

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

**Weekly Update - March 20, 2019**

**Christ United Methodist Church**

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226



## A Word From Pastor Daven

### Truing Wheels

I have just enough knowledge on bicycle maintenance to get me in trouble. One aspect of care and upkeep is truing of the wheel. This is a process whereby any fluctuations in a wheel's balance caused by rough pavement and general riding is corrected by tightening or loosening various spokes with a spoke wrench. One uses a special stand to guide the process, a truing stand. It takes patience and practice.

We all encounter a lot of bumps along the road of life (how true this is with our pot-holed reality of WNY!). And those can lead our journey to be a little wobbly, erratic and out of true. Reconnecting with God in Christ through prayer, scripture, worship, giving, and service are the ways in which we are put into God's truing stand. Through them we can see just how out of balance things have gotten and our need to tighten down on some things and loosen our grip on others. Prayer, scripture, worship, giving, and service are God's tools to provide the necessary tightening and loosening until we can roll smooth again.

This process take time, patience, repetition, and practice. Heaven knows that we will encounter more challenges ahead and once again be thrown out of true. But in Christ our lives are guided back to true. Thanks be to God!



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### *Recap & Reflections of the 2019 Special Session Gathering*

<http://www.unyumc.org/news/article/uny-recap-and-reflections-of-special-session-2019-gathering>

An article giving a recap of the Upper New York Reflection of Special Session gathering held this past weekend is available on the link above. The link includes that recap, along

with links to the questions asked with the Bishop's answers, the decisions of the Special Session, the changes which could possibly work to achieve denominational unity, and the video of the live-streamed event.

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## Daily Bible Reading – 2019      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.

March 20: Joshua 1-3; Luke 1:57-80

March 21: Joshua 4-6; Luke 2:1-24

March 22: Joshua 7-8; Luke 2:25-52

March 23: Joshua 9-10; Luke 3

March 24: Joshua 11-13; Luke 4:1-32

March 25: Joshua 14-15; Luke 4:33-44

March 26: Joshua 16-18; Luke 5:1-16

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### In Sympathy

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Hilde Webber and the Webber Family. **Ian Webber** died on Friday, March 15. A memorial service will be held at Christ Church on a later date.

### In Our Healing Prayers

**The Webber Family, Gay Scaringi, Diane & Chris Klenk, Janet Hill, Joyce Moser, Cindy Fisher, Mary Jane Shanley, Bruce Burr, Sue Estee, Harold Weaver, Frank Annunziata, 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

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## This Week at Christ Church

### Church Office:

Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 5 pm,

Tues. & Thurs. – 9am to Noon

Wednesday, March 20 - 7pm- Choir Rehearsal

*Happy First Day of Spring!*

Thursday, March 21 - 1pm- 'Thirstaid' Thursday

7pm- Staff-Parish Relations Team

Friday, March 22 - **5:30pm- Music & Meditation**

Saturday, March 23 - 8am-1pm- Amherst Lions Club Pancake Breakfast

9am-Noon- FREE Health Fair

Sunday, March 17 - **10am - Worship Service**

**11am - Educational Opportunities & Fellowship**

***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.*

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## Music and Meditation in the Season of Lent

**Fridays at 5:30 p.m.**

March 22 & 29

April 5 & 12

In quiet and candlelight, join in meditative song, prayer, and Scripture reading that penetrates the heart and the whole being.

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## Lenten ALL-CHURCH Read

ARE YOU READING "THE ANATOMY OF PEACE" ?

Pick up a copy of the book during the week or on Sunday, and read it as a Lenten opportunity to reflect on the way to transform personal, professional, and global conflicts. Join in discussion of the book on Sunday morning at 11 a.m. in the Wesley room, or invite friends to discuss the book in a coffee-shop setting, over lunch, or in your home. A study guide is available. A \$10 donation for the book is requested, but not required. Payment may be made to Christ United Methodist Church, designated Lenten study book, and placed in the Sunday offering, or sent to the church office.

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Do you want to  
**make a**  
**difference?**

## Food & 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:

**cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper, personal hygiene products, deodorant, and soap.**

The Tiger's Den is collecting **oatmeal and coffee** in March.

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

## Share-a-Meal for Central City Café

Our next Share-a-Meal for Central City Café will be **Sunday, March 31**. Please take a pan and recipe after worship this Sunday, then prepare and freeze the casserole and bring it to the church kitchen next Sunday. Christ Church volunteers prepare and serve meals at the Café on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays of each month from 10am – 1pm. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Peggy Bermudez at 626-4897.



## 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!

## Thirstaid Thursdays

You are invited to join in 'Thirstaid' Thursdays  
**each Thursday at 1 p.m.** in the Wesley Room!

"Hope When Your Heart Breaks (Navigating Grief and Loss)"

Facilitators: Pastor Daven, Peggy Bermudez, Dr. David Pliss

We'll look at how life experiences challenge us and how God powerfully uses the gifts of prayer, presence, and witness to move us and others through these times to thrive again.

## [a.o.i. @ CUMC](#)

**Sundays at 11 a.m. in the Wesley Room**

**"The Anatomy of Peace"**

Lenten reading and reflection on how we deal with conflicts



FEASTING  
on the WORD

**Sunday, March 31 at Noon**

Here's a way to explore Scripture as a church family, gathered for a simple meal. As we receive physical nourishment, we will also share in spiritual nourishment as a passage of Scripture is read, and then discussed at table as a Christian community. The meal will be soup, bread and salad. The Scripture passage will be Genesis 32:22-32. Leading questions will invite us relate our lives to this important event in Jacob's life and its meaning for us and for our faith. *If you want to participate, please notify the church office or note your intention on the yellow "Connection Card" on Sunday. You will be invited to make a free-will contribution for the cost of the meal.*

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**United Methodist Women Breakfast Gathering**

Our next UMW Breakfast Gathering will be **Saturday, March 30, at 10 a.m.** in the Cafe. Jean Bennett and Valerie Day will share the story of Restoration Society, a peer operated agency that offers recovery-based, person-centered services for Western New York adults 18 years and older. Hosts are Elizabeth Circle and cost is \$5. To make a reservation, please contact Paula Kreib at 725-6067 or [snowflake.paula@gmail.com](mailto:snowflake.paula@gmail.com).

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**Our Lord has written the promise of  
resurrection, not in books alone, but in  
every leaf in springtime.**

Martin Luther

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**Church Office Hours:**

Monday -Wednesday- Friday, 9 am to 5 pm

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am to Noon

**SUNDAYS AT CHRIST CHURCH**

Worship at 10 am

Educational Opportunities at 11 am