



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

Weekly Update – January 8



“He’s got the whole world in his hands” so the spiritual goes. And we do believe, as Christians, that this world and universe is of God. But we then take this belief, transmitting all the world’s suffering, hatred, death, ... anything that goes wrong, on God. Our thoughts move from ‘if God has the whole world in God’s hand, THEN God made / allowed this to happen.’

We forget that we are made to be caretakers, stewards of all God has created. We tend to pack that reading away, seal it up in a box along with all our decorations. I hope we might pause at the image of the tiny Christ child before it disappears for another year. Taking into our palm, as in this picture, to recognize that Christmas is not only a celebration of God’s gift to us in Jesus, but a call to us to nurture and care for what has been given.

We now become those who are the Christ-bearers to the world. We are the hands and feet of God upon this world that remains in God’s hands. We collectively are called to let this light and love grow with us and in us. For God so loved this world, that God placed its redemption in our hands for all who believe.



-Pastor Daven

Church Conference

Sunday, January 19

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.

2nd Sunday Offering

This week's Second Sunday, Second Helping Offering (January 12) will go to **Compass House**. Compass House's mission is to provide runaway, homeless and street youth with safe shelter and services, through a voluntary and mutually agreed-upon process, in an environment that supports dignity, respect and self-reliance.

This Week at Christ Church

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

Wednesday, January 8

- 7pm- Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 9

- 1pm - 'Thirstaid' Thursday Study
- 7pm - Circle of Joy

Saturday, January 11

- 9:15am- District UMW Board Meeting

Sunday, January 12

- **10am - Worship Service**
- **11am - Educational Opportunities**

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 8: Genesis 20-22; Matthew 7

January 9: Genesis 23-24; Matthew 8

January 10: Genesis 25-26; Matthew 9:1-17

January 11: Genesis 27-28; Matthew 9:18-38

January 12: Genesis 29-30; Matthew 10:1-23

January 13: Genesis 31-32; Matthew 10:24-42

January 14: Genesis 33-35; Matthew 11

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

In Our Healing Prayers

Receiving Hospice/Palliative Care:

Sheldon Merritt

Joyce Moser

Peter Johnston

Bruce Phillips - recently hospitalized, now home

Marion Rowlands - foot surgery

David Brown - recent surgery went well

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

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

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

Mary Parsons has moved.

Her new address is:

Eden Heights

4071 Hardt Rd. Room 306

Eden, NY 14057



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.

Hearts & Hands

Christ Church is pleased to partner with **Hearts and Hands**. Hearts and Hands is a not-for-profit, neighbor-helping-neighbor organization which pairs volunteers with seniors to provide transportation for medical appointments, grocery shopping, and errands. Some volunteers also provide in-home supports such as light housekeeping, yard work and caregiver respite.

Hearts and Hands is always in need of volunteers. Volunteering is flexible, select only the assignments which are convenient for you. Mileage reimbursement and supplemental insurance coverage are provided. If you're looking for a way you can live out the spirit of giving by sharing your time and talents with our care receivers please call (716) 406-8311 ext. 103.

Visit Hearts and Hands' website: hnhcares.org

