

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

Weekly Update - June 27

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226

A Word From Pastor Daven

“This smells!” Amelia declared. I was doing the last of the major garden projects for the year, laying down a heavy bed of mulch. I always look forward to that moment when I can bask in the view from the deck when more projects are not staring back at me (and mulch helps suppress the weeds, giving me more time to bask!).

Having spent a good portion of time around livestock as a kid, the smell of mulch is pleasant in comparison. That being said, it is often the case that the smelly stuff enriches the soil, helping the crops in the fields to productivity and the flowers at our homes bloom with beauty.

All this odor in the air has got me thinking. I am reminded that through my repentance, letting all the stuff that has gotten in the way in my faith journey, between God and me, be turned and enriched into the mulch from which my faith will spring. I need to let go, let fall to the earth all the behaviors and attitudes, to receive God’s grace in the forgiveness in Christ that I might grow and become the person God’s knows I am.

So the next time you pass some freshly laid mulch or travel through the countryside and are greeted with ‘dairy air’, take in a deep breath. And then think of all the smelly stuff in your life that needs to fall away, that has gotten in the way of your spiritual journey. Seek out God’s grace that all of that can be turned into the mulch from which new life can spring up and grow.

-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 27: Job 10-12; Acts 8:1-25

June 28: Job 13-15; Acts 8:26-40

June 29: Job 16-18; Acts 9:1-22

June 30: Job 19-20; Acts 9:23-43

July 1: Job 21-22; Acts 10:1-23

July 2: Job 23-25; Acts 10:24-48

July 3: Job 26-28; Acts 11

JOYS!

Thank You to **Ed Gilbert & Bob Lovell** for their help repairing and painting the former computer room downstairs, which will become the Community Youth room.

In Our Healing Prayers

We extend our sympathy and prayers to **Barbara & Dave Mitchell** following the recent death of Barb's sister, June Smith.

Janet Hill - recent knee replacement

Mary Jane Shanley - in rehab after a recent hospital visit

The Painton, Shanley, Snyder & Fisher Families, 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

This Week at Christ Church

Summer office hours have begun!

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

Tuesday/Thursday: 9 a.m. - Noon

Wednesday, June 27 - 7 pm - VBS Decorating

Friday, June 29 - 4:30pm - Hosting Family P

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.*

Vacation Bible School at Christ Church

July 9-13
9 a.m. - Noon
\$20 per child



[Register online today!](https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/christchurchamherst) <https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/christchurchamherst>

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, 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.



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

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!

Books for 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!

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.

Help Promote Peace in the World

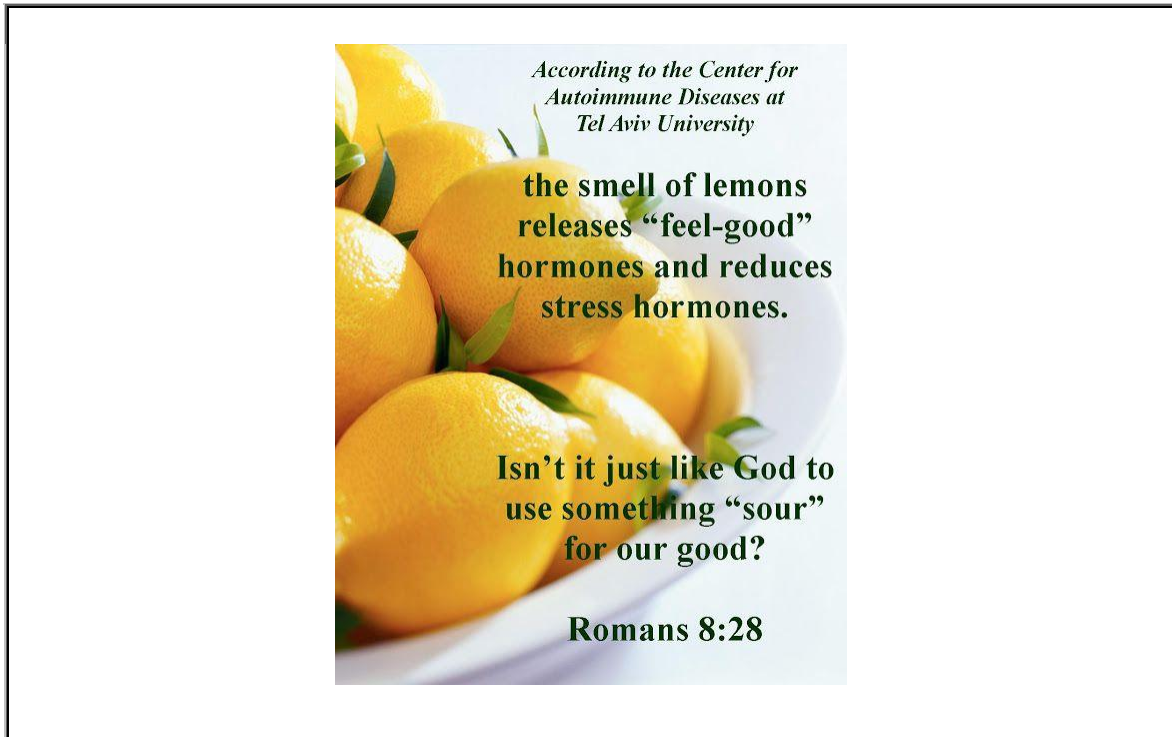
Something extraordinary happens when you share your home and family with a high school student from another country. That's why 13,000 families worldwide host AFS students every year. *You can help build bridges of intercultural understanding and enrich your own life in countless ways by opening your 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; 585-410-2017.



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