



# The Visitor

Schoharie Reformed Church

June 2022

Pastor Mike & Pastor Sherri



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### **Blown by The Spirit**

*"When the Spirit of truth comes, she will guide you into all the truth; for she will not speak on her own, but will speak whatever she hears, and she will*

*declare to you the things that are to come."*

-John 16:13

### **To make things new that never were**

*by Walter Brueggemann from  
"Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth"*

We name you wind, power, force, and then,  
imaginatively, "Third Person."

We name you and you blow...

blow hard,  
blow cold,  
blow hot,  
blow strong,  
blow gentle,  
blow new...

Blowing the world out to nothing to abundance,  
blowing the church out of despair to new life,  
blowing little David from shepherd boy to Messiah,  
blowing to make things new that never were.

So blow this day, wind,  
blow here and there, power,  
blow even us, force,

Rush us beyond ourselves,  
Rush us beyond our hopes,  
Rush us beyond our fears, until we enact your newness in  
the world.

Come, come spirit. Amen.



At Pentecost we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit as recorded in Acts 2 of the New Testament, God's continuing presence on earth, the third person of the trinity. The Spirit comes like a violent rushing wind, and settles like tongues of fire. In the Spirit, each person hears the good news of God in their own language and the church on earth is born.

There is a popular quote that says, "We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust our sails." There is a great comfort in this, and a deep challenge. The comfort is that God is still moving in the world, no matter how things might look, still fulfilling God's purposes and keeping God's good promises to us day after day, month after month, and year after year. The challenge is to do the hard work of adjusting our sails, especially during difficult times when our feelings are overwhelmed with anger, sadness, worry, fear, anxiety, or fatigue. There is a lot going on in the world right now, and there is a lot going on at the Schoharie Reformed Church. Through it all, let us remember we are God's people, and this is God's church. The Spirit is still blowing through our lives, our church, our community, and our world. Thanks Be to God!

God's Spirit is on the move, leading us into all truth, and leading us forward, perhaps even into new ways we have yet to imagine!

Let us continue to do the work adjusting our sails by listening for God's Spirit, offering our prayers, talking together with courage and curiosity, and continuing to seek God in our hearts and lives. As the Spirit of God blows through our world may we adjust our sails together as the church, that we may be led into God's good future!

Seeking the Spirit together,  
*Pastors Sherrí & Mike*

Cover Photo: An early 20th-century sail wagon in [Brooklyn, New York](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Land_sailing). [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Land\\_sailing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Land_sailing)



### *Memorial Day Parade*

Members of our church showing support of the Schoharie Valley Day Camp program during the Schoharie Memorial Day Parade. 50 crayons with registration links were passed out as well as some candy and bibles.



## *Food Pantry*

Many families are in need of extra help; the Food Pantry is continuing to work hard to serve the many families in our community. Non-perishable items such as canned fruits, boxed macaroni & cheese, tuna fish, pasta, pasta sauce, canned ravioli/beef stew/soup/ spaghetti o's/chili with beans, canned vegetables, applesauce, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, jello packs, pudding snacks, granola bars, fruit snacks, juice packs, and snack crackers. Additional items of need are cleaning supplies, paper towels/ toilet paper, personal hygiene items such as hand soap, toothpaste, shampoo and shower soaps. Items may be left in our Narthex; or dropped off at the SUPC on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 12pm until 2pm or they may be left between the doors of the educational building. Monetary donations are appreciated as well, checks may be written to "Schoharie Valley Food Pantry". If you would like to volunteer with the Food Pantry, please contact Diane Walion at 518-868-4629. **The Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12-2pm.** The Food Pantry would like to thank everyone for your support and donations. Your help makes the Food Pantry successful in helping our community!

## *Donations from the Schoharie United States Postal Workers*

The Schoharie Food Pantry received a generous donation of non-perishable food from the United States Postal Service. Back in May, the USPS was hosting a food drive to help families in need. This was a generous donation towards our Food Pantry.



## *Day Camp Donation Supplies*

If you would like to help with Day Camp this year, you can by donation. Below is a list of items that can be donated towards Day Camp. Thank you!

### *Supplies for Donations:*

- Egg Cartons
- Oatmeal Containers
- Yogurt Containers (cleaned & large tubs please)
- Ice Cream Pints (cleaned & only round containers please)
- Any cylindrical container
- Toilet Paper Rolls
- Plastic Bottle Caps
- Cardboard boxes (thicker boxes like Amazon boxes are preferred)

\*Donations may be left in a box in the Narthex or at the church office

\*Please provide all donations by Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup> 2022

## *Schoharie Valley Community Day Camp* *July 18-22, 2022*

### Volunteers:

Camp needs YOU this summer to join us as a volunteer or staff member.

Volunteers must be 14 years or older and available from 7:30am to 4pm during the week of camp.

Individuals with required volunteer hours can receive them throughout the week.

\*Particular Church affiliation is not necessary\*



### Registration:

Camper welcome from ages 4-8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Morning camp: Age 4 through entering Grade 2 (8:30am-12pm)

Full day Camp: Entering Grade 3 through Grade 8 (8:30am-4pm)

We work hard to keep camp affordable for all families. \$50 for the first child with a \$90 maximum for families.

Scholarships are available for families who cannot afford the week of camp. Please reach out to the camp email.

Questions or Concerns regarding volunteers and registrations for campers?

Email: [schoharievalleycommunitycamp@gmail.com](mailto:schoharievalleycommunitycamp@gmail.com)

## *Stained-Glass Article*

### **Research on Stained Glass Windows – Schoharie Reformed Church**

We are undertaking the refurbishment of our stained-glass windows in the Schoharie Reformed Church. Why? Because they are currently 128 years old and show the wear and tear that occurs over time. Over the past several years, I have been researching the families that donated these windows and thought that you might enjoy reading about them.

In the "[History of the Schoharie Reformed Church 1721-1996](#)", under the section entitled "Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the New Church Building – 1894", it states: "Nowhere in the records is any significant mention of the beautiful windows, but, based on the fact that one of them bears the date of 1894, it is a good bet that they were placed in the church during this time." Under the section entitled "Let There Be Light – The Church Windows" it states: "The church is graced by seven wonderful leaded glass windows. Each window has an inscription that dedicates it."

The dedication that I will share in this article is to Caroline Von Linden. It states:

In Memory of Caroline Von Linden  
March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1836 – Apr 24<sup>th</sup>, 1894  
By her Husband and Children

### **Stained-Glass Window – Caroline Von Linden**

Caroline was born Caroline von Normann-Ehrenfels on March 28, 1836, in Wurtemberg, Germany. It is not clear when she came to America or when she married her husband, Charles (Carl) Von Linden, but by 1875 she is living in Schoharie with her husband, Charles (aka Carl) and their 8 children: Caroline (15), Charles (14), Mary (12), Pauleen (10), Emma (8), Albert (5), Charlotte (3), and Matilda (1) were living with them. Her husband, Charles, was a farmer.

All the children were still living at home in 1892 with Caroline and Charles. Caroline died in 1894 (the same year the stained-glass windows were dedicated) and was buried at the Old Stone Fort Cemetery.

The oldest daughter, Caroline, was living with her younger brother, Albert, and his family in 1900. On September 10, 1913, at age 52, Caroline married Cyrus Saddlemire in Columbia, NY. This was her first marriage but his third marriage. Caroline was living in Hudson, NY when they filed for their marriage license. Caroline died in 1918 or 1919 and was buried at the Old Stone Fort Cemetery in Schoharie. Her name is on the gravestone with her husband, Cyrus Saddlemire, and his two other wives. It does not appear that Caroline had any children of her own.

Their second child, Charles Von Linden, married Imogene B. Filkins in 1896 and they had 3 children: Mary G., Eberhardt Carl, and Harold George. Charles died in 1951.

Their third child, Mary Von Linden, never married and died on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 1940. After her mother, Caroline's, death in 1894, Mary continued to live with her father on Grand Street in Schoharie until he passed away in 1916. After that, Mary and 2 of her younger sisters, Emma and Matilda, continued to live together in the family home with a nephew, Albert Hugo Von Linden.

Their fourth child, Pauleen Von Linden, married a butcher, Nicholas Rickard, on March 24, 1909. They were both 40 years old. They lived at 109 Grand St. near Pauleen's father, 3 sisters, and nephew.

## Stained Glass Article Cont...

Pauleen died on December 28<sup>th</sup>, 1940 – the same year as her older sister, Mary. Pauleen did not have any children.

Their fifth child, Emma Von Linden, never married and lived in the family home on Grand St. until at least 1940. She passed away in 1948. Emma never had any children.

Their sixth child, Albert Von Linden, married Edna C. Rickard on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1895, in Wright. They had at least 7 children.

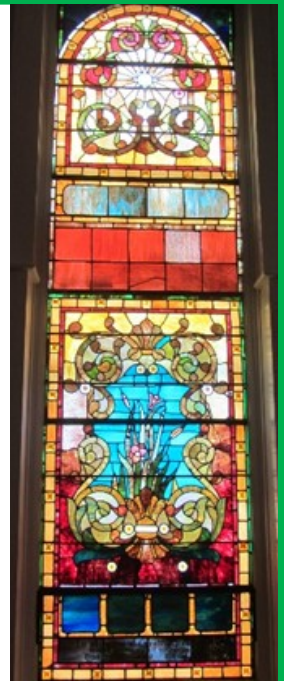
Their seventh child, Charlotte (Lillie) Von Linden, never married. She died on March 2, 1941, in Schoharie.

**Interesting Note** – On Sunday, December 6, 1970, Mrs. Donna Morey was ordained and installed as a deacon in the Schoharie Reformed Church. Donna was the great-granddaughter of Caroline Von Linden. Donna Morey and Mrs. Frances Tripp were the first two women in our congregation to become deacons. According to the “History of the Schoharie Reformed Church

1721-1996”, the “installation of women to the Consistory caused quite a stir at the next quarterly meeting of the Classis, held on January 26, 1971. The Schoharie Reformed Church submitted an Overture to the Classis, giving reasons for the ordination of two women, and asking that the Classis approve. In turn, the church was severely reprimanded for ignoring the Book of Church Order, which stated that only men could serve on Consistory.... Finally, the General Synod agreed to the ordination of women on Consistory, and the Classis of Schoharie followed suit. Thus, the preceding ordinations of women in the Schoharie Reformed Church became legal, and now it is quite normal for women to serve on the Consistory, both as Deacons and Elders.”

**Interesting Note #2** – One headstone in the Old Stone Fort Cemetery has the names of 4 of Caroline’s unmarried daughters (Marie, Emma, Charlotte, and Mathilde) who all died in the 1940s. Also on the headstone is the name of the nephew, Hugo, who lived with the sisters for many years off and on from the time he was just an infant. Grace was Hugo’s wife.

**Interesting Note #3** – Caroline Von Linden had a last will and testament that was signed by Ralph Brewster. Ralph’s family donated another of the stained-glass windows in the church. Ralph Brewster was a lawyer in Schoharie and the great-grandfather of Samuel Scanton. The July newsletter will have an article about the Brewster family for your reading pleasure.



Respectfully submitted by:

Liza Toborg

## Thank You

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift to Samaritan's Purse. Your support equips us to minister to these military couples. Provide medical relief in Ukraine, and respond to disasters across the U.S. — all in Jesus' name. "Your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now" (Philippians 1:5, ESV) is accomplishing much. God bless you. Sincerely, Franklin Graham

The Schoharie Valley Community Day camp is a joint effort between the Schoharie Reformed Church, Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church, and the Schoharie United Presbyterian Church. We would like to thank Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church for their generous donation.

Dear Schoharie Reformed Church,

I would like to thank you for your kindness and constant help and giving a good witness that is practical love.

Thank you, Evangelical Reformed Church Radwanska, Poland

*With this handmade postcard by our refugee guest from Ukraine I want to thank for your kindness and constant help and giving a good witness that is practical Love. We all wish you happy, joyful and above all blessed Easter.*

*Rev. Janek Kowalski*

*But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. (1 Cor. 15, 20-22)*



## Announcements



- Returnables to Righi's Redemption Center in Middleburg for fundraising.
- Aluminum can tabs that will be donated towards Shriners Hospital for Children. Any aluminum tabs you wish to donate, you can leave in the Narthex to be picked up by church staff.
- Schoharie Free Library will be having quilts displayed by various quilters and organizations along with flowers from June 8<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>.
- The Apple Barrel is hosting Plant & Sip Succulent Log on June 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm. Advanced sign-up is required and can be done in-person or calling them at 518-295-7179.
- The Studio for Arts and Crafts is hosting Stoneware Bowls on June 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm at their studio in Cobleskill. For more information, please call 518-823-4053.
- The Old Stone Fort is hosting the Musicians of Ma'alwyck on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm which will be held at the Schoharie Reformed Church.

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