



OCTOBER 2019

Scotch Presbyterian Church
35 County Route 33
Madrid, New York 13660



PARSON -TO- -PERSON

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV)

I guess must have Jeremiah on the brain. Fresh off a four week series of sermons based on some of the most heart-rending words in Scripture, this edition of **PARSON -TO- -PERSON**, I offer one final (at least for now) word from the “weeping prophet”.

Jeremiah speaks after the worst catastrophe in the entire history of God’s people. The holy city has been reduced to rubble by Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians. The tiny remnant were forced to march into exile, feeling pretty sure God had abandoned them forever. To say the least, these words come at a time of extreme hopelessness.

We sometimes wonder if our government, at any level, can function with any credibility and effectiveness. We wonder is the Christian faith still relevant? Closer to home, we wonder does Scotch Presbyterian Church at Chipman still have a vital ministry in our community? We see changes and challenges in our lives that snatch our hope.

Christians are intended to be a light for peace and hope and blessing in the world. When those things crumble, when we get squashed by the Babylonians, when current circumstances shake our very foundations and lead to great anxiety, Jeremiah reminds us that God is still at work. Indeed, nothing can stop God’s purposes – “for surely I know the plans I have for you – a future and a hope.”

Jeremiah wants us to know that God is already at work on our behalf. In the midst of our struggles, God has not given up on us. In fact, God is already at work on our behalf. Jeremiah wants us to imagine a world in which our hurt has already turned to healing. He is saying that in the midst of our exile, in the midst of our problems, loss and emptiness is not the final word.

The people of God, remember, are not forgotten and wiped out in exile; God brings them back. They are not without hope, even as they have no land, no king, no temple. God brings them back and keeps holding them and nurturing them as a community, a people. They are not even squashed by the Romans in the first century AD. Even the crucifixion of Jesus on a cross does not thwart God’s plans.

It is always about the power of **HOPE**. Never doubt that God is at work. God has plans for us. God has plans that cannot be defeated by anything. God’s realm will emerge. We are called to be part of it, with the one whom we can ultimately trust, with how we live, with what we care about, with all that we do.

Peace and Hope my friends,
Pastor Rich

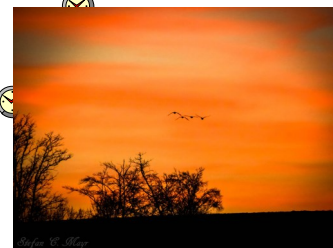
Presbyterian Women *will be meeting on Thursday, October 17 at 10:30 am in the Upper Room.*



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME ENDS**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

TURN YOUR CLOCKS



64th Annual BBQ Report

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our successful 64th Scotch Presbyterian Church Chicken Barbecue.

Your generous giving of your time and talents was wonderful! It was great to have family members return to help with the Barbecue! And, we thank Pastor Rich and Carolyn Hinkle for greeting our dinner guests!

The receipts from Ticket sales, donations and Country Kitchen sales were the following:

Ticket Sales:	\$ 8,171.00
Donations:	\$ 256.00
Country Garden:	\$ 613.55
BBQ Gross:	\$ 9,040.55
BBQ Expenses:	<u>\$ 3,998.61</u>
BBQ Net:	\$ 5,041.94

(7 complimentary tickets issued—value \$70)

We especially thank all the Committee Chairs for their overall super efforts, completing their final reports, and meeting to discuss the event.

Diana Fisher and Lesley Thompson, Co-Chairs



October CELEBRATIONS

We celebrate your special day !



HAPPY "October" BIRTHDAY to...

11..... Robert Tracy
14.... Doug Emmett
18 Jennifer Emmett
26 Kevin Acres
26 Molly Patterson
27.... Chris Landi
29 Ken Hargrave
30..... Jim Wright



If you would like to send a birthday card, or note to Robert Tracy, his home address is:

3421 County Route 14,
Madrid, NY 13660

HAPPY October ANNIVERSARY to...

3..... Stephen & Mary Lou McKnight
6..... Travis & Natalie McKnight

Please call or email your dates to me to be added to the calendar so that we can recognize your family's special days. Or if you have a family member you'd like included....

~ Mindy Fisher 315-323-2642

Or email me at melindaf70@gmail.com

A few memories of Bill & Mindy's recent trip to England and Scotland....



Rich & Ellen visiting with cousin, Donald Grayson and his wife, Margaret, in Pickering.



Oxnam Kirk, where the Fisher brothers and families worshipped in the 1800's. Still a thriving and functioning church in their community. We attended a worship service here on September 29, 2019.



HEATING SEASON IS UPON US....

REMINDER..... Please contact Bill Fisher in advance of your need for heat for a function or meeting at church so that thermostats can be programmed. Call cell # 315-323-1235 or email at fisher@potsdam.edu

NOTE.....As our winter season approaches, scheduling meetings in home settings whenever possible will help with the heating costs of our church building.

The Mission Committee has the opportunity to provide a better tomorrow for those in need. Through this congregation's generosity our committee's budget allows us to
"ANSWER GOD'S CALL"

In Isaiah 58, God issued a call and a challenge- to love one another more deeply by sharing what we have with those in need.

In August \$410 was spent for school supplies as well as socks and underwear for elementary students in need at Madrid Waddington School. A special thanks to Lesley Thompson, Mary Jane Thompson and Jean Grayson for completing this task!

A Prayer: Generous God, you have given us the riches of grace without measure. In response we have offered a portion of what we have. For all the ways you have used our gifts, we give you thanks and praise. Bless all of those who benefit from these good works.

Trudy Fisher,
Mission Committee



Per Capita

Per Capita" means "by the head." Strange as that may sound, it means that the mission and ministry efforts of Northern New York Presbytery, the Synod of the Northeast, and the General Assembly are partially funded according to a formula based on the total number of Presbyterian "heads." In our church we have 71 heads, or members. The per capita amount for the year 2019 is \$25.00 per member. That amounts to a total obligation of \$1,775.00 for Scotch Presbyterian Church.

Per capita is the means by which "the tie that binds" is funded throughout the Presbyterian Church (USA). Because of per capita funds, we are able to:

Train persons to become better ruling elders, deacons, and ministers of Word and Sacrament.

Support the efforts of Presbyterians as we come together to discern God's will for the church.

Bring Presbyterians from across the globe together to serve on General Assembly, Synod, and Presbytery committees and commissions as they do the work of the church.

So, if you wish to help pay our Church's per capita for 2019, please drop your check for \$25.00 in the offering plate or mail it to the church. You could even give more than your share to help those who cannot afford to. Just mark the check with the words "per capita" or even "by the head," if you like! And thank you!

REMINDERS FOR CHANGE

Autumn's upon us
Changing colors you'll see
A reminder of what
God has given to thee

Could Autumn mean
A change within us
Our mind, soul and body
To the Lord we'll entrust

Reading the Bible--so much to explore
A pathway of life
To serve our Lord more

Within our church ministry
Can we seek and find
The changes we need
To help all of mankind

Poverty surrounds us
Could we start there
Giving to others
To show that we care

The shut ins, the lonely
Is there time in our busy lives
To tell them they are thought of
Hoping a smile will arise

The homeless need shelter
Warmth and food to survive
Our support of " New Beginnings"
Could spark hope in their eyes

Our land, our environment
God's amazing creation
Let's help to sustain it
For the next generation

World peace — can it happen
Could we set the pace
A smile — a handshake
No matter what culture or race

Our children, our future
Can we instill in their minds
That courage, compassion, integrity
Are virtues to find

Autumn's upon us
Amazing colors with style
God's way of reminding us
That change is worthwhile

So trust in the Bible
It will show us the way
To have God's plan flourish
In our world today

~ Trudy Fisher



THE BEATITUDES



The Beatitudes are not generalized, abstract sayings, whose wisdom we debate. Jesus is the speaker: he has been healing people and is headed to the cross. Jesus is the embodiment of all the Beatitudes; they become an invitation to follow, to become a part of this new family of God. The beatitudes stretch our imagination as we get a glimpse of what life in proximity to Jesus is like.

Please join us on **Monday** evenings at **7:00 p.m.** as Pastor Rich leads us through a study of these powerful guidelines for Christian living.

Oct 7—Adult study—*The Beatitudes*: Blessed are the Meek – Upper Room, 7:00 pm

Oct 14—Adult study—*The Beatitudes*: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness – Upper Room, 7:00 pm

Oct 21— Adult study—*The Beatitudes*: Blessed are the Merciful – Upper Room, 7:00 pm

Oct 28— Adult study—*The Beatitudes*: Blessed are the Pure in Heart – Upper Room, 7:00 pm

CONTACT INFO FOR PASTOR

Pastor Rich Hinkle

315-742-7561

preacherman1121@gmail.com



October 2019



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2	3	4	5 <i>St. Lawrence County Historical Church Tour</i>
6 <i>World Communion Sunday</i>	7 <i>Adult Study 7:00 pm The Beatitudes Upper Room</i>	8	9	10	11 <i>Happy Birthday Robert Tracy</i>	12
13 <i>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	14 <i>Adult Study 7:00 pm The Beatitudes Upper Room</i>	15 <i>Happy Birthday Doug Emmett on Oct 14</i>	16	17 <i>PW meets @ 10:30 in the Upper Room</i>	18 <i>Happy Birthday Jennifer Emmett</i>	19
20 <i>29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Session Meeting at Noon</i>	21 <i>Adult Study 7:00 pm The Beatitudes Upper Room</i>	22	23	24	25	26 <i>Happy Birthday Kevin Acres and Molly Patterson</i>
27 <i>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Happy Birthday Chris Landi</i>	28 <i>Adult Study 7:00 pm The Beatitudes Upper Room</i>	29 <i>Happy Birthday Ken Hargrave</i>	30 <i>Happy Birthday Jim Wright</i>	31		