

SEPTEMBER
2019

Scotia UMC

The great sin, the source of all other sin, is idolatry and never has it been greater, more prevalent than now. Yet it is almost completely unrecognized precisely because it is so overwhelming and so total. It takes in everything. There is nothing else left. Fetishism of power, machine, possessions, medicines, sports, clothes, food, etc. all kept going by greed for money and power. (The Intimate Merton)

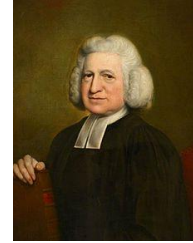
As we all know, mainline churches are talking a lot these days about "church growth". Declining attendance and budget deficits are driving many of these conversations. We need to keep the following in mind as we move into a new year...there is quantitative "church growth" and there is qualitative "church growth." The first involves more money and people coming through the door; the second involves our own spiritual growth as the consciousness of our group expands into the infinite and unconditional Kingdom of God.

Modern America in general is caught in the idolatry of quantitative growth. How do we, as the church of Jesus Christ, respond? With His words, "You can't serve God and wealth." This year, I think we need to keep our eyes on the fact that growth is not just a numbers game.

Sunday School

Sunday School classes will begin for the year on Homecoming Sunday 09/15/19! We are super excited for the new year which will bring our new class for Toddlers/Preschoolers as well as our existing classes for Elementary & Middle/HS students. Hope everyone enjoyed their summer and are ready for an exciting, meaningful year. We can't wait to see you all!

Singers Sought! Choir rehearsals resume Thursday, September 5th. If you love to sing, we would love to have you sing with us. Whether a choir alumnus or someone new to our ensemble, please consider being a part of this important ministry of the church. Rehearsals start at 7 pm and generally end by 8:30. Feel free to chat with Dave Read (399-9825) if you'd like more information.



Wesley's Wisdom

"As we open our minds and hearts to the Word of God through the words of human beings inspired by the Holy Spirit, faith is born and nourished, our understanding is deepened, and the possibilities for transforming the world become apparent to us..."
(John Wesley: Holiness of Heart and Life, page 43)

Worship Schedule

Liturgists

9/1 RoyAnn Rogerson
9/8 Belinda Wagner
9/15 Martha Hatt
9/22 Wendy Liebl
9/29 Clarence Mosher

Counters

Clarence Mosher, Steve Wesley

Ushers & Greeters

9/1 Dick & Pat Knapp
9/8 Deb Cieslak, Darlene St. Amour
9/15 Sue Sykes, Joan King
9/22 Darlene St. Amour, Holly Russo
9/29 Tim & Myra Keegan

Social

Martha Hatt
Meredith Van Vorst
Homecoming Sunday Cookout
Byam family, Judy Dudley
Barbara Hanley

The Women's Group – will have our first meeting to kick off the fall at our President's home, Martha Hatt, 16 Homestead Road, Scotia on September 9th.

Bring a dish to share and invite a friend; dessert will be provided by the hostesses.

Please RSVP to Martha by Sat., Aug. 31 @ Martha Hatt

(mehatt.1946@gmail.com <mailto:mehatt.1946@gmail.com>) or 518-399-4606.

The Free Community Breakfast Event will resume in September, date to be announced. I would like to thank everyone who has baked or made soups and chili for us in the past and ask that you would consider continuing to donate your treats for these events. We appreciate it very much when you pre-package your goodies in plastic bags that seal, but if you are unable to, we have the supplies. Four cookies per bag or two bar cookies depending on the size. Any questions, please ask and thank you again. -Holly Russo, Mission Team

CALENDER & EVENTS

9/1 Communion Sunday
9/9 Women's Group at Martha's
9/11 Fall Gathering for Pastors 10-1
9/12 Thursday Morning Bible Study 9:30 am
9/15 Homecoming Sunday
9/17 Regional Food Bank 2:30 pm
9/23 First Day of Autumn
9/25 Admin. Council 7 pm
9/28 Joint BBQ for SUMC & Faith UMC
9/29 Staff Parish Meeting – after service

A Fall Gathering for Pastors – will be held on Wednesday, September 11th from 10:00 am to 1:00 p.m. here at SUMC.

Homecoming Sunday September 15th - Jill and friends will be hostessing a Cookout. Please bring a dish to share. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. We will also bless the children's back packs and Sunday School will start that Sunday.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study – is changing over to a **THURSDAY** morning group starting September 12th from 9:30 -11:00 in the Fireside Room. Pastor Chris will be leading the group through a study on the current lectionary readings.

Regional Food Bank – Volunteers, meet at the Food Bank at 2:30 pm on Tues. Sept. 17th. If you need to carpool, contact Dick Knapp at 518-393-5737. -Jill Dunster-Wesley (cell) 423-3546 (home) 372-4047 jldunster@hotmail.com

Missions Summer Lunch Report – SUMC participated in the summer meal program for two weeks in August with a total of 17 volunteers including youth and adults. They also had four members of Alplaus UMC join in to help. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Joint Church BBQ – Sat. Sept. 28th from 2-7 pm at Marion's house, 11 Lawnwood Ave, Sch'dy. SUMC & Faith UMC – a chance for both congregations to get acquainted. For more details and sign up list, check hall bulletin board or call Marion at 518-382-2621.

**Church Treasurers Report
30-Jun-19**

	YTD <u>Jun-19</u>
Individual Contributions	\$53,554
Building Use/Rent	18,780
Fund Raising/Interest Income	136
Other Designated Giving	-
Total Operating Receipts	<u>\$72,469</u>
 Wages & other employment expenses	 \$32,340
Church Operations/Program	4,598
Parsonage Expenses	1,399
Church Building-Repairs/Safety	5,757
Church Building-Utilities/Water	8,365
Church Building-All Other	4,938
Apportionments	7,456
Benevolences	<u>547</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$65,399</u>
 Surplus	 \$ 7,070

There is a surplus of \$7,070 as of 6/30/19.

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