

**Pastor Drollinger's**  
**Daily Devotionals for May 21-28, 2020**

**May 21, 2020 – Day 66**

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

We are in the midst of a few absolutely beautiful days in spring. We are also still in a time of limited opportunity to experience and express great freedoms and expressions because of the COVID-19 virus.

Because of that last sentence of being limited, I can slip into feelings of being sorry for myself throughout the day. But, then, God continues to provide reminders of His care and love. I had three meals, received my social security check, a friend called just to say hi and, on top of those things, God blesses us all with some beautiful spring weather. So, get out of the "I'm feeling down in the dumps, Donald," and get back into the promises of God. As we continue to move through this time of the COVID-19 virus, let me remind us all to keep counting our blessings and claim those places of thanksgiving and joy.

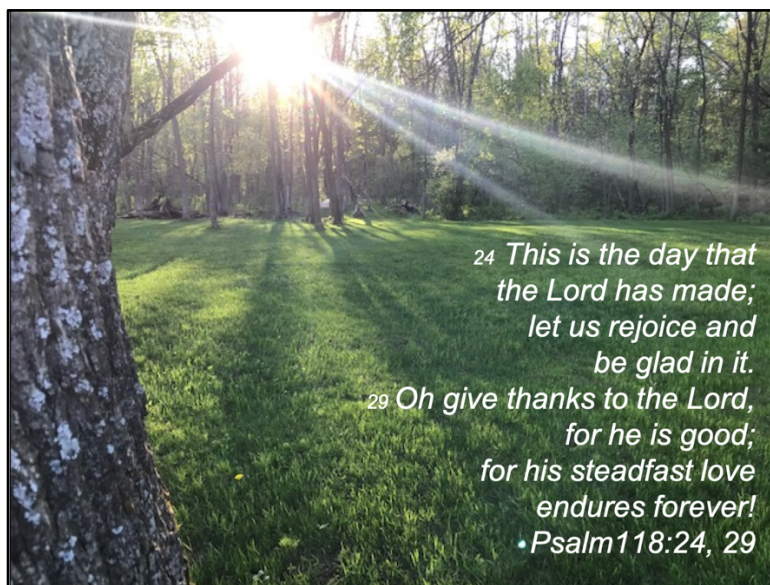
*24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. 29 Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! Psalm 118:24, 29*

Keep shining bright,

**Pastor Don**

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## May 22, 2020 – Day 67

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

Well, the Memorial Day Weekend has begun. What have you got planned for this weekend? Some of you will be attending a Milwaukee Brewer game, swimming at a crowded beach, shopping at a crazy-busy mall, kids jammed packed at the playground at Irvine Park, or a large family gathering, a neighborhood block party or a filled church praising the Lord, or.....NOT!

For many of us, this Memorial Day Weekend will be celebrated in a somewhat different way than we are familiar with. For now, that is just going to have to do. It's a bummer, but much brighter days are ahead for us. As a community and as a nation, I trust we are moving in good directions to finding a greater safety from the COVID-19 virus. Keep following the guidelines for fighting the spread of the virus and, together, we are going to accomplish much.



***Happy Memorial Day Weekend!***

***We are grateful for our men and women who sacrificed/given much to protect our freedoms and land.***

***I hope your brats and potato salad are perfect!***

***Keep counting your blessings over the weekend.***

***Keep faithful in prayers for healthy families, healthy economy and healthy communities.***

<sup>1</sup> *Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.*

<sup>2</sup> *Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.* ***Psalms 95:1-2***

Keep shining bright,

**Pastor Don**

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## May 23, 2020 – Day 68

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

When I was a young boy, one of my favorite songs that we sang at church was, "This Is My Father's World."

*This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears,  
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.*

*This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought,  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas-- His hand the wonders wrought.*

*This is my Father's world: The birds their carols raise,  
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.*

*This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;  
In the rustling grass, I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.*

*This is my Father's world: O let me ne'er forget,  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.*

*This is my Father's world: Why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!*

The world God created is an amazingly beautiful one. And much of that beauty we can find right here in the good old U.S.A. This weekend, be sure and take some time to enjoy God's creations. The birds singing, the morning light and the lily white. Take time to claim it, and never forget it. We are a very blessed people, living in a very beautiful part of the world. Take time to offer gratitude for those who have enabled us to experience so much beauty and opportunity. Take time to offer thanksgiving for the men and women who have sacrificed so greatly, in order that we have so much. This Memorial Day may your hearts be glad and overflowing with gratitude.

Keep shining bright,

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*This is my Father's world:  
The birds their carols raise,  
The morning light,  
the lily white,  
declare their Maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world:  
He shines in all that's fair;  
In the rustling grass,  
I hear Him pass,  
He speaks to me  
everywhere.*

## May 24, 2020 – Day 69

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,  
Happy Memorial Sunday!

We are continuing the series on “An Amazing May.” Today’s message will focus on “An Amazing Church.” Our scripture is from Acts 2:1-13. As we prepare to hear the message, consider the following questions:

1. How faithful are you, your family, and your church to God’s mission?
2. What is the most amazing thing about your family, your church, and your community?

Link to Pastor Don’s Sermon: <https://youtu.be/fUan2imZkw>

“Sanctuary” is a song written by Zion UMC worship leader Dan Lea some years ago. It is inspired by Hebrews 10:17-23.

(New International Version)

<sup>17</sup>“Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.”

<sup>22</sup> Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup> Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

Even though we have not been able to gather in our literal sanctuary in the church, hopefully we can find sanctuary from our cares in this promise from God.

The members of Acoustic Grace have not been able to gather and have missed the experience of making music together. Members Dan Lea, Jacey Lea, Carol Dean, and Colin Orth collaborated from a distance, exchanging recordings by email to create this new video.

We hope you enjoy it. Link to “Sanctuary:” <https://youtu.be/xHBEbsdqTVM>

Keep shining bright,

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**May 25, 2020 – Day 70**

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

This Memorial Day for many across America will be celebrated in different ways from our past. In the midst of the changes the COVID-19 virus has brought to our daily activities; remembering and thanking the men and women for service and lives, continues sincerely. To all who have served the people and the nation in sacrificial ways...thank you! May this Memorial Day find you full of gratitude and hope.

***Memorial Day Ponderings***

***It is a day we pause to think  
about a chain formed link by link  
that binds us to the liberties  
that God desires for all.***

***It is a day for looking back  
at how the mourners' dreaded black  
maintains the colors that we love...  
the red, the white and blue.***

***In cemeteries far and near  
small flags at grave sites make it clear  
that freedom's price was freely paid  
by those who spent their lives.***

***And so on this Memorial Day  
we place a wreath and humbly pray  
that these who died courageously  
will not have died in vain.***

***by Greg Asimakoupoulos***

Keep shining bright,

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**May 26, 2020 – Day 71**

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

I hope you had a good Memorial Weekend in spite of any COVID-19 limitations. Here in Wisconsin, some churches have now opened for community worship. Most are practicing good safety precautions and working to find some appropriate balance between the importance of worshipping together and controlling the COVID-19 virus. As of now, we are looking at community worship in our sanctuaries on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> (This is tentative). When able, please financially support our mission projects for this month of May.

- Community Chest
- Mobile Food Pantry
- Salvation Army
- Free Open Door Clinic

Let me encourage you to stay hope filled and positive. Even in these times of illness and isolation, God is moving people to wonderful places of sharing, kindness, and sacrifice. Many in our communities need to hear good news and witness kind acts.

- **THANK YOU** for being the church as we move forward in a very confusing and difficult time.
- **THANK YOU** for sending your tithes and offerings in support of our ministries.
- **THANK YOU** for your prayers and all the big and little acts of kindness.

Keep shining bright,

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**May 27, 2020 – Day 72**

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

Today and Thursday we will take time to recognize and honor our graduates in our schools for 2020. Congratulations to you all! This is a big deal and we are proud of your accomplishments and share with you the joy these moments hold.

Today we honor our graduate, '*Autumn Robinson*' from our Zion United Methodist Church family.

Thursday we will honor our graduate '*Samantha Jaeger*' from our Hallie United Methodist Church family.

Congratulations, Autumn Robinson!

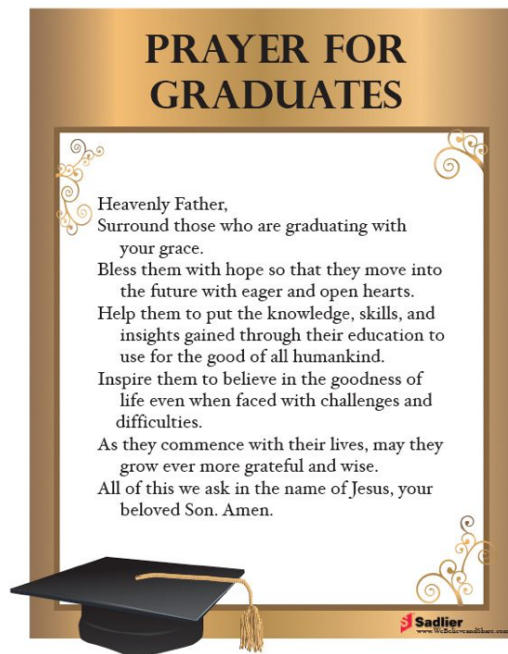
Post High School Plans:

Attend Roosevelt University in Chicago, majoring in Psychology.

Most Memorable High School Memory:

Bus rides to and from marching competitions. There's something about singing the acoustic version of "Take on Me" while crammed in a bus seat with an awesome group of people. Those moments were so full of joy.

Advice to Younger Cardinals: Trust yourself first.



Congratulations and May God Bless You!

Keep shining bright,

**Pastor Don**

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**May 28, 2020 – Day 73**

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

Yesterday, we began our tribute to our graduates of 2020. Today, we recognize ‘Samantha Jaeger’ from our Hallie UMC family. Yesterday, we recognized ‘Autumn Robinson’ from our Zion UMC family. To Sam and Autumn and all the 2020 graduates, we celebrate this time with you and wish you a wonderful and a blessed future. Congratulations!

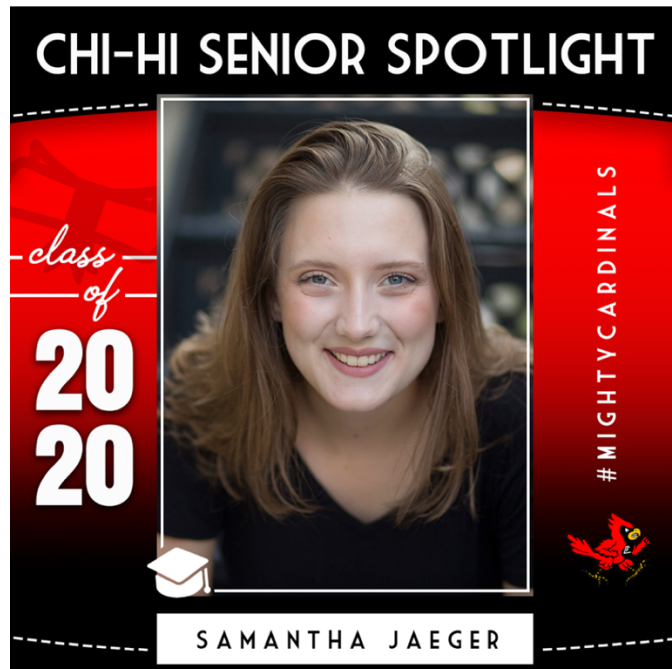
Today, we honor our graduate ‘**S**amantha **J**aeger’ from our Hallie United Methodist Church family.

Fall Plans: Sam will be attending CVTV in the Liberal Arts program. She will be working on general classes with plans to transfer to UWEC to complete a degree in Education. She would like to become a Kindergarten Teacher.

Summer Plans: Working at the Eau Claire Express as a camera person, and at Erbert and Gerbert’s Sandwich Shop.

Most Memorable High School Memory: My first school dance ever with my friends and me.

Advice to Younger Cardinals: Don't forget what brings you happiness.



Sam has helped run the Sunday PowerPoint Presentation at Hallie for many years! Thank you, Sam.