



Christ United Methodist Church - Amherst, NY

"Making Connections & Offering Opportunities for Faith, Love & Service"

## Weekly Update - August 7

### Packing Light

About the time this goes out, our travel will be complete and we will have begun immersing ourselves in The Magic Kingdom. The countdown to the trip began ages ago, planning and booking in further back, and packing even stretching up to a week prior to departure. All this can make it feel inevitable, somehow, that we will forget or overlook something.

I guess I should take heart in what we explored this past Sunday, that it's not about being prepared but about being present. Remind me of that when that one essential thing is missing among all these bags we have ... (did I pack the charging cord for my phone???) It's the people we are with, those who we encounter, and the memories we make that are the most important and most remembered part of any such experience.

We never encounter in the stories of Jesus' ministry mention of the material goods they traveled with. The stories are all about people. And this is the lesson for all of us, too. When we fret and stew over the packing, on what we brought and what we forgot, on what we will bring back with us and a host of similar questions, we will miss the greatest experience. Maybe that is encouragement to us all to pack light for the journey ahead.

-Pastor Daven

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## *Ways 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 **condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, syrup), flour, sugar, oil, and salt** during the summer. They also request **paper bags** and **reusable shopping bags (NOT plastic bags)** to pack groceries.

Collecting carts at Christ Church are marked for Tiger's Den Food Pantry and for local families.

### **Painting Fund Matching Gift**

A matching gift of up to \$5,000 has been offered for the painting and renewal of Crafts Hall! Gifts can be mailed, dropped off in the office, or placed in the offering plate on Sunday, with checks made to Christ United Methodist Church and "Painting Fund" on the memo line. We've received **\$3,890** so far - thank you for your generosity in helping to update and beautify our shared spaces!

## *This Week at Christ Church*

*SUMMER Church Office Hours:*

*Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 3 pm,*

*Thurs. – 9am to Noon*

### **Friday, August 9**

- 3:30pm- Wedding Rehearsal

### **Sunday, August 11**

- 10am - **Worship Service** *Guest Preacher: Rev. Gregg Stierheim*
- **1:30pm - Wedding: Steven Sahlem & Theresa Fitzgerald**

*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.*

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**JOY!** Thank you to Lianne Oskvig for blessing us on Sunday with a beautiful rendition of Marcelo's oboe Concertina in C minor.

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*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.

August 7: Psalms 79-81; Romans 8:1-18

August 8: Psalms 82-84; Romans 8:19-39

August 9: Psalms 85-87; Romans 9

August 10: Psalms 88-89; Romans 10

August 11: Psalms 90-92; Romans 11:1-21

August 12: Psalms 93-95; Romans 11:22-36

August 13: Psalms 96-98; Romans 12

## *In Our Healing Prayers*

**Dick Radel** - hospitalized

**The Markello Family, Debbie Laberta, Bob Varian, Bruce Burr, Inez Beachley, John Ladowski, Chrissy Merrill, Joyce Moser, Janet Hill, Sissie Mooney, Mary Jane Shanley, 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

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## **How are You Connecting, Loving, and Serving this Summer?**

Your Stewardship Team would love to see your answers to that question! On the bulletin board in Crafts Hall, you'll find poster board and markers. Please take a few minutes to write down what you're doing this summer. Christ Church is Making Connections and Offering Opportunities for Faith, Love and Service!

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Offering**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Helping Offering on August 11 will go to the Pride Center of WNY.

The mission of the Pride Center is to work with the community to make Western New York a safe, healthy, and satisfying place for LGBTQ people to live, work, and establish their families.

## **Western New York Refugee Film Festival 2019-2020**

Show your support for refugee resettlement in Buffalo and our newest neighbors! Attend the WNY Refugee Film Festival to benefit the programs of Journey's End Refugee Services. Seven award-winning films, including a Buffalo Slow-Roll Grand Finale featuring films on the Syrian refugee crisis; a special screening at Shea's Performing Arts Center with a director-led talkback; a Global VIP Reception with international food, libations, and entertainment; food-themed door prizes; and a free WNYRFF T-shirt for all film pass holders! Buffalo Spree Magazine calls it a "Be There" event and we hope you'll be there, too! For film passes, trailers, and schedule, visit: [www.wnyrff.org](http://www.wnyrff.org)