

FEBRUARY
2018

Scotia UMC

February 2018

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." - Matthew 6:21

What is Lent?

In the month of February we entered into a new season, the season of Lent. Lent is typically observed as a time of simple living, prayer and fasting that leads up to Easter and people usually "give up" something. The idea of giving up something came from Scripture. It came from modeling a Scripture, Mathew 4: 1-11, the story of Jesus retreating into the wilderness for 40 days to fast and pray before he began his ministry.

So what do we think happened during those forty days of fasting and praying in the wilderness? Some scholars say that maybe Jesus needed some time with God to sort through the major changes happening in his life. Maybe he needed a break from family, friends and his regular routine in order to see God [and himself] more clearly.

Maybe he sought more time with God as he searched for direction and answers to the question that we, too have from time to time: "God, what are you calling me to do?"

We too are invited into this time of introspection. As we journey through this season of Lent, some of us will choose to give up something. Some of us will choose to take on something. Some of us will choose to be more reflective. No matter what you choose to do, the idea behind Lent is to choose to do something that will bring you closer to God. May these forty days draw us nearer to God and neighbor making us more faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Margaret Currier

518-372-9575 - church
518-688-9515 - parsonage
PastorMargaretC@outlook.com



Wesley's Wisdom

"Genuine inward holiness must show itself in outward holiness. "Works of piety" were worthless without "works of mercy." Faith without works of love, Wesley stated, is the "grand pest of Christianity" (see James 2:14-26) Today we might express it this way: "If you want to talk the talk, you have to walk the walk." (John Wesley, Holiness of Heart & Life, page 57)

Worship Schedule

Liturgists

2/4 Martha Hatt
2/11 Sean O'Sullivan
2/18 Janet Daly
2/25 Sue Sykes

Sound

Mark Cieslak
Dave Read
Bob Hatt
Jim Coburn

Ushers

2/4 Holly Russo, Deb Cieslak
2/11 Holly Russo, Sue Sykes
2/18 RoyAnn Rogerson, Martha Hatt
2/25 Holly Russo, Zach Long

Counters

Wendy Liebl, Judy Swain

Greeters

2/4 RoyAnn Rogerson, Clarence Mosher
2/11 Mark Cieslak, Myra Keegan
2/18 Judy Swain, Jill Wesley
2/25 Judy Swain, Clarence Mosher

Social

Sue Sykes, RoyAnn Rogerson
O'Sullivan Family
Jill & Steve Wesley
Laurie Peconie, Holly Russo



Winter Break! Our next meeting will be April 9. 2018. Future details to come...

SUMC IN MISSIONS

Regional Food Bank - Volunteers, please meet at the Food Bank at 2:30 pm on Tuesday, February 20th. 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 new year of 2018 brings lessons on women who interacted with Jesus, many of whom were His disciples. Not only are the children learning about the women but gaining real insight into Jesus' compassion and respect for women, something unheard of in those times.

We will be scheduling our annual Easter egg hunt/party...further details to come soon!

February Calendar

- 2/4 Holy Communion
- 2/4 Worship & Welcoming Meeting after service
- 2/5 Trustees Meeting at 7 pm
- 2/10 Soup Sale sponsored by the Missions Team
- 2/12 Youth Gathering 6:30-8:00 pm
- 2/12 RCA Testing
- 2/13 RCA Testing
- 2/13 Theology on Tap at Mohawk Taproom 7 pm
- 2/14 Ash Wednesday
- 2/14 Happy Valentines Day! ❤️
- 2/15 Choir 7:30 pm
- 2/19 Presidents Day
- 2/20 Food Bank 2:30 pm
- 2/21 Finance Meeting 7 pm
- 2/26 Admin. Council 7 pm

The Tuesday Bible Study will continue to meet at 9:30 am on Tuesdays in the Fireside Room.

Next Newsletter deadline is FEBRUARY 20th.

Please email any announcements or upcoming events to scotiaumoffice@gmail.com

**Church Treasurers Report
31-Dec-17**

	Total thru <u>Dec-17</u>
Individual Contributions	\$113,168
	21,0
Building Use/Rent	59
	4,3
Fund Raising/Interest Income	27
Other Designated Giving	31
Total Operating Receipts	<u>\$138,586</u>
Wages & other employment expenses	\$74,847
	7,6
Church Operations/Program	73
	8,2
Parsonage Expenses	20
	6,0
Church Building-Repairs/Safety	50
	8,6
Church Building-Utilities/Water	13
	12,0
Church Building-All Other	12
	25,4
Apportionments	10
	7
Benevolences	29
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$143,554</u>
Surplus (Shortage)	\$ (4,968)

There was a shortage of (\$4,968) for the year of 2017.

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