

Presbyterian Church of Oronoco

Trunk or Treat

We're going to host a Trunk or Treat for the community this year! Truck or Treat is a great way for kids to have some fun in their costumes and get a bunch of treats all in one safe, contained space.

We will be asking various Oronoco businesses and organizations if they would like to participate as well. Please consider bringing treats to hand out to the kiddos! The more trunks we have, the better!

Date: Saturday, October 26

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Place: Presbyterian Church of Oronoco

We will host this event **RAIN OR SHINE.
If its raining, we'll move indoors*

Lunch will be available for purchase inside the church:

Hot dogs & Chips: \$2

Water/Juice: \$1 per bottle

September Scripture Readings

Sunday September 1—

Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Luke 6:27-38

Labor Day Weekend

Sunday September 8—

Genesis 2:4b-25

Sunday September 15—

Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

Sunday September 22—

Genesis 32:22-30

Sunday September 29—

Exodus 1:8-2:10; 3:1-15

Next Session Meeting

Wednesday September 4

6:30 p.m.

Next Presbytery Meeting

Tuesday September 10

2:00– 6:00 p.m.

Associated Church, Owatonna

From the Pastor

*I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
What seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.
I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love*

~ "I Love to Tell the Story," *Glory to God*, #462, verse 2 + refrain

For almost 7 years – since I began my time serving in this call – I've been using what's called the Revised Common Lectionary for the majority of my sermon planning. In general, a lectionary is a list of selected Scripture readings assigned to each Sunday and special worship day throughout the church year. There are a number of different lectionary lists. The most common is the Revised Common Lectionary, used by many of the mainline denominations, including the Presbyterian Church (USA). There's also a Catholic Lectionary. Lectionaries always run in multi-year cycles. For example, the Revised Common Lectionary is made up of 3 years – A, B, and C. While there are a few Scripture readings that are common across all the years, such as the Luke reading on Christmas Eve, the different lectionary years present different readings. For any given Sunday in the Revised Common Lectionary, there are four Scripture options: an Old Testament reading, a reading from Psalms, a reading from one of the Gospels, and a reading from the wider New Testament.

Back in 2010, Professors Rolf Jacobson and Craig Koester from Luther Seminary in St. Paul embarked on an experiment to create a new lectionary. Their goal was to create a lectionary with the purpose of telling the overarching story of faith starting at the beginning – in the Old Testament – and following that thread throughout all of Scripture in a 9-month period.

From WorkingPreacher.org: "Texts were selected that lead well to the proclamation of what God is doing. The stories tell of hope and disappointment, suffering and redemption. In all these varied contexts, we find God dealing with the complexities of human life. Stories from the gospels differ each year, avoiding repetition and highlighting what is distinctive about each gospel's telling of the story of Jesus.

The Church Year helped to shape the flow of the Narrative Lectionary. Old Testament readings move through the story of God's dealings with Israel and culminate in Advent with the prophets who speak of longing and hope. Readings from the gospels fit the movement from Christmas and Epiphany to the Transfiguration, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week and Easter. Selections from the book of Acts and Paul's letters trace the outward movement of the resurrection message, culminating on Pentecost with readings focusing on the Spirit."

Through a 4-yr. cycle, they do this time and again, restarting in the Old Testament in the fall and following a slightly different story thread, and taking a break in the summer for more creative flexibility. Unlike the Revised Common Lectionary, the Narrative Lectionary assigns only one Scripture reading for each Sunday.

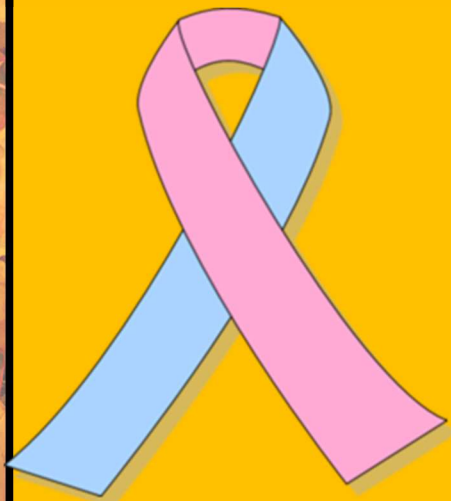
On Sept. 8, I'll be switching from using the Revised Common Lectionary as my preaching guide to using the Narrative Lectionary. Part of this is for the sake of something fresh and new. Every time we read Scripture – even when it's a passage we've read a hundred times before – our goal is to read it with fresh eyes – to open our hearts and minds to whatever God is trying to teach us in that particular moment. Sometimes we do that by reading Scripture in a new setting or location. Sometimes we do that by reading Scripture through the lens of a certain Bible study or devotional such as the Upper Room. For our times of worship together, I'm going to do that by switching up the way I choose our Scripture readings and the way we look at them – as a grand and all-encompassing story of faith that has been woven throughout the centuries and throughout all the different facets of Scripture.

Some of the stories we'll read will be familiar. Some will probably be new. This won't be a year-long sermon series; just a new way to engage with Scripture together. For as Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 3:16-17:

Every scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing mistakes, for correcting, and for training character, so that the person who belongs to God can be equipped to do everything that is good.

Pastor Gina

Peace & Global Witness Offering—World Communion Sunday



We make a special point of remembering our unity with Christians worldwide on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of October. World Communion Sunday (formerly called World Wide Communion Sunday) actually originated within the Presbyterian Church and has been adopted by denominations and congregations around the world. The first World Communion Sunday was celebrated at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA in 1933 by Rev. Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr.

In the PC(USA) today, the Peace and Global Witness 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 Peace and Global Witness 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.

Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness Vigil

October 15 is designated as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day – a day set aside to remember all of those precious angel babies that have been held in the hearts of their loved ones, even if they never got to hold them in their arms. President Ronald Reagan proclaimed October as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness month in 1988, and October 15th has grown into a specific day for families to remember together, grieve together, and honor their littlest loved ones together.

This year, we're going to host a vigil to honor all those who have experienced this terrible kind of loss. We're planning a short service (outdoors, if the weather permits) as well as a walk down to the river to release white carnations into the Zumbro River. Following the service and walk, there will be coffee and cookies available at the church for any who would like to stay and spend some time either with others or in prayer in the sanctuary.

Date: Tuesday, October 15

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Update from Revs. Shelvis & Nancy Smith-Mather

Revs. Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mather are the missionaries serving in South Sudan and Uganda who we support with our 2nd Sunday Spare Change Sunday funds. Shelvis, Nancy, Jordan, and Adalyn welcomed another daughter/sister into their lives in October – baby Nicole. If you would like an update on the incredible work that Shelvis and Nancy are doing with RECONCILE International and how their family is doing, please go to <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/shelvis-and-nancy-smith-mather/>. In the top right portion of the screen you will find a box with link to their 10 most recent update letters. Also on this page, you can find links to contact both Shelvis and Nancy as well as information on how to contribute financially as an individual to their mission.

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!

- Sept. 22: 5:30-8:00 p.m. **LAST ONE!**

Mowing Sign-Up

The sign-up sheet for sharing in the lawn mowing duties is up on the bulletin board. If you can help, please sign up for the week you intend to mow. The church mower is in the shed. Talk to Ron Peterson or Pastor Lisa if you need the shed key.

Dorothy Day Dinner

The annual September Dorothy Day House dinner will be served on Wednesday, September 15. Jenny Rand is coordinating the event and will be looking for volunteers to prepare and serve food. A sign up sheet for salads and desserts is posted on the bulletin board. See 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.







Border Battle/ Chili Sunday

The Packers/Vikings scheduled games are a little problematic this year, so we're manufacturing a Border Battle Sunday. On **Sunday, November 24** (bye week for the Vikings, late afternoon game for the Packers, we'll be battling it out again to see which team can bring more donations for the Oronoco Food Shelf – the Packers or the Vikings! After worship, we'll weight the two teams' contributions to see who won this year's battle!

This year, we're combining our Border Battle with a Chili Day. After worship, as we celebrate the friendly rivalry between our favorite teams, we'll also have an "in-house" chili competition. Bring your favorite chili (enough to share!), and we'll have drinks and sides. We'll vote on who has the best, and if you win you get BRAGGING RIGHTS! And maybe a super cool in-house traveling trophy that can live at your house for a year.

Painting Fundraiser

We're planning another guided painting fundraiser for some time in either October or November. We're still waiting to hear back from a few different businesses to lead us in the painting, so we don't have a specific date yet. However, we know that we're looking for a Saturday afternoon from 1:00-4:00 p.m. And we are planning on making this one a **kid-friendly** painting experience! Ages 9 and up are welcome to attend *with a parent/adult*.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2	3	4 Session Meeting 6:30 Melissa Wickre's Birthday	5 	6	7
8	9	10 Presbytery Meeting 2:00	11 Mark & Dianne Pinney's Anniversary	12	13	14 Peter Johnson & Sarah Rand's Birthday
15 Dorothy Day Dinner	16	17 	18	19	20	21
22 Last All Around the Campfire 5:30	23 Michael Rand's Birthday	24	25	26	27 	28 Ed and Ellen Simon's Anniversary
29 Rick & Karen Lohmann and Jack & Gail Rucker's Anniversary	30 