



Christ United Methodist Church - Amherst, NY
"Making Connections & Offering Opportunities
for Faith, Love & Service"

Weekly Update – January 15



Forever Home

A couple of weeks ago on the morning of the first day of the year, our dog Sonya of 14 years died. It was not a stellar start to the new year. With hearts broken and thoughts of the liberty that being a pet-less home offered, we set our sights on the future. The quiet and emptiness of the house set in, however, as did the realism that we are homebodies despite our best ambitions. So began conversations about the addition to our family ...

Last night we adopted Clover. The vetting process was more intense than applying for a passport, trying to provide the best outcome for pets that have been exposed to horrible realities. Forever home is a term used as the goal in the pet adoption community. As I carried her back from the bus stop this morning, I thought about the idea of 'forever home.' This concept, though not used by that terminology, is the implication of our adoption through Christ by the Holy Spirit to God (Romans 8:15). The vetting process is our faith. It is by this adoption that we receive the inheritance of heaven, a



forever home.

It is certainly my prayer that my family lives up to providing Clover a loving forever home. Likewise, it is also my prayer that we will grow to be the people that God sees we can be, worthy of our adoption. It is more than the goal of the pet adoption community; it is God's goal for each one of us - a forever home.

-Pastor Daven

We extend our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of **Joyce Moser**. Joyce died on Tuesday, January 14.

A memorial service celebrating Joyce's life will be held at Christ Church on **Saturday, January 18 at 10am**. The family will be present to receive friends Friday, January 17, from 4-8p.m. at Amigone Funeral Home (Sheridan Chapel, 5200 Sheridan Dr. Williamsville).

Church Conference

Sunday, January 19
3 p.m. at Christ Church
with our District Superintendent



All are invited and encouraged to attend!

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 pasta (wheat and gluten-free), tomato products (spaghetti sauce, tomato paste, crushed and diced tomatoes), and cereal (not Cheerios, please)** during **December**. 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.

Human Relations Day

Sunday, January 19

Our financial gifts for this special offering are part of building community through faith-based volunteer programs, community developers, and programs that work with at-risk teens. In recognizing Human Relations Day, we are called to make an impact in communities where people struggle because they don't have the tools or resources to reach their God-given potential.

This Week at Christ Church

Church Office Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 5 pm, Thurs. – 9am to Noon

Wednesday, January 15

- 7pm- Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 16

- 10am - Visitation Team
- 1pm - 'Thirstaid' Thursday Study
- 7pm - Staff-Parish Relations Team

Saturday, January 18

- 10am- Memorial Service: Joyce Moser

Sunday, January 19 -

Human Relations Sunday

- **10am - Worship Service**

VeggieTales Sunday for Kids

- **11am - Educational Opportunities**
- **11:30am - Community Youth Group: Sledding Activity**
- **3pm - Church Conference**

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.*

Daily Bible Reading – 2020 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.

January 15: Genesis 36-37; Matthew 12:1-21

January 16: Genesis 38-40; Matthew 12:22-50

January 17: Genesis 41; Matthew 13:1-32

January 18: Genesis 42-43; Matthew 13:33-58

January 19: Genesis 44-45; Matthew 14:1-21

January 20: Genesis 46-48; Matthew 14:22-36

January 21: Genesis 49-50; Matthew 15:1-20

Joys

***JOY!** \$306 was received during Sunday's 2nd Helping Offering for Compass House!*

In Our Healing Prayers

Receiving Hospice Care:

Sheldon Merritt

Peter Zaleski - hospitalized, hopes to come home soon

The Moser Family, Bruce Phillips, David Brown, Marion Rowlands, Barbara Carier, Helen Peacock, Dick Ball, Bruce Burr, Sissie Mooney, Dave Mitchell, Barbara Weaver, Jan Rhinehart, Pat Zaleski, Inez Beachley, Joe & Carolyn Day, Bob Varian, John Ladowski, Chrissy Merrill, Janet Hill, Mary Jane Shanley, Sue Estee, Frank Annunziata, Jean Ericson, Kevin Cetola

Cards for Caring Activity

Sunday, January 26



12:30 p.m.

All are welcome as we create cards to be given to those who need a note of encouragement!

RSVP to Paula Kreib (725-6067 -or-
snowflake.paula@gmail.com)



A.O.L. (Adult Opportunities for Learning)

Sundays following worship

January 19 - February 23: The Letters of Paul

Facilitator: Dr. David Pliss

What do these ancient letters that were used to encourage early followers of Christ have to say to us today about grace, faith, joy, growth, and unity in the midst of uncertainty? All are welcome.

Searching the Scriptures

Tuesdays at Noon

Each Tuesday Pastor Daven leads a time exploring the upcoming Sunday's Scripture. This will provide context to the Scripture(s) being explored and ultimately enrich the

experience of worship itself. All are welcome anytime!

Thirstaid Thursdays

Thursdays from 1-2:30 p.m.

"A Year of Biblical Womanhood"

By: Rachel Held Evans

Led by Diane Klenk

How did a liberated woman find herself sitting on her roof, covering her head, and calling her husband "Master"? Is this what God really expects of women? In this humorous and thought-provoking study, we'll discover what the Scriptures say and explore the lives of women of grace and strength whose stories still speak to us today. All are welcome.

Community Youth Group

All youth (grades 6-12) are invited to participate in these fun activities!

Sunday, January 19

11:30a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sledding (*weather dependent*)

Saturday, January 25

9 a.m.

Painting the Youth Room

For more information, contact John Miller (jptmiller30@msn.com).