

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

Weekly Update - August 29

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226

A Word From Pastor Daven

How Can I Keep from Singing

I am notorious for not knowing the words to popular songs. I get most of them right, but have enough wrong that I find myself corrected time and again or encouraged to learn them before I start belting out the hits. But I like to sing. And my time behind the wheel is often a time to let my voice carry to the heavens in joy.

Part of the mark of Christians from the earliest of days and of those called Methodists was their willingness and desire to sing of their faith. I know not everyone is a singer. But I do believe that all of us carry the joy of song within our hearts. Even when we don't sing or play an instrument, we find other ways in faith to sing out our joy in the Lord.

We don't need to have all the words right. It's about having that joy in our hearts and sharing it with the words we do have and seeking forgiveness when we don't get them all right or hit the wrong notes (in what we say or don't say, in what we do or don't do). I think they might be expressed best in the hymn of Robert Lowry, a song to carry upon your heart.

“How Can I Keep from Singing”

My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]

What though my joys and comforts die?
I know my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth. [Refrain]

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]

Sunday Worship

Beginning **September 9, 2018**, worship will take place at **10 AM on Sunday mornings** with fellowship, FaithXpress, and other opportunities directly following the conclusion of the worship service.

This worship experience will use the format and style of what has been offered in the late worship service. The Worship Strategy Team will continue to meet through 2018 for continued conversation and recommendations concerning this single Sunday worship experience along with the potential of any additional seasonally-specific, unique, or ongoing complements to this primary worship witness on Sunday morning.

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.

August 29: Psalms 139-141; 1 Corinthians 10

August 30: Psalms 142-144; 1 Corinthians 10:14-33

August 31: Psalms 145-147; 1 Corinthians 11:1-15

September 1: Psalms 148-150; 1 Corinthians 11:16-34

September 2: Proverbs 1-2; 1 Corinthians 12

September 3: Proverbs 3-4; 1 Corinthians 13

September 4: Proverbs 5-6; 1 Corinthians 14:1-20

In Our Healing Prayers

Janet Hill - in rehab at ECMC

**Ann Burdette, Pam Elberson, Frank Annunziata, Michele Sciolino, Mary Jane Shanley,
Robert Nachbar, Bob Varian, Lois Lewis, Jean Ericson, Kevin Cetola, Sissie Mooney**

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

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



Pictorial Directory

We will continue to take pictures of families and individuals after each service for the first couple of Sundays in September. We are also seeking updated contact information from everyone for a new in-house pictorial directory.

Come this Sunday ready with your best smile!

This Week at Christ Church

Church Office (Summer):

Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 3 pm,

Tues. & Thurs. – 9am to Noon

Friday, August 31 - 7pm- Game Night

Saturday, September 1 **1pm- Memorial Service:**
Dorothy Hanson Brown

Sunday, September 2 - 9 am - Casual Praise Service
11 am - Traditional Worship

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.*

[Fall Calendar](#)

Fall is coming! **ALL** church groups must submit an updated schedule of their meetings for the fall/winter to Janelle in the church office (cumc350@gmail.com). This will ensure an accurate church calendar as we welcome both church and community groups into our building this fall.

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 **Spam, canned Spaghetti-Os & Ravioli** in September. Collecting carts at Christ Church are marked for Tiger's Den Food Pantry and for local families.

Uganda School Update

A big **THANK YOU** to all who generously gave to help with the school project in Nabukondo, Uganda! The students at Pastor Israel's school are now able to study and learn in a safer, less distracting environment. Thanks to the funds given through the Second Sunday, Second Helping Offering and the matching gift challenge, our friend Rev. Davis Matovu was able to coordinate the pouring of a concrete floor in the school building (no more dirt floors!) and division of the classrooms to eliminate distractions and

noise between the rooms.

Rev. Davis writes: "I would love to again thank you very much for making this phase a reality. We did not think that this milestone could be achieved at a time like this and even the fundraising was entirely your own initiative. Our thanks to all the members of the church who have made this possible."

Spiritual Formation Opportunities

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!

NEW "Thirstaid Thursdays"

This new group will meet every **Thursday** beginning **September 13th** from **1 – 2:30 p.m.** in the Wesley Room. All are welcome to come for a weekly serving of "Thirstaid" to satisfy our spirits as we explore a variety of themes with different facilitators. First up: Diane Klenk will guide "Bad Girls of the Bible" from September 13 – October 4. With humor and candor, we'll take a look at what we can learn from the lives of these women. Books can be purchased for \$12 following Sunday's worship services.

**Got broken, chipped or unwanted dishes you'd like to give away? We'll
take them!!**

We're looking for colorful china or pottery pieces to be used in a breaking and remaking project for FaithXpress. Bring your items to the church office by **September 23**. Contact Kay Barber with questions (634-6987).

United Methodist Women Breakfast Gathering

All are welcome to come for a breakfast gathering on **Saturday, September 8**, from 10 – 11:30a.m. in the Café. Guest Speaker Barbara Blackburn will present “Biblical Tea Thyme- Herbs of the Bible”. Rachel Circle will host and cost is \$5. Please call Grace Markello (204-8696) for reservations.

Women's Weekend

October 5-7, 2018

All women are welcome to join us for Vita Abbondante! Our Women's Weekend will be held from October 5-7 at the United Methodist House at Chautauqua Institution. Inspired by John 10:10, Chaplain Daryl Bennett will guide us as we explore ways to live more fully by caring for our bodies, minds, and spirits. Cost is \$90 and includes 2 nights and 4 meals. To reserve your place, please sign up on the poster in the Café. Checks may be made payable to UMW and placed in the UMW mail slot near the church office.

Church Office Hours (Summer):

Monday -Wednesday- Friday, 9 am to 3 pm

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am to Noon

SUNDAY AT CHRIST CHURCH

Casual Praise Worship at 9 am

Traditional Worship at 11 am