

**Pastor Drollinger's**  
**Devotionals for Oct. 5-Oct. 11, 2020**

**Devotionals will be available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.**  
**On-Line Worship will continue on Sunday mornings.**

**October 5, 2020 – Day 203**

Dear Friends and Family of Zion and Hallie UMC,

Today, I share a recent Reflection Devotional by our District Superintendent, Barbara Certa-Werner:

But seek first, the Kingdom of God and God's righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. (Matthew 6:33)

"I recently watched a [clip of a caretaker and two panda cubs](#). The caretaker had the task of raking the leaves of the enclosure, and the cubs had the task of undoing everything the caretaker tried to accomplish! The cubs wreaked havoc on the leaf raking – they climbed into the basket, dumped out the leaves, took the rake, climbed on the caretaker's legs! Yet, at the end she accomplished the goal of raking the leaves.

Sometimes, I feel like the caretaker and the world is the two panda cubs. I think several of you may relate. I had plans in 2020: IMPACT training for small churches, in-person cabinet meetings, vacations, time visiting with my parents and sister, one-on-ones with my colleagues, circuit gatherings, trainings, and relationship building. As we know, the two panda cubs ran wild and like the caretaker, I had to change my tactics. Most things continued to happen, maybe not the way I planned / wanted / hoped for, but they happened.

Amid all, I was reminded about the importance of family, friendships, stillness, calmness, hope, love, and laughter. I also came to realize that I am the cub pandas and God is the caretaker! God continues to offer me abundant life through Scripture, worship, prayer, stillness and mercy. I continue to dump over the baskets – desiring something else that does not fulfill.

My ardent prayer is: Lord forgive me/us when we reject all that is given to us – in relationships, in kindness, in caring for one another, in justice seeking, and in building Your Kingdom. Help us to seek You first in all things so that You may be glorified. Amen."

Keep shining brightly,

***Pastor Don***



**October 6, 2020 – Day 204**

Friends and Family,

For the remainder of this week, I'll share a daily Psalm followed by a virtual choir selection to brighten your day.

### **The Joy of Forgiveness**

- <sup>1</sup> Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.
- <sup>2</sup> Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- <sup>3</sup> While I kept silence, my body wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.
- <sup>4</sup> For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.
- <sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not hide my iniquity;  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.
- <sup>6</sup> Therefore let all who are faithful  
offer prayer to you;  
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters  
shall not reach them.
- <sup>7</sup> You are a hiding place for me;  
you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

Eric Whitacre's Virtual Choir #6 "Sing Gently"

<https://youtu.be/InULYfJHKI0>

Keep shining brightly,

***Pastor Don***

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## **Wed., October 7, 2020 – Day 205**

Friends and Family,

For the remainder of this week, I'll continue to share a daily Psalm followed by a virtual choir selection to brighten your day.

### **Psalm 32:8-11**

- <sup>8</sup> I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;  
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.  
<sup>9</sup> Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,  
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,  
else it will not stay near you.  
<sup>10</sup> Many are the torments of the wicked,  
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.  
<sup>11</sup> Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Musical link to “Down to the River” - Virtual Choir <https://youtu.be/BumCkswUUDA>

Keep shining brightly,  
*Pastor Don*

## **Thurs., October 8, 2020 – Day 206**

Friends and Family,

For the remainder of this week, I'll continue to share a daily Psalm followed by a virtual choir selection to brighten your day.

### **Psalm 33:1-11 - The Greatness and Goodness of God**

- <sup>1</sup> Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.  
Praise befits the upright.  
<sup>2</sup> Praise the Lord with the lyre;  
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.  
<sup>3</sup> Sing to him a new song;  
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.  
<sup>4</sup> For the word of the Lord is upright,  
and all his work is done in faithfulness.  
<sup>5</sup> He loves righteousness and justice;  
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.  
<sup>6</sup> By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,  
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.  
<sup>7</sup> He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle;  
he put the deeps in storehouses.

- <sup>8</sup> Let all the earth fear the Lord;  
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.  
<sup>9</sup> For he spoke, and it came to be;  
he commanded, and it stood firm.  
<sup>10</sup> The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;  
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.  
<sup>11</sup> The counsel of the Lord stands forever,  
the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Musical link to Boston Children's Chorus, in collaboration with Denver Children's Choir, Children's Chorus of Washington DC, Gondwana Choirs, Sydney, and Cincinnati Boychoir, presents "Rise Up" by Andra Day, spreading a message of hope and unity. [https://youtu.be/G\\_YDpP-nU6w](https://youtu.be/G_YDpP-nU6w)

Keep shining brightly,  
*Pastor Don*

**Fri., October 9, 2020 – Day 207**

Friends and Family,

For the remainder of this week, I'll continue to share a daily Psalm followed by a virtual choir selection to brighten your day.

**Psalm 33:12-22 - The Greatness and Goodness of God (continued)**

- <sup>12</sup> Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.  
<sup>13</sup> The Lord looks down from heaven;  
he sees all humankind.  
<sup>14</sup> From where he sits enthroned he watches  
all the inhabitants of the earth—  
<sup>15</sup> he who fashions the hearts of them all,  
and observes all their deeds.  
<sup>16</sup> A king is not saved by his great army;  
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.  
<sup>17</sup> The war horse is a vain hope for victory,  
and by its great might it cannot save.  
<sup>18</sup> Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him,  
on those who hope in his steadfast love,  
<sup>19</sup> to deliver their soul from death,  
and to keep them alive in famine.  
<sup>20</sup> Our soul waits for the Lord;  
he is our help and shield.  
<sup>21</sup> Our heart is glad in him,  
because we trust in his holy name.

<sup>22</sup> Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,  
even as we hope in you.

Musical link to “You’ve Got A Friend” by Carole King – sung by London City Voices choir,  
campaigning for Women’s Aid. <https://youtu.be/g7U7iYxHw2Q>

Keep shining brightly,  
**Pastor Don**

**Sat., October 10, 2020 – Day 208**

Friends and Family,

Today, I share the final Psalm of this week’s Psalms and Songs. Be sure to take time to listen to  
“Hear the Word,” a song composed by our Worship Leader, Dan Lea, and sung by our own  
Acoustic Grace.

**Psalm 34:1-8 – Praise for Deliverance from Trouble**

- <sup>1</sup> I will bless the Lord at all times;  
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.  
<sup>2</sup> My soul makes its boast in the Lord;  
let the humble hear and be glad.  
<sup>3</sup> O magnify the Lord with me,  
and let us exalt his name together.  
<sup>4</sup> I sought the Lord, and he answered me,  
and delivered me from all my fears.  
<sup>5</sup> Look to him, and be radiant;  
so your faces shall never be ashamed.  
<sup>6</sup> This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord,  
and was saved from every trouble.  
<sup>7</sup> The angel of the Lord encamps  
around those who fear him, and delivers them.  
<sup>8</sup> O taste and see that the Lord is good;  
happy are those who take refuge in him.

Musical link to “Hear The Word” by Acoustic Grace <https://youtu.be/Xa5SPwI9mw0>  
Music composed by Dan Lea.

Keep shining brightly,

**Pastor Don**

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## Sunday, October 11, 2020 – Day 209

Greetings, Friends and Family,

Today, we continue our 4-week preaching series on the book of James. The lessons from James are common sense, practical, good Christian teachings. Today's lesson reminds us – teaches us – that in much of life, we are to put others ahead of ourselves. I will highlight 3 teachings from our scripture lesson from James 2:1-17.

1. Do not show favoritism
2. Mercy triumphs over judgment
3. A real faith involves real works

Following the message, be sure to enjoy the music of Acoustic Grace.

Online Worship Link: <https://youtu.be/N0ggqoEgOH0>

This is a new recording and music video for the hymn, “Precious Lord, Take My Hand,” composed by Rev. Thomas A. Dorsey. Dorsey wrote the song in response to his grief over the death of his wife, Nettie Harper, in childbirth, and his infant son in August 1932.

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand” is performed by Acoustic Grace musicians Carol Dean, keyboards; Jacey Lea, vocals; Ed Ebert, vocals; Pam Hotle, vocals; Dan Lea, vocals; and Colin Orth, trumpet.

Musical Link: <https://youtu.be/DztBRUQgsQU>

Keep shining brightly,

***Pastor Don***

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Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

Three Sundays from now, Sunday, November 1, 2020, is All Saints Sunday. Each year on this day, we take the opportunity to remember loved ones with a "Service of Remembrance." We will name those who have entered God's eternal care and remember each precious soul by sharing their name and lighting a candle of remembrance.

If you would like to have your loved one(s) included in this special service, please let the office know your wishes by sending the needed information. Simply provide us with the name or names of your loved ones and the sponsoring name or names. If you are comfortable using email, please send the needed information to the church office email: [zion54729@yahoo.com](mailto:zion54729@yahoo.com).

The form, pictured below, will also be available at each church on Sunday mornings. Kindly complete the form and placed it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office as soon as possible. Mailing address: Zion United Methodist Church, 1102 Superior Street, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729.

This year, we would like to create a video of the "Service of Remembrance" to share as a part of our online worship service. It takes a number of days to produce each week's online worship service. So, we ask you to send your information just as soon as possible. To be included in the online worship video, we will need to receive your information no later than Monday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>.


God's blessings and . . .

Keep shining brightly,

*Pastor Don*

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*cell phone: 920-207-2341*





## All Saints Sunday Service of Remembrance

On All Saints Sunday, November 1st, 2020, we will have a  
*Service of Remembrance.*

We will remember family and friends who have entered into God's eternal care. We will take some special moments in our worship service to give thanks for God's abiding love as we remember those family and friends who have passed away. Please clearly print the name or names of loved ones you wish to honor during this service.

**Name(s) of loved one(s)**

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**Your Name(s)**

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(Please place in offering plate or provide information to church office as soon as possible) Email: [zion54729@yahoo.com](mailto:zion54729@yahoo.com) or 715-723-3639