



LISTEN to *The ChurchMouse*

*New Scotland Presbyterian Church
April 2022*

"Original Landlord Still Offering Sanctuary"



Looking Through God's Eyes by the Rev. Holly Cameron

As April begins, we are coming to the end of the Lenten season. Lent is a time for reflection as we prepare for the last week of Jesus' life, and the miracle of the resurrection.

For centuries Lent has been a time when people think of giving something up, so the call of John the Baptist to "repent" hovers over this season. "Repent" means to turn around, to go in a different direction, and we often think about repentance in terms of our individual shortcomings. When we think of repenting, we may think of a bad habit we wish we could change, or a long-broken relationship we wish we could repair. Those are good things to lift up to God through the season of Lent, to ask for God's help, strength, and courage as we struggle with the difficult areas of our lives.

We can also think about repentance through a larger lens: repentance is the desire for restoration, back to the way God intended things to be. God intended the creation to be fruitful. When we see situations that are not bearing fruit, it is time for a change – to head in a different direction. This idea of repentance means going beyond seeing something we don't like and trying to change it through our own willpower. Instead we see something that isn't right and try to see it through God's eyes. This alleviates us of guilt, shame, and blame; and moves us toward compassion, healing, and restoration.

As we read the stories of Jesus, we see that this is what he did. He saw people who were ill and restored them to health. He saw people who were hungry and blessed a little bit of food, so all were fed. He saw people who were

outcast and restored them to society. He saw Peter try to walk on water and reached out for him as he sank. He saw Thomas' doubt and let him touch the scars of crucifixion. These stories tell us that when God sees something that is broken, God has compassion, and brings restoration.

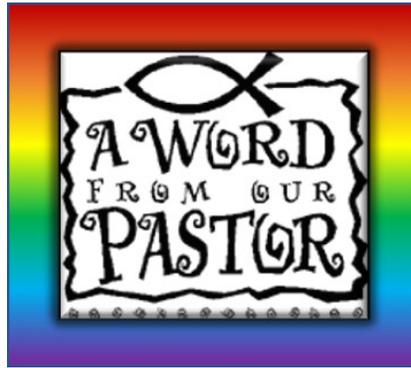
So, I wonder if we can think of repentance as our desire to see more and more through the eyes of God. Because if we can look at our difficult habits and broken relationships through the eyes of God, I bet we will be able to find more compassion, and more desire for restoration.

Of course, the biggest restoration we know is God's restoration of Jesus from the tomb of death. As we look at the events of Holy Week through our human eyes, we see Jesus teaching in the Temple, sharing a meal with his disciples, washing their feet, praying in the Garden of Gethsemane, being confronted by soldiers, tried, beaten, and suffering until death. As human beings, we see the tragedy, the injustice, the pain, the sadness. God sees all those things, too. God also sees a way to restoration. No one else saw it, or could even imagine it. Even when Jesus came back, the disciples could not believe their eyes.

The gift of our faith is that we continue to repent – to try to see more and more through the eyes of God. We are reminded of the story of Easter each and every Sunday, and look forward to our big celebration of Easter this month, with flowers and singing, and gathering at sunrise and at 10:00 a.m.

I hope to see you then!

+Holly



Easter Flowers Order Form

Deadline: Tuesday, April 5

*Help us beautify our Sanctuary for
Easter Sunday Worship Service
with lovely perennials.*

Your Name(s):

Flowers are in memory of:

Flowers are in honor of:

Please indicate how many of each desired.

- Azalea* \$14.25 ea
- Lily* \$13.50 ea
- Hyacinth* \$8.75 ea
- Tulip* \$11.25 ea

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

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.*

*Please fill out this form and return it to Mary-Jean Riley,
along with your check made payable to
New Scotland Presbyterian Church.
Please write **Easter Flowers** in the memo line
Questions: contact Mary-Jean at 518-928-9685.*



New Display Items

In response to Brenda Dwyer's request for a display collection for the history cabinet, Carol Fuglein stepped up and shared her collection of Breyer Horses. She has been collecting them for many years, with friends and family giving them to her for birthdays and Christmas presents throughout her life. "I love them like they're real!" she said.

A horse enthusiast since she was a young girl, Carol got her first pony when she was only 4 years old. Her father ran their Fuglein dairy farm, but also bought neglected, underweight horses at auction, rehabilitated them and then sold them for profit. Carol enjoyed showering the horses with love and perfecting her riding skills.

For 50 years, Carol showed horses at the Altamont Fair and also taught Western riding lessons to girls and girl scouts. She still owns three horses and loves caring for them every day. "When you grow up on a farm, it's just a way of life to get up every morning and tend to the horses. I wouldn't have it any other way."

Carol's collection includes Breyer horses that are old and valuable — those made prior to the time when production was switched to China. Every Breyer horse is created by hand, beginning as artist's sculptures, and hand-painted with airbrushes and paintbrushes — a process which is still done by human hands, not machines. Even today, no two Breyer models are ever exactly alike!

Thank you, Carol, for sharing your passion!

Holy Week Schedule

We are delighted to share worship services with our neighbors during Holy Week and Easter morning. Monday through Friday we will hold joint services with Delmar Presbyterian, some at our church at some at their church. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, we will have in-person worship at New Scotland, with midday 30-minute prayer and communion. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are evening services that will be both in-person and live-streamed; these will be held at Delmar Presbyterian, 585 Delaware Avenue. On Easter Sunrise, we join with Delmar Presbyterian and First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville at the Thacher Park Overlook, followed by breakfast at the Methodist Church. Please plan to join us for this special week of services. Here is the schedule:

April 11: Monday of Holy Week

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

April 12: Tuesday of Holy Week

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

April 13: Wednesday of Holy Week

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

April 14: Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Joint Communion Service to remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples, at Delmar Presbyterian, 585 Delaware Ave.

April 15: Good Friday

7:00 p.m. Joint Worship Service to commemorate the crucifixion at Delmar Presbyterian, 585 Delaware Ave.

April 17: Easter Sunday

5:35 a.m. Joint Sunrise Service with Delmar Presbyterian Church and First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville; meeting at New Scotland Presbyterian Church to drive in procession to Thacher Park Overlook

5:50 a.m. Worship Service at Thacher Park

6:35 a.m. Breakfast at First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville, 68 Maple Ave.

10:00 a.m. Worship Service & Sunday School

PRAYER LIST

The prayer list is maintained by the Deacons. If you have questions about anyone on the list, or would like to add or remove someone from the list, see or e-mail Tamara Shaw (CliftonRun@gmail.com) or any of our Deacons.

Laurel & Mark Beavers
 Melanie Thornton Capraro (Karen & Tim Thornton’s daughter)
 Danny Carroll (Chris Gordon’s brother)
 Linda Caruso (Tamara Shaw’s friend)
 Randy Craft (Debbie Craft’s husband)
 Carl George (Christine Cameron’s husband)
 Holly Huth (Joe Huth’s daughter-in-law)
 The Rev. Kate Kotfila (former pastor at Brunswick & Cambridge)
 Aidan Lawson (Robin Shufelt’s friend)
 Ed Lyons (Robin Shufelt’s friend)
 Tony Merritt (Tim & Christine Gordon’s in-law)
 Gerald Minor (Joyce Schork’s brother)
 Reinhold Scholz (Robin Shufelt’s friend)
 Joyce Schork
 Family of Betty Showers (Chris Deyss’ mother)
 Gene Urgento (Mary-Jean Riley’s brother)
 Ted Whitbeck
 Shirley Wright
 Euni Yang (Pastor Charlie Yang’s wife)
 Sam Youmans



Heavenly Father, We lift up all those who are facing various illnesses. Give them the hope and courage they need today and every day. Comfort their pain, calm their fears, and surround them with Your peace.

Please extend your prayers for:

- the people of Ukraine.
- our military personnel and their families.
- doctors, nurses, first responders, police officers, firefighters, and all families dealing with COVID-19.
- students, teachers, staff, administration, parents and children as the school year continues.

New Salem Volunteer Fire Dept.

Easter Egg Hunt

Rain, snow or shine!

Saturday, April 9, 10:00 am

Free coffee, donuts and Kiddie Goodie Bags

With \$2.00 donation per family



April Birthdays

Erik Craft	4-3
Carol McGowan	4-14
Cynthia Griffin	4-16
Noah Thornton	4-19
Ashley Parker	4-19
Wally Throop	4-21
Robert Rudd	4-22



Mardell & Paul Steinkamp	4-4-64
Ruth & Richard Von Haugg	4-6-73
Daisy & Tom Elmendorf	4-22-94
Deb & John Blakely	4-22-95
Lisa & Ray Youngman	4-22-95
Denise & Mike Riedy	4-22-11
Janet & Rodger Willey	4-30-66
Diane & Frank Bode	4-30-83



Resurrection refresher

All four gospels confirm Jesus' resurrection, and each one offers important details.

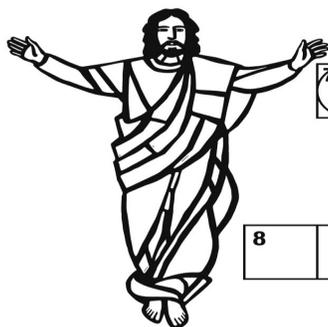
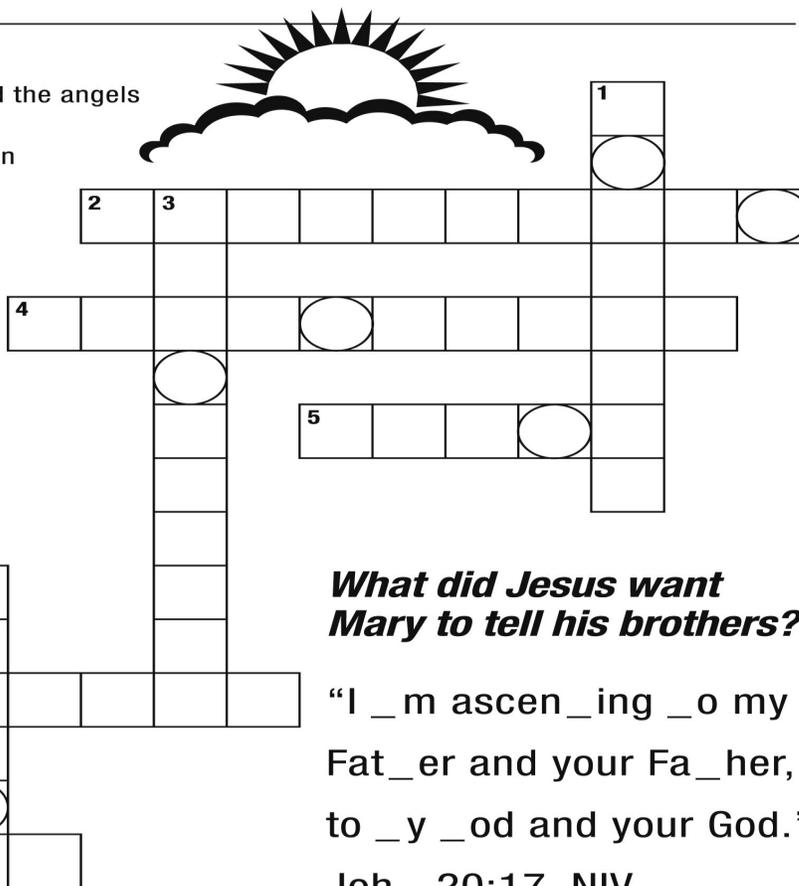
Directions: Complete the crossword. Then insert the circled letters (in order of the clue numbers) to complete John 20:17 below.

ACROSS

- 2. The women did this when they heard the angels talk about Jesus' death. (Luke 24:8)
- 4. The women at the tomb did this when they saw Jesus. (Matthew 28:9)
- 5. The man in Jesus' empty tomb wore this color robe. (Mark 16:5)
- 7. Jesus instructed his brothers to go here. (Matthew 28:10)
- 8. Peter saw strips of this in the tomb. (Luke 24:12)

DOWN

- 1. At first, Mary thought Jesus was this person. (John 20:15)
- 3. As an angel came from heaven, this happened. (Matthew 28:2)
- 6. She went with Mary to anoint Jesus' body. (Mark 16:1)



What did Jesus want Mary to tell his brothers?

"I _ m ascen _ ing _ o my Fat _ er and your Fa _ her, to _ y _ od and your God."
Joh _ 20:17, NIV

Answer: ACROSS 2. remembered, 4. worshipped, 5. white, 7. Galilee, 8. linen; DOWN 1. gardener, 3. earthquake, 6. Salome; "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." John 20:17, NIV

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Continues to Seek Support for Humanitarian Response to Ukraine

In the four weeks since the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) issued an appeal for help, Presbyterians have donated nearly \$1 million in response to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.

"All our partners have said they're in this for the long run," said Susan Krehbiel, PDA's Associate for Refugees & Asylum.

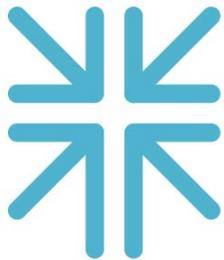
The Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, director of PDA, said the outpouring of response from Presbyterians has been unprecedented, and that she is hearing the same from other denominations.

"It's a massive, massive refugee response that's still unfolding, and that could escalate into a much different sort of issue," Kraus said, noting it is the largest refugee crisis in Europe since World War II.

Approximately 3.6 million people have left Ukraine and 6.48 million have been displaced within the country.

A quickly growing issue in the countries taking in Ukrainian refugees is the need for housing, as it becomes obvious many will not be able to go home anytime soon, if at all. PDA's specialty is long-term response, and its partner ministries in the Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Office of the General Assembly will be part of a broad, sustained response.

To contribute make your check payable to Presbyterian Church U.S.A. with "DR000156-Ukraine" on the memo line. Mail to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700; or call (800) 872-3283. You can also donate online or text PDAUKR to 41444.



SPECIAL OFFERINGS ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

For more than fifty years, Presbyterians have joined with Christians throughout the nation in responding to Christ's love for all people by joyfully sharing that love with people in need through supporting One Great Hour of Sharing. The hundreds of millions of dollars Presbyterians have given over the last half century have enabled a powerful witness to the love of the One who came that all might have life more abundantly.

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

The work of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is of even greater need at this time because of the situation in Ukraine.

"As the violence in Ukraine continues, the number of people being displaced internally and fleeing to neighboring countries increases by the day. And in the midst of the chaos, there are sibling churches and ecumenical partners who are already providing assistance with basic items for survival. Our first priority is to provide funding to these partners on the ground. While the scale of this crisis is new, receiving refugees from Ukraine and other countries in Central and Eastern Europe is not, which means we have trusted, established partners with the knowledge and expertise to carry out this important work. Our response will include both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead." From the PDA. To give, offering envelopes are available in the church lobby, or just write One Great Hour of Sharing on the memo line of your check.

Earth Day is April 22; this is the 52nd year of celebrating Earth Day. As people of faith, it is good for us to remember that, of all the creating God did, human beings came last. And, when God was done creating, God gave the earth to us to take care of. Here is a reading from José Hobday (1929–2009), who was a Catholic nun and a Native-American elder and storyteller.



She grew up in Texas, the daughter of a Southern Baptist father, and a Seneca-Iroquois mother. In her book, “*Stories of Awe and Abundance*,” she writes of how she learned to “pray always,” as the apostle Paul tells us. She learned to pray always from the Native American spirituality of her mother, which honored a sense of being in constant communion and harmony with God in all things. It seems appropriate to share for this Earth Day:

My mother prayed as a Native American. That meant she saw living as praying and praying as living. She tried to pray her life. She expressed her prayer of gratitude, for example, in the way she did things. She told me many times, “When you stir oatmeal, stir it slowly so you don’t forget that oatmeal is a gift and that you don’t take it for granted.”

She made a prayer out of the way she stirred oatmeal. Doing things prayerfully. That reflected her approach to prayer. She always did that. She even did it in the way she walked. She taught me and my brothers to walk with our hearts high and to walk softly on the earth because the earth is our mother. . . As we walked, she said, we should be ready to

enter into every movement of beauty we encountered. . .

So, what things have I learned from Native American spirituality? First, to make my prayer creation-centered. Indians pray as relatives of the earth. They consider the sky their father, the earth their mother. The sun can be a brother or a sister. This makes you a creature with a relationship to creation, not someone above it or better than it. . . .

In our prayer, we might very well reflect on . . . creatures, and their relationship with creation. That is what Native Americans have done. It has not only kept them in touch with creation, but with the Creator as well.



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New Scotland Presbyterian Church
April 2022



“Original Landlord Still Offering Sanctuary”

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2010 New Scotland Avenue, Slingerlands, NY 12159



**Fish Fry Fridays
are Back for 2022!**

April 1 & 8

*4:30—7:00 pm,
or until sold out*

Fresh haddock, French fries,
homemade coleslaw and
homemade New England
clam chowder, cocktail and
tartar sauce.

New Salem Fire Department
694 New Salem Road, Voorheesville

Drive Up, Take Out Only

Fish \$15; Chowder \$5