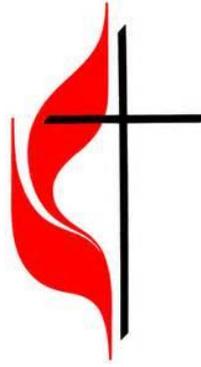




SUMC at 51 Church St., Schuylerville
 Sunday Worship Service at 11 AM



QSUMC at 466 Route 32 South
 Sunday Worship Service at 9 AM

The MESSENGER

Of the Schuylerville and Quaker Springs
 United Methodist Churches

January/ February 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

Alt. Monday	Girl Scouts 6:30PM @ SUMC
4 th Monday	Emmaus (informal worship) 7PM
Mondays	Pastor's Sabbath (time to rest and to rejuvenate)
Wednesday	QS Choir rehearsal at 7PM
Thursdays	SUMC Choir rehearsal at 7PM
Friday	Overeaters Anonymous 10 AM @ SUMC
Saturday	Alcoholics Anonymous 8 PM @ SUMC
January 9	SUMC Admin. Council at 7PM
January 16	QS Admin Council Meeting at 7 PM
January 18	PPRC at 7 PM @ Parsonage
January 27	Mission Team Pasta Dinner Fundraiser @American Legion 4-6 PM
February 3	10-4 Cub Pack 4013 4 th Annual Craft Fair at American Legion
February 7	SUMC Admin. Council at 7PM
February 11	Mission Team Pound Auction & Crock Potluck Fundraiser 12 – 2:30 @ SUMC
February 20	QS Admin Council Meeting at 7 PM
February 14	Ash Wednesday

Happy New Year!!!

It is time to once again update our directory.
 Please carefully check the **contact section** to be sure your address and phone number(s) are correct.

- ❖ Please check the **birthday and anniversary sections** also to make sure those dates are also correct.
- ❖ Please correct any incorrect information and/or add any missing information.

A new 2018 directory will be available in a few weeks, after everyone has had a chance to make changes. Thank you for your help in keeping us up to date.

–Deb Lagoe

**March /April Messenger Deadline
 Sunday February 25, 2018**

Prayer - A Divinely inspired support system between God and God's people. Please keep in prayer:

Family, friends and folks we know who are ill, undergoing rehab, chemo, surgery, treatments, recouping or just in need of our prayers.

The Women and Men of our Armed Forces who are working for World Peace

Family and Friends in Nursing and Health Care Facilities

World disaster victims



Our Sincere Condolences to the Recently Bereaved Families of:

Eloise Geruso



QSUMC Snow Cancellation Policy

Our church has to deal with several issues when bad weather arrives on Sunday morning. We have no on street parking and must have our parking lots clear. That's not always possible.

Our pastor needs to travel 14 miles round trip on dangerous roads to reach our church. Most of our parishioners travel several miles to get to our church.

QSUMC has developed the following snow closing policy. It's the same as last year. Tim Lagoe will check conditions at the church and consult with Pastor Ben on a final decision before 8:00 AM on Sunday morning.

Please call the Lagoe home (584-1812) after 8:00 AM if you think our church might need to close.

We all travel different roads and distances to get to church. If you feel the roads are too slippery, please stay home. We will miss you but would rather have you safe.

-----Tim Lagoe, Council Chair



December Choir Fest

The community choir fest, hosted by the Old Saratoga Reformed Church, as part of Schuylerville's Dutch Christmas weekend, was very well attended.

Several church choirs (including the choirs from Quaker Springs and Schuylerville UMCs) and other music groups performed. Their wonderful music warmed our hearts and put everyone into a Christmas spirit.

If you have never attended this wonderful ecumenical event, please consider going next year.

--Deb Lagoe



Piper Rane Dennis was born at 4:44AM on December 18th (weighing 5lbs. 12oz., 18 and 1/4 inches).

Parents: Matt and Amanda Dennis of Sharon Springs, NY

Grandparents: Don & Rose Ormsby of Schuylerville And Chuck & Dawn Dennis of Sharon Springs

Great Grandparents: Buella Waid of Sharon Springs Don & Peg Ormsby of Schuylerville

A Message From Our Pastor

A Year of Hope

Beloved in Christ,

Happy 2018 to you all. It seems that the past year has flown by. For many, 2017 has been a difficult year. The loss of loved ones, financial difficulties, and a plethora of political chaos has been taxing on our souls. In the midst of these struggles and more, we have our faith journey. For some, it may have felt that 2017 was a roller coaster ride of ups and downs while we walked in our faith.

However beloved church, be not dismayed. The ups and downs of life is nothing new for the children of God and we see many examples of this in the Holy Scriptures. It doesn't take long actually for us to find our first example, as we look at Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve were created in the midst of Paradise, the most perfect place on earth: Eden (I'm quite sure it doesn't get -20° there!). Shortly after enjoying the glory of Eden, the Fall happens; Adam and Eve are kicked out of Eden and face the world in all of its harshness. What a change of life for them! From walking alongside God to working the harsh earth, we can barely fathom what their struggle was like. Yet in the midst of their own difficulties Adam and Eve's faith in God remained. The struggles they now faced allowed for a new relationship with God, though it was different from what they enjoyed before when it was still good. For us in 2018, we may face a different relationship with others and with God. Yet in these changes God is inviting us into something new and Holy while remaining ever present and living within us.

As we venture further into the Scriptures, we see the entirety of the Prophets. From Amos, the first Old Testament prophet, to Malachi, the last Old Testament prophet, we see the roller coaster relationship between Israel, God's chosen people, and with God. Yet even when they were at their

worst, God sent prophets to speak truth into their lives. God was constantly reconciling His people to Himself. He is continuing to do that even now in 2018. That is our hope that we cling to. Thanks be to God that He hasn't given up on us nor is He finished yet.

May this year of 2018 be filled with hope for all of you. May you never forget how much God loves you and that God walks alongside us each and every step of the way.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Benjamin Lalka

Wesley's Prayer for the New Year

A new year is upon us. A time for new resolutions and new hopes. The founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley, constantly spoke to the point of improving one's self on course of Christian discipleship. May these words of John Wesley be our words as well.

*I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will,
rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing, put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,
exalted for you, or brought low for you;
let me be full,
let me be empty,
let me have all things,
let me have nothing:
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours. So be it.
And the covenant now made on earth, let it be
ratified in heaven.
Amen.*



Many Gifts, One Spirit

Nearly all of the hymns I've discussed in this column were written more than 100 years ago. Life was definitely tougher in the "good old days" and many of the authors and composers suffered great trials along the way. Their struggles made for interesting stories. Fortunately, many modern composers are producing wonderful religious music without enduring the tragedy and pain that has been described in many of the hymn articles in this series.

Al Carmine wrote "Many Gifts, One Spirit" in 1973. It's hymn # 114 in our hymnal. It's well liked because the lyrics and tune go well together. It's easy to sing and we can all agree on its message. Those lyrics take on a slightly deeper meaning when we learn a little bit more about their composer.

Al Carmine was born in 1936 and died of a brain aneurysm in 2005. His life was devoted to his ministry and theater. Carmine attended Swarthmore College with the goal of becoming a doctor. He felt a call to ministry and eventually entered Union Theological Seminary. Carmine's other passion was theater. He worked as a director, actor and composer.

He was invited to become an associate pastor of the Judson Memorial Church in Greenwich Village. Rev. Carmine was gay as was a large number of his congregation. The congregation wanted him to start an off Broadway theater group in the church.

The group earned critical acclaim and developed a reputation for hard, cutting edge Theater. It's safe to say that their material would not have played well in Schuylerville.

Carmine wrote many plays, songs and musicals. He wrote "Many Gifts, One Spirit" for the 9th Assembly of United Methodist Women. The lyrics take on a more concrete meaning when we consider the composers gay life style. Verse two is written below:

*God of many colors, God of many signs
You have made us different, blessing many kinds.
As the old ways disappear, let your love cast out
our fear.*

The hymns refrain can also be interpreted from Rev. Carmine's perspective.

*Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many
ways.
In our difference is blessing, from diversity we
praise one Giver,
One Lord, one Spirit, one word known in many
ways,
Hallowing our days. For the Giver, for the gifts,
praise, praise, praise.*

The next time we sing this hymn, think about the words. As Christians, do we really believe what we are singing? Can we overcome our own prejudice? If not, maybe we should just hum this one.

Sources: Al Carmine Obituary on the internet
UMW website (timeline)
Judson Memorial Church website

Tim Lagoe, Hymn Historian





Thank You for Your Support

I would like to thank everyone that helped support the Cub Scout program by buying my popcorn this year.

With your support **Pack 4013 of Schuylerville** was able to purchase a new Pinewood Derby track this year replacing the very old track that was falling apart and beyond repair.

If you would like to see the new track in action come to the Schuylerville American Legion on **Saturday, March 3rd between 10:00 and 2:00 and enjoy a day at the races.**

Thank you,
Tristan Stallone
Pack 4013 Webelos

Thank You received from the Shadow Of His Wings

QSUMC received a thank you and Christmas greetings from the James Project of Latin America for their support and contribution to the Shadow Of His Wings Orphanage.

This spring another mission team with members from our congregation will be returning to the orphanage. The mission team will be having fundraisers in January and February. Please consider giving your support by attending the upcoming fundraisers (Pasta dinner on January 27 and Potluck and auction on February 11). Please refer to other articles in this newsletter for more details about these fundraisers.

--Deb Lagoe

Hats off to our Sunday School Presentation

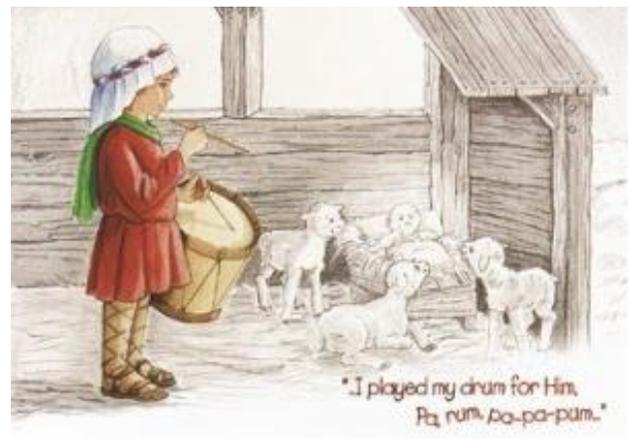
This year on Christmas Eve we had two Services. A daytime 9am and 12 hours later at 9pm a special service for Christmas Eve including Special Scripture, Communion and a Benediction of *Silent Night* with Candles for the whole congregation.

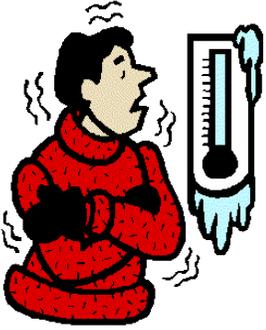
For the morning service Pastor Ben and the Worship committee decided that a service with a focus on music with a modified hymn sing and a song from the Sunday School would be a good idea.

Hats off to the Sunday School Class. They chose a quick video of the story of the *Little Drummer Boy*, followed by the singing of the story in song with each member beating the time on a drum. One or two were playing real instruments but most of them were made of old 3 lb. cans with plastic lids wrapped with Christmas paper.

What a wonderful rendition of the Little Drummer Boy. Alumni of our Sunday school, Alex Griffen, Mikhail Hailu, and Tristin Turner joined the singing along with Isaac Terrases, Levi Michaud, Luke Griffen, Natalie Hoffman, Elena Hoffman and their 2 year old cousin from Colorado. Everyone eyes were on Deb Lagoe as she kept the time and directed the congregation in the singing. Our Congregation broke into an enthusiastic applause.

- Marion Craine, Reporter





THANK YOU

Church in the BASEMENT!!!!

What a SURPRISE our December 31st church service was this past 2017.

We arrived and found a sign on the sanctuary door saying church in the basement as there was no heat upstairs. This was not a planned special service.

Fortunately, the basement furnace was functioning fine, (though it could have been warmer, the outside temperature was 3 above zero.). We were warm and had gathered around our dining tables. Pastor Ben didn't have a mike but we could hear him loud and clear throughout the service. Everyone sang all the songs with Donna Dodd Thomas leading us through all the verses.

Afterwards we continued visiting while having our usual coffee hour. How thankful we were for our beautiful redecorated walls, new insulated windows and of course, our beautiful new drop ceiling. Again, many thanks to our Trustees and congregation members who worked for the past two years to redo our dining area. We still hope to do more improvements of the cabinets and tables but what a wonderful job done right now.

God Bless and Happy New Years to all,

--Marion Craine

We would like to thank all those who supported our NY Mission Team to Guatemala Pampered Chef Fundraiser- our team made \$225.27 and our QSUMC Crock Potluck and Pound Auction Fundraiser for NY Mission Team to Guatemala held Friday, November 3rd 6-8:30 at American Legion Post #278.

Everyone went home with wonderful gifts, if not surprises and we raised \$1,290.00. We ran out of time and have some prizes left over, and I'm sure you received some wonderful holiday gifts perfect for re-gifting or can pick up a clearance item to gift. So,....

Sunday, February 11th, 2018 from 12-2:30 we will be holding another Auction and Crock Potluck Fundraiser at the Schuylerville United Methodist Church.

Scott Turner will be the Auctioneer

***Thank You for
Your Support***

New York Mission Team to Guatemala



Invites you to **Pasta with a Purpose!** **Benefit Dinner & Auction**

Meal prepared by our own Mike Mcloughlin and Linda Campbell.

Ziti & Meatballs
Green Salad
Italian Bread
Dessert
Drink



Saturday, January 27th, 2018

4:00 to 6:00 PM

American Legion Post #278
6 Clancy Street
Schuylerville, NY 12871

\$10.00 per plate for all ages

Take-outs available

Only 160 tickets sold

For more information or tickets:

See Scott & Connie Turner @
518-421-4851/4825;
Mike Mcloughlin @ 518-932-2219;
Linda Campbell @ 518-232-6952

We are also collecting old suitcases and school supplies to bring to Shadow of His Wings Orphanage.

4TH ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, February 3rd 2018
10AM -4PM

The 4th annual Craft Fair sponsored by the Friends of Pack 4013 will be held at the American Legion Post #278, 6 Clancy Street, Schuylerville, NY 12871.

This event features 25 homemade artisans & crafters, silent auction, homemade soups and stew with rolls and desert made by the pack families. This is an incredible event to support your local scouting program, local business & artisans.

Please join us for some shopping, fun and fellowship. The NY Mission Team to Guatemala will have a table at the craft fair to sell handmade items, please stop by to see us. If you have handmade items you would like to donate for us to sell- we will be happy to provide your business cards with your items as well.

Items left over after our sale will be grouped and wrapped to add to our Auction and Crock Potluck Fundraiser on February 11th.

Ecumenical Lenten Services

The Greater Schuylerville community is blessed to be able to take part in these ecumenical services. There are few communities that offer this unique type of worship services during Lent or any other time of year.

These services not only provide the attendees with an inspiring message and spiritually rewarding worship service but also a time of great fellowship with members of our community. Please consider attending a service. Dates and location for these services are not yet available, please check bulletin for information as it becomes available.

Deb Lagoe

Quaker Springs & Schuylerville United Methodist Church's & NY Mission Team to Guatemala presents...

Auction and Crock Potluck Fundraiser

Please join us for a fun evening and support our Mission Team,

Sunday, February 11th, 2018

12-2:30 pm

**Schuylerville United Methodist Church
51 Church Street
Schuylerville, New York 12871**

Scott Turner will be the Auctioneer



Aids Orphan Education Trust Mission Trip

February 9th through 25th, 2018, **Tristan Turner** will be going on an AOET (Aids Orphan Education Trust) mission trip serving along with fourteen friends from Saratoga area to Uganda, Africa. AOET is a Christian organization that seeks to empower communities to be able to care and provide for the many children who live there and who have been orphaned or made vulnerable as a result of the HIV/AIDS crisis.

While in Bugembe, Uganda, his group will be participating in projects revolving around building improvements, providing medical care, and sharing experiences and skills with the students and sponsored children.

Please continue to pray for Tristan during this trip and upon his return. He will be eager to share with you the events from his trip and how his life has changed. You can find out more and follow Tristan on:
<https://www.facebook.com/SaratogaSupportsAOETUganda/>

Thank you for being part of Tristan's missionary

- Each person brings at least one wrapped or bagged gift valued between \$15-\$20 dollars and a dish to pass.
- Have fun gathering a group of similar items, or add a small gift to a gift card.
- Have fun decorating the gift- an oversize box for a very small present, or wrap boxes within boxes to increase anticipation. You get the idea!
- Please consider donating wrapped auction gifts for children valued around \$2-3 dollars.
- As you arrive place your item on the display table
- Potential bidders can examine the items and speculate on what they contain.
- Please feel free to pick gifts up and shake them before the bidding.
- Mark gifts that cannot be shaken.
- Guessing the contents is much of the fun. Surprise gifts valued over \$25 will be included.
- We will begin the auction promptly at 1 PM. Everyone will open their item in front of the group.

QSUMC 2018 Officers & Teams

Lay Member to Conference Linda Campbell
Lay Leader Linda Campbell
Certified Lay Speakers Linda Campbell
Connie Turner
Church Council Chair Tim Lagoe
Treasurer of Current Expense Tim Lagoe
Financial Secretary Bob Greenfeld
Treasurer of Benevolence Mary Jo Michaud
Recording Secretary Deb Lagoe
Membership Secretary Laurie Griffen
Nominations & Personnel Committee: Linda Campbell,
Marion Craine, Donna Dodd Thomas

Staff/Pastor/Parish Relations Committee:
Donna Dodd-Thomas (Chair), Deb Lagoe, Khail Hailu
Mike McLoughlin, Linda Campbell (Lay Leader)

Trustees: Dave Hoffman, John Roby, Bob Greenfeld,
Scott Turner, Mike McLoughlin

Worship Committee: Pastor Ben Lalka (Chair),
Linda Campbell, Marion Craine, Jennifer Hoffman,
Alyssa Lalka, Deb Lagoe

Cemetery Committee: Mike McLoughlin (Chair), Bonnie
Greenfeld, Deb Lagoe, Bill Lagoe

Christian Education: Jennifer Hoffman (Chair), Laurie
Griffen, Margaret Nolan, Sharon Roby, Connie Turner

Stewardship Committee: Paul Griffen (Chair), Tim
Lagoe, Bob Greenfeld, Mary Jo Michaud, Steve Griffen

Revive & Thrive: Deb Lagoe (Chair), Linda Campbell,
Donna Dodd-Thomas, Gini Griffen, Dave Hoffman
Jennifer Hoffman

Membership Committee: Linda Campbell, Bill Lagoe,
Yared Hailu

Safe Sanctuaries Committee: Dave Hoffman, Linda
Campbell, John Roby

Messenger Newsletter: Deb Lagoe (Editor), Linda
Campbell, Marion Craine, Bonnie Greenfeld

Altar Presenter: Barb Hailu

Communications/Web Master: Bill Lagoe

SUMC 2018 Officers & Teams

Lay Member to Conference Richard Larmon
Lay Leader Stan Barber
Certified Lay Speakers Stan Barber
Richard Larmon
Basic Lay Speakers Tom Bushnell
Tary Bushnell
Phoebe Fontaine
Sue Harrington
Church Council Chair Pat Poirier
Treasurer of Current Expense Amanda Medick
Financial Secretary Pat Poirier
Treasurer of Benevolence Donna Barber
Recording Secretary Robin Nevins
Membership Secretary Phoebe Fontaine
Nominations & Personnel Committee: Skip Weed,
Tena Flanders, Donna Barber, Phoebe Fontaine

Staff/Pastor/Parish Relations Committee: Sue
Harrington, Phoebe Fontaine, Tena Flanders,
Stan Barber (Lay Leader)

Trustee: Trisha Brandon, Sue Harrington,
Richard Larmon, Bill Schutz, Todd Kehley, Skip Weed

Worship Committee: Pastor Ben Lalka (Chair),
Brad Allen, Tary Bushnell, Sue Harrington, Alyssa Lalka,
Pat Poirier, Betty Polmateer, Skip Weed

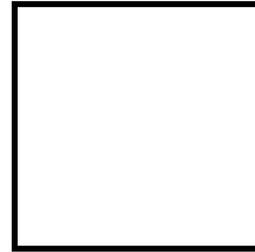
Christian Education: TBA (chair), Trisha Brendon, Teresa
Clothier, Nellie Dumas, Sandy Ernst,
Tena Flanders, Sue Harrington, Marikate Barber,
Morgan Flanders, Skye Hayes

Membership Committee: Betty Larmon Phoebe
Fontaine Robin Nevins Mary Ann Schutz

Safe Sanctuaries Committee: Tena Flanders

The Messenger
A Joint Newsletter of the
Schuylerville & Quaker Springs
United Methodist Churches
51 Church Street & 466 Route 32 South
Schuylerville, New York, 12871

Published six times yearly



First Class Postage

The Rev. Ben Lalka
Phone: 695-3101
Cell: (518)779-5991
Email: pastorbenlalka@gmail.com

January/February 2018

Morning Worship & Sunday School:

9:00 am in Quaker Springs

11:00 am in Schuylerville

The Messenger Staff:

EDITOR: Deb Lagoe

WEB PAGE EDITOR: Bill Lagoe

(www.qsumc.com)

WEB PAGE EDITOR: Skip Weed

(<http://www.sumethodist.org>)

REPORTER, SUMC: Phoebe Fontaine

REPORTERS, QS: Linda Campbell,

Bonnie Greenfeld, Connie Turner, Marion Craine, &

Deb Lagoe

HYMN HISTORIAN: Tim Lagoe

QSUMC HISTORIAN: Tim Lagoe

PUBLICATION: Jean Wisley &
Sue Harrington

PASTOR: Rev. Ben Lalka