



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

October 2015 Newsletter

**All Welcome!
(Z) Country Store Proceeds to Support
Hunger Ministry**



All the proceeds from this year's Country Store will go to helping the hungry, both in our midst and across the world. Again this year, instead of pricing the food, a freewill donation will be accepted for the meal. This year's bounty will include three sandwich choices (pulled pork, turkey joes and barbecues) and three soups (wild rice, creamy Italian sausage and vegetarian chili). One third of the donations will go to support the Zumbrota Area Food Shelf, one third will go to the Oronoco Food Shelf, and one third will go to [UCC Global Ministries](#) for Syrian refugee relief.

The UCC website says: "The most recent UN estimates are that over 4 million Syrians have crossed international borders as refugees since the war began there in 2011, and over 7.5 million are internally displaced. These numbers represent over half of the population of Syria, and they are growing on a daily basis. In addition, there are large numbers of Iraqi, Afghani and Palestinian refugees. Global Ministries has been working intensively with partners in the Middle East since the beginning of the current crisis, especially with those in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Turkey. We also have longstanding partners in Europe who are responding. The Waldensian Church in Italy is addressing the tragedy of refugees crossing the Mediterranean from North Africa and, in the last two weeks, there have been direct conversations with German and Hungarian partners who are responding to the influx into their countries. Global Ministries has been working with our partners in two ways: meeting the immediate needs of the refugees and the internally displaced, and doing justice advocacy to address the underlying causes. Information is regularly posted on the Middle East and Europe portion of the [Global Ministries website](#)."

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 others who do not have money to spend—or food to eat. We are so fortunate. Let us share our wealth and share the fellowship that abounds when we do this good work. See you there!

A Message from Our Pastor



Throughout most of the month of October, we're going to be talking about stewardship. Last year, we approached it from the standpoint of the different facets of stewardship. We talked about being faithful stewards of our resources (yes ... the 'money' element), being faithful stewards of our time and talents, and being faithful stewards of our hearts and attention.

This year, we're going to tackle the idea of stewardship from a different angle. We're going to spend October talking about the different foci of stewardship. We're going to talk about stewardship for the purpose of strengthening the church. We're going to talk about stewardship for the purpose of strengthening mission (both through the church and outside of it). And we're going to talk about stewardship for the purpose of the strengthening the future.

You may have noticed a key word in all of that: **STRENGTHENING**.

I know that stewardship often gets relegated to the role of sustaining – helping the church maintain what it's doing, helping the church “stay afloat,” helping the church do exactly what it's been doing.

This is “just enough” stewardship, but friends, God didn't create us to be “just enough” caretakers, and God didn't create the world for a “just enough” existence.

In the beginning, when God created humanity, God named us as stewards over all the creation.

So God created humankind in God's image, in the image of God he created them; male and female God created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, “... Be responsible for the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” ~ Genesis 1:27-28

Despite some previous translations, God didn't say, “Subdue the earth.” God didn't say, “Perfect the earth.” God certainly didn't say, “Do whatever you want with the earth.” God named us stewards ... caretakers. God made us responsible for every living thing – the plants, the animals, the bugs, the birds, and most certainly each other.

And when God was creating the world one cosmic event at a time, God didn't sit back and call each period of creation “just enough.” God called it “good.” God called it “prosperous.” God called it “successful.” God called it “pleasing.” I don't know about you, but none of these substitutions for good speak of “just enough” to me. They speak of fullness. They speak of vastness.

They speak of abundance.

Jesus said, “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10) If we are to live into the role of truly faithful stewards, we have to shake off this mentality of “just enough” and embrace an attitude of “strengthening abundance.” When we look at the numbers, at the real, honest-to-goodness numbers of how our congregations are doing right now, the bottom line is written in red ink, not black ink. And it's not because we're horrendously off-budget for the year. We're pretty spot-on for spending. Giving is another story.

As we venture ahead as congregations, keep these questions in mind:

How can our stewardship – of our resources as well as our time and our energy – not just maintain but strengthen our church?

How can our stewardship not just maintain but strengthen God's mission in the world?

How can our stewardship not just maintain but strengthen our future together and the future of the body of Christ?

Pastor Gina

(O) Busy Bags

We will be collecting items for the busy bags for the Ronald McDonald House residents. Be on the look-out for small games, toys, coloring books, crayons, etc. If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Schenck at 289-0093.

(O/Z) Readers of OZ

The book discussion group will next meet at the home of Judy Wilder (2440 Crimson Ridge Circle NW, Rochester). If you need directions, call Judy at 258-6262.

Our selection this time is "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd. An NPR review has this to say:

"The book is a fictionalized history of the Grimke' sisters, Sarah and Angelina (Nina), who were at the forefront of the abolitionist and women's rights movements, wound around the intriguing narrative of a young slave, Hetty, who was given to Sarah as an 11th birthday present. Sarah despises slavery, even at that early age, and out of principle attempts to reject the gift. Much of the Grimke's' story is historically based: Kidd has fleshed out mountains of research-facts, figures, dates, letters and articles- into a beautiful and elegantly rendered fictional first person account of Sarah's life.

But though Hetty was real, her story here is almost entirely fabricated-and perhaps because she is mostly a product of Kidd's imagination, Hetty's character seems truly inspired."

Visitors are welcome. We always have a good time!

(O) Pine Haven Birthday Bingo Celebration October 14, 2015, 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 14th 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) The Chocolate Affaire



We're trying a new fundraiser!! It's called The Chocolate Affaire, and 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: Thurs., Oct. 8, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

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

The Chocolate Affaire sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board, so join us!

(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) Food Shelf Sunday is Oct. 4

The Food shelf is collecting the 1st Sunday every month. Monetary donations are always welcome. Thank you for your generosity!!

**(O) Peacemaking Offering
(World Communion Sunday)
October 4, 2015**

We make a special point of remembering our unity with Christians worldwide on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of October (10/4/15). The Peacemaking 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 Peacemaking 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 4, 2015** as part of their World Communion Sunday observance.

(O) Collecting Pop Can Tabs

Dalton, the heart transplant recipient O is praying for, is collecting pop tabs for the Rochester Ronald McDonald House. Please consider bringing your pop tabs to church and I will see he gets them at the House. He and his family have been blessed greatly by the House and this is a way he wants to "give back."

(Z) Church Clean-Up Day

It's time to get the church all spruced up again before Country Store! If you can help us with some cleaning, please join us on:

Sat., October 24 at 9:00 a.m.



We have some cleaning supplies, but whatever you can bring would also be helpful, too. In advance, we thank you!

(O) Bible Study



We're starting a monthly Bible study. It will be held the 2nd Wed. of the month from 6:00-7:00 p.m. (This means that Session meetings will move to 7:00 p.m. starting in November.) If you're interested, please talk to Kim Stanton or Peter Johnson.

In Appreciation

Dear Presbyterian Church of Oronoco,

Thank you so much for your gift of \$200.00 received on 9/3/2015. Your donation helps to provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, criminal court advocacy, and outreach to domestic violence victims and their children who are struggling to live a life free from violence.

With your donation, we can provide our services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and completely free to the people we serve. We firmly believe that no one deserves to be beaten and no one should be afraid in their own home.

Thank you for your support,
Suzie Christenson
Executive Director

(O) October Casserole Luncheon

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

11:30a.m.-1:00p.m.

We will serve a variety of casseroles, salads and deserts. 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) New Website

Our new website is up and running!! As always, things like this are a work-in-progress, so if you have any feedback, please let Pastor Lisa know. <http://www.ucczumbrota.org>

(O/Z) Worship Advisory Team

NEXT MEETING: TBD

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/Z) All Saints' Day Commemoration



This year, we will be taking some time during our service on Nov. 1 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 again 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, we may be surrounded by the vibrant color and light of those whom we love and miss.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Harvest Home Dinner and Silent Auction Pine Island United Methodist Church

Saturday, October 10th. 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 (13+): \$12.00, Children (ages 5-12): \$5.00, Children under 5: free, takeout orders available call 507-356-455. All proceeds from Bazaar will go to the Pine Island Food Shelf and the Food for Friends program.

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 7, 2015**. *Some restrictions do apply.*

Readings for the Month of October



Sun., Oct. 4 – Job 1:1; 2:1-10; Psalm 26

World Communion Sunday

Sun., Oct. 11 – Acts 2:41-47

Stewardship series, #1 – Strengthening the Church

Sun., Oct. 18 – Matthew 25:31-45

Stewardship series, #2 – Strengthening the Mission

Sun., Oct. 25 – Matthew 25:14-30

Stewardship series, #3 – Strengthening the Future

October Birthdays

10/2 Makayla Arendt

10/3 Chris Brown

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

10/26 Garrett Langbehn

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

Bob Hawley, Moderator
Cindy DeBlieck, Clerk
Amy Pahl, Financial Clerk
Parker Quammen, Treasurer
Connie Hawley, Trustee
Rex Wiederanders, Trustee
Arlen Kylo, Trustee
Bruce Johnston, Deacon
Nattalie Rolland-Vath, Deacon
Hailey Vath, Deacon
Bob/Bonnie Rolland, Deacon
Coleen Johnston, Deacon
Wendy Kylo, Deacon

Presbyterian

Leadership Team

Mike Rand, Clerk
Kay Erdahl, Treasurer
Kim Stanton, Asst. Treasurer
Lance Sorensen, 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
Deb Nelson, Deacon
Carol Tiede, Deacon
Ted Midthun, 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

Dave Kaempfer, Kay Wilshusen, Joanne Schenck,
Eunice Markham, Dick Wedge (Jim's brother), Virginia Wendt, Dorothy French, Karen Vallejo, Nick Pahl, Ann Hawkins and Joan Swarthout.

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 2015 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.

Thursday, October 1

Morning: Pss. 116; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 26; 130
2 Kings 18:28–37
1 Cor. 9:1–15
Matt. 7:22–29

Friday, October 2

Morning: Pss. 84; 148
Evening: Pss. 25; 40
2 Kings 19:1–20
1 Cor. 9:16–27
Matt. 8:1–17

Saturday, October 3

Morning: Pss. 63; 149
Evening: Pss. 125; 90
2 Kings 19:21–36
1 Cor. 10:1–13
Matt. 8:18–27

Sunday, October 4

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Morning: Pss. 103; 150
Evening: Pss. 117; 139
2 Kings 20:1–21
Acts 12:1–17
Luke 7:11–17

Monday, October 5

Morning: Pss. 5; 145
Evening: Pss. 82; 29
2 Kings 21:1–18
1 Cor. 10:14–11:1
Matt. 8:28–34

Tuesday, October 6

Morning: Pss. 42; 146
Evening: Pss. 102; 133
2 Kings 22:1–13
1 Cor. 11:2 (3–16) 17–22
Matt. 9:1–8

Wednesday, October 7

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 1; 33
2 Kings 22:14–23:3
1 Cor. 11:23–34
Matt. 9:9–17

Thursday, October 8

Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 16; 62
2 Kings 23:4–25
1 Cor. 12:1–11
Matt. 9:18–26

Friday, October 9

Morning: Pss. 51; 148
Evening: Pss. 142; 65
2 Kings 23:36–24:17
1 Cor. 12:12–26
Matt. 9:27–34

Saturday, October 10

Morning: Pss. 104; 149
Evening: Pss. 138; 98
Jer. 35:1–19
1 Cor. 12:27–13:3
Matt. 9:35–10:4

Sunday, October 11

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Morning: Pss. 19; 150
Evening: Pss. 81; 113
Jer. 36:1–10
Acts 14:8–18
Luke 7:36–50

Monday, October 12

Morning: Pss. 135; 145
Evening: Pss. 97; 112
Jer. 36:11–26
1 Cor. 13:(1–3) 4–13
Matt. 10:5–15

Tuesday, October 13

Morning: Pss. 123; 146
Evening: Pss. 30; 86
Jer. 36:27–37:2
1 Cor. 14:1–12
Matt. 10:16–23

Wednesday, October 14

Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 48; 4
Jer. 37:3–21
1 Cor. 14:13–25
Matt. 10:24–33

Thursday, October 15

Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 80; 27
Jer. 38:1–13
1 Cor. 14:26–33a (33b–36) 37–40
Matt. 10:34–42

Friday, October 16

Morning: Pss. 130; 148
Evening: Pss. 32; 139
Jer. 38:14–28
1 Cor. 15:1–11
Matt. 11:1–6

Saturday, October 17

Morning: Pss. 56; 149
Evening: Pss. 118; 111
Jer. 52:1–34
1 Cor. 15:12–29
Matt. 11:7–15

Sunday, October 18

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Morning: Pss. 67; 150
Evening: Pss. 46; 93
Jer. 29:1, 4–14 or Jer. 39:11–40:6
Acts 16:6–15
Luke 10:1–12, 17–20

Monday, October 19

Morning: Pss. 57; 145
Evening: Pss. 85; 47
Jer. 44:1–14 or Jer. 29:1, 4–14
1 Cor. 15:30–41
Matt. 11:16–24

Tuesday, October 20

Morning: Pss. 54; 146
Evening: Pss. 28; 99
Lam. 1:1–5 (6–9) 10–12 or Jer. 40:7–41:3
1 Cor. 15:41–50
Matt. 11:25–30

Wednesday, October 21

Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11
 Evening: Pss. 125; 91
 Lam. 2:8–15 *or* Jer. 41:4–18
 1 Cor. 15:51–58
 Matt. 12:1–14

Thursday, October 22

Morning: Pss. 143; 147:12–20
 Evening: Pss. 81; 116
 Ezra 1:1–11 *or* Jer. 42:1–22
 1 Cor. 16:1–9
 Matt. 12:15–21

Friday, October 23

Morning: Pss. 88; 148
 Evening: Pss. 6; 20
 Ezra 3:1–13 *or* Jer. 43:1–13
 1 Cor. 16:10–24
 Matt. 12:22–32

Saturday, October 24

Morning: Pss. 122; 149
 Evening: Pss. 100; 63
 Ezra 4:7, 11–24 *or* Jer. 44:1–14
 Philem. 1–25
 Matt. 12:33–42

Sunday, October 25**22nd Sunday after Pentecost**

Morning: Pss. 108; 150
 Evening: Pss. 66; 23
 Hag. 1:1–2:9 *or* Jer. 44:15–30
 Acts 18:24–19:7
 Luke 10:25–37

Monday, October 26

Morning: Pss. 62; 145
 Evening: Pss. 73; 9
 Zech. 1:7–17 *or* Jer. 45:1–5
 Rev. 1:4–20
 Matt. 12:43–50

Tuesday, October 27

Morning: Pss. 12; 146
 Evening: Pss. 36; 7
 Ezra 5:1–17 *or* Lam. 1:1–5 (6–9)
 10–12
 Rev. 4:1–11
 Matt. 13:1–9

Wednesday, October 28

Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1–11
 Evening: Pss. 132; 134
 Ezra 6:1–22 *or* Lam. 2:8–15
 Rev. 5:1–10
 Matt. 13:10–17

Thursday, October 29

Morning: Pss. 116; 147:12–20
 Evening: Pss. 26; 130
 Neh. 1:1–11 *or* Lam. 2:16–22
 Rev. 5:11–6:11
 Matt. 13:18–23

Friday, October 30

Morning: Pss. 84; 148
 Evening: Pss. 25; 40
 Neh. 2:1–20 *or* Lam. 4:1–22
 Rev. 6:12–7:4
 Matt. 13:24–30

Saturday, October 31

Morning: Pss. 63; 149
 Evening: Pss. 125; 90
 Neh. 4:1–23 *or* Lam. 5:1–22
 Rev. 7:(4–8) 9–17
 Matt. 13:31–35

6 LITTLESTORIES

{ 1 } Once all villagers decided to pray for rain, on the day of prayer all the people gathered but only one boy came with an umbrella.
 That's FAITH

{ 2 } When you throw a baby in the air, she laughs because she knows you will catch her.
 That's TRUST

{ 3 } Every night we go to bed, without any assurance of being alive the next morning but still we set the alarms to wake up.
 That's HOPE

{ 4 } We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future.
 That's CONFIDENCE

{ 5 } We see the world suffering, but still we get married.
 That's LOVE

{ 6 } On an Old Man's shirt was written a cute sentence
 'I Am Not 60 Years Old..., I Am Sweet 16 with 44 years Experience.'
 That's ATTITUDE

Have a happy day. Do you live your life like 6 stories?

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

Worship Times for the Month of October 2014



10/4	9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)
10/11	9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)
10/18	9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)
10/25	9:00 (O)	11:00 (Z)

(O) Nursery available for ages 6 weeks –Pre-K during worship
(Z) Sunday School at 10:15am

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