

# *Listen to the ChurchMouse*

Presbyterian Church in New Scotland  
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*“Original Landlord Still Offering Sanctuary”*

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*Our newsletter editor has been taken ill, so we are helping in the church office by putting out this abbreviated edition of the church newsletter.  
Get well soon, Dorothy!!*

## **Pastor’s Column**

On March 24, we had the second of three conversations in the “Moving Forward Together” process. In this process, we are thinking about the next chapter in our church life. Life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is unlike anything we’ve seen before and we want our ministry to be relevant to our times.

In the first conversation, we talked about what brought us to this church and what made us stay. We considered the aspects of our community life that we believe are important to keep as we go forward. Some of those were mentioned in last month’s newsletter.

In the second conversation, we discussed the changes in the culture around us, and considered how those changes have an impact on church life. Some of the changes mentioned were:

- There are more people who were not raised going to church, so do not really know what church is about.
- There is declining trust in institutions and authority – people need reasons to trust an institution, proof that it will actually help them.
- There is a desire for meaning and purpose – people need a clear and compelling vision and will not stay if they feel they are not serving a greater purpose.
- People access more and more information from outside sources, like user reviews on the internet, and tend to believe what other people say about you, more than what you say about yourself.
- People are more aware of diversity in culture, gender, religion, and traditions.

**Pastor's Column (cont'd.)**

- People still need community and connection – the rise in social media means we may have electronic contact with many more people, but developing deeper in-person relationships is a great need. Loneliness is an epidemic in our society.

These changes affect us individually, and in the ways we connect to one another as families, as neighbors, as churches, and as communities. As we plan our church's future, we want to be aware of these trends and discern how God is calling us to serve in ways that are both meaningful and faithful.

The last of our three conversations will be Sunday, April 24, after worship. Even if you haven't been able to come to the first two meetings, we hope everyone will join us for the last part of this "Moving Forward Together" process.

Faithfully,  
+Holly

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**Friday Fish Fry**

New Salem Fire Department hosts "Fish Fry Fridays" every Friday, through April 12, 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Dinner includes haddock or clams, macaroni and cheese or hot dog; potato, coleslaw; coffee, tea, or lemonade. Chowder and dessert also available. For take-out, call 765-2244. Fire house is at 694 New Salem Rd.

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**Movie Outing**

The Congregational Life Committee is organizing a trip to the movie "Noah," a film of the Sight & Sound theater production. We plan to go to Colonie Center on Tuesday, April 9, at 2:30 p.m. If you would like to go, please sign up using the form on the church bulletin board, or call the church office at 518-439-6454, by Sunday, April 7.

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**Men's Communion Breakfast**

All men and boys are invited to the 69th annual Men's Communion Breakfast, Sunday, April 14 service is at 7:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, followed by breakfast and program. The speaker is Darren Gundrum, from Trinity Presbyterian in Scotia. Darren is also the Protestant Chaplain at Sage College. Darren will talk about the recent presbytery mission trip to Guatemala. Please join us as we worship and enjoy this fellowship.

Help is needed to set-up, prepare, serve, and clean-up for the breakfast; if you can help, please contact Dorothy Kohler or Debbie Fuglein.

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**Concert at Our Church**

The Mendelssohn Club of Albany will perform at concert at our church on Sunday, May 5, at 3:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased ahead for \$10, or bought at the door for \$12. Tickets will be on sale at the church starting Sunday, April 7. If you wish to purchase them during the week, come by the office or call 518-439-6454.

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**Holy Week Services & Activities**

We are delighted to share worship with our neighbors during Holy Week. We begin the week with midday 30-minute prayer and communion services, alternating between our church and Delmar Presbyterian, 585 Delaware Avenue. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are evening services, also alternating between us and Delmar. On Holy Saturday, the sanctuary at New Scotland is open for quiet prayer and reflection. On Easter Sunrise, we join with Delmar Presbyterian and the First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville at the Thacher Park Overlook, followed by breakfast at Delmar. Please plan to join us for this special week of services. Here is the schedule:

**April 14: Palm Sunday**

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Communion Service in the sanctuary at New Scotland
- 7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast and Program in the dining room
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service and Children's Sunday School

**April 15: Monday of Holy Week**

- 12:15 p.m. Midday Joint Communion Service at Delmar Presbyterian.

**April 16: Tuesday of Holy Week**

- 12:15 p.m. Midday Joint Communion Service at New Scotland.

**April 17: Wednesday of Holy Week**

- 12:15 p.m. Midday Joint Communion Service at Delmar Presbyterian.

**April 18: Maundy Thursday**

- 7:00 p.m. Joint Service to celebrate communion and strip the church, as we remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples. Worship is at New Scotland.

**April 19: Good Friday**

- 7:00 p.m. Joint Worship Service to commemorate the crucifixion and acknowledge that innocent suffering continues to happen in our world. Worship is at Delmar Presbyterian.

**April 20: Holy Saturday / Great Vigil of Easter**

- 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Sanctuary at New Scotland will be open for quiet prayer and reflection. There is no scheduled service; people are welcome to come and go as they wish.

**April 21: Easter Sunday**

- 5:30 a.m. Joint sunrise service with Delmar Presbyterian Church and the First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville; meeting at New Scotland Presbyterian Church to drive in procession to Thacher Park Overlook.
- 5:45 a.m. Service at Thacher Park Overlook.
- 6:30 a.m. Breakfast at Delmar Presbyterian, 585 Delaware Ave.
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service and NO Sunday School at New Scotland. Remember to bring a loose flower to transform the barren cross into a symbol of new life.

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**One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**

Hunger – Disaster – Development

On Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, we will have our annual collection for One Great Hour of Sharing. This collection is one of the four Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

**One Great Hour of Sharing (cont'd.)**

The money collected is divided between three programs, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People.

These programs work within communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters; take action to alleviate hunger and it's systemic causes and help create access to healthy food for entire communities; and partner with people and communities with tools for development and education to alleviate poverty, oppression, and injustice in projects they present, control, own and are the beneficiaries of.

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**Session Notes (Unofficial)**

Session met on Sunday, March 3, 2019

- We appointed offices for this coming year: Kevin Dwyer has agreed to continue as Treasurer, Carol Wickham has agreed to continue as Financial Secretary, Jane Norris has agreed to be our Clerk of Session, and Bonnie O'Shea has agreed to be the Chair of the Personnel Committee.
- The Presbytery has an upcoming meeting March 26<sup>th</sup>, and Bonnie, Mardell, and Kevin will be attending.
- We approved three items that will take place in our church in the upcoming months: the AA meeting that usually meets in the Delmar Presbyterian Church will meet at NSPC on March 26<sup>th</sup> while presbytery meeting is going on in

Delmar that day; and Christopher Kirk and Cassie Pease requested to baptize their child at NSPC in the near future. The baby is the grandchild of Chris and Donna Kirk, and Liz Kirk is great-grandmother.

- We accepted the gift of a painting by Jessica Winn that was donated by Bill Morrison's family. The church has one other painting by the artist that is of our church and hangs in the narthex. We need to find a place to hang the new painting.
- Congregational Life Committee set dates for Men's Communion Breakfast on April 14; Women's Communion Breakfast on June 9, Children's Day on June 16. They are also working on a new picture directory for the church.
- Mission Committee reported that we collected \$234 for the Souper Bowl Collection, and \$121.40 for the Emergency Overflow Shelter. Thanks to everyone for your generous donations!

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**Celebrations!**

We love to celebrate with you! If your special day is not listed, please contact the church office: 518-439-6454.

**April Birthdays**

We wish a very happy birthday to these people celebrating in the month of April:

- 14... Carol McGowan
- 16... Cindy Griffin
- 19... Noah Thornton
- ..... Ashley Parker
- 21... Wally Throop
- 22... Robert Rudd

**April Anniversaries**

We wish a very happy anniversary to these couples celebrating in the month of April:

April 4, 1964  
Mardell & Paul Steinkamp

April 6, 1973  
Richard & Ruth Von Haugg

April 22, 1994  
Tom & Daisy Elmendorf

April 22, 1995  
Deb & John Blakely

April 22, 1995  
Lisa & Ray Youngman

April 22, 2011  
Denise & Mike Riedy

April 30, 1966  
Janet & Rodger Willey

April 30, 1983  
Diane & Frank Bode

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# Puzzle!

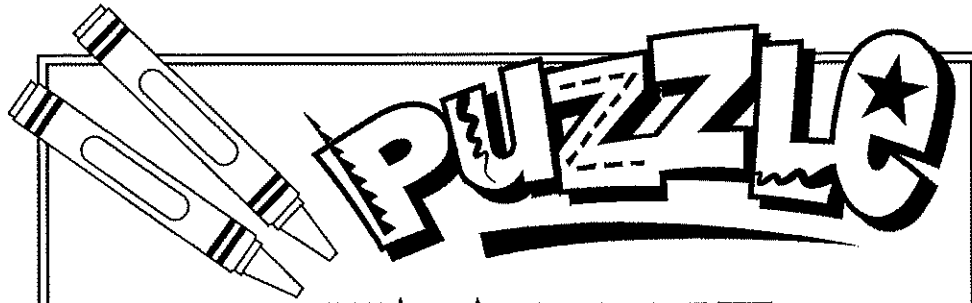
After completing this Easter crossword, unscramble the circled letters to discover a special word:

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1. What Jesus was wrapped in
2. The site of Jesus' crucifixion
3. One of the rulers who questioned Jesus
4. He washed his hands of Jesus
5. Followers of Jesus
6. He denied Christ
7. A large hill
8. The feast celebrating escape from Egypt
9. Jesus' mother
10. A Jewish teacher
11. The doubting disciple
12. Jesus was mistaken for this
13. One of Peter's other names

Answers: 1. cloth, 2. Golgotha, 3. Herod, 4. Pilate, 5. disciples, 6. Peter, 7. mountaintop, 8. Passover, 9. Mary, 10. rabbit, 11. Thomas, 12. gardener, 13. Simon; resurrection

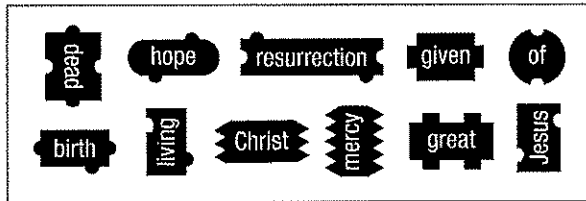
# For Kids!

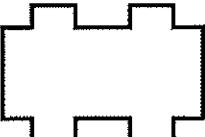












## > NEW LIFE <

How did God work through Jesus to give us new life at Easter?

*Directions: Use the puzzle pieces from the box to complete 1 Peter 1:3, NIV.*



In his   he has  
 us new  into a  
  through the  
    
 from the .

1 PETER 1:3, NIV

Answer: In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3, NIV