

**Christ Church is Making Connections & Offering Opportunities for Faith,
Love & Service**

Weekly Update - April 11

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226

A Word From Pastor Daven

Reaching

Reading through an article* recently shared with me on the resurrection, it highlighted the dramatic change in history wrought by this event. This was more than a recounting of the historic rise of Christianity, however. The article highlighted how resurrection represented an “evolutionary leap” in the human condition. This was not only in the direct encounters with those first witnesses, but namely how radically it changed those who embraced it. The world changed through these believers because their worldview was altered by the resurrection. They thought about themselves, their roles and responsibilities, and their future differently.

While we remain in this season of Easter still encountering the stories of the Risen Christ, has this become true for us? Do our lives proclaim that we have been witnesses to a truth which may be unexplainable but nonetheless true? Have we opened ourselves to the change that we are invited to be part of when we embrace the resurrection? Has our sense of our roles, responsibilities and future changed? Do we collectively reach for something beyond, ever beyond?

“I have told you these things so that My joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.” John 15:11. Let us reach that our joy may flow and overflow into the world through our lives which witness to something inexplicable but true. Christ is Risen!

-Pastor Daven

*George Weigel *The Easter Effect* in The Wall Street Journal
Saturday/Sunday, March 31 - April 1, 2018

New Members

Are you interested in membership? Pastor Daven is looking to connect with those interested in church membership in the next couple of weeks between services. Even if you are exploring, but not yet sure, this is a great opportunity to learn more about membership and the ways to make connections and opportunities available at Christ Church. Please make sure to let him know by expressing interest on your Connection Card on Sunday or emailing the church office: cumc350@gmail.com.

Daily Bible Reading – 2018 Shaping Our Life Experience

Excerpts from both the Old and New Testament are included each day. This is a great way to support your ongoing growth in faith and the Christ Church community as well.

April 11: 1 Samuel 7-9; Luke 13:1-21

April 12: 1 Samuel 10-12; Luke 13:22-35

April 13: 1 Samuel 13-14; Luke 14:1-24

April 14: 1 Samuel 15-16; Luke 14:25-35

April 15: 1 Samuel 17-18; Luke 15:1-10

April 16: 1 Samuel 19-21; Luke 15:11-32

April 17: 1 Samuel 22-24; Luke 16:1-18

In Our Prayers

Joy! Over \$300 was given on Sunday to provide seed money for Make A Difference Day on May 20!

In Our Healing Prayers

Greg Mailken

Ed & Cindy Fisher

Bob & Marcia Snyder

Dennis Scaringi, Sue Estee, Lois Lewis, Janet Hill, Lisa Lawson, Jean Ericson, Kevin

Cetola, Sissie Mooney, Peter Shanley

*Those who are **care partners** with others

*Pray for Chris Maliken, Lindsey Darling & Ian Johnson serving in the US Navy

This Week at Christ Church

Church Office:

Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 5 pm,

Tues. & Thurs. – 9am to Noon

Wednesday, April 11 - 10:30am - Stewardship Team

7pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 12 - 10am- Visitation Team

7pm - Hospitality Team

Friday, April 13 - *Caller Deadline*

Saturday, April 14- 10am - UMW General Meeting & Breakfast

Sunday, April 15 -

9 am - Casual Praise Service

10 am - FaithXpress for Children

10 am - a.o.l. (Adult Opportunities for Learning)

11 am - Traditional Worship Service

Supervised Child Care, Sky Box and Family Worship Space available

*Visit the **Café Connection** each Sunday morning and enjoy delicious, fair trade, **New Day Coffee**, morning treats and friendly conversation.*

Office Manager Janelle Martin will be out of the office April 12-17. There will be office coverage Thursday, Monday, and Tuesday from 9am-Noon. Thank you for your understanding.

Do you want to **make a difference?**

Food Pantries

Share food and personal care items through local food pantries - Tiger's Den & the Food Pantry at University Presbyterian Church.

Canned Fruits, Rice, Toilet Paper, Cooking Oil.

A freezer is available for your meat donations.

Please help us fill up our carts!!! Tiger's Den is always in need of: pasta (not spaghetti), cereal (not Cheerios), box meals (not mac & cheese), rice, and toilet paper.

Native American Ministries Sunday - April 15

A Special Sunday offering will be received during worship on Sunday, April 15, in honor of Native American Ministries Sunday. Gifts made will encourage aspiring leaders within the Native American community, educate seminarians, and empower outreach within the Native American culture.

Save the Date!

Make A Difference Day will take place on **Sunday, May 20!** Project sign-ups have begun - check out the bulletin board in the back of the worship space for a listing of projects and serving opportunities on that day!

A.O.L. @ CUMC (Adult Opportunities for Learning)

10 a.m. - Wesley Room - Sunday Mornings

How do we live as Christians in a time of polarization in our culture? "Seeing Gray in a

World of Black & White" is a book and video resource by United Methodist Pastor Adam Hamilton. We will explore scripture, the traditions of the United Methodist Church, and experience as people of faith to think about important issues of our time. Facilitated by David Pliss. Books now available. (donation toward \$13 cost of book if possible)

Exploring Sunday Scriptures

Every **Tuesday at Noon, beginning April 24**, Pastor Daven will lead a time exploring the upcoming Sunday's Scripture. This will provide context to the Scripture(s) being explored and ultimately enrich the experience of worship itself. All are welcome anytime!

Wednesday Morning Prayer

This Lenten discipline will be continued weekly every **Wednesday at 10 a.m., starting April 19**. Pastor Daven will lead a brief time of morning prayer, which employs a ritual of plain chant, Scripture readings, and prayers specific to the day. All are welcome anytime!

United Methodist Women General Meeting

Saturday, April 14, 10:00 a.m. in the Café

Program: Sacred Spaces – Caring for God's Creation

Cost: \$5.00

Hosts: Elizabeth Circle will be serving a delicious breakfast!

ALL are welcome!

For reservations, please contact Paula Kreib at 725-6067 or snowflake.paula@gmail.com.

Youth Opportunity

Calling all young people – would you like to learn how to use a sewing machine or crochet? You are invited to join the Crafting for a Cause group on **Saturday, April 21** at 10 a.m. Our first project will be making potholders for Mother's Day gifts. Please contact Diane Klenk (651-0236) or Lee Watson (837-0589) if you're able to join in!

Earth Day is Sunday, April 22!

Next **Sunday, April 22nd**, Christ Church will observe Earth Day. With Rev. Oskvig, we will consider, “Is Christianity Good News for the Environment?” We will explore this question during worship at 9:00 and 11:00 and Education Hour at 10:00.

Circle of Joy, Community Youth Group, and our friends at Millersport Day Habilitation Services have created 6”X6” artwork to raise funds for Farm Sanctuary in Watkins Glen. On Earth Day, Sunday, April 22nd, for a minimum donation of \$5.00, you may select a piece and support the efforts of Farm Sanctuary to care for creation and end abuse of farm animals. These would make great Mother’s Day gifts!

Consider, if you are able, walking, biking, carpooling or using alternative transportation on April 22nd. Also, our friends at Congregation Shir Shalom ([4660 Sheridan Drive, Williamsville](http://www.shirshalom.org)) are hosting an earth day event “Protecting God’s Creation: Divesting Ourselves of Fossil Fuels” beginning at 4:30pm on the 22nd.

Be on the lookout for a surprise from the Stewardship Team on Earth Day!

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Fashions

On **Saturday, May 5**, from Noon – 2p.m., United Methodist Women of Christ Church will host a fashion show by TJ Maxx and a taco bar luncheon to raise funds for UMW missions. All are welcome! This would make a great Mother’s Day gift! Cost is \$15. Tickets will be on sale in the Café after both services on Sunday. Help is needed to make this event a success! Look for sign-up sheets in the Café. Thank you!

Choral Concert - May 7

The Bethel College Choir from Mishawaka, Indiana will perform a concert of choral music, under the direction of Dr. Jeshua Franklin, at Christ Church on **Monday, May 7, at 7pm** as part of their 2018 concert tour. We are fortunate to have the opportunity to host this fine collegiate choral institution of 40 voices! We need to provide a potluck supper at the church on the 7th, and also offer housing for the students on that Monday night. ***If you are willing to contribute to the supper or host two or more students for the night, please contact Paul Staley or sign-up on the Connection Card.***

Wednesday Workshops at Christ Church
“Sound Strategies for Your Future”

Join us on Wednesdays as we partner with Allaire Financial Strategies for free community workshops. Use the Connection Card on Sunday or contact the church office to register for each workshop: 839-2460 -or- cumc350@gmail.com.

Wednesday, April 18 – 2 p.m.

“Social Security Basics – 7 Keys to Enhancing Benefits”

Wednesday, April 25 – 7 p.m.

“Managing Life’s Transitions – College Planning Essentials”

Wednesday, May 2 – 7 p.m.

“Identity Theft & Data Security”

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Wednesday, May 9

6:30 – 8:00 pm

Keith O’Neil

“Under My Helmet”- Tackling Mental Health Issues
*Former NFL Player and Mental Health Advocate
speaks about his journey with bipolar*



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**Wednesdays, May 16 & 23**

**5:30 – 7:00 pm**

“Bridges of Hope”

A soup & bread supper will be served. Chaplain Daryl Bennett offers information & resources to faith groups about mental illness & the role of faith communities.

*\*Assistance is needed with set-up, clean-up, providing soups, and donating bread. Please call Daryl (380-6706) or sign up to help on your Connection Card.*

**Church Office Hours:**

Monday -Wednesday- Friday, 9 am to 5 pm

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am to Noon

**SUNDAY AT CHRIST CHURCH**

Casual Praise Worship at 9 am

Traditional Worship at 11 am

Education Hour at 10 am