

**Christ United Methodist Church
Snyder, New York**

Visit us on the World Wide Web at: www.Christchurchamherst.org
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Dr. B.J.'s blog is www.drjithoughts.blogspot.com

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH

9:00 – Praise Celebration Worship 11:00 – Traditional Style Worship

10:00 – FaithXpress and Soul Strength and AOL

UPDATE - February 5, 2013

Here is what is happening at Church:

Pastor BJ and our friends Ed and Cindy Fisher, Don and Barbara Critoph, Barbara Carrier, Marion Rowlands continue their travels in Israel. They are joined by Rev Davis Matovu from Uganda and some travelers from Christ Community Church, Syracuse. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they begin the journey home. We'll have an opportunity to hear from our travelers during the Lenten Supper & Study series beginning Ash Wednesday, February 13 and continuing through Holy Week. By video, we too will stop by the Jordan River, the Sea of Galilee, travel on to Capernaum and Jerusalem and perhaps find ourselves transformed as we journey. Along the way we'll listen to Jesus teach and spend time with his friends. Our friends who are traveling in Israel will share their insights and reflections from their first-hand experiences. I hope you'll make time in your schedule to join in this Lenten journey to a greater commitment to Jesus as the center of your life and faith.

Lenten Supper & Study

Walking In The Footsteps of Jesus

Wednesdays, February 13 – March 27

5pm supper begins (*join in any time*) Discussion begins approx 6pm

1. Attendance last Sunday was 130. The Rev. Jim Pollard (*my favorite pastor!*) was our preacher for the morning and served Communion. One of the chalices Jim used for Communion was made of olive wood by Palestinian Christians. A carving of the Lord's Supper on the chalice helped to unite us in heart and mind with our friends traveling in Jerusalem on Sunday.

During the Children's Moment the children recalled the Bible story of the widow who gave two coins for her offering. It was everything she had. She DARED to give her all. Thank you, Lee Watson for sharing this story during FaithXpress. And thank you to Beth Reilly who helped the children make banks. They'll be saving up their own money during Lent to use for a special project to help others. We also enjoyed a conversation with Officer John Miller who served in the army in Iraq and is now an Amherst police officer. Mr. Miller DARES to give his all (most days anyway he admitted) to help protect others. Though sometimes he's afraid in dangerous situations, he feels strong thanks to his faith and his family. He considers what he does a calling. God is trusting him to help others. We closed the Children's Moment by singing our Hero Blessing and we're all learning hand motions for the song as well.

2. Each Sunday at 10:00am A.O.L. (Adult Opportunities for Learning) – is studying Leslie Wetherhead's classic The Will of God with discussion led by Roger Johnson. You're welcome to join them.

3. 14 people gathered for the **Dress Our People** sewing time. They are making cancer caps for people at Roswell Park Hospital and pillow cases for people at Ronald McDonald House. Contact Molly Butler if you'd like to know more.

4. In our Prayers: Tom Brunner is having surgery today. Diane Lovejoy is recovering from rotator cuff surgery; Our prayers are also requested for Don Munson, Nicky Sebastiano, Bim Rowlands- now getting out when weather permits, Marian Steve, Ruth Kitson, Jan Beckwith, Mitch Mooney, Jean DiDomenico, Bill Bauza – remember those looking for work, families in crisis, and all in harm’s way.

5. We offer our sympathy and prayers for Mary Parsons. Mary’s brother, Harold Maddock died on January 25 in Arizona.

6. We also offer our sympathy and prayers for Bill Kossler and his family. Bill’s mother, Olive Kossler died on January 31st. A service celebrating her life was held today at the Dietrich Funeral Home with Jim Pollard officiating.

7. This Week at Christ Church:

Happy Birthday to Barbara Burr (Feb 3rd), Marion Rowlands (Feb 3rd), Kelsey Reed (Feb 4th), Emily Mugel (Feb 7), Kristin Scaringi (Feb 7), Dorothy Brown Feb 8), Josh Reagan (Feb 9).

8. Mid Years + Ministry Soup & Sandwich Lunch & Magic Show

This Sunday, February 10 12 noon - contact Marcia Snyder at 741-6901 for details

9. Jazz with Ron Corsaro Trio and Friends

This Sunday, February 10 at 7:30 pm –. Concert sponsored by the youth group.

Proceeds go to the youth summer mission trip.

10. Hand To Plow

Christ Church is participating in a church revitalization training experience called **“Hand to Plow”**. The training will involve 9 sessions for clergy and 4 sessions for clergy and laity teams from participating congregations. 10 to 12 people are needed to participate. **The first gathering is Saturday, February 9 at Camp Asbury from 10 to 4 (includes lunch)** This is one of the ways our shared ministries dollars work for us). The remaining three sessions will be at Camp Asbury on April 13, September 28 and November 23 (all Saturdays). If God is calling you to be a part of this experience, please see me and I’ll give you a book to get started.

11. Trustees wish list:

Here are some things the Christ Church Board of Trustees is planning for in 2013. If you can help with one of these see Tom Weaver:

1. New Lawn Tractor – Commercial Grade with bagger **cared for**
2. New Flowering Trees for the Celebration Garden **cared for**
3. Gas Powered Edge Trimmer
4. Multi-Ladder (currently borrowing Dave Wolf’s ladder)
5. Parking Lot Repaving
6. Sanctuary Wing Hot Water Tank
7. Refurbish Sanctuary wing restrooms

And for the parsonage:

1. Gas stove/range
2. Back Yard Deck
3. Re-Wallpaper Guest Bedroom (now a TV room) **cared for**
4. Lawn mower (so Pastor can mow the lawn)

Again, contact Tom Weaver if you would like to make any of these wishes come true.

11. February 13 is ASH WEDNESDAY

5 pm Lenten Supper & Study – Walking In The Footsteps of Jesus

6:30 pm ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP is at 6:30 in the Sanctuary. We will offer a service of repentance and reflection. The imposition of ashes will be available for those who wish to avail themselves of this ancient symbol of mortality and repentance.

Please remember that you don't have to travel to Israel to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. We do this in our daily lives. If Jesus was able to set people free from the things that hold them back, heal and forgive them and make a way for a fresh start, what does that mean for us as followers?? God works through ordinary people...doctors, lawyers, school teachers, scientists, bakers, parents, friends, kids of all ages...all ordinary people. Jesus had a heart for people especially those who were ill, troubled and marginalized. There are people all around us who are hurting, lonely, afraid, facing challenges of all kinds. If we walk in the footsteps of Jesus we need to be looking for them and doing what we can to make a difference, one person at a time.

Thanks for reading!

With Joy!

Sally

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