

February 2023

Scotia UMC



Schedule for Lent

Faith UMC, Scotia UMC, and Alplaus UMC will be sharing their Lenten worship opportunities. We begin with an **Ash Wednesday Service** which will be held at Faith UMC at 7 pm on February 22.

Looking further into Lent, **Maundy Thursday** service will be hosted at Scotia UMC on April 6 (time TBD)

Good Friday services will be hosted at Alplaus UMC on Friday April 7 at 7 pm.

Join us for a **Lenten Study** as we read and consider “The Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner’s Guide To His Most Perplexing Teachings” by Amy Jill-Levine. This book explores how these difficult teachings would have sounded to the people who first heard them, how have they been understood over time, and how we might interpret them in the context of the Gospel of love and reconciliation.

Meetings will take place on Monday Evenings at 7 pm over Zoom to allow anyone to participate from home. Please sign up to be part of the study by calling or emailing the church office and let us know if you would like a copy of the book or will order one yourself.

<https://www.amazon.com/Difficult-Words-Jesus-Beginners-Perplexing/dp/1791007570/>

There is a sign-up sheet posted on the hall bulletin board.

Paster Dang



Wesley's Wisdom



“All that a Christian does, even in eating and sleeping, is prayer, when it is done in simplicity, according to the order of God, without either adding to or diminishing from it by his own choice.”

- John Wesley, from *A Plain Account of Christian Perfection*

FEBRUARY LITURGISTS

2/5 Wendy Liebl
2/12 Steve Wesley
2/19 Deb Elliott
2/26 Belinda Wagner

FEBRUARY Birthdays 🎵 🎂

2/7 Jane Martinec
2/8 Brian Mosher
2/8 Patty Zych
2/12 Carl Hatt
2/12 Lisa Bassler
2/15 Linda Powell
2/18 Dylan Elliott
2/21 Ashley Laper
2/24 Ricky Quick
2/24 Theresa Potter
2/28 Dick Knapp

**Church Treasurer's Report
12/31/2022**

	YTD Dec-22
Individual Contributions	\$111,990
Building Use/Rent	21,945
Fund Raising/Interest Income	3,109
Total Operating Receipts	\$137,044
Wages & Other Employment Expenses	\$86,355
Church Operations/Program	5,751
Parsonage Expenses	8,427
Church Building - Repairs/Safety	1,735
Church Building - Utilities/Water	9,100
Church Building - All Other	11,309
Apportionments	11,969
Benevolences	65
Total Operating Expenses	\$134,711
Surplus	\$2,333

There is a year to date surplus of \$2,333 as of 12/31/22.

If there are any questions or requests for detailed information, please contact Anne Heller at cheller001@nycap.rr.com.

CALENDAR & COMING EVENTS

Meditation group meets every Wednesday at SUMC from 5:30 PM to 7 PM. For more details contact either Christopher Diedrich 518-847-8670 or Kim Huhtala 518-527-8623

Choir Practice Wednesdays at 7:30 pm.

Community Breakfast will be held on February 18th.

Thank you to Judy Swain and Wendy Liebl for being there to help coordinate and assist at our first Red Cross Blood Drive! Twenty people donated blood on Tuesday, January 31st in the Loomis Room. We are working on another date and that will be announced in the future. Blood donations are low because of the start of Covid and have continued to remain low. Pastor Doug suggested this idea and we've started another new community service through our church - Please watch for further notices.

The **Offering Envelopes** for those who requested or received them last year are in the back of the church. If you would like envelopes, please contact Pat Knapp.

The UNY Safe Sanctuaries Team has scheduled four 3.5 hour Zoom basic trainings in 2023. There are also two Training of Trainers sessions scheduled. The Basic trainings will be held from 9 AM to 12:30 PM on Saturdays Feb. 4, May 6, Aug. 5 and Nov. 4. The Training of Trainers will be held from 9 AM to Noon on Saturdays March 4 and Oct. 7.

For more information regarding Safe Sanctuaries, visit the Conference website at:

<https://www.unyumc.org/resources/safe-sanctuaries>

The storms that hit western NY in December caused heavy damage to many churches and communities in the Buffalo area. UMC ministries in that area and organizations similar to SICM which is seeking help in their efforts to support recovery have sent a request for support of a matching fund grant relief program. If there is interest, we can collect donations here and send them on to Niagara Frontier City Ministries (NFCM). Donations through our church should include NFCM - Storm Response on the memo line. If you would like to donate directly, Contributions may be sent to NFCM, 5681 Main St. Buffalo, NY 14221. Feel free to contact Gregg Stierheim, NFCM Executive Director, with questions about the matching grant opportunity. He can be reached at NFCMDirector@gmail.com or 716.634.4800.