

Presbyterian Church of Oronoco

May 2019



Summer Sermon Series— “The Greatest Showman”

In December 2017, Twentieth Century Fox put out a movie musical that became both a smash hit and a life-changing experience for a lot of people. “The Greatest Showman” is a movie loosely based on the life of 19th century circus innovator P.T. Barnum. As Barnum builds his troupe of performers, he pulls from all the oddballs and outcasts of society, proving to them that they deserve to be valued and celebrated just as much as everyone else. Not only did this family-friendly, “it’s okay to be different” message resonate with people of all ages, the soundtrack struck powerful chords with people from all walks of life as well.

So this summer, we’re going to work our way through “The Greatest Showman” soundtrack one sermon at a time. We’ll be kicking this series off on Memorial Day weekend – Sunday May 26 – and running it through Sunday, Aug. 11. And for those who have never seen the movie before, we’ll be watching it together as a congregation in the fellowship area after worship on Memorial Day weekend. We’ll order pizza so we can eat some lunch and enjoy the movie at the same time.

May Scripture readings:

- Sunday, May 5 –
Psalm 30; Acts 9:1-20
- Sunday, May 12 –
John 10:22-30; Revelation 7:9-17

Mother’s Day

- Sunday, May 19 –
Guest Preacher, Rev. Tammy Rider
- Sunday, May 26 –
Isaiah 41:8-13; Philippians 4:4-9

Greatest Showman #1

Next Session Meeting

Wednesday May 1.
6:30 p.m.

Next Presbytery Meeting

Tuesday, May 14
4:00 p.m.
Wilf Family Center– U of M
Medical Center, Masonic
Children’s Hospital

From the Pastor...

I was standing at the sink washing my soup bowl from lunch today, and something struck me: *we have a lot of coffee makers on the counter.*

It was a profound revelation, I know.

This fact initially struck me as funny. I mean, come on. How could it not? We have not one but two double-carafe coffee makers as well as a single-use Keurig, and sitting next to the sink was one of our insulated coffee pots. How can that *not be funny*??

Clearly, that says we're a coffee congregation, but as I thought about it, those coffee makers on that counter say three other profound things to me.

First, it speaks to the hospitality of this congregation. Whether we've known you 5 minutes or 50 years, one of our favorite things to do as a congregation is sit down with you, have a cup of coffee (or 10!!), and get to know you better. We want to hear about your week. We want to hear about your celebrations. We want to hear about your struggles and how we can help you and hold you up in the midst of them. Even for those who don't drink coffee (because I know we have a few), these coffee makers are representative of the invitation, welcome, and warmth that are at the core of this congregation. If you find that in the way we share coffee, great. Or in the way we share doughnuts and mini pies and cookies and birthday cake and fruit and crackers and meat and cheese and a plethora of other snacks. (I've always said that "Presbyterian" and "potluck" start with the same letter for a reason!)

Those coffee makers also spoke to me about our flexibility. You can make a whole pot of regular *and a whole pot of decaf*. You can make two whole pots of each. You can take one or the other around to warm up other people's cups with our insulated pot. Or you can make a single serving of any kind of coffee you'd like either using the *pre-packaged pods or the reusable pod filters (which, if you haven't seen them yet, can be found on top of the microwave ... they're purple)*. Everyone that drinks coffee takes it differently – black, cream, sugar, flavored creamer, etc. And we're doing our best to accommodate whatever way you like your coffee best. Because this congregation is really good at meeting people wherever they are. There aren't strings attached to walking in the door. We won't pressure you to join this committee or volunteer for that outreach opportunity unless you tell us you want to because we know everyone's lives are vastly different. We're just glad you're here. We're glad you're joining us to journey for a while together ... whatever that may look like. We say it every time we celebrate the Lord's Supper: "No matter who you are ... no matter where you come from ... no matter what

You bring with you, you are welcome here at this table and in this community.” And we mean it.

Finally, our multitude of coffee makers also spoke to me of the slow but steady and encouraging growth of our congregation. Sure, we have our ups and down from one Sunday to the next, and as the summer approaches, we all know how busy some of our schedules get during those blessedly warmer months. But it cannot be denied that we have outgrown our single two-sided coffee maker! And what a joyful problem to have! It’s like it says in the book of Acts:

The believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. ...

They met together in the temple and at in their homes.

They shared food with gladness and simplicity.

They praised God and demonstrated God’s goodness to everyone.

The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved. – Acts 2:42,46-47

“We are a small church with a big mission.” Indeed. In that mission, we remain the welcoming, hope-filled, coffee-slinging crew that we are. We devote ourselves to loving and serving God and one another. And God will do the rest.

Pastor Lisa



Summer Fun Nights

This summer, instead of trying to organize a vacation Bible school for one particular week and hoping it's a week that works out for everyone, we're going to try something different. We're going to host a weekly summer fun night open for everyone— ages 9 months to 99 years! These weekly summer fun nights will include an activity, a snack, and a take-home devotional.

If you're interested in helping plan these summer fun nights, we will be holding a general planning meeting after church on Sunday, May 5.

Please join us!



All Around the Campfire

We had so much fun with our campfire gatherings last summer that we're at it again this summer! Once Sunday a month, we'll be gathering in the evening on the church lawn. There will be a campfire. There will be lawn games. There will be s'mores. This is a chance for us to spend some fun, relaxed, un-structured time together, and to invite people who may not be as comfortable coming through the church doors for the first time. Bring your neighbors and friends. Bring kids. Let's have fun!

-June 23: 5:30-8:00 p.m.

-July 28: 5:30-8:00 p.m.

-August 25: 5:30-8:00 p.m.

-September 22: 5:30-8:00 p.m.



150th Anniversary POSTPONED

After looking at more of our historical material as well as the celebration material from previous anniversaries, I realized that, while the first worship service was held in 1869, the Presbyterian Church of Oronoco wasn't commissioned by the presbytery until 1870. That's the date that's been used for all of our other anniversary celebrations, so we will wait a year and hold our 150th anniversary celebration next year.

The good news is we now have more time to collect pictures, stories, memories, and other ideas you have for ways to make marking this milestone a truly special occasion for our congregation!



Painting Fundraiser

It's time for another fun afternoon of painting, snacks, and silliness! We're doing another painting fundraiser with Nicki Novotne from Art on the Go Rochester. And this time, we're inviting kids to join us! Participating kids must be age 9 or over and must be accompanied by an adult

Date: Saturday, May 18

Time: 2:00 p.m. (Approx. 2-3 hours)

Cost: \$35 (\$10 comes back to the church as a donation)

Please pre-register by following this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/summer-fun-nights-tickets-60930931055>

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 10:00 a.m. Worship	6	7	8 Food Shelf 5:00 p.m.	9 	10	11
12 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:30 Confirmation Mother's Day Jenny Rand's Birthday	13 	14 Joy Bertsinger and Madelyn Rand's Birthday Presbytery Meeting 4:00 p.m.	15	16 Clyde and Sue's Anniversary	17 	18 Painting Fundraiser 2 p.m. Jane Shanks' Birthday
19 10:00 a.m. Worship	20	21	22 Food Shelf 5:00 p.m.	23 Bob Larsen's Birthday	24	25
26 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:30 Confirmation	27 Memorial Day 	28 Deb Larsen's Birthday	29	30	31 Burt Curt's Birthday	

Presbyterian Church of Oronoco

P.O. Box 118

Oronoco, MN 55960



Website: <http://www.oronocochurch.org> Facebook: Presbyterian Church of Oronoco

Worship—10:00 a.m.

Communion—1st Sunday of the month

Fellowship hour following worship

Sunday School—2nd & 4th Sundays

Rev. Lisa Johnson—contact information:

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