

# SCOTCH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## APRIL 2022

Christ  
is  
Risen!



Alleluia! Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed.**  
**Alleluia!**

These words will be part of our call to worship on Easter Sunday and throughout the season of Easter. It truly is not just a day, but a season of Alleluia. Matthew 22:29-33 finds Jesus with the Sadducees (powerful, aristocratic priests often hostile to the Pharisees, but whom Matthew lumps into one large unified group to entrap Jesus) and enlightening them on the resurrection to come. The Sadducees didn't believe in the resurrection and a theological disagreement was

set to trap Jesus. Yet in the debate Jesus turns their thinking on end and enlightens them with facts; a lack of knowledge over Scripture and the power of God. Jesus then goes on in verse 31-32 to say who he is and open Scripture to them. ***And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is God not of the dead, but of the living.'***

If we are being honest and open to Scripture, we find the season of Easter does indeed turn us upside down. We move during Holy week from the shouting and waving of Palms proclaiming Jesus to an upper room where one betrays, to a fire where one denies, to a cross that for all we read in Scripture, seems to lack the majority of disciples. I often wonder if they are perhaps on the fringes looking on. All of this rejection, suffering, betrayal, denial, and hanging on the fringes culminate in Jesus' death on that cross of crucifixion and the placement of his body in an empty tomb. It feels like the end of the story. But we need to remember like Jesus' disciples what Jesus said. Jesus foreshadowed three times what was to be; resurrection! He just said to the Sadducees also ***He is God not of the dead, but of the living.*** All four gospels bear witness to the resurrection; the power of God. This indeed is good news as Mary rushes to tell the other followers of Jesus.

As we conclude the season of Lent and move into the season of Easter, may our proclamations be loud and clear as our voices ring out to share this good news. If you've not grabbed up a copy of the book ***The Coming Glory: Hope Now for Life After Death*** by Paul Swets I encourage you to do so. The books are located in the Chapel on the bookcase before you enter the sanctuary and they are free. Our hope in our salvation in Jesus, our receiving Jesus as Savior, is both eternal life and the resurrection to come.

Wishing you great joy and blessing in this Easter season.

***He is God not of the dead, but of the living.***  
Alleluia! Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

With you on the journey,  
Pastor Betsy

**Rev. Betsy Westman and Jim were welcomed two weeks ago at her first official Sunday with us on March 6, 2022.**

**Pastor Betsy maintains office hours at the Scotch Church four days a week  
Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.  
She is working in the Upper Room, enjoying the sunshine of Spring!**

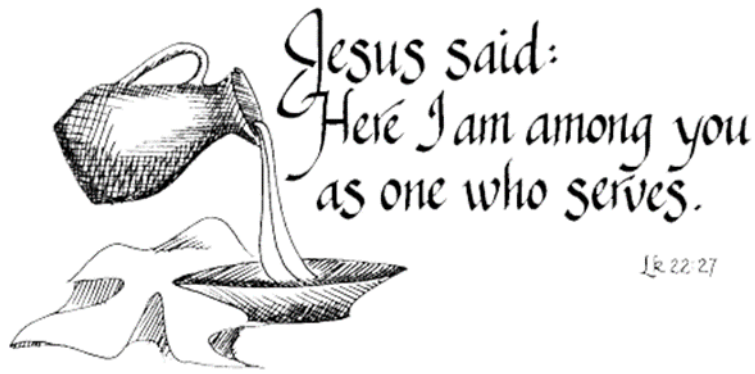
**Please feel free to stop by for a visit, or call her for an appointment  
(518) 260-2744  
Email: [pastorbetsyw@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbetsyw@gmail.com)**



**Please mark your calendars for the date of June 26, 2022, 3:00 p.m.  
as we join with members of the Presbytery of Northern New York,  
for a Service of Installation for Rev. Betsy.  
Please see page 3 for a more complete explanation of this service.**

**\*\*We will share a meal of barbecued chicken following  
the Installation Service, and there will more information to come  
as planning for this event proceeds.**

**A joyous event to look forward to, and take part in!!  
June 26, 2022, 3:00 p.m.**



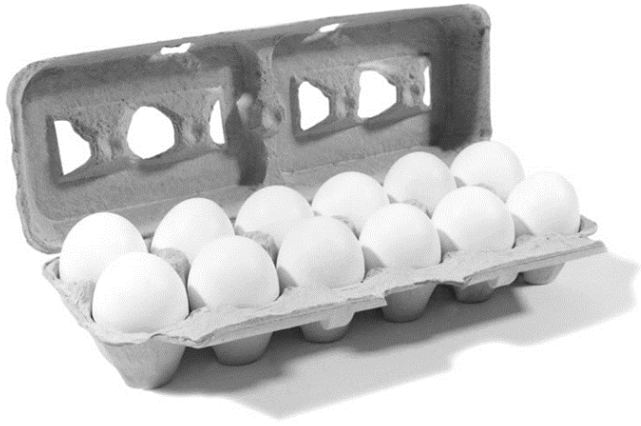
## Installation

You may be wondering over this word installation and its meaning in the life of the church. Why do Pastor's get installed while others may be under contract or supply? To install means to put into place, insert, attach, even consecrate or inaugurate. Jesus himself once baptized, shows up in the synagogue of his hometown and gives an inaugural address in Luke 4:18-19 *'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'* At the beginning of Jesus' ministry he establishes his presence in God and by the Holy Spirit on what it is he's not only come to do, but also proclaim. Jesus foreshadows in his address to the synagogue his fulfillment of Scripture. He tells those gathered his future actions and words as the one sent by God to do these things.

Holding this Scripture in one hand we turn to the Church. With Jesus as the head of the Church, we the congregation along with all congregations and all our brothers and sisters in Christ are the body. Pastors are called to shepherd and lead the Church not as an individual, but in tandem (parity of office) with the Session's Ruling Elders who've been elected, ordained and installed (put into place) in the life of the church to carry out the missions and ministries of the church following God's will, in the name of Jesus, and by the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

By the Book of Order of the P.C. (U.S.A.) churches install pastors. The installation of a pastor, much like that of Elders doesn't happen in isolation, but in community. The Presbytery, who maintains oversight of all the churches in its geographical region, gathers with the calling Church to install a pastor as together vows are made by both the Presbytery and the installing congregation. For the congregation, a renewed covenant with God is made to be guided by the pastor, along with praying for, encouraging, respecting, and following the pastor's guidance in serving Christ. In addition to offering spiritual support and care, the congregation also offers care for the pastor's welfare financially, to stand by in times of both joy and hardship, to receive God's Word and Biblical instruction and to welcome pastoral care as the pastor seeks to serve God, guided by the Holy Spirit, and as a disciple of Jesus [B.O. p. 105, W-4.04a-c].

Indeed, Pastor Betsy has been called by this church to come and serve among us; to be our shepherd, and the pastoral presence for us and our community. On June 26, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. we will gather as Scotch Presbyterian Church, along with neighbors, friends, and the Presbytery of Northern New York to install Pastor Betsy as our Pastor. The congregation is invited to this special worship service (*morning worship will be postponed and replaced with this installation service*) and the meal after, as together we celebrate our renewed covenant with God to serve in the name of Jesus and by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ in our region of the North Country.



## Family Easter Activity

During the season of Lent, Pastor Betsy used Resurrection eggs in worship with the time for kids to tell the story of Holy Week and to tie into the sermon series on 10 Objects.

By using this link <https://www.faithward.org/diy-resurrection-eggs-for-holy-week/> which is also available on the church website (click on Family Activities), you too can make your own Resurrection eggs and tell the story of Jesus' last days and the good news of the resurrection. See page 5 for a fun coloring sheet.

Happy Easter!

### A note from the Treasurers:

We would like to express our appreciation for your faithful support of Scotch Church. The Church expenses continue to be paid.

Receiving Treasurer, Lesley Thompson requests that you mail your pledge directly to: **Scotch Presbyterian Church, 35 County Route 33, Madrid, New York 13660.** Thank you.

The 2022 Per Capita fee assessed by our Presbytery is \$31.00 for this year.

We thank those members of our church have already made their per capita payments to the Receiving Treasurer. Our church must pay per capita for each member. Your voluntary contribution helps Scotch Church cover our portion of the total assessment. Payments can be mailed to the Receiving Treasurer, Lesley Thompson c/o Scotch Presbyterian Church, 35 County Route 33, Madrid, NY 13660. Please note "Per Capita" in the memo line of your check. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Fisher, 315-323-2642 or [fisherw46@gmail.com](mailto:fisherw46@gmail.com).

**One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is collected at this time of year.** Contributions may be sent to the Church's address above, and please note **"OGHS"** on the memo line of your check, to insure that it is allocated to this special offering.

Thank you,  
Bill Fisher, Disbursing Treasurer  
Lesley Thompson, Receiving Treasurer



A coloring sheet to go along with the Family Easter Egg activity



**APRIL  
CELEBRATIONS**  
We celebrate your special  
day!



**HAPPY "April" BIRTHDAY to...**

3 ..... Barbara Fisher  
6..... Natalie McKnight  
7 ..... Noel Allen  
13 .... Alison Appleby  
20..... Betty Crump  
25..... Marcie Barney  
27.... Roger Thompson  
28 .... Robert Crump

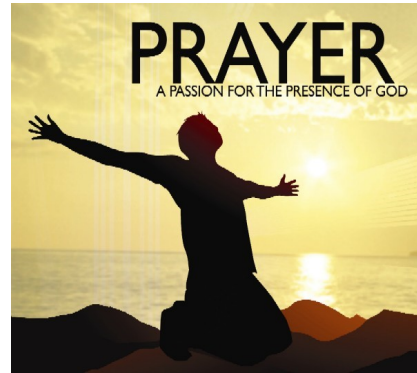
**HAPPY "April" ANNIVERSARY**

3 ..... Jim & Pastor Betsy Westman

Email your dates to me to be added to the calendar so that we can recognize your family's special days.

~ Mindy Fisher

Or email me at [melindaf70@gmail.com](mailto:melindaf70@gmail.com)



*As we pray for our nation, our neighbors, our congregation, all those affected by war and displacement in the world .... Please keep these names in your prayers ... Lord, please hear our prayers .....*

We have two young men in our community who are serving in the military .....

Carl Baker, son of Dale & Lori Hobkirk Baker.... Carl is deployed to Poland.

Trevor Tryon, son of Sheryl Evans, grandson of Bob and Barbara Evans....serving in the military, currently in training at Colorado Springs, CO.

Owen Uppstrom, grandson of Margaret Uppstrom

David King

Betty Crump

Penny Siefke, daughter of Shirley Perkins, and undergoing another round of chemo

Karen Hoksbergen, friend of Bill & Mindy

Scott Green, son of Diana Fisher

Residents of the Riverview Towers residents who have been displaced by a recent fire.

All those unnamed, but in need of our prayers...



**NEW BEGINNINGS CLOTHING & FOOD OUTREACH**

Reopens on Saturday, April 2, 2022.

As Covid numbers seem to be decreasing, some of our volunteers have agreed to come back to work at the New Beginnings Thrift Store (*the Food Pantry has always remained open*).

**The store will open on April 2, with new hours:**

**Wednesday 1:00 pm—5:00 pm**

**Saturday 10:00 am —2:00 pm**

Masks will still be required, but no restrictions on the number of shoppers. **Donations** of household items, small appliances, linens, and summer clothing are appreciated. Please refrain from donating electronics and baby furniture.

~ contributed by Sandy Shoen

## UPCOMING DATES....

Communion is served on the first Sunday of each month.

March 20 ... First day of Spring !!

April 10 .... Palm Sunday

April 17 ..... Easter Sunday

May 2 ... No office hours for Pastor Betsy as she will be attending the Regional Synod meeting in Rochester, NY.



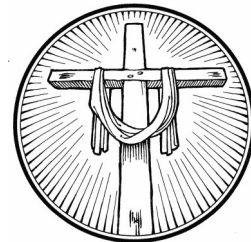
**At our March 14th Session meeting, our Covid protocols were reviewed and decided that ....**

*He is Risen!*

- 1) No longer a mask requirement; but feel free to wear a mask if you are more comfortable in doing so. Its personal preference at this time.
- 1) We will return to serving of Communion by our Eders to the congregation, in a safe manner. If you prefer, of course, you are welcome to bring your own elements.

Melinda Fisher, Clerk

Your *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering may be placed in the offering plate; or mailed to Receiving Treasurer, Lesley Thompson, SPC, 35 County Route 33, Madrid, NY 13660. Please note on the memo line of your check: "OGHS Offering"



The Mission Committee is preparing for a special offering

## **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

April 3—April 24, 2022

One Great hour of Sharing is the single largest way that Presbyterians join together  
To share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world Each gift helps to  
Improve the lives of people in challenging situations through three impactful programs.

### **REBUILDING HOPE—PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

**32%**

Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the  
devastation of natural or human-caused disasters.

### **GROWING FOOD SECURITY—PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM**

**36%**

Takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of  
poverty so all may be fed.

### **PARTNERING IN PROGRESS—SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE**

**32%**

Invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice  
and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills.

OPEN YOUR EYES—to see our world's challenges  
TUNE YOUR EARS—to hear our world's needs  
RESPOND WITH YOUR HEART — to offer our world compassion

## **SHARE YOUR BLESSINGS**

**IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!**

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING !!**

**A Prayer:**

God of refuge and strength, protect and rescue those who are  
Displaced, weak or in need. Supply shelter and warmth, food and safety,  
to all who have none on this day. Restore them, O God, and bring justice to  
the Earth, for everyone of us belongs to you. Amen.

**~ Contributed by Trudy Fisher**





The Easter Lily, along with other Easter blooms, serve as a beautiful reminder that Easter is a time for rejoicing and celebrating. The Worship Committee asks that you please consider giving our sanctuary the renewal of Spring by donating an Easter bloom.

The blossoms represent the Miracle of Spring and each comes with its own symbolism, many of which are ideal messages for Easter and reflect the spirit of the season.

### **Easter Blooms and what they Symbolize**

Azaleas — love, moderation and temperance

Crocus — gladness, mirth and youth

Daffodil — arrival of new life

Easter cactus — the Easter Season

Easter lily — purity and resurrection

Hyacinth — sincerity and constancy

Hydrangeas — understanding and gratitude

Iris — loyalty, nobility and wisdom

Tulip — love, belief and forgiveness

Gardenia — love, purity and peace

Orchid — beauty, tolerance and strength

Lenten Rose — the Season of Lent, the period of preparation and rebirth leading to Easter

*~ Contributed by Trudy Fisher*



### **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

Can we help tell the story of:

HOPE—by providing assistance to survivors of devastation.

32% of our giving is for disaster relief.

Can we help tell the story of:

ENCOURAGEMENT—by assisting communities to address oppression and injustice.

32% of our giving is for self-development of people.

Can we help tell the story of:

COMPASSION—by feeding the hungry?

36% of our giving is for world hunger.

In Isaiah 58, we are issued a challenge

To love one another by sharing what we have with those in need.

#### **Let Us Pray....**

Generous God, help us to remember those who still hunger and thirst, those who still search for refuge and opportunity, those who await justice and peace. For all the ways you will use our gifts, we give you thanks and praise. AMEN.