

NOVEMBER 2018



**Coming Soon!**

### **ROAST BEEF DINNER – Sat. Nov. 3**

4:30 – 6:30 pm with takeouts available.

Adults \$12.00, Children \$5.00  
Free for children under 5 yrs. old

- Dinner served family style
- Featuring Homemade Pies

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### **Saturday, November 3rd– FALL BACK! –**

Before you go to sleep this Saturday night, turn your clocks **BACK** one hour for our seasonal time change.

### **All Saints Day – Sunday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>**

To honor the memory of loved ones of church members & family who have died this past year.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the **SUMC Charge Conference** taking place on **Thursday, November 29th at 7:00 pm** at the church.

District Superintendent Rev. Rich Weising will preside. Refreshments will be served.

***This is your opportunity as a church member to show your support and voice your opinion about the future direction of our church. Don't miss this important meeting!***

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**Next Community Breakfast – Saturday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>.**



## Wesley's Wisdom

Wesley offered suggestions on reading the Scriptures. "1) If possible, set apart a little time in the morning and evening every day for Bible reading. 2) It is advisable to read a chapter from both the Old and the New Testament. 3) Read with a single purpose – to know the will of God."

**(John Wesley, *Holiness of Heart & Life*, page 41)**

## Worship Schedule

### Liturgists

11/4 Clarence Mosher  
11/11 Sean O'Sullivan  
11/18 Deb Elliott  
11/25 Jill Wesley

### Sound

Jim Coburn  
Mark Cieslak  
TBD  
TBD

### Ushers & Greeters

11/4 Deb Cieslak, Holly Russo  
11/11 RoyAnn Rogerson, Carole Jacobson  
11/18 Deb Cieslak, Martha Hatt  
11/25 Pat & Dick Knapp

### Counters

Martha Hatt, Jill Wesley

### Social

11/4 Wendy Liebl  
11/11 RoyAnn Rogerson, Sue Sykes  
11/18 Deb Cieslak, Anthony Peconie  
11/25 Deb Elliott, Sally Dean

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## **SUMC IN MISSIONS**

**Regional Food Bank** – Volunteers, please meet at the Food Bank at 2:30 pm on Tuesday, Nov. 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](mailto:jldunster@hotmail.com)

# The Story Behind the Hymn

## #520 Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen

This is an African-American hymn that was generated during the period of slavery but was not published until 1867 in "Slave Songs of the United States." In the late 19th century this music began to appear in classical music art forms in arrangements made by black composers. Some of the interpretations have changed some of the lyrics, there is no mention of the original author, but most likely was passed along verbally.

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**The Women's Group** will meet on Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room. For this program we are asking the women to bring SOMETHING THEY COLLECT or information on a hobby they enjoy.

We are also asking members of the church for donations to the Schenectady Women's Shelter, i.e., large size woman's clothing, shampoo, body lotion, deodorant, etc. & wrapped for Christmas. These donations need to be brought into church no later than December 9<sup>th</sup>. Please leave your donations in the Fireplace Room, under the round table. Thank you!

**Missions - Our next SICM Assembly** will be Tuesday, December 4, 2018; as it is a holiday potluck we begin at 6 pm. Our host congregation is St. George's Episcopal in the Stockade, ample parking right next to the Great Hall on Green Street. Please stay tuned for the suggestions of what to bring (A-L, etc.)

## Sunday School<sup>1</sup>

The classes are really enjoying studying & thinking about the Lord's Prayer and will continue to do so throughout November.

The children & youth will be expressing their gratitude during a Thanksgiving celebration with a feast (& fun) during one of their classes in November - Date TBD.



11/3 ROAST BEEF DINNER

11/3 FALL BACK! – turn clocks back one hour at end of day

11/4 All Saints Day

**11/5 Trustees Meeting 7 pm**

11/6 Election Day

11/11 Stewardship Campaign Begins

11/12 Women's Group 7 pm

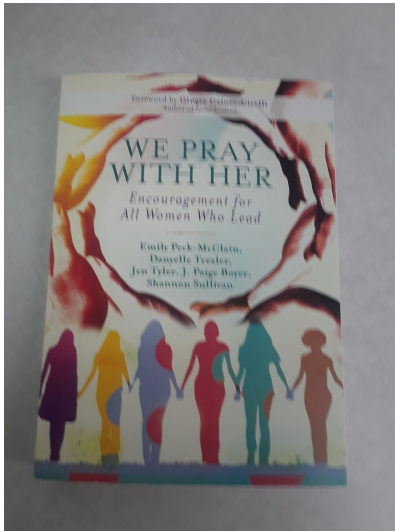
11/17 Free Community Breakfast

11/20 Regional Food Bank 2:30 pm

11/22 Happy Thanksgiving!

**11/28 Finance Meeting 7 pm**

**11/29 Charge Conference 7 pm – Don't miss this important meeting!**



Congratulations to Rev. Megan Stowe on her publication in "We Pray With Her," a devotional published by Abingdon Press. She sent a copy to SUMC and wrote this in the cover:

***To the beloved congregation of Scotia UMC, thank you for ministering to me through one of the most difficult periods in my life. You have inspired me. I am praying with you and for you. Blessings, Rev. Megan Stowe.***

The copy she sent to us will be in the Fireside Room if you'd like to read her devotion.

## **How Pastoral Appointments Are Done**

Since there seems to be some confusion among the congregation on the clergy appointment process in the United Methodist Church, I thought these excerpts from an article originally published in The Fall 2018 issue of the Upper New York *Advocate* by our bishop, Mark Webb, might help. This is how your next pastor will be selected. Note that the step to which you have input is #3 below.

-- Pastor Carl

The *Book of Discipline* gives the responsibility for appointment-making to the Bishop and District Superintendents of the Annual Conference.

The Cabinet of the Upper New York Annual Conference begins each appointment-making season with an intensive three-day retreat in December, attempting to look at the big picture, establishing our purpose/goals for appointment making, and identifying what will be different because of our appointment work.

At the foundation of the appointment-making task is clarity regarding priorities for deploying clergy leadership. As we move through each appointment season, we have established the following priorities that guide our discussions, discernment and decisions.

1. ***Prayer and God's Agenda*** – *This entire process is bathed in prayer seeking God's desire for our life together as brothers and sisters in Christ and the ministry of congregations in the Upper New York Annual Conference.*
2. ***The Mission Field*** – *What are the needs of the community surrounding the local congregation and how can we better equip the local church to engage the community in ministry?*
3. ***The Local Church*** – *What is the current reality of this congregation? What strengths for ministry do they currently demonstrate and what are the areas of ministry that need to be developed? What kind of pastoral leadership will assist the congregation to fruitfully and effectively live the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world in the days ahead? Who is God calling to be the next pastor?*
4. ***The Pastor*** – *What are the gifts the pastor brings? How will this pastor help this congregation continue living the mission and move to the next level in their ministry to the community? How does this potential appointment fit within the personal needs/desires of the pastor?*

These priorities help us to stay focused on the main thing, which is the mission of the Church and equipping the Church to more effectively and fruitfully live that mission. These priorities remind us that appointment-making must be responsive and not reactive, as the Church continues to seek transformation and vitality.

When we begin making appointments we consider full-time appointments first, then work on less than full-time appointments. As a potential appointment is discussed by the Cabinet, we begin with the understandings and needs shared through the consultation process. A common question is, "What are the gifts needed in the next pastor to assist this congregation for the future?" After conversation, the Cabinet enters into a time of prayer.

At the end of that prayer time, names of pastors that the Holy Spirit has brought to our minds and hearts are shared and added to a list of potential pastors for that specific congregation. Each person is then discussed asking two primary questions – “Why would this pastor fit here?” and “Why wouldn’t this pastor work here?” After another time of prayer, potential designations are made and then the Cabinet leaves the discussion of that congregation.

At the end of the Cabinet meeting, we revisit those potential designations and a final prayerful discernment is made or we acknowledge that we do not yet have the right person and commit to returning to the conversation at the next Cabinet meeting. Once a designation has been made, the discernment process continues by engaging the designated pastor and Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee in conversation to assure the sense of God’s call. Finally, the Cabinet seeks to provide ongoing support for both churches and pastors when new appointments are made.

The reality is that our appointment-making process is never perfect. We acknowledge that 14 humans are involved and while we deeply desire to seek God’s will, there are times that we do not get it right. However, even in spite of the human involvement, the great truth we celebrate is how often God indeed works in, through and in spite of the process and effective ministry and mission continue and begin among congregations and pastors. To that we say, “To God be the Glory.”

## **Do you know what happens at your Church?**

I wonder how many of you are aware of all that goes on in this church. I also wonder how aware the District and the Conference are of all that we do. In the course of filling out forms required by the Conference and re-acquainting myself with this church, I found that there is a lot of activity here, a lot of ministry going on, a lot for us to be proud of.

If you attend church (and get there on time to hear the announcements), or if you regularly visit our Facebook page, you may be aware of most of these activities. If not, you may be unaware because we’re not very good at blowing our own horn.

So I took the time to try to make a list, and I’m sure I may have missed a few things...

<sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> Obviously we offer worship experiences on Sunday mornings. We also offered a Lenten series this last year and will offer a Blue Christmas service this Advent. We have an active Sunday school. We have a laity led Bible study which is open to all (and being advertised). And new this fall - we have started a joint youth group with Alplaus and Faith UM churches. Starting next month we will once again offer child care during worship.

<sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> SUMC has provided and served lunches six times/year at Salvation Army for years. We also serve lunches in the park for SICM in the summers. We support the Regional Food Bank, the Scotia Glen-ville food pantry, and the SICM food pantry both through donations and service. Our Bottles for Bread program both recycles beverage containers and supports Scotia food pantry, which makes us the most giving church in Scotia. We participate in the Weekend Backpack program of Schenectady City Mission.

<sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> Our facility is used by a number of outside groups. AA and NA hold meetings here. The Society for Creative Anachronisms meets here regularly. Mekeel child care and the Regina Caeli home school group rent space from us. True, we make money from some of these, but we also provide a space at a reasonable price.

<sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> We hold a number of fundraising events which, in a way, also provide a service to the community. Rummage sales make clothing available at bargain prices. Bake sales, pie sales, soup sales, and the roast beef dinner provide home-cooked foods at reasonable rates. The Chili Cook-off raised a little money for the youth group. We offered, or tried to offer, 4<sup>th</sup> of July hot dog and cupcake sales.

<sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> New this year we provide a free community breakfast every few months.

<sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> And we participate in a number of other ways in our community and outreach activities: SICM, the community Cross Walk, Holiday on the Avenue, Trunk or Treat. We assembled flood buckets and school kits and contributed to disaster relief for UMCOR. We have a supply of prayer shawls for those who need them and baptismal quilts.

Beyond these named activities there are a number of people who work in the background to demonstrate our love for our neighbors.

These activities demonstrate that despite our financial difficulties, Scotia United Methodist is a vibrant church. We have much to be proud of and continue to grow in our Christian life. – Carl Shepard

### **Greeting Cards Project**

Here is an excellent project for SUMC to get involved in - sending cards to active duty military personnel and veterans. The information is as follows:

Buy a box of cards or make your own. Fold a piece of paper in half and make your own cards. We would love for schools, churches and clubs to have their children spend a few minutes making cards. Write personal letters that can be included in the packages. A great way to start is "Dear Service Member" or "Dear Friend."

No envelopes are needed, only the cards. We can only accept Christmas cards during October, November and December. During other months please use non-holiday cards or patriotic themed cards.

The remaining instructions are:

- ❖ Be positive and upbeat
- ❖ Be Thankful
- ❖ Feel free to share a little bit about yourself like hobbies, etc.
- ❖ Talk about things happening around home like weather or sports
- ❖ They love your drawings but avoid using glitter (they can actually get in trouble)
- ❖ Do not discuss inappropriate things
- ❖ Avoid politics or political statements
- ❖ Avoid lengthy religious discussions but saying you are praying for them is great

If you receive the eCarillon and live out of the area, please put your handmade cards, letters, etc. into a brown envelope and mail to: Military Missions Inc., 2650 Boston Rd, Suite 138, Lexington, KY 40514. If you drop them off at church, I will mail them in batches.

I can tell you that mail is worth its weight in gold when you're not home and really appreciated when you're in a place like where most of our deployed troops are now. – submitted by Holly Russo

## Church Treasurers Report

	<b>Total thru Sep-18</b>
Individual Contributions	\$77,997
	20,40
Building Use/Rent	8
	1,01
Fund Raising/Interest Income	6
	(11
Other Designated Giving	0)
<b>Total Operating Receipts</b>	<b>\$99,312</b>
Wages & other employment expenses	\$54,687
	6,23
Church Operations/Program	0
	11,86
Parsonage Expenses	7
	3,76
Church Building-Repairs/Safety	6
	10,03
Church Building-Utilities/Water	7
	6,30
Church Building-All Other	9
	2,05
Apportionments	6
	7
Benevolences	7
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$95,029</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>\$4,283</b>

There is a surplus of \$4,283 as of 9/30/18.

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