



## Weekly Update: December 29, 2015

### Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Rds  
Amherst, NY 14226

"Living Christ's ways and exploding with love & service."

**Church Office Hours - Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm**

#### SUNDAY AT CHRIST CHURCH

Praise Worship at 9 am                      Traditional Worship at 11 am

10 am FaiithXpress for children

10 am Apprentice for Youth

10 am A.O.L. @ CUMC - Adult Opportunities for Learning

Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Christ-United-Methodist-Church-Amherst/294709713921168?ref=hl>

### Happening At Christ Church...

#### **On Sunday we shared in a Festival of Song...**

Thank you to **Peggy Bermudez**, lay leader; and to **Jim Pollard** for their help in planning the Festival of Song for Sunday's worship service. We learned about the background stories of some of our favorite Christmas carols, enjoyed singing old favorites and new ones that may become favorites as well.

We need to sing-- as individuals and as a faith community. We sing in times of rejoicing and we sing in those times when we feel like the darkness is closing in. We sing our loves, our fears and our hopes. It's one of the things we come together to do each week as we worship.

Thanks to **Peggy Bermudez** and to **Guy Castellino** for their leadership on Sunday and to **Paul Staley** for playing the songs on the organ *in*

*advance!* Our unique pipe organ has a feature that enables us to have beautiful music even when the organist is not present.

Christmas Eve worship with readings, carols and candlelight was joyful and inspiring. Guest organist, **Jeff Crane**, played an evening recital of seasonal music that showed both the beauty and subtlety of the Arrison pipe organ and set the mood for the "Evening of Christmas" worship. Thank you to the following worship participants: **Guy Castellino, Emily and Pauline Williams, Lynn Ramsey, Chris Pollard, and to soloist, Patti Sandle and the choir.**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **This Week At Christ Church**

Wednesday, December 30 - 6 pm Choir Party  
at Sue Estee's home

Thursday, December 31 - Church Office closes at Noon

Friday, January 1 - New Years Day - **Church Office closed**

Saturday, January 2 - Memorial Service - Nicoletta Sebastiano  
11 am

Sunday, January 3 - **NO FaithXpress**  
Worship at 9 am & 11 am

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Food Pantry**

Local food pantries are always in need of canned and packaged food items as well as paper products and toiletries. This week's suggested items:

**December 27 - Cereal (hot, cold and bars)**

### **Hearts and Hands - Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

Links willing volunteers with older or physically challenged adults for basic services such as transportation for medical appointments, errands or social activities; caregiver respite, companion visits, wellness checks, phone pals and minor home maintenance. Call 406-8311 or visit [www.hnhcares.org](http://www.hnhcares.org) ;

***Consider becoming a Hearts and Hands volunteer. Call***

**406-8311 to sign up for a volunteer orientation (about 1 hour).**

\* \* \* \* \*

## **No FaithXpress on Sunday, January 3**

\* \* \* \* \*

*"For last year's words belong to last year's language  
And next year's words await another voice.  
And to make an end is to make a beginning."  
T.S. Eliot*

**Christ Church is a Community Center for Faith & Service**

Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Christ-United-Methodist-Church-Amherst/294709713921168?ref=hl>

DRB/sjp