



**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 Life*  
**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**

350 Saratoga Road, Snyder, NY 14226  
Phone: 839-2460 Fax: 839-2166  
[www.christchurchamherst.org](http://www.christchurchamherst.org)  
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# The Caller



**September 2012**



*With Joy... From Sally*

**The Intersection Between You & Jesus**

Who is Jesus? What does he mean? What meaning does he have in our daily lives? These are important questions to consider as we explore our own beliefs. If we are to choose Jesus as the center of our life and faith, we must first understand who Jesus is and why he was sent. We do this as we journey through the seasons of the church year, through Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost.

God came to us in human form so that we might believe. So Christmas is about the presence of God. Because God is unknowable in the usual ways human beings experience anything, Jesus provides us with very important understandings of God's nature and models for us what a relationship with God should be. Through Jesus' stories, teachings, and life we're brought closer to knowing God and understanding the relationship God desires with us. Because Jesus loved unconditionally, we know that God's love for us has no lines and no limits. Because Jesus forgave us, we know that God forgives us. And Jesus taught us through his word and example that it's in following God's ways that we live as God's sons and daughters. Through our baptism, our relationship as children of God is acknowledged. Our part is to keep allowing our lives to be shaped and re-shaped by that relationship.

Just as Jesus faced temptations and challenges in life, people, and things that promised to satisfy his every desire, so do we. The 40 days of Lent offer us a time to center ourselves again in our relationship with Jesus. Jesus understood human living with all its struggles. He was popular, then he wasn't, he was unfairly blamed, his friends turned on him, he was punished, and through it all he found the courage and strength to remain faithful when things were difficult. Through Jesus' resurrection we come to understand living a life transformed by God's love.

Living lives at the intersection with Jesus, with our hearts, minds, and spirits open to his leading, and sustained by God's continuing Spirit presence, we find the power and encouragement we need to continue to grow in our relationship with God every day of our lives.

Are you wanting to know more about living in relationship with God and being a part of a Christian community of people who love, support, and help one another and the world? You'll find many opportunities as you continue reading this issue of the Caller.

*Sally*



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

Christ Church is definitely on the rise. Through 31 Sundays in 2012 our Worship attendance has increased 16% compared to a year ago. We are seeing new faces and families every Sunday. There are new ministries emerging. God is on the move at Saratoga and Harlem and in our wider community. As excited as I am to report this I also realize that we have just begun to scratch the surface of what this church can be (or can be once again?).

This autumn we are going to work on growing our ministry with children and their families. We will be working to increase participation in FaithXpress and Soul Strength and with our Youth. We will be offering Parenting Classes as part of our "Talk to the Expert" series. We will be offering a "going deeper" experience for our Christ Church teens. We are planning to launch a POP group (Parents of Preschoolers) and there have been discussions of other growth and fellowship opportunities as well.

We are planning to lead Christ Church deeper in our commitment and relationship with God through Jesus Christ. This deeper commitment will be found in renewed Bible Study (Thursday class resumes on September 6.) This deeper commitment will be found in the "Going Deeper" group that will be studying and experiencing the classic spiritual disciplines. This deeper commitment will be found in our AOL Sunday morning offerings this coming year as well.

As Christ followers we are well aware that we are called to be channels of God's grace and not just reservoirs. The love and grace and spirit that are poured into us are meant to be poured out into the lives of others. We are blessed to be a blessing. So, our Christ Church community is looking for even more ways to connect with our local community and to increase our ministry in greater Buffalo and around the world.

I believe that we do what we are. Usually, in American culture, we reverse this and say "you are what you do." But I believe what I do is an extension of who I am. When I work on becoming a Christ follower, when I work on making space for the Holy Spirit to renew and transform my heart and life, this transformation is lived out in what I say and do. We do what we are. This is why it is so vital to go deeper and to intentionally focus on our inner transformation through our relationship with Jesus Christ. My good friend Aaron no longer keeps a "to do" list. He keeps a master "to be" list. He is called to be a follower of Christ, a good husband and father . . . you get the idea.

*Pastor BJ*

# Outreach Opportunities

**Women Build Volunteers Needed:** Women Build, a Habitat for Humanity program, empowers women to learn construction skills, work on building a house, and make a difference in their community. We still need you! Bring friends, neighbors, kids and grandkids (16 & up). The home is located at 38 Guilford Street, Buffalo, near Broadway and Fillmore.



Sign up through **VOLUNTEER UP** in five easy steps: (1) Go to [www.habitatbuffalo.org](http://www.habitatbuffalo.org). (2) Click on "Click Here To Schedule Yourself Online". (3) click on "Register". (4) Fill in required fields (\*) on the form. (5). Remember your password.

Once registered, when you want to sign up for a workshop or a workday, follow steps 1, 2 & 3, click "Log In" and click on "Sign Up" for the date and time desired.

## But what can I do right now?

If this question has been on your mind, here are a couple things you might do:

(1) Go to the Habitat for Humanity Buffalo volunteer site and you will see a link for an ONLINE SAFETY course. Follow that link, create your own account, take the course and become a safety-certified volunteer. Be sure to write down your password so you can access your account in the future for workshops and other scheduling.

(2) Visit the gym; a little upper-body strength will come in handy.



**Dress our People:** We hope to send 300 handmade dresses and shorts to the children of Uganda with the mission team. We need seamstresses, pattern cutters, a yard or more of fabric per dress, embellishments such as ribbon, rickrack, buttons, bows and seam binding. If you can help please call Molly Butler at 204-8993 or Peggy Nye.

**The CUMC Outreach Team is seeking new members.** We currently support Food Pantries, Share-a-Meal, Asbury Shalom Zone, Journey's End Refugee services, Family Promise, Hands4NY, Habitat Buffalo, and Central City Café. We'd love to have you join us at our next meeting on Thursday, September 6 at 7:00 pm. If you're interested, contact Peggy Bermudez or Lee Watson. We meet monthly on Thursdays at 7.



Volunteers are needed to help prepare dinner and visit with families who are in transition to their own homes. The evening is traditionally broken into two shifts. The first shift prepares and serves dinner from 4:45 to 7:30 pm. The second shift is from 7:30-10 pm and involves visiting and playing games with the family. This all will be taking place at Crossroads Lutheran Church at the corner of Burroughs and Main in Snyder on Friday, August 13. Contact Lee Watson or Peggy Bermudez if you can help. Family Promise is more than providing shelter, meals, and support. It's about keeping entire families together as they work toward having a home of their own.

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

# FAITH + PRESS

Pre-K–Grade 5 † Sunday mornings † 10 am † Lower level

Theme for September - October

## Creation

Children will discover God created the world and everything in it and recognize that everything God created is good! Learning about God's creation is more than an environmental study. It helps us see the loving relationship God wants to establish with every one of us.

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## SOUL-STRENGTH GROUP

Middle School † Grades 6-8 † 10 am † Room 22 † Lower Level

*Join in experiences that show how much we can accomplish when we allow God's strength and guidance to work through our lives.*

Theme for September - October

## Why Jesus For Me?

Explore Jesus and why we celebrate his birth, death, and resurrection and their meaning for us. We'll also take a closer look at the church as a community that supports and encourages us and sends us out.

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## CUMC YOUTH GROUP

High School † Grades 9-12 † 10 am † Room 23 † Lower Level

## A.O.L. @ CUMC

**Adult Opportunities for Learning at Christ Church**

Sunday mornings † 10 am † Wesley Room

Topic for September 9 - October 14

## What It Means To Be A Christian

Facilitator: Rev. Jim Pollard

This topic is for people today who are seeking a richer understanding of issues in Christian practice and theology:

Who is God? Who was Jesus? What is Salvation?

How do we practice our faith? How do we live in community?

## Weekday Bible Study with Pastor BJ

Thursday mornings † 10 am † Wesley Room † Begins Sept. 6

*An open group with open discussion. All are welcome.*

*For details on upcoming short-term, seasonal study & discussion groups, visit our website, our Facebook page, & check your Sunday bulletins.*



## Talk To The Expert

Information is very important, especially when it affects your choices in the circumstances of your life. You need to ask questions. You need to interact with someone who has experience and answers. Or maybe you just need encouragement or another opinion.

Join us for this fall series on **Parenting**

**Saturdays, September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 13, 20**

**10 - 11:30 am - Child care is provided**

Topics include: *Common Sense Parenting, Discipline & Consequences, Communication, Changing Families, Special Needs, Teaching Children Money Matters & Spiritual Formation*



Peggy Bermudez Photo



## CIRCLE NEWS

**Elizabeth Circle** will meet at the home of Mary Ball, 5919A Vincroft Dr. Clarence Center 741-3301. Hostess is Beth Sweet 210-8966. The program will be a Bible Study led by Grace Markello. Contact Mary or Beth if you plan to attend.

**Deborah Circle:** Tuesday, September 25 in the Wesley Room at 12 noon.

**Rachel Circle:** 12 noon, Tuesday, September 18, in the Wesley Room.

## UNITED METHODIST YOUTH



This summer the youth traveled to Kentucky to do mission work with Confrontation Point. Our job was to build a small porch roof for our home owner, Ms. Fay.

The kids not only finished the porch they painted the trim and window frames and weeded her yard. We'll have a presentation in church in late September.

- 7-9: Christian Adventure Weekend
- 12: Chiavetta's BBQ 4-7pm, \$9 per meal
- 16: Youth meeting, Amherst High School track, 12:30p
- Rock The Lakes Concert, Coca Cola Field, 4-7pm

More Information?

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

## BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION REMINDER

Please save: Campbell's labels and Box Tops for Education – for Gateway  
Cancelled stamps (tear off corner of envelope)  
Dash's register tapes (New addition)



**Put these items in containers on top of the microwave in the kitchen.  
Thank You!**





## HEALTH AND WELLNESS TEAM

The team will meet on Monday, September 10th at 7:00 pm. Contact Debbie Fiebelkorn at 626-3398 if you are unable to attend.

## NEWCOMER ORIENTATION SEPTEMBER 6, 6-8PM



Are you new to Christ Church? Would you like to meet others who are new to the church family and community? Would you like to know more about Christ Church and how to become more involved? Call the church office for reservations. We will serve a light supper at 6pm and will conclude at 8.

## FRANKLIN GRAHAM ROCK THE LAKES SEPT. 22-23

The Billy Graham Evangelical Association is reaching out in cities like Rochester in June, Green Bay in August, and Ottawa in September. Buffalo's Coca Cola Field hosts our own "Rock The Lakes" beginning at 4 pm on both Saturday and Sunday, September 22 & 23.

Admission is free, and the retirement system is out of this world! You can help by inviting friends, co-workers, and neighbors to attend with you; forming a carpool is fun! Metro Rail is another fellowship opportunity!

Many local churches have participated in sponsoring the event; many volunteers have been trained through the Christian Life and Witness course to help as counselors on the field, continuing as friendly liaisons between the conference and our local churches.

You can help! Pray for all the workers, the new believers, and the follow-up that will continue. Your financial support will ensure that all materials are available for distribution. Volunteers before and during the event will help with guest relations, directions, collecting and sorting information. To volunteer, call 932-7721.

Rosemary Kochan and Bill Bauza have been preparing for this event. We invite you to journey with us, and be gracious to visitors who may be referred to our Church for follow-up and training. Christ Church may be used in the Neighborhood Discovery Group Training for adults and youth. The love of Christ that is so evident here at Christ Church can be shared with all we meet!



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Kayleen Hannon	4
Ryan James	4
Kathleen Morris	6
Keith Nehrboos	6
Pastor B. J. Norrix	5
Al Wrisley	6
Bim Rowlands	9
Patti Bechtel	11
Darcie Beyer	11
Emma Reagan	11
Barbara Brayman	14
Doris Steinmetz	15
Glenn Hurst	17
Kevin Johnston	18
Jim Pollard	18
Will Gowen	19
Jessica Lawson	19
Jonathan Miller	19
Rob McCray	20
Sandra Paddock	20
Beth Reilly-Brown	20
Drew Smith	20
Hildegard Webber	20
Lisa Malpica	24
Danielle Keller	25
Barbara Carier	26
Jean Wood	27



## NEW TESTAMENT

### READING

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

3	1 Corinthians 1
4	1 Corinthians 2
5	1 Corinthians 3
6	1 Corinthians 4
7	1 Corinthians 5
10	1 Corinthians 6
11	1 Corinthians 7
12	1 Corinthians 8
13	1 Corinthians 9
14	1 Corinthians 10
17	1 Corinthians 11
18	1 Corinthians 12
19	1 Corinthians 13
20	1 Corinthians 14
21	1 Corinthians 15
24	1 Corinthians 16
25	Colossians 1
26	Colossians 2
27	Colossians 3
28	Colossians 4



## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Tom & Kathy Weaver	September 8, 1984
<b>Curtis &amp; Louise Barber 63 Years!</b>	<b>September 10, 1949</b>
<b>Edwin &amp; Marie Maker 61 Years!</b>	<b>September 15, 1951</b>
Herb & Nora Townsend Wilber	September 21, 1990

### I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE...

...for their kind words and prayers during my recent illness. Words cannot express how much I appreciate your thoughtfulness. I feel very grateful to be part of this wonderful church.

Thanks so much - Katie Cady (Cady226@verizon.net)

## Mature Years Ministry *Autumn Days*

For those age 55 and above

A time for renewal, community, and relaxation in a beautiful lakeside setting

**October 5-7, 2012**

The United Methodist House, Chautauqua Institution

Leader:

**REV. JIM POLLARD**



Again this year we will be meeting at the United Methodist House at Chautauqua, a special place for small gatherings. The rooms are lovely with private baths, and fully handicapped accessible. Wheelchairs and "pushers" can be available for touring the grounds.

The cost is \$80. Preference will be given to members of the church.

**Requests for partial scholarship help will be kept confidential.**

Reservations are limited to 20 people, so register early!

**Act now!** Send your \$80 (per person) check, payable to "MYM" with the form below:

### MYM AUTUMN DAYS REGISTRATION

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$80 or  I wish for partial scholarship help.

I can drive and have room for  additional passengers.

I (we) need transportation.  I request a wheelchair.

Please mail to:

**Phyllis Nicholson**  
**17 Princess Drive**  
**Cheektowaga, NY 14225**



### CUMC WISH LIST 2012

Please consider funding (all or part) of an item for 2012. A check to "CUMC" with specific item noted in memo section is all you have to do

Thanks in advance for your continued support.

ITEM	COST
Paint for Crafts Hall or Choir Room & Upstairs Lav	Any donations accepted
Youth prepared Seneca St. Church MEALS	\$25.00 serves six people
Monthly CALLER Printing	\$30.00
Monthly CALLER Postage	\$30.00 + \$200/yr fee
Monthly routine POSTAGE	\$25.00
Weekly Child Care ATTENDANT	\$25.00
Monthly CANDLE OIL	\$20.00
Monthly General KITCHEN Supplies	\$20.00
Weekly BULLETIN Printing	\$30.00
12 copies Microsoft XP Pro for computer lab	\$75.00+ per copy

**OCTOBER CALLER DEADLINE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**  
**QUESTIONS? CONTACT KATHY WEAVER @ 839-5918 OR KDW23@VERIZON.NET**



## STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Dear Cherished Church Members:

I did want to thank you for your “Extravagant Generosity” (our campaign theme for this year). You are exceeding expectations this summer and we are achieving so much. Unfortunately, we are short in fulfilling our budget obligations. Please continue your pledged giving and we will prevail.

Once again as your Stewardship and Finance Chairperson, I greatly appreciate your giving. Albert Pine states: “What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal.”

Gratefully,

Nora E. Townsend, D.D.S.

## UNITED METHODIST MEN



In July we sailed around the Buffalo Harbor aboard Captain Don Critoph's *Blizzard*. The 39-foot Beneteau ocean racer carried us far into the lake for a most pleasant and relaxing voyage. The rations were great, too, Barb. August saw us continue our nautical ways with a tour of the Buffalo Naval and Servicemen's Park.

In September, we'll visit Frank Lloyd Wright's Graycliff Estate in Derby. Admission is \$15 for the basic one-hour tour with lunch to follow at a local restaurant. The carpool will meet at the church parking lot at 10 AM for the tour starting at 11AM.

Our mission for 13 October will be to visit the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton, Ontario.

We will assemble at church at 1000 hours (10 AM) to carpool to Hamilton where we'll begin with lunch in the museum's café and then enjoy a two hour guided tour starting at 1300 hours (1PM.) After the tour those who want can return directly home or stay to explore some more on our own. The regular admission of \$12 will be discounted to \$10 and include the guide as long as we have a minimum of 10 people going.

Several of the aircraft will be outside so be sure to dress for the weather. We will need to give the museum a head count by 8 October so if you are interested call Geoff Hill at 316-1522 to sign up.

REMEMBER, since we are going to Canada you will need appropriate ID (passport or enhanced driver's license) to get back home.

## SAVE THE DATE

**Harvest Dinner Friday, October 19, 4:30 to 7.**

Volunteers needed for prep, service, and clean-up. A chart will be in the kitchen starting Sept 23rd. Tickets will go on sale Sunday, Sept. 30th.

## UGANDA MISSION TEAM FUNDRAISING

Next month, Pastor B.J., John Miller, Kathy Weaver, and 3 others will travel to Uganda for our annual mission. YOU can help them get there!

1. PRAYER—pray for the team, for our Uganda partners, for safe travel, for the favor of the Holy Spirit, for good health, for solid team chemistry, and for whatever else
2. Anderson's coupon books are for sale in the Café. \$60 in coupons for \$5! For each one sold the team gets \$4. Sign out 10 and sell, sell, sell!
3. Tickets for the September 14 spaghetti dinner are now on pre-sale. Cost is \$7.50 for all-you-can-eat spaghetti, meatballs, salad, and bread.
4. We need donations for a silent auction at the September 14 dinner. Can you offer a service or donate any items? If you'd like to donate a basket some theme suggestions include pet, pasta, holiday, kids, car, fall, ladies, movie, baking, men's, golf, etc. Donations can be left at the church or call Patti Bechtel (896-6313) or Barb Critoph (832-4408) for pickup.
5. Direct contributions. Mark the memo on your check "Uganda Mission 2012." There are special envelopes marked "Uganda" available. Please use these for your monetary contributions.

The team is thankful for your prayers and support, excited for this opportunity, and looking forward to all of the adventures Uganda will provide.

## UGANDA MISSION TEAM SUPPORT

All proceeds from our September 14 Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction will support our Uganda Mission Team. They depart on October 1 for 17 days. Each team member has purchased his/her own plane ticket (\$1050) and we are raising funds to cover our on the ground expenses (so we are not a burden of any kind to our hosts) and to leave funds for the mission project.

We certainly hope to see you there. Bring hungry friends.

Direct donations to support the team should be made payable to "Christ UMC", clearly noted "Uganda 2012" or put in the special "Uganda" envelopes at the church.

## UGANDA MISSION TEAM COLLECTING MEDICAL SUPPLIES

If you have any of these items and would be willing to donate them please contact John, Kathy, or BJ BEFORE bringing them to church:

- |                                     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Elastic bandages                    | Fever Thermometers |
| Glucometer                          | Microscope         |
| Blood Pressure Cuff                 | Stethoscope        |
| Bathroom scale (metric if possible) | Exam gloves        |
| Tooth brush                         | Vitamins           |
| Tylenol                             | Imodium,           |
| Benadryl                            | Anti itch cream    |
| 2x3 inch zip baggies                | Amoxicillin        |
| Bactrim                             |                    |

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<h1>SEPTEMBER 2012</h1>						1
<b>2</b> Praise Worship 9a Traditional Worship 11a	<b>3</b> LABOR DAY Office Closed  Zumba 6p	<b>4</b>  Library Team 9:30a Outreach Team 7p	<b>5</b>  Dance 6:15p	<b>6</b> Bible Study 10a <b>NEWCOMER ORIENTATION 6p</b> Zumba 6p Elizabeth Circle 7:30p	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> UMW 9a  United Methodist Men Graycliff Tour 10a
<b>9</b> Praise Worship 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Worship 11a Choir Returns Receiving New Members Going Deep Study 6:30p	<b>10</b> Zumba 6p Health & Wellness 7p SPRT 7p Praise Team 7p	<b>11</b> 	<b>12</b>  Chiavetta's BBQ 4-7p Dance 6:15p Choir 7:30p	<b>13</b> Bible Study 10a Zumba 6p Stewardship/Finance 7p  <b>CALLER DEADLINE</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>UGANDA MISSION TEAM FUNDRAISER 6-8p</b>	<b>15</b> Talk To The Expert <b>Parenting</b> 10-11:30a
<b>16</b> Praise Worship 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Worship 11a  Going Deep Study 6:30p	<b>17</b> Zumba 6p Praise Team 7p	<b>18</b> Rachel Circle 12n  Christian Ed. Team 7p	<b>19</b>  Dance 6:15p Choir 7:30p	<b>20</b>  Bible Study 10a Zumba 6p Trustees 7:30p	<b>21</b> Books We Have Loved 10a	<b>22</b> Talk To The Expert <b>Parenting</b> 10-11:30a
<b>23</b> Praise Worship 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Worship 11a  Going Deep Study 6:30p	<b>24</b> Zumba 6p Praise Team 7p	<b>25</b> Deborah Circle 12n	<b>26</b> Dance 6:15p Choir 7:30p	<b>27</b> Bible Study 10a  Zumba 6p Church Council 7:30p	<b>28</b> MYM Board 12n   Game night 7:30p	<b>29</b> Talk To The Expert <b>Parenting</b> 10-11:30a
<b>30</b> Praise Worship 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Worship 11a  Going Deep Study 6:30p						