



# Roots & Wings

First Presbyterian Church of Chili

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



2023



**seeking:**  
honest questions  
for deeper faith

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

One Great Hour of Sharing offering

Maundy Thursday Service

April 30th Potluck luncheon

Our Sabbatical Season of Renewal

Homestead For Hope Mission project

Annual Chicken BBQ

*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

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## Wooten's Wonderings



Six questions have guided us over our Lenten Journey as we sought a deeper faith. We have been seeking- seeking clarity, seeking guidance, seeking Jesus. We have shared some of the things we wonder about on our bulletin board. The questions addressed from our scripture texts offered comfort and hope, while others pushed us to a new understanding and perspective, encouraging us to act in the world in a different way.

So, as April finds our Lenten journey coming to its culmination at the cross and as we anticipate that transition into the new life of Easter, I encourage all of us to take a moment, perhaps during Holy Week, to reflect on your Lenten journey as a whole.

Here are some questions you can use to guide your reflection:

- \* What do you see in God more clearly after this journey?
- \* Where do your explorations need to continue?
- \* What would it look like to follow God wholeheartedly in the coming Season of Renewal?

*Rev. Brandi Wooten, Pastor*  
*revbrandi@gmail.com*



## Our Season of Renewal Begins April 30, 2023



The Renewal Season Team, Andy Atwater, Jerry Huffman, Nancy Huffman, Debbie Lamphron, Gail McArthur, and Sandy McCauley met with Pastor Brandi, Fred Mollon, and Pastor Whitney Scoville. Pastor Whitney and Fred will be our sabbatical temporary supply pastors.

Pastor Brandi, Sandy, and Nancy welcomed us to this first meeting of the 2023 Season Team of Renewal. This year, with our congregation's sabbatical focusing first on renewal and then reflection, our Bible study began with a review of verses in scripture related to the meaning of "sabbatical". Leviticus 25:4 speaks to sabbath rest to occur every seven years—a rest from planting the fields—a rest! Deuteronomy 15:12 speaks to setting free servants in the seventh year of their service – let them rest! Romans 12:2 speaks to taking one's everyday ordinary life – sleeping, eating, going to work and walking around—to fix attention to God and being changed from the inside out. Isaiah 43:19 speaks to paying attention, taking notice and discovering new things. "BEHOLD" it commands us! -- "Be alert, be present, I'm about to do something brand new. It's bursting out: Don't you see it?"

We then engaged in a Visio Divina activity where we viewed pictures of various settings and selected some that resonated with us in answering the question, "What does renewal do for you?" In our sharing, several thoughts emerged with words on experiencing and achieving renewal – meditate, awesome, bursting with new energy, new beginnings, inner peace, dreaming, intentional growth, relaxing, coming together, making connections, dreaming, being present, paying attention, holy spirit at work, opportunity to walk with Him. We discovered that all of these words paved the roadway to our theme - "BEHOLD".

BEHOLD is the command and the first word in the Isaiah scripture that continues... "Be alert, be present, I'm about to do something brand new. It's bursting out: Don't you see it?" We agreed that our theme would be "BEHOLD", a word that beckons us to seek new energy through renewal. So, as we enter the Season of Renewal we have many activities planned, (some partially funded by the Lilly Grant) to excite the spirit of renewal.



#### Outreach - Throughout the Season of Renewal

The Renewal Team will be collecting money for Homesteads for Hope to purchase a feeder spreader to use on their farm. Our goal is to raise a minimum of \$800.

Homesteads for Hope is a community farm right in our neighborhood on Manitou Road. The purpose is to empower people of all abilities to work, learn and grow in nature's classroom. Homesteads for Hope offers opportunities for people to enjoy a community garden, a garden store, Thursday evening food and music for families to enjoy and many other events. Visit <https://www.homesteadsforhope.org/> to learn more about how you can enjoy !

#### Jesus in the Journey - is a season long project.

We will each have a "cut-out" of Jesus to carry with us as a reminder that Jesus is always with us. Wherever you might go this summer, take pictures so we can share images weekly on our website, our bulletin board, and Facebook.

Children's Church will conclude on May 28th

**BEHOLD...**Mark your calendars for Renewal activities!

April 30 (Sunday) - Following worship -- Sabbatical Kick-off Potluck lunch  
A send-off gathering for Pastor Brandi and for us!

May 21 (Sunday) - 1:00 PM - Tour of the Memorial Art Gallery  
This docent guided tour is partially funded by the Lilly Grant. Your cost will be \$5.00. (The typical tour fees are \$25 adult; \$23 Senior; Children \$14)

June 11 (Sunday) - Worship (10 AM) and Church picnic at Union Station Park Lodge.  
This will be a catered event funded by the Lilly Grant

July 14 (Friday evening) -- Alpaca Yoga at LaDue Alpaca Farm in Brockport  
45 minutes of gentle yoga with alpacas and 15 minutes of alpaca facts and selfies.  
Cost \$10/person. This is partially funded by the Lilly Grant

July 22 - Red Wings Baseball game (Christmas in July, Fireworks, Bat Dog)

August 5 (Saturday at 9 am) - Devotional Walk at Homestead of Hope - Led by Pastor Whitney Scoville

**BEHOLD...**We have an official congregational photographer to cover all of our Season of Renewal Activities ... Thank you Ashleigh Naugle!



## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

"When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot."

Donation envelopes are available in the pews or you can send a check to church with "OGHS" written on the memo line.

We ask that you return your contributions by Easter Sunday, April 9.

Your Lent & Easter Team,

*Carrie Horton, Lori Oliver, Walt Scott, Alice and Fred Zah*

## 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

## Chili Pres Book Club

Tuesday April 25 at 8:00 pm (virtual)

Our next read is.....

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus

Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans; the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind. True chemistry results.

But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ("combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride") proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo.



20th Annual Chicken  
BBQ coming on April 23  
More details coming  
soon !!!



# Celebrating

each other.....

## *April 2023*

- 6 Andy Atwater, Ken Milner, Jane Schultiz
- 7 Barb Wasmer
- 15 Judie McGaffick
- 21 Dodi Kasiske
- 25 Andy & Sue Atwater Anniversary
- 30 Carrie Horton



The 2023 Church Directory will be available in April. A digital copy will be sent electronically and there will be hard copies available on the table in the fellowship room



Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we sent a check for \$1,250 to the Presbyterian Disaster Fund to help the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.

## *April Volunteers*

### April 2—Palm Sunday

Greeters: Carrie Horton & Judie McGaffick  
Communion: Carrie Horton, Judie McGaffick (bread),  
Brenda Naugle (juice)  
Jr. Greeter: Henry Gernhardt  
Childcare: Grace Engelbrecht & Lori Oliver  
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Ashleigh Naugle

### April 9 - Easter

Greeters: Jan & Bill Hoyt  
Jr. Greeter: Patrick Engelbrecht  
Childcare: Beth Rowe & Becky Sosik  
Children's Church: Alice Zah &

### April 16

Greeters: Sue Johnson & Andy Atwater  
Jr. Greeter: Brooke Wilson  
Childcare: Sue Edwards & Vicky Leahy  
Children's Church: Alice Zah &

### April 23

Greeters: Jean Bartholomew & Fred Mollon  
Jr. Greeter: Mira Wooten  
Childcare: Lori Gittens & Dale Faatz  
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Beth Rowe

### April 30

Greeters: Bill Horne & Debbie Lamphron  
Jr. Greeter: Mira Wooten  
Childcare: Kathy Mathewson & Barb Wasmer  
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Lori Oliver

May newsletter deadline is  
April 18

We need a second adult to assist with children's church on April 2 and April 9. If you are willing to volunteer, please contact the church office or Alice Zah. Thank you!

# Leadership News

## **At its Meeting on March 6, 2023, Session...**

...had a brief discussion about the Bible Study of the Book of Acts and the presence of discernment throughout the ages. At the start of the church there was constant discernment as to what the Christian Church would look like. We continue to be in discernment at this time as changes take place within the church and in society. Pastor Brandi opened the meeting with prayer.

...VOTED to approve the agenda as published.

...VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda.

...VOTED to receive the Treasurer's report and summary for the month ending February 28, 2023.

...noted a change of date of the start of the Season of Renewal to April 30 2023 instead of May 1 2023. The Sabbatical grant included a Potluck lunch on April 30 as a celebratory kick-off/send off for her and our sabbatical. Worship that day will also be focused on renewal. The Renewal Team agreed to this change and will have the church decorated for this event. The Lent/Easter Team will be updated about the change of plan.

...placed Activity Dates on the Master Calendar

April 30, 2023 – Potluck lunch – Renewal Kick-off

May 21, 2023 – Group Tour of the Memorial Art Gallery

June 11, 2023 – Church Picnic (catered)

July 14, 2023 – Alpaca Yoga (to be confirmed)

July 22, 2023 – Red Wings baseball game

?August (TBD) – Devotional Walk led by Pastor Whitney Scoville

August 14, 2023 Stated Session Meeting

...reviewed the “Active Membership Roll” and made no changes. We have 92 Active Members. Session reviewed the “Other Participants Roll”. PC/USA defines “Other Participants” as individuals who are not “active members” but who participate in the life and worship of this church and receive pastoral care. “Other participants” have a deacon assigned and are included in the Church Directory. By consensus, Session added Paula Smith and Chris Heist to the Other Participants Roll. We have 16 “Other Participants”.

...with regard to Sabbatical planning, heard a report from Pastor Brandi that scheduling and booking her trips and activities has been challenging but at this time is about completed. She also reported that she will be meeting with Whitney Scoville and Fred Mollon, our temporary supply pastors, to review procedures with regard to using Proclaim for worship and procedures for funerals and memorial services.

...VOTED to adjourn at 7:32 PM. Pastor Brandi led us in a shared benediction based on the Great Commission.

Remitted by,

Elder Nancy P. Huffman, Clerk of Session



## The Story of Easter

Christ Died. That in itself is heavy. I have had many experiences with family members passing away and dealing with death. There is grief. There is loss. There is uncertainty. We go through the burial process and then over time, we move on, because our lives keep going. Our loved ones are never forgotten, but we have to continue on our life paths.

Now imagine Christ dying. This person who has invested His life in serving and saving others. You watched Him. You listened to Him. You saw the changes happening around Him. You saw miracles. You have been changed by Him.

You then watch how the world responds to Him. You see the beating He takes. You watch the mocking and ridicule He absorbs. You see Him put to death on public display, for no reason.

In the midst of the story, you have to believe that all hope was lost in the lives of those who knew Him. I can only imagine the uncertainty of losing Jesus that was felt by His followers and loved ones.

Now we know that Christ died for us, but take into consideration the heaviness of knowing that Christ **Died** for us. He didn't just go the extra mile for us so that our friendship would be strong. His purpose was to overcome death so that we could have an eternal relationship with Him free from sin for eternity.

Can you honestly fathom that? Looking at what happens in our world on a daily basis, it's clear that the world does not deserve this gift for our human race. But God made us, and God chose us. God chooses the human race and all of our inadequacies. God's grace is remarkable.

So the story continues. Christ is dead. It's day 3. Mary has started to move on and continue in her life journey, and is doing the basic rituals of the burial process. And as quickly as hope left the world, hope AND affirmation return to her, when she finds the empty tomb. It must have been a world wind of a week in regards to the emotions of those close to Christ. (Not to mention that many were also fearing for their own lives as well.)

So once again, You watch Him. You listen to Him. Dead man walking. Scars affirm the proof. You have forever been changed.

Christ is Risen.

Take a moment and reflect on your relationship with the Christ who died for you, and also the Christ who overcame death for you. It is a very humbling image.

*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

The bird will be landing soon!

It is April, and that means it's time to prepare for our Chicken BBQ! The BBQ will be April 23<sup>rd</sup>, and we will need all the help we can get to make it happen! Stay tuned in church for the upcoming plans!

March was a busy month! We began the month with a Joint Youth Group with Union Presbyterian and East Avon Presbyterian. Our Joint Youth Group also combined with Camp Whitman for an event at Wild Wings at Mendon Ponds Park, where we toured their facility and learned more about raptors and the care they give to them. Along with that, we also fed the chickadees on the trail by hand! Always a lot of fun. We also played some fun games at the church during our regular youth times, and helped with our Food Cupboard as well.

As always, we appreciate the support of our Hygiene Cupboard that we have at church, and continue to ask for donations. 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. Also, after a huge donation of diapers we received from Foodlink, we do NOT need any diapers for awhile!

Continue to pray for our youth as they work to finish up the school year strong!

Below is the schedule for April! Hope to see you there soon!

Peace and love,

*Adam, Whitney, McKenlee, and Ethan*

## St. Pauly Box Schedule

March 27-April 9 – Engelbrecht's

April 10-23 – **Need Volunteers!**

April 24-May 12 – Mira Wooten

## Upcoming Schedule!

**April 1 – LASERTRON! Both Groups. TBD.**

**April 2 – Joint Youth Group! – Both Groups! Leaving from church @ 11:30am-2pm.**

**April 9 – Easter Sunday – No Youth Group.**

**Saturday, April 15 – Serving at church for the Chili Food Cupboard. Both Groups! 9:30-11:30am.**

**April 16 – Jr. High Youth Group! 11am-1pm.**

**April 23 – CHICKEN BBQ! 9-3pm**

**April 28-29 – Lock-in @ East Avon Presbyterian (Only if people are available to do this!)**

**April 30 – Sabbatical Kickoff Lunch! We will join the congregation for this.**

**May 7 – Joint Youth Group! – Both Groups! Leaving from church @ 11:30am-2pm.**

**May 14 – Sr. High Youth Group! 11am-1pm.**