



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

Weekly Update – July 8



Day Lilies

There are a number of flowers which open, close and / or follow the sun as it makes its way across the sky, such as day lilies which we have in a couple of areas bordering fences and garages. They are now in full bloom, opening to the sun in daytime and closing at night, with the flower only lasting a couple of days before falling off in its curled state.



The Gospel of John refers to Jesus as the light. Resurrection itself is often connected with the dawn of a new day of creation drawing upon the similarities of sunrise and the son's rise. Elsewhere Jesus is called the daystar. As I have admired the lilies this year it has caused me to think about how we open to God's light in Christ as it comes into our lives. Does it cause us to flower, opening that inner beauty of our best selves which God knows and by the grace in Christ opens to the world? I hope we might be as engaging as the lilies of the field, as open to the Son's light as they are to sunlight. With that prayer, let the words of Charles Wesley's hymn ring in our ears:

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies
(elsewhere known as the 'Morning Hymn')

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night:
Day-spring from on high, be near:
Day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by thee,
Joyless is the day's return,
Till thy mercy's beams I see;
Till thy inward light impart,
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
Pierce the gloom of sin, and grief,
Fill me, Radiance Divine,
Scatter all my unbelief,
More and more thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

-Pastor Daven



Reopening

We are anticipating that our first in-person and live-streamed worship service will be Sunday, July 19!

As we look forward to reopening our doors, 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! 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](#)

Food Drive to Benefit Tigers Den Food Pantry

The Outreach Team will be holding a Food Drive at Christ Church this **Saturday, July 11** from **10am - 1pm**. Please tell your friends!

Tiger's Den has requested the following items: *Toothbrushes, Shampoo, Canned Beans (no black beans), Pork & Beans, Canned Sweet Potatoes, Canned Fruit Cocktail, Canned Mandarin Oranges, Tuna Fish, Cereal (no Cheerios), Canned Chicken, Muffin Mixes. **No medications or expired food.***

Members of the Outreach Team will be happy to take your items from your car and transfer them to another vehicle, which will then deliver them to Tigers Den.

This Week at Christ Church

Church Office Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 2 pm

Please call the office (839-2460) or Pastor Daven (903-6024) with any questions or concerns.

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.

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

July 11: Psalms 4-6; Acts 16:16-40

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

In Our Healing Prayers

Carol Maltbie - recovering from shoulder replacement surgery

The Burr Family - gathering for Bruce's internment July 11

Paul Staley - beginning cancer treatment

Jon Davis, Helen Peacock, Joe & Carolyn Day, Sissie Mooney, Barbara Burr, Scott Smith, Dick Ball, Barbara Weaver, Inez Beachley, Bob Varian, John Ladowski, Janet Hill, Mary Jane Shanley, Sue Estee, Frank Annunziata, Jean Ericson, Kevin Cetola

*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

Ways to Make a Difference

Tigers Den Food Drive

We invite you to drop off food in the Christ Church parking lot on **Saturday, July 11 from 10am-1pm.**

Food donations will benefit the Tigers Den Food Pantry.

Donations for Seneca Street

Seneca Street UMC continues to feed and minister to the community in the Seneca-Babcock area of Buffalo.

The Outreach Team of Christ Church is committed to financially supporting Seneca Street in their mission. If you would like to help provide meals/meat to those served at Seneca Street UMC, you can make checks out to Christ Church with "Seneca Street UMC" on the memo line.

Thirstaid Bible Study via Zoom - *Rest*

Thursdays: July 9, 16, 23, 30

1 - 2 p.m.

Facilitator: Peggy Bermudez

This summer, we will be trying something new, a Thirstaid Bible Study via Zoom. No matter where you are, you will be able to join the conversation **every Thursday in July from 1:00 – 2:00 pm**. Our theme for the sessions will be *Rest*. Although we've all had more time at home in recent months, our time has not necessarily been restful. Stress, anxiety, uncertainty, and grief have taken their toll and we all need rest. There will be no study book or preparation, simply join the conversation as we explore what the Bible has to say about rest and how we can renew our weary souls. We hope you will join this virtual gathering as we experiment with a new way to make connections and learn together!

Topic: Rest Bible Study

Time: Jul 9, 2020 1:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95926711069>

Meeting ID: 959 2671 1069

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,95926711069# US (New York)

+16465189805,,95926711069# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 646 518 9805 US (New York)

Our Meeting ID will remain the same each week.