



# Roots & Wings

First Presbyterian Church of Chili

“Rooted in Faith, Growing Together, Caring for the Community”



Happenings in June.....

- ⇒ Community Book/Puzzle Swap every Wednesday
- ⇒ SWEM “Stop and Drop” - June 17



## *Pentecost*

*“Come Alive...”*

Just because we need to social distance, doesn't mean we are not “together”!

A lot of great opportunities during the Pentecost Season....

Virtual Painting Class

Keeping Our Promise -Rochester  
- drive through drop off

And more to come.....

“Faith is being sure of what we hope for, and certain of what we do not see.”

Hebrews 11:11

*Our Officers:* Session, Board of Deacons, Board of Trustees

*Our Committees:* Endowment, Finance, Mission Fund, Nominating, Personnel, Scholarship

*Our Season Teams:* Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Harvest and Advent/Christmas /Epiphany

*Our Music Program:* Choir, Glorious Ringers, Chili Worship Team

*Mission Support:* Cameron Community Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, Open Door Mission, Presbyterian Church special offerings, SWEM, Vision for Camasca, Caring For The Community, and much more.

## Wooten's Wonderings



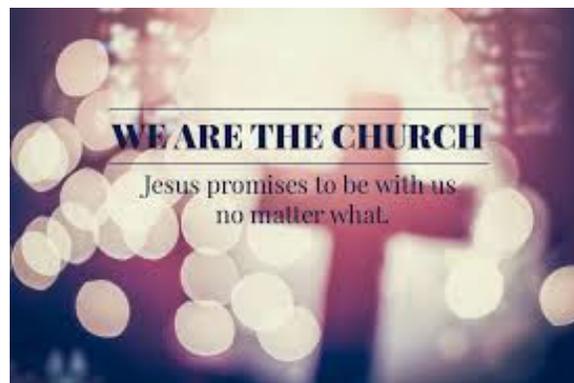
As we look toward beginning to move slowly into reopening the church building, we have the opportunity to ask ourselves, “what have we learned about ourselves as a church during this time?” and “what do we want to continue in some way, shape or form, as we move slowly into coming back to church activities in the building?”

One of the things I have been powerfully reminded of during this time is that the church is not, and was never, the building. While the building has been closed for a time, our church and worship was never closed. We never stopped caring for one another. We never stopped helping the community through outreach. We never stopped fellowship. We never stopped Bible study, youth group or children’s church. And we never stopped worshipping. I am proud of how we found creative ways of *being* the church during this time. **Thank you** to all of you for doing what we do best in this community- reaching out to others in love.

As we move into June and (hopefully) continue to move forward through New York’s stages of opening up, you may be wondering when the building will become active once more. While we all miss worshipping in person together, I am sure you would agree that we love our community too much to put us at risk unnecessarily by opening the building too soon or without having thought through proper safety procedures. In June, the Session and Trustees will once again meet to consider and plan a timeline for opening the doors of our building back up and what changes we will need to make in order to do so. The Presbyterian Church (USA) as well as other councils of churches have recently provided some excellent and detailed guidelines for what protections and procedures we should consider putting in place for worship and other activities in the building. Rest assured, that as we make these important decisions, we will do so with the best information available.

This global pandemic has been hard on all of us. We have each felt unique losses and challenges during this time and will probably continue to experience them for a while as “life as we knew it” will not happen for a long time. But as long as we continue to connect with one another from a distance and care for each other and those around us, then we are doing what God calls us to do. This is what it means to be the church. *We* are the church. *We* are the community of Christ.

Peace be with you all!



# Leadership News.....

## **At its meeting on May 12, 2020 Session...**

...held devotion which was a reading based on John 14: 15-21. Jesus' message to the disciples was "I won't be with you... but I will". What does that mean? It means that God's spirit is always with you. In our day-to-day lives it is important to take time to stop...think of God...look inside your heart. This is a message for us for in these times of pandemic, God is with us. Pastor Brandi opened the meeting with prayer.

...discussed the Budget documents and noted (with appreciation) that pledges have been coming in. Elder Wasmer (who is also the Finance Chair) provided clarification as per comments and questions.

...VOTED to receive the Treasurer's report and financial summary for the month ending April 30, 2020.

...noted that Pastor Brandi plans to take much needed vacation time in June. She will confirm the dates.

... that the Church Picnic scheduled for June 14, 2020 is cancelled. The Town Chili will be issuing refunds.

...noted that Presbytery has been sending multiple advisories dealing with COVID-19 and items to consider when planning re-opening

...heard a report from Clerk Huffman who attended a Zoom meeting for Clerks of Session offered by Presbytery. She noted that several churches are holding worship using live-streaming, YouTube, and recording. Some are holding virtual communion, session meetings and Bible studies. Some are reporting that people who have not been able to physically attend church are now "attending". Some are considering continuing to offer on-line worship.

Karen Coon, Acting Stated Clerk reported that before naming a permanent Presbyter and Stated Clerk, Presbytery will take about six months to research various leadership models to determine how Presbytery can/should proceed with structuring ourselves. Finally, there was some discussion about re-opening and how to get people back into church. That is an evolving situation given the COVID-19 restrictions.

...heard an update from Elder Engelbrecht on the Task Force on Community Labyrinth.

(A reminder that we are looking to use the property we own on Chili Avenue across the street.)

Elder Engelbrecht reported that with the Town offices continuing to be closed, inquiries on permits are on hold. However, he will begin laying out a trail system as well as the design of the labyrinth. He may have a Scout involved as an Eagle Scout project.

...noted that in Caring for Our Community activities, the Deacons will continue the SWEM drop-off project on a monthly basis. The Deacons are also planning to begin a little free library box where the people from the community can "bring a book" and "take a book". This will be publicized to the community. Plans are underway for building the library box.

...noted that Pastor Brandi and Clerk Huffman will be meeting at a future date with Sandy McCauley, Treasurer and Barb Wasmer, Chair of the Finance Team to work on this revision. (The meeting scheduled for March 17, 2020 was cancelled due to the COVID-19 restrictions on social distancing.)

...noted that The Valley Neighborhood group has not met due to the COVID-19 restrictions on social distancing.

...identified persons/groups to express thanks on behalf of Session.

## Leadership News continued....

...heard a report from Pastor Brandi that interest, attendance, and discussion in the weekly Zoom Vital Congregations Bible studies, "Seven Marks of Vital Congregations", has been good. Each week, the study is offered at a time either during the day or in an evening. Those participating have been eager to engage in conversation. The next series of VCI Bible Studies will take place in the Fall.

...continued its discussion of the structure of the Nominating Committee given the resignation of Elder Ken Milner as its Chair. Pastor Brandi is continuing to seek guidance. Session will continue this discussion.

...noted that while Session does not typically schedule a meeting in the month of July, given the COVID-19 restrictions and expected guidance on re-opening in NY, a Stated meeting will be scheduled for July 14, 2020.

...discussed ideas for the Personnel Committee to consider for holding staff reviews this year. While in previous years, staff members and Personnel Committee members met with various groups as well as the congregation for a discussion, this could be challenging to accomplish given the COVID-19 restriction. Elder Engelbrecht will meet with the Personnel Committee to develop a plan.

...reviewed and discussed a draft Electronic Meeting Policy that would apply to Session, the Board of Trustees, the Board of Deacons, a Committee defined in the *Manual of Administrative Operations*, or a group or task force authorized by the Session or Congregation. (A policy that would apply to meetings of the Congregation and/or Corporation will be forthcoming and voted on at the Annual Meetings of the Congregation and Corporation held in January of 2021.)

... VOTED to approve an **Electronic Meeting Policy**. Copies of the Electronic Meeting Policy can be obtained from the Church Office.

...heard a report from Elder Gernhardt on the Presbytery meeting held April 25, 2020. This was an electronic meeting held via Zoom. This was a new learning experience for all! There was discussion of the reorganization of Presbytery. He also noted that the Wyoming church has been sold.

Remitted by,

Elder Nancy P. Huffman, Clerk of Session



### Church Directory

The April 2020 Church directory was e-mailed to everyone at the end of April. Hard copies are available in the fellowship room.

One change to the directory: Ginny Harkness' cell phone number is 489-2563 (she no longer has a land line).

## *Pentecost Season—”Come Alive....”*

The 2020 Pentecost Season starts on Sunday, May 31, 2020. This season’s theme is “Come Alive...” The lawns are growing, the flowers are blooming, the trees have awakened from their long winter naps, the birds are singing, and the animals are more active.

As part of the Pentecost Sunday on May 31, 2020, the Season Team is making available **Pentecost kits**. These kits are to be used Pentecost Sunday and will include instructions.

They will be available for pickup at the church main entrance as follows:

Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>  
10 am to 12 pm

Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>  
10 am to 12 pm

The Pentecost team will continue with the Lent/Easter Teams’ mission project: “**Keeping Our Promise- Rochester**” to support individuals and families who are resettling in Rochester. You can learn more about this organization at the following website - <https://www.keepingourpromise.org>.

The following items are needed for the “Welcome Baskets” for these families. They can be found at Dollar General, Dollar Tree, and/or Walmart.

Oval Bucket	3 pack Scotch Brite Pads
Mop (Mr. Clean)	Dish Pan
Broom (Mr. Clean)	Dish Drainer
Kitchen Trash Basket (11 gal.)	Children’s Shampoo
Bathroom Trash Basket	Hand Lotion (16 oz.)
Box of 32 Trash Bags (13 gal.)	Panty Liners
Laundry Baskets	Facial Tissues
Kitchen Counter Cleaner	Band-Aids
Bathroom Counter Cleaner	Bacitracin/Neosporin (expiration in 2 years)
Floor Cleaner (all purpose – at least 48 oz.)	Curad Brand First Aid Kit
Paper Towels (6 rolls)	Gift cards for Dollar General, Dollar Tree or Walmart
Rim Scrubbing Toilet Brush	
4 pack: O Cello (multi-pack sponges)	

The Pentecost team has set up the following drive through of days and times for contributions to the “**Keeping Our Promise-Rochester**” mission project from 10 am to 12 pm on the following dates:

- ◇ Saturday, June 20
- ◇ Wednesday, June 24
- ◇ Wednesday, July 15
- ◇ Saturday, July 18
- ◇ Wednesday, August 12
- ◇ Saturday, August 15

During this Pentecost Season, we will continue to “Come alive” despite the limitations we all are experiencing due to COVID-19. Watch for upcoming e-blasts from the team regarding opportunities to “Come Alive...” throughout the Pentecost Season!

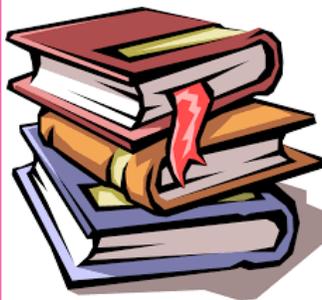


South West Ecumenical Ministry (SWEM)  
Wonderful Outstanding Way-to-go!

Not only was the day a glorious one on Wednesday, May 13th, but the donations that came in for the SWEM food cupboard between the hours of 10-1 was a beautiful reminder of how generous God's family is. We received over 200 food items, plus cash donations. A HUGE thank you to our church and community for your support of this very worthwhile mission. Your donations have truly helped those in need.



We will have another "Stop and Drop" donation day for SWEM on Wednesday, June 17th (10 am to 12 pm)



Bring one.....Take one !!!!!

Have you read  
Everything in your house?

Or put together your puzzles several times?



The Deacon's are sponsoring a book/puzzle swap at the church  
every WEDNESDAY from 10 am to 12 pm

This opportunity is open to the community, so tell your  
neighbors and friends!

# Celebrating

each other.....

## June

- 1 Kathy Stowe
- 2 McArthur Anniversary
- 5 Geoff Wasmer
- 9 Wasmer Anniversary
- 12 Sandy McCauley
- 15 Harvey Heer
- 17 Alice Alger  
Zah's Anniversary
- 19 Tim Abell Jr
- 20 McKenlee Scoville
- 21 Shane Oliver
- 26 Jean Leiske
- 29 Danny Gittens



Save the date:

October 23 – 25

Adult Retreat at  
Asbury Camp

More information  
coming soon!

The Pentecost Team is excited to offer a  
Virtual Painting Class

on Friday, June 12, 2020 from 5:00 PM  
to 7:00 PM through Pinot's Palette.

The cost for all the supplies needed to  
produce the following painting is \$25.00.



All supplies will be delivered to participants  
home's by Thursday, June 11, 2020 by the  
Pentecost Team members.

To register and pay for the event, simply use the  
following website link, provide the number of  
participants, the participant names, participant  
email addresses and pay using your credit card.

[https://pinotpalette.com/rochester/  
event/453457](https://pinotpalette.com/rochester/event/453457)

Please register by **TUESDAY, June 9, 2020**  
**before 5 PM** to ensure supplies can be obtained  
and delivered by the Pentecost Team by  
Thursday, June 11, 2020.

*"Hope is being able to see that  
there is Light despite all of the  
darkness"*

-Desmond Tutu



"If you're feeling frightened about what comes next, don't be. Embrace the uncertainty. Allow it to lead you places. Be brave as it challenges you to exercise both your heart and mind as you create your own path toward happiness; don't waste time with regret.

Spin widely into your next action. Enjoy the present, each moment, as it comes, because you'll never get another one quite like it.

And if you should ever look up and find yourself lost, simply take a breath and start over.

Retrace your steps and go back to the purest place in your heart..... where hope lives. You'll find your way again."

-Everwood

*Be blessed and continue to let the music play. -Adam*

# CHILI PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH GROUP



Leader: Adam Scoville

cpministerofmusic@gmail.com  
585-269-8746

Bio: Junior High and Senior High Youth looking to strengthened their faith in Christ and build lifelong relationships with others.

## How Unique a Year It Is.

It is crazy to think that we are coming to a close for you for the summer. We had a fun year this year and did many things before our country shut down. It has been interesting to have discussions with our youth kids and hear them say "I never thought I would ever say this, but I really want to go back to school!" Our youth miss each other and miss social interaction I think just like any of us do.

And while being in this season of quarantine, we have made the most of getting together using the zoom app and playing jack box games online. It has been enjoyable to be a part of and to keep in touch with each other.

So as we enter into the summer months, I hope and pray that you have fun and enjoy getting out and being safe. Continue to pray for our youth as they transition into the fall and any changes that will likely happen during this pandemic. Also pray for Whitney, McKenlee and I as we prepare to have a baby this summer! It is going to be a great adventure.

Also, we are still supporting local families in need of community hygiene items. If there is anyone that you know would need some of these items please contact me and I can put things together. We have been able to support a few families in need by sending gift cards these last few months, and we still have supplies in our cupboard to give out including toilet paper!

Enjoy the summer! Hoping to see you all soon!

*Adam, Whitney and McKenlee ☺*

### St. Pauly Box Schedule

May 25 to June 7	Nicole Mathewson
June 8 to June 21	Aidan Snover
June 22 to July 5	Adam Scoville