

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

Weekly Update - July 17, 2019

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226



A Word From Pastor Daven

This week marks the 50th anniversary of the historic Apollo 11 moon landing. When put in the perspective of flight, that is less than 66 years after that short fateful flight in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina! For the moon mission, it is nearly impossible to add the number of individuals of all the various industries who labored in some way to make it possible. I've seen one figure that estimated 400,000 people helped to achieve what had long been deemed unachievable. It is incredible what human ingenuity and drive can accomplish.

Looking up at the floating orb in the night sky, recalling this historic event, and contemplating this consolidated effort makes me curious what other 'impossible' objectives would be solvable and possible if we worked collectively together. Hunger? Poverty? Peace? When we pray as Christ taught, praying for earth to reflect heaven, it is a collective prayer for a moon shot. It is what *could* be possible IF we all work together. Yes, the distance seems vast and far. Yes, it appears as a dream. But this prayer represents not only the hopes and aspirations for all life, but the very real possibility.

Look up at the moon; honor those who were daring enough to believe. Then, let us dare to believe where we have not seen, that our faith may move us through our years, seeking out the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that someday we may be celebrating another, different anniversary - our own involvement "on earth as it is in heaven."



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.

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

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

July 19: Psalms 28-30; Acts 21:1-14

July 20: Psalms 31-33; Acts 21:15-40

July 21: Psalms 34-35; Acts 22

July 22: Psalms 36-37; Acts 23:1-11

July 23: Psalms 38-40; Acts 23:12-35

Joy

Joy! \$281 was given in Sunday's 2nd Helping offering to purchase topsoil for the community garden, located between the church parking lot and the parsonage. Produce from the garden will be given to Tiger's Den Food Pantry.

In Sympathy

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Diane Schroeder (former organist at CUMC) and her family. Diane's mother, Alfrieda Poe, died on Friday, July 12.

In Our Healing Prayers

Ross Markello - in hospice care at Beechwood

Debbie Laberta, Helen Peacock, Bob Varian, Bruce Burr, Inez Beachley, John Ladowski, Chrissy Merrill, Virginia 'Ginny' Molin, Joyce Moser, Janet Hill, Sissie Mooney, 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

This Week at Christ Church

SUMMER Church Office Hours:

*Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to **3 pm**,*

Thurs. – 9am to Noon

Sunday, July 21 - 10am - Worship Service

11am- Digest the Sermon with Pastor Daven

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.*

Vacation Bible School

A big **THANK YOU** to all who helped with last week's VBS: To Mars and Beyond!

We appreciate all who taught and assisted, and all who donated snacks, decorations, and gave financial gifts. We had a great week exploring where God's power can take us and discovering the wonders of God's universe!

Check out pictures on [our Facebook page!](#)

We want to hear from YOU! Please take our quick, [3 question survey](#) to help us better understand your scheduling desires for VBS next year.

Thank you!

"Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by His power at work within us." -Ephesians 3:20



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 **condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, syrup), flour, sugar, oil, and salt** during the summer. They 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.

Painting Fund Matching Gift

A matching gift of up to \$5,000 has been offered for the painting and renewal of Crafts Hall! Gifts can be mailed, dropped off in the office, or placed in the offering plate on Sunday, with checks made to Christ United Methodist Church and "Painting Fund" on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity in helping to update and beautify our shared spaces!

Seneca Street Church – Save the Gym!

Seneca Street Church needs their gym 6 days a week for their after school program and other ministries. Earlier this year, a flood ruined the gym floor and repair costs are \$20,000. Please help Save the Gym! Jars have been placed around Christ Church to receive your contributions. Any amount is welcome. Thank you!

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!

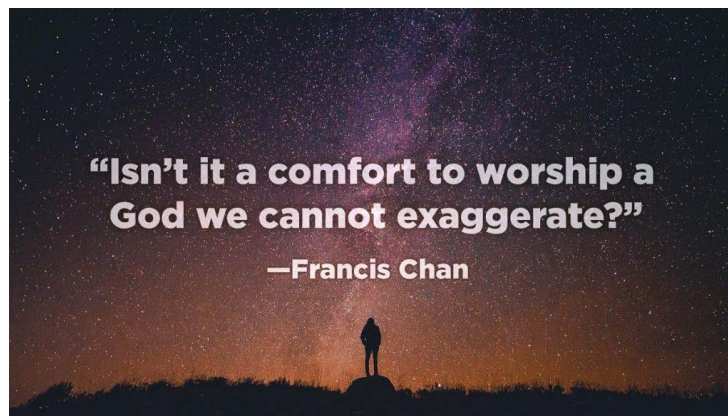
****Please note - There will not be any ESS on Tuesday, July 23.***

Digest the Sermon

During the summer, you are invited to "Digest the Sermon" after you've heard it! Following the worship service, you are invited to join in conversation about the message with Rev. Daven Oskvig. Gather in the Café, pick up your coffee or tea or juice and a snack, socialize for several minutes, and then gather in the Family Room to share your responses, questions, and understandings of that morning's sermon with Pastor Daven and your fellow worshipers.

Safe Shred Console

Lincoln Archives, Inc. has provided Christ Church with a safe shred console, which is located in the main office. If you have items to be shredded, feel free to bring them in and drop them off in the console, which will soon be taken to Lincoln Archives, Inc. to be shredded safely and securely.



SUMMER Church Office Hours:

Monday -Wednesday- Friday: 9 am to 3 pm

Tuesday: Closed Thursday: 9 am to Noon

SUNDAYS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Worship at 10 am

'Digest the Sermon' with Pastor Daven at 11 a.m.