

Roots & Wings

Rooted in Faith, Growing Together, Caring for the Community

September 2015 Newsletter
Volume 2, Issue 8

First Presbyterian Church of Chili
3600 Chili Avenue
Rochester, NY 14624
A Stephen Ministry Church

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Cameron Community Ministries
Habitat for Humanity
SWEM Food Cupboard
Presbyterian Church (USA) Offerings
...Souper Bowl
...One Great Hour of Sharing
...Blanket Sunday
...Peacemaking

Worship with Us Each Sunday in...



(childcare is always available)

The Harvest Season Begins... "Abundant Life In God"

September 6

23rd Sunday In Ordinary Time
Communion Service

September 13

24th Sunday in Ordinary time
Kick-off Sunday and Luncheon

September 20

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Baptism
Habitat Sunday
Youth/Parent Lunch and Planning Meeting

September 27

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Inside this issue...

Ministry of Care...*Harvest Season Begins*
...*Minister of Music Notes... Wooten's Wonderings....*
NEW Children's Church....
Youth News...*Look Ahead...*and so much more...
All in this issue of Roots & Wings!

Wooten's Wonderings...



We all know that reading the Bible is important for the growth and nurture of our spiritual life. Scripture reading is how we connect with God's revelation to us and learn about the character of the God we worship. God's Word is unique in that it is a living Word, a Word that speaks to us through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

But too often we forget that scripture is a living conduit for God's revelation. We read scripture purely as a means of discovering information. For many of us, the stories held within the pages of the Bible are well known; therefore, when we read a text, we assume that we already know what is going to happen next. This assumption prevents us from coming to God's Word with a sense of anticipation and expectation.

I am reminded of a book I read a long time ago that has stuck with me. It is called Eat this Book: a Conversation in the Art of Spiritual Reading by Eugene Peterson. He said: "Reading is an immense gift, but only if the words are assimilated, taken into the soul- eaten, chewed, gnawed, received in unhurried delight. Words of men and women long dead, or separated by miles and/or years, come off the page and enter our lives freshly and precisely, conveying truth and beauty and goodness, words that God's Spirit has used and uses to breathe life into our souls. Our access to reality deepens into past centuries, spreads across continents."

I have spent a good deal of time during my sabbatical diving into and chewing on God's word given to us in scripture. And I have discovered again God's Spirit speaking and moving me to new understanding when I approach the text not from a "knowledge consumption" point of view but from a "receptive and open" point of view. The little bird charms that were given to me at the beginning of the sabbatical and that sat on the communion table in our sanctuary were reminders that God's Spirit would stir within us during this special time. That has certainly been true for me and I look forward to hearing what God has been up to with all of you as we come back together to begin another church program year.

*Grace and Peace,
Brandi*

MINISTRY OF CARE

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

Contact Sharon Breeze (293-1340)
or Pastor Brandi on Sunday,
or call the Church Office (889-9896).



YOUR BOARD OF DEACONS

CLASS OF 2016:

Marla Guarnieri, Whitney Scoville, Alice Zah

CLASS OF 2017:

Barb Boerschlein, Sue Edwards, Lori Oliver

Class of 2018

Sharon Breeze, Sara Heer, Gail McArthur

A very special thank you to all the members of the Board of Deacons, who took on many extra duties this summer during Brandi's Sabbatical. The congregation is very grateful for your caring ministry and service.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

A Stephen Minister can help.
Bev L'Hommedieu (349-1501)
Sandra McCauley (615-1911)
Brandi Wooten (889-9896)

THANK YOU . . . SO MUCH!

Thanks to all members of our congregation who donated food, hygiene items and paper supplies throughout June, July and August. Because of the generosity of our church family, 176 food items plus numerous supplies were given to those in need.

Since summer is a time when supplies at food cupboards can be low, our donations are greatly needed by those people who depend on SWEM to meet their daily needs. Please remember to bring your donations to SWEM on Communion Sunday, September 6 and support our vital mission to SWEM.

~Jane & Fred Schultz

Harvest Season

“Abundant Life In God”



“And God is able to bless you abundantly so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”
2 Corinthians 9.8

Welcome back Brandi and the Congregation! We hope you join us for these activities and outreach opportunities:

Kick Off Sunday: Sunday, September 13
The Harvest team will be providing a luncheon for the entire congregation after the Worship Service to celebrate the beginning of a new season and to share our Sabbatical reflections.

Habitat Sunday: Sunday, September 20
This is a Sunday dedicated for the support of our next Habitat Home to honor the founder of Flower City Habitat, Roger Cross – founded in 1984. Chili Pres is a member of the Harvest Home Coalition.

Peacemaking Sunday: Sunday, October 4
This offering plants the SEEDS of peace and SOW God’s word in our homes, our communities and our world.

Stewardship Sunday: Sunday, November, 15
This is where we share our abundance and talents from God

Children’s Church

An exciting new curriculum and format is being implemented this fall.

Fellowship

A fun fellowship activity is planned for October – Details to follow



Thanks to everyone who supported the Board of Deacons’

Backpack Program. We were able to fill all the requests for children attending Chestnut Elementary School, Cameron Ministries **and** share supplies with other families in the Rochester area. We are grateful for the generosity of our congregation.

Your Board of Deacons

THANK YOU

to the Elders, Deacons, Jr. Deacons, and Childcare Volunteers serving in September:

September 6*

Elder/Deacon: Barb Wasmer and Diane Dietz
Jr. Deacon: none assigned
Childcare: Marla and Audrey Engelbrecht
*Communion: Barb Wasmer, Diane Dietz
Sandy McCauley,

September 13

Elder/Deacon: Pat Olson and Karen Shaffer
Jr. Deacon: Aiden Snover
Childcare: Kathy Stowe

September 20

Elder/Deacon: Bill Hoyt and Darla Diehl
Jr. Deacon: Jordan Wilson
Childcare: Pat Olson

September 27

Elder/Deacon: Judie McGaffick and Don Strine
Jr. Deacon: Grace Varner
Childcare: Whitney Scoville

“ROOTS AND WINGS”

Your next newsletter will be the October 2015 issue.

The deadline will be:

Thursday, September 17, no later than to 10:00 a.m.

LITURGISTS

If you are interested in being a Liturgist during worship, check out the signup sheet in Fellowship Hall.
Complete instructions are available.
Why not sign up today?

FELLOWSHIP

Volunteers are needed to sign up for Coffee Hour following the 10:00 a.m. worship service.
The signup sheet is available in Fellowship Hall.

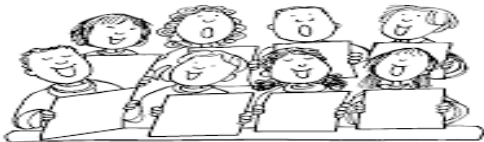
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Due to health issues, Candy Rogers will be on a leave of absence for a while. Through the month of September, Sandy McCauley will be working in the office.

Office hours will be from 9 AM to 2 PM.
The office will be covered on Tuesday and Wednesday (and some weeks also on Thursday) based on Sandy's schedule.

The office is closed on Fridays.

As always, you can leave a secure message on the answering machine anytime!



*Choir rehearsal's resume on
WEDNESDAY, September 9 at 7:30 PM...
JOIN US!*

St. Pauly Clothing Box Schedule—

Remainder of 2015

Sept 7 – Sept 20	Nicole Mathewson 594-1513
Sept 21 – Oct 4	Geoff/Barb Wasmer 694-9435
Oct 5 – Oct 18	Aidan Snover 293-3195
Oct 19 – Nov 1	Adam Scoville 269-8746
Nov 2 – Nov 15	Audrey Engelbrecht 889-3833
Nov 16 – Nov 29	Alex Mathewson 594-1513
Nov 30 – Dec 13	Vicky/Tom Leahy 889-5494
Dec 14 – Dec 27	Ashleigh Naugle 889-7081
Dec 28 – Jan 10	Connor Snover 293-3195



There are exciting changes this year for all our children up to 4th grade with our new Children's Church!

For children in the Nursery:

→ Appropriate level Bibles and CD music for the childcare providers to use with the children.

For 4 year olds through 4th graders:

→ A new curriculum with video and audio materials that follow the same liturgical year as the adult Worship.

→ Hands-on materials

→ Take-home materials

→ Our children will use Bibles purchased just for their level

→ A consistence weekly format that mirrors the adult Worship experience

→ Very user friendly program for volunteer teachers with many support materials

→ Two adults in the room to assist with all the needs of the children

The new Children's Church room will be going through some remodeling during the fall to reflect the new program.

If you are interested in being a volunteer teacher (or assistant teacher) – please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Room.

*Our children and youth programs are
the future of our church*



SESSION MEETING SUMMARY

At Its August 18, 2015 meeting, Session...

...welcomed Rev. Bob Kaiser as Moderator while Pastor Brandi is on leave

... discussed quarterly reports which are to be provided to each pledging unit

...received the Treasurer's reports for the months ending May 31, 2015, June 30, 2015, and July 31, 2015.

...heard reflections from Rev. Kaiser on a sabbatical he took to Mexico and how valuable it was to his ministry. We continue to be in prayer for Pastor Brandi and look forward to her return in September at the completion of her sabbatical.

...approved the request of Bruce and Nancy Secker to be dismissed from the membership rolls of the First Presbyterian Church of Chili.

...approved Rev. Neil Froom's request to make a donation to the Emergency Aid Fund of Presbytery in lieu of his honorarium as a substitute preacher on June 7, 2015.

...placed activity dates on the Master Calendar_

September 13, 2015 Kick-Off Sunday and
Welcome Back Pastor Brandi luncheon.

September 20, 2015 Habitat Sunday

October 4, 2015 Peacemaking Sunday

October 12, 2015 Annual Joint Meeting of

Session and Deacons)

November 7, 2015 Fall Supper

November 15, 2015 Stewardship

Commitment Sunday

... heard a report from Elder Willis, facilitator for the Harvest Season Team on plans and activities for the Season. The theme is "Abundant Life in God." The Season begins with Kick-Off Sunday welcome back luncheon for Pastor Brandi on September 13, 2015.

...heard a report about changes in Sunday Circle. The task force has purchased a Pre-K.-Kdg level curriculum from Spark House with associated supplies and materials. The worship time for children will now have a new name, "Children's Church," and the format will be consistent from week to week, similar to a worship service

... acknowledged most recent activity in community presence was the Deacon's and Pentecost project, providing school back-packs and supplies to children at Chestnut Ridge School.

...confirmed that the Annual Joint Meeting of Session and Deacons will be October 12, 2015.

...heard a report from Elders McCauley and Wasmer, Co-Chairs of the Nominating Committee that the committee has met and he begun its work. They noted that the Nominating Committee job description (which is in the "Manual of Administrative Operation") needs to be up-dated. They also encouraged Session to more seriously explore a unicameral governance structure which might allow for better use of our member's gifts and talents in serving as electing leaders.

...heard a report from Elder Gittens, Chair of the Stewardship Committee reported that he will be calling a meeting of the committee.

... reviewed and discussed the report of the Personnel Committee on staff evaluations and recommendations for salary adjustments and accepted the report of the Personnel Committee and its recommendations for staff salary adjustments with further discussion to occur.

... approved the report of the Annual Financial Review as of December 31, 2014 conducted by Darla Diehl.

...approved a leave of absence for Candy Rogers through Monday, October 5, 2015.

...appointed Elder Sandy McCauley to provide office coverage during Candy's leave with hours to be determined. By consensus, Session agreed that if the way be cleared, Elder McCauley be paid for her service.

Remitted by,

Elder Nancy P. Huffman,
Clerk of Session



The Harvest team is providing a
Kick-off luncheon after church on
Sunday, September 13

We will celebrate the congregation and Brandi's return from Sabbatical, the starting of all our church programs and the opportunity for all of us to share our Sabbatical reflections.



Announcements:

Choir Rehearsal begins on **Wednesday, September 9th** at 7:30pm! That's right, we are going back to Wednesday nights! Please come out and sing with us – we would love to have anyone and everyone! We can always use more male voices as well!

Bell Choir – My hope is to begin our rehearsals starting in October on Sundays at 8:30am. Once I have my youth schedule narrowed down better, I will give you all the details and we will begin rehearsals!

Worship Team: This year, I am putting together a weekly worship team rehearsal to play on Blended Sundays and other services as well. I would like to meet on Wednesdays at 6:30pm weekly! Please come out if you are interested in singing or playing!

Calling all singers and instrumentals! I would love to put together some duets, trios, etc. of any mix of voices and instruments. If you are interested please see me!

Does what we do matter?

First of all, I thank you for all the prayers I have received this summer. For those who might be unaware, I have been having back problems after our youth mission trip we had in July. I will be honest that I have been a bit discouraged to have this lingering pain between my lower back and my left leg. I never realized how important the human back is to controlling virtually so much of the body. I am the type of person that does not like to slow down as well, and this has been a learning experience where I am coming to terms that I need to listen to the aches and pains my body has! But I appreciate your prayers and concerns for me.

I am entering my 5th year as Minister of Music at Chili Presbyterian. I tend to look back at old Newsletter articles from time to time to see what was on my heart to share with you over the last 5 years. In doing so, I can quickly see the things that God was stirring in me that have come to fruition and been successful, and areas where I have had thoughts and ideas that need some growth. There are things that I am really proud to have been a part of, and at times, things that I wish could've been better.

But through all situations we are faced with, I have realized that God DOES use us, even when we are not at our best. That is what I find really intriguing. There are times when I know my heart may not always be in something I am doing for God, or for our church, but God still takes what we do and uses us in profound ways, even in ways we may never see. I have had people come up to me many times and tell me how they saw my band in concert 10 years ago, and how the message we brought stuck with them. They still play the cd, and the simple words God gave us to share so long ago stuck with them and have helped them to be better person. Now I know that I am not the best with words, nor am I a profound scholar, and I know that my actions are imperfect in this world, yet, God still uses me.

God uses us when life is great and we think we can save the world AND when we are broken, lost, uncertain, and even questioning our faith. As you continue on your life journey, may you reflect on where God is using you, and be mindful that God is living and breathing in you, even when you don't have everything figured out.

Be blessed and continue to let the music play. –Adam



CHILI PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH GROUPS



@CHILIYOUTHGROUPS
September 2015 Newsletter

Name: Chili Presbyterian Youth Groups
Location: Rochester, New York
Web: chili-presbyterian.org
Bio: Jr. and Sr. High youth groups looking to strengthen their faith in Christ and build lifelong relationships with others.

100
Following

100
Followers



It's Fall Already?

It was a fantastic summer! We were able to go on a mission trip to Wintersville, Ohio. Eleven of us Chili Presbyterian and Twelve Corners Presbyterian went and joined 350 people to do remodeling work on homes in the Wintersville area, which has seen a decline over the years. Our youth did some amazing things, and I would love for you to hear their experiences in our upcoming Mission Trip service which will be sometime in September.

We are looking forward to a new year! We would like to have a parent meeting on September 20th to discuss plans for the new year! Youth and parents are invited and lunch will be provided. We look forward to seeing all of you and starting another year of crazy youth group fun!

-Adam and Whitney



Questions? Contact Adam Scoville / cministerofmusic@gmail.com / 585-269-8746

insert September calendar

