

Christ United Methodist Church
Snyder, New York

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

UPDATE March 20, 2013

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH

9:00 – Praise Celebration Worship

10:00 – FaithXpress and Soul Strength and AOL

11:00 – Traditional Style Worship

Bring a Friend this week and share the Love and Grace of God!

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

716-839-2460

Dr. B.J.’s blog is www.drjithoughts.blogspot.com

Hi Everyone:

Thank you for your gracious responses on Consecration Sunday. If you have not yet returned your pledge card please do so at your earliest convenience. This information helps us to accurately develop the financial side of our ministry plan for the coming year. I have enjoyed preaching and teaching about the hall marks of someone who is committed to Christ. We learned that Christ followers are people of prayer (and we are all beginners); that Christ followers are people of the book (studying the bible alone and with others); that we are people of worship (choosing to love God with heart, soul, mind and strength); that we are people with a story to tell (what we were, what Christ did, and who we are now); that we are people who serve in mission and ministry (EVERY Christ follower has a mission and ministry to live out); and, finally, we are people who understand that living is giving and giving is living. Someone once said we can give without loving but we cannot love without giving. Again, thank you for your generosity and faithful support of this ministry.

Here is what is happening at Church:

1. Consecration Sunday saw 87 pledges returned for almost \$182,000 in commitments. This means about a third of us have yet to respond – please do so as soon as you can. Attendance was 138.

2. This Sunday is PALM SUNDAY – we will begin both morning celebrations in Krafts Hall and will process into the worship space with palms, etc. We will hear the passion narrative according to Luke and have a few comments from Pastor BJ.

FaithXPress is “Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus” this month. Children and Youth ministry is every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

AOL is using this same resource in their 10:00 Sunday gatherings as well.

3. JOIN us tonight for the Lenten Soup and Study at 5:00. We are walking in the footsteps with Jesus and hearing from some of our recent Israel travelers.

4. The Youth Group is sponsoring a KROLIC’S FISH FRY this Friday at the Church – eat in or take out 4-7 p.m. \$11 per dinner.

5. This Week at Christ Church

Wednesday (TODAY) – March 20, 2013

5:00 – Lenten Supper and study

7:30 – Choir rehearsal

Thursday – March 21, 2013

10:00 a.m. – Bible Study

7:30 – Trustees

6. Sunday evenings at 6:30 the GOING DEEPER group is currently reading C.S. Lewis’ book The Great Divorce. The group is an open forum discussion and everyone is welcome.

7. In our prayers: Chris Klenk had surgery on Monday; Ed Maker is having surgery on Thursday; a man named Arnie Ross could use our prayers and is having valve replacement in Thursday; remember Nicky Sebastiano, Jim Luss, Barbara Carier, Bim Rowlands, Marian Steve, Ruth Kitson, Jan Beckwith, Mitch Mooney, Diane Lovejoy, Shirley Downey, Tom Brunner and all our families who are grieving. Pray for those looking for work, for families in crisis. Pray for our Catholic friends and neighbors and their new leader, Pope Francis. Pray for all who are in harm’s way.

8. HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK

March 21 – Nicky Sebastiano (101!); Barry Wood

March 24 – Al Sillato; Pat Noyes

March 25 – Peggy Bermudez

March 26 – Ashley Miller

9. Through the Bible in a year: here are this week’s reading

I posted on www.drbjthoughts.blogspot.com an introduction to the book of Joshua this morning

March 20 – Joshua 7-8; Psalm 69 and 1 Corinthians 5

March 21 – Joshua 9-11 and 1 Corinthians 6

March 22 – Joshua 12-14 and 1 Corinthians 7

March 23 – Joshua 15-17 and 1 Corinthians 8

March 24 – Joshua 18-20 and 1 Corinthians 9

March 25 – Joshua 21-22; Psalm 47 and 1 Corinthians 10

March 26 – Joshua 23-24, Psalm 44 and 1 Corinthians 11

March 27 – Judges 1-3 and 1 Corinthians 12

March 28 – Judges 4-5; Psalm 39-41 and 1 Corinthians 13

10. HOLY WEEK OBSERVANCES

March 24 – PALM SUNDAY – Worship at 9:00 and 11:00

March 28 – HOLY THURSDAY – worship at 7:00

March 29 – GOOD FRIDAY – Observance at Noon and 7:00

March 31—EASTER (Christ is Risen, Indeed) worship at 9:00 and 11:00

11. The Women's Workshops "Women, Money and Power" conclude this Monday at 6:50 at Christ Church. Subject this week is retirement.

12. MISSION UPDATES

A. Hands4NY – March 24 – hearty soups and crackers; March 31 – Powdered Milk and juices

B. DRESS OUR PEOPLE -- Dress Our People is currently working on completing 2 projects- cancer caps for Roswell and the American Cancer Society plus pillowcases for the local Ronald McDonald house. Dress Our People has a mailbox outside Sally's office- on the bottom right. If you have completed projects, please place them in the mailbox. There are also some packages of cut out projects in the mailbox- please feel free to take them home to complete! All completed projects should be returned by April 28th. UPDATE: so far we have completed- 32cancer caps and 36 pillow cases- we are well on our way to our goal of 50 each! If you have any questions, please call Molly Butler ([716-204-8993](tel:716-204-8993)) or send an e-mail (kwmgbutler@gmail.com).

C. CHRIST CHURCH COLLEGE MISSIONARIES

1. Courtney Cataudella is returning to project Chacocente in Nicaragua May 17-28 if you would like to support Courtney please mark your gift for her.

2. Jessica Lawson is traveling to India to work with children among the "untouchables". If you would like to support Jessica mark your gift for her.

D. Kathryn Weaver is raising support to have a proper bore hole well dug in a village in the Gombe district of Uganda. . . lack clean drinking water is one the greatest obstacles to health and wellness in the developing world. The village in question collects rain water in a hole in the ground at the bottom of a hill for its drinking water. Water borne illnesses are

nearly universal in the people of this village. Clean drinking water for this village would radically improve the health and well being of the village. Contact Kathy for more information: kdweaver23@verizon.net or 839- 5918. **We are gaining partners from the wider community for this as well!**

E. THANK YOU to all who are supporting our Ugandan Orphans through the Blessed Junior School in Kirimandagi. The funds for this project will be sent to Pastors Grace and Owar Naphtal very soon.

F. Did you know **Make a Difference Day** is only 10 weeks away? Sunday May 19 we will go, gather and do our best to make a difference.

13. COMING April 13 – Spaghetti Dinner and basket auction to help support Lim and Raffaella Marcantonio and family. They are adopting three Ugandan orphans (twins and their older sister all under two). Watch for more information regarding the this “Africa Angels Event!” Tickets are \$20 (free for kids under 3) call 873-8700 for more information. Lim and Raffealla are trying to raise the \$35,000 necessary to adopt these children.

14. Coming April 14 – Special guest preacher will be Rev. Marvin A. McMickle, Ph.D., President of Colgate Rochester Crozier Divinity School in Rochester. Dr. McMickle is one of our nation’s foremost preachers and teachers of homiletics and will be preaching at Christ Church’s 11:00 a.m. worship celebration. Watch for more information.

15. COMING SOON TO CHIRST CHURCH

April 2 – Church Council Meeting at 7:00

April 13 – “Hand2Plow” training at Camp Asbury. See Pastor BJ if you’d like to attend. The subject of this session is “Worship”.

April 14 – Dr. Melvin McMickle special guest preacher.

May 19 – MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY – One Worship at 9:30 and off to serve. Watch for opportunities.

May 30 – June 1 – Annual Conference Session in Syracuse

June 9 – Confirmation Sunday

16. Trustees wish list: Here are some things the Christ Church Board of Trustees is wishing for in 2013. If you can help with one of these see Tom Weaver:

3. Gas Powered Edge Trimmer
5. Parking Lot Repaving
6. Sanctuary Wing Hot Water Tank
7. Refurbish Sanctuary wing restrooms

And for the parsonage:

1. Gas stove/range
2. Back Yard Deck
4. Lawn mower (so Pastor can mow the lawn)

Again, contact Tom Weaver if you would like to make any of these wishes come true.

PARTING THOUGHT

We are about to begin the most important 8 days of the church year. The Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday, Holy Week, helps us remember and relive the events that are the very heart of our Christian faith. I am convinced that one of the biggest problems with the Main Line Churches in the US is that most of us do not know our own story. We do not take the time every year to remember and to relive the events that bring us salvation and new life and new possibilities. In February I walked down the narrow lane that leads down the Mount of Olives. I stopped at the place where Jesus wept over Jerusalem. I saw the Holy City laid out at my feet across the Kidron Valley and could hear faint echoes of the cries of "Hosanna!" and "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" I walked around the Garden of Gethsemane and heard echoes of Jesus' anguished prayer "father, let this cup pass from me, not my will but thine be done!" I saw the holding cell in Caiaphas' house where Jesus was held before his trial before the Sanhedrin. I saw the pavement where Pilate pronounced Jesus' death sentence. I walked the narrow street through the marketplace of the old city of Jerusalem called the via Dolorosa (the way of sorrow) along which Jesus carried his cross. I saw the place where he was crucified and buried. It was intensely personal and deeply moving. I saw the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the place they say Jesus was buried (by the way he was NOT there). I saw the "Garden Tomb" and the place where some others say Jesus was buried (by the way, he was not THERE either). Through all of this I remembered, I relived, I retraced, I re-experienced and my faith was renewed and strengthened. The Greek word for remember (as in "do this in remembrance of me") is the word anamnesis – the word does not mean remember in the sense of simply calling to mind. It means to relive and re-experience the events being called to mind – to enter into the mystery. I invite you to "anamnesis" the events of Holy Week with me.

Have a great week,

BJ Norrix, lead servant, missionary, rememberer

This e-mail is a communication ministry of the Christ United Methodist Church of Snyder, New York. If you do not wish to receive this e-mail please let us know.