

**Christ UMC Vision Statement**  
*"Living Christ's ways and  
 exploding with love and service"*

**Sunday Worship Schedule**  
 Praise Celebration 9 am  
 All Ages Education Hour 10 am  
 Traditional Style Celebration 11 am

*TOTAL STEWARDSHIP  
 PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS,  
 AND SERVICE*

*Serving - the nature of stewardship*

**Christ UMC Staff**

*Senior Pastor*  
**Dr. B.J. Norrix**  
*Minister for Education & Community Enrichment*  
**Sally J. Pollard**  
*Office Manager/Ministry Assistant*  
**Rachel Vaughan**  
*Director of Music*  
**Elizabeth Holt Curtis**  
*Financial Secretary*  
**Doris Schanzlin**  
*Custodian*  
**David Wolf**



**CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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**The Gospel**

**May 2012**



*With Joy... From Sally*

**Gotta Go to Galilee**

Easter Sunday has come and gone and we're left to ask the question...what comes next? The women who came to the tomb on Sunday morning were focused on mourning. They had purchased oils and ointments to

anoint Jesus' dead body. But instead of mourning a death, they were shocked by an empty tomb and a messenger of God telling them to spread the good news, a message of new life! Jesus was now living a resurrected life!

Christian writer, C.S. Lewis wrote, "It may be hard for an egg to turn into a bird; it would be a jolly sight harder for it to learn to fly while remaining an egg. We are like eggs at present. And you cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or go bad." The women, the disciples, and all of us who follow Jesus need to break out of the death grip that the world has on us and fly into the new life the resurrection offers. We've gotta go to Galilee.

The church, the body of Christ, is in a crisis of discipleship because more and more Christians choose to go back home to a safe, socially acceptable life instead of breaking into a resurrection life, a whole new way of living in the world. For Jesus, going to Galilee meant actually being alive, keeping a promise that ministry would go forward, a new start. For the women, going to Galilee would give them credibility when they shared the news with the disciples, the men, who probably wouldn't believe their outrageous story. For us... what will going to Galilee be for us?

Individual lives, communities, and the world are not as they could be. There is much reshaping, community building, and healing left to be done. Our relationship with the resurrected Christ is in process. We've gotta go to Galilee to meet the risen Jesus.

*Sally*

*Take the next step in discipleship*

**A DISCIPLE'S PATH**

**Deepening your relationship with Christ and the Church**

Sunday Mornings † 10 am † Wesley Room

Leader: Audrey Gavin

Sponsored by the A.O.L. Team



**FROM BJ'S DESK...**

**Make a Difference – Be the Church**

This idea came out of the Ginghamburg United Methodist Church near Dayton, Ohio. The congregation made the decision not to invest in expanding their building and to invest in people. Their idea was to give the whole church an experience of not just attending a service of worship

but actually going out into the community and being the hands and feet of Christ at work in the world. This was considered a profoundly radical idea.

Last year Christ Church took its first foray into this worship/work approach by "Packing the POD" and providing material goods for some of our local mission projects. This great idea was accompanied with some visitation and other "reconnecting" projects in the Snyder and wider community. I can see that it had a very positive impact on the lives of those who worked on it, and it made a huge difference in the wider community.

This year we're taking it a step further. The idea is for every person connected with Christ Church to engage in a mission project on the 20th of May. To this end we have projects for the rugged: cleaning, gardening, helping at the Habitat restore. We'll have trucks on our property to collect old bicycles, clothing, and household goods, things to be shredded, etc. We have projects for the knitters, sewers, and cooks among us. We have projects for the handy person in all of us. I think we have something for everyone.

Christ Church is turning a corner and God is doing some great things in our church community. I've learned there are two things which transform churches faster than any others. One is Bible study. Studies show that people engaged in reading, discussing, and applying lessons from the Bible experience renewal. The second thing that transforms lives is mission engagement. When we as Christians get our hands dirty serving others, it not only helps those we serve, but it changes us as well. This is true whether we work in Africa, West Virginia, or Snyder, New York. When we freely give of ourselves, our time and our abilities, in helping others, it renews our hearts and moves us forward.

My prayer is that each and every one of us will make space for May 20 and will sign up and engage in one of the "Be the Church – Make a Difference" projects. I will be out there serving with you and praying for you each step of the way!

Peace.

*Dr. BJ*

**UNITED METHODIST YOUTH**

May 6

Meeting 3:30, Seneca St. UMC 3-5 pm

May 13

May 20

Be The Church - Make A Difference

May 27

No meeting

More Information? Call Tim Reed, 838-4230 or Viki Smith, 839-1989



# May Outreach Opportunities



## Golden Cross Sunday Special Offering- Sunday May 13, 2012 -

Through your Golden Cross offering, weekly worship services are provided for residents of Beechwood/Blocher Continuing Care Facility in Amherst, NY and The Wesley Community in Rochester, NY. In addition, Bible studies are conducted, communion services held, and individual visits made on a regular basis.



**Ritzzy Rags-**As you are spring cleaning and discarding clothing that you no longer wear, please consider putting them on consignment at Ritzzy Rags on Union Road in Cheektowaga . The proceeds can then be donated to the church if you wish. Please speak to Toni Termini, owner of Ritzzy Rags, about this. Ritzzy Rags Consignment Stores in Cheektowaga specializes in turning your clothes into cash. We can help you recycle designer, better department, and specialty store clothing and accessories by selling them to others and passing the profits along to you. Just remember, designer and better department store labels sell.

**Postal workers' Food Drive to Support Cheektowaga Food Pantry -** A date to remember....the USPS food collection is Saturday, May 12. Adult/teen helpers will be needed at the 47 Ellwood site, off Genesee Street, from 9 am to 4 pm to set up tables and tents and sort the dry goods that will be dropped off by postal trucks and our drivers/collectors. We also need drivers with vans, pickups, station wagons, etc. to help collect food from outlying areas ( West Seneca for example), where postal delivery trucks will transfer their collected items to our drivers. Vans and pickups can use youthful passengers to help in the transfer. Sometimes drivers and youth assist the Postal Service by going from mailbox to mailbox. All folks start at 47 Ellwood for their assignments and some identification materials. The day goes fast, and lunch and beverages are provided. The Pantry is in need of bagged spaghetti also. If you are able to help, please see Marg Bauza or a member of the Outreach team.



*Thank you for sharing God's love and hope with the world and with our community by supporting the many outreach ministries of our church*

## OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

also go out to the family and friends of Carol Metcalf, who passed away on April 10, 2012. Carol, a member Christ Church for more than 50 years, was most recently a resident of Beechwood Continuing Care. Her funeral service was held at Christ Church on Friday, April 27.



Grades Pre-K - 5 † 10 am Sunday † Lower level

May 6 & 13

## ***Love God and Your Neighbor***

Loving God with all our heart, soul, and might refers to being faithful to God, loving God more than life itself, and serving God with our actions. That's what it means to be a part of the Christian community...the church. Children will have the opportunity to hear the words of the Beatitudes and see how Christ's values are often different from the world's values.

May 20

## ***Make A Difference - Be The Church***

Children will be part of the welcome team on this Sunday. Following the brief 9:30 am service, we'll be sent out to welcome people coming to the church with items for the collection trucks and giving out refreshments & gifts they have created at FaithXpress.

## **SOUL-STRENGTH**

Grades 6-8 † 10 am Sunday † Room 22 † Lower Level

## ***What Does God Want?***

## **BREAKFAST & FAITH**

Grades 9-12 † 10 am Sunday † Kitchen † Main Level

## **TO ALL OF YOU DEAR PEOPLE IN MY CHURCH FAMILY**

Thank you from the very depths of my heart and soul for making my 100th birthday celebration so very special. It was a thrill for me to have so many of my church friends present at this milestone event in my life. Thank you to B.J., Sally, Rachel, Dave, Elizabeth, her talented choir, Sue Estee, Katy Cady, Richard Mestler, the technical staff, and all the little children for making the March 18 church service so very personal and memorable for me. Moreover, the scores of beautiful cards and heartfelt birthday greetings given by so many of my church family meant the world to me. Thank you to all of you from the bottom of my heart for your thoughtfulness, caring, and love. God has been so good to me, and I pray that He will grant his choicest blessings to each and every one of you.

With much love and gratitude,

*Nicoletta (Nicky) Sebastiano*

Lots of questions? One answer...

## Talk To The Expert

Workshop Series - 3 pm

### Planning Ahead for All The Right Reasons **Tuesday, May 1**

*Michael Pignatora, Manager, Dengler Roberts Perna Funeral Home*

*Jeff Reed, VP, Mt Calvary Cemetery*

Wise decisions that show you care. This workshop covers information on pre-planning for a funeral, what happens when a death occurs, and the role of the cemetery and how it operates.

### Honoring Memories, Celebrating Lives **Tuesday, May 8**

*Rev. Dr. BJ Norrix, Senior Pastor, Christ United Methodist Church*

Funerals and memorial services are for the living. They are formal farewells that help to bring closure and to process grief. Funerals and memorial services are for the deceased. They are a way to honor those who have gone and to say an appropriate "goodbye." Planning a funeral or memorial celebration is finding a healthy balance between these needs. This workshop will explore the elements of vital and appropriate funeral/memorial celebrations and will give an opportunity to indicate how we wish our lives to be celebrated.

### Overcoming Medicaid Myths **Tuesday, May 15**

*Patrick Allaire, CEO & Keith Shottman, VP, Allaire Financial Strategies*

*Laurie Menzies, Attorney, Pfalzgraf Beinhauer & Menzies L.L.P.*

There are real eligibility rules. This workshop helps make the complex a little easier.

### Values Workshop with a Financial Twist **Tuesday, May 22**

*Patrick Allaire & Keith Schottman*

Includes discussion of the advantage of planning as technology, inflation, longevity, health, and knowledge change in the future. What impact will these changes have on your life and goals? An interactive workshop of brainstorming and formulating directions and considering imponderables.

## OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

go out to the family and friends of Donald Coovert, who passed away on March 22, 2012. A Memorial Service was held at Christ Church on Thursday, April 19 to celebrate Donald's life.

**JUNE 2012 CALLER DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, MAY 13**

**E-MAIL TO CALLER350@YAHOO.COM**

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT KATHY WEAVER @ 839-5918 OR KDWEAVER23@VERIZON.NET**

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



On Saturday, May 5 at 10 am there will be a special program called, "Dress Our People." The speaker will be Debbie Underwood of Cortland UMC. Elizabeth Circle will be the hostess for this event. A continental breakfast will be served. A \$5 donation is suggested. All women of the church are invited.



## CIRCLE NEWS

**Elizabeth Circle** will meet May 3 at 6:30 pm at the Carrousel Factory Museum, 180 Thompson St., North Tonawanda.

The \$4 admission includes a guided tour and one ride on the 1916 #1 Special Carousel. Additional rides are 50¢ each. Wheeee!

At the conclusion of the visit, the group will go to Carol Corsaro's house, at 2784 Stenzel Ave., for dessert and coffee. Contact either Kay Barber, 634-6987 or Carol Corsaro, 694-0368, if you plan to attend.

Directions to the museum: Rt. 425 (Colvin Blvd.) into North Tonawanda, left on Christiana St., right on Payne Ave., left on Thompson.

Directions from the museum to Carol's house: west on Thompson, right on Oliver St., to Ward Rd., left on Stenzel Ave, to 2784.

**Rachel Circle** will meet Tuesday, May 15 in the Wesley Room at noon.

**Deborah Circle** will meet at noon, Tuesday, May 22, in the Wesley Room.

## UMW IN ACTION

When the Rachel Circle learned that the Beechwood residents needed 'walker bags', they decided to take action. At their February meeting members marked, cut, sewed, and finished 14 bags for Beechwood. Grace Markello, circle leader, finished those not completed at the meeting at home. The fabric bags are tied to the residents' walkers to hold personal items.

*Jan Rhinehart photos*



## STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE TEAM

We wish to thank those who have turned in their pledge cards. To date we have received 103 pledges for \$207,201, but are still behind last year's 112 pledges totaling \$221,275. If you have not already turned in this year's pledge card, we ask that you do so at your earliest convenience; there are pledge cards on the ledges behind the pews if you've lost yours.

If you are not formally pledging, but would like envelopes, please sign up on the envelope request list which may be found on the table in the parlor. Or, you may request them from the church office.

If you have pledged for either Missions or Shared Ministries, please note that fact and the amount intended for that pledge on your envelope.

The Easter Offering of \$1390 will go to Africa University.

## UNITED METHODIST MEN



On April 14, we met at church to hear our own Bill Bauza speak on upcoming programs.

On May 5, we'll carpool from the church at 10:30 am to Chef's Restaurant for lunch, followed by a visit to the Buffalo Transportation Pierce-Arrow Auto Museum, 263 Michigan @ Seneca. \$10 Admission, \$6 Senior Admission (60-up.)

If you have any questions call Don Critoph at (716) 832-4408.

## THANK YOU

to the people of Christ Church for your prayers, cards, & gifts of caring at the time of Jean's death. They are appreciated.

Chuck Kellner



### Mature Years Ministry

## Dinner in the Country

Sunday, May 6, 2011 at 1:30 PM

Tillman's Village Inn

**NW corner of Rte. 104 and 98, Albion, NY (585) 589-9151**

Veggie Lasagna, Broiled Haddock, or Boneless Chicken Breast

**\$18/person Tickets on sale in Crafts Hall following Church on April 29th!**

Driving directions & maps or rides available with your tickets.

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

Tom McCray.....	1
Roger Johnson.....	2
Ruth Kitson.....*	2
Margaret Mugel.....	3
Ruth Swenson.....	4
Marion Swenson.....	11
Rosemary Little.....	12
Mary Ball.....	13
Charles Terranova.....	13
Jordan Lawson.....	14
Linnea George.....	16
Kristin Darling.....	18
Mary Landel.....	20
Rebecca Lopez.....	21
Ryan Lopez.....	21
Scott Smith.....	21
Rachel Vaughan.....	21
Taylor Deer.....	22
Sally Pollard.....	22
Janet Hider.....	24
Pastor Theva.....	24
Marg Bauza.....	26
Christopher Maliken.....	27
Jacob Rhinehart.....	28
Alice Schmidt.....	28
Megan Noyes.....	30
Adam Schroeder.....	30
Alexander Juergens.....	31



## READ THE NEW TESTAMENT

Read a single chapter each weekday and read through the complete New Testament in 2012.

1.....	Revelation 15
2.....	Revelation 16
3.....	Revelation 17
4.....	Revelation 18
7.....	Revelation 19
8.....	Revelation 20
9.....	Revelation 21
10.....	Revelation 22
11.....	Galatians 1
14.....	Galatians 2
15.....	Galatians 3
16.....	Galatians 4
17.....	Galatians 5
18.....	Galatians 6
21.....	Philippians 1
22.....	Philippians 2
23.....	Philippians 3
24.....	Philippians 4
25.....	Acts 1
27.....	Pentecost
28.....	Acts 2
29.....	Acts 3
30.....	Acts 4

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Greg & Lynn Ramsey.....	May 4, 1984
Roger & Dede Johnson.....	May 10, 1986




## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Have you noticed our new kneeling pads? The funds for these pads were provided by the memorial fund in memory of Lucille Cook, Verna (Mickey) Duke, and Paul Nachbar. Special thanks to their families and friends.



Bill Bauza photo

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Library Team 9:30a  <i>Talk To The Expert 3p</i> <i>See Page 4</i> Dance 6:15p Outreach team 7p	<b>2</b>   Choir 7:30p	<b>3</b> Bible Study 10a  Zumba 6p  Elizabeth Circle 6:30p	<b>4</b> Books We Have Loved 10a	<b>5</b> UMW 9a "Dress Our People"  UMM 10:30
<b>6</b> Praise Service 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Service 11a MYM Dinner in the Country Youth Meeting 2:30p Youth - City Mission 3p	<b>7</b>  Zumba 6p  Praise Team 6p SPR 7p	<b>8</b>  <i>Talk To The Expert 3p</i> <i>See Page 4</i>  Dance 6:15p	<b>9</b> Pastor's Bible Study 11a   Choir 7:30p	<b>10</b> Bible Study 10a  Zumba 6p  Stewardship & Finance 7p	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Praise Service 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Service 11a <b>CALLER DEADLINE</b>	<b>14</b>  Zumba 6p  Praise Team 6p	<b>15</b> Rachel Circle 12p  <i>Talk To The Expert 3p</i> <i>See Page 4</i> Dance 6:15p Christian Ed. Team 7p	<b>16</b> Pastor's Bible Study 11a   Choir 7:30p	<b>17</b> Bible Study 10a  Zumba 6p  Trustees 7:30p	<b>18</b> Books We Have Loved 10a	<b>19</b> HARLEM-KENSINGTON-CLEVELAND COMMUNITY CLEANUP DAY
<b>20</b> <b>BE THE CHURCH - MAKE A DIFFERENCE</b> 9:30am-1pm	<b>21</b>  Zumba 6p Praise Team 6p	<b>22</b> Deborah Circle 12p  <i>Talk To The Expert 3p</i> <i>See Page 4</i> Dance 6:15p	<b>23</b> Pastor's Bible Study 11a   Choir 7:30p	<b>24</b> Caller Collation 9:30a Bible Study 10a  Zumba 6p Church Council 7p	<b>25</b>  Game Night 7:30p	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Praise Service 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Service 11a	<b>28</b>  <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> Zumba 6p Praise Team 6p	<b>29</b>  <i>Talk To The Expert 3p</i> <i>See Page 4</i>  Dance 6:15p	<b>30</b> Pastor's Bible Study 11a   Choir 7:30p	<b>31</b>  Bible Study 10a Zumba 6p	<b>COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP SATURDAY MORNING MAY 19</b> Sponsored by the Harlem-Kensington-Cleveland Association, May 19 is a day to join with our neighbors in cleaning and sprucing up our corner and the surrounding neighborhood. Bring your work gloves, a rake, a broom, or other tools.	