

SEPT. 2018



Coming Soon!

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST Sept. 15

The community breakfast has been such a success and it is still growing. There is such a need for this in our own community and I think it is wonderful that we can do something about it. The next Breakfast is September 15th from 8:00 - 11:00. The mission team will be putting this one on. We would like to do a bake and pie sale upstairs.

FYI: The Bake and Soup sales that we have done are what finances the Community Breakfast events. So please, if you would like to make cookies, pies, cupcakes, brownies or any other yummy things that you can think of, help us out and give me a call. There will be a sign up at the church as well on the bulletin board. I can not thank you all enough for making this such a success.

-Jill Wesley

HOMECOMING SUNDAY & COOKOUT Sept. 16

Back by popular demand!

We had such a wonderful time to kick off the summer with a cookout that we decided that we are going to kick off the new school year with another one.

On September 16th while you are in the worship service, the aroma of cooking hot dogs and hamburgers will be filling the sanctuary with the anticipated lunch to follow. The hamburgers and hot dogs will be donated by the Woman's Group and we will also have plenty of salads, chips (of all kinds) drinks, and of course dessert. There will be music, conversation, laughs and a great time to reminisce about your summer and about the new school year to come. We hope you all attend and bring your friends too...you know us Methodists, we love to meet new people and love to eat in big groups.

If there is anyone that would like to make a salad, bring chips, drinks or dessert, we would love it. The variety is always wonderful and always welcome. -Jill Wesley



Wesley's Wisdom

"The final and culminating theme of Wesley's theology is holiness of heart and life, what the biblical writers and other Christian thinkers have sometimes called sanctification. Throughout his life, Wesley was devoted to holy living. He had learned its importance as a child in the Epworth rectory. His reading and study of the Scriptures and the great devotional writers of the church had confirmed the notion that it is essential to the authentic Christian life."

(John Wesley, Holiness of Heart & Life, page 36)

Worship Schedule

Liturgists

9/2 Hailie St. John
9/9 Holly Russo
9/16 TBA
9/23 TBA
9/30 TBA

Sound

TBA
Jim Coburn
Mark Cieslak
Steve Long
TBA

Ushers & Greeters

9/2 Pat & Dick Knapp
9/9 Dave & Kim Huhtala
9/16 Shelly Graves, Kaleb Graves
9/23 RoyAnn Rogerson, Deb Cieslak
9/30 Deb Cieslak, Sue Sykes

Counters

Clarence Mosher
& Steve Wesley

Social

9/2 Pat & Dick Knapp
9/9 TBA
9/16 Homecoming
9/23 TBA
9/30 Judy Swain

The Story Behind the Hymn

#34 "The Summons" also called "Will You Follow Me"

This is a Scottish Christian hymn written by John L. Bell in 1980, so this is a recent addition to our hymnals. He composed "The Summons" after being accepted into the Iona Community (on the isle of Iona off the coast of Scotland). The Community was started by George MacLeod because he perceived a need for an ecumenical community of men and women to close the gap between the Church of England and working people.

It is set to the tune of Kelvingrove, a traditional Scottish melody. Its text contains 13 questions asked by Jesus in the first person. The initial four stanzas with the questions are in Jesus' voice and the fifth stanza is the singer's response to them. The hymn is based on Mark 1:16-20 and alludes to Jesus calling his disciples to follow him.

In 2014 the hymn was used to commemorate 20 years since the first ordination of women in the Church of England. – submitted by Holly Russo

Sunday School

Sunday School classes will begin on Homecoming Sunday 9/16 and we have so much planned for the year! We are going to start it off with the children updating the Bulletin Boards for the new year.

This year we will be focusing on prayer; Christian prayer generally, the Lord's Prayer specifically & we will learn about other prayer traditions (non-Christian).

We can't wait to see the children & youth. It's been a great summer but we missed our church family and so look forward to seeing everyone.

Youth

Save the Date! The very first meeting of the Combined Youth Group (grades 6 - 12) will be September 16th at SUMC from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. It will be an Ice Cream Social Kick-Off where the youth will have an opportunity to get to know one another and their leaders.

We really are quite excited and ready to build a healthy, flourishing youth group that will make us all proud!



The Women's Group

will kick off their fall season on Monday, September 10th at Debbie & Mark Cieslak's home on 34 Country Fair Lane, Scotia at 6:00 PM. All women are invited to bring a friend. Please bring a dish to share; dessert will be provided. Please RSVP to Debbie Cieslak 518-372-5562 or Sue Sykes 518-377-3861 no later than Friday, September 7th.

Interim



Minister

Pastor Carl plans to be in the church office on Tuesdays for about two hours each week between 11 am to 1 or 2 pm. Please call ahead of time to be sure of his schedule if you'd like to stop in and see him.

Phone: 518-322-1179 OR Email: umccarl@nycap.rr.com

We celebrate the recent baptism of Jonathan Carter Perone, son of Tracie & William Perone.

The next newsletter will be the October issue.

Please send all information to scotiaumoffice@gmail.com by September 20th.

Calendar

- 9/7 Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- 9/9 Worship meeting after service
- 9/10 Trustees meeting 7 pm
- 9/10 Women's Group meeting at Cieslaks house 6 pm
- 9/15 Community Breakfast/Bake & Pie Sale
- 9/16 Homecoming Sunday & Cookout
- 9/16 Youth Group – Ice Cream Social 6:30 pm
- 9/18 Food Bank 2:30 pm
- 9/21 Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- 9/23 First Day of AUTUMN
- 9/25 Admin. Meeting 7 pm

SALVATION ARMY LUNCH KITCHEN:

The Salvation Army Soup Kitchen sent us all a big **thank you** for those who volunteered to prepare and serve lunches from June 2017 - June 2018.

We served 6 meals; we had a total of 283.5 volunteered hours, and served 656 meals. Do you know that serving 656 meals would fill our sanctuary 4 1/2 times?

*** **Please** know that there is such a need. Remember, others are not as fortunate as we are. ***

With your jobs you may not be able to get the time off to physically serve the meals or prepare the meal, but you can help prepare the food at home and at your leisure. We always need help chopping, cutting, slicing, cooking pasta and cooking the meat. We will supply all the food, all you have to do is donate your time. I will even drop the food off to you and pick it up when you are done.

Please think about helping out...your time is so valuable to help this mission succeed.

Give me a call if you would like to help out and if you have any questions.

*****Pay it forward*****

GOD BLESS YOU ALL! – Jill Wesley

SICM NEWS

Fall is just around the corner and the SICM Assembly meetings will begin soon. For September there will be no official Assembly meeting but rather, we are offering a **New Delegate Orientation and Refresher Information** for all current SICM Delegates. The **Delegate Orientation** is on Tuesday, September 11, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Kateri Tekawitha Parish, 2216 Rosa Rd., Schenectady, NY. The orientation will include a light supper at 6:30 p.m. and delegate and congregation membership information will be reviewed shortly thereafter. We anticipate it will take one hour to review the materials. In addition to new delegates, it is recommended that all current delegates join us for the supper and attend as well.

The first official assembly meeting is on Tuesday, October 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady, 1221 Wendell Ave, Schenectady.

SICM Summer Meals - This summer there was a decision to coordinate volunteers for two weeks at one site rather than two. We had two weeks at Collins Park for the S.I.C.M. Summer Meal program. Thank-you to all who volunteered! Those who did not sign-up this year, we hope you will consider volunteering next year. The Summer meal program is in it's last week, so the results on the average number of meals for our site is not available at this writing. Updates will come soon. Our church had eighteen volunteers! Thanks to all who took attendance, provided activities, served meals and helped with our recycling and composting pilot. We had the least waste at our site of all sites. - Susan Van Vorst.

Welcome back! Welcome to those who “took the summer off.” You missed some really hot Sundays. Welcome to those who have decided to give Scotia UMC another try. We’ve missed you. And (I hope) welcome back to me. It’s nice to be among you again, even if for a limited time in a limited role.

I’ve heard from a core of folks who are determined that this church will not only continue but will thrive again. They are committing to brainstorming ideas for transformation, to offering ourselves to the community in new ways, to tending to the current flock even while making additions to it. So far we are planning to form a joint youth group with Alplaus and Faith UMCs. It will have several co-leaders and could involve up to around fifteen young people. We are also scheming how to improve our advertising.

I am thinking of two Bible stories. In Matthew 8:23-27, Mark 4:35-41, and Luke 8:22-25, Jesus is on the Sea of Galilee with his disciples when a storm arises. It must have been a really bad storm as even these seasoned fishermen are panicking, thinking the boat is going down. They have no life boats, no life preservers...or so they think. They awaken the sleeping Master. And he turns out to be their life preserver. He calms the storm and reminds them that they should have had faith.

The second story is a little later in Matthew 14:22-33. The disciples are again caught in a storm on the sea. This time they are facing the storm alone; Jesus is not with them. They are working hard, striving mightily, but they are working against the wind. Jesus comes strolling by, walking on the water. Peter asks if he has that kind of power, too, and at Jesus’ invitation also starts walking on the water.

Our church is caught in a storm right now. To some it looks like the boat is sinking and it’s time to abandon ship. Some are looking for the life preservers. Some feel they have been rowing against the wind and are getting tired.

We worship a God who has the power to calm the storms of life that afflict us, a Lord who has the power to walk on the water, a God who can even give us the power to walk on water... if we have faith. I invite you to bolster your faith, to stay in the boat, and go on this journey united in our commitment to this church and to one another.

Pastor Cail

**Church Treasurers Report
31-Jul-18**

	Total thru <u>Jul-18</u>
Individual Contributions	\$62,725
	14,3
Building Use/Rent	93
	9
Fund Raising/Interest Income	78
	(1
Other Designated Giving	10)
Total Operating Receipts	<u>\$77,986</u>
Wages & other employment expenses	\$45,054
	5,2
Church Operations/Program	86
	9,3
Parsonage Expenses	29
	2,7
Church Building-Repairs/Safety	59
	9,6
Church Building-Utilities/Water	46
	5,3
Church Building-All Other	38
	1,6
Apportionments	99
Benevolences	<u>77</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$79,189</u>
Shortage	\$ (1,203)

There is a shortage of (\$1,203) through July 2018.

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