



Roots & Wings

First Presbyterian Church of Chili

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

JANUARY

2024



Inside this issues of Roots & Wings....

- * Winter Cabin Party
- * Cooking with Miya
- * Annual Corporation and Congregational meetings
- * Orientation breakfast for Deacons, Trustees and Elders
- * Installation and Ordination of new officers
- * Per Capita for 2024

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, Accompanist: Ruth Heitz

2024 Season Teams: Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Harvest, and Advent/Christmas / Epiphany (ACE)

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

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

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

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Wooten's Wonderings



As 2023 comes to a close and 2024 begins, it is natural for us to reflect on the past year. We think about loved ones we have lost, trials that have tested us, and opportunities we wish we had taken. We recall the memories made on family vacations, the new births and additions to our family circle, and the unexpected joys that inspired us praise God.

When we look back, we often focus on our failures- those things that we wished we could have done differently and the habits that plague us no matter how hard we try to shake them off. While reflecting on the past year is healthy, I find that we have a tendency to get too focused and caught up in our failures. After all, our new year's resolutions are usually formed by things that we want to change: we want to be thinner, go to the gym more, be nicer, kinder, more considerate, more spiritual, etc. These are all based in a sense of failure. Last year, we didn't do these things sufficiently and we want to make amends in the New Year for these weaknesses.

The process of prayerfully reflecting on the past year can be beneficial if we do not stay there and center on our incompleteness. Looking back, we can learn from what we see, but then we must move forward. We must focus on the journey ahead and the grace of a new beginning. A new year is a fresh start. God graces us with the blessing of a new year, and the opportunity to embrace all that life has to offer. When we look at scripture, we find a God who constantly allows us to start again- a God who refreshes, renews and restores.

Here are some statements which have helped guide my process of prayerful reflection. May they be of benefit to you.

One note before you begin: as we write down our hopes for the coming year, we do so with humility. None of us really knows what the future will bring. So, remember that this is a starting point- these are your intentions. They are not set in stone.

Looking Toward 2024:

- * What are the "givens", the "non-negotiables"?
- * What I hope to bring from 2023 into the coming year- habits, priorities, interests, new skills/learnings?
- * What I hope not to bring?
- * What events already on the calendar?
- * What new events or experiences I want to make space for?
- * Is there a problem or issue I feel called to tend to (personal, societal, global)?
- * What would make me come alive this year?



Annual Meeting for the Congregation and for the Corporation of:
The First Presbyterian Church of Chili
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024- 11:45 AM
Annual Corporation/Congregation Meetings

On January 21, 2024, following the 10:00 AM worship service, the Annual meeting of the Congregation will be conducted for the business of electing officers, hearing reports, and transacting other business as appropriate. Also, the meeting of the Corporation shall take place for the purpose of electing Trustees, as Brian Faatz and Jerry Huffman concluded their 3-year term and John Rowe has completed a two-year vacancy that he filled. Financial reports for the year 2023 will be received, and other business will be transacted as appropriate for the Corporation.

The meetings will take place in the Sanctuary.

The Annual Meetings are an important event in the life of our Chili Presbyterian Church family. The reports of Committees, Boards and Seasonal Teams are distributed prior to the meeting. These reports summarize each group's activities for 2023 as well as plans for the future. We, as a congregation, elect persons to serve on various Boards and Committees and give recognition and thanks to those who have completed terms. We also approve Pastor Brandi's Terms of Call. All the financial reports are made available such as the Housing Investment Fund, the Endowment Fund, Memorial Fund, and the Mission Fund just to name a few.

This is the time each year when we come together as a church congregation and corporation. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Those attending who are on the "active membership roll" are eligible to vote and we need a quorum of 9 "Active Members". We look forward to "seeing" you all on Sunday, January 21st .

Nancy Huffman, Clerk of Session

Cooking with Miya

Tuesday, January 23 6:30-7:30 pm

Come and learn to cook a healthy meal with Foodlink's Nutritionist!

FREE EVENT

Space is limited

Open to the community

call 585-454-9939 for reservations

Celebrating

each other.....

January

- 2 Jeff Snover
- 7 Alice Hassett
- 8 Fred Zah
- 17 Debbie Lamphron, Portia Westfall
- 20 Linda Enright
- 21 Whitney Snover
- 28 John Sosik



Reports for the 2023 Annual Meeting booklet will be due in the church office by Tuesday, January 9. The booklet is distributed the week before the Corporation and Congregational meetings, which will take place on Sunday, January 21, 2024. If you have any questions, please call the office.

Volunteers for December

January 7

Greeters: Sue Edwards & Linda Enright
Communion: Sue Edwards, Linda Enright (bread),
Becky Sosik (juice)
Jr. Greeter: Henry Gerhardt
Childcare : Beth Rowe & Grace Engelbrecht
Children's Church: Alice Zah

January 14

Worship and Cabin Party
Greeters: Jane & Fred Schultz

January 21

Greeters: Vicky & Tom Leahy
Jr. Greeter: Patrick Engelbrecht
Childcare: Kathy Mathewson & Brenda Naugle
Children's Church: Alice Zah

January 28

Greeters: Sharon Breeze & Geoff Wasmer
Jr. Greeter: Audrey Sosik
Childcare: Sue Atwater & Debbie Lamphron
Children's Church: Alice Zah



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 lower hall.



Winter Cabin Party and Worship

Sunday, January 14, 2023

Worship Service, Potluck, Board Games, and Winter Fun event at Maher Lodge at Sanford Road Park (see directions below)

Please invite your friends and neighbors as we gather for Worship around 10:45. We will enjoy a potluck lunch following worship

Everyone needs to bring a dish to share and their own silverware and serving utensils. People are encouraged to bring board games and outdoor winter activity gear (sleds, cross country skis, snow shoes, etc.)

There will be no Worship at church or live stream of the Worship service.

Directions to Maher Lodge at Sanford Road Park from church:

Turn right on Chili Avenue (route 33A)

Travel west for 6.4 miles

Turn right on route 36 (.6 mile)

Turn left on Sanford Road south



Paper bags needed

The Food Cupboard committee are looking 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

Annual Reports due

January 9

February newsletter deadline

January 16

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
Shampoo	Dish soap
Hair conditioner	Laundry detergent
Paper towels	

Leadership News

At its meeting on December 4, 2023, Session...

...listened to an Advent prayer poem, "All the Way to Joy" by Sarah Speed and then engaged in a journaling activity listing and sharing things "big and small" that bring us joy. We made our list on a card specially created by Pastor Brandi so that we can place the card somewhere at home where we can see it every day.

...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 November 30, 2023.

...noted that will be working from home the week after Christmas.

...noted that Pastor Brandi will be attending a Synod meeting January 8-11, 2024.

... rescheduled the January Stated Meeting to be Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 6:30 PM in the Dining Room.

...placed Activity Dates on the Master Calendar

December 9, 2023 – Beverly L'Hommedieu Memorial Service

January 14, 2024 -- Cabin Fever Worship and Picnic – Sanford Road Lodge, Churchville

February 18, 2024 -- Special Offering – Synod-Wide Indigenous People's Day Offering

April 13, 2024 – Joseph Harkness Memorial Service

...recognized Elena Castillo for bringing joy to the Bell Choir, volunteering for Childcare and enthusiastically participating in our Church family activities.

... VOTED to approve the Session's Annual Report for 2023.

...heard a report from Nancy Huffman, Chair of the Nominating Committee on the status of pool of persons eligible to serve on Committees and Boards. At this time most of our positions are filled and the Committee is grateful for those who have agreed to serve either by re-upping or responding to an opportunity to serve.

... reviewed a Preliminary Stewardship Campaign report submitted by Jerry Huffman.

He noted that in November a mailing was sent to 73 families and individuals. To date 49 pledges have been received totaling \$145,184 which represents an average increase of 5.5% over what these same people pledged in 2023. Not all pledges have been received as of this date. A final report will be forthcoming.

Session expressed its deep appreciation to the Stewardship Committee and to our church family for this successful campaign focusing on how we are changing lives.

...noted that the deadline for completing the NY State Sexual Harassment Training.

is December 31, 2023. A report is due in January listing those who have and have not completed the training for 2023.

Leadership News ...continued

... VOTED to approve a request from Ruth Heitz that her pay be adjusted to be \$100.00 per Sunday and \$100.00 for rehearsals.

... VOTED to approve adding the “First Presbyterian Church of Chili – Food Cupboard” to the list of First Presbyterian Church of Chili Donation Options described in the Special Gift and Fund Allocation Policy

...VOTED to adjourn at 8:05 PM.

Remitted by,

Elder Nancy Huffman, Clerk of Session

**THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED STATED SESSION MEETING:
THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024 6:30 PM**



Ordination/Installation of Officers

Deacons, Elders and Trustees elected at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation will attend a special welcome and orientation breakfast hosted by Session on Sunday, January 28th. Currently serving and “retiring” Board members will also be at the breakfast to assist with orientation. Following breakfast, during worship, there will be a formal service of Ordination and Installation for Elders and Deacons and recognition of newly elected Trustees.

Nancy Huffman,
Clerk of Session

Annual Per Capita

Apportionment for 2024

Presbytery	\$2,111.40
Synod	\$ 377.20
General Assembly	\$ 901.20

This is based on our active membership. We would appreciate your support of this budget cost by covering the **\$36.85** (only 40 cents more than 2023) per active member in your family.



Happy New Year!

We have entered a new year and a new and exciting time here at Chili Presbyterian Church! I know that the Lord has great plans for our church in the upcoming year and I am very excited to be part of it.

So it is 2024. Have you thought about any New Year's resolutions? Have you always struggled to keep your New Year's resolutions over the years? I will be honest and say that pretty much every resolution I have ever made over the years I have always struggled to complete. I've come to realize how resolutions can be temporary in our lives, and how quick and easy it is to revert back to our safe comfort zones.

Maybe we are trying too hard as Christians during each New Year. Listen to this old poem.

Just One Request

Dear Master for this coming year

Just one request I bring:

I do not pray for happiness,

Or any earthly thing—

I do not ask to understand

The way Thou leadest me,

But this I ask: Teach me to do

The thing that pleaseth Thee.

I want to know Thy guiding voice,

To walk with Thee each day.

Dear Master make me swift to hear

And ready to obey.

And thus the year I now begin

A happy year will be—

If I am seeking just to do

The thing that pleaseth Thee.

-Unknown Author

These words are simple, but speak to the core of what we should be longing for each year – pleasing the Master with all we do. Please consider this during your New Year and seek God wholeheartedly in all you do.

Happy New Year and let's make 2024 a special year!

Be blessed and continue to let the music play.

Adam



Families and Youth

Director Adam Scoville

cpministerofmusic@gmail.com 585-269-8746

Happy Happy New Year!

It's the year 2024! Time to start fresh in the New Year with new hopes, dreams, and aspirations! There are lots of plans being made with our youth in the upcoming year. 2024 is going to be great! But before we get in to the plans of the future, let's quickly reflect on the past...

We had some great fun in December! We had a couple joint youth group meetings with great faith based discussions and epic games. We did our annual Christmas party – where 2 years in a row, we have invited Ashleigh to stay and participate, in hopes that she will get the craziest gag gift during our white elephant gift exchange. Last year, she got a toilet brush. This year did not disappoint as well, as she got a plunger. It was hysterical and great fun. We are thankful that Ashleigh is a good sport and we had tons of laughs along the way.

We also continue to help at the Food Cupboard Distribution Day. With that, we will also continue to provide hygiene items through our hygiene cupboard. We are always pretty much in need of ALL hygiene items! A list of items is available at the entryway of church. Thank you for all of your continued support.

Our upcoming schedule is listed below! Looking forward to having fun and growing in our faith in the New Year!

Youth Events Schedule!

January 7 - Joint Youth Group! – Leaving from church @ 11:30am-2pm.

January 14-15 – JOINT YOUTH GROUP LOCK IN @ East Avon. Contact Adam for details.

Saturday, January 20 – Serving at church for the Chili Food Cupboard. 9:30-11:30am.

January 21 - Joint Youth Group! – Leaving from church @ 11:30am-2pm.

January 28 – Youth Group 11-1pm.

February 3 – Youth Event TBD.

Pauly Box Schedule

Jan 1-14 – Adam Scoville

Jan 15-28 – Leahy's

Jan 29-Feb 11 – Mira Wooten