

The Scroll

Newsletter of
Union Church of Proctor

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Check out the full color version of the Scroll on line at the web address above... lots more about the church there, too!



December 2018

It is hard for me to write a Scroll article each month. I write a sermon four times a month and it seems that I run out of words to say or, perhaps, the subject matter for the Scroll article seems so far out of reach. Plus, I sometimes think that I am supposed to come up with pithy comments about life and faith and God.

I joined a gym this month to face up to the fact that I needed to exercise more. So, I will write how that gym experience is like our Christian liturgical year.

You know, one liturgical year follows another liturgical year and they all meld together - Thanksgiving, followed by Advent, by Christmas, by Lent, by Easter and by Pentecost and the beat goes on. And maybe we lose sight of what they are supposed to mean individually.

At the gym, I paid for a trainer to bring me through those different exercises for different parts of the body - arms, back, legs, cardio, shoulders. The trainer spoke of muscles of which I never heard of and how they are affected by exercise.

But you know something, you don't do ALL the exercises at one time. You do you shoulder exercises and then let them rest a few days to

recover. In the meantime, you do some exercise for your legs, rest, etc., etc. - you get the drift. You pay attention to one part during one exercise time.

Same for the liturgical year...we take time to be in Advent in expectation and wonder at what the birth of Jesus will bring us. We rest in this time and we look at ourselves and find what is good and what needs changing because the birth of Jesus brings change.

And Christmas...go to church and be part of the recognition of the birth and what it means for each of us. At the Christmas Eve service (8:00PM on December 24th), when we form a circle, light candles and sing "Silent Night", it is all about our community (not only the church, but the Proctor community) and what Jesus means to us and what we mean to each other.

Expectation (Advent), followed by Christmas (celebration of Jesus' birth and our birth into a new year) ...exercise one part at a time, rest, exercise again.

Happy Advent & Merry Christmas to you all!

Peace be with you on your journey.

Rev John Sanborn



*Union Church Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service*

The Christmas Eve Service of lessons, anthems, carols, and candlelight at Union Church will begin at 8:00 p.m., in our sanctuary. A prelude of music will begin at 7:30. This wonderful time of hope and joy will be celebrated in a traditional manner, while opening our hearts to something new in our lives – the arrival of the Christ child in this day and age. Please come, enjoy the special music, sing and rejoice. All are welcome.

**REACHING
OUT**



Do you know someone who's ill, homebound, in the hospital or in a nursing home? We'd like to reach out, maybe spend a few minutes chatting or praying with them, but we don't always hear who might like a visit or a phone call. Please be the eyes and ears of the church. Contact Rev. John or one of the deacons if you know of someone we can help. Thank you!

**COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS
TREE
LIGHTING**



Our Yard and the Proctor Fire Department will be hosting the Christmas Tree Lighting in the Park on Sunday, December 2, at 6:00 p.m. at the Gazebo. We will have cookies & hot chocolate at the Fire Station.

**UNION
CHURCH
ANNUAL
CAROLING
OUTREACH**



CAROLING

The 13th Annual
Union Church

Caroling Outreach will be Saturday, December 15th, at 4:15 p.m. Please meet in the lobby of Rutland Healthcare and Rehabilitation (RHRC) on Nichols Street, Rutland. (The street where Jones' Donuts is located.)

We will be walking the halls and serenading the residents during their dinner hour. Doesn't matter if you carry a tune or not... spreading Christmas cheer is the emphasis here! Afterwards, there will be a fellowship reception at the Larson residence at 13 Kendall Ave. Following the caroling, please proceed to the Larson residence. We are literally a block away from RHRC, so you may park your car at either location on Nichols St. The house will be the one lit with holiday cheer at the end of Nichols St., where it meets Kendall Ave. Parking is also available on Kendall Ave. on the north side of the street in front of the house.

For those with mobility issues who would be unable to take part in the caroling, we invite you to participate in the holiday fellowship reception afterwards! Feel free to wait at the Larson residence for the carolers, any time after 5:00 – however, don't be surprised if Ed the Elf asks for help in getting the food on the table!

If you wish, all participants may bring a food item for the Rutland Food Shelf.

We like to have an idea of how many people will attend. There will be a sign-up sheet in church, or you may call Amy Larson at 775-3639. Thank you! Hope to see you there!

Amy & Ed Larson



SANTA'S SHOPPERS!

If you haven't signed up yet, it's not too late...if you act quickly!



Your help is needed to make the **16th Annual Santa's Shoppers Event** a success! Feel the joy of giving, by sharing your time and talents! Join in the fun and help make this one the best yet! **Please VOLUNTEER** to help at ANY (or ALL!) of the **activities listed in bold** below. If you can help, call Muriel (459-3685) or Barbara (483-2577).

Santa's Shoppers Volunteers, "bring the store" to the nursing home, so the residents may shop for their loved ones, without cost or obligation! This year the event will take place at **Rutland Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center (RHRC) at 46 Nichols St. in Rutland on Friday, December 7th from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM.**

On Saturday, December 1st from 9:30-11:30 AM, volunteers will meet at the Parish house to take stock of our existing inventory for this year's event. Then we'll pack it all up for transport to the RHRC on the day of the event. Many thanks to the Men's Coffee Hour fellows who've already volunteered to haul the "stuff" upstairs, following their Saturday Coffee that morning.

"Santa's Shoppers" volunteers will meet at **Walmart on Monday, December 3rd from 7:00-8:00 PM** to select gifts in the \$5 to \$10 range. Shopping teams make the selections, taking into consideration a wide variety of items for all ages, as the gift may be for a child, elderly person, other family members or friends. Regardless of the taste or interest of the person who is to receive the gift, there is likely to be something of interest for the resident to give their loved ones.

On Wednesday, Dec. 5th from 9:00 AM to Noon, volunteers will **meet at the Parish House** to package and wrap candy in mugs and other containers, put together cheese packages, and the like. These items are decorated in festive holiday fare and are then packed up ready to be taken to the nursing home on Friday.

On Friday, December 7th at 1:00 PM, **set-up** begins for the event **at RHRC**. The gifts are spread out on tables to enable the residents to easily make their choices.

The event is open to the residents from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. The residents select the gift(s) that best suit the person(s) they are shopping for. (Selections are usually limited to no more than three items per resident, but we are flexible, particularly if the person has a large family, etc.). "Santa's Helpers" volunteers help the residents make their selections and wrap & tag each gift for them.

Santa will be there, too! He chats with everyone and has his picture taken with each participating resident. A copy of the picture is later returned to the resident to keep. A decorated Christmas tree and Christmas music help add to the Spirit of Christmas, spreading joy and good will to all.

The event stops at 4:00 PM. We then **pack up & clean up (usually from 4:00-4:30ish)**, bring unused Walmart items back for a refund, and return non-Walmart items to the Parish House to be put away on Sunday.

Santa's Shoppers is a longstanding and wonderful outreach mission to elders in our area. **Please consider helping out wherever and whenever you can.** Just to see the residents' happy faces as they get caught up in the excitement will warm your heart throughout the year!



STOCKINGS FOR SENIORS



As the song says, "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year". Well, maybe not for everyone, but we can help some folks make sure that residents at Rutland Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center have something for Christmas, maybe warm the cockles of our hearts as well.. The Activities Director asked Amy Larson if we would be able to collect items for stockings. The Council has approved this request and starting December 2nd there will be a decorated tote in the connector to collect items to give. The last date for collecting is December 16th, with delivery to the nursing home on the 17th.

We have a list of things they are looking for and really, isn't this what Christmas is all about? So, if you can help out, drop your items in the tote and make someone's Christmas merry and bright.

- Chapstick
- Lotion
- Shampoo
- Bath stuffs (scented is OK)
- Knick-Knacks (both religious and non-religious)
- Playing cards
- Assorted Greeting Cards
- Socks with no-slip bottoms
- Warm hats
- Large print puzzle books
(i.e. word search, etc.)
- Magnifying glass
- Warm scarves
- Men's handkerchiefs
- Coloring markers
- Colored pencils for adult coloring
- Bath items for men

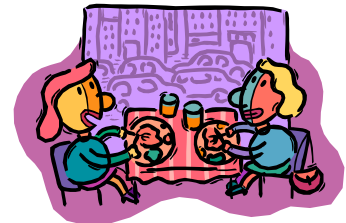
If you have any questions, call or e-mail Amy Larson or Nancy Young.

SATURDAY NIGHT SOCIAL... ON A WEDNESDAY!



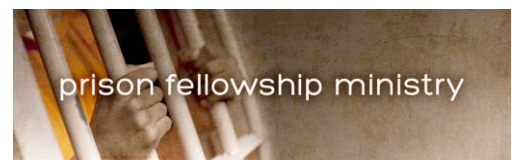
That's right, December's Saturday Night Social is Wednesday, December 19, at 7:00 pm. On the week before Christmas, take a break and join us for the documentary movie "*Getting to the Nutcracker – The Magic Behind the Curtain*". Every Christmas the Nutcracker is performed in cities around the world. What does it take to produce this timeless ballet? Witness the passion of young dancers, from auditions to the final, triumphant performance. Come join us for this uplifting movie and as always, bring a dessert to share.

LADIES LUNCH



Our December Ladies' Lunch will take place at the Rutland Country Club at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 11th. Come and join us!

PRISON VISIT



The December Prison visit will be on Wednesday, December 12th. Anyone wishing to join us is welcome or if someone would like to make something, it would be appreciated. See Sue Osgood or Carol Trudelle for more information.

NOTES FROM THE CHURCH MOUSE



I remember from last month mentioning that I wasn't ready for winter yet, but it appears that it arrived earlier than I expected. Listening to the weather report Monday evening it was said that 1-3 inches of snow was expected. I think Mother Nature got carried away. Oh well I guess I'll just have to grin and bear it as it will only get worse. I'll just have to curl up in my little hiding space and stay warm.

The Men will be holding their usual coffee hour every Saturday morning as usual at 7:00 AM and then will hold the Men's Breakfast on December 8th here in the Parish House. The Ladies Lunch will be held on November 11th at 11:30 AM at the Rutland Country Club.

The Dismas House Dinner prep is scheduled for 5:15 pm on December 5th . The Open Door Mission pizza dinner is scheduled for 5:15 pm on December 22nd..

This month, instead of the annual Holiday Bazaar volunteers will be gathering things together starting on Saturday, December 1st for the Santa's Shoppers event beginning with the preparation at 9:30 AM in the Parish House. Next will be shopping at Walmart for the gifts on December 3rd at 7:00 PM. This will be followed by wrapping at 9:00 AM in the Parish House on December 5th, and finally the event at Rutland Health & Rehabilitation at 1:00 PM on December 7th with the residents when they choose what they want to give their friends and family. If you have any questions please contact Muriel Sedergren.

On December 9th the service will include installation of new members. If you wish to join the church please contact Rev. John at your earliest convenience.

This month's prison visit will be on December 12th.

Rutland Health & Rehabilitation will be where we will be caroling for the residents. This will be followed by a party at Ed and Amy Larson's. Contact Ed or Amy if you have any questions.

The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for December 16th after coffee hour in the Higbee Library.

Lon and Betty Schneider presented a wonderful program on November 17th about the cruise they took down the Seine River in France. What a wonderful time we had watching the show.

The Children's Center is going to have a busy month. On December 12th at 6:00 PM they will have their Christmas Concert in the Parish House auditorium. I do love hearing all the little children when they perform their carols. Also on December 21st at 3:30 PM they will be having a Family Pot Luck dinner.

The most wonderful holiday of all is almost upon us. Whether you will be at home for the holiday or traveling to visit family and friends, I wish you a safe and joyous holiday.

God Bless each and every one of you!



WELCOME

December Greeters

- 2 Phyllis Sawtell
- 9 Penny Rickert
- 16 Bob Curtis
- 23 Jean Noren
- 30 Meryl Lisananti

ANNUAL REPORTS 2018



Annual Reports from all committees, boards, etc., should be turned in to the church office by **January 7th, 2019**. Please keep in mind that this is a historical record of the events, decisions, challenges, changes, etc. of your group that will be a helpful reference in years to come for us and those that come after us. You may email your report (preferred) to kris.finni@gmail.com or bring it to the church office. Questions? Call Kris Finnigan 459-2244.

MEN'S COFFEE



Members & friends of Union Church- Join us for Men's Coffee every Saturday from 7-8 a.m. in the Parish House.

MEN'S BREAKFAST



We hold a Men's Breakfast on the second Saturday of each month. Our December Breakfast will be on Saturday, December 8th from 7-8 am in the Parish House dining room.



Proctor Free Library

Invites the community to the library
For our annual

Cookies and Carols

**Saturday, December 1
6:00 P.M.**

*Join us for Carols, Cookies,
and Holiday Crafts*



WE'VE GOT MAIL!



Hi Folks,

This is a donation in honor of all the folks who worked so hard to make the recent sale a success and in memory of my earliest church memories when I used to spend summers in Proctor (age 7 on) and was allowed to draw pictures during the sermon!! Also my husband and I were married there 50 years ago!

Thanks for keeping me on your mailing list. I get news via Carol & Robert Curtis (cousins).

Margaret McBride

DECEMBER READERS

2	Barbara Lacy
9	Ellen Sutherland
16	Kim Metcalfe
23	Lon Schneider
30	Glenn Giles



December Birthdays



2 Susan Osgood	15 Jean Gallus
3 Carol Trudelle	18 Ellen Sutherland
Sarah Varney	19 Ed Larson
4 Rachel Moody	Eddie Wilkin
5 Troy Keyser	21 Alma Nelson
8 John Ojala	27 Zachary Bates
Mike Watson	28 Shannon Watson
11 Kathy Connors	30 Rachel Patch
Richard Kelleway	31 John Ojala
Melissa Tooley	Chris Thomas

December



- 1 Santa's Shoppers organize, 9:30 a.m., Parish House
Cookies & Carols, 6:00 p.m., Proctor Free Library
- 2 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
Community Christmas Tree Lighting, 6:00 p.m., Proctor Town Park
- 3 Santa's Shoppers shopping, 7:00 p.m., WalMart
- 5 Santa's Shoppers package & wrap, 9:00 a.m., Parish House
Dinner Prep. and Meal Sharing at the Rutland Dismas House, 5:15 p.m.
- 7 Santa's Shoppers, set up 1:00 p.m., Festivities 2-4 p.m., RHRC (see article)
- 8 Men's Breakfast, 7:00 a.m., Parish House
- 9 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
- 11 Ladies' Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Rutland Country Club
- 12 Prison Visit
TCC Christmas Concert, 6:00 p.m., Parish House
- 15 Caroling & Party, 4:15 p.m., Rutland Healthcare and Rehabilitation (RHRC)
on Nichols Street, Rutland
- 16 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
Church Council meeting
- 19 Wednesday Night Social-
Getting to the Nutcracker – The Magic Behind the Curtain, 7:00 p.m., Parish House
- 20 Articles & info due for January Scroll
- 21 TCC PotLuck, 3:30 p.m., Parish House
- 22 Pizza Dinner Prep. and Meal Sharing at the Open Door Mission, 5:15 p.m.
- 23 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 8:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Music begins at 7:30 p.m.
- 30 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.

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*Gifts of time and love are surely the basic ingredients of a truly merry Christmas
~Peg Bracken*