

LISTEN to the ChurchMouse

Presbyterian Church in New Scotland

2010 New Scotland Road

Slingerlands, New York 12159

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“Original Landlord Still Offering Sanctuary”

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Life is a treasure.

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People should it,

Even if digging

- “We are all so sunk in sin, and so wedded to the world, that we would never turn to God and seek salvation, unless he first called us by his grace.”

To it, or

Through it,

Is a challenge.

...J.C. Ryle

Mattie Stepanek

February 2000

Pastor's Column

On Sunday, February 24, we had the first of three meetings for the "Moving Forward Together" process. With this program, we are thinking about what is the next chapter for our church. In 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 then we discussed what are the things we absolutely want to keep in our church life. We were in three groups, but came up with similar ideas. Here are some of the things we said 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 our next meeting, we'll be thinking about what is happening in our culture and our community. We're meeting on the fourth Sunday of March and April. Everyone is welcome to join us for our next meeting on Sunday, March 24, even if you couldn't attend the first meeting.

Faithfully,
+Holly

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It's better to bite your tongue than eat your words."

...Frank Sonnenberg

To God You Shall Return

The traditional Ash Wednesday words "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return: might seem depressing. But in our often death-denying culture, some might find it refreshing to hear the frank statement that we can do nothing to save ourselves, physically or spiritually – that, no matter how we try to avoid sin, we can't untangle ourselves from self-interest. How liberating, then, to know that we don't have to! God loves us as we are and sent Jesus to break sin's power over us.

A pastor described Ash Wednesday as the point you can pinch in the of a long piece of ribbon, such that when you lift it high, the two ends – one symbolizing our baptism and the other, our funeral – meet and touch.

We come from dust and will return to dust, but we also come from God. And will return to God. Ash Wednesday reminds us that we're always safe in God's love.

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"There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature – the assurance that dawn comes after the night, and spring after winter."

...Rachel Carson

Annual Report

The annual meeting of the congregation was Sunday, January 27. During the meeting we approved the Annual Report for 2018. After the meeting, we discovered that the two infant baptisms done in 2018 were accidentally omitted. The Clerk's Report has been corrected, and final copies of the Annual Report are available to pick up from the Church Office any time.

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Session Notes (Unofficial)

The Session met Sunday, February 3, 2019

1. The Annual Statistical Report for 2018 was approved.
2. Frank Person's family donated a memorial gift of \$3,000 in Frank's honor and designated it for the mission of our church. It was agreed that the money would be used for operating expenses.
3. We discussed and scheduled joint Lenten services with Delmar Presbyterian Church, starting on Ash Wednesday at the New Scotland Presbyterian Church. Holy Week services will alternate between the two churches.
4. We are also planning our joint Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday at Thacher Park with the Voorheesville Methodist Church and the Delmar Presbyterian Church. The Delmar Presbyterian Church is hosting the breakfast this year.
5. A listing and description of the church's four major funds has been approved to add to our Manual of Operations.

6. The date was set for our AED/CPR training – February 17th
7. We have accepted and now store the Albany Presbytery sound system in our church office.
8. Our first meeting as a congregation with the Reverend David Bennett about "Moving Forward Together" is scheduled for February 24 and all are invited to join the discussion.
9. An update on sharing an intern with Rensselaerville and Delmar Presbyterian Churches: monies have been approved from Albany Presbytery Church Development and Vitality Committee, and now the churches are in the process of finding a divinity school that would be interested in partnering with us.
10. The Rev. Cameron officiated at the funeral for Alice Lemieux on January 25.

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Ash Wednesday Service

This Lent we will again share worship services with our Presbyterian brothers and sisters in Delmar. We begin our Lenten journey together on Ash Wednesday, March 6, at 7:00 p.m. We will worship at our church. The Rev. Holly Cameron and the Rev. Karen Pollan will lead the service where we reflect on our relationship to God, set our intention for the Lenten season, and receive the imposition of ashes.

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"Never look down on anybody unless you're helping him up."

...Jesse Jackson

This Month in Mission

March 2019

***Pennies for Heaven (Homeless,
not hopeless.)***

For the month of March there will be a jar in the Narthex, by the main door where our congregation is encouraged to deposit spare change to support the Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless.

“In recognition of the dignity and value of every human life, the mission of Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless (IPH) is to address the needs of the homeless and low-income community by providing a continuum of services to encourage self-sufficiency, empowerment, and stability.” From the IPH website

“Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless (IPH) builds stronger communities. We empower individuals and families who are homeless or facing homelessness, giving them the tools to be self-sufficient.” From the IPH website

The Souper Bowl of Caring

On February 3rd (Super Bowl Sunday) as is our custom, we had a collection for the Souper Bowl of Caring. We collected \$243.00 which will stay in our community, it will be given to the New Scotland Food Pantry.

Hunger and poverty have a negative impact on individuals and the communities in which they live, yet there is joy in serving and giving to those in need.

The Emergency Overflow Shelter operated by the Capital Area Council of Churches

For the last two months there has been a jar in the Narthex by the main door where our congregation has been encouraged to deposit spare change to support the shelter. We collected \$121.40.

“It is our belief that all people, regardless of a person’s circumstances and behaviors, have a human right to obtain shelter from deadly weather and dangerous street-living.”

Mardell Steinkamp

IT'S ALL RIGHT TO SAY "I LOVE YOU!"

It's all right to say "I love you!" to someone every day.

To obey Christ's commandment is a real and vital way.

The world is filled with sorrows that some touch us all,
And to know that we are loved lifts us up if we fall.

The heart can be a lonely place when no one comes to call,
But when someone says "I love you!" we feel we're ten feet tall.

These little words can mean so much, and they're not hard to say ...
It's all right to say, I love "you!" to someone every day

Clay Harrison

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"A new commandment I give you: LOVE ANOTHER ONE: As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

JOHN 13:34

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MARCH BIRTHDAYS

We wish a very Happy Birthday to these people who are celebrating in the month of March:

- 1st.....Anthony Scaccia
- 4th.....Carol Fuglein
Matthew Fuglein
- 5th.....Dean Della Penta
Jackie Short-Dougan

- 6th.....Ruth Von Haugg
- 8th.....Patricia Whitbeck
- 9th.....Brianne Dwyer Roberts
- 10th...Timothy Thornton
- 11th...Patricia Lemieux
- 12th...Catherine Nicholson Russel
Meredith Coons
- 14th...Sandra Warner
- 15th...Frances McCormick
- 17th...Mark Rudd
Daniel Joyce
- 18th...Leland Wright
Stephen P. Kohler
- 19th...Jordyn Claire Miller
- 20th...Kristina Norris
- 23rd...Emily Kohler
Erin Kohler
- 27th...Lois Ambuhl

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MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

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

March 5, 2006
Carol & Frank McGowan

March 25, 1961
Arlene & Jake Herzog

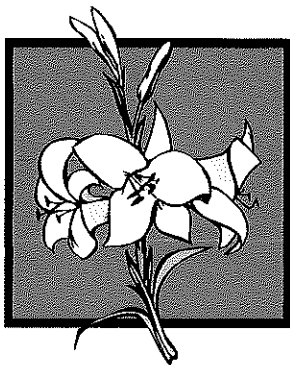
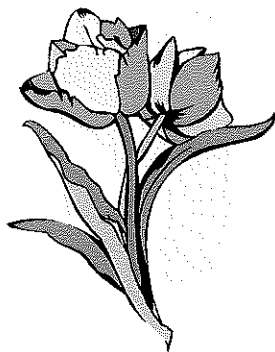
March 26
Patti & Tom DeLorenzo

March 29, 1984
Lynn & Van Kohler

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You do not need to wallow in guilt. Wallow in the mercy of God,"

...St. John Vianney



EASTER PLANTS

If you would like the church to purchase a plant for you to place in the sanctuary for the Easter Sunday Worship Service, please fill out this form and return to **Bonnie Griffin** by Sunday, **March 24**.

YOUR NAME _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

NUMBER OF PLANTS _____

Please check the kind(s) of plant desired.

Lily

Mum

Tulip

Azalea

Hyacinth

Plants come in assorted colors this year.

Please check one of the following.

I will pick up plants(s) after service.

I will not pick up plant(s). You may take it to the church's homebound.

The cost per plant is **\$10.40** delivered to the church. Please make your check payable to **Bonnie Griffin**, 288 New Salem South Rd., Voorheesville, NY 12186.