



# The Visitor

*Schoharie Reformed Church*

*May 2018*

*Pastor Mike & Pastor Sherri*



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*June newsletter deadline  
May 29, 2018*

## WELCOME



## God Gives Hope



*“Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life.”  
-Proverbs 13:12*

*“God, of your goodness give me yourself, for you are enough for me, and I can ask for nothing which is less which can pay you full worship. And if I ask anything, which is less, always I am in want, but only in you do I have everything.”  
-Julian of Norwich, 14<sup>th</sup> Century Anchoress*

My (Pastor Mike) “Christian Mother,” as I call her, the woman who helped mold my faith when I was growing up, had a phrase she shared with me once that I have always remembered. She said, “If the devil can’t make you sin, he’ll make you busy.”

I think there is powerful truth in that simple statement. I am guessing we can all relate with periods of busyness in our lives. Busyness with work, busyness with family, busyness with relationships, busyness with church, busyness with pleasure, and even busyness with illness/doctors, fear and worry. Many of the things with which we are busy are good, really good, and important things to be doing. Yet I wonder, between the volunteer organizations, the little league field, the carpooling, the house projects, and the work demands that fill our lives, what fills our hearts and our souls, and our deepest longings? Out of everything that makes up your life, what are the things that give you life? What is your connection to the source and hope of life which is God?

This is not meant to bring up any shame, but rather to give you permission to take your foot off the gas and coast just for a moment. Reflect long enough to slow down and wonder...Is all my busyness seeking after something that only God can give me? This is certainly not to say that the things we do are not important, or necessary, or good, or should not be done. But rather to prick our hearts with the question of where and in what are we placing the hope of our lives? It seems a part of our ancient human cycle, found many times in the bible, especially the minor prophets, that when we get busy, the first things we cut are the very things that give us the most life! The very things that connect us with our Creator and to each other and remind us of our beloved-ness. In Faithwalking, we talk about having a "spiritual workout" tailored to each of our unique needs. We say this is our source of power that fuels our hope and strengthens us for ALL that we do.

A spiritual workout could include reading the Bible, or prayer, meditation, or any of the spiritual disciplines. A spiritual workout can also include taking a walk in the woods, coloring, knitting, woodworking, gardening, or anything that connects us to God as our source of power and hope on a regular basis. But beyond the personal, one of the greatest things that God gives us to help bring us life is the love, grace, growth, challenge, and joy we are meant to find in Christian community – in the church.

What does your spiritual workout look like? What gets you excited to think about as a way of connecting more deeply with God, what has you stuck? In what ways is the church community giving you life? In what ways are you struggling to find life in the church? We would love to talk more about this with you and to hear your thoughts, joys, and concerns! Please share them with us.

We also invite you to join us as we conclude our series God gives hope! This has been the focus of our worship all month long as we have joined with many churches throughout Schoharie County to celebrate this reality. God desires to be the source of hope and life for you and for the world. God desires to move each of us from a place of busyness to a place of purpose, to intentionally living out the life God has for us in the ways that truly bring us life and joy! May the truth that God gives Hope inspire us to seek the real life that is found beyond our busyness in a life lived with God, for God, and together as the people of God.

Together in Hope,

*Pastor Mike & Pastor Sherri*

### *Thank yous*

**The Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York** would like to thank you for your generous January 2018 donation. Your gift is greatly appreciated.

**City Mission** thank you for your "Lend a Hand of Hope". What a great collection you did and such a HUGE blessing to everyone they serve. So thank you for your partnership and serving along side of us.

### *Camp Fowler*

Schoharie Reformed Church encourages and supports kids to go to camp! Camp Fowler in Speculator, NY is our overnight church camp. Partial scholarships from SRC may be available, contact us for more information at 518-295-8177





## Announcements

**Nursery volunteers needed**-This is a great opportunity to enjoy spending time with little ones, while providing a service to your church family. The sign-up sheet is next to the flower sign-up sheet. Thank you!

**The Food Pantry needs volunteers** - If you would like to help, please contact Diane Walion at 868-4629. **Also needed are donations** of food (including fresh produce); peanut butter & spaghetti sauce are always in demand, as well as cereal, pasta, tuna fish, soup and other canned goods, plus paper products, personal care & cleaning products such as toothpaste & laundry detergent. Empty egg cartons are also accepted. Donations may be dropped off here or in the SUPC Christian Ed building. Monetary donations are appreciated, as well. **The Food Pantry is open Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12-2pm.**

**Recycling**-currently we will only be accepting cell phones and ink cartridges for recycling. You may leave these items in the church office, please call the church office with any questions.

**Aluminum Tabs for the Shriners** - John Nixon and Ron Filmer began the collection of aluminum can tabs for the Shriner's Hospital. Please continue to bring can tabs to the church and you may leave them in the Narthex, we will be sure they are delivered to Shriners Hospital. The tabs collected are used to offset patient transportation cost.

**The Schoharie Christian After School Program** - seeks volunteers to assist with snacks, Bible lessons, homework, recreation, crafts, mentoring, etc. This is a joint project of the churches in Schoharie, and is located at the Schoharie United Presbyterian Church. Application forms are in Narthex.

**Consistory**— The next consistory meeting will be held Wednesday, May 23, 6:30—8:30pm in the Heritage House.

**Contact Information**— Please contact the church office at 518-295-8177 to update your contact information if you have changed your mailing address, phone number or email address. If you are new to our church family, in addition to the above information please be sure we have all family members month & day of birth and wedding anniversary month & day.



## Glory Day

Great Escape Upstate New York Christian Family Day

June 16, 2018

A Day Full of Great Entertainment

Glory Day Buffet Menu—noon to 2:00pm  
hamburgers, chicken tenders, macaroni & cheese,  
tossed salad, dill pickle spears, potato chips,  
assorted coca-cola beverages, ice cream novelties

\$42.99 plus tax- theme park admission, parking, live  
concerts & buffet

\$13.49 plus tax— season pass holders and  
members—includes Glory Day live concerts & buffet

\$29.50 plus tax— Glory day, theme park admission &  
parking only

Tickets may be purchased individually, tickets not  
purchased prior to June 16 will have an increased  
cost of \$5.00 per ticket day of the event.

To order tickets in advance online go to:

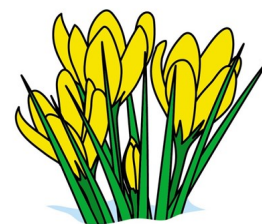
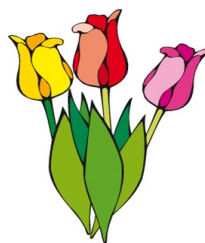
[www.sixflags.com/gloryday](http://www.sixflags.com/gloryday)  
use Promo code SRC

For more information:  
[www.sixflags.com/gloryday](http://www.sixflags.com/gloryday)  
518-824-8923



## Schoharie Community Food Pantry Report

April 2018 It has been busy at the food pantry, with  
80 families visiting during the month of March.  
Currently the shelves are quite bare, but we do have  
regular deliveries from the Regional Food Bank to  
keep at least canned goods in satisfactory supply.  
Additionally, we continue to receive donations from  
Hannaford Markets and also the local churches.  
We can always use donations of peanut butter,  
pasta and sauce, tuna fish, soups, canned fruits,  
juices and other canned items such as stews. Our  
clients are most appreciative that the pantry contin-  
ues to be there for them. Our Advisory Committee,  
which meets 3 or 4 times per year, next meets on  
April 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00. We meet at SUPC and our  
meetings are open to anyone who is interested.  
Please feel free to join us! Thank you for your con-  
tinued support of this ministry. Pastor Colleen  
Quirion, Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church.



## Sunday School

May 6th - Regular Sunday School

May 13th - Regular Sunday School

May 20th - Last **Day** of Sunday School – Church  
Picnic



## Operation Christmas Child

We invite you to join OCC volunteers and support-  
ers from around the Capital Region as we celebrate:

- What God did through OCC in 2017!
- Nearly 11 million Gospel Opportunities
- How you supported OCC!

**All are welcome!**

Saturday, May 12, 10:00am—12:00 noon

Grace Fellowship—Latham  
20 Delatour Ave.  
Watervliet, NY 12189



## Pancake Breakfast

To all in our church family who have children of any age.

We are going to hold a pancake breakfast on the morning of:

**Sunday, June 3rd at 9:15**  
in the community room

Whether you send your kids to Sunday School, are thinking about it in the future, or have very young children, we really hope you can join us to discuss how we can make church and youth ministry as inviting and meaningful as possible.

We will enjoy breakfast together and then there will be activities for the kids while we adults sit down to discuss what you would like to see in our ministry to the youth of our congregation and how we can make it a positive experience for your family.



We really hope you can join us for this event so we can get as many ideas together as possible for ministering to our youth and families.

Thank you



## Sunday School/Youth Sunday Celebration

**May 20, 2018** during the 10:30am worship service

Following the service you are invited to an

### *All Picnic Celebration*

to be held outside, due to in-climate weather it will be held in the community room

hamburg's, hotdogs, condiments, beverage and table setting will be provided; please bring a side dish to pass if you would like. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

We invite all to attend this event. It will be a time to thank everyone who has dedicated there time and talents over this past year to helping our youth on their journey with God.



## Day Camp

Planning is continuing for Day Camp 2018!



This year our theme will be

**“Discover our Strength in God”**



Save the dates – July 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>.

Schoharie Valley Community Camp is a Christian day camp sponsored by the Schoharie United Presbyterian, Christ the Shepherd Lutheran and Schoharie Reformed Churches of the village of Schoharie with assistance from many other churches. Open to all children from age 4 through those entering 8th grade. All persons entering 9th grade and up are invited to use your gifts as volunteers for camp. There are many positions available for volunteers and paid positions. Like us on Facebook or visit the Church website at:

[www.schohariereformedchurch.org](http://www.schohariereformedchurch.org) for complete camp information, a preliminary schedule, registration, camper forms, volunteers & staff, young leaders mentoring program, and young leader’s reference online form. Want to be involved with the planning? Visit: [schohariereformedchurch.org](http://schohariereformedchurch.org) or Call 518-295-8177 or E-Mail: [schoharievalleycommunitycamp@gmail.com](mailto:schoharievalleycommunitycamp@gmail.com)

### *Children 4 years old through entering grade 2* morning camp 8:30am -noon

Based on developmental needs and age appropriate activities, there are two different sections of Morning Camp: one for Pre-Kers and Kindergarteners and another for first and second graders. Be sure to register early as there is limited space and these two sections have filled very quickly in the past!

*Children entering grades 3 through 8* will enjoy all day camp from 8:30am-4:00pm

### *Aftercare:*

A limited number of spaces are available for child-care after Day Camp from 4:00pm - 5:30pm at no additional cost. Spaces will be filled on a first to register basis by contacting Pastor Colleen Quirion or E-Mail: [pastor@ctslutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastor@ctslutheranchurch.org) or call 518-295-8102.



### **Cost:**

We work hard to keep camp affordable and thank our many neighbors and local businesses who help make this possible! We would like to see every interested child at camp!

\$30 for the first child and \$25 for each additional child with a \$70 family maximum. Is this inexpensive for you? Please consider giving an additional donation!

Is this expensive for you? Scholarships are available, please contact us to request what you need.



Schoharie Reformed Church  
Camp Fowler Family Retreat 2.0

August 24—26, 2018



Ask anyone that attended our retreat last summer and you'll hear about a relaxing time of fellowship in a setting that can't be beat.

Check-in starts at 5:00pm on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup>. We leave after lunch on Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup>.

**In between you will enjoy:**

- Group games
- Waterfront activities including swimming, fishing, canoeing & kayaking
- Hiking
- Crafts
- Campfires with stories and singing

opportunities to **Be Still and Know that God is Great!**

Registration will be available on the church website or by paper in the Church Narthex. Please let us know how many in your party and would you prefer a room at Chi Rho House or Rustic Cabin. You will be given the opportunity to include a contribution with your registration.



**See you at Camp!**



## 2018 FW101 retreats

### Where & When

Camp Fowler, Speculator, NY—May 17-19 (Thursday evening through Saturday afternoon, overnight)

Church on the Hill, Flushing, NY—September 8 & 15 (two Saturdays, no overnight, morning through late afternoon)

Holmes Presbyterian Camp & Conference Center, Holmes NY—September 29—30 (Saturday morning through Sunday afternoon, overnight)

The details for the retreats above are subject to change, please visit our website for up to date information.

### Contacts

**Greg Town**  
Co-Leader for RSNY  
518-779-9406  
gntown@gmail.com

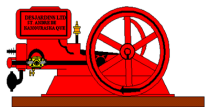
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**Nancy Ryan**  
Head Coach  
reverend.nancy.ryan@gmail.com

**Visit our website:**

**[www.nyfaithwalking.com](http://www.nyfaithwalking.com)**



### A Fond Farewell To Gas-Up

You may be wondering why you have not heard any announcements or seen any sign-up sheets regarding the running of the food both for the Gas-Up this year. Consistory has received word that the board of directors for the Gas-Up felt that they needed to move in a different direction in regards to the food that is served at the Gas-Up. While this is sad news to many of us, we remain grateful for our many years of wonderful service in providing food, fellowship, and services of worship to this community event. We wish the Gas-Up and its members well as they move forward with this year's event. As we think about our own moving forward what ideas do you have about something you would like to be involved that would bring us together and support our community. We would love to hear it! Please let a member of consistory know your ideas.





Schoharie Reformed Church

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May 2018

