

MAY 2017

Scotia UMC

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*“Therefore, in those united with Christ, a new creation has begun. The old has gone. The new is here”
2 Corinthians 5:17*

April showers bring May flowers...

Or so we hope here in the Northeast! Typically, the month of May is a time when Spring is in full bloom. The winter season is coming to an end and Spring is being ushered in. In the Capital District, we recognize Spring and its bloom, particularly tulip blooms, every May during Albany’s Annual Tulip Festival. Every year a multitude of people from different cultures and ethnicities descend upon Washington Park to experience God’s beautiful creation bursting forth as a new season begins.

The church calendar ushered in a new season as well which began at the end of April and continues into and through the month of May, the Easter Season. For Easter is not just one day. It is a season of 50 days. The Easter Season begins at sunset on the eve of Easter and lasts 50 days (The Great Fifty Days) concluding on the Day of Pentecost which this year is Sunday, June 4th.

This month we will continue to rejoice in Resurrection by celebrating rebirth and renewal – individually and collectively as a people, a church, and a community. Each Easter we are given a gift, and I’m not referring to the baskets we receive. We are given the gift of resurrection. We are empowered to find the courage to step into the tomb where we expect death but instead find new life.

It takes courage to step into the tomb and it takes courage to dare to believe in God’s transforming power. However, every Easter let us not fear the invitation. The invitation to step into every place of death we can find in search of God and the promise and possibility for new life, today, tomorrow and for ever more.

In Christ’s Love,
Pastor Margaret Currier
518-372-9575 – church
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PastorMargaretC@outlook.com



Wesley's Wisdom

"I believe the new birth (John 3:1-10, 2 Cor. 5:17) to be an inward thing; a change from inward wickedness to inward goodness; an entire change of our inmost nature from the image of the devil...to the image of God; a change from the love of the creature to the love of the Creator; from earthly and sensual to heavenly and holy affections, - in a word, a change from the tempers of the spirits of darkness to those of the angels of God in heaven." (Journal, Sept. 13, 1739, John Wesley: Holiness of Heart and Life, pg. 33)

Worship Schedule

Liturgists

5/7 Deb Elliott
5/14 Everett Currier
5/21 Sharon Sharrow
5/28 Janet Daly

Sound

Jim Coburn
Mark Cieslak
Dave Read
Bob Hatt

Counters

Dick Knapp, June Pelham

Ushers

5/7 Sean & Mary Connors
5/14 RoyAnn Rogerson, Carole Jacobson
5/21 Clarence Mosher, Steve Long
5/28 TBA

Greeters

Steve Long, Lewis Prater
Deb & Mark Cieslak
Martha Hatt, Fran Brown
Deb & Mark Cieslak

Social

5/7 Tim & Mai Keegan
5/14 Men's Group
5/21 Tim Keegan, Isiana Lugo
5/28 Carole Jacobson, Patty Olsen



Tuesday Bible Study at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room.

Wednesday Night May Bible Study -Come one, come all! Join us for a series of lively discussions of the Book of Proverbs, starting on Wednesday, May 3rd at 7:00 PM in the Fireside Room. No books to buy, just bring your BIBLE. See you then. If you have any questions, contact Steve Wesley, Mary Connors or Dick Knapp.

SUMC IN MISSIONS

Regional Food Bank – We will be meeting in the church parking lot at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, May 16th to volunteer at the Food Bank.

-Jill Dunster-Wesley (cell) 423-3546 (home) 372-4047 jldunster@hotmail.com

Sch'dy Area Crop Hunger Walk –Sun., May 7. Registration starts at 12:30 p.m at Emmanuel/Friedens Church, 218 Nott Terrace, Sch'dy. Walk starts at 1:30 p.m. See Sue Van Vorst or Carole Jacobson for details.

The Women's Group will meet on Monday, May 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Mother's Day weekend will soon be here; we would like everyone coming to bring a picture of their mom and tell a story about what you admired the most of her or a sweet memory. We will have a business meeting followed by delicious refreshments! Everyone is welcome.

MAY CALENDAR

5/1 Trustees Meeting 7 pm
Week of May 1-5 – Set up for Rummage Sale

5/5-6 Rummage Sale FRIDAY from 9 -3 and SATURDAY 9-1, bag sale at 1 on Sat.
Lunch available both days. Coffee & donuts in the morning.

5/7 Crop Walk
5/7 Worship/Welcoming meeting after service
5/13 SUMC Clean Up Day – 9 am, even if you just have an hour to help, please stop by!
5/14 Mother's Day
5/16 Food Bank 2 pm
5/21 Confirmation Class
5/21 SPRC meeting after service
5/22 Admin. Council meeting 7 pm
5/23 RCA Staff Work Day
5/23 Finance Meeting 7 pm
5/27-28 Pastor Margaret will be away on Spiritual Renewal

Office Update: I will be in NC for my Christian Writer's Conference in May. I will be out of the office from May 23-25 and May 30-31. -Cynthia

The Sunday School classes are currently learning and studying one of the most beloved Psalms, #23 "The Lord is my Shepherd" over the course of a 3 week series. It will then be time to start working on the Children's Sunday service which will be on June 11th. It is a great opportunity to see what the youngest members of the congregation have been doing all year so don't miss it!

Church Treasurers Report
31-Mar-17

	March <u>2017</u>	Year to Date Mar-17
Individual Contributions	\$8,672	\$28,874
	1,87	6,23
Building Use/Rent	5	6
	5	74
Fund Raising/Interest Income	62	4
	(41	(5
Other Designated Giving	2)	0)
Total Operating Receipts	<u>\$10,697</u>	<u>\$35,804</u>
 Wages & other employment expenses	 \$5,555	 \$15,601
	5	1,53
Church Operations/Program	65	6
	5	2,82
Parsonage Expenses	93	9
	7	3,16
Church Building-Repairs/Safety	53	1
	1,32	4,01
Church Building-Utilities/Water	3	4
	1,64	2,87
Church Building-All Other	0	0
	2,08	6,69
Apportionments	0	0
		16
Benevolences	-	3
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$12,510</u>	<u>\$36,864</u>
 Shortage	 \$ (1,813)	 \$ (1,059)

There was a shortage of (\$1,813) for the month of March 2017.
The Year to Date shortage through March 2017 is now (\$1,059).

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