



The Carillon

Scotia United Methodist Church

MAY 2024

Welcome to May! The flowers are beginning to bloom and lawns are already in need of being mown. Life has returned to a landscape that seemed cold and barren not that long ago. That is one of the miracles of creation, that new life springs up each year as the world is renewed and leads us to look forward toward a season of growth and warmth. As we enjoy this spring season in 2024, we can look forward to the new things God has ahead for our lives. One of the new things, is that the UMC has finally been able to hold the postponed (several times) 2020 General Conference this year. This gathering of United Methodists from across the globe is supposed to happen every fourth year, but the 2020 meeting was long delayed by Covid and complications in world travel that resulted from it. **General Conference** is the place where United Methodists define who we are as a worldwide denomination, how we interact with each other and how we seek to follow Christ in an ever changing world that continues to challenge us. This year, there were several major issues that the General Conference need to address. Some folk considered them the three Rs. Regionalize, Revise (of the Social Principles), and Remove. Let me expand on those for you.

Regionalization – The UMC was created in the US, and although missionaries have gone out to all parts of the world and the UMC now exists worldwide – our structure was still very US centric and many of the issues addressed at General Conferences were often US focused. Among other concerns, it has been recognized that this did not bode well for a denomination that is no longer overwhelmingly made up of people here in the US. After being discussed at several previous General Conferences, this year legislation was passed that finally addressed concerns and will allow the various regions of the church to be on equal footing. This legislation calls for a change in our Constitution to achieve this goal, so while the legislation was passed by the Conference, a worldwide 2/3 majority of votes at the more local Annual Conferences must concur for the change to take effect. This will take place between now and 2025, hopefully leading to this change being adopted.

Revision – as with our structure, the Social Principles of the UMC, which are among our core values, have been very US centric. Over 8 years a commission has reviewed what existed and sought to develop Social Principles that were applicable worldwide. These proposed “Revised Social Principles” were adopted with only minute changes by the General Conference. If you are interested in reading them for yourself, a PDF



version of what was brought to Conference is available at <https://www.umcjustice.org/documents/124>.

Removal – one of the major battles within the UMC for many years has been the language, first adopted in 1972, which declared that homosexuality was incompatible with Christian teaching. From the day these words were adopted, they, and other related statements and rules added since then, have been among the most divisive things within the UMC, as many focused on Christ’s love and acceptance for all, rather than on creating barriers that kept many from being fully accepted by the church. This difference in views played a large part in the recent disaffiliation of many churches. This year, through a series of petitions, all those references were removed from our rules – some with agreement from as much as 93% of those voting. Among the concerns of some were a worry that the removals would result in churches and pastors being forced to take part in same gender marriages, even if they continued to disagree – but those concerns were addressed by resolutions that clearly stated no church or pastor could be forced to participate, giving local churches autonomy on the issue. Many other issues and petitions were considered and addressed throughout the two weeks of the Conference, but the three Rs which were the focus of many, were accomplished, creating the ability for ministry to happen in a broader range of regional and local contexts and recognizing that the UMC is a diverse church, present in a broad range of environments, countries and social settings. We are a truly worldwide church, touching millions of lives and seeking to grow in our ability “to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.”

Pastor Dang

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Annual Garage Sale is on Saturday, June 1st. Yes, that’s right, our 48th annual garage sale is right around the corner. As always, we will be piggybacking with the Scotia village wide garage sale. So start cleaning out your attic, garage, cellar and get rid of all the beautiful treasures you could never live without. Drop off your treasures on Friday night May 31st starting at 4. (Yup, please keep them at home until then. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Cieslak 518-698-6492

Ever wonder when your committee meets or what might be happening at the Church? We now have a new digital calendar to supplement the paper calendar located in the workroom. Just go to the Facebook page for the church to view the calendar. Cyndy and all committee chairs will be given access to put new dates on the calendar . If you need assistance, please check with Cyndy or the creator of the calendar, Erik Jacobson.

Volunteers Needed- To take out the recycling and trash to the curb on Tues. and retrieving it on Wed. Please sign up and help us to share the responsibility. Thank you
–Erik



Meetings & Events

Sunday Communion May 5th

Community Breakfast May 18th

Pentecost Sunday May 19th

Finance Meeting May 28th at 6:30 pm

Admin. Council Meeting May 28th at 7:00 pm

Garage Sale Drop Off Items May 31st at 4:00 pm

Garage Sale June 1st

May Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|-----------------|
| 7 | Bart Sykes | 25 | Mary Connors |
| 8 | Patricia McGarvey | 29 | David Powell |
| 10 | Kris Raffan | 29 | Samantha Cooper |
| 17 | Sally Dean | | |
| 17 | Daegan Connors | | |
| 25 | Ken Handy | | |



Wesley's Wisdom

“John Wesley defined sin as a willful and intentional turning away from God's will and a rejection of His love and grace. Sin is a condition of the human heart that leads us to prioritize our own desires and self-interests over the will of God.”





Church Treasurer's Report

03/31/2024

	YTD <u>Mar-24</u>
Operating Income	
Individual Contributions	\$30,287
Investment Income	\$10
Building Use/ Rent	\$2,085
Fund Raising	<u>\$0</u>
Total Operating Income	\$32,382
Operating Expenses	
Wages	\$13,338
Pastor Salary	
Supplements	\$3,330
Employment Taxes & Insurance	\$809
Church Operations	\$1,500
Church Program	\$67
Parsonage	(\$622)
Church Building	\$10,856
Apportionments	\$1,687
Benevolences	<u>(\$298)</u>
Total Operating Expenses	\$30,667
Surplus	<u>\$1,715</u>



Scotia United Methodist Church

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Rummage Sale—Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us. Special thanks to Erik who was there every day helping us move tables and others. All the leftovers will be donated to other organizations. Thank you for your support! We made over \$3700.00!

-Martha Hatt

Pentecost Sunday—May 19th

Reminder to wear something **RED** to celebrate the day.



To Scotia United Methodist Church:

Thank you so much for thinking of my daughter's family on Easter. The gift cards were greatly appreciated. The kids were so excited to get the baskets and the plant is beautiful. I am heartbroken for Lindsey, Jay and the kids. Please continue to keep our family in your thoughts and prayers. Thank you again—***Eileen Quick***

Thank you for the gifts for Easter. My brothers and I loved the gifts in the baskets. We were so surprised about them.

Love,
Zoe, David and Charlie Dutelle.

