

MAY 2018

Scotia UMC

***“Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:
And yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed
like one of these.” Matthew 6:28-29***

April showers bring May flowers...

Or so we hope here in the Northeast! Typically the month of May is a time when Spring is in full bloom. The winter season is coming to an end and Spring is being ushered in. In the Capital District, we recognize Spring and its bloom, particularly tulip blooms, every May during Albany's Annual Tulip Festival. Every year, a multitude of people from different cultures and ethnicities descend upon Washington Park to experience God's beautiful creation bursting forth as a new season begins.

Every Easter Season we are called to plant, nurture, and harvest God's love in this world. Yes, every Easter Season for Easter is not just one day. It is a season of 50 days that continues to and concludes with Pentecost, the spring harvest festival of the Israelites. May this Easter Season plant in you seeds of renewal and rebirth.

Renewal – by Sharon Hendricks

This is a time of renewal
as it happens every spring.
The flowers now are blooming
The birds begin to sing.
Easter is a time of hope
and a day of rebirth.
It shows that winter's over
And spring has come to earth.

**In Christ's Love,
Pastor Margaret Currier
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Wesley's Wisdom

"The Wesley brothers never hitched a ride from college – they walked the 150 miles to Epworth instead. The journey was often marred by bad roads, inclement weather, and even highwaymen. To make matters worse, the brothers read books while they walked...John maintained that reading for 10 of his 25 daily miles never caused any harm." (***Did You Know? Christian History magazine, issue 69***)

Worship Schedule

Liturgists

5/6 Steve Wesley
5/13 Martha Hatt
5/20 Sue Sykes
5/27 Janet Daly

Sound

Dave Read
Bob Hatt
Jim Coburn
Mark Cieslak

Ushers

5/6 RoyAnn Rogerson, Mary Connors
5/13 Steve Wesley, Steve Long
5/20 Mark & Debbie Cieslak
5/27 Sue Sykes, Shelly Graves

Counters

Dick Knapp, June Pelham

Greeters

5/6 Barbara Hanley
5/13 Deb Cieslak
5/20 Bob & Meredith Van Vorst
5/27 Deb Cieslak

Social

The Long family
Men's Group
TBA
TBA

SUMC IN MISSIONS

Regional Food Bank – Volunteers, please meet at the Food Bank at 2:30 pm on Tuesday, May 15th. If you need to carpool, contact Dick Knapp at 518-393-5737.
-Jill Dunster-Wesley (cell) 423-3546 (home) 372-4047 jldunster@hotmail.com

Sunday School News

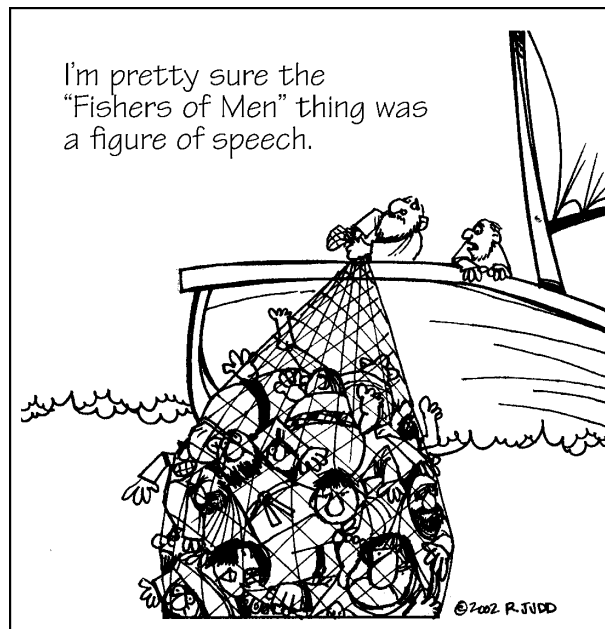
We have had a very busy spring in the Sunday School classes. The students all made "Blessing Bags" to be distributed when they encounter a person in need. They did a great job and were really inspired by the idea.

As we head towards the close of the Sunday School year, the students will begin the planning of **Children's Sunday** which will be on **June 17th** (don't miss it!). The service will highlight the "Women of the Bible" that the children have been studying all year.

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

Ladies Group

The Women's Group will meet on Monday, May 14th at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room. The special speaker will be Patricia Roeser. Her parents were missionaries in Japan, partially supported by SUMC. Pat will talk about her parents' work and give us a view of the culture and the country. Everyone is welcome. ***This meeting is open to all, we are inviting the men to join us for this missionary topic.*** Refreshments will be served.



May Calendar

5/1 – 5/3 Set up for Rummage Sale

5/3 **Education Meeting 5 pm.**

5/3 Choir Practice 7:30 pm

5/4-5/5 Rummage Sale Friday 9-3 & Sat. 9-1, bag sale at Noon.

5/6 **Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting after service.**

5/6 CROP WALK

5/7 **Trustees Meeting 7 pm**

5/12 Building Use event 1-4 in Community Room

5/13 **HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!**

5/14 Ladies Group 7 pm (open to all for special presentation)

5/15 Regional Food Bank 2:30 pm

5/17 Choir Practice 7:30 pm

5/21 Youth Gathering 6:30-8:00 pm

5/23 **Finance Meeting 7:20 pm**

5/28 Memorial Day

5/29 **Admin. Council 7 pm**

5/30-6/2 Annual Conference

There will be no Theology on Tap this month. Pastor Margaret will be at a Continuing Ed/Spiritual Retreat Conference from May 7-11.

**Schenectady Crop Walk
Emmanuel Friedens Church, 218 Nott Terrace, Sch'dy**

**May 6, 2018
12:30 Registration & Music
1:20 Opening Ceremony
www.crophungerwalk.org**

Office News – Cynthia will be out of the office May 22-24 and 29-30 for her Christian Writers Conference in NC. She will return to the office on Thursday, May 31. If you have any needs or an emergency, please call the parsonage directly at 518-688-9515.

THERE ARE THIRTY BOOKS OF THE BIBLE IN THIS PARAGRAPH. Can you find them?

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new sales record. The local paper, the Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "the books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight." Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle of the names are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know all the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus. There really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.

HOW MANY DID YOU FIND?

First Things First

When a child gets up at four am to deliver papers, people say he is a go-getter. If the church should ask the same child to do some work for the Lord, they would say, "That's asking too much of the child." If a woman spends eight hours away from her home working in a factory or working in her garden, she is called an energetic wife. If, however, she is willing to do the same thing for the Lord, they say, "Religion has gone to her head." If one ties himself down making payments of \$100.00 each week for some item of personal enjoyment, he pays willingly. But if that same person places that much in the offering plate, many people would say he is crazy. This is a crazy world indeed, where first things come last and last things come first. – Source unknown

**Church Treasurers Report
March 2018**

	Total thru <u>Mar-18</u>
Individual Contributions	\$26,777
	6,0
Building Use/Rent	61
	6
Fund Raising/Interest Income	36
Other Designated Giving	-
Total Operating Receipts	<u>\$33,474</u>
 Wages & other employment expenses	 \$20,439
	1,9
Church Operations/Program	68
	3,5
Parsonage Expenses	97
	1,5
Church Building-Repairs/Safety	13
	5,5
Church Building-Utilities/Water	44
	3,3
Church Building-All Other	93
	9
Apportionments	85
 Benevolences	 <u>77</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$37,517</u>
 Shortage	 \$ (4,042)

There is a shortage of (\$4,042) through March 2018.

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