

# *LISTEN* to the ChurchMouse

Presbyterian Church in New Scotland

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*“Original Landlord Still Offering Sanctuary”*

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<b>PAGE</b>	<b><u>CONTRIBUTORS</u></b>
2...Pastor’s Column	<b><u>Reverend Holly Cameron</u></b>
Litany for the Lord’s Day	<b><u>Dorothy Kohler</u></b>
Finding Our Range	<b><u>Bonnie O’Shea</u></b>
	<b><u>Mardell Steinkamp</u></b>
3...New Members	+++++
Church Supper is Coming	
Veteran’s List	<i>Peace of Patience</i>
Job Opening	
	<i>I cannot wait to become</i>
	<i>A peacemaker.</i>
4...This Month in Mission	<i>I cannot wait to help the world overcome</i>
Hats for the Homeless	<i>Anger, and problems of evil.</i>
Infinite Treasure	<i>I cannot wait for the world</i>
	<i>To be peaceful,</i>
	<i>And for everyone</i>
	<i>To live in harmony.</i>
5...October Birthdays	<i>I cannot wait to grow</i>
October Anniversaries	<i>And be and overcome.</i>
Trunk or Treat	<i>But. I will wait,</i>
Laity Sunday	<i>With patience,</i>
	<i>With hope and peace.</i>
6...Yesterday’s Youth	
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“Scripture is like a pair of spectacles which dispels the darkness and gives us a clear view of God.”

Mattie J.T. Stepanek  
November 1999  
Age 9

**Pastor's Column**

Dear Church Family,  
It's always fun to get back to a busy schedule when the fall arrives. As I write this, choir is back to rehearsing on Tuesday nights, Adult Bible Study is meeting on Wednesday mornings, Prayer Team is meeting on Thursday mornings, and we had five children in Sunday School this morning! We are nearly finished with the "Season of Creation," which has been a great time to deepen our awareness of the gifts of earth, humanity, skies, mountains, and animals. God has truly blessed us to live in such a beautiful world, and we are blessed when we take the time to reconnect with it.

This has also been a busy time in the church office! I want to thank all those who have been willing to volunteer in the church office while we are in between Administrative Assistants. This is a church that always steps up when there is a need, and I am grateful. We still need help, so if you can volunteer a few hours, please let me know. You don't have to do anything you don't want to do! You can fold bulletins, or help with typing, or update the wall calendar, or help me clean out some of the file drawers that are stuffed full, or just come and be willing to answer the phone.

As we continue into the fall, I am looking forward to October, when we will celebrate our second "Trunk-or-Treat" event, and host our annual Turkey Supper. I'm also looking forward to leading a new member class, and to our first-ever "Knit-In!" More details about those are elsewhere in this newsletter.

It's great to be part of a busy community, and I look forward to seeing you all around the church!

Faithfully,  
+Holly

**Litany for the Lord's Day**

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 7  
Job 1:1; 2:1-10; Ps. 26;  
Heb. 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16

28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 14  
Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Ps. 22:1-15;  
Heb. 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31

29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 21  
Job 38:1-7 (34-41); Ps. 104:1-9, 24, 35c;  
Heb. 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 28  
Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Ps. 34:1-8 (19-22);  
Heb. 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Nov. 4  
Ruth 1:1-18; Ps. 146;  
Heb. 9; 11-14; Mark 12:28-34

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**Finding Our Range**

While visiting a church, Robert Neff learned a lesson about the body of Christ. As he listened to a tenor's faltering voice, he noticed worshipers pulling out hymnals to locate the soloist's song.

"By the second verse, the congregation had joined the soloist in the hymn," Neff says. "By the third verse, the tenor was beginning to find the range. By the fourth verse, it was beautiful. And on the fifth verse, the congregation was absolutely silent, and the tenor sang the most beautiful solo of his life."

Neff concludes, "This is life in the body of Christ, enabling one another to sing the tune Christ has given me."

...from Witness of a Third Way

**New Members**

We are getting ready to offer new member classes. If you are interested in becoming a member of the church, please speak to the Rev. Cameron.

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**Church Supper is Coming**

Saturday, October 20 is the Annual Turkey Supper, an event to raise funds for the church and to feed our friends in the community (generally 400-500 meals are served). The menu includes turkey, dressing, cranberry relish, mashed potatoes, squash, green bean salad, rolls, and pie for dessert. The dining room will serve dinner from 4:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

Of course, we need everyone in the church to help make the dinner a success! There are many jobs to do, including:

- Early in the week before the supper: members make the green bean salad and relish, and would welcome additional volunteers
- The Friday before the supper: Peel Potatoes, Peel Squash, Set up the dining room, Pick up meat to cook at home and bring to church on Saturday (we generally need about 16 turkey cookers), Prepare baked goods at home
- 2:00 p.m. the day of the supper: Mash Potatoes, Bring baked goods to church
- 3:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.: Waitresses, Coffee servers, Meat carvers, Kitchen workers, Dishwashers, Pie room attendants (2), Ticket sellers (2), Take-out runners, Handicap Lift operator, Parking lot attendants (3-4)
- After the supper: Clean-up crew

One of the biggest challenges of the fall supper is to get enough pies for the dinner – we need a total of 70-80 pies. You can

volunteer for any assignment on the sign-up sheets that are in the church lobby. In addition to the satisfaction of offering your gifts, all the workers at the dinner get to eat for free! Our coordinators of this event are Bob & Debbie Fuglein and Diane Bode, so speak to any of them if you need more information.

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**Veterans List**

Veterans Day is on a Sunday this year, and we would like to honor our veterans. We have a list of information that was gathered many years ago, and are in the process of updating it. If you or someone in your family served, we would love to know their name, rank, branch of service, years served, and if they served overseas.

We are following up on the list that was in the lobby last month. If you have not yet had a chance to update information, please contact the church office at 518-439-6454 or [newscotlandpc@nycap.rr.com](mailto:newscotlandpc@nycap.rr.com)

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**Job Opening**

We are looking for a new Church Administrative Assistant. Excellent organizational skills are required, in addition to knowledge of Microsoft Word, Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft Excel, Facebook and website maintenance. The position is for 12-15 hours per week. If you know someone who would love to come work with us, please see any member of the Personnel Committee: Dan Coons, Pat Ilnicki, Kevin Dwyer, Margaret Ewart, Mary Ewart, or the Rev. Holly Cameron.

**This Month in Mission**

October 7<sup>th</sup> (World Communion Sunday)

We will be participating in the Peace and Global Witness Offering.

25% of the money we collect remains in our congregation to support our Community. Our Share of the collection will go to Five Rivers to support their programs and guided school lessons to promote awareness, knowledge and appreciation of New York State's environment.

25% will go to the Presbytery and Synod for peace and mission

50% will go to the Presbyterian Mission Agency

From PCUSA

*When the peace treaty was signed between Egypt and Israel in 1979, President Jimmy Carter quoted the journalist Walter Knight, saying "Peace is active, not passive, peace is doing, not waiting ... peace, like war, is waged." The Peace & Global Witness Offering our church supports provides tools and resources for us as we join together as active peacemakers.*

*The Peace and Global Witness Offering draws Presbyterians together and provides education and exposure to those who show us how to do this work well. It allows us to create resources for dealing with conflict and nurturing reconciliation, and stand in support of our global sisters and brothers, because the peace of Christ belongs to people everywhere.*

Mardell Steinkamp

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*"Change always comes bearing Gifts."*

...Price Pritchett

- 4 -

**Hats for the Homeless**

The Mission Committee would like to involve the congregation in mission activities that would involve participation rather than just money collection.

To this end, we are planning to have a program to knit or crochet winter hats for the Interfaith Partnership.

We will begin this program with a knit-in on October 21<sup>st</sup> after a soup/lunch coffee hour. This will be the day after the turkey supper, so it's a good way to relax and maybe learn a new skill and help those in need of a littler more warmth in the coming winter.

If you do not know how to knit or crochet, don't worry. Instructions will be available as well as the supplies needed. And men of the church, we expect you to participate too.

If you have any extra yarn or other knitting supplies that you would like to donate there will be a box in the narthex.

Mardell Steinkamp

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**Infinite Treasure**

The present moment is always full of infinite treasure. It contains far more than you can possibly grasp. Faith is the measure of its riches: what you find in the present moment is according to the measure of your faith. Love also is the measure: the more the heart loves, the more it rejoices in what God provides.

The will of God presents itself at each moment like an immense ocean that the desire of your heart cannot empty; yet you will drink from that ocean according to you faith and love.

...Jean Pierre de Caussade

**October Birthdays**

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

- 1st...James Owen Bradley  
Colin James Roberts
- 2<sup>nd</sup>...Mardell Steinkamp  
Gordon Reed
- 3<sup>rd</sup>...Jake Herzog
- 4<sup>th</sup>...Jennifer Crawford
- 6<sup>th</sup>...Rachel Crawford
- 8<sup>th</sup>...Tara Joyce
- 9<sup>th</sup>...Alice Lemieux  
Tim Gordon
- 12<sup>th</sup>..Robin Schufelt
- 14<sup>th</sup>..Tom Elmendorf
- 15<sup>th</sup>..Randall Miller
- 20<sup>th</sup>..Cindy Brickman
- 22<sup>nd</sup>..Michele Von Haugg
- 26<sup>th</sup>..Marie McMillan
- 27<sup>th</sup>..Leah Nicholson
- 28<sup>th</sup>..Jacob Norris

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**October Anniversaries**

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

October 4, 1981  
*Leah & James Jr. Nicholson*

October 9, 1976  
*Aileen & Edward Lukomski*

October 12, 1999  
*Pat & Ted Whitbeck*

October 15, 1977  
*Patricia & Emery Lemieux*

October 18, 1957  
*Frances & Robert McCormick*

October 24, 1964  
*Jane & Bruce Thornton*

October 25  
*Bonnie & Brendan O'Shea*

October 28, 2002  
*Pam & Harry Thornton*

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**"Trunk or Treat"**

Our New Scotland Presbyterian Church family is hosting its second annual "Trunk or Treat" event in our parking lot on Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00 – 4:30. The New Salem Fire Department will be joining and co-hosting with us again this year. In case of inclement weather, the firehouse will be our location for the event. So, think about decorating your car trunk in a Halloween theme and join us for passing out treats to costumed children! If you have questions, or wish to participate, please talk to Bonnie O'Shea.

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**Laity Sunday**

Sunday, October 28, will be a Laity Sunday. It has been suggested to have our theme be "music."

If you would like to participate, or have any ideas, please speak to me or Ryan Dwyer. We encourage you to join us with these plans.

Dorothy Kohler

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Your words are windows in your heart.

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

Matthew 12:34b

## YESTERDAY'S YOUTH

There was a time when Sundays were devoted to church and family, respected by everyone. There were no sports or other activities. When I began attending church in New Scotland, Sunday School was held from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. after which there was a half hour break when the students and the teachers could let off some steam before the church service began at 10:30 a.m.

There were no regular classrooms. The dining room had drapes on wires between the tables which were pulled out to divide the classes. The manse was empty at the time so it was used for classrooms for the older students.

The room that is now Holly's office was for pre-kindergarten children who were taught by Jane Blessing. During church services it became the nursery.

During The last fifteen minutes the classes gathered together in the sanctuary for a worship time. The children each gave an offering, usually a nickel, dime, or quarter.

There was a time when there were as many as 100 children registered. Some classes needed to be divided into two groups because there were so many children.

Sunday School met each Sunday from September through June, except for Easter (and Christmas if that was on a Sunday).

I became a teacher quite by accident. When I dropped my children off one morning the kindergarten teacher hadn't shown up. She was young and unmarried, was out late the night before and didn't wake up in time, so I was asked to take over. I didn't have the slightest idea of what I was doing that first day, but it became my class for many years.

The Junior Choir sang almost every week. They filled three pews in front of the church on the opposite side from the Senior Choir. Practice was held each Monday after school, before the Senior Choir met. On holidays and special occasions the two choirs often sang together. When the children entered 7<sup>th</sup> grade they were invited to join the Senior Choir.

On Children's Day in June the children put on a program during church. They each memorized their parts.

For two weeks in the summer we had Vacation Bible School. It was held in the morning from Monday through Friday, and on one of those days we would walk through the cemetery to Jane Blessing's house to see her animals. On the last day parents were invited to a covered dish luncheon and the children put on a small program.

There is so much more to tell ... perhaps at another time ....

Dorothy Kohler