

Pastor Drollinger's
Devotionals for July 27-August 9, 2020
Devotionals will be available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
Worship Words and Videos will continue on Sunday mornings.

July 27, 2020 – Day 133

Reflections by Barbara Certa-Werner

“Last week, my husband, Joel, and I ventured for our evening walk - though the clouds looked threatening. About halfway through our journey, it started to drizzle. Yet, we decided to carry on. As the rain gently hit the ground, I was brought back to my growing up years in Chicago.

My family occupied a second-floor apartment in the Logan Square neighborhood. The summers were beastly hot. Without air conditioning we cooled off with an open fire hydrant or the public park sprinkler. However, my favorite way to cool off was sitting on the back porch during a rainstorm. As kids, we often would run around getting wet. As we got older, we would sit and dangle our legs and feet in the rain. The rain cooled us, but also provided us wonderful memories of laughter and silliness.

As we walked back home, barely wet, I could not help but contemplate the invitation by God through the gentle rain.

- Rain brings memories of splashing, giggles, dancing, and joy. I pray that I may more readily embrace moments that create more joy-filled memories.
- Rain brings nourishment to the earth. I pray that we may be good stewards of the earth and embrace the joy of the harvest.
- Too much rain brings flooding and devastation. I pray that these will be points of community building and healing.
- Without shelter, rain makes the vulnerable more vulnerable. I pray that we work towards a just and stable society that values safety and stability.
- Rain washes and renews. I pray that God washes and renews us for faithful discipleship. Amen.”



Rain Washes and Renews!

Keep shining bright,
Pastor Don

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July 29, 2020 – Day 135

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

This coming Friday, we are giving thanks and celebrating the life of a good man and a good friend of the Hallie United Methodist Church. Bill Grokowsky was the kind of person who was very easy to like. When you got to know him, he was also a man who was easy to love. Bill's life and his death are strong reminders to me how important kindness and friendships are for having a greater joy in life. During this time of social distancing and limited physical contact, please keep in mind the importance of kindness and friendships. Scripture reminds us that we are not to grow weary in doing good. Today, in this season of COVID-19, that advice is so important.

*“Let us not become weary in doing good,
for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9*

Please Remember in Prayer:

- Shirley Grokowsky and family
- Sue Berry
- Patti Boeve
- Denny Gezel
- Carol Tracy's sister in law
- Laurie Goeman's mother
- Velma Wesenberg
- Pam Hotles' brother Ron
- Our Elderly and Homebound

Keep shining bright,

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July 31, 2020 – Day 137

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

I'd like to make everyone aware of the three ways to worship with us every Sunday. We resumed in-building Sunday worship at Hallie and Zion on June 21, 2020. We are asking all who attend in-building worship to please wear a face mask. If you don't own one, we have disposable masks available at each church. We also have set up hand sanitizer stations for your use in our buildings. Additionally, we are asking attendees to physically distance by sitting every-other pew and sitting at least 6-feet away from non-family members. We thank you for helping us follow these current public health guidelines.

Hallie and Zion United Methodist Churches
of Chippewa Falls, WI

3 Sunday Worship Options:

1. Hallie UMC - 9:00 am
2. Zion UMC - 10:30 am
3. On-Line Worship on Facebook or our website at www.zhumc.org



On-line worship with Pastor Don

We are also offering a Sunday On-Line Worship Service for those who would like to worship at home. Those services are available on Facebook, a link provided in a Sunday email, and on our website - [ZION & HALLIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH](#)

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August 2, 2020 – Day 139

Good Sunday Morning,

Today's Sunday message will deal with this word and reality we call "change." By God's design, if we are to grow in our faith and if we are to grow as a church, change will need to occur. In our Bible lesson, we will discover that Jesus brought to the religious people of the day much needed change. The scripture we will use is Matthew 9:9-17. As you hear the message, consider what change needs to take place in your life if you are to grow in faith.

After the sermon, Acoustic Grace will present a new recording and music video for the song, "Come On In," composed by Zion UMC worship leader Dan Lea. It is about inviting God into your heart, as Jesus invites us into God's house in John 14:2 – *My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?*

"Come On In" is performed by Acoustic Grace musicians Colin Orth, trumpet; Jacey Lea, vocals; Ed Ebert, vocals; Carol Dean, keyboards; Dan Lea, vocals and guitar; and Pam Hotle, vocals. Watch all the way to the end for a cameo appearance by Jack and Allie!

Online Worship Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2x7xLl-PJw&t=1s>

Keep shining bright,

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Jesus Did Things Differently

1. Chose a tax collector
2. Ate with sinners
3. Desired mercy over sacrifice
4. Sometimes he did not fast

Matthew 9:9-17



August 3, 2020 – Day 140

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

All this week, August 3-7, we will be sending you a reading from the book of Psalms. Along with scripture, we are sending a link to one of the “Virtual Choir” songs that has grown out of this COVID-19 season of time. Our hope is that “scripture and song” will bring a real and lasting sense of peace and assurance to your day.

We begin with today’s Scripture from **Psalm 16:7-11**:

⁷ I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. ⁸ I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken ⁹ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, ¹⁰ because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. ¹¹ You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

“In Christ Alone” is today’s virtual choir selection. Follow this link to You Tube to listen:

<https://youtu.be/Ry4CW5pte98>

(Please note, we do not control the content of ads that may appear before the video presentation.)

Keep shining bright,

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August 4, 2020 – Day 141

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

Today’s scripture is Psalm 18:1-3:

¹ I love you, O Lord, my strength.

² The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer,
my God, my rock in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

³ I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised,
so I shall be saved from my enemies.

“How Can I Keep From Singing” is today’s virtual choir selection.

Follow this link to You Tube to listen: <https://youtu.be/VLPP3XmYxXg>

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August 5, 2020 – Day 142

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

Today's scripture is Psalm 19:7-14:

⁷The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure,
making wise the simple;
⁸the precepts of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear,
enlightening the eyes;
⁹the fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.
¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;

sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.
¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
¹²But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
¹³Keep back your servant also from the insolent,
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.
¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation
of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

“True Colors,” sung by Camden Voices is today's virtual choir selection: https://youtu.be/lqWQCWc_zCc
(Please note, we do not control the content of ads that may appear before the video presentation.)

August 6, 2020 – Day 143

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

Today's Scripture is Psalm 23:1-6:

¹The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
³ he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.
⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long

“Way Maker,” sung by the Chicago Church of Christ Virtual Choir is today's musical selection:
<https://youtu.be/NvrEDWOCJlw>
(Please note, we do not control the content of ads that may appear before the video presentation.)

Keep shining bright,

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August 7, 2020 – Day 144

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

Today's Scripture is Psalm 25:1-7:

¹The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

²When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—
my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.

³Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.

⁴One thing I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:
to live in the house of the Lord

all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord,
and to inquire in his temple.

⁵For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.

⁶Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

⁷Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud,
be gracious to me and answer me!

Dan Lea wrote this introduction to today's song, "It Is Well With My Soul:"

"What song to put out for virtual church when hearts are breaking? The title, 'It Is Well With My Soul,' may sound glib at first. All is well. But all is not well. Nor was all well when Horatio G. Spafford wrote these words in 1873, following a series of personal tragedies. His son died in the great Chicago Fire of 1871, which also financially ruined him. His four daughters were then lost in a shipwreck. He wrote these words as he traveled to meet his grieving wife, who had survived the shipwreck, sending him the telegram, 'Saved alone.' The song begins: When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, 'It is well, it is well with my soul.'"

"It Is Well With My Soul," sung by our own Acoustic Grace: <https://youtu.be/wchA0OpNtrk>
Our virtual musicians are Jacey Lea, soprano; Pam Hotle, alto; Dan Lea, tenor; Ed Ebert, bass; Colin Orth, trumpet; Carol Dean, organ and piano.

(Please note, we do not control the content of ads that may appear before the video presentation.)

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August 9, 2020 – Day 146

Good Sunday Morning,

Today, our scripture lesson is one of those “hard” readings. Jesus invites us to put our faith and our trust in him and His ways. Jesus also invites us to really put our trust in and faith in Him. We are invited to make a very real commitment to follow, act, and live in the ways of Jesus. Putting God first in our lives will require a very significant change and direction. Are you willing to trust and then to follow when the path is hard? Our scripture is from the gospel of Matthew, chapter 10, and I will be reading verses 26-39.

“‘Sanctuary’ is a song written by Zion UMC worship leader Dan Lea some years ago. It is inspired by Hebrews 10:17-23. (NIV) 17 ‘Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.’ 22 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. 23 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.”

Remember to wear your mask and keep your distance!

Enjoy today’s on-line worship: <https://youtu.be/2lfo37SFhRI>

Keep shining bright,

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