



Roots & Wings

First Presbyterian Church of Chili

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



2023

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Inside this issue.....

- ◆ Souper Bowl Sunday
- ◆ Bible Study
- ◆ New officers installed
- ◆ Per capita
- ◆ Sign up for Season Teams



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

Staff: Pastor: Rev. Brandi C. Wooten, Minister of Music and Youth Director: Adam Scoville, Office Administrator: Sandra McCauley, Custodian: Marla Guarnieri, Media Coordinator: Rory O'Connor

2023 Season Teams: Lent/Easter, Season of Renewal, Season of Reflection and Advent/Christmas /Epiphany

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

Mission / Community Support: Cameron Community Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, Presbyterian Church special offerings, Caring For The Community, Chili Pres Food Cupboard, and much more.

Church Information: 3600 Chili Avenue, Rochester NY 14624 585-889-9896

E-mail: fpc3600@gmail.com

Wooten's Wonderings



February is the season of love. Valentine's Day has captured the attention of businesses seeking to lure us into spending our money on heart shaped candy and cute stuffed animals. Regardless of what the commercial industry wants us to do, Valentine's Day and the month of February provide us with a too often missed opportunity to express how much we love the people in our lives. The majority of the time, we are so busy treading water every day that we forget to show those closest to us how much they mean to us- we forget to say those three little words that hold so much significance.

While we are busy forgetting to tell our friends and family that they are loved and appreciated, we also forget to tell God. Scripture reminds us time and time again how much God loves us. In fact, the Bible has been described as God's love letter to God's people. In Ephesians 3:18, Paul calls us to pay attention so that we can grasp how "wide and high and deep the love of Christ is and know that this love surpasses knowledge." When we are feeling separated from God, when the world is closing in on us and we fear we are alone against uncontrollable forces, Romans reminds us that "nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord." Jesus' very birth and presence among us is testimony to God's unshakable love.

When we are confronted with the depth of God's love for us, how can we help but respond with love back? Just as it is easy to take our friends and family for granted, it is easy to take God's love for granted. So this month, make a commitment to tell those that are important to you how much you care and appreciate them. Tell your family and your friends; show them in little and maybe a few big ways that they make a difference in your life. But don't stop there. Tell God of your love as well. Thank God for the love our Lord has continually showered upon you. And make a commitment to do so throughout the year, not just in February.

May the love of God enfold you all the days of your life.

Rev. Brandi Wooten, Pastor

March newsletter deadline
will be on Tuesday,
February 21

Brochures for the September 4 -
14, 2023 Holy Land Pilgrimage
trip are available in the church
office

"There is always in February some one day, at least, when one smells the yet distant, but surely coming, summer."

— Gertrude Jekyll

"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched – they must be felt with the heart."

— Helen Keller

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

— Martin Luther King, Jr.



Since 1990, the Souper Bowl of Caring has been a national movement across the nation working together to fight hunger and poverty in local communities. The youth of our congregation have been sponsoring this worthy cause for many years. There are two ways to support this worthwhile outreach:

- ⇒ Make a donation of non-perishable food and/or a monetary donation
- ⇒ Order a “homemade” sub (or as many as you want) from our Youth group. They make FRESH ingredient subs the morning of February 12, for only \$10. You can sign-up on the sheet in the fellowship room or contact Adam Scoville at cpministerofmusic@gmail.com BY February 5. Sub pick-up will be on February 12 following church.

Proceeds will go to the Mission Fund and will be distributed to support local food needs

Acts CATCHING UP WITH THE SPIRIT

Six week book and video based bible study on the book of Acts.

led by Pastor Brandi

Beginning Thursday,
February 9th at 7pm
via Zoom

It is not too late to sign-up. We can still send you to the virtual invitation. To get a free bible study book by Matthew L. Skinner, call the office no later than Sunday, January 29th or you can order a book yourself from Amazon, Christianbooks.com and many other places

On January 3, 2023 our wonderful dad and grandpa, Robert Kaiser, passed away at the age of 88. He will be greatly missed. A memorial service will be held early this spring. If you would like to share a memory, story, or photo that might be displayed at the memorial please send it to lkaiser106@gmail.com or Loreen Kaiser, 157 Maple Ave, Troy, NY 12180. A full obituary can be found at <https://www.jamesrgray.com/obituary/RobertBob-Kaiser>

Peace,

Loreen Kaiser

Ordination/Installation of Officers

Deacons and Elders elected at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on January 22nd were Ordained/Installed on January 29, 2023 during worship. While Trustees are not formally ordained or installed, newly elected Trustees were recognized during the worship service.

Ordained as Deacons were Fred Mollon and Becky Sosik

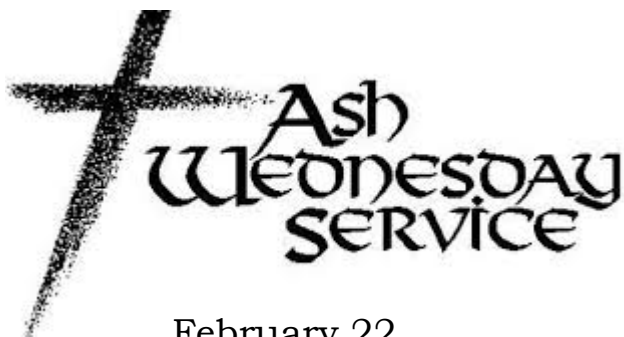
Installed as Deacons were Sharon Breeze, Fred Mollon, Becky Sosik

Installed as Elders were Nancy Huffman, Gail McArthur, and Barbara Wasmer

Newly elected Trustees who were recognized are: Andy Atwater, and John Sosik

Congratulations to all!

Nancy Huffman,
Clerk of Session



February 22

7:00 pm



Personal Care Items needed....

Our Youth Groups are collecting FULL SIZE hygiene items. We are providing bags of these items for people who come to the Food Cupboard each month. It has been a huge gift to families who truly need it. Your donations can be placed in the collection bin in the fellowship room. Thanks for your support of this community ministry.

Tooth brush	Deodorant (men & women)	Diapers & pullups (any size)
Tooth paste	Bar soap	Paper towels
Shampoo	Dish soap	Toilet paper (smaller pkg)
Hair conditioner	Laundry detergent	Baby wipes

Letter from ST. Pauly Textile, Inc.....

January 2023

Dear Friends at First Presbyterian Church of Chili,

Happy New Year ! We're excited to share with you the impact your clothing shed made in 2022.

- 122,844 pounds of clothing were donated to your shed.
- This was enough to clothe an estimated 22,630 people all over the world
- Based on this volume of clothing, your church received \$4,4913.78 *

Thank you so much for everything you, your volunteers and your community does to support the clothing shed program!

Sincerely,

The team at St. Pauly Textile, inc.

* half of this amount is placed in the FPCC Mission Fund

Leadership News

At a Special Called Meeting of the Session on January 2, 2023 for the purpose of finalizing and approving the 2023 budget, Session...

...VOTED to approve the 2023 budget. Session expressed its deep appreciation to Andy Atwater, Sandy McCauley, and Barbara Wasmer for their work in analyzing 2022 income and expenses in order to facilitate preparation of the 2023 budget.

Remitted by, Elder Nancy P. Huffman

Clerk of Session

At its meeting on January 9, 2023, Session...

...held a devotion discussion based on Psalm 84: 1-5 which speaks to the joy of dwelling with God. We shared a favorite dwelling place: the woods, a rocking chair, viewing the lake, my craft room, a friend's house, bird watching, quiet moments by myself in my own house.

... VOTED to approve the agenda with items added

... VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda

... VOTED to receive the Treasurer's report and summary for the month ending December 31, 2022

... VOTED to be a partner church with the New Worshiping Community, "Pray and Play" organized by Pastor Whitney Scoville. "Pray and Play" is a group of people who meet together to worship, study the word of God, pray together, and play together. It is an all-inclusive local worshipping environment that focuses on meeting and serving the unique needs of little ones and their parents in our community. "Pray and Play" is a New Worshiping Community here. It is non-denominational. It came about from the 1001 New Worshiping Communities (NWC) PC/USA initiative to bring people in the community together to access resources and develop a network of relationships to help do God's work in the world. There are three New Worshiping Communities within our Presbytery.

Whitney will further acquaint our congregation with more details about this new initiative.

...heard a report from Clerk Nancy Huffman that that she attended two Presbytery workshops for Clerks of Session. One (12/13/2022) was a review of changes in the 2023 Terms of Call and Covenant Agreement forms. The other (1/5/2023) was in regard to changes in the Annual Statistical report

...placed activity dates on the Master Calendar

-February 9, 2023 7:00 PM- Beginning date of six-week book study, "Acts: Catching Up with the Spirit"

...heard a report from the Personnel Committee that they are discussing a proposed position description, Director of Youth and Families.

...heard a report from the Personnel Committee regarding a Music Accompanist and VOTED to employ Mary Risewick on a contractual basis to serve as Music Accompanist for 2 ½ months, and, VOTED to pay Mary Risewick \$75.00 per Wednesday Choir practice and \$100.00 per Sunday Service through the end of March.

... VOTED to receive the report of the Nominating Committee

...VOTED to confirm the Members of the Mission Fund Policy Committee as follows:

Session Member: Barbara Wasmer

Trustee Member: Andy Atwater

One Congregation Member: Roger Willis

One Youth Director: Adam Scoville

Youth Delegate: Unfilled because currently no youth are eligible

Leadership News (continued)

...VOTED to approve the Sabbatical Temporary Supply Job Description and Covenant Agreement for Non-Installed Pastors, Whitney Scoville and Fred Mollon, that will be submitted to the Committee on Ministry for approval.

...noted that Pastor Brandi and Clerk Huffman are reviewing Session's Annual Calendar of Action Items to determine what might be completed prior to our sabbatical so that Session might enjoy a sabbatical renewal. They will report in February. Other Boards are encouraged to explore how they might alter responsibilities during the sabbatical.

... VOTED to appoint Darla Diehl to conduct the Annual Financial Review for 2022. Session expressed appreciation for Darla's willingness to share her talent in this way.

... heard a report from Clerk, Nancy Huffman regarding changes made by General Assembly for the reporting of church statistics for 2022. They include changes to the financial section, reporting youth in the congregation (rather than Christian Education numbers), adding a 17 & Under category for reporting Age Distribution of Active Members, adding a non-binary/genderqueer category for reporting Gender Distribution, and removing definitions from the Racial/Ethnic category. Further, now that we have livestreaming, the reporting of estimated Average Weekly Worship Attendance is of interest. We are encouraged by Presbytery to report number of attendees each week for livestream worship. We typically use the Attendance book in the Narthex to compute average weekly attendance. Geoff Wasmer provided "raw data" analysis of live stream views ranging from 30 seconds through the end of the stream as well as the actual live stream and after the conclusion of the livestream. From our own experience and knowledge, we estimate that 10 people consistently watch the full service weekly. We will continue to monitor (most likely with Presbytery's help) the collection of average weekly attendance via Facebook livestream.

...VOTED to discontinue uploading our worship service to YouTube.

...VOTED to receive the Annual Statistical Report for 2022 with financial information forthcoming

...noted that the Annual Report booklet will be available this week

...noted that Session will hold a breakfast workshop on Sunday, January 29th at 8:30 AM for the purpose of orientation and training of newly elected officers as required by the PC/USA Book of Order.

Retiring, current and newly elected officers as well as Trustees are invited to attend this workshop. The installation and ordination of newly elected officers and recognition of Trustees will take place during worship on Sunday, January 29, 2023

... VOTED to ask the Investment Committee, Jerry Huffman, and Andy Atwater to explore options for investing Miller Trust funds.

...noted that our Session's Elder Commissioners to Presbytery serve on a rotating basis. Elder Nancy Huffman volunteered to attend the Presbytery Meeting on January 28, 2023.

... VOTED to adjourn at 8:25 PM

Remitted by, Elder Nancy P. Huffman, Clerk of Session

Celebrating

each other.....

February 2023

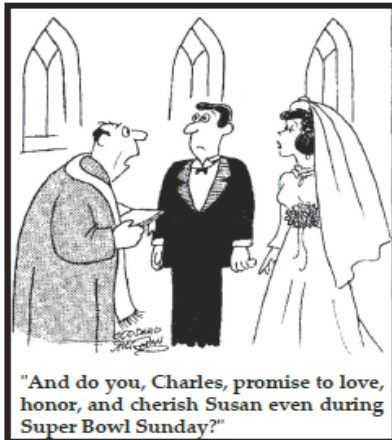
- 1 Mick McCauley & Marge Tucker
- 2 Becky Sosik
- 8 Eric Boerschlein / Huffman's Anniversary
- 9 Connor Snover
- 10 Barb Boerschlein
- 12 Vicky Leahy
- 16 Milner Anniversary
- 18 Marla Guarnieri & Becky Gernhardt
- 25 Becca Buell
- 26 Bruce Olson
- 28 Tristan Engelbrecht

Annual Per Capita

Apportionment for 2023

Presbytery	\$2,182.50
Synod	\$ 397.70
General Assembly	\$ 955.45

This is based on our active membership. We would appreciate your support of this budget cost by covering the **\$36.45** (only 87 cents more than 2022) per active member in your family.



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February Volunteers

February 5, 2023

Greeters: Mick & Sandy McCauley
 Communion: Sue Atwater (juice), Sandy McCauley, Barb Wasmer (bread)
 Jr. Greeter: Henry Gernhardt
 Childcare: Grace Engelbrecht & Gail McArthur
 Children's Church: Alice Zah & Barb Wasmer

February 12

Greeters: Bill Horne & Debbie Lamphron
 Jr. Greeter: Patrick Engelbrecht
 Childcare: Brenda Naugle & Vicky Leahy
 Children's Church: Alice Zah & Barb Wasmer

February 19

Greeters: Sandy McCauley & Fred Zah
 Jr. Greeter: Brooke Wilson
 Childcare: Judie McGaffick & Becky Sosik
 Children's Church: Alice Zah & Barb Wasmer

February 26

Greeters: Marla Guarnieri & Tim Engelbrecht
 Jr. Greeter: Mira Wooten
 Childcare: Lori Gittens & Lori Oliver
 Children's Church: Alice Zah &



Planning is starting soon for The Season of Renewal (when we are all on sabbatical) - May 1 through September 3 and the Season of Reflection (when we come back together and share our experiences) -September 4 through December 2. It is not too late to be a part of these exciting, new and unique season teams. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board if you want to join in the fellowship and creativity .



There is a Song in All of Us

We all have a story to tell. We all experience different events in life that change us forever. God has created each one of us with unique qualities, abilities, talents and personalities. There are no two people on earth that share the exact life story.

It seems like a phenomenon in itself really. Our world runs on duplicating in mass production, where something we have wears out we can easily replace it. And yet God formed us *Individually*, thought about our *Individual* story, and how we would *Individually* live in it. We are not replaceable in God's eyes.

In Psalms 139:13-16 it states, "For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written the days that were ordained for me."

God knows your story. God knows the beginning and end of your story. God knows your "inward parts." God invested time in creating you in the unique way God chose to. And God loves you dearly.

When I think of my life story, I think of a continuous song playing. There was a definitive beginning to my song. There were times of dissonance and consonance within the song. There is excitement, sadness, hope, and understanding to the song. There are times when I have led the song, and times that the song has led me. There are times when I have been disappointed with my song, and times when I have been proud of my song.

But through it all, the song continues to play. I continue to learn and grow through the song.

The song is directed by God and my response to all God has given me. God doesn't change, but rather we are ever changing around God's plans for us.

"I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." A phenomenon like no other.

There is a song in all of us. There is a story we all can tell. Think about your song and reflect on what God has done, is doing, and will be doing in your story. Remind yourself of the amazing things God has directed you to within your story.

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 strengthen their faith in Christ and build lifelong relationships with others.

The Snow Has Arrived...

We had a mild January winter! I guess we have to have some snow before spring comes... And even as the cold has led some to hibernate, our youth have been busy!

This past month, we did a Joint Youth Group with Union Presbyterian to start the month off. We had loads of fun playing games at Black Creek Park. I never thought you could sled on a dusting of snow, but we made it happen! We served at the Food Cupboard, and we had a few youth group meetings along the way!

On February 12th, we will have our Super Bowl Sub Drive, and our Souper Bowl of Caring offering. Subs are \$10 each and they support our Mission Funds. The sign up sheet is in the fellowship hall at church, or email your order to Adam at cpministerofmusic@gmail.com. Donations of non-perishable food or money will also be collected on that day as well and that will go to our Food Cupboard. Thank you for your support!

Please continue to support the Hygiene Cupboard that we have at church! As we serve at the Food Cupboard we have been providing bags of hygiene to people who come to the Food Cupboard each month. It has been a huge gift to families who truly need it. A list of items is available at the entryway of church and feel free to contact Adam for questions about our current needs.

The schedule for February is below! Lots of fun events coming!

Peace and love,

Adam, Whitney, McKenlee, and Ethan

St. Pauly Box Schedule

January 30-February 12 - Brooke Wilson

February 13-26 - Leahy's

February 27-March 12 - Aidan Snover

Upcoming Schedule

February 5 - Joint Youth Group! - Both Groups! Leaving from church @ 11:30am-2pm.

February 12 - Super Bowl Subs! Both Groups! Be there @ 9:30am. No youth group after!

Saturday, February 18 - Serving at church for the Chili Food Cupboard. Both Groups! 9:30-11:30am.

February 19 - Jr. High Youth Group! 11am-1pm.

February 26 - Youth Group Bowling! Both groups! 11am-3pm - Bring \$20.

March 5 - Joint Youth Group! - Both Groups! Leaving from church @ 11:30am-2pm.

March 12 - No Youth Group!