6:16–27

Friday, August 22
Morning: Pss. 130; 148
Evening: Pss. 32; 139
Job 2:1–13
Acts 9:1–9
John 6:27–40

Saturday, August 23
Morning: Pss. 56; 149
Evening: Pss. 118; 111
Job 3:1–26
Acts 9:10–19a
John 6:41–51

Sunday, August 24
11th Sunday after Pentecost
Morning: Pss. 67; 150
Evening: Pss. 46; 93
Job 4:1–6, 12–21
Rev. 4:1–11
Mark 6:1–6a

Monday, August 25
Morning: Pss. 57; 145
Evening: Pss. 85; 47
Job 4:1; 5:1–11, 17–21, 26–27
Acts 9:19b–31
John 6:52–59

Tuesday, August 26
Morning: Pss. 54; 146
Evening: Pss. 28; 99
Job 6:1–4, 8–15, 21
Acts 9:32–43
John 6:60–71

Wednesday, August 27
Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 125; 91
Job 6:1; 7:1–21
Acts 10:1–16
John 7:1–13

Thursday, August 28
Morning: Pss. 143; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 81; 116
Job 8:1–10, 20–22
Acts 10:17–33
John 7:14–36

Friday, August 29
Morning: Pss. 88; 148
Evening: Pss. 6; 20
Job 9:1–15, 32–35
Acts 10:34–48
John 7:37–52

Saturday, August 30
Morning: Pss. 122; 149
Evening: Pss. 100; 63
Job 9:1; 10:1–9, 16–22
Acts 11:1–18
John 8:12–20

Sunday, August 31
12th Sunday after Pentecost
Morning: Pss. 108; 150
Evening: Pss. 66; 23
Job. 11:1–9, 13–20
Rev. 5:1–14
Matt. 5:1–12

(Z) Sunday School Class

Regular Sunday school class will begin on September 7. We are again using a curriculum called *The Whole People of God* which consists of lessons and activities focused on the lectionary readings for each week of the church year and emphasizes our roles and responsibilities as the instruments of God's love and the builders of God's kingdom in our families, our communities, and the larger world. Our multi-level class will be led by Hailey Vath and will meet each Sunday at 10:15 a.m.



"Pastor, about this new idea to reach teens..."

First Congregational UCC
455 East Avenue
Zumbrota, MN 55992
(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.com

Worship Times for the Month of August 2014



8/3	9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)
	8/10 Joint Worship at Fairgrounds at 10:00AM	
8/17	9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)
8/24	9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)
8/31	9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)

Pastor Information
Reverend Lisa Johnson - Contact Information
Cell Phone (507) 696-8753 E-mail address: pastorlisaj@gmail.com