



# The Visitor

*Schoharie Reformed Church*

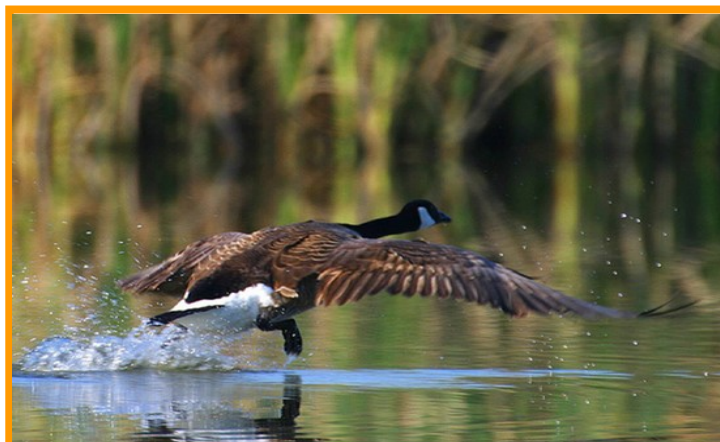
*October 2018*



## What's Inside

<i>Pastor's Message</i>	1-2
<i>Announcements</i>	3-4
<i>Trunk or Treat</i>	4
<i>Thank yous</i>	5
<i>Celebrating all our Saints</i>	6
<i>Buildings &amp; Grounds</i>	6
<i>Church Flowers</i>	6
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	7
<i>Sunday School</i>	8

*November Newsletter Deadline  
October 29th*



## You Were Made to Fly

*"Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached my goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved I do not consider that I have made this my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." – Philippians 3:12-14*

This fall our worship has focused on the theme that we are all "made to fly." Being made to fly means that each of us has been created by God to live a fully alive and abundant life in relationship with God through our lives where we live, work, play, and have our being. This image of flight is taken from a wonderful parable by Soren Kierkegaard, a 19<sup>th</sup> century Danish philosopher and theologian, and writer about a group of geese who live in a barn. One day a philosopher goose comes to them and expounds about the joys, the wonders, and the adventures of flight. The goose reminds them that they were made to fly, after all, why else would they have wings! But despite the philosopher's passion, and the interest of the geese the parable ends on a sad note,

*“And every week the geese were uplifted, inspired, moved by the philosopher’s message. They hung on his every word. They devoted hours, weeks, months to a thoroughgoing analysis and critical evaluation of his doctrines. They produced learned treatises on the ethical and spiritual implications of flight. All this they did. But one thing they never did. They did not fly! For the corn was good, and the barnyard was secure!”*

CS Lewis, another great philosopher, theologian, and writer once wrote in his essay entitled, The Weight of Glory, “It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink, desire, and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”

Learning to fly, and living into this abundant life that God has created for us takes certain tools, and some really intentional work on our parts. The first thing we need is **imagination**. Most of the time we only think of imagination as our ability to “made stuff up.” But imagination can be a powerful and helpful tool for us to see beyond the picture of our current reality. Imagination helps us to grasp the possibility of who we can become, imagination gives us the vision to see the very real picture of who God created us to be that it might become a compelling vision for our lives.

We also need **honesty**. We need honesty to look at and to look into the things in our lives that tend to keep us grounded (in a bad way), or stuck! We need honesty to ask ourselves some hard questions (free from shame), so that we might consider how we spend our time and our money and how those things do or do not line-up with our professed values. If we can take an honest look at what keeps us stuck we can also identify patterns that tend to show up in our lives around times when we are scared, worried, angry, or frustrated, that don’t allow us to truly take flight.

Finally, we need **courage**. We need courage to try. Courage to live in a different way and to break our familiar and unhelpful patterns. We need courage to practice living into being the people God made us to be, free from the fear of mistakes and the imperfections that will certainly reveal themselves. Courage helps us to build our flying muscles and to keep “pressing on” as Paul encourages us to do.

Friends, there is a wonderful, exciting, and fully-alive life waiting for you in the sky because you were made to fly. Imagination, helps us see it. Honesty, helps us free ourselves to believe it. And courage, helps us strengthen our selves to achieve it. It is not easy, but it is good, and it is truly the best life you could ever hope to live!

Taking Flight Together,

*Pastor Mike and Pastor Sherri*





## Announcements



**Nursery volunteers needed**-We are looking for volunteers to help serve in the nursery downstairs during morning Worship. This is a great opportunity to enjoy spending time with the little ones, while providing a service to your church family. Please see a member of Consistory regarding your availability to volunteer. Thank you!

**Donations**- There is a need for a good DVD/Blu-ray player to connect to the flat screen in the Heritage House and a large energy efficient refrigerator for the Fellowship Hall.

**Church Library**-There is a library upstairs in Heritage House for your pleasure. Please come, sit and enjoy some quiet reading time or you may wish to sign out a book(s) which you would enjoy reading at home. We only ask that you sign the books out on the sign out sheet in the library and return them to the library or the church office when you are done. A great way to be close to God, relax and enjoy.



**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**-Please continue to bring can tabs to the church and you may leave them in the Narthex. The tabs will then be processed, proceeds will be used to offset patient cost.

**Contact Information**-please contact the church office at 518-295-8177 or E-mail: schohariereformedchurch@yahoo.com 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 your wedding anniversary month & day. This will help everyone stay in touch.

**Flu Shots**-an invitation has been extended to our congregation from the Schoharie United Presbyterian Church for a Flu Shot Clinic that will be held Sunday, October 14th at approximately 11:30 am (following their worship service). Karen Fiero of their congregation is an Immunizing Pharmacist at Rite Aid/Walgreens, she will be running the clinic. If you have insurance please bring your insurance cards with you. All persons who need their





## Announcements



**Consistory**-the next consistory meeting will be Wednesday, October 17th @6:30 in Heritage House.

**Kitchen Cupboards**-to help everyone easily locate items within our Community Room kitchen we are looking for several volunteers place labels on the cupboards doors. Dave Toborg has the label maker and has offered to assist with the label making process, please see him to use the label maker or receive his assistance. Thank you for your help.

**Food Pantry**-We have been blessed the past few months with receiving a great deal of meat from Hannaford in Esperance. We are one of only a few pantries who distribute meat. While we have meat, some pasta and some tomato products, nearly everything else is gone or quite low. We don't receive another shipment from the Regional Food Bank until October 19th. In the meantime, we need any kind of canned goods, including tuna, vegetables, fruits and soups. Please spread the word, and thanks very much. Items can be dropped off at SUPC on Tuesdays thru Fridays from 11:00 till 3:00, or we can arrange pickup by contacting Pastor Colleen at 518-231-8641. If you would like to volunteer, even on an occasional basis, please call Diane Walion at 518 868-4629. Donations may be also be dropped off in our Church Narthex. Monetary donations are appreciated as well, checks may be made out to Schoharie Valley Food Pantry. **The Food Pantry is open Tuesday & Thursdays, 12-2pm**

**Lily Park Fall clean-up**-the Schoharie Promotional Association has set a date of Oct. 13th beginning at 9AM for winterizing the Lily Park. There will be many winterization jobs for those who would like to help. In addition the bench representing our church will need to be removed for storage on or after that date.

**Pot Roast Beef Dinner**-The Jay Gould Memorial Reformed Church will be hosting a Pot Roast Beef Dinner on Friday, October 21, 2018, 53837 State Hwy. 30, Roxbury, 607-326-7101. Take outs available starting at 4pm; Seatings 5pm & 6pm. Menu: Pot Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Squash, Coleslaw, Rolls, Dessert & Beverage. Eat In Prices: Adult—\$12 Sr. Citizen—\$10 Children: 6 –12 yrs. \$6; age 5 and under FREE. Family Plan: Kids 12 and under 1FREE with each adult ticket purchased (eat in only)! All take outs—\$12 each Walk-ins are always welcome!

**Mohawk Valley Chorus Gospel Festival**-with Dr. Raymond Wise. Saturday, October 20, 2018. Vocal Techniques, Spiritual & Anthems, Day-long Master Class & Rehearsal, Gospel Songs. Informal Concert at 5pm. Cost:\$30.00 (non refundable) includes: materials, lunch and snack. Registration begins at 8am. For more information: email: mvcgospelfest@gmail.com or Visit our Website @ mohawkvalleychorus.org or Visit us on Facebook.



## Trunk or Treat



Wednesday, October 31st, 5-7pm the Schoharie Promotional Association will host there annual Halloween Trunk or Treat. Our church will again be participating in this event. Donations of individually wrapped candy will be needed to make this all possible. A box will be placed in the Narthex for candy donations. If you have any questions please call the church office. Thank you for helping to make this all possible for the children.



## Thank you

Dear Pastor and the entire congregant:

I send you warm greetings from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe (ELCZ), particularly from the Western Diocese. I would like to extend our sincere thanks for the donation you sent for our income generating project. The token given will indeed go a long way to cover the gaps towards the success of our project. During the beginning of 2017, the Diocese set down and came up with a number of projects that can sustain the church and some that can improve human livelihoods. The idea of coming up with a car project that will be used to generate funds came as one of the top priorities. The Diocese has since been pursuing this dream and the car will soon be purchased to fulfill the dream and the plans that lie ahead of us.

Thank you very much for the assistance given. We shall keep you informed of our next steps.

We continue to pray for you as you also continue to remember us. May the Lord always bless you in all the good works ahead of you.

Yours in His Service

Bishop M.M.S Dube  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe:



## Thank you

**The City Mission** would like to thank you for your donation in September 2018. You are helping make September a month of activity and impact at City Mission. Though August we have served a record-number of meals (over 155,000), and provided shelter to nearly 100 men, women and children each night. Our ministry to homeless and hungry people would not be possible without the support of partners like you.

The impact being made by your partnership extends throughout the community as well. Our Neighbor 2 Neighbor program is partnering with local school districts to help more children than ever before. Over 500 children are beginning the school year with new backpacks filled with needed school supplies. We are now working with several schools to provide clothing rooms for elementary and high school students. And, of course our Weekend Backpack Program will help feed over 1,200 children through-out the school year. Here are some comments we received from teachers whose students participate in the Weekend Backpack program:

- "When one girl first received her bag, she threw her arms around me and squeezed me tight."

- "One student stated that he didn't have any food in his home and was worried about his grandma....Now when Friday comes, he's all smiles."

- "One student who receives a backpack has been much more relaxed on Fridays and more alert and ready for school on Monday...He is very thankful for the backpack program."

May God bless you for caring, and for making a difference in the lives of others.

Together Giving Hope,  
Michael Saccocio, Executive Director





## *Celebrating all our Saints!*



This year we look forward to celebrating **All-Saints/Reformation Sunday on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. For this special celebration we would love to have a time during the worship service where we view a picture slideshow to remember the beloved members of our church family who have gone on to glory and give thanks to God for them. If you have a picture you could share with us we would love to use it. Please get it to us by Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. You can email it to the church: [schohariereformedchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:schohariereformedchurch@yahoo.com), or you can mail it in and we will scan it, PO Box 635, Schoharie, NY 12157. Or just drop it off to us and we will include it in the slide show and get it back to you. Thanks for helping us make this a special time of worship and celebration for our entire church family! Finally – Please come on October 28<sup>th</sup> to our 10:30am worship service and celebrate with us!



## *Buildings & Grounds*



### **Fall Clean-Up**

**Saturday, November 3, 9:00 AM.** The focus will be on raking leaves, cleaning out the flower bed, trimming shrubs, and general outside clean-up in preparation for winter. Bring rakes, gloves, pruners, loppers, etc. Could also use a couple pick-up trucks. Please let Dave Toborg know if you intend to be there.

Rain date is the following Saturday, November 10.



## *Church Flowers*



You may wish to grace our sanctuary with flowers for a Sunday Worship service. This may be to celebrate, honor or in memory of a loved one. The church flowers are a wonderful way to share beauty and blessings with your church family. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for your week(s) of choice. There is no individual cost for these arrangements but you may choose to make a donation towards your selection. If you have any questions or need assistance to sign up, please contact the church office. This is a wonderful way to share the beauty and blessings with your church family.

## Operation Christmas Child



What do fun toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and prayer all have in common? They all go into packing a shoe box for a child through Operation Christmas Child. Since 1993 shoe boxes have been lovingly packed with items and prayers and delivered to boys and girls in more than one hundred fifty countries and territories. It has been a long standing tradition for Schoharie Reformed Church to participate in this worthwhile project.

Shoe boxes and packing labels will be available on **Sunday, October 14th**. The shipping cost this year is \$9.00 per box, to be included with the shipping label. More information about Operation Christmas Child is available in the Narthex or you can go to: [www.samaritanaspurse.org](http://www.samaritanaspurse.org) to learn more.

We will be dedicating our boxes **Sunday, November 4th**. Let us show some children of the world how much God loves them through the goodness and love of others by packing a box or boxes full of "goodies" and prayer.

### Gift Suggestions

**Wow item:** Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls, toy cars, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), an item to wear, backpack, etc.

**School Supplies:** pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

**Personal Non-Liquid Hygiene Items:** toothbrushes, bar soap (packaged and/or in a container), combs, washcloths, etc.

**Accessories:** t-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.

**Toys:** Foam ball, small Frisbee, small kite, etch a sketch, kaleidoscope, marbles, etc.

**A Personal Note:** You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include your name and address, the child may be able to write back.

**Do Not Include:** Used or damaged items; toothpaste, gum, war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

**Why the \$9.00 shipping cost?** The \$9 helps us train and equip local churches to use our Ministry Partner Guide. This resource shows churches how to share the Good News of the Lord Jesus Christ in a child-friendly way. Your donation also provides The Greatest Gift Gospel Booklets, which are written in the children's language and distributed along with shoebox gifts.

**Can I find out where my shoebox went?** if you give your \$9 donation online, you will receive a tracking label that will allow you to discover the destination of your shoebox gift. [www.samaritanaspurse.org](http://www.samaritanaspurse.org)





## Sunday School 2018-19



October 7 – No Sunday School

October 14—Regular Sunday School

October 21—Regular Sunday School

October 28 - Holiday Activity

November 4 - Holiday Activity

November 11 – Practice for Christmas Program

November 18 – Practice for Christmas Program

November 25 – No Sunday School

December 2 – Practice for Christmas Program

December 9 - Last Practice for Christmas Program

December 16 – Dress rehearsal & Christmas Program

December 23 – Holiday Activity

December 30 – No Sunday School

January 6—Regular Sunday School

January 13 – Special Activity

January 20—Regular Sunday School

January 27—Regular Sunday School



February 3— Regular Sunday School

February 10 – Special Activity

February 17 – No Sunday School

February 24—Regular Sunday School

March 3—Regular Sunday School

March 10—Regular Sunday School

March 17 – Special Activity

March 24—Regular Sunday School

March 31 – No Sunday School

April 7 – Special Activity

April 14 – Palm Sunday Parade

April 21 – No Sunday School (Easter)

April 28—Regular Sunday School

May 5 – Special Activity

May 12 – No Sunday School (Mother's Day)

May 19—Regular Sunday School

May 26 – Last Day Sunday School with  
Children's Program & Church Picnic



Share God's Word

We continue and always welcome volunteers. You do not need to be available every week, but we would love your presence and participation. There is no special training needed. We just ask that you be part of our church ministry to our youth. The time and the love you offer will show our youth that God is Great. Please see Cindy Parks or Luke Jacobs regarding your availability. God Bless you for your service to our youth.



Schoharie Reformed Church

260 Main Street

Schoharie, NY 12157

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

Phone: (518) 295-8177

Fax: (518) 295-8105

October

