



The Visitor

Schoharie Reformed Church

March 2018

Pastor Mike & Pastor Sherri



What's Inside

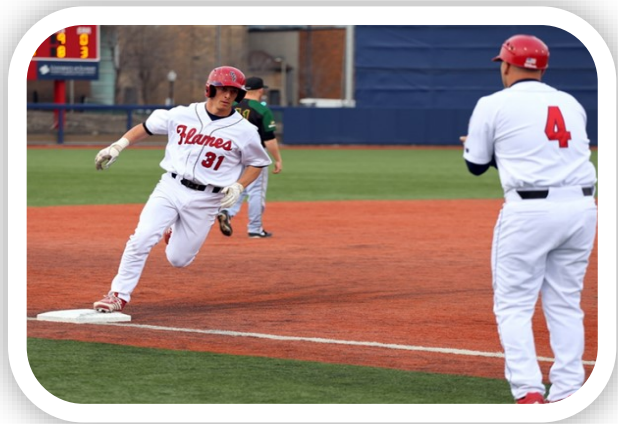
<i>Pastor's Message</i>	1 - 2
<i>Holy Week Activities</i>	3
<i>Announcements</i>	4
<i>Thank Yous</i>	4
<i>Rededication</i>	5
<i>Lend a Hand</i>	6
<i>Camp Fowler</i>	6
<i>Building & Grounds</i>	7
<i>Sunday School</i>	7
<i>Day Camp</i>	7

April Newsletter Deadline

March 27, 2018



"Fixing Our Eyes"



"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:1-3NRSV

"Be careful if you don't know where you are going because you might not get there."

Yogi Berra

Given the way the month of March has started I (Pastor Mike) must admit it that I am all the more anxious for the arrival of Spring. One of the things that I most look forward to with the return of Spring is the arrival of baseball season. Sam and I are already plotting how to get to at least one baseball game this summer so we can cheer on our favorite teams. Sophia has also signed-up for another season of T-Ball and we all look forward to watching her play, especially

in some warmer, less snowy, weather! While you may or may not find baseball as exciting as 3/4 of the Meyer-Veen family, it does contain some great lessons for life and faith. One of the lessons I remember learning early on was how to run the bases. A fundamental practice we were taught was that when you are standing on base and the ball is hit, or whenever you are running around the bases, you don't watch where the ball is going, instead look and listen to your base coach telling you whether to run, to stop, or to slide. If you watch where the ball is going you get distracted, you slow down, and you were more likely to get thrown out. But if you looked and listened to your base coach you could focus more on where you were going, and you could run better and faster.

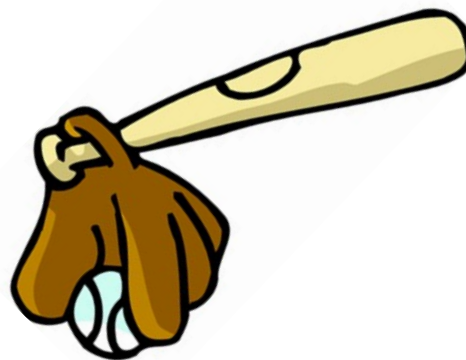
In a similar way, the author of the Hebrews encourages us to "lay aside every weight and sin that clings so closely..." and "let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us." How do we do this? The writer goes on to tell us, "looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith." These verses from Hebrews remind us that we all have a race that is set before us! We are not to run the race of anyone else, or even to run the race of Jesus – instead, we are to run the race that is set before us. But we do so by looking to the way Jesus ran his race with perseverance, the way he faced the struggle and the pain of the cross, by looking at the joy that was set before him, the joy of living into the fullness of who he came to be, the joy of living out his purpose as our Savior. As we think about running our own races during this season of Lent, whether we find ourselves near the beginning, somewhere in the middle, or perhaps a bit closer to the finish line, let us be reminded that we are all to be fixing our eyes on Jesus. Now this isn't meant to be some impossible standard, or something that makes us feel guilty or shameful, it is also not something

we use as a tool to judge others, and it is not a detour or a distraction to escape this world putting our focus on getting into heaven. **Instead, the life of Jesus is meant to be our "base coach" the one cheering us on, giving us direction, and helping us to run the best race we can.**

Our hope in this Lenten season is that as we round the bases and head for home in this life we would not just reach home plate, but also find a deeper passion, a stronger sense of purpose, a richer joy, and a truer delight of all the goodness that this life and God's world has to offer us, as we run our race in the fullness of who God made us to be!

Running the Race,

Pastor Mike & Pastor Sherri





Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 25th - Palm Sunday Parade. We will meet in the church parking lot with our Sunday school kids at 9:15am and begin our procession down main street and return to the church in time for our regular worship service.

Palm Sunday, March 25th – Palm Sunday Service 10:30am.

Maundy Thursday, March 29th – A pot luck dinner at 6:30pm followed by a Worship Service with Communion in the Heritage House.

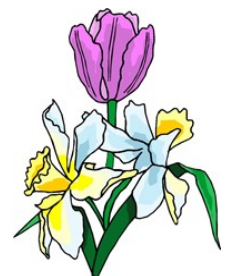
Good Friday, March 30th – Noon time service with nails in the cross. A bring your own lunch will follow the service next door in the Heritage House.

Easter Sunday, April 1st – 6:30am Easter Sunrise Service at the home of Matt and Emily Fagnani, 491 Sunnyside Rd., Schoharie. A potluck breakfast will follow.

Easter Sunday, April 1st – 10:30am Easter Sunday Service with a Resurrection Egg hunt for the kids following the service. ***Please Note: There will be no Sunday School on Easter.***

Easter Memorial Plants

We will be offering the Easter plants to decorate the sanctuary, celebrate and memorialize loved ones again this year. An order form will be in your church bulletin. Please submit forms and payment by Sunday, March 18th. Please contact the church office with any questions.





Thank yous

A thank you was received from the Scho-Wright Ambulance service for a donation made by the church.



Women's Assembly

Glen Reformed Church, 1526 St. Hwy. 161, Fultonville, NY on Saturday, April 14; 9 am – 2 pm the 3rd Annual Women's Assembly, "God is my Engine, But where are the keys?" Registration postmarked by March 17 or late registration by April 5, registration fee varies depending on registration date and number registering to attend. Information and registration forms at:

www.glenchurch.rcachurches.org but registration forms are to be mailed. Registration forms also available in the Narthex or by contacting the church office 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.**



Aluminum Tabs for the Shriners: Please continue to bring can tabs to the church. John Nixon and Ron Filmer will deliver them to help Shriners's Hospital.

My Offering: The new Weekly Offering for my Church envelopes are located in the back of the Church, please help yourself to those created for your household. Thank you for all your support.

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.

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.





We Celebrate our fantastic organist

Vince Smith

for 40 years of service!

During our rededication service on Sunday, February 25, we got to surprise our Organist Vince Smith with a special moment of recognition. Vince has been the organist of the Schoharie Reformed Church for 40 years! Throughout that time, he has gifted us with his talent for music, his heart for the Lord, and his passion to use his gifts to honor God and to bless us in our worship. We are so grateful for his many years of faithful service and we look forward to more years of his leading us in our songs of worship!

Thanks Vince, we love you!

These are a few of the Organ Recital pictures, please look for more about the rededication in the April newsletter.



Lend A Hand for Lent

Christ The Shepherd Lutheran Church
In
Schoharie

is currently sponsoring a community-wide collection drive to help the homeless to benefit

The City Mission of Schenectady

Christ The Shepherd Lutheran Church is accepting new men's & women's undershirts (white only), new men's boxers (sizes M-XXL) and deodorant for men & women to meet their current need. The collection drive will run during the season of Lent, you may place your items in the collection box in the Church Narthex.

2/14/18 - 3/26/18

Financial donations may be mailed to:

**Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church
PO Box 423
Schoharie, NY 12157**

Thank you for your support



Camp Fowler

As we begin to look ahead as the sun becomes brighter and the days become longer we can begin to think about the summer. Again this year the Schoharie Reformed Church will be offering Camp Fowler Scholarships for children who would like to attend camp but due to financial restrictions would not be able to. The request for Scholarship form was included in the February newsletter, you may return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate during Sunday Worship. If you would like to obtain a form you may contact the church office at 518-295-8177. This is separate from the Camp Fowler Registration which needs to be done directly with Camp Fowler:

Camp Fowler & Retreat Center
1790 Grand Blvd.
Schenectady, NY 12309
518-631-6789 or
campfowler@rca.org

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Church Office at 518-295-8177.

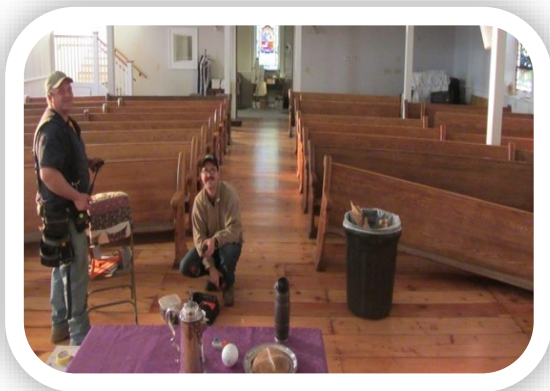


Buildings & Grounds

At this writing, our pews are being reinstalled with the goal of being useable for March 4 worship. Even with the changes in the Sanctuary, the pews laid out well; and (so far) are going back together without too much frustration or spilling of blood.

When the weather warms a little more, our contractor will return to fill screw holes, do minor touch-up finish repair, and apply a final coat of polyurethane. Warmer temperatures are needed so the windows can be open for ventilation.

In the meantime, we are now moving forward with ordering pew cushions and a number of loose worship chairs.



Sunday School

March 4th - Regular Sunday School – Joseph and Justice of the Peas

March 11th - Regular Sunday School

March 18th - Regular Sunday School

March 25th - Regular Sunday School – Palm Sunday Parade

April 1st – No Sunday School – Easter – Resurrection Egg Hunt following Worship

April 8th - Regular Sunday School

April 15th - Regular Sunday School

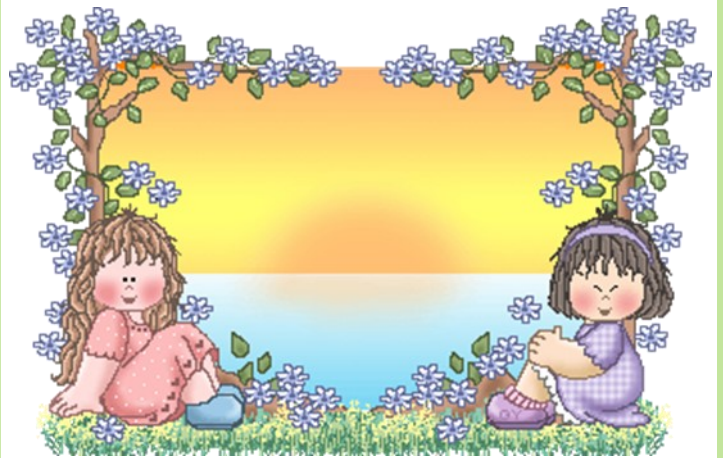
April 22nd - Regular Sunday School

April 29th - Regular Sunday School

May 6th - Regular Sunday School

May 13th - Regular Sunday School

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



Day Camp

Planning is underway for Day Camp 2018! This year our theme will be Superheroes. Save the dates – July 16th – 20th. Like us on Facebook or look for upcoming articles in this newsletter about our plans for this summer! Want to be involved with the planning? Contact Liza Toborg at (518) 817-1540.



Schoharie Reformed Church

260 Main Street

Schoharie, NY 12157

Rev. Mike & Rev. Dr. Sherri Meyer-Veen

Phone: (518) 295-8177

Fax: (518) 295-8105

email: schohariereformedchurch@yahoo.com

March 2018

