



Roots & Wings



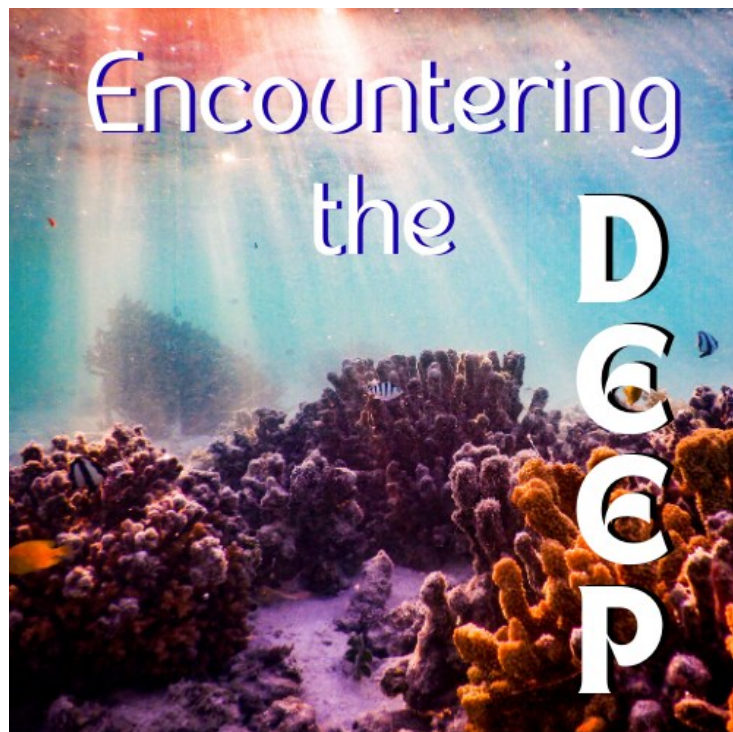
First Presbyterian Church of Chili

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



In this issue of Roots and Wings....

- Harvest season happenings
- Truck or Treat
- Prayer Breakfast
- Cooking with Foodlink
- Annual Fall Supper
- East Avenue Grocery Run
- Nominating Committee article
- Food Cupboard basket raffle info
- Scoville family pictures !



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 Guarneri, Accompanist: Ruth Heitz, Facebook Livestream Technician: Ishai Nardia

2025 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, and much more.

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

E-mail: fpc3600@gmail.com

Wooten's Wonderings



Almost every day, I receive a brief meditation on faith and life in my email from the Rev. Cameron Trimble. It is called Piloting Faith. I especially appreciate that each brief meditation is followed by reflection questions. On September 17th, this one came into my inbox and I thought that she so eloquently spoke to something that has been on my heart, that I emailed her to ask her permission to publish it in full in our newsletter. (And yes, she gave her permission). I hope this meditation speaks to you in this midst of our fractured times and offers an opportunity for you to reflect on how our words can contribute to peacemaking.

What If Peace Began with How We Speak? A Meditation by Rev. Cameron Trimble

We are living through a time of fracture. Families estranged over politics. Friendships frayed by a single post. Congregations splintered by unspoken hurts. In such a world, where belonging feels fragile and disagreement feels dangerous, what if peace began—not in some grand geopolitical accord—but in how we speak to one another?

Our words are never neutral. They either deepen the wounds or begin to stitch them closed. They either calcify divides or open the possibility of return. In the Jewish tradition, the concept of lashon hara¹ warns against speech that harms. It's not just gossip or slander—it's anything that unnecessarily diminishes another person. The rabbis taught that such speech doesn't just wound the one spoken about. It harms the one who speaks and the one who listens, too. Three wounds from a single word.

In our modern lives, this kind of harm shows up in subtweets and sarcasm, in dismissive tones at the dinner table, in the need to "win" a conversation instead of understand a soul. It lives in our defensiveness, in our silence, in the sharp edge of our certainty.

But there are other ways. In the Buddhist tradition, the practice of "Right Speech" is one of the eightfold paths to liberation. It asks:

- *Is what I'm about to say true?*
- *Is it necessary?*
- *Is it kind?*

If we paused long enough to ask those questions before we spoke—especially to those we love—how many fractures could be prevented? How many relationships could be restored?

We can disagree with dignity. We can debate without dehumanizing. We can name truth without burning bridges. But only if we are willing to do the inner work of humility, curiosity, and compassion. We begin by not expecting others to match our anger and start asking what sorrow lives beneath theirs.

Peace is not passive. It is forged in the fires of restraint. It is spoken into being with gentle strength. It begins in the small and sacred choice: to speak with care, to tone down our tempers, to leave space for the other to be human, to believe that no matter how far we've drifted, love still has the power to bring us home.

Questions for Reflection:

- *When have I used my words to wound, even unintentionally?*
- *What relationship in my life feels fractured—and what might I say (or not say) to begin repair?*

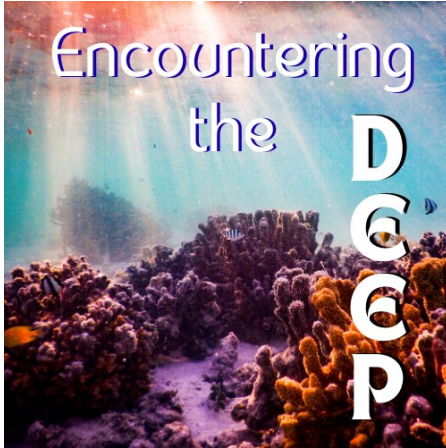
*What practices help me soften my tone without compromising my truth?
We are in this together,*

Cameron

If you would like to subscribe to these free meditations, you can sign up at Pilotingfaith.org

Rev. Brandi Wooten

Mission Outreach



We will be supporting the Peace & Global Witness Offering this Harvest season. Envelopes can be found in the pew rack. We also are encouraging donations to the church repaving project.

Harvest and Halloween Game Day

Sunday, October 19th after church

Light luncheon of white chicken chili, corn bread, desert and beverages

Followed by friendly, family competition with theme games. The sign-up sheet is in the fellowship room.

Habitat Pies

Same price as last year at \$20/pie – Apple Crumb, Rumbleberry, Strawberry Rhubarb, Pecan, Pumpkin. The wholesale price is \$13/pie meaning the profit will be \$7 donated to Habitat. Orders are due Monday Nov 10th. Pickup will be Monday Nov 24th. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Your Harvest Team,

Grace Engelbrecht (facilitator), Tim Engelbrecht, Marla Guarnieri, Roger Willis



Saturday, October 25

10 am to 12 noon

Church Parking Lot

Last 2 years events were so successful....we are doing it again !!!

Consider dressing up your car (and maybe even yourself) and hand out candy to our community children



Prayer Breakfast!

Saturday, October 4th, 9 am

Breakfast with Devotions and Prayer to follow.

**Chili Presbyterian Church,
3600 Chili Ave. Rochester, NY**

All are welcome!

No registration required!

Questions? Contact Adam - 585-454-9939.



The Deacons 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). The sign-up sheet is in the fellowship room.

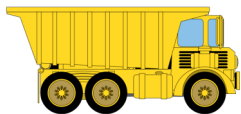
Celebrating

each other.....

October

- 3 Mark Enright
- 4 Bill Hoyt
- 6 Chris VanEpps
- 10 Kelsey Atwater
- 15 Tim Engelbrecht
- 23 James Rohr
- 27 Alice Zah
- 28 DJ Wright

Donation envelopes and the yellow truck will remain in the sanctuary through December for your contributions to cover the cost of the parking



The church office will be closed on Tuesday, October 21.

Pastor Brandi will be on vacation October 23 through October 26

Call Sandy if you have a need for emergency pastoral care.

Volunteers for October 2025

October 5

Greeters: Mick & Sandy McCauley
Communion: Sharon Breeze (bread), Nancy Huffman (juice), Lori Gittens
Jr. Greeter: Ethan Scoville
Childcare: Sue Atwater & Marla Guarnieri
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Marla Guarnieri
Coffee Hour: Linda Enright & Mira Wooten

October 12

Greeters: Sharon Breeze & Linda Enright
Jr. Greeter: Brooke Engelbrecht
Childcare: Vicky Leahy & Mira Wooten
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Marla Guarnieri
Coffee Hour: Fred Mollon

October 19

Greeters: Beth & John Rowe
Jr. Greeter: Audrey Sosik
Childcare: Sue Edwards & Marla Guarnieri
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Kathy Mathewson
Coffee Hour: Harvest Team

October 26

Greeters: Debbie Lamphron & Fred Mollon
Jr. Greeter: McKenlee Scoville
Childcare: Judie McGaffick & Mira Wooten
Children's Church: Alice Zah & Marla Guarnieri
Coffee Hour: Beth & John Rowe

Cooking with Foodlink!

Come learn to cook a healthy meal with Foodlink's Nutrition Educator!
Free event, includes grocery bag of food to take home and try recipe on your own!

Tuesday, October 21st, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Chili Presbyterian Church
3600 Chili Ave, Rochester, NY 14624

Space is limited! Contact Adam @ 585-454-9939 or sign up @ www.chilipres-events.com





Annual Fall Supper

Saturday, November 1

Take Out Only

4:00 pm until sold out

*The delicious Roast Beef Dinner
with all the trimmings for \$17*

Last year we had a very successful community event. We served about 400 meals so we were able to support the Session and Trustees discretionary funds and Mission Fund But to be able to provide that many meals and support our community— we need lots of volunteers.

Soon you will be receiving a donation letter asking for your help with either providing a certain ingredient or asking for a donation towards the purchase of the meat, pies or other items. The more items that are donated the more our event can be successful. We will also be e-blasting the list of volunteers needed.

The Volunteer sign-up sheet will be in the sanctuary soon or call the office and we will be glad to add your name to the list.

Your Fall Supper Committee,

*Andy Atwater, Linda Enright, Kathy Honsberger, Wayne Honsberger,
Jerry Huffman, Nancy Huffman, Gail McArthur, Sandy McCauley,*



Please consider signing up for the East Avenue Grocery Run which will be held Saturday, November 1st under the Chili Presbyterian Church Food Cupboard. You can always do it virtually! The proceeds come back to our Chili Presbyterian Food Cupboard. If you don't want to do the run, you can always consider donating through this website. Thank you for your consideration!

Click here to register: <https://runsignup.com/Race/NY/Rochester/EastAvenueGroceryRun>

Nominating Committee Information

Board and Committee Descriptions Prepared by the Nominating Committee

When the Nominating Committee begins its work this fall, we will be looking to fill:

Three, 3-year positions on Session, Deacons, and Trustees (Some currently serving are completing their first 3-year term and are eligible to be nominated for a second term.)

A two-year Term on the Personnel Committee

A one-year Term on the Nominating Committee

When asked to serve on a Chili Presbyterian Board or Committee, you might ask “What does the Board or Committee do? What are my responsibilities? When/how often do they meet? These descriptions below are “condensed” from the Church’s “Manual of Administrative Operation” and the Board of Deacon’s Handbook.

Session is responsible for overseeing all aspects of our church life and the congregation’s ministry. It is the governing body of the church. Session consists of 8 people on the Active Membership Roll of the Church, and the Pastor, and the Clerk. Each member chairs or serves on one of our Season Teams and serves as an Elder of Responsibility and/or Chair of the Mission Committee, Personnel Committee, or the Nominating Committee.

Requirements for Service: Must be on the Active Membership Roll.

Term: 3 years with a maximum of 2 consecutive terms.

Meetings: First Monday of the month at 6:30 PM unless otherwise determined by the Session members. Session typically does not meet in the month of July.

Length of meetings: Typically, 1 – 1 ½ hours.

Board of Deacons is responsible for the care of our church family and congregation members especially in times of need. The Board of Deacons consists of 9 people on the Active Membership Roll of the Church. The Pastor is an Ex Officio member. Each Deacon is assigned a number of families with whom to be in contact. The Deacons assist during Memorial Services, assist in preparing and serving communion, overseeing coffee hour. The Deacons coordinate Junior Greeter schedules, Home Needs, Special Ministries, special events such as distribution of baskets/flowers at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter, Graduation Sunday celebration, sending gift cards to our college students and military personnel, maintenance of the Little Free Library and other activities in caring.

Requirements for Service: Must be on the Active Membership Roll

Term: 3 years with a maximum of 2 consecutive terms.

Meetings: First Sunday of the month after Coffee Hour usually 11:30 AM. May switch occasionally to first Monday of the month at 6:30 PM as determined by the Board of Deacons members.

Length of meetings: Typically, 1 – 1 ½ hours.

Continued on the next page....

Nominating Committee information continued...

Board of Trustees is responsible for monitoring the financial and corporate affairs of the church, the maintenance of the church building, its contents and property. The Trustees oversee finances including finding people to count and verify deposits also coordinating the annual Stewardship Campaign.

Requirements for Service: Must be on the Active Membership Roll

Term: 3 years with a maximum of 2 consecutive terms.

Meetings: Second Monday of the month at 7:00 PM unless otherwise determined by the Board of Trustees members.

Length of meetings: Typically, 45 minutes to 1 hour

Nominating Committee seeks to discern who God is calling to lead the congregation, invites them to assume offices of leadership and presents their names to the Congregation and the Corporation at their Annual meetings in January. The Nominating Committee consists of 5 members: Ruling Elder of Responsibility appointed by the Session, a Trustee, a Deacon, and two congregation representatives. Session, Trustee and Deacon. Candidates to be elected to this Committee are nominated from those **currently serving** on their respective Boards.

Requirements for Service: Must be on the Active Membership Roll and must be nominated from those **currently serving** on their respective Boards.

Term: 1 year with no limits on terms.

Meetings: 1-4 times beginning in early fall until all positions are filled. Some in person, some email, some Zoom.

Length of meetings: ½ to one hour

Personnel Committee is responsible for hiring personnel as directed by the Session, conducting an annual review of staff performance based on approved job descriptions, and recommends proposed salary figures for paid staff for budgeting purposes. The Personnel Committee consists of 4 members: A Ruling Elder of Responsibility appointed by the Session, an Elder elected by the Congregation, a Congregational representative, and a Trustee Representative appointed by the Trustees

Requirements for Service: Congregational representative does not have to be an Elder. The other Elder representative is a congregation member who is an Elder. The Trustee member must be serving on the Board of Trustees.

Term: Trustee representative and Session's Elder of Responsibility as per appointment by the Trustees and Session. The term of the Congregational Representative and the Elder elected by the congregation is two years with no limits on terms.

Meetings: Meets when necessary. Meets in spring to plan and carry out staff evaluations.

Length of meetings: Variable -- ½ to one hour

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee

Nancy Huffman (chair), Evan Engelbrecht, Vicky Leahy, Jay Mathewson, Lori Oliver

Leadership News

Summary of the September 8 Session Meeting

...Opened with prayer led by Pastor Brandi.

...Voted to approve the Agenda as written.

...Voted to approve the Consent Agenda.

...Voted to receive the Treasurer's Report.

...Voted for Pastor Brandi to purchase a new tablet, for a cost up to \$226 from budget line OE-11 (Technology), for the Facebook Livestream Technician.

...Voted to pay the additional \$80 (above the previously approved amount of \$1,000 from the grant) from the Session Discretionary Fund to Mark Bennett for the new church logo design.

...Reviewed the annual action items that are completed for September and upcoming in October.

...Added activity dates on the master calendar on behalf of the Harvest Team: 9/13 Bonfire at the Labyrinth; 10/19 Luncheon & Game Day after Church;

...Discussed the 2026 Church Picnic being on June 14th, 2026.

...Recognized our Facebook Livestream Technician, Ishai Nardia, for all his hard work and enthusiasm he shows in his role.

...Continued discussion of options for replacing Darla Diehl as the Finance Data Inputter, who is stepping down as of December 31st.

...Adjourned at 7:29 PM, with a shared benediction based upon the Great Commission.

Respectfully submitted

Grace Engelbrecht, Clerk

Food Cupboard Basket Raffle

It's not too early to start thinking of making a basket for the Food Cupboard Basket Raffle! You can get cheap items at a garage sale or online and put together a beautiful basket for the upcoming Chili Arts & Craft Sale which will be December 5 & 6. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board.

We will be having a Craft Basket Night Thursday, November 6 @ 6:30 pm. Bring your ideas, craft and basket items and we will fill empty baskets and wrap them for the craft sale in December. The sign-up sheet is in the fellowship room

Thoughts from the Minister of Music



Announcements:

Choir Rehearsal – because of our upcoming baby delivery, we will begin choir a little later than normal this year, starting on Wednesday, October 8th at 7:00pm. Please come out and sing with us – we would love to have anyone and everyone! We can really use more male voices!

Bell Choir because of our upcoming baby delivery, we will begin bell choir rehearsals on October 8th at 6:00pm. If you are interested in playing Bells this year, please let me know!

Calling all singers and instrumentals! I would love to put together some duets, trios, etc. of any mix of voices and instruments this year. If you are interested, please see me!

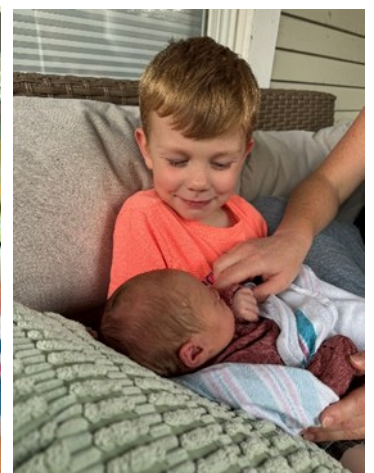
Our Sweet Lillian has arrived!

We are happy to announce that our daughter Lillian Hoyt Scoville was born on September 19th! Whitney, McKenlee, Ethan and I have had a great time together as we have transitioned into being a family of 5. We need to give a special thank you for all the cards, gifts, meals, diapers (and donuts!) and prayers that all of you have given to us in these special times. We are so incredibly blessed by all of you and so lucky to be a part of this amazing church family!

These first few days of been amazing, tiring, challenging and beautiful. There is something truly amazing watching McKenlee and Ethan's excitement to be active in loving and caring for Lillian. They want to hold the baby, read to the baby, sing to her, play with her, and do as much as they can to love and care for this beautiful child. It's heartwarming and truly special to watch our family's true colors shine through in these moments.

God has truly blessed the Scoville family, and we are eternally grateful! Praise be to God!

-Adam





Families and Youth

Director Adam Scoville

cpministerofmusic@gmail.com 585-269-8746

October is here and Adam is back!

I am thankful for having the time to be able to welcome our sweet baby girl into the world in September. And now I am back at it! So here we go!

While I was gone, our youth still met at Joint Youth Group in Scottsville at Union Presbyterian! We continue to have great fun, discussion and food as we meet there twice a month! Thank you to Pastor Brandi for getting the kids there!

Starting in October, we will be doing confirmation classes for our youth. This will be the first Sunday of the month throughout the year, as we provide the opportunity for our youth to grow in their faith.

We also continue to provide monthly support during the Food Cupboard Distribution days. It is a great opportunity to help in our community and provide community service opportunities for youth who need to fill those requirements for school as well.

So as we get back into, pray from our youth! As they grow and mature, pray that God will stir in their hearts to be difference makers in the world!

Peace and love!

-Adam

Upcoming Schedule!

Sunday October 5 - Confirmation Class @ Union Pres in Scottsville. Leave @ 12:15pm, back @ 2:45pm.

Sunday, October 12 - Joint Youth Group @ Union Pres in Scottsville. After church until 2pm.

Saturday, October 18 - Serving at church for the Chili Food Cupboard. 9:30-11:30am.

Sunday October 19 - Youth Event! 11-2pm.

Saturday October 25 - TRUNK OR TREAT! 10-Noon.

Sunday, October 26 - Joint Youth Group @ Union Pres in Scottsville. After church until 2pm.

Saturday, November 1 - Annual Fall Supper! Need help 3-7pm.

St Pauly Box Schedule

September 22 through October 5 - Kathy & Wayne Honsberger

October 6 through October 19 - Mira Wooten

October 20 through November 2 - Henry Gernhardt