

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

**Weekly Update - July 4**

**Christ United Methodist Church**

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226

**A Word From Pastor Daven**

Grandpa never came into town for the fireworks on July 4th. He drove in the parade, a proud member of the American Legion. He volunteered alongside my Grandma and what felt like all the rest of the town among the various carnival activities that took place in the central town park. When those concluded, we all headed back for a brief respite before a return to the baseball fields on the edge of town for the fireworks ... all but Grandpa.

It was only years later that I learned that the percussive sounds of fireworks were reminders of his service in the Army during WWII that he was not anxious to revisit. He never sought, however, to impede anyone else's fun or freedom, having fought to maintain it. So he quietly just stayed behind on the farm while we 'ooohhedd ... and .... awwwghedd' at the show in the night sky.

God has given us all the freedom of freewill, of choice. It is a wonderful thing to be able to exercise that freedom and freewill in our faith life, freely assembling in our worship. Let us not squander this freedom in imposing our opinions upon others, even when our own life experiences may have reshaped us to no longer participate or enjoy certain things. Moreover, let us seek in our connections to create opportunities to learn people's stories and walk with them. We might just gain a greater appreciation for their lives, for how as we are with them God comes to be with us, too.

**-Pastor Daven**

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## Daily Bible Reading – 2018

## 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 4: Job 29-30; Acts 12

July 5: Job 31-32; Acts 13:1-23

July 6: Job 33-34; Acts 13:24-52

July 7: Job 35-37; Acts 14

July 8: Job 38-39; Acts 15:1-21

July 9: Job 40-42; Acts 15:22-41

July 10: Psalms 1-3; Acts 16:1-15

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### JOYS!

**Thank You** to **John, Brandon, and Jonathan Miller!** Jonathan's Eagle Scout project was clearing brush from behind the church and installing a new gate. We appreciate the hard work of their group this past Friday and Saturday during the sweltering heat!

### In Our Healing Prayers

**Janet Hill**

**Chrissy Merrill**

**Mary Jane Shanley**

**Michele Sciolino, Robert Nachbar, Millie Staley, Bob Varian, Greg Mailken, Dennis**

**Scaringi, Sue Estee, 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

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## **This Week at Christ Church**

**Church Office (Summer):**

**Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 3 pm,**

**Tues. & Thurs. – 9am to Noon**

Wednesday, July 4 - *Office Closed*

**Happy 4th of July!**

Sunday, July 8 - 9 am - Casual Praise Service

11 am - Traditional Worship

**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.*

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**Vacation Bible School  
at Christ Church**

**July 9 - 13**

**9 a.m. - Noon**

**\$20 per child**



It's not too late! [Register online today!](#)

Please keep the children and staff of VBS in your prayers as they prepare  
for a fun-filled week ahead!

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## 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 **couscous & quinoa** in July.

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

## Red Cross Blood Drive

**Friday, July 20**

**2 – 6 p.m.**

Contact Geoff Hill (839-3052) with questions or to register.



## The Teacher's Desk

The Teacher's Desk is a local faith-based organization that offers free school supplies to teachers based on their school's need. Throughout the month of July, Christ Church will join other local churches in gathering **new or gently read books** for K-12 students. Please place books in the bin located in the Family Room. Thank you!

## New Café Tables and Chairs

A comfortable place to gather offers hospitality and a warm welcome to all people from our community who meet at Christ Church throughout the week. With this in

mind, the Hospitality Team has selected new tables and chairs for our Café. Eight sets are needed and the cost per set is \$235. Your generosity will help this vision become a reality. If you or your group would like to purchase a set of tables and chairs, please make checks payable to CUMC and write Café Furniture in the memo line. Gifts in any amount are welcome! Thank you!

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## 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!

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## Take Time To Smell The Flowers

The Men's Group is planning to visit Sonnenberg Gardens and Mansion State Historic Park in Canandaigua N.Y. on **Wednesday, July 11**. The Victorian Mansion, gardens, and greenhouse complex should be a wonderful place for us to tour in July. For more specific details you can visit [www.sonnenberg.org](http://www.sonnenberg.org).

We plan to meet at church at 10am and carpool to Canandaigua, approx. 1 1/2hrs. We will enjoy a light lunch in the High Noon Café on the Sonnenberg grounds before starting the tour, which lasts approximately 2 hours. The discounted group rate for entry to the park is \$12 per person, lunch choices run \$12-15.

This is not just a men's event - **all are welcome to join!** If interested, please let us know, so we can give Sonnenberg the approximate number in our group. A down payment is required for the discount rate. You can contact either Ed Gilbert ([edwingilbert@verizon.net](mailto:edwingilbert@verizon.net)) or Bob Lovell ([rlovellthg@cs.com](mailto:rlovellthg@cs.com)) if you plan to attend.

## Help Promote Peace in the World

Something extraordinary happens when you share your home and family with a high school student from another country. That's why 13,000 families worldwide host AFS students every year. *You can help build bridges of intercultural understanding and enrich your own life in countless ways by opening your heart and home to an AFS exchange student.*



Host families come in all shapes and sizes, and everyone is encouraged to apply! Host families provide a bed, meals, and the same guidance you would for your own child, and are supported by local AFS volunteers. Students are here for the academic year (August-June), though they will become a part of your family and your lives for many years to come!

The world is transformed when people from different countries and cultures share their lives, learn together, and better understand one another. Help make the world a more just and peaceful place, one person at a time, by hosting an AFS student. Visit the AFS website at <http://www.afsusa.org/host-family/> or contact Jenna Powell at: [jpowell@afsusa.org](mailto:jpowell@afsusa.org); 585-410-2017.

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### **Church Office Hours (Summer):**

Monday -Wednesday- Friday, 9 am to 3 pm

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am to Noon

### **SUNDAY AT CHRIST CHURCH**

Casual Praise Worship at 9 am

Traditional Worship at 11 am

