

## Weekly Update: July 12, 2016

### Sharing Sunday's Prayer—as requested

God, we come together this morning out of habit or because our lives are full and we sense a need to be in this place...or whatever brings us here... we take this moment to place ourselves in your presence..... We expect that being here together will make a difference in how we live this week. In word and story we see Jesus--confronted...challenged...and we think, "I know how that feels. There are things threatening to derail my life too... I'm not my best self and I don't know what to do about that." You don't stay away because of our challenges and our failings. You come close and that nearness and presence makes all the difference. We know that one simple prayer, no magic words will remove the temptations, the addictions, the anger/fears/work/attitudes and actions with which we struggle...at times they threaten to completely undo us...we don't even recognize ourselves. But you won't let evil settle in and take away what you have created in love and goodness. You've given us to one another ...to love, to forgive and to support and encourage each other...it's the heart of who you are and how you work in us and through us, so that everyone would flourish in life. **Thank you for your gift of life**, for trusting us as partners in your purpose. Guide us to discover more about you, about the "more" that you promise, more than we can ever imagine, but that we experience through the life story of Jesus. Help us stop assuming that the way things are is the way things have to be. You choose to work through us...our everyday lives to become visible and known in the world. We offer ourselves to you...may what we think and say and do... be one...one with your purpose for loving the world...every person. Make us bold to oppose forces/systems that rob people of the fullness of life. As **you** enter into brokenness, disappointment and need, may we find the courage you've already placed in us to follow you there, to stand for and with others who are mistreated or ignored...And may we work together to make Christ Church a place and a community of welcome and shelter, willing to cross boundaries and confront forces that possess us....and make a way to life and wholeness in Jesus, who shows us the way and teaches us the power in prayer. Amen.

### A Word From Ed Fisher – Staff- Parish Relations Team

Based on the pledged income and anticipated income from other sources the 2016 budget was adjusted by the Church Council in February.

**The staff salaries were adjusted with the result that:**

- **Pastor Darryl Barrow's appointment at Christ Church - could no longer be sustained financially**

During meetings with the District Superintendent, Rev Wayne Butler, it was decided that what we needed and could afford was an Interim Pastor who could assess the situation at CUMC and begin the revitalization process while operating at less than full time. The search was initiated by the DS to make this appointment. On June 16 we learned that the Bishop appointed the Rev. James (Jim) Pollard to be our Interim Senior Pastor for one year.

- **Minister for Christian Education & Community Life-**

## position reduced to part-time hours and salary

Sally Pollard will continue to provide input with the Christian Education team who will have primary responsibility for Christian formation. Sally will concentrate her efforts on Community Life with a goal of making Christ Church a vital part of the local community and as a result, making the local community a vital part of the church community.

**Sally's Hours** - Monday & Tuesday – 9 am to 1 pm, Thursday – 9 am to 3 pm  
Wednesday & Friday – off

- This action did not affect the salaries of others on the staff team, although the hours, but NOT the salary of Janelle Martin, Office Manager/Ministry Assistant, have been reduced to make her position at CUMC more attractive to her. This will take effect on September 1.

## Daily Bible Reading – 2016 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.

July 12: Psalms 7-9; Acts 17:1-15

July 13: Psalms 10-12; Acts 17:16-34

July 14: Psalms 13-16; Acts 18

July 15: Psalms 17-18; Acts 19:1-20

July 16: Psalms 19-21; Acts 19:21-41

July 17: Psalms 22-24; Acts 20:1-16

July 18: Psalms 25-27; Acts 20:17-38

## In Our Prayers

Glenn Hurst – currently hospitalized, Dave Lawson & Janet Hill – surgery this week

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to **Marie Maker** on the death of her husband, **Ed**, on Monday, July 11. Ed was a Christ Church usher for many years. He will be sadly missed.

Carol Corsaro, Chris Klenk, – recovering at home;

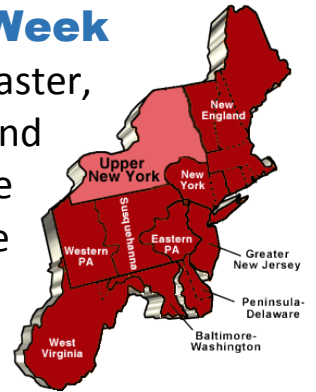
Patty Keller, Charles Terranova, Richard Mestler, Guy Ferrelli, Fred Painton, Gaetano Castellino Sr., Elvira Gonzalez

Corsaro Family – death of Ron & Carol's sister-in-law, Ann Corsaro

Chris Maliken, Alex Dunbar, Lindsey Darling & Ian Johnson\* (deployed) – all serve in the US Navy

## Northeast Jurisdictional Conference Meets This Week

Delegates of the NEJ conference are meeting this week in Lancaster, PA to elect Bishops and select members for General Boards and Agencies of the United Methodist Church. The theme of the conference is, "Quilted by Connection" which honors the Pennsylvania Dutch area in which they meet as well as the diversity of the church's identity. One of the candidates for Bishop endorsed by the Upper NY Conference is the Rev. Cathy Hall-Stengel, daughter-in-law of Florence Stengel.



Keep the participants and this work of discernment and ministry in your prayers this week.

## Thank you to Children's Caregiver-- Leanne Paddock

On Sunday we said "Thank you" to Leanne Paddock who has been a part of our caregiving team for our littlest ones. Each Sunday we provide childcare throughout the morning. Leanne has been dependable, as well as confident and caring. She works well with children and communicates effectively with parents as well. We wrapped Leanne in a blanket to remind her that she is wrapped in our love and God's love as she goes out into the world. Leanne will be leaving soon for Syracuse University!

## This Week at Christ Church

Monday - Friday, July 11-15 9 am – 12 Noon

**Vacation Bible School**

Tuesday, July 12 - 9 am – 12 noon **VBS**

Wednesday, July 13 - 9 am – 12 Noon **VBS**

Thursday, July 14 – 9 am – 12 Noon **VBS**

Friday, July 15 - 9 am – 12 Noon **VBS**



Saturday, July 16 – 10 am Carpool to Niagara Organ Works  
4 pm Wedding – Dana Beyer & Phil Backus

Sunday, July 17 - “What Jesus Came To Do”  
Luke 4: 16 - 30

## **Opportunities to Make A Difference**

**Food Pantry** - suggested items:

July 10 – Canned meats – chicken, tuna, salmon  
July 17 - Baby Items – formula, food and diapers

**Please remember** - *Hunger doesn't take a summer vacation!* Food is needed.

*All food items, **paper products** and **toiletry items** are welcome anytime.  
Grocery carts are available in the church for your donations. Thank you!*

### **Summer Sundays - Host the Cafe**

Sign up on the bulletin board in the café to host some Sunday morning!  
Invite your family, friends, ministry team or group to join you!  
Share in this Café ministry of hospitality and welcome.

### **Needed**

Removal of 2 dying Ash trees on the church property.  
Cost - \$5000. Mark your contributions – *tree removal*.

### **Celebration Brick Walkway**

Donations are being received to add bricks to the walkway in the Celebration Garden to honor our former Pastors

**Sinnathamby Thevanesan**

**B.J. Norrix**

**Darryl Barrow**

*Simply mark your contributions “Brick Walkway”*

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## Benefit Fundraiser

Nora Townsend & Herb Wilber are part of the organizing committee to raise funds for their brother-in-law who has cancer. The benefit will be held on **Saturday July 30th** at the Brounshidle Post #205 located at 3354 Delaware Ave in Kenmore. The cost is \$20 for adults and children 12 and under are free. There will be draft beer, food and soda between 6PM and 11PM. A band called Big Mama will provide music and donated gift certificates and gift baskets (50 so far) will be auctioned at the event. See herb & Nora for Tickets and details.

## Visit Niagara Organ Works

Everyone is welcome to join the UM Men's Group when they visit the shop facility of Niagara Organ Works on Saturday, July 16 to learn what's involved in the building, maintaining and restoring of pipe organs. Owned and operated by Paul Staley, our Minister of Music, Christ Church's Arrison Pipe Organ was rebuilt and expended by Niagara Organ Works. Tour the facility, see work in progress and view a pictorial presentation which includes the work done at Christ Church. Meet at the church at 10 am to carpool. Lunch at a local restaurant follows the tour. Call **Paul Staley – 536-5370** or **Tom Nye 213-3642** with questions.

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"As the church, may we have confidence in the work of the Gospel message and may we boldly offer that message to the world. I am reminded of words we find in paragraph 121 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*: **"Whenever United Methodism has had a clear sense of mission, God has used our church to save persons, heal relationships, transform social structures, and spread scriptural holiness, thereby changing the world."** May we live our mission together, as we offer Jesus to the world!

Let us not continue to model the broken ways of our societies within the church, but may we live a different way and offer that different way to those around us, as the truth of Christ changes lives, strengthens individuals and families and offers the promise of transformation.

**"He has told you what is good: and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"**



Bishop Mark J. Webb  
UNY Annual Conference