LISTEN to the ChurchMouse
Presbyterian Church in New Scotland
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“Original Landlord Still Offering Sanctuary”

VOLUME 50   SEPTEMBER, 2019

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“...The simplest toy, one which even the youngest child can operate, is called a grandparent.”

...Sam Levenson
Pastor's Column

September brings the beginning of autumn, and it is a special season for us this year! For the second time, we will celebrate the "Season of Creation" in worship and Sunday School. This is a time for us to deepen our awareness of the gift of creation, and to praise and thank God for all that is. The Season of Creation began in 1989, when the Orthodox Church set aside September 1st as a day to remember how God created the world. The idea has spread throughout the world, and the Season now goes from September 1 to October 4, which is the Feast Day for St. Francis, the patron saint of ecology, in some traditions.

As part of our celebration, on Sunday, September 22 we will hold a special worship service: "Blessing of the Animals," at 4:00 p.m. All are invited to bring your pet, or to bring a photo if travel for your pet is not possible. Adult Bible Study is also meeting on a different day and time for September. There is more information about these items in this newsletter.

September also finds us in the midst of fundraising to pave the church parking lot, and we have just been blessed with an anonymous donor who will match every dollar donated in the month of September up to $8,600! That means every dollar you give is doubled! There is more information about this project in this newsletter.

I am excited for a new program year to begin, and for the new things we continue to do both inside and outside the building. I know our new parking lot will be a blessing as we continue to serve the New Scotland community in the present and for years to come. I am grateful to God for all the ways you love and support our church and its mission!

See you in church!

Faithfully,
+Holly

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Fall Schedule

It’s been a great summer, now our schedule gets busy again!

Thursday, September 5, 9:30 a.m. — Prayer Team resumes

Thursday, September 5, 1:00 p.m. — Adult Bible Study resumes

Sunday, September 8, 10:00 a.m. —

Sunday School for Kids resumes

Tuesday, September 10, 7:00 p.m. — Choir rehearsal resumes

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Thank You!

We are so grateful for all the ways people share their gifts to keep our church looking good and running well. Thanks to Bonnie O'Shea and Duncan Morrison for painting the church doors and other areas this summer. Thanks to Kevin Lamica and his grandson, Steve, for repairing and painting the steps on the west entrance. Thanks to Sandy Warner and Joe Huth for planting and weeding and trimming. Thanks to Homer Warner and Scott Wright for mowing – Scott is retiring from this job, and Homer
could use a helper to do the weed-whacking around the cemetery stones. Thanks to Don Wagner and Cindy Brickman who helped collate, stuff, label, and stamp the fundraising mailing. Thanks to Richard Oden, who keeps our sign up-to-date. Thanks to Diane Bode for donating new furniture for our church library, to John Griffin and Homer Warner who delivered it, and to Brenda Dwyer who has been arranging, decorating, and painting that room. Thanks to our brothers and sisters at Hebron United, who gave us free hymnals for the Sunday School room, library, and sanctuary; and Delmar Presbyterian who are so generous in letting us use their color printer. If we missed anyone, please let us know. We appreciate you all!

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**Session Notes**

Session met August 22, 2019

Minutes from the June 12th meeting were approved.

- Discussed a need for a representative for the next Presbytery Meeting at Rockwell Falls, Lake Luzerne, on Saturday, September 28th

- Discussed ideas drafted by the Mission Committee: to hold our collections for PC USA support and causes our church supports, to one per month, September through June. Also, rather than collect donations in the plates during services, the congregation may make their donations in a container in the narthex.

- Jim Preston’s family gave the church a gift for the future of our church.

- The chicken and ribs BBQ in July raised $1,325 for the church. It was agreed that we will move the date for the BBQ back to the second Thursday of July to avoid a conflict with the Punkintown Fair. This will help improve our ticket sales for the event.

- Building and Grounds reported on the latest bid for repaving our parking lot. Session agreed to the bid, and are in the process of reaching out to the community for donations to help us reach our goal of $20,500 for the work to be done this fall. We have half of the funds already raised.

- Thank you to Diane Bode for the “new” furniture in the Library. The old sofa and chair have now found new homes.

- The hymnals we accepted from the Hebron United Presbyterian Church are now labeled and housed around our church. Ten are in the Sunday School room, 10 in the Library, and 40 are on the back table in the Sanctuary.

- Congregational Life Committee reported that Children’s Day went well; we shared services with the Voorheesville United Methodist Church on July 21st, 28th, August 4th, and 11th. Sunday School begins Sunday, September 8th, and we need a few more adults to volunteer to teach occasional Sundays. The directory has been submitted and should be available for final proofing the last week of August/first week of September.

- Pastor's report: Holly has reached out to David Bennett to wrap up our work we did with him last year in regards to
the future of our church. She also presided over the burials of Jim Preston, and Carolyn Cook Manus, Harriet Cook’s daughter.

Bonnie O’Shea

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**Adult Bible Study for September**

For the Season of Creation, Adult Bible Study will be meeting on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. in the church library. Join us September 5, 12, 19, and 26 to look at the readings that will be used in worship on the following Sundays. Resource sheets for each week are available on the table in the narthex. See the Rev. Cameron for more information.

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**Blessing of the Animals**

On Sunday, September 22, at 4:00 p.m. we will host a special worship, “Blessing of the Animals.” All are invited to bring your pet, or to bring a photo of your pet if travel is not possible. This event is open to the whole community, so please invite your friends and neighbors to join us for this special time!

We will meet behind the church for a short service of prayer and blessing, followed by a time of fellowship. We need help to post flyers about this event around town, so the community can come and join us. Flyers are on a table in the church lobby, along with a list of places to post them. We hope to see you on the 22nd for this fun event!

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**Book Signing!**

Dorothy Kohler will be reading from and signing copies of her book, “Stories of a Life: Remembering Friends and Family” on Sunday, September 15, at 2:00 p.m. at the Voorheesville Public Library. Light refreshments will be served and all are welcome to attend!

If you would like a copy of Dorothy’s book, they are $12 and can be obtained by mailing a check to Dorothy at P.O. Box 141, Voorheesville, NY 12186. There will also be copies available at church after September 15.

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**Pave the Parking Lot**

For 232 years, our church has been dedicated to serving our community, and we rejoice in the many ways we welcome people from the community for worship, church suppers, concerts, community meetings, and many other events. Our parking lot was last resurfaced in 1998, and time has taken its toll since then. There are places in our parking lot that have sunk, or receded, been dug up and patched. In addition, the handicap lift was added since then, and there are places where the sidewalk and the parking lot are not on the same level, so wheelchairs cannot move from one to the other.

We are now working with a local contractor, New Scotland Paving, to grade, pave, and stripe our lot. Fundraising letters have been mailed, and there are special envelopes in the church narthex. Any donations received that go above the cost of the project will be put into our endowment fund, so that we continue to invest in our future.
As is noted in the Pastor's Column, we have just been blessed with an anonymous donor who will match all donations given in the month of September, up to $8,600! Donations can be made any time, and we are grateful for any and all gifts.

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**Stop the Hopping**

A church is an imperfect mix of imperfect believers, so it's easy for members to find faults or feel disappointed. That, in turn, may tempt us to shop around.

C.S. Lewis addresses that in *The Screwtape Letters*. "If a man can't be cured of churchgoing," Screwtape advises his demon protégé, "the next best thing is to send him all over the neighborhood looking for the church that 'suits' him until he becomes a taster or connoisseur of churches," How Satan must hate when Christians maintain long term commitment to one church!

The urge to church-hop harms congregations as well as believers. "Spiritual depth isn't fostered by satiating your sense of felt needs," writes James Emery White. "It's receiving a balanced diet of teaching and challenge, investing in service and mission, living in community and diversity that you probably would not select for yourself.

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**Keep Singing**

None can sing a new song who has not the new life. But many who have the new life seem to have lost the song. The first thing that goes when we begin to backslide is the joy of the Lord.

...Evan H. Hopkins

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**Look up — and out**

The Church on earth is a cross-eyed church, with one eye on God in his heavenly benediction, and one eye on the needy world of men.

—David Head

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**Puzzle!**

Match each numbered description with the correct biblical dreamer. Use the passages as hints, if needed.

1. His brothers were irritated when he told them of his dreams. (Genesis 37:5-9)
2. He saw angels going up and down a ladder. (Genesis 28:10-12)
3. This ruler dreamed about some skinny cows eating fat cows. (Genesis 41:17-23)
4. She had an unpleasant dream and told her husband to have nothing to do with Jesus. (Matthew 27:17-19)
5. He saw a vine produce grapes, and he squeezed their juice into a cup. (Genesis 40:9-17)
6. He was warned to take his family to Egypt. (Genesis 24:34)
7. He saw a statue whose feet were smashed by a stone. (Daniel 2:40)
8. They were warned in a dream about Herod's evil plan. (Matthew 2:12)

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[PUZZLE0919]
Litany For the Lord’s Day

22\textsuperscript{nd} Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept. 1
Jer. 2:4-13; Ps. 81:1-10-16
Heb. 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 141, 7-14

23\textsuperscript{rd} Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept. 8
Jer.18:1-11; Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18
Philem. 1-21; Luke 14:25-33

24\textsuperscript{th} Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept. 15
Jer. 11-12, 22-28; Ps. 14
Tim. 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10

25\textsuperscript{th} Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept. 22
Jer. 8:18-9:1; Ps. 79:1-9

26\textsuperscript{th} Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept. 29
Jer. 32:1-3a, 6-15; Ps.91:1-6, 14-16
1 Tim. 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

27\textsuperscript{th} Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 6
Lam. 1:1-6; Lam. 3:19-26 or Ps. 137
2 Tim. 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10


September Birthdays

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

8\textsuperscript{th}.....Jaclyn Kohler
10\textsuperscript{th}.....Evelyn Fuglein
15\textsuperscript{th}.....Shari Edwards
16\textsuperscript{th}.....Christine Gordon
17\textsuperscript{th}.....Frank Bode
18\textsuperscript{th}.....Shirley Wright
Van Kohler
19\textsuperscript{th}.....Angali Francis
Dawn Scaccia

20\textsuperscript{th}.....Bea Kenney
22\textsuperscript{nd}.....Laurel Beavers
Donna Wittig
24\textsuperscript{th}.....Edward Lukomski
27\textsuperscript{th}.....McKinley Riedy


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September Anniversaries

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

September 3, 2018
Tamara % Stephen Shaw

September 4, 1993
Shari & William Edwards

September 6, 1972
Sarita & John Winchell

September 10, 2011
Rebecca & Randy Miller

September 11, 1981
Patricia & Daniel Joyce

September 13, 1986
Ed & Wendy Weist

September 14, 1968
Lois & Bob Ambuhl

September 18
Judee and Albert Miller Jr.

September 19, 1965
Martha & Richard Oden

September 20, 1997
Tim & Christine Gordon
This month in Mission

September 2019

A new procedure for the collection of mission funds

This month we are inaugurating a new procedure for the collection of mission funds.

- Each month will be designated for a particular mission collection.
- A notice of the mission collection will be listed in the newsletter.
- At the beginning of the month envelopes will be inserted in the bulletins and additional envelopes will be available on the table in the Narthex throughout the month.
- At the beginning of the month a Minute for Mission will be presented to explain the cause.
- There will be multiple ways to collect donations.
  - In the collection plate on any Sunday of that particular month. Your donation should be put in the envelope specific to the mission collection, or a check should be noted for the specific collection.
  - In a box in the Narthex. The box will be for envelopes or change.

Schedule for mission collections for September 2019 through June 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Mission Fund</th>
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<td>Theological Education</td>
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<td>October</td>
<td>Peace and Global Witness</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td>Emergency Shelter</td>
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<td>December</td>
<td>Christmas Joy Offering</td>
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<td>January</td>
<td>Souper Bowl</td>
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<td>February</td>
<td>Pennies for Haven</td>
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<td>March</td>
<td>Crop Walk</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>One Great Hour of Sharing</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>Pentecost Offering</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Neighbors Helping Neighbors</td>
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The collection for September 2019 will be for Theological Education Fund of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)

The fund is the best hope of ensuring the church of Christ is prepared to serve long into the future. Gifts to this fund help ensure every church has a seminary-trained pastor.

The fund is housed at the Presbyterian Foundation and is the sole source of denomination-wide funding for seminaries from the PC(USA).

Seminaries are good stewards of the funds we provide. Research shows that 91 percent of Presbyterian seminary graduates are employed in the fields they’ve been called to serve in within one year. Presbyterian seminary graduates also have less debt than their peers at other seminaries, giving them more flexibility to follow the call of God, no matter where it might lead.

We need these graduates – and need more to see a clear path to seminary. Out of the current clergy serving in Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregations, 85 percent will likely retire in the next decade. The next generation of seminarians is energized, enthusiastic and ready to serve, and it is our vision to use the Theological Education Fund to buoy their service to the church.