

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

Weekly Update - March 21 Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads
Amherst, NY 14226

A Word From Pastor Daven

The reading was related to the spring equinox and yet I found resonance to our spiritual life with a simple tweak of wording. The specific line that caught my attention alluded to how the sun now graced the sky arcing higher to write the future message of summer on the northern hemisphere. Where it caused me pause (interesting how it is that God speaks in ways and times we don't expect ...) was related to how God's **Son**, Jesus Christ, wrote tomorrow's message on the earth in resurrection - that message of peace, hope, love. The victory over the cold, dark entombment on earth led Christ to rise up and ultimately warm the earth with the message of grace.

The spring chorus of the peepers, scientific name *Hyla Crucifer*, will soon echo in the bogland, unable to silenced by winter's cold. So also the message of God's love will not be silenced by the tomb but echo forth in the chorus of the church proclaiming the message of grace upon all the earth. As we experience the slow advance of the natural, so also our spiritual advance towards this message of grace is slow through the time of Holy Week. We are not quite at Resurrection Sunday yet. But soon enough we will be and hopefully our hearts, minds and ears will be open to God's message of victory over death in the rising of the Son.

-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.

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

March 27: Joshua 19-20; Luke 5:17-39

In Our Healing Prayers

Lisa Lawson - sprained ankle

Janet Hill - recovering from finger surgery

Ed & Cindy Fisher

Bob & Marcia Snyder

Dennis Scaringi, Sue Estee, Lois Lewis, Janet Hill, The Kreib Family, Jean Ericson, Kevin Cetola, Sissie Mooney, Peter Shanley

*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

Wednesday, March 21 - 10 am - Morning Prayer

7 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 22 - 7 pm - Hospitality Team

Friday, March 23 - **5:30 pm - Music & Meditation**

Saturday, March 24 - 8am-1pm Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast

9am-12pm FREE Community Health Fair

10 am - Crafting for a Cause

Sunday, March 25 -

Palm/Passion Sunday

9 am - Casual Praise Service

10 am - a.o.I. (Adult Opportunities for Learning)

10 am - FaithXpress

11 am - Traditional Worship Service

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.*

Do you want to
make a
difference?

Food Pantries

Share food and personal care items through local food pantries - Tiger's Den & the Food Pantry at University Presbyterian Church.

Juice/Juice Boxes, Dish Detergent, Jelly, Cooking Oil.

A freezer is available for your meat donations.

Please help us fill up our carts!!! Tiger's Den is always in need of: pasta (not spaghetti), cereal (not Cheerios), box meals (not mac & cheese), rice, and toilet paper.

Wanted: Gently-Used Long-Sleeved Shirts

WHY LONG-SLEEVE SHIRTS? Our nation's 2.5 million farmworkers face long hours of arduous work putting their health and safety at risk due to exposure to dangerous pesticides and heat stress. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency indicates that over 20,000 cases of doctor-diagnosed pesticide poisoning are reported yearly. A gently used long-sleeve shirt can help prevent exposure to pesticides by covering the skin, which is the most common route of pesticide poisoning due to its exposure.

Shirts collected during this annual drive will be distributed to farmworkers in New York State and New England to help protect them from the hazards of pesticide exposure and heat stress through PathStone, a multi-state organization serving farmworkers and the poor through ministries of outreach and housing,

Bring shirts to the church by March 25, 2018 and leave them in the collection area in Crafts Hall.

LENT- Morning, Noon & Night

Here are some ways you may respond to Lent's invitation...

Group Study - "Give It Up"

Tuesdays - 12 Noon at Christ Church

Morning Prayer

Wednesdays - 10 am at Christ Church

Music & Meditation

Fridays - 5:30 pm at Christ Church

Maundy Thursday Worship

Thursday, March 29 - 7 pm

Service with Foot Washing & Communion

Stop by the Library (located by the church offices) and sign out an Easter book! There are many children's books available to borrow.

Pancake Breakfast & FREE Community Health Fair

Saturday, March 24

The Amherst Lions Club will be hosting their annual Pancake Breakfast on **Saturday, March 24** at Christ Church from 8am- 1pm. Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, applesauce, and beverages. Adults - \$7, kids 12 and under -\$4. A bake sale and silent auction will take place to raise funds for the Lion's Club. A FREE Community Wellness Health Fair will also be held from 9am - 12pm. Blood sugar, cholesterol, and glaucoma testing, blood pressure checks, and weigh-ins will be available. Puppy guide dogs in-training will be present throughout the morning as well!

"Come Sunday"

DUKE ELLINGTON

Lord, dear Lord of love, God Almighty, God above,
Please look down and see my people through.

I believe that God put sun and moon up in the sky.
I don't mind the gray skies 'cause they're just clouds passing by.
He'll give peace and comfort to every troubled mind,
Come Sunday, oh come Sunday, that's the day.

Often we feel weary but he knows our every care.
Go to him in secret, He will hear your every prayer.
Up from dawn till sunset, man works hard all day,
Come Sunday, oh come Sunday, that's the day.

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

Education Hour at 10 am