



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

Weekly Update – January 27

Running Around

I know that these cold gray days can often lure us into doing less rather than more. When I presented the idea of going for a long hike, the stares that met me suggested that this did not fit with temperatures and conditions, let alone temperaments. I altered my approach, lobbying for a long dog walk including a little pocket park where leash could be removed and energy expelled for both canine and human. The only complaints surfaced on the walk back as fingers and toes started to rebel against the cold. Otherwise, this little outing helped to invigorate us.



Matching the hopes inspired by our faith to the ambitions of ministry right at this moment are met with conditions and temperaments which stop us before we can even think about starting. These are hard months and COVID has been no help in thinking about an active faith and ministry. While we have migrated so much online where opportunities abound, when it comes to hands-on ministry, even without COVID, the cold and climate batters us into complacency. We like to think that it is a result of our calendar and unique conditions, but Jesus didn't exactly start off into ministry or conclude it with open arms and enthusiasm. It didn't stop him, nor should our present reality stop us from doing a little running around to help reinvigorate us. I know we can't really get out, but this gives us the perfect moment to find a little safe place here in our lives to begin to exercise and run through what our hopes are for our lives, our neighborhood, our region, our nation, and our world. How does our faith inform those hopes and where are those small places that we can begin to let that faith run free?

It doesn't mean that sometimes things won't feel a little cold or that our approach will need to change relative to getting ourselves or others excited. But a little running around, even if it is just in our imaginations and planning, can make us all feel reinvigorated by the Spirit.

-Pastor Daven



We are asking that all who are interested in attending worship in-person on Sunday mornings at 10am to please register with the church office by calling or emailing (839-2460 -or- cumc350@gmail.com) between 10am and 2pm each Friday prior to the weekend's service. Space is limited to the first 20 spots on a first-come, first-served basis to comply with the "orange zone" restrictions currently in place for Erie County. If our region moves into a "red zone", all in-person worship will be suspended.

We continue to offer online worship opportunities via Live-Stream on [our YouTube channel](#), which is archived following its conclusion. While our hope remains to have in-person opportunities for Sunday worship, we are committed to the health and safety of all people. We will follow all guidelines provided and strongly advise any who are nervous or feeling even slightly unwell to please stay home and worship virtually through this time.



Worship is now available on Sunday mornings at 10am, both in person and online!

Live-streamed worship will be available beginning at 10am each Sunday, with a direct link posted on our website and Facebook page to our livestream: www.youtube.com/CUMCAmherst/live

Recordings of each service will also be available on our YouTube channel for viewing once the service has ended.

Please be advised of new guidelines for those wishing to worship together in person at Christ Church:

- All will be required to wear a mask. We will have a limited supply of masks on hand for those who come without one.
- Enter through one door at the main entrance.
- Use hand sanitizer at the provided station before entering the Sanctuary.
- Maintain social distancing (6 feet apart) from those not within your immediate family.
- Please do not enter the building if you are experiencing any symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, chills, diarrhea).

We will continue to provide online opportunities for worship and connection. Our [YouTube channel](#) is the best way to find new content and worship services. We encourage you to 'Subscribe' to our channel! You'll be notified each time new content is uploaded, and the more subscribers we have, the less ads will appear!

[Click here to check out our YouTube channel](#)

[Click here to be connected to our website](#)

[Click here to be directed to our Facebook page](#)

This Week at Christ Church

Winter Office Hours:

Monday/ Wednesday/ Friday

9a.m. - 2p.m.

At all times, even during office hours, the building will remain locked. Please call for admittance.

Thursday, January 28

1 p.m. - *Thirstaid Thursday Zoom Study*

Sunday, January 31

10 a.m. - *Worship In-Person and Live-Stream*

Tuesday, February 2

7 p.m. - *Church Council*

Daily Bible Reading – 2021 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 27: Exodus 13-15; Matthew 19:1-15

January 28: Exodus 16-18; Matthew 19:16-30

January 29: Exodus 19-21; Matthew 20:1-16

January 30: Exodus 22-24; Matthew 20:17-34

January 31: Exodus 25-26; Matthew 21:1-22

February 1: Exodus 27-28; Matthew 21:23-46

February 2: Exodus 29-30; Matthew 22:1-22

In Our Healing Prayers

-**Debbie Laberta** - recovering at Schofield Rehab

-**Dave Wolf** - recovering at Weinberg Rehab

-**Amy Thormahlen**

-**Mary Gerhardt (Mother of Lisa Lawson)** - upcoming surgery

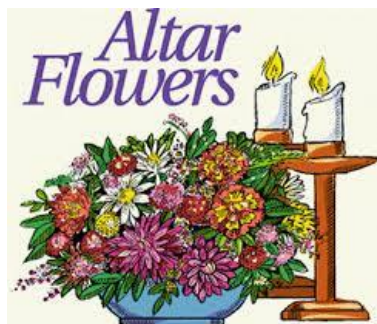
The Miller & Phillips Families, Lynda Painton, Scott Smith, Sue Estee, Ruth Munson, Dave & Barbara Mitchell, Paul Staley, Jim Pollard, Valari Zanghi, Kevin Cetola, Nancy & Frank Annunziata, Helen Peacock, Joe & Carolyn Day, Dick Ball, Barbara Weaver, Inez Beachley, Bob Varian, John Ladowski, Janet Hill, Mary Jane Shanley, Jean Ericson

*All educators and students dealing with new school realities

*Those affected with COVID-19, those working on the front lines, and all impacted by the suspension of work and activities.

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

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



The flowers on the Lord's Table for Sunday, January 31 are given by Tom & Kathy Weaver, celebrating the birthdays of those near and far with joy in their hearts.

Thirstaid Thursdays

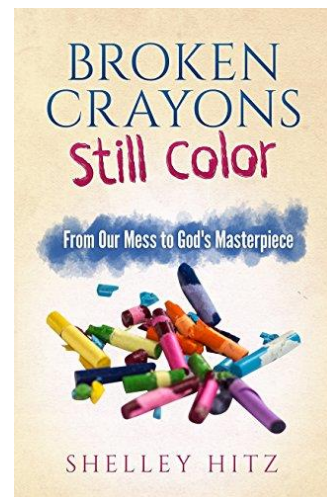
Through February 11, 2021
1:00 – 2:30 on Zoom

Broken Crayons Still Color:
From Our Mess to God's Masterpiece

A study by Shelly Hitz

Facilitators: Diane Klenk & Peggy Bermudez

This book is available in paperback and digital editions from a wide variety of booksellers, including Barnes and Noble and Amazon.



Topic: Broken Crayons Still Color

Jan 28 @ 1:00 PM

Feb 4 @ 1:00 PM

Feb 11 @ 1:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82955680698>

Meeting ID: 829 5568 0698

One tap mobile
+19292056099,,82955680698# US (New York)

Dial by your location
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

UMCOR Hygiene Kits

The Outreach Team invites you to assemble a Hygiene Kit for UMCOR! These kits will help people who have suffered due to natural disasters. The supplies can be assembled and placed in a large plastic gallon bag and then brought to church. We will collect them until UMCOR Sunday on **March 14, 2021**.

Hygiene Kit Materials

- **One hand towel** (15 x 25 –17 x 27 inches)
 - *No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels*
- **One washcloth**
 - *No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels*
- **One comb**
 - *Must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth*
 - *No pocket combs or picks*
 - *Rattail/ combs without handles are acceptable but must have at least 6 inches of teeth*
- **One toenail or fingernail clipper**
 - *No emery boards or metal nail files*
- **Bath-size soap** (3 oz. bar or larger)
 - *No Ivory or Jergen's soap*
 - *Do not remove from packaging*
- **One adult toothbrush**
 - *Do not remove from packaging*
 - *Personal advertising not acceptable*
- **10 adhesive bandages** (¾ by 3 inches)
 - *Common household bandages acceptable*
- **One one-gallon size re-sealable bag**

Hygiene Kit Value: \$12.00 per kit

Assembly Instructions

1. Lay hand towel flat on a table.
2. Lay the washcloth in the center of the hand towel.
3. Place all remaining items on top of the washcloth (except the plastic bag).
4. Fold the sides of the hand towel to cover the items.
5. Grasp the bundle tightly and roll over the remainder of the towel.
6. Place the tightly rolled bundle in the plastic bag, remove air, and seal.

<https://www.gnjumc.org/resource/umcor-hygiene-kit-assembly-instructions/>

<https://umcmmission.org/umcor-hygiene-kit/>

Check out the fun Valentine's Day children's activity on our website!

Faith Activities for Children

Stay tuned for Lent activities later in February!