

LISTEN to the ChurchMouse

Presbyterian Church in New Scotland

2019 New Scotland Road

Slingerlands, New York, 12159

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"Original Landlord Still Offering Sanctuary"

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**Jesus is a friend who
knows all your faults
and still loves you anyway.**

*But God commendeth his love toward us,
in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ
died for us.*

Romans 5:8

Session News

Session Digest for June 2 Meeting, by
Bonnie O'Shea

1. Margaret updated us as to the Peer Review of 2016 Session notes: NSP was in good standing; just missing budget and statistical report.
2. Update of Mission Committee: CROP Walk total was \$205, Spring Clothing Drive taking place now.
3. Dan Coons reported that friends of our church bought a church and invited us to look through it for anything we might need e.g. folding chairs or coffee urns.
4. Each Committee received notice of their financial balances.
5. Giffy's Chicken BBQ set for July 11. We discussed the fact that we've run out of chickens the past four years. We decided to add extra chickens to our order from Giffy's this summer.
6. Joint worship at Rensselaerville Presbyterian on July 2; Holly to preach; Bonnie O. to serve communion.
7. Congregational Life Committee report:
 - a) Joint summer services: at United Methodists on July 23 and 30; at NS Presbyterian on August 6 and 13; at Delmar Presbyterian on August 20
 - b) Celebrate Ann Putnam's 55th anniversary with NSP to be planned
 - c) Rally Day yet to be decided for September
 - d) Planning to update everyone's contact information so that we may update our Church records/paper directory

- e) We will put out a donation basket during Fellowship, but not when we have visitors
 - f) June 11 is Children's Day and we will be giving Bibles/gifts/certificates.
8. Pastor's Report: Holly attended Festival of Homilies in San Antonio; Pneumatrix Team meeting on 6/6, will share plan going forward.

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Pastor's Column

Last fall, our church was one of six in Albany Presbytery to be part of a consulting program called "PneuMatrix." We formed a team of eight: Dorothy Kohler, Brian Nopper, Mardell Steinkamp, John Relyea, Christine Cameron, Ryan Dwyer, Tamara Caruso, and Sean Gordon. We met monthly with our consultant, the Rev. Deborah Wright, and her apprentice, the Rev. Lynn Brown. We studied the book Canoeing the Mountains by Tod Bolsinger, which invites us to stop looking at what worked in the past, and encourages us to assess where things are now. Bolsinger uses the explorations of Lewis & Clark to help us see that the skills we have always used, may not work in every situation. He shows us that when we get into uncharted territory, we need to look to those who are comfortable in that territory to help us learn other ways. He encourages us to be bold in our imagining how the future of the church will look different from its past.

Our consultant, Deb, talked to us about having the courage to fail. Most every new idea out there has to go through some trials to be perfected. Many

business leaders now say their departments have to show a number of failures every year; that way, they know are trying new things and not just sticking with what has already been done before. Her challenge to us is to imagine something bold enough to fail. In our work together, we drafted eight-word statements about the purpose and mission of church, and shared ideas of things our church can do.

A few weeks ago, members of the PneuMatrix team shared their ideas with the Session. These include signage/banner outside the church, hosting events to include the community like Trunk-or-Treat and Easter Egg Hunt, and welcoming groups to use our building like 12-step or caregivers support groups. The Session approved our plan to implement these various ideas, and members of the team will be taking the lead on different projects.

We would love to have other members of the congregation join in with any project! Stay tuned for more details, and enjoy the rest of the summer!

Faithfully,
+Holly

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Joint Worship Services:

On August 6 & 13 at 10:00 a.m. we will worship at New Scotland Presbyterian with the Rev. Gary Kubitz presiding. After worship, there will be coffee hour downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

On August 20 at 10:00 a.m. we will worship at Delmar Presbyterian with the Rev. Karen Pollan presiding. This is the

first time we have been invited to worship at Delmar on a Sunday. The church is just 3½ miles from our church, 585 Delaware Ave (at Cherry Ave.) We hope everyone will accept this generous invitation to worship with our Presbyterian friends and neighbors!

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Thank you!

Thanks to everyone who help with our fifth Giffy's Chicken BBQ. Thanks to the generosity of our workers, all the chickens were sold, and we earned over \$800!

We also thank everyone who contributed toward building the new playground at Voorheesville Elementary School. We reached our goal of \$500, which means we will have a plaque on the donor wall. We also raised another \$100 to put our name on a brick paver. Thanks for your generosity to our community!

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Newsletter Delivery

With electronic media continuing to grow, we are checking in to see how you would like to receive this church newsletter. There are four options: 1) you can continue to get a hard copy mailed to you; or 2) pick up your hard copy at church (these would be mailed after one week); or 3) receive it by e-mail; or 4) read it on the church website. Of course, you can also ask to be removed from our mailing list. Please let us know your preference and we will be implementing your requests this fall. You can call the church office at 518-

439-6454, or e-mail the church office at newscotlandpc@nycap.rr.com, or send us a note the old-fashioned way, through the Post Office. We look forward to hearing from you!

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Litany for the Lord's Day

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Aug. 3

Gen. 45:1-15; Ps. 133
Rom. 11:1-2a; Matt. 16:13-20

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Aug. 27

Ex. 1:8-2:10; Ps. 124
Rom. 12:1-8; Matt. 16:13-20

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept. 3

Ex. 3:1-15; Ps. 105:1-6, 23-26 45b
Rom. 12:9-21; Matt. 16:21-28

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept. 10

Ex. 12:1-14; Ps. 149
Rom. 13:8-14; Matt. 18:15-20

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept. 17

Ex. 14:19-31; Ps. 114 or Ex. 15:1b-11, 20-21;
Rom. 14:1-12; Matt. 18:21-35

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept. 24

Ex. 16:2-15; Ps. 105:1-6, 37-45
Phil. 1:21-30; Matt. 20:1-16

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The mighty oak was once a
little nut that stood
its ground.

*A man shall not be established by
wickedness but the root of righteousness
shall not be moved.*

Proverbs 12:3

THANK YOU

Thank You to everyone who participated in so many ways for our special celebration on Children's Day during worship. I have been privileged to share "learning times" with the class and ALL our New Scotland Presbyterian family members. It was so clear that everyone has been blessed with special God-given gifts, and when we share them, they always come back to us overflowing! I will treasure the memories, the tokens of gratitude, and that very special card that so many signed. I thank card for each one of you!

Cindy Brickman

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Sunday School's Origins

Sunday School began in England as early as 1751. Better known is Robert Raikes' work in Gloucester 30 years later. Concerned about poor children who worked in factories six days a week and often turned to crime, he offered classes on the only day kids were free. Soon various organizations offered a loose network of such Sunday Schools, which taught basic reading and writing, using the Bible as a text.

Ten years later, Samuel Slater started the first U.S. Sunday School in his Rhode Island textile mills. By the mid-1800's Sunday Scholl attendance was an almost universal childhood experience. As society became more secular and public education was mandated by the by the 1870's, Sunday Schools focused on spiritual practices, prayers, hymns, catechism knowledge and Scriptural memorization.

Well into the 20th century, Sunday /school served as the church's main outreach tool. Many adults fondly remember their teachers and lessons, and Sunday School continues to play a significant [art of the faith development.

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BIRTHDAYS

I hope everyone who had a birthday since the last newsletter had a happy time and are having a happy year.

We wish a Very Happy Birthday to these people celebrating in the month of September:

- 9thJaclyn Kohler
- 10th ...Evelyn Fuglein
- 15th ...Shari Edwards
- 16th ...Christine Gordon
- 17th ...Frank Bode
- 18th ...Shirley Wright
Van Kohler
- 19th ...Angali Francis
Dawn Scaccia
- 20th ...Bea Kenney
- 22nd ...Laurel Beavers
Donna Wittig
- 24th ...Edward Lukomski
- 27th ...McKinley Riedy
- 28th ...William Morrison

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**Your words are
windows to your heart.**

*...For out of the abundance of the heart the
mouth speaketh.*

Matthew 12:34b

ANNIVERSARIES

Belated wishes of happiness to the couples who celebrated their anniversaries since our last newsletter.

We wish a Very Happy Anniversary to these couples celebrating in the month of September:

September 4, 1993
Shari & William Edwards

September 10, 2011
Rebecca & Randy Miller

September 11, 1981
Patricia & Daniel Joyce

September 13, 1997
Wendy & Wendy Wiest

September 14, 1968
Lois & Bob Ambuhl

September 18
Judee & Albert Miller Jr.

September 19, 1965
Martha & Richard Oden

September 20, 1997
Christine & Tim Gordon

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**You can win
more friends with your ears
than with your mouth.**

*...Let every man be swift to hear:
slow to speak,
slow to wrath.*

James 1:19b

Presbyterian Women

(Information received from Charlotte Hasselbarth)

Two projects of the Presbytery of Albany have received a 2017 Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering Grant. There will be presentations on both projects at our Fall Gathering.

South End Neighborhood Tutors, Inc.
The Wizard's Wardrobe
Albany, New York
\$10,000

The Wizard's Wardrobe is a one-on-one afterschool program for children in the first and second grades. This program seeks to stimulate student's enthusiasm for learning and increase their literacy levels by helping them write and produce their own story books. This Thank Offering grant will be used to purchase digital recorders, computers, printers, and bindery equipment with which to take the collection of ideas to the celebration of finished books.

www.the.wizardwardrobe.org

Capacity Building for Hope Mission School (a mission of the Westminster Presbyterian Church)
Bernard Farm Community, Paynesville Township, Liberia

Hope Mission School exists to sustain itself economically and to ensure educational and vocational opportunities for the community's youth. This grant will contribute to the expansion of the school to a full high school by adding 11th and 12th grades, and will introduce new vocational training that will lead to new income streams. The grant will also be used to purchased generators and a

small freezer. The school will produce income by selling cold drinks and excess power for recharging cell phones and other electronic devices.

www.wpcalbany.org

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Christ's Hands

In World War II, bombs destroyed a church in Strasbourg, France. As parishioners cleared the rubble, they discovered a statue of Jesus that was now missing both hands.

A visiting sculptor later offered to make repairs, but church declined, saying Christ "has no hands to minister to the needy or feed the hungry or enrich the poor --- except our hands. He inspires. We perform."

St. Teresa of Avila wrote:

*Christ has no body but yours;
no hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
in compassion on this world.
Yours are the feet with which he walks
to do good.
Yours are the hands with which he
blesses the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours.*

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- "As a child of God, I am greater than anything that can happen to me."
...A.P.J Abdul Kama
"Summer night ---even the stars are whispering to each other."
...Kobayshi Issa

Save the Date



Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany Fall Gathering

Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017 – 11:30 am – 2:30 pm

**Westminster Presbyterian Church
85 Chestnut Street in downtown Albany**

Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering Grant Recipients

Hope Mission School in Liberia by Felicia Kollie-Gambles

Expansion of an educational & vocational program to become a full high school by adding classrooms, a freezer and generators, plus start-up funds for snail farming and beekeeping to create income.

Wizard's Wardrobe in Albany by Debbie Fagans

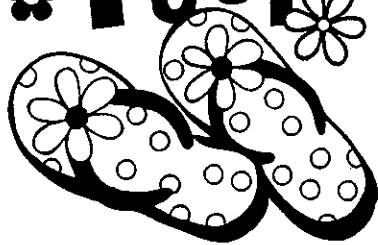
Technological equipment for a one-on-one tutoring program that will strengthen reading and writing skills of young children.

General Information

- Bring a bag lunch. Beverage and dessert provided.
- Registration fee of \$5.00 will be collected at the door.
- A freewill offering will be collected.

For further information contact: Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com. Directions and details will be available in the summer.

Happy Feet



This summer, put your best foot forward by brightening up a pair of flip-flops.

What you need:

- Flip-flops in your size
- Metallic permanent markers
- Foam stickers
- Craft gemstones
- Plastic flowers
- Ribbon
- Hot glue gun (and adult help)

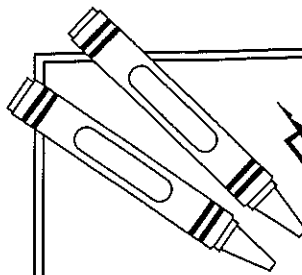
What you do:

Use these ideas to decorate clean, dry flip-flops:

- Draw with markers on the soles.
- Decorate the sides and soles with stickers.
- Glue gemstones along the strap.
- Glue plastic flowers on the strap between your toes.
- Wrap ribbon around the strap and glue in place.

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PUZZLE

BE HAPPY IN THE LORD

Happiness and joy are frequent themes in the Old Testament book of Psalms.

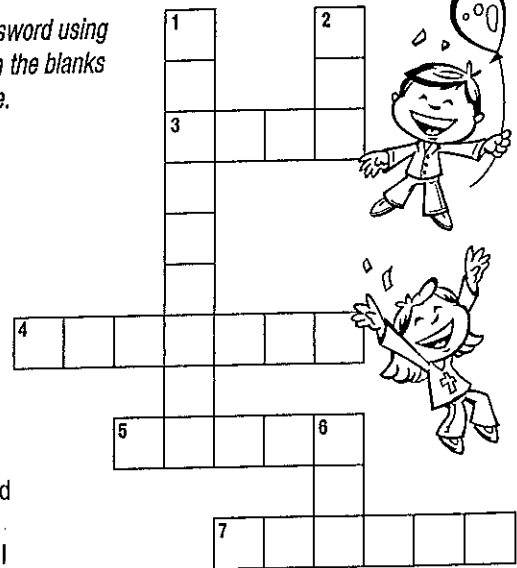
Directions: Solve the crossword using the clues below. Then fill in the blanks to complete the Bible verse.

ACROSS

3. A word for happy (rhymes with had)
4. What you do when you're very happy
5. A song written by David
7. Full of joy

DOWN

1. People who obey God
2. Our Creator
6. The month after April



"But may the 1. _____ be 3. _____ and
4. _____ before 2. _____; 6. _____ they
be happy and 7. _____." 5. _____ 68:3, NIV

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