

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!

January 2019

A NEW YEAR – 2019

I do not know how often we might visit our lives to ascertain if there is something we need to change or not. The new year, with its resolutions, seems to happen every year (duh!) and we load up the list with a bevy of new hopes, new visions of life and other stuff!

We just came through the Christmas holidays with presents and parties, headaches and happenings and now we are tired. Oh, wait – Jesus' birthday (probably not December 25th, but it is when we celebrate it) ushered us into a different new year...the church year!

We will follow the Gospel of Matthew this year, as we journey with Jesus. An interesting journey it is – a man, seeking to change the way we look at life, takes it upon himself to show the way – not by only talking about it, but by actually walking us through it, step-by-step.

More compassion, more justice, more living a righteous life. As Christians, these are the things given to us by Jesus – compassion, justice...not

just for us, but for everyone. A Christian faith is not only introspective, but even more so, extrospective. Meaning our call from Jesus is for us to look outward, to look to help others.

Did you know that the Ten Commandments had 'relationships' in mind when they were given? The first four deal with a relationship with God – the introspective part of our faith. The next six deal with our relationship with others – the extrospective part of our life.

While the words are "Thou shalt not...", we have to look at the other side for "Thou shalt..." So, we cannot be a Christian if we do not work compassionately for others, if we do not bring justice for all to all. Just empty words if we do not care about and for 'the other.'

Define your faith by working to help others and then, and only then, can we call ourselves Christians. It is what Jesus taught us and expects of us.

Peace be with you on your journey.
Rev John Sanborn

ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON



All Members and Friends of Union Church of Proctor, Vermont, be Warned that on Sunday, February 3, 2019, the Annual Business Meeting of Union Church of Proctor will be held in the Auditorium of the Parish House, adjacent to the Church Building, at 5 Church Street, Proctor.

Morning Worship Service for All Ages begins at 10:00 a.m., followed by an All-Church Pot Luck Luncheon in the Dining Room.

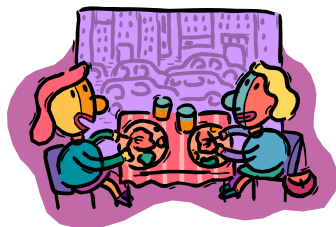
The Annual Meeting will follow the Meal, at approximately 12:15 p.m.

The Purpose of the Meeting will be:

- to hear and accept the Reports of the Committees, Boards and Officers of the Church
- to hear and vote on the Church's Operating Budget for 2019
- to consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting

All Members and Friends are urged to attend the Morning Worship, the Luncheon, and to participate in the discussions of the Annual Meeting. Non-members will have equal opportunity to speak at the Meeting, and are encouraged to do so, but only Church Members may vote.

LADIES LUNCH



Our January Ladies' Lunch will take place at the Rutland Country Club at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 8th. Come and join us!

BUTTERFLY ENCOUNTERS IN RUTLAND COUNTY



Viewers will be introduced to five of the most prominent families of butterflies, [that includes approximately twenty subfamilies], that Roy has encountered and photographed in Rutland County.

The Vermont Center for Ecostudies located in Norwich, Vermont directed the first state-wide butterfly survey over a six year period, from 2001 to 2006. Birdwatchers, among others, with their identification skills and knowledge of the local terrain were happy to participate. Roy was among them, dedicating five summers collecting butterfly data in Rutland County.

Since that time Roy has continued to document butterfly occurrence in Rutland County and submitting the data on e-Butterfly and iNaturalist, two World Wide Web sites. The documented count as of this writing is 82 butterfly species, consisting of 604 checklists and 1,633 images.

Come and enjoy the beauty of these gorgeous animals, Saturday, January 19, 7:00 PM at the church social.

JANUARY READERS



6	Jeff Bergquist
13	Ed Larson
20	Kim Metcalfe
27	Nancy Young

FIDGET QUILT GATHERING

It's January. Holiday activity is over and it's time to make some fidget quilts. Let's make a day of it on Wednesday, January 23. We can set up our machines around 9:00, bring some snacks and lunch, and sew, laugh and eat until we have had enough fun for one day. If you can't come for the whole day, come when you can and stay as long as you want to. We will plan to clean up around 4:00. Maybe we can finish a few quilts all in one day!

Please let Kay know if you plan to attend just in case we need to cancel for weather issues.



NOTES FROM THE CHURCH MOUSE

I may drown if this rain doesn't stop soon. The temperatures may be in the 40's and 50's over the weekend before Christmas so I don't think we're going to have much of a white Christmas this year.

The Men will be holding their usual coffee hour every Saturday morning at 7:00 AM and then will hold the Men's Breakfast on January 12th here in the Parish House. The Ladies Lunch will be held on January 8th at 11:30 AM at the Rutland Country Club.

The Dismas House Dinner prep is scheduled for 5:15 pm on January 2nd. The Open Door Mission

pizza dinner is scheduled for 5:15 pm on January 26th.

On December 9th the service included installation of new member, Jean Butler. I also heard that we may be having another new member join soon. If you wish to join the church please contact Rev. John at your earliest convenience.

The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for January 6th in the Higbee Library after coffee hour. Don't forget that the Committee Reports are due to Kris by the 7th of January so that she can get the Annual Report printed in time for the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 3rd.

There will be a Saturday evening social in January and the program will be about Butterflies planned by Roy Pilcher. There will also be 3 more programs in the works for February, March and April. I'm sorry that I don't have the date for Roy's program (I must have dozed off).

There was a Saturday evening Social for this month but instead of Saturday it was held on Wednesday, December 19th at 7 PM. It was a documentary movie entitled "Getting to the Nutcracker – The Magic Behind the Curtain". I hope everyone enjoyed the program.

There will also be a Fidget Quilt session on January 23rd at 9 AM in the Parish House.

I am sorry to have to pass along sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of two of our church members, Dottie Vilmar who passed away in late November and Jean Gallus who passed away recently. The Memorial Service for Jean Gallus was held at the Union Church of Proctor on December 27th.

The most wonderful holiday of all is almost upon us. I hope everyone had a safe and joyous holiday.

God Bless each and every one of you!



SANTA'S SHOPPERS



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Santa's Shopper Event!

It's the Gift that keeps giving...."SANTA'S SHOPPERS" HAVE DONE IT AGAIN!

This is the **sixteenth year** that "Santa's Shoppers" have been spreading Christmas Cheer (on a rotating basis) in three area nursing homes. This year it was at the Rutland Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center (RHRC), last year it was at The Pines, and next year it will be at the Mountain View Center. The event occurred on Dec. 7th, 2018, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM.

The folks that reside at the nursing home have very limited opportunities to shop or select gifts for family members or friends. The Union Church "Santa's Shopper's" program, makes it possible! We virtually "bring the store to the residents," providing them with a wide selection of gifts and the freedom to make their own choices, at no cost or obligation. Everyone involved, whether it's a "Santa's Shopper," the nursing home staff, or the intended recipient (**the resident**), gets caught up in the Christmas Spirit.

If it sounds too good to be true, well it's not. Anything is possible, when a jolly group of "Santa's Shoppers" work together to help others. On Saturday (12/1), the fellows from the men's breakfast group lugged the carry-over inventory upstairs for volunteers to unwrap, clean-up, sort, and help prepare a new shopping list for the Monday night shopping. It was then repacked for transport. A group of enthusiastic volunteers met at Walmart on Monday night (12/3). They worked in four teams, filling their shopping carts with all sorts of goodies (considering all ages and

interests), to assure a wide selection of choices. When the Shoppers were finished, they gathered at the register, excited about their "finds". Walmart added their support with a \$50 gift card and, after the event, efficiently handled the return of items that weren't used. Thank You, Walmart, for the gift card and the friendly and efficient service.

On Wednesday (12/5), volunteers met at the Parish House and wrapped and decorated about 50 holiday mugs, plus 4 plates with crackers, cheese and a beef stick. Everything was wrapped in cellophane and festively decorated. The decorated mugs that weren't selected as gifts by the RHRC residents, were given to Dismas House and the Open Door Mission.

On Friday (12/7), the "Santa's Shoppers" were at the Rutland Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center to help with all aspects of the event. There was a lot to be done - transporting the goods, unpacking and arranging everything on tables, helping residents make their choices (up to three gifts per resident), and wrapping and tagging each gift. Santa greeted each resident and had his picture taken with each one. Then, of course, there was pack-up, returning unused Walmart items for refund, taking other inventory back to the Church, delivering candy mugs to Dismas and the Mission, getting pictures developed, etc.

Over fifty residents were served by this event. Cheery greetings, friendly smiles, Christmas music, a decorated Christmas tree, and the festive display of gifts, added to the Christmas Spirit. Each resident received a copy of their picture with Santa. **A Special Thank You** goes to Katie Bell, Activities Director, and all of the participating staff members at the RHRC. **The Christmas Spirit was alive and well, and the room was filled with Love and Joy!**

THANK YOU to the **Gunnar and Mary Nelson Fund** (dedicated to outreach to help Senior Citizens) which provides **the funds**

for this event each year. A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU GOES TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS for their willing and joyful participation.

MAY THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT CREATED BY THIS EVENT, BOTH FOR THE RESIDENTS AND FOR ALL THOSE WHO HELPED, LAST ALL YEAR!

Respectfully submitted - Muriel Sedergren (a "Santa's Shopper" & loving every minute of it!)



January Greeters

6	Phyllis Sawtell
13	Amy Larson
20	Sue Osgood & Carol Trudelle
27	Nancy Young

NEW TABLES!



The Church Council has authorized the purchase of 6 new 46" round tables with legs that fold up., to replace the card tables used at social hour. These will be a little bigger and will allow more than 4 people to gather with space for each. If anyone would like to contribute toward the purchase of these tables, please talk to Jeff Bergquist or designate a contribution to the coffee hour table fund. They each cost \$107 and the total amount will be approximately \$700. Thank you for your consideration.

Jeff Bergquist, Finance Committee

PRISON VISIT



The January Prison visit will be on Wednesday, January 16th. 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.

WE'VE GOT MAIL!



God Bless One and All- Our family wants to thank you so much for coming to the Genesis Healthcare and Rehab and making Christmas so special for those who are there – one of whom is my husband. He continues to tell of what you did for him and, as he has dementia, there isn't a lot he remembers. You are truly servants of God.
The Perry family



God Bless you ALL, love you, keep you... at Christmastime and always.
Love to all-
Faith Sagi

PS Thank you for all the cards I receive all year long! Nice!

Faith has included a nice Christmas letter. You'll find it on the bulletin board by the elevator. Faith moved from Proctor years ago but remains a loyal supporter of Union Church and sends a sweet note frequently. We do miss you, Faith!



January Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Connie Partridge | 18 Donna Chapin |
| Judith Scott | 21 Mackenzie Lacy |
| 2 Karen Webster | Sarah Mace |
| 3 Gloria Giles | Audrey Tilden |
| 4 Andrew Sutherland | 22 Kathy Milillo |
| 6 Carol Bam | 24 Lenore Gates |
| 9 Ray Parker | Caitlin Canty |
| 13 Tyler Lenher | 28 Drew Pilcher |
| 15 Jean Esler | 31 Jean Noren |

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 BREAKFAST



We hold a Men's Breakfast on the second Saturday of each month. Our January Breakfast will be on Saturday, January 12th, from 7-8 am in the Parish House dining room.

ANYWAY

The following poem was adapted from *The Paradoxical Commandments*, written by Kent Keith, and posted on a wall of a children's orphanage in Calcutta by Mother Teresa.

ANYWAY

People are unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered,
LOVE THEM ANYWAY

If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives,
DO GOOD ANYWAY

If you are successful,
you win false friends and true enemies,
SUCCEED ANYWAY

The good you do will be forgotten tomorrow,
DO GOOD ANYWAY

Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable,
BE HONEST AND FRANK ANYWAY

What you spent years building may be destroyed overnight,
BUILD ANYWAY

People really need help
but may attack you if you help them,
HELP PEOPLE ANYWAY

Give the world the best you have
And you'll get kicked in the teeth,
GIVE THE WORLD THE BEST YOU'VE GOT ANYWAY.





- 2 Dinner Prep. and Meal Sharing at the Rutland Dismas House, 5:15 p.m.
- 6 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
Church Council Meeting, 11:15 a.m., Parish House
- 8 Ladies' Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Rutland Country Club
- 12 Men's Breakfast, 7:00 a.m., Parish House
- 13 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
- 16 Prison Visit
- 19 *Butterfly Encounters* & Dessert, 7:00 p.m., Parish House
- 20 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
Articles & info due for February Scroll
- 23 Fidget Quilt Gathering, 9:00 a.m.
- 26 Pizza Dinner Prep. and Meal Sharing at the Open Door Mission, 5:15 p.m.
- 27 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.

February

- 3 Annual Meeting and Luncheon, following worship

Union Church of Proctor
5 Church Street
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“Write it on your heart, that every day is the best day of the year.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson