



SCOTCH CHURCH

MAY 2022



You might be a little curious about the headline for my monthly newsletter writing. Perhaps the title is appropriate for this season of Easter in which we find ourselves. **Bunny Trail** seems to be in my DNA; it's how I'm wired I think. For me a bunny trail is starting out with one train of thought or action that then spirals off in a multitude of directions, and before I know it I have a variety of books ordered, a worship series planned, an outreach idea taking shape or a menu planned. Maybe it's why I chose food service as my profession back in the day. Yes the science of food and working with it to feed people (I still want to do a food truck ministry-**bunny trail**), food planning, organizing, and leading; but also the variety and freedom to be hopping along a bunny trail. It can sometimes slow me down as during my studies to ordination when I had to stay focused. The variety of topics and books available that I became interested in and wanted to explore pertaining to the course of the semester was far more interesting.

Today as I'm supposed to be preparing this article, I find myself down a **bunny trail**. It started with a Bible text for my upcoming ordination because I had a song in mind which then led to an Advent theme (7 months from now!) churning in my mind, that then led me into the Book of Isaiah and his prophecies to Israel of a Messiah. From there I discovered this piece of Scripture: ***For I am the LORD your God, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar — the LORD of hosts is his name. I have put my words in your mouth, and hidden you in the shadow of my hand, stretching out the heavens and laying the foundations of the earth, and saying to Zion, "You are my people."*** (Isaiah 51:15-16)

Stay with me on my **bunny trail** because these words from Isaiah I hope trigger your thoughts to flip over to Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; or Luke 8:22-25 as the winds and sea whip into a great frenzy; a whale of a storm (Jonah 1:4) where we discover both a sleeping Jesus and Jonah. What then gets questioned once these storms are calmed is who? Who is this that can calm the earth of whipping winds and a raging sea? Amidst the awe, amazement and fear we discover God. What a comfort from Isaiah the image of being hidden in the shadow of God's hand, the very hand that stretched out the heavens and also laid the earth's foundation; to then be called and reminded of being God's people, then Israel oppressed by Babylon and we as Christians and the church through the Messiah Jesus. The reminder from Isaiah that God who stills Israel's oppressor Babylon, is the one who also stills the storms of the sea and our lives and the life of the church. Indeed, we are called and invited in to be obedient followers of Jesus even when the world threatens, oppressors attack, and the world is being tossed to and fro as in a great storm. It's God who will reign, who will still the earth, its winds and the sea and bring forth His kingdom that is already ushered in through Jesus but not yet fulfilled as we live in this in between time, the time of the Spirit.

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Friends we will remain hidden in the shadow of God's hand, as God's people in our salvation found in Jesus....to be obedient and steadfast even as our faith may feel wobbly at times or we find ourselves questioning God and wondering when the storms of this world will be calmed, when wars will end, and oppressors brought to justice. We'll trust in God's plan of salvation as we step out to share the good news of God in our midst and the salvation found in Jesus who stills the storms of life as we are guided by the work of the Spirit. We'll go forward in awe, amazement and yes, even fear to witness one **bunny trail** at a time. I ask your patience if it seems I might be taking a little longer than you'd like for me to get something done; I'm probably down a **bunny trail** !

*With you on the journey,
Pastor Betsy*

SAVE THE DATE !!

CELEBRATE WITH US AT A SPECIAL SERVICE
TO INSTALL OUR PASTOR, REV. BETSY WESTMAN
on Sunday, June 26, 2022

A Service of Worship & Music at 3:00 p.m.
Dinner to follow at 4:30 p.m.

You will be contacted for your assistance in making this a
special celebration as our plans move forward !!

*Please note...there will not be a 10:00 am service
on this date.*



2022 SESSION

Alison Appleby	315-405-7353
Cheryl Carr-Dominy	315-528-1969
Robert Crump	315-244-4150
Barbara Fisher	315-322-0501
James Hargrave	315-322-4429
Lou Anne King	315-212-0289
Rick Taylor	585-281-4750

Rev. Betsy Westman, Moderator
Melinda Fisher, Clerk



As a community of faith rooted in Jesus Christ, we gather to worship and glorify God typically on Sunday mornings, but also at special times like Maundy Thursday or Good Friday, Christmas Eve, and the installation of a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

We will gather as the community of faith, Scotch Presbyterian Church, next month to install our called pastor, Rev. Betsy Westman. **Please mark your calendars for June 26 at 3:00 pm** for this great time of celebration both within the life of the church and the Presbytery of Northern New York, and also for our community at large. Together we'll pledge to care for our pastor and her family, as well as glorify God in the variety of ways God calls us to do ministry and outreach both near and far.

In addition to our gathering for worship, we also have a variety of ways in which we worship. With a variety of resources at our disposal and over time, we'll begin to explore the use of technology both in person and online. The way we worship as far as structure will remain, but what do we have that can help us feel more connected to God or feel God's presence in our midst. What ways can we call on the Holy Spirit to come and be present? Yes, you may hear Pastor Betsy 'woohoo', "alleluia", "amen" after a hymn or get choked up during a sermon or prayer as an expression of the Spirit moving within her. We do experience God's presence in our midst and the joy of worship (not indigestion).

We'll work together to get more of our worship music and the bulletin on the sanctuary screen and diminish the use of paper. We'll explore the use of art and visual aids to enhance the way we worship outside of using words; or clarify the understanding of Scripture so we are better equipped to go into the world. Above all as we explore technology and its uses within the life of the church we seek to glorify God as God is the focus of our worship. As we explore we seek your feedback in terms of how things need to be tweaked. You can let Jim Westman, Bill Fisher, or Pastor Betsy know your thoughts.

May our worship glorify God and be filled with joy!





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

HAPPY "May" BIRTHDAY to...

4... Carolyn Hinkle
7... Doris Carr
10... Douglas Fisher
10.... Chelsea Hargrave
11 ... Douglas McKnight
11 ... Melody Willard
17... Herc Quintavalle
22... Jerry Fisher
23... Preston Dominy
24.... Courtney McKnight
24....Jesse Billings
27....Anna Shippee

HAPPY "May" ANNIVERSARY

8... Debbie & Roland Lauther
26 ... Scott & Marcie Barney

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

~ Mindy Fisher
melindaf70@gmail.com



It all started with a pane of broken glass found on the ground below....

Our appreciation to

Jeff Dominy and Jerry Fisher for their exploration of the area above the sanctuary to repair a broken window at the back of the church...up in the "attic". It required numerous trips up and down a ladder and trekking across the length of the building to take supplies and tools to remove and then replace this window. Should be good for another 200 years!!

Jerry, in his magical wood working shop, rebuilt the entire window frame and installed the glass panes.

Thank you Jeff and Jerry !!!



Thank you for the great turnout of help yesterday, April 30th at 8:30 am , for a roadside clean-up of State Route 345 from MWCS High School to the village of Madrid. Scotch Church has done this in the Spring for a number of years. It was a beautiful day to scour the roadsides for debris.

This was organized by Paige Billings and Cheryl Carr-Dominy. Paige picks up safety vests and trash bags from the New York State Department of Transportation in Ogdensburg (and returns them the following Monday). The State will come pick up the bags of trash and dispose of them.

Our group photo includes, photographer Mary Lou McKnight (unseen); Claire, Holly and Jesse Billings; Addison & Kayson McKnight. Jerry Fisher, Lou Anne King, Pastor Betsy, Mary Jane Thompson, Mindy Fisher, Preston, Jeff and Cheryl Dominy, Jim Westman and Robert Crump. Thank you all !!!! A glorious day to be outdoors!





May 2022



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 3rd Sunday of Easter COMMUNION	2	3 Session to Meet 7:00 pm at the Church	4 Happy Birthday Carolyn Hinkle	5	6	7 Happy Birthday Doris Carr
8 4th Sunday of Easter Happy Anniversary Roland & Debbie Lauther	9	10 Happy Birthday Douglas Fisher Chelsea Hargrave	11 Happy Birthday Doug McKnight Melody Willard	12	13	14
15 5th Sunday of Easter	16	17 Happy Birthday Herc Quintavalle	18	19	20	21
22 6th Sunday of Easter Happy Birthday Jerry Fisher	23 Happy Birthday Preston Dominy	24 Happy Birthday Courtney Bronchetti & Jessie Billings	25	26 Happy Anniversary Scott & Marcie Barney	27 Happy Birthday Anna Shippee	28
29 7th Sunday of Easter	30	31				





Please keep in your thoughts and prayers.....

Betty and Jerry Crump and their family ... Robert, Howard and David, and their families.

Thank you for your financial contributions to “One Great Hour of Sharing”, our Easter offering to bring disaster relief, to feed the hungry and self-development of people around the world.

MAY YOU FIND THE
STRENGTH
TO FACE TOMORROW
IN THE LOVE THAT
SURROUNDS YOU TODAY



Pastor Betsy keeps office hours Monday thru Thursday, 9:30—1:30 pm
Feel free to stop at the church, or call the phone number to schedule an appointment to meet.

(Note: She will not be in the office Monday, May 2nd.)

Please contact Pastor Betsy if you, or someone you know, is in need of visitation.

Rev. Betsy Westman

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday

9:30 am-1:30 pm; or by appointment

Phone: (518) 260-2744; Email: pastorbetsyw@gmail.com

MADRID DAM MUSIC SERIES 2022

For the most up-to-date information, please check the
Madrid Dam Music Series' Facebook page.



MDMS 2022 "It's all about the DAM MUSIC"

SUN MAY 15 2-4 pm TRACER JAMES

Pedal Steel Guitarist of great talent and commitment to his music

SAT MAY 28 6-9 pm

THE SHOES..... 3 hour family dance evening

30+ years performing the golden oldies of the 50's and 60's

Al Netto, Herb Hughes, Denny Verdon,
Ted Markwick, Bill Farr

MDMS offers these musical events in the Madrid Municipal Park Community Building.

COVID PROTOCOLS WILL BE IN PLACE. NO EXCEPTIONS except band members.

All events listed are free to attend with donations very welcome to assist us in future events.

*90 minutes is the band total stage time. An intermission can be added for a 2-hour event.

MDMS hosts family friendly events without smoking, alcohol, or strobe lighting.

This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Re grants Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, and administered by the St. Lawrence County Arts Council.

We also thank our event performance sponsors and all who donate to enrich your year events.

madriddamms.com madriddamms@yahoo.com Madrid Dam Music Series FB page... 315-265-2047 Anna