September, 2021



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416 E. Lake Ave., Monticello, Wisconsin 53570 Inviting ALL to follow Jesus in faith & action

Make unto the LORD, all ye lands. **PSALM 100:1, KJV** 



# **CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Lance A. Smith Pastor mtpreach.59@gmail.com

Cindi Ritter Coordinator of Caring Ministries care4zwingli@gmail.com

> Roann Austin Church Secretary zwinglira@gmail.com

Denise Pinnow Church Treasurer Chime Choir Director wakkywoman@yahoo.com

> Susan Hefty *Finance*

John Gierhart Property Maintenance



# Interested In CHURCH MEMBERSHIP?

If you are interested in joining Zwingli UCC, please contact the Church Office. All are welcome to become part of this faith community.



# Church Office Hours Monday–Friday 8 a.m.–12 p.m. Closed Holidays These are scheduled open

office hours. Other hours are available by calling **608-938-4369.** 

# Important Online Offerings For You

#### https://www.youtube.com/channel/



**UCzwwZLdGT03Us3lFvINLibg?view\_as=subscriber** – This is our **YouTube Channel.** Most of the videos we have recorded are found here! If you subscribe to this channel, you will get email notifications of newly posted videos. Many smart TVs are able to stream this channel as well.



**www.zwingliucc.com** - This **Website** has all you need to know about Zwingli United Church of Christ, programs offered, current newsletter and videos, and devotionals as well as information on all things Zwingli!

**Zwingli United Church of Christ (Monticello)** – Type this in your **Facebook** search bar and enter the world of Zwingli UCC. Our timeline has had all manner of things and ideas that are Zwingli related posts!

The Pastor is in – Call 828-817-9055 to speak with the Pastor!!!! You can also text message at the same number! **Email: mtpreach.59@gmail.com or zwingliuccmonticello@gmail.com** 



# LEARN FROM LEAVES

25

As you're enjoying the fall colors and sipping apple cider, ponder this saying: "Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go."

When leaves stop producing chlorophyll, they turn vibrant shades of yellow, orange, and red. This yearly spectacle makes way for the leaves to let go and fall. It also serves as a good reminder of things we may need to drop: clutter around the home, a desire for control, commitments that no longer bring joy, personal expectations that cause added stress, a need to always be right, and so on.



Just as the Israelites had to let go of their past as slaves in Egypt and Saul-turned-Paul had to abandon his persecuting ways, we too can let go of what weighs us down and gets in the way of God's best for our lives. Embrace fall as a season of change and see just how beautiful it is to let things go!

Janna Firestone





# Message From The Pastor

#### Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

There is a time for everything,

and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die,

a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal,

a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh,

a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,

a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up,

a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend,

a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate,

a time for war and a time for peace.

One of my fondest memories from my preteen and teenage years was **SUMMER**! Hot, sultry days. We lived in the Hocking River Valley which was a lush, green valley that provided hot, muggy days that seemed to last forever. There were several things one could do to find relief from the heat and one of my

favorites was to stop by the vegetable/fruit stand at the edge of town for a sweet, tasty snack.

The stand was only open part of the year, April through October, and a constant variety of fresh fruits and vegetables paraded through the display bins. On the hottest



days of summer there were huge, ripe, blood red tomatoes that were only hours from the vines of the plants in the dark, rich, river bottoms along the Ohio River! *"River Tomatoes"* we called them, growing in soil as black as pitch along the river bottoms where periodic



floods would bathe the plots in a fresh coating of silt and soil from the riverbeds. River tomatoes were huge and sort of ugly and looked deformed. They were low acid, beefsteak type tomatoes. These were what most people call heirloom tomatoes. They were all shapes and sizes and in all manner of ripeness. You bought a basket and when you filled your basket with these beauties you made sure that you got them in several different stages of ripeness. You would take care to get some green ones and a couple that were turning but not totally ripe yet for the up-



coming days and always ended up with two or three dead ripe beauties. These would just be bursting with plump, juicy fullness but, at that stage, they were very short lived and fragile. These ripe tomatoes rarely made it past the parking lot to the car.

On a hot day one could not resist savoring one of those babies. You would move it close to your mouth and as your teeth would barely scrape the surface a flood of juice would run down your chin. The sweet, acidy goodness would flow down both the inside of your throat and down your neck to the collar of your shirt. Sweet, sticky goodness would flow down your fingers and into your hand! One time I made the mistake of trying this while sitting in the car only to find tomatoey goodness all over the upholstery. I don't know for sure, but I think the heat of the afternoon sun on a sweltering day made that tomato taste even better.

This is what a tomato should taste like. I waited and still wait all year for this fruit to become available! I despise the red, perfectly round, firm baseballs that attempt to pass themselves off as tomatoes in supermarkets at



other times during the year. I refuse to buy them or eat them! Selected and bred to withstand mechanized harvest, they have no taste whatsoever; they are bland, fleshy beasts that masquerade as the real thing.

I wait all fall, winter, and spring for real tomatoes, the fruit that reaches a peak ripeness sometime late July and extends into the early days of September!

Diving into them like the waters of the old swimming hole on the hottest of days and covering my shirt, arms, hands, and face with the deliciousness - it is more than just a favorite fruit, it is a wondrous experience. Summer breakfasts contain a few slices, lunch has to have at least two or three slices, midday snacks find me eating tomatoes like apples. Then supper; you must know everything goes with a slice of one of these



real tomatoes. I usually eat them until I get little acid blisters forming in the corners of my mouth and then I continue even then to devour these precious fruits!

It is amazing the joy that summer abundance brings to my life! As the "Teacher" in Ecclesiastes says: to everything there is a season. Perhaps by rushing the seasons of life we miss out on some of the deliciousness.

Florinda Wittwer gives me good counsel each time we talk.... "I TAKE IT ONE DAY AT A TIME."

All things in their time also means all things in their prime! To hurry past the blessings of the moment only masks the true nature, the true flavor of the day!

Life is like tomatoes, enjoy the abundance, do not mourn the tomatoes of old, and never lament the end of the season. I eat them when they are best! I pray we find the blessings that surround us each and every day and, like a super ripe tomato,



# Coordinator of Caring Ministries.

I am looking forward to working with this caring congregation as Coordinator of Caring Ministries. Jeff and I were always touched, strengthened, and comforted by the prayers we received throughout the past two and a half years. We were initially impressed with the friendliness and liveliness of the congregation when we joined in on the Christmas Sing-a-long at the Morning Mug back in 2018. As a transplant to the Monticello area, I will enjoy learning your stories and reaching out to all in Christian fellowship. I have appreciated the guidance of Sheri Wichser, Heather Smith, Carolyn Hilliard, Roann Austin, Pastor Lance, and Denise Pinnow (just to name a few) as I become acclimated to the position of Coordinator of Caring Ministries.

I accompanied Sue Sinnet when she delivered CDs and Pastor Lance introduced me to residents at Aster and helped me become familiar with the other Monroe facilities. In addition to the Monroe folks, Pastor Lance and I visited the Monticello "Sunshine" recipients. He has invited me along to facilities throughout Zwingli's membership in the future.

It will take me some time to set up my office and to get my computer organized, but I am excited to be a part of the Zwingli Family that has extended its prayers and support throughout my Husband Jeff's medical challenges.

Blessings,

Cindi Ritter







## Save The Date For The Next Super Sunday

The last Sunday of each month is designated as **SUPER SUNDAY**, an enriching experience for people of **ALL AGES**. The interactive programs are wrapped around stories of the Bible and include crafts, activities, and **FUN**!! Everyone is welcome. Kids – bring an adult & join us for this special event!





# COVID-19 Safety Measure as of 8/04/2021

On March 16, 2021, the Consistory of Zwingli UCC, after weighing advice from the CDC, Badger Bounce Back Plan as well as recommendations from the WI Conference of the UCC and the WI Council of Churches, decided

to close the Church to all large group meetings and receptions at our location.

At that time, we thought that we were looking at a short-term problem. We planned to follow the advice of these organizations. As a vaccine came available and recommendations relaxed, our congregation moved back into the Sanctuary for worship. It is important to note that there are still many members who are not comfortable with the risk involved in coming back to Sanctuary worship.

Over the summer, Consistory relaxed the COVID safety practices in June, July, and August. We had hoped that we could make mask wearing optional for people who have been vaccinated. Due to a variant and the



high number of people still not vaccinated, we have recently entered into a High-Risk situation in Green County. The CDC and sources we have been monitoring recommend that **ALL** people in enclosed areas continue to wear masks. Zwingli UCC will continue to follow the CDC and wear masks in worship. We realize this is an inconvenience for our congregants but it is needed to insure not only the health and safety of our guests,

Zwingli UCC will continue to follow the CDC and wear masks in worship. but also to instill comfort in those who are immunocompromised or those still not comfortable with the risk. We will continue to monitor the situation! We will post a weekly update from the Green County Health Department on our note board, our Facebook page, and our Website. Policies may change on a weekly basis but, due to the nature of this virus, we must follow these procedures to keep all safe and comfortable. We will offer Live Stream and videos of worship services as well as CD recordings for the homebound. Our FM transmissions will continue each week and can be received in the Parking Lot or in various rooms around the Church. Drive-in Worship will continue every third Sunday as weather allows.

Please pray for guidance and clear decision making using the most up-to-date information. We also recommend, to slow the spread of this variant, that everyone gets vaccinated and encourage your friends and family to do the same.

#### God Bless,

The Consistory of Zwingli United Church of Christ



Our Parking Lot is in need of repairs. We are looking for a dedicated group of people to join the Parking Lot Committee to seek out the best solution for our Church. If interested, reach out to Sheri Wichser @ (608) 575-7175 for more details or email her at <u>sawix6886@gmail.com</u>.

# ∽ Daily Bible Reading ∾

"...Draw near and hear the words of the Lord your God." Joshua 3:9





#### Be Still (and Silent)

We need to find God, and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature — trees, flowers, grass — grow in silence; see the stars, the moon, the sun, how they move in silence. ... The more we receive in silent prayer, the more we can give in our active life. We need silence to be able to touch souls. The essential thing is not what we say, but what God says to us and through us. All our words will be useless unless they come from within — words which do not give the light of Christ increase the darkness. Special Prayer

Lord God who created the heavens and the earth and all its inhabitants, we pray that You watch and protect all those who are refugees from their homes this day! We pray for protection and comfort for those caught in the turmoil in Afghanistan, as well as all places where people have forgotten that we are all brothers and sisters. We pray that all our troops in foreign lands have safe passage as they come home! We pray for the time when we all have clearer vision of others in this world and understand that we are all God's beloved! Amen.

#### + + + + + +

Answers to prayers come in various ways, sometimes in minutes, sometimes in days. And some take years to fully unfold the harvest of love and blessings they hold.

Answers to prayers come in various forms, sometimes in sunlight, sometimes through storms. Some blossom early, and some blossom late, but each one will flower — have faith and wait!

Helen Inwood, His Mysterious Ways



*Dear Lord, Please Hear Our Prayers* 





#### From Our Records

Remembering with Love those who have passed

Elsbeth "Batie" Freitag 07/17/1936 to 07/29/2021 Ruth Wittenwyler 05/13/1922 to 07/31/2021 Calvin Derendinger 05/01/1924 to 08/20/2021

Undesignated Memorials in Memory of Elsbeth "Batie" Freitag by the Ruth Circle

#### Designated Memorials in Memory of

**Jeannette Broge** Window Restoration by William & Kay Dickson, Patti Williams

Elsie M. Freitag Window Restoration by William & Carol Moser

**Marian Ganther** (daughter of Lillian Hefty) Window Restoration and Kitchen Funds by Howard Ganther

Mary Strause Window Restoration by Graves & Marlene Schmalbeck, Tim & Sheri Wichser, May Burgy, Sharon Lieberstein

Helen Wettach Window Restoration by Helen Locher, Voegeli Chevrolet-Buick, Harvey & Patty Kubly, Judith Beck & Doug Karlen, Nancy Karlen, Paul & Sue Rieder, Robin Reuter & Danielle Risley, Jeff & Anita Zuber, Sally Disrud, Bill & Carol Moser, Dave & Mary Jean Blum, Michael Moser, Judith Huber, Jeanne & David Steffen, Ted & Fritzi Williams, Donna Riese, James Marty, Paul W. Voegeli, Carolyn Hilliard, Dennis & Jan Everson, Arleen Lehr, Cynthia & James Chapman, Randy & Mary Roderick, Elaine Bethke, Friends

Helen Wettach Garden Spinner donated by Helen's Family S.



In Luke 11:1-13 (NIV), Jesus teaches about prayer.

**Directions:** Add or subtract the letters indicated and unscramble the letters to form a new word, using hints from the passage. Then unscramble the circled letters to answer the question below.

party – t = pr <u>A</u> (v. 1)	
lady + i = (v. 3)	N K
drab + e = (v. 5)	$\sim$ / '
rod + o = (v. 7)	
bask – b = (v. 9)	A som
keeps – p = (v. 9)	T' FB
define – ee = (v. 9)	M I S
shift – t =(v. 11)	
sneaky – y = (v. 11)	1101
sift + g = (v. 13)	$\sum V$
What will the Father give to those wh	no ask of him?
	(v. 13)

Answer: pray, daily, bread, door, ask, seek, find, fish, snake, gifts; Holy Spirit

# Hands of Change

# Begins Monday, September 20

Hands of Change is a group of caring youth grades 6 and above who strive to make a difference in their world! Each Monday schools are in session youth are met by HOC volunteers at 3:15 pm, provided a snack, and transported to a service site somewhere in Green County. Parents can pick up youth at 6 pm at Zwingli UCC. Service sites include: New Glarus and Pleasant View Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Centers, Green Cares Food Bank, Green County Humane Society, Village/Town Parks, and many more. Youth participate in projects to enhance the lives of the folks around them as well as experience the joys of serving others! For more information check out our web page at www. zwingliucc.com or contact Pastor Lance Smith.



#### Zwingli Brotherhood Meal Drawings Are Back!!!

#### ONCE AGAIN, WE ARE GIVING AWAY A MEAL A MONTH!!

Donations to the **Zwingli Brotherhood** allow them to spread "**Holiday Cheer**" to shut-ins and **Scholarships** to those expanding their education. Each donation of **ANY** amount will put **YOU** in a monthly drawing for a Gift Certificate!

Mail your donations to: Zwingli UCC PO Box 97 Monticello, WI 53570 Or Online Credit/Debit https://zwingliucc.com/giving/



Winners announced at the end of each month.

Area restaurants will be featured! Gift Certificate for September Drawing The Java Lava Café, Monticello



**ARK OF THE COVENANT**—For the Israelites, the Ark of the Covenant was at the center of worship. It contained the stone tablets of the Ten Commandments, a pot of manna and Aaron's rod. In the Old Testament, the ark was a visible representation of God's throne, or presence, on earth, where he communed with Moses and the high priests. It also represents our earthly bodies, where the Holy Spirit dwells.





- 01 Nicholas Christen
- 03 Kody Kleeman Matthew Zimmerman
- 04 Ashley Risley Margie Walls
- 05 James Koester Ireck Kubly Jason Pinnow
- 06 Marlene Schmalbeck
- 07 Lorraine Davis Hayden Pinnow
- 09 Sada Babler Allen Hauser
- 10 Beverly Hilliard
- 11 Mason McCutchin John Witt Katie Ziegman
- 12 Henry Janisch David Wild
- 13 Deb Broge
- 14 Carol Strause
- 16 Patty Blumer Teresa Dilley
- 17 Jeff Gafner Christine Marquardt Elisabeth Tomczyk
- 18 Avis Disch

- 19 Gary Gilbertson Sean Murray
- 20 Kenneth Duerst Ryer Indergand Kollin Klitzke
- 21 Dean Ferguson Richard Rufer
- 22 Sarah Stern Nathan Willson
- 23 Andrew Aasve Natalie McLoud Brandon Wichser
- 24 Cody Garfoot
- 25 Dylan Beckwith
- 26 Calsea Garbe Eric Jacobson Sheri Wichser
- 27 Maxwell Cruse Julie Legros Rebecca Zuber
- 28 Wilbert Blumer Emma Fenner Urs Gafner
- 29 Susan Halvorsen Sarah Koester Joshua Turner
- 30 Ernie Gempeler Jamie LeGros



September ANNIVERSARIES

02 Harold & Carol Field
06 Dan & Shianne Broughton
10 Dan & Julie Legros
12 Buck & Margie Walls
13 Jeff & Anita Zuber
14 Walter & Eileen Althaus
15 Dick & Janet Jones Dale & Ann Trumpy Paul & Cher Venden

16 Dan & Sally Roe Larry & Carol Strause Tracy & Heidi Wing
17 Clarence & Pat Pluss
20 Bruce & Donna Briggs Ernie & Cathie Laeser
23 Chris & April Caldwell
25 Ken & Nicki Schlapbach



Guideposts editor Mary Ann O'Roark recalls hearing the phrase "**cheerful liver**" so often in Church as a girl that she asked her grandmother what a liver is. "It's a part inside you,

like your stomach or your heart," Grandma replied. Rather confused, O'Roark tried to figure out how to be cheerful from the inside out. Then during Sunday School one week, a classmate explained that God loves a **cheerful giver**, not liver. Years later, however, O'Roark realized that her younger self wasn't too far off the mark. After all, God does indeed love someone who lives cheerfully, spreading the hope and joy that he longs for all people to know! After all, it was Jesus who said, "I came that [all] may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10, NRSV).



# ZWINGLI VCC IS SEEKING MUSIC DIRECTOR

Are you passionate about music and serving others through musical performances? We are looking for a leader to help guide our music activities. This person would select music for the Church Year, lead and organize our Choir, and conduct special events. Approximate time commitment is 15 hours per month.

This is a paid, less than part-time position.



# ORGANIST/PIANIST



We are looking for individuals who can play piano or organ proficiently for our Sunday morning services and other special events. This position may also be asked to accompany our Choir or other special music and would need to be available for practicing with those groups. This is a paid per practice/event position.



If you are interested in any of these Zwingli UCC positions, please call 608–575–7175 for more information.



## Several Ways To Give To The Church

Set up your Church giving contribution using your **Bank's** online bill pay feature! You decide the amount, the date you want it sent, and finish making the contribution.



Information you will need: Your Checking Account Number Make Payment To: Zwingli United Church of Christ Your Giving Envelope Number 416 E. Lake Ave., PO Box 97 Monticello, WI 53570 608-938-4369 Email: zwingliuccmonticello@gmail.com Website: www.zwingliucc.com

<u>OR</u> - Go to our Website and click on the hand to bring you to the giving page.



Credit/Debit - Click on Give button below for Credit/Debit options.

GIVE





OR - Checks Can Be Mailed to:

Zwingli United Church of Christ PO Box 97 Monticello, WI 53570

<u>OR</u> - Drop off your Donation in the Drop Box at the East Entrance to the Church.

If you are using Online Banking or Credit/Debit please call Susan Hefty at 608-938-9039 and let her know!! Thank You So Much!!!!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SEPTE	Mæe	R 💥	2021	COVID	YEAR	
	s and times ct to change		<b>1</b> Mid-Week Devotional Online Available After 11am 1pm Ruth Circle 2pm Bible Study	2	<b>3</b> 7pm AA Meeting	4
<b>5 9:15am Worship in Zwingli</b> 10:30am Pastoral Relations	6 Office Closed for Labor Day	7 6:30pm Zoom Gathering	<b>8</b> Mid-Week Devotional Online Available After 11am 2pm Bible Study 6pm Finance 6:30pm Consistory	9 Candy Eating Day	<b>10</b> 7pm AA Meeting	11 9:30am Brotherhood
<b>12 9:15am Worship in Zwingli</b> Blessing of the Backpacks	13	14 6:30pm Zoom Gathering	<b>15</b> Mid-Week Devotional Online Available After 11am 2pm Bible Study 6:15pm Chime Choir	16 "Chimes" Info Due	<b>17</b> 7pm AA Meeting Walk The Dog	18
<b>19 9:15am Worship @ Zwingli</b> 10:30am Care Team Volunteers	<b>20</b> 3:15pm Hands of Change 6pm Stewardship	21 6:30pm Zoom Gathering	22 Mid-Week Devotional Online Available After 11am 2pm Bible Study 6:15pm Chime Choir	23 Go For A Drive	<b>24</b> 7pm AA Meeting	25 9am Building & Grounds
26 9:15am Worship in Zwingli 2pm Super Sunday	<b>27</b> 3:15pm Hands of Change	28 6:30pm Zoom Gathering Zoom	<b>29</b> Mid-Week Devotional Online Available After 11am 2pm Bible Study 6:15pm Chime Choir	30		