



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

**September 2015 Newsletter**

**(Z) Country Store Wants You**



That last Saturday in October will be here before we know it, and with it the annual Country Store. Coleen Johnston has agreed to coordinate the event again this year, but needs help. Here are some of the ways **you** could help (starting now!) to make this year's Country Store a success:

1. We need the big plywood signs repainted. Could you do this? Also, if we had two more plywood signs (or other type—open to suggestions here—we could put them up on both corners of our block. This would be awesome.) The signs need to go in place at least a week before the Country Store.
2. We'll need to give the kitchen a good cleaning before the end of October. Maybe you could help with that, or, better yet, organize it.
3. Good advertising makes for a good crowd. Could you be the advertising chairperson? This means putting a large ad in the *News Record* the week before the Country Store and seeing that posters are put up, plus possibly getting the bank to put us up on their sign at the downtown bank. Any other ideas you might have will be welcome.

Planning ahead helps everything run smoothly. If **you** are willing to pitch in, let Coleen know as soon as possible. Call her at 507-951-5943, or email her at [coleen-lou@gmail.com](mailto:coleen-lou@gmail.com). Thanks to all who give of their time and resources so generously to make this event happen each and every year.





## A Message from Our Pastor

3 days.  
60 miles.  
1 purpose: to end breast cancer.

I can't tell you how many times I've started writing this month's newsletter piece just to delete it and start all over again. Those 3 days – those 60 miles – were so *full*.

They were full of stories – funny stories and touching stories, our stories and the stories of others that we met along the way.

They were full of emotions.

They were full of challenges ...

and laughter ...

and expectations ...

and cheering ...

and pit stops ...

and medical tents ...

and blisters ...

and joy ...

and determination ...

and triumph.

See what I mean? It's hard for me to condense all of that into a single page. But it was such a formative experience that I can't *not* share it this month. So though this may come off as scattered, here goes ...

There were certainly times when I struggled. I mean, the 3-Day looks great on paper – empowering and amazing and, while challenging, not impossible. It was easy to sign up and get the ball rolling. Thank you, internet. Click, click, click ... and, done! And I found ourselves

And then Friday morning rolled around. Suddenly Jenny and I were standing with the crowd at the opening ceremony and they were saying, "LET'S GO!!" And we were walking. And walking. And waking. And I knew I hadn't done nearly enough training to get me through unscathed.

But one of the t-shirts that I had made had a passage from Scripture on the back:

*"God puts a little heaven in our hearts so that we'll never settle for less. That's why we live with such good cheer. **You won't see us drooping our heads or dragging our feet!** ... It's what we trust in but don't yet see that keeps us going."*

~ 2 Corinthians 5:5-7

Truth be told: I fully admit to drooping my head and dragging my feet, especially toward the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> day (the longest day – more than 23 miles).

But no matter what, throughout those 3 days and 60+ miles, there's a lot that Jenny and I had to trust in.

Every time we came to a heavily-trafficked intersection, we trusted in our safety crew to get us across the street.

Every time we visited the medical tent (which I admittedly did much more often than Jenny did), we trusted that the women and men who were volunteering their time knew how to help us with our aches and pains.

Every time we came back to camp, we trusted that our stuff would be there.

And every time we took a step, we trusted.

We trusted that we would be able to take the next step ... and the next one ... and the next one.

We trusted in each other.

We trusted in our ability to make a difference.

We trusted in God to walk alongside us.

And we continue to trust in a future free of breast cancer.

That kept us going ...

And that *still* keeps us going.

*Pastor Lisa*

P.S. – For the rest of the stories, just ask!

## **(O) Dorothy Day Dinner**

The annual September Dorothy Day House dinner will be served on Wednesday, September 23. The Rand family is coordinating the event and will be looking for volunteers to prepare and serve food. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. See Mike or Jenny for the meal plan. This is a great way to "Play It Forward" and experience God's love. Your help is greatly appreciated by all the Dorothy Day residents.

## **(O/Z) Readers of OZ Meet September 8**



This year's OZ book series will begin with a discussion of *The True American: Murder and Mercy in Texas*, by Anand Giridharadas. Everyone is welcome to come to Coleen Johnston's home, 47421 Co. 11 Blvd., Mazeppa, on Tuesday, September 8, at 7 p.m. to talk about the book over treats and refreshments.

*The True American* is the winner of the 2015 NYPL Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism. The *New York Times Book Review* called it "remarkable... a richly detailed, affecting account..." The review goes on to say: "Giridharadas seeks less to uplift than illuminate... Which of these men is the "true American" of the title? That there is no simple answer to that question is Giridharadas's finest accomplishment."

*The True American* tells the story of Raisuddin Bhuiyan, a Bangladesh Air Force officer who dreams of immigrating to America and working in technology. But days after 9/11, an avowed "American terrorist" named Mark Stroman, seeking revenge, walks into the Dallas minimart where Bhuiyan has found temporary work and shoots him, maiming and nearly killing him. Ten years after the shooting, an Islamic pilgrimage seeds in Bhuiyan a strange idea: if he is ever to be whole, he must reenter Stroman's life. He wages a legal and public-relations campaign, against the State of Texas and Governor Rick Perry, to have his attacker spared from the death penalty. Ultimately, *The True American* tells a story about our love-hate relationship with immigrants, about the encounter of Islam and the West, about how—or whether—we choose what we become. (This information

is excerpted from the book's Amazon review.) The Readers of OZ meet on the second Tuesday of each month (usually September through May) at 7 p.m. For more information, call Coleen at 507-843-4719.

## **(Z) Quilt Show Thank You**

Over 200 people visited our church, enjoyed our treats, and marveled at the beautiful handiwork of our exhibitors at the Covered Bridge Quilt Show on June 20. Our donation basket took in \$175, which we passed on to our local food shelves. All in all, it was a great day of fellowship and sharing. Thanks to Jo Ludington, Carol Eick, Sarah Johnston and Cindy DeBlieck for helping out that day, as well as to all who furnished bars and cookies for our guests. Julie Praus, organizer of the quilt show, gave us some great publicity in the article she wrote for the *News Record*, and she is already hoping we can host the event again next year. People love visiting our historic church, and we are very fortunate to be able to help our community celebrate its heritage while at the same time furthering our mission of feeding the hungry.

Thanks so much, Coleen Johnston

## **(O) Pop Tabs Needed**

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."

Thank you! Linda Sorensen

## **(O/Z) Appreciation**

(O) Special thanks to Ellen Simon and her granddaughter, Danielle, for cleaning and polishing the pews. They are beautiful!!

(O) A big thank you to Kim Stanton for securing the top step leading to the food shelf and for his willingness to serve this little church in countless ways. You are very appreciated!

**(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 (10/5/14). 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/Z) Pastor Out of the Office**

Pastor Lisa will be at a continuing ed conference Sept. 18-20. I will have my cell phone on me if you need to get a hold of me.

**(O/Z) Sue Out of the Office**

Sue will be out of the office Sept. 8-10.

**(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.

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

**(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>

**(Z) Country Store Reminder**



Just a quite reminder that Country Store is right around the corner! So start (or keep!) working on those crafts, baked goods, and, of course, PIES!! And be on the lookout for sign-up sheets and publicity posters so we can get the word out to the rest of the community as well!

## Readings for the Month of September

**Sun., Sept. 6**

Psalm 23; John 9:1-41



**Sun., Sept. 13**

Mark 8:27-38; James 3:1-12

**Sun., Sept. 20**

guest preacher, Rev. Tammy Rider

**Sun., Sept. 27**

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Psalm 124

## In Our Prayers

*The Lord is near to all who call on Him,  
To all who call on Him in truth.  
He fulfills the desire of all who fear Him;  
He also hears their cry and saves them.*

Psalm 145:18-19

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.

## Birthdays for the Month

9/2 Jim Wedge

9/8 Aubrey Gustafson

9/14 Sarah Rand

Peter Johnson

9/15 Mia Ke Zhen Tiede

9/19 Paulette Barnhart

9/23 Mike Rand

9/24 Colton Webster

9/26 Hannah Watkins

9/27 Mary Anne Moechnig



## (Z) Sunday School Volunteer(s) Needed

We're looking for someone or multiple someones who would be willing to lead the kids' Sunday school class. The curriculum that we have is very easy to use. It would be great if we had a couple of people who would be willing to rotate Sundays with one another. If you're interested, please contact Pastor Lisa.

## (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."



## (O) One More Campfire!



We've enjoyed getting together for Sunday night campfires so much that we're throwing in one more before the weather becomes uncooperative. So we're holding one last campfire gathering for the year on **Sun., Sept. 27** at 7:00 p.m. Join us!

### IN THE COMMUNITY

#### **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 purchased on Wednesday, September 2nd, 2015. *Some restrictions do apply.*

#### **Smoked Pork Chop Dinner**

Pine Island American Legion  
Friday, September 18th  
5:00-7:00 pm  
Served with Cheesy Hashbrown Casserole, Calico Beans & Dessert Bar



#### **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 DeBlicek, 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

#### **Secretary's Office Hours**

Tuesdays in Oronoco 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Thursdays in Oronoco 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Office Phone# 1-507-367-4711  
Email: [oronocopc@bevcomm.net](mailto:oronocopc@bevcomm.net)

#### **Pastor Lisa's Office Hours**

Oronoco—Mondays 1-4:00 p.m.

**Sue will be out of the office Sept. 8-10.**  
**Pastor Lisa will be on vacation Sept. 18-20**

## September 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.

### **Tuesday, September 1**

Morning: Pss. 12; 146  
Evening: Pss. 36; 7  
1 Kings 8:65–9:9  
James 2:14–26  
Mark 14:66–72

### **Wednesday, September 2**

Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 132; 134  
1 Kings 9:24–10:13  
James 3:1–12  
Mark 15:1–11

### **Thursday, September 3**

Morning: Pss. 116; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 26; 130  
1 Kings 11:1–13  
James 3:13–4:12  
Mark 15:12–21

### **Friday, September 4**

Morning: Pss. 84; 148  
Evening: Pss. 25; 40  
1 Kings 11:26–43  
James 4:13–5:6  
Mark 15:22–32

### **Saturday, September 5**

Morning: Pss. 63; 149  
Evening: Pss. 125; 90  
1 Kings 12:1–20  
James 5:7–20  
Mark 15:33–39

### **Sunday, September 6 15th Sunday after Pentecost**

Morning: Pss. 103; 150  
Evening: Pss. 117; 139  
1 Kings 12:21–33  
Acts 4:18–31  
John 10:31–42

### **Monday, September 7**

Morning: Pss. 5; 145  
Evening: Pss. 82; 29  
1 Kings 13:1–10  
Phil. 1:1–11  
Mark 15:40–47

### **Tuesday, September 8**

Morning: Pss. 42; 146  
Evening: Pss. 102; 133  
1 Kings 16:23–34  
Phil. 1:12–30  
Mark 16:1–8 (9–20)

### **Wednesday, September 9**

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 1; 33  
1 Kings 17:1–24  
Phil. 2:1–11  
Matt. 2:1–12

### **Thursday, September 10**

Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 16; 62  
1 Kings 18:1–19  
Phil. 2:12–30  
Matt. 2:13–23

### **Friday, September 11**

Morning: Pss. 51; 148  
Evening: Pss. 142; 65  
1 Kings 18:20–40  
Phil. 3:1–16  
Matt. 3:1–12

### **Saturday, September 12**

Morning: Pss. 104; 149  
Evening: Pss. 138; 98  
1 Kings 18:41–19:8  
Phil. 3:17–4:7  
Matt. 3:13–17

### **Sunday, September 13 16th Sunday after Pentecost**

Morning: Pss. 19; 150  
Evening: Pss. 81; 113  
1 Kings 19:8–21  
Acts 5:34–42  
John 11:45–57

### **Monday, September 14**

Morning: Pss. 135; 145  
Evening: Pss. 97; 112  
1 Kings 21:1–16  
1 Cor. 1:1–19  
Matt. 4:1–11

### **Tuesday, September 15**

Morning: Pss. 123; 146  
Evening: Pss. 30; 86  
1 Kings 21:17–29  
1 Cor. 1:20–31  
Matt. 4:12–17

### **Wednesday, September 16**

Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 48; 4  
1 Kings 22:1–28  
1 Cor. 2:1–13  
Matt. 4:18–25

### **Thursday, September 17**

Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 80; 27  
1 Kings 22:29–45  
1 Cor. 2:14–3:15  
Matt. 5:1–10

### **Friday, September 18**

Morning: Pss. 130; 148  
Evening: Pss. 32; 139  
2 Kings 1:2–17  
1 Cor. 3:16–23  
Matt. 5:11–16

**Saturday, September 19**

Morning: Pss. 56; 149  
Evening: Pss. 118; 111  
2 Kings 2:1–18  
1 Cor. 4:1–7 Matt. 5:17–20

**Sunday, September 20  
17th Sunday after Pentecost**

Morning: Pss. 67; 150  
Evening: Pss. 46; 93  
2 Kings 4:8–37  
Acts 9:10–31  
Luke 3:7–18

**Monday, September 21**

Morning: Pss. 57; 145  
Evening: Pss. 85; 47  
2 Kings 5:1–19  
1 Cor. 4:8–21  
Matt. 5:21–26

**Tuesday, September 22**

Morning: Pss. 54; 146  
Evening: Pss. 28; 99  
2 Kings 5:19–27  
1 Cor. 5:1–8  
Matt. 5:27–37

**Wednesday, September 23**

Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 125; 91  
2 Kings 6:1–23  
1 Cor. 5:9–6:11  
Matt. 5:38–48

**Thursday, September 24**

Morning: Pss. 143; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 81; 116  
2 Kings 9:1–16  
1 Cor. 6:12–20  
Matt. 6:1–6, 16–18

**Friday, September 25**

Morning: Pss. 88; 148  
Evening: Pss. 6; 20  
2 Kings 9:17–37  
1 Cor. 7:1–9  
Matt. 6:7–15

**Saturday, September 26**

Morning: Pss. 122; 149  
Evening: Pss. 100; 63  
2 Kings 11:1–20a  
1 Cor. 7:10–24  
Matt. 6:19–24

**Sunday, September 27  
18th Sunday after Pentecost**

Morning: Pss. 108; 150  
Evening: Pss. 66; 23  
2 Kings 17:1–18  
Acts 9:36–43  
Luke 5:1–11

**Monday, September 28**

Morning: Pss. 62; 145  
Evening: Pss. 73; 9  
2 Kings 17:24–41  
1 Cor. 7:25–31  
Matt. 6:25–34

**Tuesday, September 29**

Morning: Pss. 12; 146  
Evening: Pss. 36; 7  
2 Chron. 29:1–3; 30:1 (2–9) 10–27  
1 Cor. 7:32–40  
Matt. 7:1–12

**Wednesday, September 30**

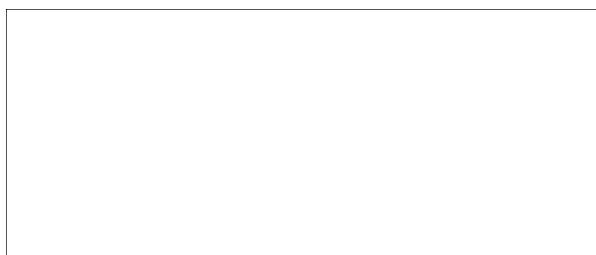
Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 132; 134  
2 Kings 18:9–25  
1 Cor. 8:1–13  
Matt. 7:13–21



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**Check out our websites at**  
**[www.oronocochurch.org](http://www.oronocochurch.org)**  
**[www.ucczumbrota.com](http://www.ucczumbrota.com)**

**Worship Times for the Month of September 2015**



9/6	9:00 (Z)	11:00 (O)
9/13	9:00 (Z)	11:00 (O)
9/20	9:00 (Z)	11:00 (O)
9/27	9:00 (Z)	11:00 (O)

**(O) Nursery available during worship service**  
**(Z) Sunday school at 10:15**

**Reverend Lisa Johnson—Contact Information:**  
**Cell Phone 1-507-696-8753 Email address: [pastorlisaj@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlisaj@gmail.com)**