

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

Weekly Update - April 24, 2019

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226



A Word From Pastor Daven

About the time you receive this, I will be winging my way to Iowa, looking upon the patchwork of land thousands of feet below. I will be returning to my spiritual birthplace in the sense of the church and baptismal font where my Christian journey began and the place which the people I draw my heritage from call home.

I go to say goodbye to the last of my relatives of a generation, in this case my grandmother. And I find there to be a poignant connection between her funeral and my spiritual birthplace. Led through the waters of grace in baptism, my faith tells me the grave is not the end. We go through these experiences for closure, to say goodbye, to be with family, but also because these moments are the ones to which our faith speaks most directly. As Christ comes and proclaims peace to the disciples in resurrection appearances, so these times of worship provide the same for us. We listen and find Jesus offering us peace, gifting us with the Holy Spirit, and sending us to share this with the world.

And so while filled with sadness at my loss, it is balanced with joy. I remember my baptism and am thankful. I hear Jesus offering peace and the Holy Spirit reminding me of all he said and taught as the words of resurrection hymns fill my head and heart.

"Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair. Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare. Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend; Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end. Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same. Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain. Tell its grim, demonic chorus, "Christ is risen! Get you gone!" God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!"
(UMH #307)



Daily Bible Reading – 2019

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 24: 2 Samuel 10-12; Luke 19:29-48

April 25: 2 Samuel 13-14; Luke 20:1-26

April 26: 2 Samuel 15-16; Luke 20:27-47

April 27: 2 Samuel 17-18; Luke 21:1-19

April 28: 2 Samuel 19-20; Luke 21:20-38

April 29: 2 Samuel 21-22; Luke 22:1-30

April 30: 2 Samuel 23-24; Luke 22:31-53

In Sympathy

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Dick Radel and the Radel Family. **Judy Radel** died yesterday, April 23. A memorial service is being planned for Saturday, May 4 at Christ Church.

We also extend our sympathy and prayers to **The Oskvig Family**. Pastor Daven's grandmother died last week.

In Our Healing Prayers

Kathy Weaver - in the hospital

Karen Phillips - recovering from hip replacement

The Radel Family, The Oskvig Family, Carolyn Flynn, Virginia 'Ginny' Molin, Helen Peacock, Joyce Moser, Bob Varian, Jan Rhinehart, Harold Weaver, Lynne Beller, Janet Hill, Sissie Mooney, Mary Jane Shanley, Bruce Burr, Sue Estee, Frank Annunziata, Jean Ericson, Kevin Cetola

*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 24 - 7pm- Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 25 - 1pm- 'Thirstaid' Thursday
7pm- Hospitality Team

Friday, April 26 - *Office Closed*
7pm- Game Night

Sunday, April 28 - **10am - Worship Service**
11am- Education Hour & Fellowship

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.

Do you want to
make a
difference?

Food & Supplies Needed for Local Families

In addition to the food that goes to local food pantries, Christ Church serves local families in need. The following items are needed:

cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper, personal hygiene products, deodorant, and soap. The Tiger's Den is collecting **tuna fish, juice, and canned fruit** (*not fruit cocktail*) in April. Collecting carts at Christ Church are marked for Tiger's Den Food Pantry and for local families.

Make A Difference Day

Make a Difference Day is Sunday, May 19!

Sign-ups have begun! Check out project listings on the bulletin board in the Family Room and in Sunday's bulletin. A FREE shredding truck will be available for safe destruction of documents, and a Bloodmobile from the American Red Cross will be on-site.



Exploring Sunday Scriptures

Every **Tuesday at Noon**, Pastor Daven leads 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!

Thirstaid Thursdays

You are invited to join in 'Thirstaid' Thursdays
each Thursday at 1 p.m. in the Wesley Room!

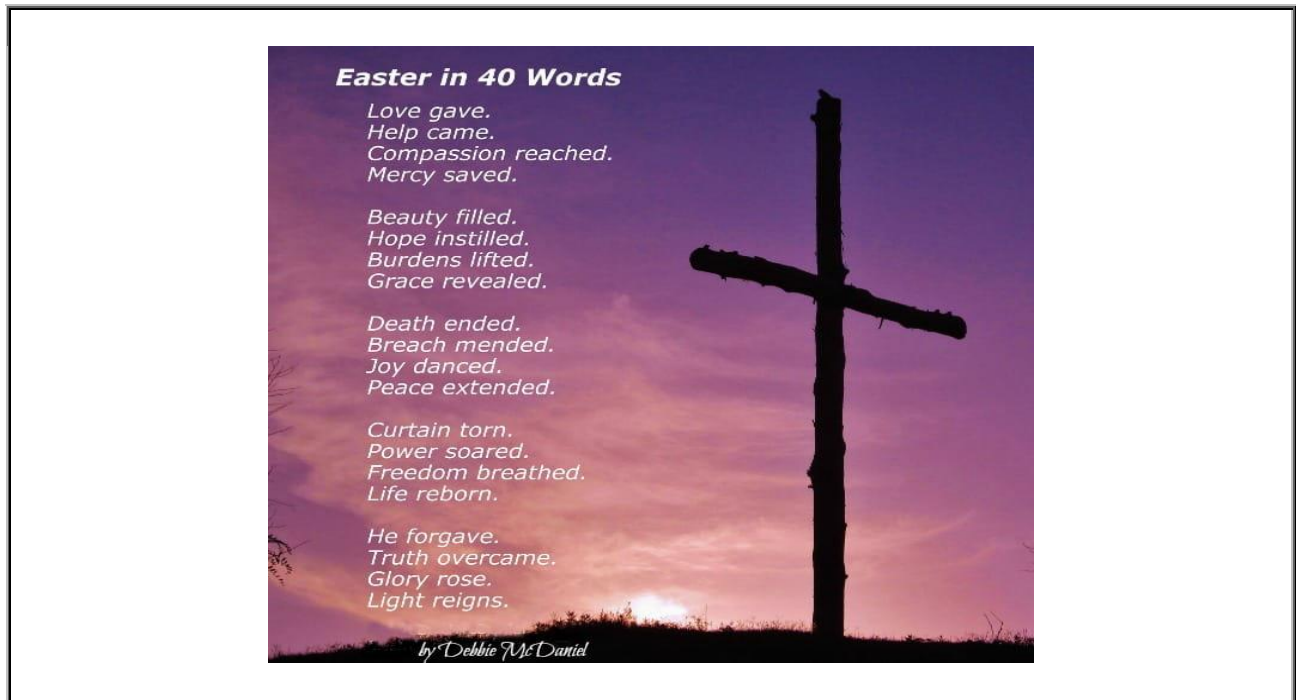
"Hope When Your Heart Breaks (Navigating Grief and Loss)"

Facilitators: Pastor Daven, Peggy Bermudez, Dr. David Pliss

We'll look at how life experiences challenge us and how God powerfully uses the gifts of prayer, presence, and witness to move us and others through these times to thrive again.

Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra

The GBYO, a group of talented students who rehearse at Christ Church each week, will be performing a side-by-side concert with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. The concert will be held at Kleinhans Music Hall on Sunday, April 28 at 2:30p.m. All are welcome to attend this free concert!



Church Office Hours:

Monday -Wednesday- Friday, 9 am to 5 pm

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am to Noon

SUNDAYS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Worship at 10 am

Educational Opportunities at 11 am