



LISTEN to *The ChurchMouse*

*New Scotland Presbyterian Church
April 2023*

"Original Landlord Still Offering Sanctuary"



Star Words and Earth Care by Rev. Holly Cameron

At the beginning of the year we received Star Words, a word to guide us through this year. I wonder if you are still noticing your Star Word, or if it has fallen under a stack of items that have cropped over the past couple of months. My Star Word is taped to my door, so I see it every time I leave home. But, I confess I have not been as attentive to it as I was at the beginning. It is easy to tune out things we see in our environment every day. So, I am moving my Star Word to a different location this month, in hopes it will catch my eye anew and remind me to listen for God's guidance.

The invitation for this month is to look up your Star Word in the Bible. See how it is used in the stories of our ancestors in the faith. You may find that your specific word is not listed but see if there is a synonym that is used. You can easily look up your word in any online version of the Bible or Bible Concordance. I was surprised to see how my word is used throughout scripture and plan to look up synonyms throughout the coming month.

Next month I'll be asking you to share some of what you have been experiencing with your Star Word, so let me know!

.....
In March we received word from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and we are so proud to announce that New Scotland Presbyterian Church has been certified as an Earth Care Congregation for 2023! This designation is given by the Presbyterian Hunger Program of the PC(USA). The certification is designed to recognize churches that make the commitment to take seriously God's charge to "till and keep" the garden, as recorded in Genesis 2:15.

Started in 2010 by the PC(USA), the goal of this program is to inspire churches to care for

God's earth in a holistic way. The Earth Care Congregation certification honors churches that make the commitment and encourages others to follow their example. For more information, see www.pcusa.org/earthcarecongregations.

This status speaks to the serious commitment our church has made to care for God's earth. To become an Earth Care Congregation, we affirmed the Earth Care Pledge to continue integrating environmental practices and thinking into all aspects of our church life, including worship, education,

facilities, and outreach.

New Scotland Presbyterian Church is just one of 305 churches in our denomination that chose to dedicate themselves to intentional care of God's earth this year. In our own presbytery, three of our sister churches are also designated as Earth Care Congregations: Westminster in Albany, Delmar, and Glens Falls. Each of those churches has an Earth Care Team, and we would like to join them for outreach and programs. If you are interested in being part of our team, please let me know.

Delmar and Westminster have planned a program for Saturday, April 29, with a presentation by Bill Reinhardt and Tina Lieberman of Capital District Community Energy. It is at Westminster, 85 Chestnut St, open 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m., and presentation at 7:00 p.m. Please register online at wpcalbany.org by Wednesday April 26. I'd be happy to carpool, so let me know if you are interested!

We are also planning a Spring Nature Walk at Heldeberg Workshop later this month. A few of us went out last year for a gentle walk to see the spring flowers that we coming up. Let me know if you would like to join us this year and we can plan the details.





An Easter People — Living Into Hope

by The Rev. Larry Deyss, Pastor in the Pew

In the weeks leading up to Easter, our New Scotland Presbyterian Book Group is reading “Laudato Si’ — On Care for Our Common Home.” This encyclical letter, written by Pope Francis, is a ground breaking document for our time. It provides a spiritual core and sound guidance for us in our faith and practice as we seek to care for the earth, our common Home.

This is very fitting book for us to be reading during Lent as we prepare our hearts, minds and souls for the high, holy day of Easter, which reminds us of the power of God to bring life out of death, thereby giving us hope.

The word “Hope” can trip us up if we think that hope is a commodity like money, or silver and gold, or any other asset that we possess and can control. Hope is not so much a possession as it is something that we are constantly living into. We lean into, and live into hope. We trust the workings and power of God to bring life and hope where we cannot see a reason for hope.

Being an “Easter People” means we trust God. We go forward by trusting that there is more at work than what we can see, know or understand. Just as hope is not something that we possess, neither is faith a commodity that we possess. Hope and faith provide a way of moving forward by trusting that God, who raised Christ from the dead and set the Spirit of Christ loose upon the world, is still present and at work today, tomorrow and until the end of time.

This understanding is at the very heart of Easter. It is through faith that we lean into hope and into the fullness of life itself. All of this is a gift from God who brought life out of death by raising of Christ from the dead and who is at work today.

Embracing that message is who we are as an Easter People as we lean and live into Hope.



Deacons Health Aids Closet

Did you know that the Deacons have a closet for Health Aids at the church? There are many items that can be borrowed if you have a need. The closet has been made possible by the many people that have donated items they no longer need. It is located downstairs near the children’s play room.

There is no cost to borrow any of the items, you only need to sign a form showing what you borrowed. A partial list (there are more items than listed here) of the items that we have include:

- bath seat
- bed pan
- bed tray
- walking canes
(several types)
- commode
- crutches
- elevated toilet seat
- extender for reaching
- walkers
- wheel chair



If you would like to borrow any of these items, or for a complete list of available items, please see one of the Deacons or someone in the office. We would be glad to show you what we have.

**And being found
in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death
— even death on a cross!**

Philippians 2:8





Order form for Purchase of "Glory To God" Hymnals

If you are interested in purchasing one or more hymnals in memory of or in honor of a loved one or a friend, you may fill out the information below and return this form and a check made out to New Scotland Presbyterian Church (write hymnals on the memo line). Each one costs \$22.00. Forms and money may be given to Bonnie O'Shea or dropped off in the office during the week.

Your name: _____

Number of hymnals ordered: _____

Total cost: _____

Name(s) to be recognized on the book plate(s) in memory of:

Name(s) to be recognized on the name plate(s) in honor of:



April's Mission Collection . . .

One Great Hour of Sharing

Restoring hope, feeding the hungry, and empowering the oppressed

In a world of disaster, hunger and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

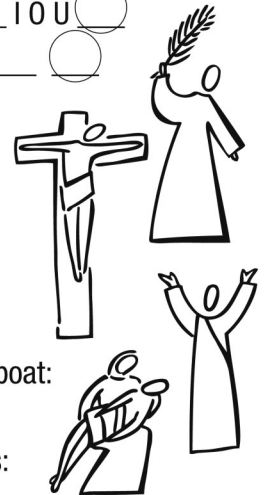
The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People — all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

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. ~Mardell Steinkamp

Puzzle!

Use the clues to complete words with various vowel arrangements. Then place the circled letters in the correct blanks below to complete an Easter phrase.

1. Brave: E O U
2. A dark profile: O U E
3. Circular: O U
4. Running away: E E
5. Savage, fierce: I O U
6. Odd or nostalgic: U A I
7. A person from the 50th state: A I A
8. Compress, push together: U E E
9. A large tree in California: U I A
10. Paddling in a small, narrow boat: O E I
11. Upright, moral and righteous: U O U
12. Lining up in a row: U E U
13. Gorgeous: E A U E U
14. Precipitation: A I



Easter phrase:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
							!
	9	10	11	12	13	14	

Answers: 1. courageous, 2. silhouette, 3. round, 4. fleeing, 5. vicious, 6. quaint, 7. Hawaiian, 8. squeeze, 9. sequoia, 10. canoeing, 11. virtuous, 12. queuing, 13. beautiful, 14. rain; Christ is Savior!



Every gift makes a difference in the life of someone who deserves God's love and support.





April Birthdays

Erik Craft..... 4-3
Cynthia Griffin..... 4-16
Noah Thornton..... 4-19
Wally Throop..... 4-21
Robert Rudd..... 4-22

April Anniversaries

Mardell & Paul Steinkamp..... 4-4-64
Ruth & Richard Von Haug..... 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
Diane & Frank Bode..... 4-30-83



Holy Week Schedule



Holy Monday, April 3, at 12:15 pm in person at New Scotland Presbyterian (midday prayer with communion).

Holy Tuesday, April 4, at 12:15 pm in person at New Scotland Presbyterian (midday prayer with communion).

Holy Wednesday, April 5, at 12:15 pm in person at New Scotland Presbyterian Church (midday prayer with communion).

Maundy Thursday, April 6, at 7:00 pm in person at Delmar Presbyterian Church (585 Delaware Avenue) and live-streamed. Ryan Dwyer, musician.

Good Friday, April 7, at 7:00 pm in person at Delmar Presbyterian Church (585 Delaware Avenue) and live-streamed. Brian Reynolds, musician.

Easter Sunday, April 9

Joint Easter Sunrise Service with:

- New Scotland Presbyterian Church
- First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville
- Delmar Presbyterian Church

5:50 am Drive in procession from New Scotland Presbyterian Church, or meet at

6:05 am Worship at Thacher Park Overlook

6:50 am Breakfast at New Scotland Presbyterian Church

10:00 am Easter Worship Service at New Scotland Presbyterian Church



Prayer List

*The prayer list is maintained by the Deacons. Contact Tamara Shaw.
Call or text 518-573-7736 or email, CliftonRun@gmail.com.*

- Kerry Back**.....(Pat Klose Hammond’s brother-in-law)
- Sherry Back** (Pat Klose Hammond’s sister-in-law)
- Chuck Barrett**(Carolyn Barrett’s husband)
- Laurel & Mark Beavers**
- Amanda Benacquisto**..... (Don Wagner’s granddaughter)
- Rev. Holly Cameron**
- 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)
- Kathy Donnelly** (Kevin Dwyer’s twin sister)
- Diane Dyer** (Wayne Shatraw’s aunt)
- Mark Elmendorf** (Carol Elmendorf’s son)
- Neil Erickson** (Debbie Fuglein’s friend)
- Mary Ewart**
- Evelyn Fuglein**
- Family of Ken Hunter** (Pat Klose Hammond’s friend from FUMCV)
- Rev. Earl Johnson**(retired pastor from Johnstown)
- Lois Kohler** (Dorothy Kohler’s sister-in-law)
- Aidan Lawson** Robin Shufelt’s friend)
- Michael Manss** (Robin Shufelt’s friend)
- Stephanie Markus** (Robin Shufelt’s friend)
- Jim Miller** (Rev. Bruce Miller’s son)
- Gerald Minor**(Joyce Schork’s brother)
- Vickie Richeson**..... (Mary-Jean Riley and Gene Urgento’s sister)
- Manny Sanchez**.....(Sandy Warner’s brother-in-law)
- Shirley Schenmeyer** (Pat Klose Hammond’s friend from FUMCV)
- Andrew Thornton** (Tim and Karen Thornton’s grandson)
- Gene Urgento**
- Family of Geraldine Wagner** (Don Wagner’s sister-in-law)
- Shirley Wright**
- Euni Yang** (Pastor Charlie Yang’s wife)



Session Report for March, 2023

We welcomed our newest Elder, Holly Stefaniak, and thanked her for serving the church. We also recognized that Tamara Shaw will be installed as a Deacon for a second term on Sunday, March 19. She was unable to attend church on February 26 when the first installation of officers was held.

Rev. Cameron updated Session with the schedule of shared summer services with First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville. This year we will worship together at New Scotland Presbyterian Church the last two Sundays of July (23 and 30), and worship with our neighbors at United Methodist Church the first two Sundays of August (6 and 13).

A big thank you to John Griffin who has agreed to stay on as the Chairperson for the Buildings and Grounds Committee, even though his term as Elder has ended.

The Congregational Life Committee has opened orders for the new hymnals that our Musical Director, Ryan Dwyer, had recommended. Look for order forms in this newsletter and at church. They also report that plans are underway to celebrate Rev. Cameron's 25 anniversary on June 4, with a special luncheon to follow the morning's service. More details will be forthcoming. The last item reported was that volunteers will be needed to help make the egg casseroles for the breakfast after the Easter Sunrise service this year. NSPC is hosting our neighbors from the First United

Methodist Church of Voorheesville and the Delmar Presbyterian Church.

The Deacons report that Brenda Dwyer will be the moderator this year. Easter flower orders are being handled by Sandy Warner, with assistance from Bonnie O'Shea and Chris Kirk. Orders ended on March 19.

Reverend Cameron reported the she officiated at the funeral for Stephen Kohler on Saturday,

February 25. The Book Study group is meeting again. They are discussing "Laudato Si". Also underway is the Lenten Reflection group. They meet via Zoom on Wednesdays. If you are interested in joining in, please let Rev. Cameron know so that she can send you the link. Rev. Cameron would also like to thank the Rev. Kate Kotfila who led worship on March 5, and Nina Nichols who led worship on March 12 while our pastor was recovering from her broken arm. Rev. Cameron also reports that our joint Ash Wednesday service with Delmar Presbyterian had about twenty people in attendance at the church. Many others were trying to live stream it, but there was a glitch and the live streaming didn't work. The good news is that it was recorded and can be watched after the fact.

Committee Chair-people will be checking with committee members if they wish to continue on in those committee assignments. This is a wonderful time for people to reach out to committee chairs if they would like to join a committee and help our church in that way.



SESSION MEETING

HE IS RISEN
CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION



Can You Guess Who?!

Congregational Life Committee Report

We are now taking orders for new hymnals. The cost is \$22.00 for each one and order forms are available at church and in our newsletter. We will be placing book plates in each one that you purchase to identify a loved one or friend that you have purchased the hymnal in memory of or in gratitude for. Orders may be given to Bonnie O'Shea or dropped off in the office during business hours. Once our church places the order, the hymnals should arrive in seven to ten business days.

On Easter Sunday, our church is hosting the Easter breakfast for attendees of the Easter Sunrise Service at Thacher Park. We are looking for volunteers to help make the egg casseroles the Saturday before, and to help serve the breakfast Easter morning. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 a.m. Please see Bonnie O'Shea if you can help either day.

We are also well underway with our plans to celebrate Holly's 25th anniversary as pastor of the New Scotland Presbyterian Church. We will be hosting a luncheon in her honor on June 4th after the morning's service. We hope that everyone will be able to attend. A letter to members of the congregation will be going out soon with further details and requests for assistance in making the day a memorable one for the Reverend Cameron.

Our next meeting is set for April 16 at 11:30 am. ~Bonnie O'Shea



LISTEN to *The ChurchMouse*

New Scotland Presbyterian Church
April 2023



"Original Landlord Still Offering Sanctuary"

The Rev. Holly S. Cameron.....Pastor
Pastor's office phone number:..... 518-478-0796
Pastor's email address.....Pastor@NewScotlandPC.org
Church office phone number..... 518-439-6454
Office email address: Office@NewScotlandPC.org
Newsletter Managing EditorDorothy Kohler

2010 New Scotland Road, Slingerlands, NY 12159