

# THE CARILLON



2011

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*Dear Friends,*

As I am preparing for All Saint's Sunday, I am taking some time to reflect upon the Saints in my life. My home church (First United Methodist Church, Gillette, WY) was full of wonderful people who encouraged me on my faith journey. One of those people, Chris Hard, encouraged me to be passionate about missions. He was an architect and had designed the local soup kitchen as well as many other public buildings. Two days before he died, we were working together at the Soup Kitchen cutting up onions. I will never forget how selfless he was and how he stood up for what he believed, despite the times it was inconvenient or unpopular. He lived the example that Jesus offers in Matthew 25 of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked and visiting the sick. I hope to be as good of a Christian as him some day.

Our church also has many people whom I would consider Saints (not in the Catholic Feast Day kind of way, but who present a good example of Christ for others). On the first Sunday in November (November 6) we will lift up those Saints in our midst who have passed away in the past year. Come and be a part of the service of remembrance and thanksgiving. Join the worshiping community and be intentional about making others feel as though they belong. You never know what sort of impression you are making on those whom you encounter.

*Blessings,*

*Pastor Megan*

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Mon. 6:30 pm

Wed. 7 pm

Tues. 8:00 pm

Thurs. 6:30 pm

NA group meets on Sundays at 7 pm.

## Coming Soon~November 12<sup>th</sup>

Craft Fair & Roast Beef Dinner

Mark your calendars!



Sat. evening, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> - remember to turn your clocks back one hour.

## Thanksgiving Eve Service

There will be a brief service of communion on Thanksgiving Eve (November 23) from 7:00 to 7:30 pm. Come and receive communion at the rail and meditate on all the many reasons we have to give thanks this year.

## United Methodist Student Sunday

On November 27<sup>th</sup> we as a church have a wonderful opportunity to support our young adults. We will be collecting one of six designated special offerings to support specialized ministries within our denomination. United Methodist Student Sunday offerings go to support scholarships and loans for United Methodist students at colleges and universities. 10% stays within our annual conference and the remainder goes towards national scholarships. Ten years ago, I received the first of three scholarships which paid for my entire seminary tuition at Boston University School of Theology. There would have been no way I could afford the \$20,000 tuition without your support. In the past two years, the scholarships have helped young adults from Clifton Park and Niskayuna attend undergraduate schools. I ask that you prayerfully consider supporting the future of our young adults through this special offering on November 27. - Pastor Megan

### Missions

**Scotia-Glenville Food Pantry** -As you know, we collect for the Scotia-Glenville Food Pantry, both food and cash, during service on the **second and fourth Sundays each month**. There are baskets in each corner of the sanctuary for food donations anytime.

**Regional Food Bank** - On the second Tuesday of each month everyone is invited to the Regional Food Bank to sort and repack products. We meet at the church to carpool at 2:00 and usually return around 4:30. Our next trip is **TUESDAY, November 8th**. If you have any questions, please contact Dick Knapp (393-5737 or [rknapp5@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rknapp5@nycap.rr.com)) or anyone on the Mission Team.

**The Prayer Shawl Group** is now under the umbrella of the Mission Team. Anyone interested in knitting, crocheting or sewing is welcome to join. Please contact Pat Knapp (393-5737 or [knappptyme@covad.net](mailto:knappptyme@covad.net)) with any questions.

### Walk to Emmaus –2011 locations: Women's - November 3-6, Springfield, VT

[www.gb-gm-umc.org/tac-emmaus](http://www.gb-gm-umc.org/tac-emmaus)

**Crafters Needed** - Space is still available for the Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> Craft Fair. If you know anyone with handcrafted items to sell, please contact Holly Russo ASAP. Phone 399-3534 or email [sarge2010@live.com](mailto:sarge2010@live.com).

*Liturgists*

11/6 Clarence Mosher  
 11/13 Wendy Liebl  
 11/20 Holly Russo  
 11/27 Laurie Peconie

*Sound*

11/6 Mark Cieslak  
 11/13 Dave Read  
 11/20 Bob Hatt  
 11/27 Todd Lavery

*Greeters*

11/6 Sue Sykes, Elsie Maddaus  
 11/13 Sue Sykes, Elsie Maddaus  
 11/20 David & Kim Huhtala  
 11/27 David & Kim Huhtala

*Ushers*

11/6 Amiee & Steve Warfield  
 11/13 Brian & Jennifer Breslin  
 11/20 Charlene Vice, Erin Goodwin  
 11/27 Fran Brown, Steve Schad

*Fellowship*

11/6 Patricia Zych,  
 Belinda Wagner  
 11/13 Fiona & Dean Goodell  
 11/20 Wendy Liebl  
 11/27 Steve & Jill Wesley

*Counters*

11/6 Dean Goodell,  
 Pat Knapp  
 11/13 Ken Handy,  
 Judy Swain  
 11/20 Michele Swain,  
 Ken Handy  
 11/27 Dick Knapp,  
 Judy Matthews

**Monthly Calendar**

Tuesdays - Morning Bible Study 9:30 am  
 Thursdays - Book Study Group 7 pm

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Sun. Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> - All Saints Sunday

Mon. Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> - Trustees 7 pm

Tues. Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> - Election Day  
 Food Bank 2:00 pm

Sat. Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> - Craft Fair/Dinner

Mon. Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> - Women's Group 7 pm

Sun. Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> - Consecration Sunday

Mon. Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> - Finance 6 pm  
 Staff Parish 7 pm

Wed. Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> - Service at 7:00 pm

Thurs. Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> - Happy Thanksgiving!

Sun. Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> - Student Day Offering

Mon. Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> - Admin. Council 7 pm

**Women's Group – Mon. Nov 14th**

Special speaker will be your own SUMC Admin. Assistant Cynthia Lovely. revealing her other life...as a freelance writer. Cynthia will bring clips of her published works including a story in the newly released **Chicken Soup for the Soul: Devotionals for Tough Times**. A great chance for early Christmas shopping as books will be available for signing at \$15.00 each. Cynthia will speak about her writing journey and the power of words. If you have any friends interested in writing, please invite them. All women are welcome, meeting will start at 7 pm in the Fireside Room.

**Baptist Health****Nursing & Rehab. Ctr.**

Seeking new volunteers and new members of the Auxiliary. The Center is located at 297 N. Ballston Ave. in Scotia. For more details, please speak to Elsie Maddaus or call her at 346-8981.

## Finance Report

	Sept Month	Sept Year to Date	Budget Year to Date	Budget Variance Year to Date Sept
Income	\$12,449.55	\$118,460.45	\$125,861.01	(\$7,400.56)
Expenses	\$12,460.00	\$127,772.76	\$127,749.76	(\$23.00)
Gain/(Loss)	(\$10.45)	(\$9,312.31)	(\$1,888.75)	(\$7,423.56)
Capital Spending	765.98	\$11,536.37	\$0.00	(\$11,536.37)

### September Results

- The good news is that September expenses were \$781.08 under budget. However, the positive variance is due primarily to timing. The water/sewer expenses were budgeted to hit in September but will be paid in October instead.
- Income was \$1,222.78 short of budget due primarily to a shortfall in contributions.
- The \$765.00 collected for Sunday School expenses and \$233.46 collected for the Food Pantry in September are included in the income number.

### Year to Date Challenges

- Income was short of budget primarily due to the loss of parsonage rent of \$7,300, shortfall of \$3,030 in individual contributions and a fund raising shortfall of \$2,011 partially offset by the Compensation Grant.
- The Golf Tournament scheduled for October was canceled due to lack of participation. Only 7 individuals signed up. This was probably due to the late start on organizing the tournament. For the next year, the planning should really start in the early spring for a summer and get everyone involved. Last year, the Golf Tournament raised \$648.00. **Again, the success of the Roast Beef Dinner in November is critical.**
- The Trustees are looking for bids on the snow plowing contract. Please contact Belinda Wagner if you have any recommendations. The church is trying to reduce the snow removal costs.
- In order to make up the \$9,312.31 year to date loss, income must exceed expenses for the remainder of the year to make this up. If this does not happen, it will be necessary to draw down our limited assets to pay our bills by year end.

### Capital Spending

- In September, the \$765.98 spent was for the Finance computer and printer as well as the Quickbooks Software. This computer is used to keep Church books and to do Financial reporting and budgeting. The money came from the Trustee's funds.
- The Trustees are trying to get a Mason to repoint and water seal the outside masonry of the church before winter.

**Our Annual Charge Conference will be held on December 4th at 1 pm.** Since our District Superintendent, Rev. Brolin Parker, is ill, we are combining several different churches charge conferences at the same location at the same time. Scotia UMC has been chosen as the site to host the Alplaus, Rexford and Centre Glenville UMCs. We will have a potluck at noon prior to the charge conferences starting. Scotia UMC is in charge of providing soups/stews and beverages. The other churches will provide desserts, breads and other side items. Who should go? Everyone is invited to attend, however, only members of the church can vote. What are we voting on? We are voting on the church budget (especially the pieces regarding the pastor's salary and the apportionments to the Annual Conference), election of members to Safe Sanctuaries and Trustees Committees (and other groups as needed) and voting on any lay speakers we may have in our congregation.

Dear Friends,

I hope all of you are well! As the Chairperson of the Stewardship Committee I not only wanted to speak about Consecration Sunday, but the overall atmosphere in our Church. I have spoken to many people lately and the consensus seems to be the same. **There is a swell of positive energy in our Church!** The addition of Pastor Megan has really added to, if not initiated this feeling! Furthermore, I am sure people have noticed that there has been an increase in attendance each and every Sunday. We are seeing friends we have not seen in quite some time, as well as, new faces too! This increase in attendance is beginning to be reflected in the weekly offering. The Church's finances are starting to show some positive signs.

This year we will be holding Consecration Sunday on November 20<sup>th</sup>. I cannot stress enough the importance of the attendance of every parishioner possible on this day. As I am also on the Finance Committee, I have learned much about the financial workings of the Church. None of which is more important than the act of pledging. Pledging allows the Church to forecast income and expenses for the coming year. It allows us to see where we stand financially ahead of time, so if adjustments in expenditures need to be made, we have a good foundation to make these decisions.

I sincerely ask all of our congregation members to make a genuine effort to attend Consecration Sunday on November 20<sup>th</sup>. Your pledge is vitally important to our Church's mission. Please help us continue this positive momentum that has begun! Our goal is to have a huge turnout on Consecration Sunday. If you know for sure that you will not be able to attend, please contact me directly and let me know what your pledge will be for 2012. Please e-mail me at [kenhandy52@gmail.com](mailto:kenhandy52@gmail.com). Please remember, the amount of the pledge is not the most important thing, but the knowledge it provides the Church is.

Thank you all so much in advance and I look forward to seeing you at Church! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

God Bless! - *Ken Handy, Stewardship Chair*

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### Scotia United Methodist Church - 2012 Pledge

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge Amount \_\_\_\_\_ per week or \_\_\_\_\_ per month

#### Contact Information

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_



## *Preparing for the Christmas Season* –from Pastor Megan

### Advent

When I think of Advent, I think of anticipation, the excitement that builds as we draw closer and closer to Christmas. I can't wait till the day after Thanksgiving to get out the Christmas music, to start decorating the house for Christmas. But it is hard to wait, especially when the stores are decorated with Christmas items prominently displayed for the last few months. This time of anticipation and preparation is counter-intuitive in today's society. We are so used to instant gratification. When we are forced to wait, we have an opportunity to be still, to reflect on God's working in and through us. During the seasons of Advent and Christmas, I invite you to join me on a journey of prayer and reflection on what it means to have room for Jesus in our hearts and in our lives. Let us welcome the Christ Child, God with us.

Blessings during this Holy Season.

### Hanging of the Greens

Have you ever wondered why we decorate the sanctuary and our houses for Christmas? Why the altar cloths are purple? Why we decorate our houses with mistletoe, holly and ivy? On Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate a "Hanging of the Greens" service. The Hanging of the Greens is a service (Advent is a Latin word for "coming." There are four Sundays in Advent just prior to Christmas). A Hanging of the Greens service is based on the English tradition of decorating the home with wreaths, garlands, a Christmas tree, and evergreens for Advent and Christmas. In a church setting, it readies the sanctuary (and church members) for the season. The prophet Isaiah wrote, "A voice is calling, "Clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness: Make smooth in the desert a highway for our God." Prepare the way, prepare our hearts and minds. With expectant hush and long awaited yearning, we herald the coming of the long awaited Christ child, with the coming of the infant to Bethlehem. This will be a special and unique service which I encourage everyone to attend.