

**Christ Church is Making Connections & Offering Opportunities for Faith,
Love & Service**



Weekly Update - January 2, 2019

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226



A Word From Pastor Daven

At some point most of us overcome our childhood fear of the dark, if we ever had it. The nightlights which warded off night visions is relegated to the hallway and bathroom to guide us when we have needs arise in the night.

But at times we all find moments when that fear of darkness returns. Perhaps it is when traveling in unfamiliar settings where we do not know the layout of the room, or in the mysterious time when we are not quite awake and not fully asleep. The disorientation in those moments proves vexing.

While Epiphany marks the arrival of the Magi at the scene of the nativity following the light of a star, it is also a time to acknowledge the coming of light in Christ. No longer do we need to be disoriented spiritually in our relationship with God or with others. For the light has come and shines in the darkness, giving us the ability and the vision to see, chasing all fear away. Glory to God in the highest!

Daily Bible Reading – 2019

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 2: Genesis 3-5; Matthew 2

January 3: Genesis 6-8; Matthew 3

January 4: Genesis 9-11; Matthew 4

January 5: Genesis 12-14; Matthew 5:1-26

January 6: Genesis 15-17; Matthew 5:27-48

January 7: Genesis 18-19; Matthew 6

January 8: Genesis 20-22; Matthew 7

Joys

Joy! We celebrate with the Weaver and Darling families on the marriage of **Ben & Mary Weaver** on Saturday, December 29!

In Sympathy

Our sympathy and prayers are with **Ann Barber** on the death of her husband, **John**, on December 27. For those who would like to be in touch, Ann's address is: 400 Wake Robin Dr. Apt. 119 Shelburne, VT 05492.

In Our Healing Prayers

Sheldon Merritt, Barbara Mitchell, Larry Burdette, Mary Parsons, Bruce Burr, Michele Sciolino, Sue Estee, Janet Hill, Valari Zanghi & father Harold Weaver, Pam Elbersen, Frank Annunziata, Mary Jane Shanley, Lois Lewis, Jean Ericson, Kevin Cetola, Sissie Mooney

*Those who are **care partners** with others

*Pray for Chris Maliken, Lindsey Darling & Ian Johnson serving in the US Navy

This Week at Christ Church

Church Office:

Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 5 pm,

Tues. & Thurs. – 9am to Noon

Wednesday, January 2 - 7pm- Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 4 - 7pm- Yoga

Sunday, January 6 - **10am - Worship Service**
Epiphany Sunday!

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.*

The date of our annual church conference will be **Monday, January 14 at 8 p.m.** at Christ Church. All are invited and encouraged to attend.



YOU Can 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 **toilet paper & paper towels** in January

Collecting carts at Christ Church are marked for Tiger's Den Food Pantry and for local families.



Spiritual Formation Opportunities

Exploring Sunday Scriptures

Every **Tuesday at Noon**, 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

You are invited to join in 'Thirstaid' Thursdays! Starting **January 10 at 1 p.m.** in the Wesley Room, Diane Klenk will lead a 4-week discussion on Bad Girls of the Bible, Part 2.

[a.o.i. @ CUMC](#)

Sundays in January

11 a.m. in the Wesley Room

"A Disciple's Path"

Reading and reflection on how we grow in faith

Books available from David Pliss



Church Office Hours:

Monday -Wednesday- Friday, 9 am to 5 pm

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am to Noon

SUNDAYS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Worship at 10 am

Educational Opportunities at 11 am