

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

Weekly Update - June 20

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226

A Word From Pastor Daven

Trail Culture

I know I've explored before through this medium aspects of what I get and what I give through my running adventures. Having just had an experience this past weekend, I wanted to share another reflection which also connects with part of the scripture from Acts we will hear this week.

It has to do with trail running, aid stations, fellow runners and this zany reality of trying to cover the many miles we do. One of the reasons that I continue to dip from this well of wisdom is not only the physical, mental and spiritual challenges and learning it gives, but it seems to exemplify the best of Christian teaching. Let me explain ...

We are encouraged in our faith to hold things in common, to help the stranger, to love our neighbor. And while we know these things are right and good, they are frankly hard to practice. Somehow these trail races manage it, however. People volunteer their time to manage aid stations for strangers, giving them food and drink throughout the day and night. Fellow runners extend their own care, compassion, and aid to one another along with shared love and words of encouragement. I know that many think the distances covered are the greatest achievement, but I beg to differ. It is this experience that makes me return time and again, that I may try and figure out how we as followers of Christ can be an aid station to the stranger within our communities, how we can extend care, compassion, and aid to one another as we make our way through the race that is life.

It is little surprise to me that in the book of Hebrews a life of faith is compared to a race, with the encouragement to focus on the one that is set before us. But I think it is more than that- it is about who we are and how we are as we make our way through that race that really defines followers of Christ. Some may marvel at the distances we go, but really the real marvel is in the difference we make.

-Pastor Daven

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.

June 20: Nehemiah 12-13; Acts 4:23-37

June 21: Esther 1-3; Acts 5:1-16

June 22: Esther 4-6; Acts 5:17-42

June 23: Esther 7-10; Acts 6

June 24: Job 1-3; Acts 7:1-19

June 25: Job 4-6; Acts 7:20-43

June 26: Job 7-9; Acts 7:44-60

JOYS!

JOY! Don Critoph's Jaguar earned several 1st place trophies in a recent car show. Don has had the car since he was 24 years old.

JOY! Patty Keller participated in the recent Dragon Boat races at Canalside!

JOY! Pastor Daven Oskvig completed an ultra marathon on a very hot weekend in Ohio. This trail run is 100 miles long!

JOY! Congratulations to **Lisa Lawson**, art teacher at Sweet Home Middle School, and **Dede Johnson**, staff member at the Falk School, as they retire this week. New adventures await!

In Our Healing Prayers

Janet Hill - recent knee replacement

The Painton, Shanley, Snyder & Fisher Families, Robert Nachbar, Millie Staley, Bob Varian, Greg Mailken, Dennis Scaringi, Sue Estee, Lois Lewis, Janet Hill, 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

This Week at Christ Church

Church Office:

Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 5 pm,

Tues. & Thurs. – 9am to Noon

Thursday, June 21 - 7pm - Staff-Parish Relations Team

Sunday, June 24 - 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.*

Summer office hours begin next week (June 25)!

Monday/Wednesday/Friday: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Tuesday/Thursday: 9 a.m. - Noon

Vacation Bible School at Christ Church

July 9-13

9 a.m. - Noon



[Register online today!](#)

We need your help to make VBS a success!

Vacation Bible School Needs

- Your prayers
- Your help during VBS week: July 9-13

Donations:

- Real juices (Apple, Lemonade, etc.)
- Goldfish Crackers (multi-colored & pretzel)
 - Pretzel rods, Pretzel Sticks
 - Pull & Peel Twizzlers - 1 pack
 - Gummy fish
- Regular Graham Crackers - 3 boxes
 - Cheese sticks
- 1 batch sugar cookies (home baked or store-bought)

To loan for display:

- Kayaks, paddles, life-jackets, baby pool, camp chairs

Monetary donations also help!

Use the yellow Connection Card to let us know the ways you'd like to help. Contact Sally Pollard with questions.



Annual Conference Recap

Four people from Christ Church (Rev. Daven Oskvig, Rev. James Pollard, Pastor Daryl Bennett, and Peggy Bermudez) attended the Upper New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in Syracuse from May 30th - June 2nd. For more information about Annual Conference, here are some links to follow:

http://www.unyumc.org/images/uploads/June_2018_Issue_I_Color.pdf - The June issue of *The Bridge* is a summary of Annual Conference

<http://www.unyumc.org/events/2018-annual-conference-wrap-up> - links to Daily Notes and videos including worship and Bible Study with Rev. Greg Jones of Duke University

<http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/recommendation-results-from-ac2018> - Recommendation Results

<http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/petition-and-resolution-results-at-the-2018-upper-new-york-annual-conferenc> - Petition and Resolution Results

Paper copies of *The Bridge* and results of votes can also be found at the back of the worship space.



Food & School 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:

Paper towels, toilet paper, dish detergent, deodorant, heart-healthy cereals (look for a heart on the box!), pasta, and sauces.

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

The Tiger's Den is collecting **SCHOOL SUPPLIES** in June so that they are available for families to pick up over the summer before the next school year begins. The following items are being requested for middle and high school students:

-combination locks for lockers

-3 inch binders

-loose leaf paper

-folders

-pens

-highlighters

-#2 Ticonderoga pencils

-composition notebooks

-1 subject spiral notebooks

-pencil bags

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!

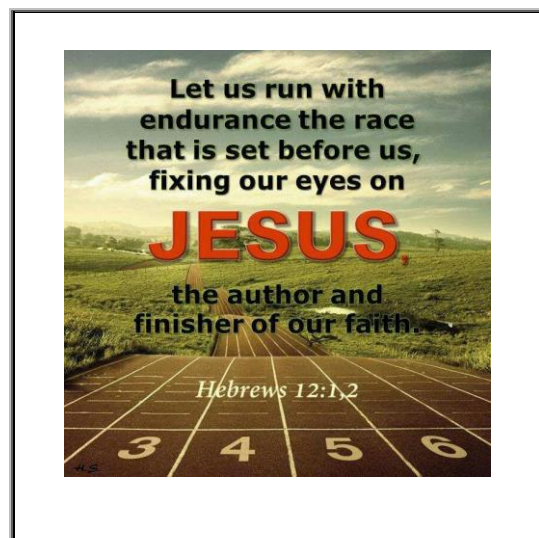
Take Time To Smell The Flowers

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.

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) or Bob Lovell (rlovellthg@cs.com) if you plan to attend.



Church Office Hours:

Monday -Wednesday- Friday, 9 am to 5 pm

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am to Noon

SUNDAY AT CHRIST CHURCH

Casual Praise Worship at 9 am

Traditional Worship at 11 am