



# Roots & Wings

First Presbyterian Church of Chili

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

## Season of Reflection



2023

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

*Staff:* Pastor: Rev. Brandi C. Wooten, Minister of Music and Director of Families and Youth: 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, WIC and much more.

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

*E-mail:* [fpc3600@gmail.com](mailto:fpc3600@gmail.com)

# Reflections from our Temporary Supply Worship Leaders

Hello Dear friends,

I'm thankful you all took the risk to invite me to help cover this time of Pastor Brandi's sabbatical. It's been an honor. I've been moved and blessed by watching the Holy Spirit stir in the people of this church. My prayer for you all is that you continue to rest in the arms of God, prune away what is no longer good, and continue to intentionally grow. Thank you for fanning the flame and having abundant grace and love in it all. Please, hold me in prayer as I transition to Ogden Presbyterian Church. First day is September 18th and I'd appreciate your spiritual covering of prayer as I step into new territory. Peace and love to you all.

*Pastor Whitney*

*Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing, and perfect will. Romans 12:2*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It's hard to believe that our Season of Renewal has ended, and now, here we are starting our Season of Reflection. Time can indeed fly by quickly. I'm reminded of how Carol Burnett used to end her TV show, and part of the lyrics to the song she sang said, "...seems we just get started and before you know it, comes the time we have to say, 'so long.' "

It has been my privilege and a pleasure to have served you alongside Whitney. Thank you all (Brandi, Session, and the congregation) for trusting me to serve as one of the temporary pastors. I have grown a lot in ministry. I trust that you have as well.

I'm looking forward to seeing how we put what we have learned into practice, perhaps, in new areas of ministry. I will continue to keep the Tuesday Prayer time going. Again, this is a time to gather, seek God, and hear what the Spirit would say to us as we move forward. It is an open time, so please feel free to come and join as you like.

Again, thank you for allowing me to serve you, and I look forward to working with you as we reflect upon our Renewal and put into practice what we have learned.

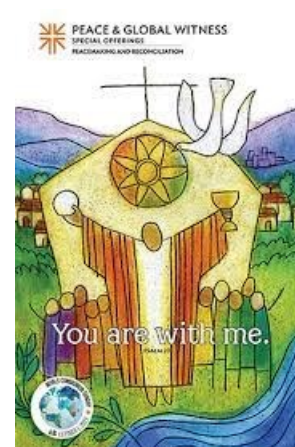
*Yours in Christ, Fred Mollon, Elder*

Presbyterian

Peace and Global Witness Offering

Sunday, October 1

*Building a more just and peaceful World!*





**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?"

So many opportunities for Renewal -- discovery, being in the present, being alert for something new -- occurred during our 4-month sabbatical. We engaged in many renewal opportunities on a personal level as well as through church family activities. 21 of our church family and friends visited the Memorial Art Gallery on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Our catered Church Picnic on June 11th brought 66 of us to "just come and enjoy" worship, delicious food, fun and fellowship. 16 of us enjoyed learning about and interacting with alpacas at the Alpaca Yoga on July 14<sup>th</sup>. 25 of us went to the Red Wings game on July 22<sup>nd</sup> where "Christmas in July" was the featured theme. Following the game, we enjoyed fantastic fireworks coordinated with Christmas music! On July 23<sup>rd</sup>, following worship, 17 of us walked the Church's Labyrinth Path which is just down the street on Chili Avenue. The Labyrinth path, a "Caring for Our Community" Session initiative, was developed over the past two years by Tim Engelbrecht, the Boy Scouts, and several church family members. We signed the "Register" at the trail head and admired the benches which Tim and Marla made. The path is there to be enjoyed by the community. On August 5<sup>th</sup>, 7 of us participated in a Devotional Walk at Homesteads for Hope led by Pastor Whitney Scoville. Ashleigh Naugle, our official photographer has been taking photos throughout the season to document our activities in preparation for the Season of Reflection.

On a personal level, so many of us have been submitting our "Jesus in the Journey" photos to Sandy McCauley to be posted in the weekly "Chili Happenings" emails, worship bulletins, the projected announcements prior to worship, our newsletters, and our bulletin board. As a matter of fact, our bulletin board is covered with shared photos.

Your ongoing contributions to support the purchase of the "Spreader/Fertilizer" for Homesteads for Hope continue to be welcomed and appreciated through the conclusion of the Season of Renewal on September 4<sup>th</sup>. We have exceeded our goal of \$900 and donations received beyond the \$900 will be given to Homesteads for Hope. As of August 22, we have collected an additional \$109 for Homesteads for Hope.



Children's Church will kick off on Sunday, September 10. This program is open to all children 4 years old and up. As is the policy, we try to have two adults present, and we are

reaching out to the congregation for volunteers. Anyone wishing to help will not have to do any preparation. We have Children's Church curriculum, and any additional plans, activities, materials, etc., will be taken care of by Alice Zah.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider volunteering for one or more Sundays.



We want to thank our wonderful church family and friends for all the cards and well wishes you sent to us for our 50th wedding anniversary. Your cards and notes made us realize how blessed we are to be a part of the Chili Presbyterian Church family.

Again thank you so much,  
Jan and Bill Hoyt



## ***From Renewal to Reflection***

What a fun, spiritually rewarding time we've had at Chili Pres. this summer! The Renewal Team provided so many opportunities for spiritual growth, prayer, fellowship, and fun. Our season, Reflection, will be providing times for our church to think about what we have discovered during our Summer pause – our time of Renewal. Our Theme is ***Upon the Threshold*** – a holy pause full of possibility, where we let go of what came before and prepare ourselves fully for what happens next. When we walk into church on Sunday morning, we cross a threshold, giving us a chance to let go of what happened the previous week or even what happened that morning, so that we can fully immerse ourselves in what our morning worship has to offer.

Mark your calendars for the following events throughout

**\*September 10**, Kickoff Sunday – *Celebrating Brandi's Return*: Children's Church (thank you Alice and helpers) and Coffee Hour downstairs begins (including an ice cream social)

**\*October 15**: Visio Divina Celebration, unveiling our Storyboard to reflect upon the experiences of Brandi and our congregation during the Renewal Season; After worship, a catered lunch, provided by Mission Barbecue (proceeds to support Veterans and First Responders). *Don't forget to sign up on the Fellowship Hall Bulletin Board.*

**\*October 26**: Art Journaling Workshop, lead by Brandi. (more details to follow)

**Our Mission Outreach Project**: We will be collecting items for our Blue Star Mothers Holiday Care Package Drive, to be sent to Troops overseas (more information to follow), coinciding with our country's celebration of Veteran's Day.

*In the days ahead, become aware of all the times you cross a threshold. Pause at each and offer a short blessing, simply becoming aware of the possibilities alive in the moment and opening up a space within for God to work.*



# Celebrating

each other.....

## September

- 2 Mira Wooten
- 4 Audrey Engelbrecht
- 7 Sue Atwater
- 9 Ethan Scoville
- 15 Brian Gernhardt/Bill Horne

WIC (Woman, Infant Child) will be using our building two times a month for their in-person clinic. Because of the pandemic they needed to work virtually for the past three years. But they will be back using our facility starting September 5. This is another way for Chili Pres to live in our mission statement: "Rooted in Faith, Growing Together, Caring for the Community"

## September Worship Volunteers

### September 3

Greeters: Kathy & Rich Stowe  
Jr. Greeter: Audrey Sosik  
Childcare: Sue Atwater & Kathy Mathewson

### September 10

Greeters: Kathy & Jay Mathewson  
Communion: Grace Engelbrecht (juice), Fred Mollon (bread), Sue Johnson  
Jr. Greeter: Brooke Wilson  
Childcare: Linda Enright & Vicky Leahy  
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Dale Faatz

### September 17

Greeters: Vicky & Tom Leahy  
Jr. Greeter: Henry Gernhardt  
Childcare: Gail McArthur & Elena McArthur  
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Dale Faatz

### September 24

Greeters: Tim Engelbrecht & Marla Guarneri  
Jr. Greeter: McKenlee Scoville  
Child care: Elena Casillo & Lori Oliver  
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Beth Rowe

## **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)	
Tooth paste	Bar soap	Paper towels
Shampoo	Dish soap	Toilet paper (smaller pkg)
Hair conditioner	Laundry detergent	

## Holy Land Pilgrimage

May 13-23, 2024

Package Price \$4390

Tour Coordinator Pat Jones

Includes:

- Round trip airline ticket
- Double occupancy accommodations in luxury hotels each night
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily
- Eleven days sightseeing in modern, air-conditioned private bus
- English speaking Christian tour guide
- Tips for hotels

Full brochure and details available in the church office



### Child care update....

At the Session meeting on August 14,  
Session passed the following motion:

“Upon motion and second, Session voted to  
approve that masks will be used in the  
nursery only upon request”



The Board of Deacon's will be resuming Fellowship  
Hour after Worship in the lower hall starting  
September 10. They are looking for folks to  
volunteer to host this fellowship time.

General suggestions: provide coffee, tea, cold  
beverage, snacks (such as gluten free pretzels)  
and cookies (both regular and gluten free). Grab  
a friend and sign-up on the sheet in the  
fellowship room.



### Prayer Time

Is offered  
every Tuesday at  
2:00 pm

All are welcome

October Newsletter deadline will be

September 19th

Hello from the Nominating Committee,

As this summer Season of Renewal comes to a close, we begin to feel the new energy that fall often brings. Perhaps in renewal, you have discovered a renewed energy for serving as a church leader on one of our boards or standing committees. Yes, it's a new year and the Nominating Committee will begin its work this fall. We ask that you prayerfully consider service on one of our Boards or Committees. You would be elected at the Annual meeting in January 2024 and begin service at that time.

Here is a summary of positions the Nominating Committee will be filling.

For Session: 3 people for the Class of 2027- (Three-year term beginning in 2024). Of those in the current Class of 2024, Grace Engelbrecht is eligible to be nominated. See the Church Directory for listings of Officers and terms.

For Trustees: 3 people for Class of 2027 - (Three-year term beginning in 2024). Of those in the current Class of 2024, Brian Faatz, Jerry Huffman, and John Rowe are eligible to be nominated.

Deacons: 3 people for Class of 2027 - (Three-year term beginning in 2024). (Of those in the current Class of 2024, Judie McGaffick is eligible to be nominated. Barb Boerschlein and Sue Edwards are completing their second term and are not eligible to re-up.)

Endowment Committee for Class of 2029: (Five-year term) Congregational rep- does not have to be an Elder

Personnel Committee: Class of 2027 - (Two Year term) Congregational rep- does not have to be an Elder

Nominating Committee Class of 2025 - (one year term) nominees to represent Session, Trustees, Deacons, 2 congregational reps.

You are invited to contact anyone on the Nominating Committee to find out more about serving as an Officer or Committee member.

In His Service,

Your Nominating Committee --Tom Leahy, Barb Boerschlein, Vicki Leahy, Jane Schultiz and Nancy Huffman, Chair.



We've exceeded our goal \$900 to cover the purchase of a Spreader/Fertilizer for Homesteads for Hope. However, donations continue to be welcomed and appreciated through the conclusion of the Season of Renewal on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Donations received beyond the \$900 will be given to Homesteads for Hope. To date we have raised an additional \$100 for Homesteads for Hope.

# Leadership News

## **At its Meeting on August 14, 2023 Session....**

...welcomed Moderator Pastor Whitney Scoville who led us in opening prayer stating, "This is where we are headed today". We then read through our Mission Statement leading each section with "Dear God help us...." After each section Pastor Whitney played Rev Brandi's Singing Bowl, giving us time to reflect between prayer lines. ...VOTED to approve the Agenda with items added.

...VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda with the following items lifted and placed under New Business for Discussion:

Food Cupboard Grant Submission dated 7/14/23.

Clerk's Report re: Funeral/Memorial Service

...welcomed Andy Atwater, Chair of the Board of Trustees for the QUARTERLY REVIEW OF FINANCES. Andy reviewed the current Treasurer's report as well as the Profit and Loss Statements from April 30 – July 30, 2023. He noted that overall, we are in good shape at this point in the year.

...VOTED to receive the Treasurer's report and summary for the months ending April 30, May 31, June 30, and July 30, 2023.

...welcomed Jan Hoyt and Debbie Lamphron from the Food Cupboard Committee to discuss SUSTAINABILITY OF THE FOOD CUPBOARD MINISTRY. Deb reviewed the Food Cupboard finances and how the need has grown from the initial 3 families to 80 that they have served recently. The Food Cupboard has received grants, and should be able to be sustainable thru January of 2024, but they would like to be added as a line item in the upcoming budget. Amount to be determined.

... VOTED to approve adding the Food Cupboard to our 2024-2025 budget.

...had further discussion about how the Food Cupboard has grown and that more structure is needed. Let's get a unified effort in place. Preliminary discussion items to think about:

The Food Cupboard becoming its own committee. There should be a Session rep and possibly a Trustee and congregational.

Budget Lines to consider:

\$2700.00/yr. Administrator (15-20 hrs. per month)

\$3000.00 yearly for workshops, retreats for training of volunteers, and advertising outreach. Ideas discussed in the meeting included the following: shirts, workshops, recognition training, luncheon.

\$800 to \$1000/month Food to stock cupboard

Reaching out to other community groups like scouts, veterans, etc.

Possibly get money from: St. Pauly box, Simple Supper, Fall Supper

...reviewed and discussed the Marilyn Lichtman Foundation Grant proposal submitted by the Food Cupboard Committee on July 14, 2023.

...VOTED to approve rewording Item #2 (Name of Organization to which grant would be paid) in the Marilyn Lichtman Foundation Grant application to read:

"First Presbyterian Church of Chili with Food Cupboard Ministry as the byline".



## Leadership News continued....

...heard a report from Temporary Supply Pastors Whitney Scoville and Elder Fred Mollon on their pastoral contacts from May thru August 14<sup>th</sup>.

...received a report from the Clerk of Session on Correspondence received and sent.

...placed activity dates on the Master Calendar

September 5, 2023 – Stated Session Meeting

October 9, 2023 – Annual Joint Meeting of Session and Deacons

October 9, 2023 – Stated Session Meeting

November 4, 2023 – Fall Supper

November 19, 2023 – Stewardship Sunday

January 8, 2024 – Stated Session Meeting

January 21, 2024 – Annual Meetings of the Congregation and Corporation

January 28, 2024 – Orientation and Training of Newly Elected Officers

January 28-2024 – Installation of Officers (during worship)

...heard a report from Tim Engelbrecht that he will be checking the visitor list at the Labyrinth trailhead and will be mowing.

...reviewed COVID requirements and VOTED to approve that masks will be used in the Nursery only upon request.

...received Presbytery meeting reports from Elder Commissioners Grace Engelbrecht who attended on April 29<sup>th</sup> and Nancy Huffman who attended on July 25, 2023

...reminded paid and unpaid employees of the need to complete the Armatux Sexual Harassment Prevention Training by December 31.

... VOTED to approve increased pay for substitute Music Accompanist from \$75.00 to \$100.00 for Sunday service and \$50.00 for Wednesday rehearsal.

...VOTED to confirm and approve that \$2,348.53 be taken each month from the Miller Trust to support the salary of the new position, Director of Families and Youth.

...discussed a technology called “Amplify Media” to enhance access to Bible study, youth information, and other items but took no formal action at this time.

...discussed donating Simple Supper money to the Food Cupboard but took no formal action at this time.

...VOTED to amend the Consent Agenda Clerk’s Report re: Funeral/Memorial Services as follows by adding:

“Saturday, June 17, 2023, 3:00 PM, Graveside service for Linda Ruanne,

Officiant: Elder Fred Mollon, Temporary Supply Pastor Presiding”

...reviewed and discussed the Marilyn Lichtman Foundation Grant proposal submitted by the Food Cupboard Committee on July 14, 2023.

...VOTED to adjourn at 8:32 PM and closed with prayer.

Remitted by,

Elder Barbara Wasmer, Clerk Pro-Tem

**Choir Rehearsal** begins on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm! Please come out and sing with us – we would love to have anyone and everyone! We can especially use some male voices!

**Worship Team:** I am looking for anyone interested in singing or playing on the worship team. Please see Adam if you would be interested in being a part of this ministry.



**Bell Choir** –Expect a message from Adam soon about the plans for Bell Choir this fall! Anyone interested in joining our Bell Choir, please see Adam.

**Calling all singers and instrumentals!** I am looking for anyone who would like to share special music in our church. It can be anything that you might be interested in doing, including playing an instrument, singing, dance, poetry, etc. I am looking to get as many people as I can involved in our worship program on Sunday, and would love for anyone interested in doing something in service to see me in church or email me at [cpministerofmusic@gmail.com](mailto:cpministerofmusic@gmail.com) or by phone at 269-8746. If you would like to do something musical, but don't have any ideas, I can definitely find something for you as well! Please contact me and share the beautiful gifts God has given you!

*Be blessed and continue to let the music play*

### **Excited For the Future!**

I have been blessed to be on staff here at Chili Presbyterian for 15 years, and I have been recently given the opportunity to extend my role and responsibilities with the expanded Youth and Family Director position that we have created here at the church. I am very excited to be a part of a church that has chosen to care for the people within the congregation AND see the importance of finding new ways to reach our community. The care of our church goes beyond the physical church building, and it is vital to use resources to care for our congregation's needs and the long term future of our church.

This new expanded role I am doing will be many things, and I will not be able to do it all on my own. We will attempt to do some things that are out of our comfort zones. There may be some things that will crash and burn, and some that spark new excitement among all of us. No matter what, we will work together and try new things to strengthen our church community.

The most important part of it all is to seek God for the directions we will head in. This can be hard to do, but with patience and a desire to seek God's plan, I know it will be presented to us. We know this familiar verse, Jeremiah 29:11, that states "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." But the verses to follow are equally important. Verses 12-14 state "Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and will bring you back from captivity."

We may not be in captivity as a church, but we NEED to go to the next level and seek God's plans for our future within our community. We need to listen and learn to our neighbors and the needs around us. We can no longer stay stagnate and comfortable with where we are at. And there is no better time than now, and our leaders here at Chili Pres have decided to make this a priority.

So I ask for your support and your prayers as we transition into new horizons here at Chili Pres. Be excited for the future here, and continue to pray for God's direction!

*- Adam*

# CHILI PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH GROUP



Leader: Adam Scoville

[cpministerofmusic@gmail.com](mailto:cpministerofmusic@gmail.com)  
585-269-8746

Bio: Junior High and Senior High Youth looking to strengthen their faith in Christ and build lifelong

## Youth Group is BACK!

It's time to begin another year of youth group! Our youth group is for youth from 5<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade, and will mainly be meeting on Sundays after church. We will be doing two Joint Youth Group meetings each month in Scottsville with multiple churches in the area. We will also have meetings and fun outings throughout the year.

We plan to continue our support of the Food Cupboard throughout the year, and we will continue to do our Hygiene Cupboard as well. We appreciate the support of our Hygiene Cupboard and continue to ask for donations of full size hygiene items. A list of items is available at the entryway of church and feel free to contact Adam for questions about our current needs.

I wanted to briefly mention our mission trip to Houston, Texas this summer. We served alongside the FAM Houston ministry, which works with refugee and immigrants within the Houston area. We were able to serve, listen and learn about many of the programs that FAM Houston has. It was a very meaningful trip, and we were able to learn a lot about doing large community ministry programs and being impactful in our community. We plan to share our experiences with the church in the upcoming weeks.

If you are interested in having your youth be a part of the fun this year, please contact Adam, at (585)269-8746 or email at [cpministerofmusic@gmail.com](mailto:cpministerofmusic@gmail.com).

Below is the upcoming schedule! Looking forward to seeing everyone again!

Peace and love,

*Adam, Whitney,*

*McKenlee, and Ethan*

### St.Pauly Box Schedule

Aug 28-Sept 10

Henry Gernhardt

September 11-24

Brooke Wilson

Sept 25-Oct 8

Leahy's

### Upcoming Schedule!

**September 4 – Labor Day weekend No Youth Group!**

**September 10 – Youth Group Youth and Parent Meeting! 11-1pm.**

**Saturday, September 16 – Serving at church for the Chili Food Cupboard. 9:30-11:30am.**

**September 17 - Joint Youth Group! – Leaving from church @ 11:30am-2pm.**

**September 24 – No Youth Group! Adam is away!**

**Saturday, September 30 – Camp Whitman Retreat! Leaving from church @ 8am, return 6:30pm.**

**October 1 - Joint Youth Group! – Leaving from church @ 11:30am-2pm.**

**October 8 – Youth Group! 11-1pm.**