

DECEMBER 2018

Scotia UMC



Hanging of the Greens – Dec. 1st

Nativity Sunday – Dec. 16

All are invited to bring a crèche/nativity to church for the worship service on Sunday, December 16. This is a chance to share a nativity set from another land, your parents' set you inherited now stored in the attic, hand-carved wood, molded ceramic, paper ones your kids made. We ask that you bring and set them up on tables inside the altar rail on Saturday evening, December 15, between 7:00 and 9:00, and then take them down and take them home after worship on the 16th. Let's share these special symbols of the surprising arrival of our Lord in our world, in our lives.

Blue Christmas Service will be held jointly with Alplaus UMC at Alplaus on Friday, Dec. 21st at 7 pm.



December 15th Children's Christmas Party

- We will meet in the church parking lot at 12:30 and walk to Holyrood House to deliver cookies to the residents and sing some Christmas Carols. Afterwards, we will head back to church to decorate the Christmas Tree in the Loomis Room and have some cookies ourselves! ALL ARE WELCOME! We can use all the voices we can get and it's a wonderful way to celebrate the holiday and bring some joy to others.



5:30 pm – Children's Program

11:00 pm – Candlelight Service



Wesley's Wisdom

John Wesley never published a Christmas sermon, but his hymn-writing brother Charles wrote [songs for the season](#) from the very beginning. The first Methodist hymnbook, *Hymns and Sacred Poems* (1739), includes Charles' "Hymn for Christmas-Day." The song begins, "Hark how all the welkin rings, 'Glory to the King of kings.'" Another Methodist preacher would change the opening line to words we know much better, "[Hark! the Herald Angel Sings.](#)" (umc.org/what-we-believe)

Worship Schedule

Liturgists

12/2 Belinda Wagner
12/9 Steve Wesley
12/16 Wendy Liebl
12/23 Sean Flansburg
12/24 Sunday School
12/24 Martha Hatt
12/30 Clarence Mosher

Sound

Jim Coburn
Mark Cieslak
TBA
TBA
Jim Coburn
Mark Cieslak
TBA

Ushers & Greeters

12/2 Deb Cieslak, Carole Jacobson
12/9 Meredith Van Vorst, Wendy Liebl
12/16 Kim & Dave Huhtala
12/23 Dick & Pat Knapp
12/24 TBA
12/24 TBA
12/30 Dick & Pat Knapp

Counters

Dick Knapp, June Pelham

Social

12/2 Tim & Mai Keegan
12/9 Barbara Hanley, Meredith Van Vorst
12/16 Jennifer Baron, Deb Lelievre
12/23 Pryor family
12/24 Knapps
12/24 Longs
12/30 Martha Hatt & friends

SUMC IN MISSIONS Regional Food Bank – Volunteers, meet at the Food Bank at 2:30 pm on Tues., Dec. 18th. If you need to carpool, contact Dick Knapp at 518-393-5737. -Jill Dunster-Wesley (cell) 423-3546 (home) 372-4047
jldunster@hotmail.com

The Story Behind the Hymn

#396 O Jesus I Have Promised

John Bode wrote the words in 1868 for his daughter's and two son's confirmation service. At the time Bode was pastor in Castle Camps Parish, Cambridgeshire, England. Arthur Mann wrote the music in 1881 and it was published in The Methodist Sunday School Hymnbook in 1881. There were alternate tunes but the one we sang has something of a traditional Welsh melody published in 1835 and last variation was circa 1910 by William H. Ferguson. -submitted by Holly Russo

Christmas Choir - Friends, the choir is preparing for Advent and Christmas.

If you'd like to add your voice to the choir for the holiday season, you are welcome to join us in the next choir rehearsals on 12/14 and 12/21 at 7:30 pm in the choir room downstairs. Blessings ~ Oded

Update on the Bake Sale and Soup Sale!

As the self-appointed chairperson of the bake and soup sale I'd like to report that- We made \$466.60 thanks to the fabulous bakers and soup makers and the generosity of the guests for the breakfast and the congregation. I asked for recipes and some of you gave them to me but there are no names crediting the baker or soup-maker so please, let's try this again! You can email the recipes to me at: sarge2010@live.com or hand them to me or Debbie at church. And take credit for your recipes by putting your name on them! We have the next community breakfast in January and I'd like repeat performances on the goodies for the baked goods and especially the soup sale. I'd like to be able to offer the recipes if anyone asked. Thank you again for your efforts to make this project a success. We will be able to afford the new water heater for the new dishwasher from this one sale. Our goal is always to make enough at the bake sales to pay for the groceries for the breakfast so when we are able to exceed that amount we save for things like hot water heaters and new dishwashers. – Holly Russo

Building Use Update - Regina Caeli Adademy will be on Christmas break from Monday, Dec. 17 through Sunday, January 6, 2019.

Email Address Change - Pastor Carl's email address has been changed by Spectrum to umccarl@twc.com.

Prayers for the family of Shirley Lavery in the loss of their loved one.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study – will have their last session of 2018 on Dec. 11th at 9:30. The Study will resume on January 8, 2019.

Sunday School

The Sunday School classes have completed their study of the Lord's Prayer and are focusing on Advent/Christmas for the month of December. In addition to their lessons, the students will be sending Christmas Cards to the residents of Holyrood House and veterans at the VA Hospital in Albany. A special thanks to the Congregation for the Christmas card donations.

Preparations are under way for the Children's Christmas Pageant which will be on Christmas Eve at 5:30 pm. Don't miss it!



Christmas Heating Fund

In place of poinsettias this year we will be accepting donations towards our winter heating bills. All donations given in memory or in honor of loved ones will be included in our special bulletins on Christmas Eve. Please complete this form along with your check and leave in the Admin. Assistant mail slot by the workroom door (on the right as soon as you walk in) no later than **Sunday, Dec. 9th. Specify "Heating Fund" on your check. Any forms submitted after this date will not be included in the bulletin. Thank you for your donation!**

Given by _____

Donation of _____

In memory of _____

OR In honor of _____

**Church Treasurers Report
31-Oct-18**

	Total thru <u>Oct-18</u>
Individual Contributions	\$86,777
	22,84
Building Use/Rent	9
	1,42
Fund Raising/Interest Income	9
	(11
Other Designated Giving	0)
Total Operating Receipts	\$110,944
Wages & other employment expenses	\$59,480
	7,09
Church Operations/Program	4
	12,40
Parsonage Expenses	1
	4,84
Church Building-Repairs/Safety	8
	10,71
Church Building-Utilities/Water	1
	6,78
Church Building-All Other	2
	3,23
Apportionments	5
	1
Benevolences	80
Total Operating Expenses	\$104,730
Surplus	\$6,214

There is a surplus of \$6,214 as of 10/31/18.

If there are any questions or requests for detailed information,
please contact Mary Connors at mechardball@yahoo.com.

Best wishes for a blessed Merry Christmas as we celebrate the gift of our Savior, Emmanuel, Jesus, come to give us new life! – from SUMC Staff

Pastor Carl
Cynthia
ODED
Gerí
Becca