



Roots & Wings

First Presbyterian Church of Chili

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



2023

Season of Reflection



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

fpc3600@gmail.com

Wooten's Wonderings

First, I want to say how grateful I am for the gift of our sabbatical time. I found it to be as restful and reenergizing as I had hoped. And, I hope that all of you enjoyed the different rhythm of this time as well.

As you know, we are in the Season of Reflection. This special season is a reminder of the importance of taking the time to reflect on the sabbatical season we have just participated in. The gift of sabbatical time for all of us is a spiritual practice. It is an opportunity for renewal, for rest, for doing things a little differently, for paying closer attention to the Spirit's presence in and around us.

As with any spiritual practice or even any significant endeavor, it is important to reflect on the experience after the fact. Some important questions to ask ourselves about this sabbatical time are:

- * What did I learn about myself?
- * What did I learn about God?
- * What did I learn from others?
- * What were the gifts I received?
- * What were the challenges?
- * What things am I being called to do differently in the future?

Now that the sabbatical is over, I have been praying with these questions. I have been reflecting on my experiences and discovering what I need to carry with me over the threshold into our post sabbatical time as well as what I need to leave behind.

On Sunday, October 15th, we will have our Visio Divina Celebration Service. This will be our time to share as a community, through pictures and reflecting together, our sabbatical experiences. I look forward to sharing with you what I learned, particularly what I discovered about how art and our spiritual life intersect. I also look forward to teaching the art journaling class on October 26th. I promise that you don't have to be an artist, or even consider yourself creative, to participate in the class. I hope you will consider signing up.

As the four months drew to a close, I looked forward to being among you once more. I continue to be deeply grateful for this church, the place where I am known and loved and cared for; the place where you are a part of my story and I am a part of yours. It is good to be among you once again as we

The Presbytery of Genesee Valley is offering 6-week book study on [Beyond Resistance](#) by John Dorhauer on Mondays from October 16 to November 20 from 9-10 am.

Last spring over 50 people participated in the study of this book. It was so popular that PGV is offering it again. You can find out more details about the book by referring to the flier on the bulletin board in the fellowship room. The book is only 156 pages. Brandi will be participating in this book study. How about you ????

[Register by clicking the link here.](#)

Purchase the book and read Chapter One: Death with Dignity for the first session.

Reflection: Upon the Threshold

We're off and running at Chili Pres.! Brandi is back, we've had our Kick off Sunday, Choir, Bells, Session, Trustees and Deacons, Children's Church, Youth Groups, etc. are meeting again. Our time for Reflection: learning, growing, determining how we use our Sabbatical experiences to make us even better, personally, as a church, and how we reach out to others. Our Theme, ***Upon the Threshold***, helps us to consider pausing, praying, thanking God for the day - the work, the fun, the people - before we cross a threshold, entering the next part of our day. Then, setting aside what came before, allowing God space to work in our lives, fully conscious of what we are about to do.

Mark your calendars for the following events throughout

The Reflection Season:

*****Checkout** the *Upon the Threshold Bulletin Board* outside the Sanctuary. Participation a must!

***October 1:** Peace and Global Witness Offering: Building a more just and peaceful World!

***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. We need an exact count by Oct. 8!**

***October 26 – 6:30:** Art Journaling Workshop, led by Brandi.

*****Don't forget to sign up for this fun, rewarding event as well. We need an exact count by October 8!**

Our Mission Outreach Project: Collecting suggested items for our **Single Sailors Holiday Package Drive** to benefit the **USS Carter Hall** - coinciding with our country's celebration of **Veteran's Day**. Collection (Fellowship Hall) will continue through November 30.

Cards/letters

Lip balm/chap stick

Black cotton socks

Magazines

Playing cards

The following items should be travel size:

Deodorant

Foot powder

Hand sanitizers

Mouth wash

Tissues

Beef jerky

Powdered drink mix (individual packets)

Protein powder

Protein bars

Granola/cereal bars

Hard candy

Snacks (pretzels, crackers, trail mix)

Cookies

Nuts

Oatmeal packets

A TISKIT, A TASKET, A FOOD CUPBOARD BASKET?!



The Food Cupboard Committee is reaching out to those in our congregation that might be interested in putting together a basket to be raffled off at the Florence Brasser Craft Fair which will be held at the Chili Community Center on Friday evening, December 1, 6-8:30 and Saturday December 2, from 12 noon to 5.

The committee did participate in this basket raffle last year and found it was *a very successful way* to raise money for our Food Cupboard which has grown from serving 3 families in its inception to serving over 85 families each month!

If you are interested, please let either Sue Johnson or Sharon Breeze know if you would like to participate and the theme of your basket. The more baskets, the better! Thank you for considering to be part of this fund raiser for our Food Cupboard.



Thy Word is a lamp to my feet, and light to my path

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2023

Beginning October 8, we will be starting a Bible Study. This will be a time to look at the Bible in more depth, and also to look at challenges we face in life as well as issues we see happening, and how to understand them in the light of the Bible, and God's grace and mercy. We will meet at 9 AM in the classroom next to Pastor Brandi's office. We will be starting with a study called "The Bible – One Story that Leads to Jesus." We'll explore how the Bible is one continuing revelation of God's grace and mercy, culminating in the advent of the Messiah, Jesus. This will be an ongoing class so come and join us. I look forward to seeing you there as we study and grow together

~ Fred Mollon

Celebrating

each other.....

October

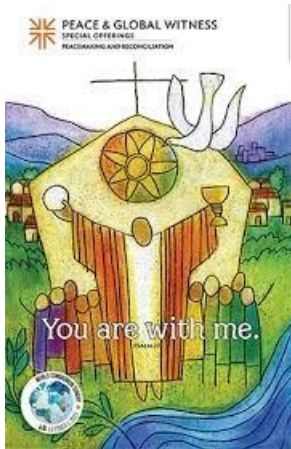
- 3 Mark Enright
- 4 Bill Hoyt
- 10 Kelsey Atwater
- 15 Tim Engelbrecht
- 16 Sterling De Paul
- 27 Alice Zah/ Nancy Horton

Prayer Time



Is offered
every Tuesday at
2:00 pm
in the sanctuary

All are welcome



Peace and Global Witness Offering

October 1

*Envelopes are in the pews or you can send a
check to the church with "Peace Offering"
written on the memo line*

October Worship Volunteers

October 1

Greeters: Dale & Brian Faatz
Communion: Tim Engelbrecht (bread), Roger Willis (juice), Fred Mollon
Jr. Greeter: Patrick Engelbrecht
Childcare: Judie McGaffick & Katie Engelbrecht
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Dale Faatz

October 8

Greeters: Darla & Dave Diehl
Jr. Greeter: Audrey Sosik
Childcare: Debbie Lamphron & Sue Edwards
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Marla Guarnieri

October 15

Greeters: Nancy & Jerry Huffman
Jr. Greeter: Brooke Wilson
Childcare: Brenda Naugle & Becky Sosik
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Marla Guarnieri

October 22

Greeters: Beth & John Rowe
Jr. Greeter: Henry Gernhardt
Childcare: Kathy Mathewson & Barb Wasmer
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Marla Guarnieri

October 29

Greeters: Anne Dorty & Bob Kraus
Jr. Greeter: McKenlee Scoville
Child care: Lori Gittens & Marla Guarnieri
Children's Church: Alice Zah &

The Church Office will be
closed on Tuesday, October 3
and Tuesday, October 24th

Holy Land Pilgrimage
May 13-23, 2024
Package Price \$4390

Tour Coordinator Pat Jones

(she can be contacted at 585-298-4815 or pajones810@yahoo.com)

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

November Newsletter deadline will be
October 17



Paper bags needed

The Food Cupboard committee are looking for regular size paper grocery bags for packing food for distribution.

If you get paper bags at the grocery store and don't need them, we would be glad to take them off your hands!

The Board of Deacon are looking for folks to volunteer to host fellowship time after Worship in the lower hall.

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.

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	



The Grocery Run

The Grocery Run is sponsored by the Third Presbyterian Church of Rochester to benefit area Food Cupboards. This year, our church will be participating in this run. There are a variety of runs and walks you can select from; however, our Food Cupboard's Team has chosen to sponsor the Virtual Run/Walk. When one signs up for the Virtual Run/Walk, he/she can choose any distance to run, bike, walk, stroll, and can complete this event anytime, anywhere between November 3rd – 5th. (Of course, you could still sign-up to participate in the runs and/or walks being held in the City of Rochester for this event. These races are explained at <http://www.groceryrun.org>.) If you are not a runner or walker, you can choose to go to our team's website and donate any amount of money you feel comfortable in contributing to the Cupboard. The registration fee for our Virtual Run/Walk is \$30.00, and our Food Cupboard will get the entire \$30.00 back to help cover food expenses. Each month our Cupboard services between 70 to 80 households and feeds between 200 to 300 people. Even with the help of Foodlink pricing, we spend approximately \$1,000 each month on food.

Please go to the church's website (<https://chili-presbyterian.org>) and follow the directions for registering for the race and/or making a donation.

If you register by midnight, October 9th, you will receive your preferred size, super-soft performance-fabric commemorative race t-shirt! (Ladies' shirts are fitted and run about two sizes smaller than the typical unisex. Ladies, please order one or two sizes up!)

Thank you for your support.

SAVE THE DATE.....

Annual Fall Supper Saturday, November 4

Drive-thru only

*Watch for a list of volunteers needed and
donation requests going out soon !!!!*

Leadership News

At its Meeting on September 5, 2023 Session...

...Welcomed back Pastor Brandi. Today being her first day back after her sabbatical, she noted that we are now upon the threshold of Reflection. We each shared the gifts of our sabbatical as well as challenges we may have experienced during this time. We were particularly grateful for outside the church activities, the gift of having Pastor Whitney Scoville and Elder Fred Mollon as our pulpit supply and pastoral care, the opportunity to appreciate where we have been and look to the future, our own personal growth, the gift of being able to explore our personal interests through art appreciation, travel, and the gift of reaffirmation. We also shared some personal challenges that emerged and expressed gratitude for the support from our church family and the pastoral care available to us. Pastor Brandi opened the meeting with prayer.

...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 August 31, 2023.

...heard a report on how excited she is to be back in the office. She loves her job! She expressed gratitude for the sabbatical time away and for the opportunity that sabbaticals provide in order to reflect on where she is in God's plan. Through her experiences of renewal and reflection, Pastor Brandi affirmed that she loves being a pastor and all the responsibilities of pastorship and that she is so fortunate to have a supportive church family.

...noted that Presbytery has called a special meeting on September 19th. Elder Gernhardt volunteer to attend.

...placed activity dates on the Master Calendar:

October 15, 2023 – Visio Divina Celebration;

October 26, 2023 – Art Journaling Workshop

June 9, 2024 –Church Picnic at Union Station Park Lodge

...**noted a suggestion to have** an announcement be placed on our website about the Food Cupboard- distribution dates, call for volunteers and other general items.

...noted that signage has been placed in the Nursery noting that masks will be used upon request of parents, caregivers, grandparents, etc.

...established June 9, 2024 for the Church picnic at Union Station Park Lodge.

...noted that Pastor Brandi will work with the Stewardship Planning Committee to schedule a meeting at the end of September. Session had a brief discussion on alternative ways for Season Team Sign-up.

...made plans for the Annual Joint Meeting of Session and Deacons Monday, October 9, 2023 at 6:30.

...VOTED to use Memorial Fund monies for signage along the Labyrinth Path. At this time, Session did not indicate which Memorial Fund Option Designation to use.

...responded to narrative questions for the annual reading of Session minutes.

Leadership News continued....

What is your church's Mission Statement? How has your congregation lived into its mission since the last review?

- We lived into "Rooted in Faith" knowing that our sabbatical grant plan was based on our strong faith roots.
- We lived into "Growing Together" by purposely planning for renewal during our sabbatical, and purposely planning for reflection at the conclusion of our sabbatical.
- We lived into "Caring for the Community" by growing our Food Pantry ministry.

What is the greatest impact to your congregation from the pandemic?

- The use of technology to make our services available and accessible to those who do not or cannot attend worship in person.

One blessing from the past year for which your congregation is most grateful?

- Being awarded a Lilly Grant to support our Pastor's and our Congregation's sabbatical.
- Receiving grants, donations, and community volunteers to support our Food Pantry.

...reflected on the "Sustainability of the Food Cupboard" discussion of August 14, 2023 and agreed that there is a need for further conversation with the Food Cupboard Committee. Pastor Brandi will contact Sue Johnson, Chair of the Food Cupboard Committee to establish a date for the Committee and the Session to meet informally and share thoughts, questions, goals, vision for the future, as we move forward.

...agreed to research what "Amplify Media" is and what it can offer to our congregation and church family.

...discussed Simple Supper and noted that its original purpose was to bring young families and children together for fellowship, Bible Study, and conversation. Our young families at this time are gathering with the "Pray and Play" Worshipping Community with whom we are partnering. Knowing that Adam Scoville is now filling a new position, Director of Families and Youth, whose job description involves designing, preparing, and implementing programs for family and youth with a focus on connecting the church with the greater community Session agreed that Adam needed financial resources to do this. Upon motion and second, Session VOTED to allocate \$500 currently budgeted for Simple Supper (PE 10) to support programs developed by Adam Scoville, Director of Families and Youth.

...VOTED to change the name of the Simple Supper Designated Fund to "Families and Youth Ministries".

...reviewed a report from Adam Scoville, Minister of Music on his activities to date to find a piano accompanist as follows:

- communicated with Roberts Wesleyan University and Eastman School of Music staff and student groups to advertise the position with no response
- worked with Presbytery leaders to place an ad on the Presbytery website and E-news
- advertised the position on our Chili Pres Website, however there is a cost of \$1 per day to keep it on the site
- placed posting on the Church's Facebook page
- explored placing an ad in Westside News at a cost of ~\$121.80 per month

Leadership News continued....

...VOTED to authorize the \$103.50 remaining in the Session Discretion budget (PE 19) and \$261.90 from the Designated Fund "Session Fund" to advertise the Piano Accompanist position for up to 3 months.

...VOTED to use \$100 from the Schwer Donation to the Church, which is now in the General Fund, to reimburse the Deacons for the cost of refreshments served at the Schwer Memorial Service reception.

...VOTED to correct and update the amount to be taken from the Miller Trust each month to support the salary of the new position, Director of Families and Youth to be a total of \$2294.55 (i.e., Salary differential: \$1825.88, and Benefits: \$468.67), not the previously approved \$2348.53 (8/14/2023).

...VOTED to appoint Elder Barbara Wasmer to serve as Clerk Pro-Tem for the Annual Joint Meeting of Session and Deacons, October 9, 2023 and the Stated Meeting of the Session, October 9, 2023.

...prior to our shared benediction based on the Great Commission, Pastor Brandi led us in a special prayer asking for love and support for Ginny Harkness and the family as we were just made aware that Joe Harkness, our dear friend, and member, is now in hospice and on his final journey to God.

Remitted by,

Elder Nancy Huffman, Clerk of Session



Saturday, October 28

10: am to 12 noon

Church Parking Lot

Sign-up to dress up your car (and maybe even yourself) and hand out candy to our community children

Sign-up in the fellowship room



Announcements:

Choir Rehearsal begins on Wednesday, September 6th 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 – Interested in being in a musical group, but not confident in your musical abilities? Bell choir is for you! Bell choir meets on Wednesdays at 6pm. 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 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!

What You Learn From Time

We are entering into the fall season, and I thought it appropriate to consider the famous words in Ecclesiastes 3.

There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
a time to be born and a time to die
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,

a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them

a time to embrace and a time to
refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw
away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.
He has made everything beautiful in
its time.

This scripture shows the reality of everything that happens in our society whether we see it or not. We move through all these different phases of time throughout our lives, and we can control how we respond to the experiences we encounter. Some are great experiences, some are trials that we have to endure. But God is moving through all of these things, and the presence of the Holy Spirit is always walking beside us, whether we realize it or not.

Spend some time this month reflecting on an event that has happened in your life that changed your perspective about your life and faith. When you were experiencing the event, did you understand where God was leading you? Then reflect on what kind of person you were, 10 years ago, 5 years ago, and even 1 year ago. Where did God move in those times, how are you different now, where did you grow, and are you the person you thought you would be?

Just like the movement between seasons, we too change. May God guide you as you reflect on your life in new ways and transform you into the person that you are intended to be.

Be blessed and continue to let the music play - Adam



Families and Youth

Director Adam Scoville

cpministerofmusic@gmail.com 585-269-8746

And We Are Off and Running!

September was a great month for our youth group! We have fully gotten into the swing of things with our Joint Youth Group between a few churches in the Presbytery. It is going to be an epic year for sure! Our next big event is a Camp Whitman retreat!

Mark your calendars! October 28, 10am-Noon. We will be doing our first ever Trunk or Treat. We need people to decorate their cars and come support this fun community event! Any questions, please contact Adam.

We continue our support of the Food Cupboard with our Hygiene Cupboard. We are in need of pretty much ALL hygiene items! A list of items is available at the entryway of church. Thank you for all of your support.

I wanted to briefly mention our mission trip again 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 some of our experiences on October 8th during our worship service.

Fall is in full swing. Here is the schedule below!

Peace and love,

Adam

St. Pauly Box Schedule

Sept 25 - Oct 8 Leahys

Oct 9 - Oct 22 Adam Scoville

Oct 23 - Nov - **Need help**

Youth Events Schedule!

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 – No Youth Group!

October 15 - Joint Youth Group! – Leaving from church @ 11:30am-2pm.

Saturday, October 21 – Serving at church for the Chili Food Cupboard. 9:30-11:30am.

October 22 – Youth Group! 11-1pm.

Saturday, October 28 – Chili Pres Trunk or Treat! 10am-Noon.

October 29 – FALL PARTY! 11-1pm.

Saturday, November 4 – Serving at Fall Supper! 4-7pm.

November 5 - Joint Youth Group! – Leaving from church @ 11:30am-2pm.