



# Roots & Wings

First Presbyterian Church of Chili

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

# MAY 2021



Logo by Mira Wooten

In this issue of Roots & Wings.....

Spring Clean-up - May 1

Change to church office hours -week of May 3

Sonnenberg Garden tour - May 15

Chicken BBQ - May 16

Book Talk - May 19.

Mission Opportunity — Flower City Habitat

Pentecost - May 23

*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 Wanderings



"Mary, Mary quite contrary, how does your garden grow?"

This line from a nursery rhyme came to my mind as I considered our Easter season theme- *Turning Graves into Gardens*. How does our garden grow?

It is the time of year when I venture back outside to tend my flower beds so that new life can emerge. There is a lot of work to be done and most of it is not all that fun- weeding and mulching in particular. In fact, it is sweat producing, back hurting work. As I was pulling out weeds and taking a shovel to unwanted plants this weekend, I thought, what are the "weeds" in my life? What are the things that are unnecessarily taking up space (whether physical or mental) in my life that are preventing me from growing and thriving?

Perhaps there is something from your past that still haunts you and prevents you from moving forward.

Perhaps you want to move forward into a new adventure but are having a hard time letting what you are currently doing go.

Perhaps you find yourself juggling too many things.

Perhaps there are things in your physical space that need to be cleared out in order to give you more room.

This is a big question and the answer to it will be different for each of us.

I once read that the definition of a weed is anything that is growing where it is not wanted. So, even flowers that are pretty and beneficial in one area, but are growing in a place you don't want them to, are weeds. This is helpful to me because it reminds me that in my life, even things that, on their own, are good, might not be good for me right at the moment. For example, I may find that I need to step back from a club or activity that used to give me joy in order to pursue something new for a little while. Sometimes the hardest choice to make is between two good things. Weeds can be beautiful flowers, but sometimes in order to let the right things grow, we have to be willing to let go of those flowers which have become weeds in that place.

Yes, gardening can be hard.

I think most of us enjoy a beautiful garden. We enjoy seeing the vibrancy of the colors, smelling the fragrance, hearing the birds, and noticing the butterflies that come to enjoy the flowers. And we want that vibrancy and fullness in our own lives. But we forget that, at least in cultivated gardens, a lot of hard work has been put into making it the way it is. Jesus, as our gardener, is willing to help us prune and pull up weeds. He is willing to put in the time to help us to see what needs to be changed so that we can be our best God-created selves. This type of work is never easy. It takes a lot of honest reflection and a willingness to make hard decisions and changes. But Jesus promises that he will be by our side to help us with that discernment and hard work.

I pray that in this season of renewal and growth, that the gardens of your lives are able to flourish and thrive with the vibrancy of new life.

# Leadership News.....

## At its Meeting on April 13, 2021, Session...

...had devotion with a meditation titled "A Reminder" from the book A Rhythm of Prayer by Sarah Bessey. The meditation is reminder that here is no prerequisite to be loved by God. We are already so loved, and we give thanks for the opportunity to love pack.

... VOTED to approve the agenda with items added.

... VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda

...welcomed Andy Atwater, Chair of the Board of Trustees for Session's Quarterly Review of Finances. Andy reviewed the Treasurer's report, and the statements for the Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual, as well as Profit & Loss by Month. We are on track for this time in the year and in good position regarding financial resources.

... VOTED to receive the Treasurer's report and financial summary for the month ending March 31, 2021

...noted that Pastor Brandi will be on vacation 6/23/21 – 7/8/21

...noted that Pastor Brandi is planning her summer schedule. She shared pulpit supply for the following dates that she will be away. 5/2/21- Rod Frohman; 6/27/21- Steve Becker; 7/4/21 – Val Fowler; 7/18-21 – Jeff Falter.

...VOTED to approve the request of Ann Armstrong to have her donation of \$1000 to the Memorial Fund in memory of her parents, Helen and Bill Daugherty; her sister, Judith Tobey; and her husband Robert Armstrong designated as Option 1: "To have contributions placed in the Memorial Fund with no restrictions. In this case the Session would determine both use and time of use."

... VOTED to approve, with regret, Kristin Milner's request to be removed from the Membership Roll  
...placed the May 16, 2021 Chicken BBQ on the Master Calendar

... VOTED to approve up to \$180.00 from Budget Line PE 19 "Session Discretionary" to cover the cost of binding Session minutes and Member Registry.

...noted that Geoff and Barb Wasmer created a data archive from Church Windows that will preserve this historical information. Meanwhile Clerk Huffman and Office Administrator, Sandy McCauley have updated three lists that we routinely use: Active Members, Other Participants, and Friends (former pastors, former members, Presbytery personnel, community contacts). "Friends" are people who receive church Eblasts IF we have a current email address.

...noted that Elder Engelbrecht has purchased a brush hog to use on the Labyrinth Trail. He continues to plan with the Eagle Scout who will be making benches.

...noted that Elder Engelbrecht will be convening the Personnel Committee to plan for staff reviews  
... continued a discussion on a fund raiser proposal from Ginny Harkness with the consensus being to not commit to a fund raiser at this point in time.

... and Andy Atwater, Board of Trustees, discussed the report of the Deacon's Food Pantry Committee (Sharon Breeze, Sue Edwards, Jan Hoyt, Susan Johnson, Jane Schultiz). Elder Breese answered questions and provided clarification regarding the proposal. She provided an overview of how the Food Pantry would work as it is implemented. Session discussed ideas for securing donations, where donated pantry items would be stored and organized, anticipated costs to implement the program, advertising, needs in the community, securing volunteers, etc.

## Leadership News continued...

... VOTED to approve proceeding with the First Presbyterian Church of Chili Food Pantry and expressed appreciation for the work of the Deacon's Committee in researching the opportunity for this community ministry.

...had a discussion on the need for a person to replace Geoff Wasmer in doing the streaming and audio work at the church. Geoff and Andy Atwater were included in this discussion. Geoff has played a key role in handling all of the streaming and audio work that happens every Sunday. At this point he wishes to step away from this responsibility which requires about 4 hours per week. Geoff shared a listing of duties. He also pointed out that the current amplifier needs to be replaced with a digital amplifier. Session expressed deep appreciation for Geoff's work and time that he has generously given over the past years. With that in mind, Session discussed hiring a person to do this as well as researching the cost of purchasing a digital amplifier.

...VOTED to approve creating a Media Coordinator position, seeking a person with media experience and live streaming experience. The position would be approximately 4 hours per week with a possible salary range between \$60 - \$100 per week. Meanwhile in follow-up, the Personnel Committee will proceed to developing a job description, Geoff will obtain cost estimates for a digital amplifier, and Geoff will net-work in order to identify possible candidates.

...heard a report from Elder Huffman, Chair of the Nominating Committee that she has sent a preliminary worksheet to members of the Nominating Committee showing positions that will need to be filled. Members of the Nominating Committee represent Trustees, Deacons, Session, and the Congregation and we are encouraging all in these groups to identify and encourage emerging leaders to consider leadership in Chili Pres.

... VOTED to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

Remitted by,

Elder Nancy P. Huffman, Clerk of Session



We collected \$556.27 during the Lenten Season for One Great Hour of Sharing. A check was sent to Presbyterian Church (USA).

Letter from Pauly Textile, Inc.:

Dear Friends,

We hope this letter finds you well and warm. This past year was challenging in many regards for our company, as well as many of the organizations and people we partner with. On the bright side, however, it seems that lots of people who were stuck at home took the opportunity to clean out their closets! Here is the year-end information for your clothing shed:

- ◇ 141,491 pounds of clothing were donated to your shed in 2020
- ◇ This was enough to clothe an estimated 11,284 people all over the world
- ◇ Based on this volume of clothing your organization received \$5,659

Thank you so much for continuing to partner with us, and for helping us get through this challenging year. We truly appreciate all the support you have given to this program and to our team

Sincerely, The Team at St. Pauly Textile, Inc.



The 2021 Easter Season Team is sponsoring an event to Historic Sonnenberg Gardens in Canandaigua, NY on Saturday, May 15, 2021. This will be a guided walking tour through the Gardens, followed by a visit to the mansion, where docents will be available to answer any questions.

The cost is \$15 per person, \$13.00 for Seniors 65 and over, or \$13.00 with Active AAA Membership Card. The admission cost will be paid upon arrival at the Sonnenberg Gardens.

We will gather at the church at 12:30 PM and car pool down to the Gardens located at 151 Charlotte Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424 at 12:45 PM. It will take 45 to 50 minutes to get there. The tour will begin promptly at 2:00 PM. We hope to be back no later than 5 PM.

Directions are Interstate 490 EAST to Interstate 90 EAST Exit 44 (small toll charge with NYS EZPass) to Route 332 South for about 7.5 miles, entering Canandaigua city limits with TOPS Supermarket on the right. Continue south on 332/N. Main Street through 2 more stoplights "historic site" sign will direct you left onto Howell Street. Follow Howell until you come to the main gates at Charlotte St.

Interested individuals need to call the church office (585-889-9896) to sign up no later than 1:00 PM on Thursday, May 13, 2021.



The 2021 Easter Season Team's Mission

Outreach is to the Thrivent - Habit Harvest Coalition.

They are seeking donations of time and money to go towards the building of a house at **757 Jay Street** in the city of Rochester this year. We have a goal of contributing \$2500 towards this house and as many volunteer hours as possible.

To donate money, please make checks payable to the "1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church of Chili" and put "Habit" in the Memo Space of the check. For questions or to volunteer, please contact Roger Willis at (585) 293-3561 or email [rwillis004@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rwillis004@rochester.rr.com).



**Annual Chicken BBQ**, appropriately masked and separated of course.

**May 16<sup>th</sup> Drive thru sales start 12 Noon**

The menu is the same. **(half chicken, salt potatoes, coleslaw, roll and a cookie)**

The price is the same. **(\$10)**

**The helpers** will be those who have interest in helping

If you have never helped at a chicken BBQ, **now is your chance** to step out of your comfort zone perhaps and try something new. We promise an atmosphere of smiles, laughter and smoke from the grill. ....

Seriously, **we will be needing a few more folks** to handle the tasks before us. We will not be doing pre-sales with tickets this year. All sales will be “**first come – first serve**” until we run out of meals. Meals will be available after church for those who would like to have their meals without going through the traffic line. **Public sales will begin at 12 noon**. We expect that many folks will be in line for meals early. This will create some crowd control issues that we can handle if we have enough flag people directing traffic. If you’ve ever wanted to shake a flag at someone, **now is your chance**.

The **cooking staff and the final cleanup crew can always use helping hands**. Please come and join the fun. We do have a good time and it’s for a good cause.

**If you would like to help this year, please give us a call.** Jan Hoyt - 217-2595, Bill Hoyt – 880-6248, or the church office – 889-9896

**Saturday, May 1 at 9 am**

*Spring Cleanup*



Jobs include raking stones out of the grass area, washing windows, tending to outdoor plants....and more. As Andy says, “ Many hands make light work” ....so we invite you to come out and help on May 1st.

*Your Trustees*

# Celebrating

each other.....

## May Celebrations

- 8 Pat Olson
- 12 Tom Leahy
- 18 Alex Mathewson
- 30 Scoville Anniversary
- 31 Fred Schulitz
- Wooten Anniversary



Our next Chili Pres book talk will be on **Wednesday, May 19, at 7:00 pm.**

The book we will be discussing is 100 days of Sunlight by Abbie Emmons.

It is a poignant and heartfelt sweet contemporary romance novel with strong family themes and a story of hope, healing and getting back up when life knocks you down.

Let Sue Johnson or the church office know if you want to participate in the book talk, so we can be sure to get the zoom invitation to you.

## May Communion

Because of Brandi's vacation, virtual communion will be on Sunday, May 9, 2021 at 11:30 am



Contact Sharon Breeze at 293-1340

(sbreeze @ frontiernet.net)

or the office at 889-9896

(fpc3600@gmail.com)

## Worship Greeters in May

May 2

Debbie Lamphron

May 9

Gail McArthur

May 16

Mick & Sandy McCauley

May 23

Barb & Geoff Wasmer

May 30

Mark Cardin & Roger Willis

# VACATION

Pastor Brandi will be on vacation from April 26 to May 2. If you need emergency Pastoral Care, call Sandy at 615-1911. Our guest speaker on Sunday, May 2 will be Rev. Rodric Frohman.

The church office will be closed on May 5 & 6.

The church office will be OPEN on Monday, May 3 and Tuesday May 4 from 9-2. If you have anything that needs to be highlighted for Sunday May 9 on the Power Point or "Chili Happenings", it needs to be received BEFORE Tuesday, May 4.

## Two ways to Worship

### In-Person Worship

Every Sunday at 10:00 am. There is no child care available at this time, but we do have Children's Church. Below is a reminder of the parameters of attending Worship in person:

- ◇ You will need to call or e-mail the office to PRE-register your attendance. All pre-registrations need to be requested **no later than 1:30 PM on the Thursday** before Worship. You will receive confirmation
- ◇ Use the main entrance only and sign-in on the check-in list.
- ◇ You are invited to bring your own pen, but sanitized ones will be provided
- ◇ Wear your mask at all times
- ◇ Bring your own Bible (optional)
- ◇ Sit only in the designated pews/chairs in the sanctuary with your family unit

### Live-Streaming

To access the live stream on Sunday mornings simply open your favorite web browser (i.e., Microsoft Edge, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, etc.) and access <https://www.facebook.com/firstpreschili/live/> around the 10 AM hour when the Worship Service will begin. Once it begins, you will be able to see the Worship Service live and send comments when you wish.

Shortly after the Worship Service ends, the stream will be stored on Facebook Live for access at a later time using the same web address (URL) <https://www.facebook.com/firstpreschili/live/>

NOTE: You do not need to have a Facebook account to view the live or stored streams. Simply ignore the box instructing you to login or create an account and scroll the Facebook Live page to access the desired live or stored stream.

We encourage viewers of the live stream or the stored stream to comment with Joys and Concerns, as well as any other comments about the Worship Service.

## Again & Again: A Lenten Refrain

As the Season of Lent came to a close, we were reminded throughout that Again & Again ...we're invited in...God meets us...we are called to listen...we are shown the way...God loves first...we are reformed...we draw on courage...we are held together...we find ourselves here...and the sun rises (as it did on Easter Sunday).

Throughout the season, we filled Fish Banks and made monetary donations to support One Great Hour of Sharing. At the time of this writing \$415 has been collected. We also collected items to fill Blessings Bags with travel size items to donate to the Open Door Mission to give to the residents.

On Sunday April 11th, the Team and the Youth Group met to fill the bags. In addition to 4 Blessings Bags prepared by the Children's Church group, we filled 38 additional bags. Each bag included an inspirational Scripture message. We want to thank all who brought in items and we want to thank the Board of Deacons who donated \$100 to use to purchase items. Again & Again....God meets us and we are eternally grateful.

Your Lent Team,

Andy Atwater, Sue Johnson, Carrie Horton, Jerry Huffman, Kathy Leasure, Alice Zah, Fred Zah and Co-Facilitators Sandy McCauley and Nancy Huffman.



## “Why Do You Believe?”

It is a question that we seldom ask, but I know the outsiders inquire even though they may not always ask it. It is a question that can bring understanding to our existence. It is a question that we can bring us closer, or distance us in the dark times. The question is “Why do You Believe in God?”

There are times I have desired to hear that answer from so many people in our congregation. This question gets asked to our youth in various ways during confirmation classes, but rarely do we ask it to our adults to share. The answer can be someone’s life story, maybe a survival story, and can even be enlightening. You start to see a glimpse of who someone really is for those who are brave enough to share. And it can even be impactful to people around you in ways you never know. So here is my answer to the question. “Adam, Why do You believe in Christ, the church, and being a Christian?” God has always been present in my life. Even since I was young, I knew that God was real, and being a Christian was something I felt called to be. I have chosen to believe in God because I find purpose and belonging through my faith. And my life has not always been easy. I have lived through extreme loss. I have experienced heartache and tragedy. I have been far from perfect. Yet I feel that God has always been patient with me, and in the hardest moments, I have still felt God near me and directing my path. It is God who paved the way for me to be ministering in Chili Pres. It is God who has given me an amazing wife and two amazing children. God has been a constant in my life, and has blessed me in so many ways that it is my desire to believe and serve the Lord. I want others to know that no matter what you may be going through, God is present, ready and waiting to supply whatever you need. I am proof that you can endure anything life has to throw at you with God by your side. So I challenge you to ask and answer the tough questions of yourself and those around you. May it be a spirit-filled time of reflection for you.

*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.

May the Chicken Fly High!

I noticed on the flyer on the church door today, that our Chicken BBQ, on May 16<sup>th</sup>, will be our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual fundraiser! We missed one year since it started – yes, this one crazy year way back when everything shut down and everyone stayed in their homes because of a virus? I don't quite remember all the details...

So yes, the Chicken BBQ is May 16<sup>th</sup> from 12-4pm. It is first come, first serve, so please help us get the word out! We will need lots of support with preparation as well, so please come around 9 am that day if you are able to.

It was a great April with our youth groups. The Sr. high youth helped the Lent team put together blessing bags for the open door mission. The Jr. High did a trip to Adventure Landing and played some mini golf and arcade games.

We are also starting to plan our summer mission trip! This year, based on the pandemic, we are going to do our mission trip as an intergenerational trip to Camp Whitman on Seneca Lake. It will be for our Sr. High youth and adults to participate in, and we will have the potential to do various projects there. It will be sometime between July 31 and August 7, so if you are interested, please let Adam know.

Check out the schedule below for the upcoming youth events!

*Adam, Whitney, McKenlee, and Ethan ☺*

## Upcoming Schedule!

May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sr. High Youth Group - 1-3pm!

May 9<sup>th</sup> – No Youth Group! Mother's Day!

May 16<sup>th</sup> – CHICKEN BBQ! Help needed 9am-4pm.

SATURDAY, May 22 – Sr. High Youth Event TBD!

May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Jr. High Youth Group - 1-3pm!

May 30<sup>th</sup> – No Youth Group! Memorial Day weekend!

June 6<sup>th</sup> – Sr. High Youth Group – 1-3pm!

June 13<sup>th</sup> – FINAL YOUTH GROUP of Spring 2021! Both groups – 1-3pm.

## St. Pauly Box Schedule

April 26 to May 9 - Adam Scoville

May 10 to May 23 - Nicole Mathewson

**We need volunteers for  
May 24 to June 6 and June 7 to  
June 20**