

Christ United Methodist Church

UPDATE

June 3, 2015

Harlem Road at Saratoga Road

Amherst, New York

“Living Christ’s ways and exploding with love and service”

EVERYONE is WELCOME

SUNDAY AT CHRIST CHURCH

9:00 – Praise Celebration Worship

**10:00 FaithXpress, Soul Strength and Adult Opportunities
for Learning**

11:00 – Traditional Style Worship

Why not bring a Friend this week and share the Love and Grace of God?

Visit us on the World Wide Web at: www.Christchurchamherst.org

Or call us at: [716-839-2460](tel:716-839-2460)

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Hi Everyone:

As most of you know, I have been in a series of meetings since Easter with the congregations I will be assuming responsibility for on July 1. The team, Alicia, Andy, Jee Hae and I have been listening to the 8 congregations to discern where God is leading each of us to provide primary leadership while all of us provide leadership for the whole project (8 congregations, 7 buildings, 4 pastors, two new church plants – now sing with me “and a partridge in a pear tree!”). This has been exhausting, exhilarating and fascinating work. On Monday of this week we announced our preaching assignments. I will be preaching at Brown Memorial UMC on Syracuse’s west side. Imagine the Seneca Babcock neighborhood of Buffalo, only poorer. We have plans to use a Seneca Street UMC style approach to worship on that site. I will also be preaching at Erwin First UMC (corner of Westcott and Euclid). Erwin is where my wife has been Minister of Music and Associate Pastor for the past 10 years. We are very excited to not only be living together again but also working together for the first time in our marriage (Please pray for us). It should prove to be quite interesting! So, now, when you come to Syracuse you will all know where to find me (and I hope you will stop by and see us when you are in town or just passing through). Our home, in Liverpool, is just 2 minutes off Thruway exit 38.

Here is what is happening at Christ Church:

1. Attendance last week was about 110. Thank you to all who make worship at Christ Church deeply meaningful!
2. This Sunday is the last of the “Jesus, who are you series” I am preaching from Revelation 1:4-8 where Jesus says “I am the Alpha and the Omega!”

We are celebrating GRADUATES this week.

We are celebrating COMMUNION this week

It is a good week to celebrate!

3. Rumor has it that following worship on the 14th of June there will be a special “farewell” gathering with surprises (oooooh I like surprises). I suspect you will all enjoy a little roast BJ for lunch and we will have a formal chance to say good bye. Thank you, all of you, who are pulling this together!

4. FIRST RESPONDER DAY – this Past Sunday, May 31. The weather did not cooperate but the Police, Fire and EMT's that serve our area did and many people came to meet and greet and express thanks and appreciation to these men and women who are trained to run to the chaos of an emergency (rather than away from it). Thank you Sally Pollard who pulled this great event together!

5. In our Prayers: Jacob Rhinehart, Ann Burdette, Mitch Mooney, Marion Wenner, David Lawson (second eye surgery soon), Debbie Suggs, Glenn Hurst, Ruth Swenson, Jan Rhinehart, Todd and Mary Jo Evans, Ed Maker, Sue and Harley Estee, Sharon Ferrelli, Bob Nachbar, Laney Fuller, Dorothy Brown, Brian Martin, Edmond Wrycza, Lois Lewis, Barbara Clinton, Tom Davis, Fred and Lynda Painton, Guy Castellino, Bim Rowlands, Nicky Sebastiano, Ruth Kitson, Ruth Luss, Shirley Downey, Alice Schmidt, and Diane Lovejoy. Also remember our family and friends who are serving in the U.S. military (Alex, Ian, Lindsey) and all who are in harm's way.

6. This Week at Christ Church:

Thursday, June 4 – 10:00a.m. Bible Study in Wesley Room

Sunday, June 7 – Graduate Recognition Sunday

Tuesday, June 9 – Uganda Packing Day 6:00p.m.

Stewardship and Finance 7:00p.m.

Wednesday, June 10 – 7:00p.m. Choir Party

7. **Beechwood Pianos For Sale/and or Free!**

Beechwood has been blessed with the sound of music over the years with several pianos in each village. A resident who recently moved into Beechwood has a very lovely and high quality baby grand piano which he is donating to Beechwood. However, that leaves us with the need to find a good home for our present baby grand piano in the auditorium. A great piano for home, church or school!!!! Chickering Ebony Baby Grand Piano and Bench (1971) - Appraised at \$4,000 or best offer. Rich and smooth action. Buyer responsible for moving. ALSO: 2 Free Pianos- As is -There are two pianos that need a good home and Beechwood would be willing to "gift." One is located in the auditorium . . . a small spinet upright located under the windows facing the atrium. The other is in the hallway outside of the Wesley Dining Room . . . it is a

baby grand which needs some key work, etc. but otherwise sounds great. *If you are interested or know of anyone who is interested - please have them contact Cheryl Wasson, Dir. of Dev./Marketing at 810-7370. Feel free to call me with any questions.*

Thank you!

8. Family Justice Center

We will be having an Open House at the Williamsville Satellite (330 North Forest Road next to North Presbyterian Church) on Monday, June 8th, from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. This will be a great opportunity to learn what we do and tour the beautiful facility. Amy's Food Truck will be on site with their delicious menu items! All are welcome. Our annual Voices Ending Violence Breakfast is scheduled for Friday, June 12th at the Buffalo Convention Center. Registration starts at 7:30 and event begins at 8:00 a.m. Please take time to learn about the impact the Family Justice Center is making in our community. There will be an opportunity to support FJC with a financial gift if you choose. Please contact Peggy Bermudez at 626-4897 for reservations.

9. Happy Birthday this week:

June 4 – Richard Ball

June 5 – Barbara Clinton; Diane Poe Schroeder

June 6 – Carol Gundlach; Woody Rhinehart

June 7 – Karen Hoffmann; Ross Markello

June 8 – John Lopez; Nicole Takac

June 9 – Charlotte Davis

June 10 – Samantha Willhauck

10. Happy Anniversary this week:

June 5 – Dave and Patti Bechtel (44)

June 5 – Bob and Marcia Snyder (56)

June 7 – Kent and Michelle Panasiewicz (7)

June 8 – Gene and Jayne Kremzier (41)

June 9 – Woody and Jan Rhinehart (59)

11. Uganda Mission 2015

1. THANK YOU for supporting the Ron Corsaro Concert on May 29 – it was a great success!!

2. THINGS WE ARE COLLECTING (Packing Day is June 9th – THANK YOU)

A. **School Supplies** – pencils, pens, stickers, pencil sharpeners, colored pencils **by JUNE 8th!!**

B. **Medical Supplies** – Acetaminophen; Ibuprofen (BIG BOTTLES); Curad Silk Tape; Alcohol Swabs; Allergy Relief for children and adult; Bacitracin zinc first aid antibiotic ointment; Ear loop Masks; Hydrocortisone ointment; multi vitamins; Gauze sponge; Imodium tabs **BY JUNE 8th!!**

The Uganda Mission Team wants to thank everyone for their generosity and contributions. Together, we will make a difference!

John and Brandon Miller, Viki and Hannah Smith, Janelle Martin, Erisawe Briere, Kathryn Weaver and B.J. Norrix will depart for Uganda on Sunday June 28 and will return on Tuesday, July 14. **FOCUS of the Mission:** We will be working with two clinics (at Lusanja and Nabukondo) we will be leading two Nexus graduations (at Rakai and Nakasangola) we will be working on a church building at a school and holding at least one youth rally. We will be dedicating a new well (at Gombe) and a new church at Seeta. There will be time taken to visit the source of the Nile river in Jinja and a Game Preserve near Rakai.

PRAY FOR US as we prepare, as we travel, as we work and as we return!

12. STAR WARS NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK – July 18 first pitch is 6:05

Registration forms and ticket sales available at Church or in the June CALLER.

13. A word about giving from our Stewardship and Finance Chair, Brad Loliger: Now you can make **ONLINE contributions to Christ Church!** You can make a one-time donation, or schedule a recurring electronic contribution. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness, or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an interrupted basis.

Get Started Today!

1. Visit ChristChurchAmherst.org
2. Click on the Donate tab at the top
3. Click on Donate Now button to create an online profile and schedule your recurring contributions.

14. MISSION NEWS

1. We collected over \$500 for the Earthquake relief in Nepal
2. FOOD PANTRY this week – Pasta and Canned Sauce
3. DRESS OUR PEOPLE – Well done everyone! We have filled a suitcase and it is ready to go to Uganda!

15. Men's Club will be helping out the Cheektowaga Food Pantry on Saturday June 13 from 10a.m. to 1p.m. Clean up, trimming, basement and garage. Call Bill Bauza at 835-2421 to sign up.

16. Diane Klenk is working with our local Veterans Hospital regarding supplies for the in patient, day programs and homeless. Below are needed items. If you can help see Diane or bring these items to the church and leave them in the container provided in Crafts Hall. **Needed items:** Socks, underwear, T-shirts (White, L to XXXL, V-neck), towels, Toiletries (deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, disposable razors, mouthwash, nail clippers, body wash, combs, shaving cream, pocket mirrors, chap stick – be sure mouth wash and other items are "Alcohol free"; Gift cards (McDonald's, Wendy's, Burger King, Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Tops); Patriotic throws or lap blankets, books and audio books, DVDs.

17. COMING SOON

June 14 – Pastor BJ’s last Sunday

June 28 – Uganda Mission Team leaves for Uganda and returns July 14.

July 5 – Rev. Barrow’s first Sunday

Parting Thought

I am here, again, and will not be travelling until after our worship and gathering on June 14. This transition has been difficult for me in that I have spent quite a bit of time these past 2 months working on the Syracuse end of the project. I am sorry if I have not been present with those of you who may have needed me during that time. I am here now and I will be hanging out at home and at the office (packing my books) and, well, just around. Anyone who might want to see me come and see me or call 839-3260 and we can make some arrangements. I have already had several great visits with folks and look forward to trying my best to leave well. I have felt your struggle with my leaving and I have, deeply, felt your love and support. THANK YOU.

I’ll see you when the church gathers,

BJ Norrix, missionary, lead servant, lame duck (quack).