

LISTEN to the ChurchMouse

Presbyterian Church in New Scotland

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“Original Landlord Still Offering Sanctuary”

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Pentecost Offering

On Sunday, June 9, we will participate in the annual Pentecost Offering to meet the needs of children at risk, youth, and young adults. Since 1998, Presbyterians have raised over \$5 million for ministries that benefit younger members of God's family. Forty percent of the offering is kept by our congregation to use locally.

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Clothing Drive

The Mission Committee is collecting men's and women's clothing for the Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless in Albany. The collection box is in the lobby through Wednesday, June 12. Please donate gently-used, clean spring and summer clothing. If you have other clothing that is not in good condition or out of season and you want to get rid of it, please put it in the big blue box behind the church. The shelter is so very appreciative for our donations.

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**Collection for the Town of New Scotland
Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fund**

For the months of May and June there is a jar located in the lobby under the mission bulletin board to support the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fund which is a part of Senior Services. Funds are used to help New Scotland seniors in times of need. Some of the needs met have been emergency house repairs and fuel oil. So please put loose change, bills or checks in the jar to provide aid for our senior neighbors.

Mardell Steinkamp

Membership Celebrations

June 2nd will be our celebration of Evelyn Fuglein, Ruth Von Haugg, and Debbie Fuglein for their remarkable years of membership in the Church! Please join us in our Sunday worship and fellowship as we recognize Evelyn (65 years), Ruth (50 years), and Debbie (50 years) with a special day in their honor.

We will be hosting a Pot Luck fellowship after the service; please bring a dish to share, if you would like to. Please contact Bonnie O'Shea for more information.

Bonnie O'Shea

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Pentecost

At the end of the 50 days of Easter, we celebrate Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came with a mighty wind, and the apostles were able to speak in tongues. This year Pentecost is on Sunday, June 9. Pentecost is considered the birthday of the church, and everyone is invited to wear something red to worship that day, in honor of the flames of fire.

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Shades of Life

*The color of sky
Is blues and grays,
The color of earth
Is greens and browns.
The color of hope
Is rainbows and purple.
And the color of peace
Is people, together.*

Mattie J.T. Stepanek
2002, age 11

Women's Communion Breakfast

All women and girls are cordially invited to attend the Women's Communion Breakfast to be held on Pentecost: Sunday, June 9. The Rev. Cameron will conduct the Communion Service at 7:00 a.m. Following the service the men of the church will serve breakfast in Fellowship Hall.

After breakfast, Tracie Killar, the founder and director of the South End Children's Cafe, will present a program about her initial ideas for the Café, the programs they provide, and ways to support the program. Please join with us as we worship and enjoy the fellowship of this event.

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Creation Care Group

The Rev. Larry Deys is leading a Creation Care Group. We met for the first time in May to consider the document "A Way Forward for Creation Care." This document was presented by the Peacemaking Task Force to the Presbytery at its meeting on March 26, 2019 where it passed unanimously and received strong positive comments for being a timely and helpful document for the Presbytery and congregations. Copies of the document are on the narthex table under the bulletin; everyone is welcome to take one. You can also find a link to the document on our church's website: <https://www.newscotlandpc.com/christian-education.html>

We also talked about things we have already done at New Scotland to be good stewards of God's creation. We will meet again on Sunday, July 7, after coffee hour. All are welcome to join us!

Children's Day

We will celebrate the end of the Sunday School year with Children's Day, on Sunday, June 16! We hope ALL God's children (young and old) will attend. Students will receive recognition for participating in the 2018-2019 Sunday School year.

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Chicken BBQ – Save the Date!

We are hosting a Chicken & Ribs BBQ, prepared by Barbecue Delights Catering, on Thursday, July 18, 4:00 - 6:00 pm, take-out only.

Tickets for chicken dinner are \$11 pre-sale and \$12 at-the-door. Tickets for rib dinner are \$12 pre-sale and \$13 at-the-door. Dinners include homemade coleslaw, baked potato, dinner roll & butter. "More cluck for your buck!!"

As usual, we hope everyone will take some tickets to sell ahead of time; tickets will be available at church on Sunday, June 16.

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Friendship Singers

The Friendship Singers of Delmar, popular local women's chorus, present their Spring Concert on Friday, June 7, at 7:30 p.m., at Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Avenue. There will be a freewill offering to support the Capital City Rescue Mission, and refreshments at intermission.

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The secret of contentment is the realization that life is a gift not a right.

Session Notes (unofficial)

Session met for its regular meeting on Thursday, May 9. Business included:

- We baptized Tristin Lucas Kirk on Sunday, April 28
- Mendelssohn Club performed a concert at our church Sunday, May 5. There were about 40 in the group, and about 84 in the audience. We split the revenue with the club; each of us received \$470.
- We approved having the Rev. David Bennett to preach on Sunday, June 2. The Rev. Cameron will co-lead worship.
- We had about 25 people come for the Men’s Communion Breakfast on April 14.
- We had just over 50 people for the joint Easter Sunrise Service, and about 30 came for breakfast at Delmar Presbyterian.
- We reviewed a draft of a Child Protection Policy; all churches are required to have such a policy. Changes were suggested.
- Buildings & Grounds reported there will be no official “Spring Clean-Up Day” as individuals are working to clean up the property; Noah Thornton will be helping with some of the clean-up projects to earn community service hours; thanks to John Griffin and Paul & Mardell Steinkamp for pruning trees around the building; John spoke with a paving company about having excess blacktop delivered to fill in the holes by the street.

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The secret of success is to start from scratch and keep on scratching.

Pastor’s Column

This year, we have been engaged in the “Moving Forward Together” process, led by the Rev. David Bennett, Resource Presbyterian for the Presbytery of Northern New York. In this process, we are thinking about the next chapter in our church life. Life in the 21st century is unlike anything we’ve seen before and we want our ministry to be relevant to our times. We want to hear from all of you as we consider what God is calling us to do.

We have had two conversations so far, and the third of the three congregational conversations is coming up on Sunday, June 2. Each conversation has a different theme.

At the first meeting we considered why we came to New Scotland and what made us stay. We thought about what we consider to be the best times of our church, and the more difficult times. And we discussed the things we absolutely want to keep in our church life. Here is some of what we find valuable and want to continue:

- Meaningful worship with good preaching, good liturgy, and good music
- Community outreach (dinners, etc.)
- Mission work
- Welcoming “family” feeling
- Honoring our past and building on it

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

You do not have to have attended either of the first two meetings to join in on the third conversation. I hope everyone will join us on June 2, after coffee hour!

Faithfully,
+Holly

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Litany for the Lord's Day

7th Sunday of Easter – June 2

Acts 16:16-34; Ps. 97
Rev. 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26

Day of Pentecost – June 9

Acts 2:1-21 or Gen.11:1-9
Ps. 104:24-34, 35b; Rom. 8:14-17 or

Acts 2:1-21; John 14:8-17 (25-17)

Trinity Sunday – June 16

Prov. 8:1-4, 22-31; Ps. 8
Rom. 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time – June 23

1 Kings 19:1-4 (5-7) 8-15a; Ps. 42 and 43
Gal. 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

13 Sunday in Ordinary Time – June 30

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Ps. 77:1-2, 11-20
Gal. 5:1- 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 7

2 Kings 5:1-14; Ps. 30; Gal. 6: (1-6) 7-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

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June Birthdays

We wish a very Happy Birthday to these people celebrating in the month of June:

- 3rdStephen Kohler
- 4thRobert McCormick
A.J. Parker
- 5thAlbert Miller 3rd
- 6thCorinne Weeks
Mark Beavers
- 7thJohn Norris
- 8thMargaret Ewart
- 11th ...Barbara Huth
- 16th ...Joseph Huth
Paul Steinkamp
Shirley Unser
- 17thEmma Victoria Fuglein
- 21st ...Jeffrey Bode
- 22nd ...Cody David Roberts
- 26th ...Brenda Slingerland
- 28th ...Jaime Craft
Patricia Huth

June Anniversaries

We wish a very Happy Anniversary to these couples celebrating in the month of June:

June 5, 1993
Laura & Mark Beavers

June 22, 2018
Alexandra & Mitchel Donovan

June 28, 1960
Margaret & Wallace Throop

June 28, 1985
Dawn & Jack Scaccia

June 29, 1958
Sandra & Homer Warner

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Evening Thought

*When it is getting
To be nighttime
But it is
Not dark yet,
The farm animals
Begin to get very tired.
They need to go
Into their barns.
And inside their stables,
And inside their hutches,
And homes,
So that when
The pink and gray sunset
Is all finished,
They can go
Right to sleep,
And have
Pleasant dreams.*

Mattie J.T. Stepanek

Heartsong

*I have a song, deep in my heart,
And only I can hear it.
If I close my eyes and sit very still
It is easy to listen to my song.
When my eye are open and
I am so busy and moving and busy,
If I take time and listen very hard,
I can still hear my Heartsong.
It makes me feel happy,
Happier than ever,
Happier than everywhere
And everything and everone
In the whole wide world.
Happy like thinking about
Going to Heaven when I die.
My heartsong sounds like this --
I love you! I love yo!
How happy you can be!
How happy you can make
This whole world be!*

*And sometimes it's other
Tunes and words too,
But it always sings the
Same special feelings to me.
It makes me think of
Jamie, and Kate and Stevie,
And other wonderful things,
This is my special song.
But do you know what?
All people have a special song
Inside their hearts!
Everyone in the whole wide world
Has a special Heartsong.
If you believe in magic, musical hearts,
And if you believe you can be happy,
Then you, too, will hear your song.*

Mattie J.T. Stepanek

(Mattie is my favorite poet. Sadly, he died at the age of 13. I believe God sent him to us with a message.)

Dear Church Family and Friends,

We are in the process of filling appointments for our new picture directory. I am hoping for 100% participation. A photo directory is one of the most important ways that we have to know one another and to welcome new members into our community. Our album is as important to our church family as your family photo album is to you in your home. You will also find the family roster very useful for phone numbers and addresses. Just like your family portrait, our family church album will become a very important keepsake in the years to come.

Thank you for being a part,
The Rev. Holly S. Cameron

Photography Dates at our Church

Wednesday, June 5, 1:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 6, 1:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Please make your appointment by signing up on Sunday after church on May 12th,
May 26th, or June 2nd.

You can also sign up on line at <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/yq9jnekm/>

or call Life Touch directly at 1-866-756-0281 (M-F, 9-5 p.m.)
or Bonnie O'Shea at (518) 439-9433.

We encourage you to bring a meaningful item, such as your pet, favorite team shirt, instrument, etc. We want your picture to tell your family story. You can also schedule to have generational portraits taken. They make wonderful gifts and become a treasured keepsake!

Bring a non-perishable "Feed the Need" item to the photo shoot and you will receive an additional \$5 off your purchase.

Thank you in advance for being part of this important ministry!
We look forward to seeing YOU in pictures!

As a thank you, each family receives a free 8 x 10 portrait and Directory. There is no obligation or pressure to purchase.

Invite your friends to come and have their portraits taken as well.

Healing Rod

Your most cordial, warming cards have come
And I am most thankful for your outreach.
Your actions speak of goodness and wisdom
And I am reminded of God=Good to reach

Deeply into the glory of the Holy=Whole:
Integrity, unity, togetherness, congregation.
We are the children of star-dust and soul,
Tiny particles conjoined in soulful elation

In our task of sensing the organizing force
Creating consciousness, the mother of awe,
In learning the order of galaxies that course
Our universe by the billions according to law

Founded by a power beyond comprehension.
It is this firmament upon which we build
The church, the true republic, the nation,
A salvific staff called Love as innately willed

In each of us, the evolving guidance of God.
I am healed by your use of the Shepherd's Rod.

Carl J. George
May 15, 2019

With profound thanks for your notes of kindness.