



# Chili Pres Connections



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



## **BRAVING THE MOUNTAINS** MEETING GOD IN THE CHALLENGES OF LIFE



**2026**

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*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

*2026 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](mailto:fpc3600@gmail.com)

## Wooten's Wonderings



At the end of April, I traveled to Englewood, NJ, for a Synod meeting. The Synod gathers in person twice a year, and in recent years we've rotated locations among different churches. That means some meetings are close- like Syracuse- and others require a much longer drive, like this one (about six hours). Before this meeting, I was asked to arrange a short volunteer opportunity for our group in the local community.

A group of us went to the Glen Rock Sikh Gurdwara, the Sikh community's house of worship. We planned to help with large scale cooking for local distribution, and we registered online through an event listing.

When we arrived, they welcomed us and explained how to be respectful in their worship space: cover your head, remove your shoes, and wash your hands.

After we had done so, they asked why we were there. We quickly realized the food-prep event had been the day before, and the website listed the wrong date.

What struck me in this unexpected turn of events was the Sikh's generosity and kindness. They could have said, "Sorry, you missed it" and sent us on our way. But instead, they found something for us to do. They made space for us. They explained that although they offer free community meals several days a week, Fridays are set aside for worship and a shared meal for the Sikh community. So, we helped prepare for their evening meal. With knives in hand, we cut off the ends of about 12 bags of red onions. Then we peeled and cut four bags of potatoes. We did it gladly, even with a few teary eyes. After we finished and cleaned up, they shared a delicious meal with us-vegetarian Indian food and chai- which we gratefully received.

While it wasn't the big event we anticipated, we quickly realized that even small acts of preparing food can become deeply meaningful. Sitting around the kiddie pool sized bucket chopping onions, we talked and laughed. Thinking about those who would benefit from the food we were preparing was an act of prayer.

Food preparation and sharing a meal together (called *langar*) is an important part of the Sikh community. Another main aspect of Sikhism is a commitment to selfless service, protecting the poor and the equality of all people regardless of religion, gender, and regional, cultural, racial, caste or class affiliations.

While *langar* is specific to Sikhism, the ideas of self-less service (in Sikh, *seva*) and shared meal fellowship are part of our Christian story as well. Through this experience, I gained a new appreciation for what radical hospitality can look like.

I left deeply thankful for the welcome we received from the moment we entered the gurdwara. Their hospitality and kindness were unmistakable and the more remarkable because nine strangers just showed up unexpectedly and wanted to volunteer. As we welcome people into our church, whether that be in a worship service, driving up to receive food from the food cupboard, attending one of the community groups who use our building or coming in for another purpose, may we be attentive to opportunities to extend radical hospitality.

*Rev. Brandi Wooten*



# Season of Pentecost

## July 18 (Saturday) 6:45 PM- Red Wings Baseball Game and Fireworks

Plan to attend this early evening (6:45 PM) game and watch the Red Wings vs. Jacksonville Florida Jumbo Schrimp. A Fireworks show will follow the game. Geoff Wasmer has again reserved 25 seats behind Home Plate, and we need at least 20 to sign up. Tickets are \$16.00 each. Look for the sign-up sheet is in Fellowship Hall. Meet at the church at 5:00 PM to get your tickets from Geoff and then carpool to the stadium in time to purchase food, find our seats, and get ready for some fun when the game starts at 6:45. The LAST day to sign up is Sunday, July 12, 2026, at 12 noon.



Note: ESL Ballpark is a cashless venue and only accepts credit/debit cards for all purchases including parking. Parking is \$7.00 plus tax.

## August 23, 2026 (Sunday) 2:00 PM

### "Hobbies and Horsepower" Gathering

at Huffman's,

601 Stearns Road, Churchville, NY



The Huffman's invite you to come and view their collection of antique cars and enjoy a ride in any one of their cars. If you have a vintage car, you are invited to drive it and display it! Cars are considered vintage if they are 25 years or older so anything 2001 or earlier qualifies!!!

You are also invited to bring an example of a hobby you enjoy to display for others to see. What do you do in your spare time? Paint? Woodworking? Macrame? Puzzles? Embroidery? Knitting? An interesting collection? Diamond Art? Legos? Quilting? Gardening? Mandala?

Gather at 2:00 PM. Bring an appetizer or finger foods to share, a chair, and your favorite beverage. Water will be provided. You can also bring a lawn game as there is plenty of space to play!! The Sign-up sheet will be in Fellowship Hall. The deadline to sign up is Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.

The Pentecost Team, with your help, will be assembling Period Packs for Willow Domestic Violence Center of Greater Rochester. Our goal is 50 packs.

You can help by either donating items or by making a monetary donation. (The cost of assembling a period pack is about \$12.) Donations of any amount are gratefully accepted. Checks should be made out to First Presbyterian Church of Chili with Willow Domestic Violence Center in the memo line.

You are also invited to provide supplies. Below is a list of what is needed for each bag:

Two 2 oz bottles of hand sanitizer	One travel size pack of unscented antibacterial wipes
One pack of flushable unscented wipes	Five regular absorbency tampons
Twelve unscented sanitary pads	Five super-absorbency tampons
One bath-size bar of soap	

**Join the Pentecost Team on Sunday, August 30 after Worship for an intergenerational coffee hour where we assemble the Period Packs for distribution to Willow Domestic Violence Center in Rochester**

We will be collecting items throughout the summer. Then, on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> after church we will hold an intergenerational coffee hour and where we will be assembling the packs. We invite everyone to join us to help end period poverty. PERIOD!

# Celebrating

each other.....

## July

- 1 Evan Engelbrecht
- 2 Henry Gernhardt
- 12 Beth Rowe
- 18 Sue Johnson
- 21 Kathy Mathewson
- 22 Jerry Huffman
- 25 Brenda Naugle
- 28 Alex Buell

## August

- 3 Sharon Breeze
- 5 Dale Faatz
- 7 McCauley Anniversary
- 10 Pat Jones
- 10 Dan Wooten
- 12 Elena McArthur
- 13 Faatz Anniversary
- 18 Sue Edwards
- 25 Ivan Nganyu
- 26 John Atwater
- 31 Jon Engelbrecht

September newsletter  
deadline is August 18

## Volunteers for Summer 2026

### July 5

Greeters: Sandy McCauley & Paula Smith  
Communion: Brian Gernhardt, Judie McGaffick  
(bread) Barb Wasmer (juice)  
Childcare: Sheryl Jones & Beth Rowe

### July 12

Greeters: Dale & Brian Faatz  
Childcare: Elena McArthur & Kathy Mathewson

### July 19

Greeters: Elena & Stephanie McArthur  
Childcare: Ashleigh & Brenda Naugle

### July 26

Greeters: Sheryl & Ed Jones  
Childcare: Lori Gittens & Becky Sosik

### August 2

Greeters: Alice & Fred Zah  
Communion: Sharon Breeze (bread), Gail McArthur  
(juice), Fred Mollon  
Childcare: Grace Engelbrecht & Elena McArthur

### August 9

Greeters: Ashleigh & Brenda Naugle  
Childcare: Tom Leahy & Barb Wasmer

### August 16

Greeters: Tim Engelbrecht & Marla Guarneri  
Childcare: Sue Atwater & Lori Gittens

### August 23

Greeters: Sue Edwards & Jean Bartholomew  
Child care: Debbie Lamphron & Mira Wooten

### August 30

Greeters: Jay & Kathy Mathewson  
Childcare: Lori Oliver & Lori Gittens

## Vacation

Pastor Brandi will be on vacation

June 26 through July 31

If you are in need of emergency  
Pastoral Care please  
call Sandy McCauley  
at 585-615-1911.

## Summer Worship Leaders

Date	Guest Speaker	Liturgist
June 28	Fred Mollon, Elder	
July 5	Rev. Andrew Schep	Fred Mollon
July 12	David Jacobus	Grace Engelbrecht
July 19	Rev. James Renfrew	Fred Mollon
July 26	Fred Mollon, Elder	



## *Bible Study*



Our Bible study has not met in a while. I would like to start it again, but I want to do it a little differently. Instead of meeting at 9 AM, before church, I want to meet a few times during the year, but only for 6-8 weeks at a time.

Also, I'd like to meet during the week, hopefully, to include more people than we could on Sunday mornings. My thought is to meet on either Tuesday or Thursday from 12:30 - 2 or 1-2:30. I'd like to know which day and which time would work better for you.

Please send your response to my email at [fredmollon@yahoo.com](mailto:fredmollon@yahoo.com). I'll decide based on the responses that I receive. Thank you ~ Fred Mollon

The Easter Team wants to thank all those who donated to their mission outreach project. We sent \$375 to World Relief of Western NY

### Rummage Sale results...

Many, many thanks to those who....

- *donated items*
- *worked to set up in the lower hall, cleaning items, sorting and making signs*
- *welcomed the community on Saturday June 6 by carrying items and working the booth*

***We are pleased to announce that, with your help, the rummage sale made 1412.53 for our Mission Fund***

### Summer Church Office Hours

Church Office open on:

Thursday, June 25th 9 am to 2 pm

Thursday, July 2nd 9 am to 2 pm

Thursday, July 9th 9 am to 2 pm

Thursday, July 16th 9 am to 2 pm

Thursday, July 23rd 9 am to 2 pm

Thursday, July 30th 9 am to 2 pm

Regular hours resume the week of August 3

## Leadership News

At its last regularly scheduled meeting on June 1st, Session...

...Opened with prayer led by Pastor Brandi.

...Participated in training on the second question of Presbyterian Elder ordination

...Voted to approve the Agenda with the addition of Presbytery Meeting Report and Pulpit Exchange.

...Voted to approve the consent agenda.

...Voted to receive the Treasurer's Report ending on May 31st, 2026.

...Received Pastor Brandi's Pastor's report.

...Reviewed the annual action items that are completed and upcoming for August.

...Received correspondence from the Special Gifts & Funds Coordinator.

...Recognized Mira Wooten and Henry Gernhardt for all their work going through their confirmation classes and for all the involvement they have volunteering with the Food Cupboard and participating in church life.

...Voted to receive into membership Mirabella Wooten & Henry Gernhardt by affirmation of faith as of June 1, 2026, to be celebrated during worship on June 7, 2026.

...Voted to approve the Policy for Financial Practices with the edit suggested.

...Received a Personnel Committee report from Elder Mollon.

...Voted to remove the designations for Vision for Camasca (\$302.86) and Triennium (\$80.00) and for those funds to be accounted for in the general Mission Fund.

...Voted to use \$1,000 from the Memorial Fund and \$99 from the Technology budget line to cover the cost of the joystick controller for the sanctuary cameras.

...Voted to approve the Presbytery of Genesee Valley's Parkminster Legacy Fund Technology Grant Application as submitted by Geoff Wasmer.

...Received the report from the Presbytery meeting from Elder Engelbrecht.

...Discussed the Presbytery Pulpit Exchange.

...Adjourned at 8:59 PM, with a shared benediction based upon the Great Commission.

Respectfully,

Grace Engelbecht, Clerk of Session

**CHILI PRES FUN FAIR**  
**FREE!**  
**Food, Fun and Games for All**

**Popcorn!** **Wednesday, August 26, 5-8pm** **Snow Cones!**  
**Open to the community!**  
**3600 Chili Avenue, Rochester**  
**Come join us for a fun night!**

**Bounce House!** **Face Painting!**  
**Cotton Candy!** **Games and Prizes!**

**Questions? Contact Adam @ 585-454-9939**

### **Don't Forget to Pack the Essentials!**

Summer is here! And God has blessed us with some great weather! Have you planned your summer trips and vacations? The Scoville's have been blessed to be able to do some great trips each year and we have some great travel plans ahead. We are very lucky and praise God for these great opportunities to see Creation in new areas. I hope if you are able to take a trip this summer you will bring God along and thank Him all the way.

When you go on a trip, you always have to pack the essentials! It was so easy to pack for trips before we had kids. Now with children, I have found that we have a lot more essentials to pack, and it takes a lot more planning and time to get everything packed! But we can't forget some of these essentials, such as the pacifier or the favorite stuffed animal and blanket, otherwise, our trip will be much more complicated and tiresome!

Now, for those who are able to, you will set out on a vacation or adventure this summer. Know that God has already paved your way and your time. I don't expect you to take a week and go serve on some sort of mission – I don't feel that God requires that to be part of "vacation plans." God has provided this time of relaxation, time with family, time for adventure, and/or time to be free from our societal norms.

Whether you are at home or on a trip, invest some of your time in seeking God. Thank God for the beautiful Creation you get to experience. Thank God for your family. Thank God for the gift of rejuvenation and the strength amidst the busy-ness of our lives.

And keep that Bible close! And read it from time to time! If you are going on a trip, add it to your "Essentials" bag. I was always told the best way to seek God is to read and study His Word. I know that this can be easier said than done!

Wherever you are, no matter how far, home or away, take time to seek God this summer. You will find comfort in our Creator.

*Be blessed and continue to let the music play. -Adam*

#### Upcoming Events at Chili Pres!

We have many events coming up this summer! Here is a list below of the upcoming things to save the dates for:

Saturday, July 18 – Red Wings Game! Sign up in Fellowship Hall!

Wednesday, August 26 – Chili Pres Fun Fair (Rain date – Thursday August 27) - Mark your calendars!



# Families and Youth

Director Adam Scoville

cpministerofmusic@gmail.com 585-269

Happy Summer!

We have made it through another school year! Our youth did a great job sharing at our Confirmation service in June, and now it's time to relax? NOOOO we have a MISSION TRIP coming in August! We will be going to Ocean City, Maryland doing various mission projects on August 9-14<sup>th</sup>. This is a trip we are doing with our combined youth group. Please pray for our youth and our trip this summer! Mission trips are life changing!

Even though it is summer, we continue to help with the Food Cupboard distribution day where we continue to provide our food cupboard clients with diapers and toilet paper. Our youth also help bringing food to the clients, where we are serving 130 families a month!

We plan to go to Seabreeze on July 22<sup>nd</sup> with our combined youth group as well. Let me know if you plan to come!

Have a great and joyous summer!

Adam

## **Upcoming Schedule!**

**Wednesday, July 22 – Joint Youth Group @ Seabreeze!**

**August 9-14 – Youth Mission Trip to Ocean City, Maryland!**

## **St. Pauly Box Schedule**

June 29-July 12 – Barb Wasmer

July 13-26 – Leahy's

July 27-Aug 9 – Adam Scoville

Aug 10-23 – Mira Wooten

Aug 24-Sept 6 – Henry Gerhardt

