

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ORONOCO



May 2018 Newsletter



All Around the Campfire

We had so much fun with our campfire gatherings last summer that we're at it again this summer! One 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 24: 5:30-8:00 p.m.

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

Aug. 26: 5:30-8:00 p.m.

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



A Word from Our Pastor



Pentecost.

The day we celebrate the Holy Spirit coming down and alighting on the disciples like tongues of fire so they could take the gospel out into the world in tongues any and all could understand.

Probably one of the coolest days of the liturgical year.

Definitely my favorite day in the church calendar.

Why?

Because it is a **raucously holy day** in the life of the Church.

It is a day when we get to focus intently and maniacally on the Holy Spirit – something that we don't often do in mainline Protestant churches!

It is a day when we ask God to fervently, unrestrainedly, enthusiastically interrupt our mundane and monotonous day-to-day with the wild abandon of the Holy Spirit and the good news of God's grace given to us through Jesus Christ!

It is a day to boldly and unabashedly wear red ... as much red as possible!

It is a day to be exuberant and joyful and animated in our worship!

That's why, on Pentecost, I always decorate the sanctuary with such an explosion of color and texture. It's about the symbolism of the red and orange and yellow – the life-altering flames of the Holy Spirit. It's about the symbolism of the holy dove – another representation of the Holy Spirit in all Her wild and untamed glory. It's about not just recognizing those ways that God interrupts our lives but *celebrating those interruptions* for what they truly are: glimpses of the Holy, beautiful and fierce and powerful.

And it's also a day to celebrate all of the wild and beautiful things that are happening in the life of the church. It's a day to recognize the different ways that God is showing up all around us. It's a day to listen

to the voice of God through one another – the tongues of the Holy Spirit speaking through the experiences of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

This year, I will unfortunately miss celebrating this raucously holy day with you because it falls in the middle of my maternity leave. However, I am so thrilled that you will be led in worship that day by one of our very own: Kamyn Peterson-Rucker. She will be filling the pulpit on Sunday, May 20 – sharing the Word of God with her voice, her experiences, her faith perspective. I cannot tell you how excited I am that all of you will get to experience God speaking through her.

In the book of Acts, in the middle of the story of Pentecost, Luke (who wrote the book of Acts) quotes the prophet Joel:

In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams. Even upon my servants, men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.
~ Acts 2:17-18

Now whether or not we are living in “the last day” is not for us to know or fine out. But the beauty of Pentecost is that it is a time for us to open our eyes and our ears and our hearts to the voices of those we may not often hear, including and especially the young people in our midst. On this special day, we get to recognize and acknowledge the way that God has poured out the Holy Spirit not just on those whom we expect but on those whom we least expect. We get to hear God speak in all voices, all languages, all accents, all tones and timbres. Because the wildness and beauty of our God cannot be contained in one image – one specific representation. God is all around us. God is in us and through us, behind us and before us and beside us. And that is a wildly beautiful thing.

So let's **CELEBRATE!!**

Pastor Lisa

Pastor Out of the Office

Pastor Lisa will be out of the office on maternity leave until June 11. If you would like to stop by and visit her and the new baby, please call or text first: 507-995-7310.

Welcome Baby Johnson!



We are excited to announce the arrival of Miss Julia Dianne Johnson, born Tuesday, April 17th at 11:08a.m. She weighed 10 lbs. 1oz. and is 22.75" long.

Baby Shower - Meet the Newest Johnson Party

When: Saturday, May 12, 2018

Time: 2:00PM

Where: Sandy Bower's House - 13407 Postier Dr. NW, Oronoco, MN

All are welcome to come (men & women 😊). For a list of necessities, please contact Karen Peterson-Rucker or Jenny Rand.

In Our Prayers

Matthew 21:22 *And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.*

Karen Vallejo, Eunice Markham, Joan Swarthout, Joyce Rucker and the friends and family of Ed Murray.

Father's/Mother's Day Brunch

Our hearts and our lives are full of people who have helped us grow – mother and father figures, whether they're the ones who brought us into this world or the ones we've found along the way, whether they are still with us or whether they have passed over from this world to the next. After worship on Sun., May 20, the People of the Church will be hosting a brunch to celebrate all of those mother and father figures who have blessed our lives.

Presbytery Meeting

The next Presbytery meeting is **Tues., May 8 at 4:00 p.m.** at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis. As always, Presbytery meetings are open to anyone. Dinner tickets will be available for a small fee (usually \$8-10).

Vacation Bible School

We had so much fun with last year's very first Oronoco VBS that we're doing it again ... but even MORE this time! This year's theme will be "Hero Central: Discovering Your Strength in God" ... because really, who **doesn't** want to be a super hero, right?! Here are the details:

Where: Presbyterian Church of Oronoco

When: July 16-20, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Ages: 4-12

Cost: \$15/person or \$30/family

We will be serving the kids dinner from 6:00-6:30 p.m., then enjoying some really fun programming after that. Registration is required, so check out www.oronocochurch.org/vbs for the registration link as well as more information.

We will be looking for volunteers to help and volunteers to provide some of our supplies later on, so be on the lookout for more details!



Readings for the Month of May 2018

Sun., May 6 – *guest preacher, Rev. Kate Johnston*

Sun., May 13 – *guest preacher, Rev. Kate Johnston*
Mother's Day

Sun., May 20 – *guest preacher, Kamyn Peterson-Rucker*
Pentecost

Sun., May 27 – *guest preacher, Rev. Kate Johnston*
Memorial Day weekend

Clearwater Forest Summer Camp!



The boats are ready to get in the water, the high ropes are ready to be traversed, the trails are cleared, the cabins are cleaned, the arts and crafts have been sorted, and this can only mean one thing: camp starts next month! Here at Clearwater Forest we are getting ready for our favorite time of year, and we can't wait for you to join us!

Visit www.clearwaterforest.org for the camp schedule and online registration, with programs for youth in 3rd grade through recent graduates, as well as intergenerational programs like Family Camp and Grand Camps. There is sure to be something for everyone! Our theme this summer is "Light the Fire," and we will be exploring the big questions surrounding how we can impact the world with the light of Christ.

Do you think you're too old to come to Clearwater but still love camp? Consider one of our family programs, volunteering a week this summer, sponsoring a counselor, or financially supporting a family member, friend, or community member to come to Clearwater. For more information, visit www.clearwaterforest.org or give the office a call at 218-678-2325.

Birthdays for the Month of May

5/3 Ian Johnson
Luke Johnson
5/12 Jenny Rand
5/14 Madelyn Rand
5/23 Bob Larsen
5/28 Deb Larsen



Church Staff

Organist: Katha Johnson
Secretary: Sue Johnson
Custodian: Sue Johnson
Pastor: Rev. Lisa Johnson

Presbyterian Leadership Team

Kim Stanton, Treasurer
Kay Erdahl, Asst. Treasurer
Mike Rand, Clerk of Session
Ron Peterson Rucker, Ruling Elder
Ellen Warner, Ruling Elder
Janice Ostrom, Ruling Elder
Mike Rand, Ruling Elder
Linda Sorensen, Ruling Elder
Lance Sorensen, Ruling Elder
Ellen Simon, Deacon
Joanne Schenck, Deacon
Karen Peterson Rucker, Deacon
Jenny Rand, Deacon
Gail Rucker, Deacon

People of the Church

Janice Ostrom, Co-Moderator
Jenny Rand, Co Moderator

IN TOUCH WITH THE WIDER CHURCH

Presbyterian Church Contact Information

Presbyterian national website...pcusa.org

Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area website...
presbyterytwincities.org

PTCA weekly email newsletter...contact communications@ptcaweb.org

Presbyterians Today monthly magazine...subscribe (at cost) to Presbyterians Today, P.O. Box 5178, Brentwood, TN 37024-9931 or call 1-800-558-1669

Secretary's Office Hours

Tuesday in Oronoco 10:00-1:00
Thursday in Oronoco 10:00-1:00
Office Phone# 507-367-4711
Email: oronocopc@bevcomm.net

St. Paul Saints Game

A couple of years ago, we had a blast going to some MN Twins baseball games together. The Twins' schedule and pricing didn't line up very well this year, so we're going to try something new: a St. Paul Saints' game!!

Here are the details:

- **Fri., Aug. 3 @ 7:05 p.m.** (includes post-game fireworks!)
- **seats in the Infield Reserved section** (see <http://saintsbaseball.com/chs-field1/stadium-maps/> for more info)
- **tickets: \$20 adults, \$19 youth (14 & under)/seniors (65 & over)**

*****Please sign up for your tickets by Sun., July 8!
There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.*****



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"If you didn't have Facebook when you were a kid, how did you know who your friends were?"

Synod School 2018



A place where you . . .

Learn

Laugh

Sing

Dance

Try new things

**Leave spiritually and
personally renewed**

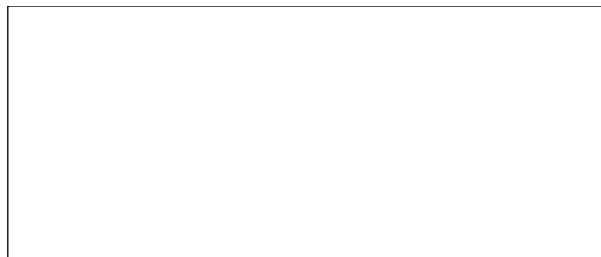
**July 22-27, 2018
Buena Vista University
Storm Lake, Iowa**

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Discover Synod School!
[www.lakesandprairies.org/
SynodSchool](http://www.lakesandprairies.org/SynodSchool)
800-328-1880, ext. 207

**Dance Joyfully
Where'er You May Be**

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



**Check out our website at
www.oronocochurch.org**

**Worship is held at 10:00 each Sunday.
Communion is on the first Sunday of each month.
Adult Coffee & Conversation 9:00—9:45 a.m.**



Reverend Lisa Johnson- Contact Information
Cell Phone (507) 995-7310 E-mail address: pastorlisaj@gmail.com
Pastor Lisa's Office Hours: Mondays 1-4:00 p.m. in Oronoco
Pastor Lisa's blog: pastorlisaj.wordpress.com