

JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 2017

Greetings and Happy New Year!



How and When Do We Get a New Minister?

There have been a number of questions and concerns as why we don't have a new minister yet. We will try our best to shed some light on this.

We have two denominations that we work through alternately. Rev Susan was hired through the Methodist this last time so we are, according to our by-laws, to use the Presbytery way of getting a minister this time.

We have asked for interested people of the congregation to sign up and to be a part of the search committee for this process. If you would like to be a part of this committee please see Larry Eckhardt or Bev Westfall for more information. It is not too late. You do not have to be a member to be a part of this process.

Presbytery will work with us in this search and will give us more information on Jan15th when they come for our annual meeting. This is as far in the process that we are. This will take time, but we are doing our best to move it along.

In the mean time the worship committee has taken on the roll of finding guest speakers for each Sunday. Our services will continue as they have in the past with some minor changes here and there as we go along.

As always, we appreciate your support through your attendance, your giving, your prayers and your committee work where possible. We will keep you updated on the status of our new minister. We will also attempt to send weekly or bi-weekly emails on who the guest speakers are for each Sunday.

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will take place on January 15, 2017 following the Sunday morning church service. Everyone is welcome to attend the reviewing of the year 2016 and the previewing of the upcoming year 2017. Packets of group reports, budget and agenda will be available January 8th following church that day.

The Stephentown Federated Church Men's Group

Spring 2017 Schedule of Events

Please join us for breakfast – first Sunday of every month until June. We re-started again in October. Gather with us for good food and great fellowship.

The 2017 schedule is:

***January 8, 2017*..... Breakfast at 8:00am. We will be meeting one week later than usual because the first Sunday is New Years Day**

February 5, 2017..... Breakfast at 8:00am Final planning for Turkey Dinner

February 25, 2017..... Annual Friends and Family Turkey Dinner

March 5, 2017..... Breakfast at 8:00am.

April 2, 2017..... Breakfast at 8:00am.

April 16, 2017..... Breakfast after the Easter Sunrise Service

May 7, 2017..... Breakfast at 8:00am Discussion of Spring clean-up activities

June 4, 2017..... All Church Breakfast – Everyone come and join us for a really big breakfast meal! This is the last breakfast meeting 'till fall! 8:00am

Fifteenth Annual Church Dinner

You are cordially invited to join your church family and friends for fellowship and a delicious Turkey meal with all the trimmings!!!

Mashed potatoes, stuffing, squash, peas and carrots, and our famous Homemade pies!!

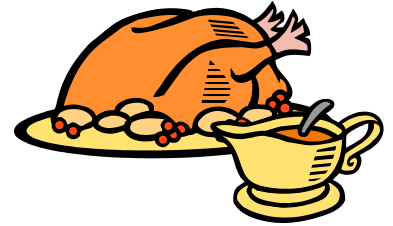
When: Saturday February 25, 2017

Time: 5:00 to 7:30 pm

Where: Stephentown Federated Church Hall

Who: You and Our church family and all our friends

Goodwill offering only – Sponsored by the Men's Breakfast Group.



NOTE!!!

We are again asking for donations of pies for dessert, and if anyone would like to donate a turkey to be cooked by someone else or if you would donate and cook a turkey – please contact Larry Eckhardt, Paul McMillan or Ted Bears. Let us know what you'd like to cook or donate or both. Any questions, contact Larry Eckhardt.



Church Facebook Page

Arlene Longo is our official facebook person with support from Helen Wallbank and Mary Schnyer will support her. Please give any information you'd like posted to Arlene.

SonShiners

Happy New Year!

On our first meeting of the new year we will hold elections and do some preliminary planning for fund raising in 2017.

Meetings at 8am (Bring a dish to share):

January 15th

February 19th

March 19th Breakfast at IOKA FARM All are invited! 8 am

Hope to see you there. Open to anyone in the church or community!



“Souper Bowl” Sunday

Sunday, February 5th we will be collecting food and donations for the Food Pantry as we celebrate the Super Bowl. Bring your items to church to show your support!



Christmas Letter Response

The response to the Christmas letter was outstanding \$2500! We so appreciate everyone who so generously contributed toward the general fund of the church.

Recordings of the Sermon

For those of you wishing to hear our services, you will find them at our website: www.stephentownfederatedchurch.org. Each service will be posted on the website sometime later in the day Sunday or Monday as soon as our webmaster uploads them.



Phone Contacts

New phones have been donated to the church since the old ones stopped working. Joanne Hennig is setting them up with a message that was approved by General Committee. Joanne will be able to dial in and monitor and deal with any messages. If you have an urgent need, please contact any member of the General Committee or leave a message on the phone at 518-733-5813. It will be answered in a timely manner.



Our choir continues to meet in January at 6:15 p.m. on Thursdays. Since in February we will not have our regular rehearsal, we plan to meet on Sunday, February 5, 12, 19 & 26 at 8:30 a.m. for an early rehearsal.

We are starting to work on music for the Lenten and Easter season. We are always open to anyone who would like to sing with us.

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Choir Rehearsal Feb 5,12,19,26 8:30 a.m. Service 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour 10:30 a.m. Mar 19th Breakfast Ioka 8 a.m.	NO Prayer Group Jan/Feb	9:30 a.m. Heavenly Quilters				9:00- 11:00 a.m. Food Pantry
Annual Meeting Jan 15th	7:00 p.m. Gen Com 4th week of month Jan 23 Feb 27		6:00 p.m. AA	JAN -Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m. No Rehearsal in FEB		Turkey Dinner Feb 25 5 p.m.

Each month: 1st Sunday ---Communion - open to all
2nd Sunday---Hymn Sing at beginning of service
3rd Sunday---Healing Theme
2nd and 4th Sunday---Contemporary Service
Visual screen used for readings and hymns
5th Sunday---Surprise!



ANNUAL MEETING Jan 15th after church



Friends & Family Turkey Dinner Feb 25 at 5 p.m.

SonShiner's Breakfast at IOKA FARM Mar 19^h 8 a.m.

