August 2024

The Good News Herald

Zwingli
United Church of Christ
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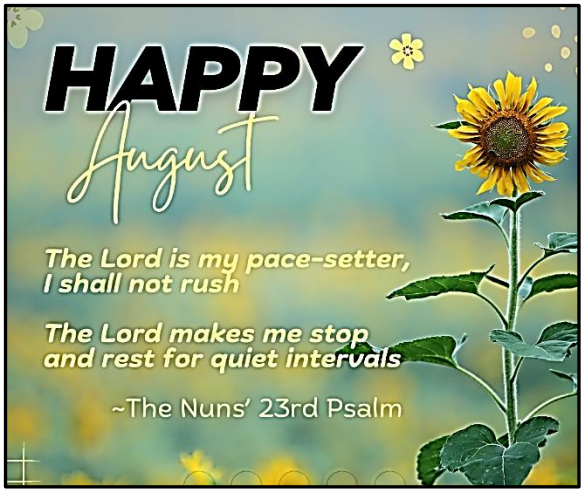
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A Small Church with a Big and Open Heart!

Check out our Zwingli UCC - Paoli Facebook page! https://www.facebook.com/zwingliuccpaoli

FROM OUR PASTOR

The sound of the cicadas is here -- while I love the sound, it is always a sad reminder that summer is almost over! I hope that it's been a good summer for you, and you enjoy this last month.



With the Republican National Convention past, and the Democratic National Convention in August, we are entering the season of presidential elections (as well as other important national and local elections). Election season can be challenging at times as we hear/read things in ads, in the news, and even in conversations with others that might trouble us. It is very disturbing that this season has already included an attempted assassination.

To give us spiritual support, the Wisconsin Council of Churches has provided a *Loving your Neighbor in an Election Season Prayer PDF* and I invite you to check it out (if you do not have a computer and wish to have it mailed to you, contact Kathie at the church office and she will be glad to mail it to you).

In Worship, we will continue with the series *Inspired*, based on the book of the same title by Rachel Held Evans. We've already explored Origin Stories, Deliverance Stories, and War Stories. This month we will look at Wisdom Stories, Resistance Stories, Gospel Stories, and Fish Stories! I hope you'll join us!

Blessings, Karla

Join the Zwingli community for Worship on August 4!

Since we aren't sending out a Friday Email this week, I wanted to share a reflection about Sunday in this newsletter. In Worship this Sunday we will be exploring Wisdom Stories in scripture. Rachel Held Williams, author of *Inspired*, writes that "In the world of the ancient Near East, wisdom wasn't just a virtue; it was a coveted commodity." Wisdom is a 'way' or 'path'.

On Sunday will explore the conventional wisdom (what everyone in a society believes to be the way they are to live) of the Old Testament/Hebrew Scriptures - in Proverbs, as well as the alternative or even subversive wisdom in response to conventional wisdom - in Ecclesiastes, Job and Psalms.

We will also explore how Jesus was considered to be a Wisdom Teacher by his followers - a spiritual occupation known as moshel meshalim, 'master of Wisdom'. His wisdom teachings were meant to help people awaken to the truth of our beingness in God. The Wisdom 'way' or 'path' of Jesus includes spiritual practices, including communion which we will celebrate in Worship this Sunday. Many thanks to Sue Bovre and Petra Streiff for making the gluten and dairy free bread we will serve, along with grape juice."

To prepare for Sunday, I invite you to:

1. Reflect on some of the conventional wisdom you were raised with, and perhaps how alternative or subversive wisdom has changed your thinking.

2. Reflect on what Wisdom teachings of Jesus have inspired and/or challenged you most.

3. Reflect more on Wisdom as a 'way' or 'path' by listening to this song, World Peace Prayer. We sang it last Sunday and many of you shared with me how much you liked it.

Blessings,

Karla





Prayer List and Pastoral Care: As a community of faith, we have the opportunity to support and pray for each other during difficult times. To make this easier for those who don't attend Worship on Sundays, the Prayer List will now also be included in the Friday Email. Since the Friday Email is not posted on our website or FB page, it will just go out to those who are on our mailing list (members and friends of Zwingli). As always, we will only include those who wish to be on these lists. If you wish to be included in one or both of these publications (bulletin, Friday Email), please let me know. If you have pastoral care needs, whether or not you wish to be included on the prayer list, please let me know so I can be there for you pastorally.

Blessings, Karla

CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes for the Council Meetings each month are available upon request from the church office. You may request a pdf via email, or a hard copy in your mailbox. Minutes for the Council meetings held on May 19, 2024 and June 30, 2024 are now available.

Fall Welcome Sunday

September 8, 2024



The Council has decided to celebrate everyone returning from summer vacations, picnics and other special events. And . . . what better way to chat with everyone than over the amazing food brought to a potluck!

Mark Sunday, September 8 on your calendar and bring your favorite entrée, special salad, amazing dessert, or whatever you feel like making. We'll put a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, but if you change your mind that's okay!!

Bring your family and friends with you to church or invite neighbors if you'd like. There is always enough food.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and join us at church whenever you can. We love to see your smiling faces and maybe there will be a few new ones as well!!

How Are We Doing with Special Offerings in 2024?

The Christmas Fund	$100
One Great Hour of Sharing	$230
Strengthen the Church	$210

LITURGISTS NEEDED

Worship is a participatory event! We are scheduling Liturgists for the next three months. It would be most helpful if you would sign up now for a Sunday or two. No experience needed. Pastor Karla will give assistance as requested. Thank you for sharing your gifts!

Items of Note

August Birthdays

Kriss Ace

Katie Beal

Douglas Dahlk

Marilyn Haak

August Anniversaries

Ken & Gail Bauman

Dwight & Sandra Spring

Calendar

Sunday, August 4
Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, September 8
Worship followed by
Potluck dinner

Contact Information for Pastor Karla
608-572-4557
pastor.zwingliuccpaoli@gmail.com

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS
BADGER PRAIRIE NEEDS NETWORK

Badger Prairie Needs Network is one of the food pantries supported by Zwingli UCC – Paoli.

Most Needed Items

- Canned Tuna, Salmon, and Chicken
- Canned or Dried beans (Black, Pinto, Kidney)
- Canned Fruit
- Hamburger or Tuna Helper
- Snack or Breakfast Bars
- Sugar (3-5 lb bags)
- Flour (3-5 lb bags)
- Paper grocery bags

Any items you donate are deeply appreciated!



We thank Sue Bovre for overseeing the loving care of our flower beds!