

JANUARY 2017

Scotia UMC

January 2017

“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters.” – Isaiah 55:1

Happy New Year! (again)

The first Sunday of January begins a new year for the Gregorian calendar. However, we are already seven weeks into the new year for our Church calendar. A new Christian year started on the last Sunday of November which was the first Sunday of Advent and the first week of our Advent-Christmas sermon series that ends on Epiphany Sunday, January 1st.

In the second week of January we enter the “Season after Epiphany,” a season of preparation. We are asked by our global church to participate in “After Epiphany: The Great Invitation Worship Series.” The following is a summary of what we will be discussing in the coming weeks.

Week 1: *The Heavens are opened* - We witness the baptism of Jesus, reaffirm the baptismal covenant, and enter anew into the mystery of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit from “opened heavens” for the work of evangelism that lies ahead of us during the coming weeks.

Week 2: *Come and See* - In the story of the calling of the first disciples from John’s gospel, we are inspired and challenged to come and see how Jesus lives ourselves and to continue to invite those we know to come with us.

Week 3: *Follow Me* - At the end of the story of the calling of the first disciples in Matthew’s gospel, we follow Jesus with his disciples into the places of greatest need and opportunity and offering teaching, good news, and healing love.

Week 4: *#Blessed* - We’ve seen Jesus in action. Now we settle in for the first of four weeks to hear him teach his first disciples with a large crowd in the background. Today he sets us straight about who and what God’s kingdom is blessing in the world.

Week 5: *Salt & Light & Righteousness*

Abounding - In light of who and what God is blessing and how different that is from what the world and sometimes even the church seems to bless, how do we then live? As salty, light-shining people whose righteousness abounds!

Week 6: *This, Not That* - Jesus continues to offer concrete examples of what life in God’s kingdom does, and doesn’t, look like.

Week 7: *And Now Your Reward* - Blessings are a gift of God in God’s kingdom. Rewards are the result of living more fully into the ways of God’s kingdom, or as we might say, “growing in holiness of heart and life.” Jesus reminds us of ways we can stay on or stray from the trail God’s kingdom blazes for us in this life.

Week 8: *Shine!* - Today we exult in the vision of God’s exaltation of Jesus and in anticipation of our own transfiguration now and in the age to come. That hope, that vision, drives us not to stay where we are on the mountaintop, but to get into the valley of sin and suffering and be a healing and formative presence for all who seek God’s salvation with us in the weeks of Lent that lie ahead.

I welcome the invitation from our Church and hope you will join me on this journey.

In Christ’s Love,
Pastor Margaret Currier
518-372-9575 – church
518-688-9515 – parsonage
PastorMargaretC@outlook.com



Wesley's Wisdom

“Wesley assumed that every Christian recognized the importance of worship. People who were truly touched by God must use every occasion to offer their praise and open themselves to God’s sustaining grace in family prayers, parish services, and Methodist meetings.” (John Wesley: Holiness of Heart and Life, pg. 62)

Worship Schedule

Liturgists

1/1 Rob Currier
1/8 Steve Wesley
1/15 Wendy Liebl
1/22 Dean Goodell
1/29 Clarence Mosher

Sound

Dave Read
Bob Hatt
TBA
Mark Cieslak
Dave Read

Counters

Steve Wesley
& Dean Goodell

Ushers

1/1 Dave & Lisa Read
1/8 Sue Sykes, Megan Sykes
1/15 Dave & Lisa Read
1/22 Sean Connors, Dick Knapp
1/29 RoyAnn Rogerson

Greeters

Martha Hatt, Deb Cieslak
Nikki & Kevin Margas
Steve & Jill Wesley
Dave & Lisa Read
Clarence Mosher, O’Sullivan family

Social

1/1 Janet Daly
1/8 Steve Long, Zach Long
1/15 TBA
1/22 Sue Sykes
1/29 Nikki & Kevin Margas



The Women’s Group will meet on Sunday, January 15th immediately after church for a luncheon at the Scotia Diner on Mohawk Avenue in the Elvis Room. Everyone may order breakfast or lunch and separate checks will be provided. We have gone here in the past and they are very accommodating. This will be our holiday celebration! Come & bring a friend. **Please RSVP to Sue or Martha so we have a count for the Diner. Thank you!**

SUMC IN MISSIONS

Scotia Glenville Food Pantry 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month.
-Go through your pantry and lend a helping hand-

Keep bringing in bottles and cans, Box Tops for Education, and Labels for Education. Box Tops collected will be donated to local elementary schools. We turn them in and are able to purchase items for schools that are needed but may not be in the school budget for this year. The last group of labels were turned over to Glendaal Elementary. As we collect more Box Top Labels, they will be turned over to the other elementary schools in the Scotia-Glenville CSD.

Regional Food Bank – We will be meeting in the church parking lot at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, Jan. 17th at 2:00 pm to volunteer at the Food Bank.

-Jill Dunster-Wesley (cell) 423-3546 (home) 372-4047 jldunster@hotmail.com

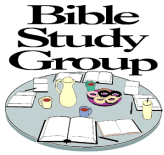


The Sunday School classes were very busy throughout the month of December. In addition to Advent lessons, the children partied with lots of goodies and made decorations for the Loomis Room Christmas tree...it was beautifully decorated!

The Children's Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve was a rousing success with students participating as either narrators or actors. We even welcomed our newest member, Elijah Byam, into the fold casting him in the starring role of Baby Jesus.

The new year will bring lessons of Inclusion and Acceptance as learned by following Jesus' teachings.





The Tuesday Bible Study will resume meetings on January 10th at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room.

JANUARY CALENDAR

1/1	Epiphany & Communion Sunday
1/9	Trustees Meeting 7 pm
1/15	Women's Group at Scotia Diner
1/16	Martin Luther King Day
1/17	Food Bank 2 pm
1/22	Staff Parish Relations after service
1/23	Admin. Council 7 pm
1/26	Finance 7 pm



**Church Treasurers Report
30-Nov-16**

	2016	
	November <u>2016</u>	Total thru <u>11/30/2016</u>
Individual Contributions	\$ 8,484	\$111,339
		16,95
Building Use/Rent	2,975	9
		4,58
Fund Raising/Interest Income	2,531	2
		(43
Other Designated Giving	40	8)
Total Operating Receipts	\$ 14,030	\$132,442
Wages & other employment expenses	\$ 5,345	\$71,207
		5,59
Church Operations/Program	1,049	1
		9,18
Parsonage Expenses	934	7
		11,14
Church Building-Repairs/Safety	4,229	4
		6,43
Church Building-Utilities/Water	291	9
		8,10
Church Building-All Other	513	1
		24,01
Apportionments	2,142	1
		46
Benevolences	-	6
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 14,502	\$136,146
Shortage	\$ (472)	\$ (3,704)

There was a shortage of (\$472) for the month of November 2016.
Year to date shortage through November 30, 2016 is (\$3,704).

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