



Christ United Methodist Church - Amherst, NY
"Making Connections & Offering Opportunities
for Faith, Love & Service"

Weekly Update – March 24

Dumpster Dave

They named him Dumpster Dave. Apparently to his ranks have been added additional family members Debbie, Denise, and Dan. Dave was named for his retrieval of some hardened, stale bagels and bread from the dumpster. The sad part is that it was hoped that these donations to Seneca Street UMC could provide sustenance to those in need, but when donated they were already hard as a rock, inedible for all but Dumpster Dave and his clan.



Many of us have made similar donations in the past to the church, to Asbury Shalom Zone (when it was still around), to Goodwill, and to any number of other charities. When we clean out and give away things that no longer have utility in our lives, we tend to feel so altruistic. Many of these things do, indeed, go to help and provide so much to so many. Honestly, however, surveying much of it shows it to simply be our leftovers — the stale / hardened remnants of things long past their usefulness and not fit for anyone or anything.

Biblically we are asked to give our best to God first. Like the tables Jesus turned at the temple, it seeks to flip the equation of putting ourselves first to putting others first. Whether its the “first fruits” referred to in the Old Testament (Neh. 10:35, Lev. 23:10-14, Ex. 23:19, Num. 18:12) or the lessons that Jesus teaches like that just of this past week at the Last Supper from Lk. 22:26, “the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves,” we are asked to give our best, not our leftovers. What would it look like in both our donations and our giving to truly do this? What would it look like to give our best - the best of our time, talents, and

treasure? What difference and impact would that make in the lives of others and in the world?

While Dumpster Dave and his companions are happy for the easy meal, it is a strong encouragement to think both about our waste and about the formula of our giving. As we come into this holiest of times, let us truly consider and live as Christ did, giving the best of ourselves. It is when we serve as Christ, that we both receive and extend the very grace of God.

-Pastor Daven



*Worship is available on Sunday mornings at 10am,
both in person and online!*

*Live-streamed worship will be available beginning at 10am each Sunday,
with a direct link posted on our website and Facebook page to our
livestream: www.youtube.com/CUMCAmherst/live*

*Recordings of each service will also be available on our YouTube channel for
viewing once the service has ended.*

Please be advised of new guidelines for those wishing to worship together in person at Christ Church:

- All will be required to wear a mask. We will have a limited supply of masks on hand for those who come without one.
- Enter through one door at the main entrance.
- Use hand sanitizer at the provided station before entering the Sanctuary.
- Maintain social distancing (6 feet apart) from those not within your immediate family.

-Please do not enter the building if you are experiencing any symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, chills, diarrhea).

We will continue to provide online opportunities for worship and connection. Our [YouTube channel](#) is the best way to find new content and worship services. We encourage you to 'Subscribe' to our channel! You'll be notified each time new content is uploaded, and the more subscribers we have, the less ads will appear!

[Click here to check out our YouTube channel](#)

[Click here to be connected to our website](#)

[Click here to be directed to our Facebook page](#)

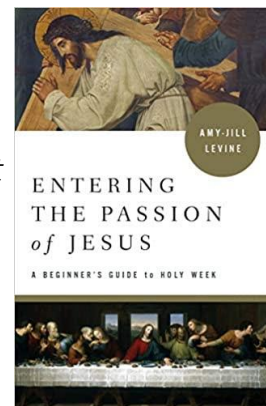
Lenten Study

Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week

By: **Amy-Jill Levine**

“Dive deep into the history of the last days before the crucifixion. Jesus’ final days were full of risk. Every move he made was filled with anticipation, danger, and the potential for great loss or great reward. Jesus risked his reputation when he entered Jerusalem in a victory parade. He risked his life when he dared to teach in the Temple.”

Christ Church will offer 2 opportunities to participate in this study via ZOOM:



***Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Through March 31
Facilitator: Beth Reilly Brown***

Topic: Entering the Passion of Jesus
Time: Mar 24, 2021 @ 7:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84622390845?pwd=c1lSYitDVldMd29PeEpCVGIvVXduZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 2239 0845

Passcode: 440832

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,84622390845#,,,,*440832# US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/keFIYt2ivp>

***Thursdays at 1 p.m.
Through April 1***
Facilitator: Peggy Bermudez

Mar 25, 2021 @ 1:00 PM

Apr 1, 2021 @ 1:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8417437283>

Meeting ID: 841 7437 7283

Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

The book is not required, but if you would like to purchase a copy, paperbacks and digital formats are available through a variety of online vendors including Cokesbury, Barnes & Noble, Target, and Amazon.

Music & Meditation

***Fridays at 5:30 p.m.
Through April 2***

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

Available in person and online via the CUMC YouTube channel: www.YouTube.com/CUMCAmherst/live

This Week at Christ Church

Winter Office Hours:

Monday/ Wednesday/ Friday

9a.m. - 2p.m.

At all times, even during office hours, the building will remain locked. Please call for admittance.

Wednesday, March 24

7 p.m. - Lenten Study

Thursday, March 25

1 p.m. - Lenten Study

Friday, March 26

5:30 p.m. - Music & Meditation

In-Person and Live-Stream

Sunday, March 28

Palm/Passion Sunday

10 a.m. - Worship Service

In-Person and Live-Stream

Daily Bible Reading – 2021 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 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

March 28: Joshua 21-22; Luke 6:1-26

March 29: Joshua 23-24; Luke 6:27-49

March 30: Judges 1-2; Luke 7:1-30

In Our Healing Prayers

- **Kevin Cetola** – recently hospitalized with Covid-19, now home

Paul Staley, Scott & Viki Smith, Debbie Laberta, Dave Wolf, Laura June Merrill, Helen Peacock, Mary Gerhardt (Mother of Lisa Lawson), Lynda Painton, Sue Estee, Ruth Munson, Dave Mitchell, Kevin Cetola, Nancy & Frank Annunziata, Joe & Carolyn Day, Dick Ball, Barbara

Weaver, Inez Beachley, Bob Varian, John Ladowski, Janet Hill, Mary Jane Shanley, Jean Ericson

*Those affected with COVID-19, those working on the front lines, and all impacted by the changes of work and activities.

*Those who are **care partners** with others

*Pray for Chris Maliken, Lindsey Darling & Ian Johnson, serving in the US Navy

Visitation



Visitation to elder residential communities, long term care centers, and nursing home recently was expanded. We recognize, however, that each person's comfort level regarding visits differs. At this time we would ask that if you are interested in a pastoral and / or visits from members of the Visitation Team, please contact the church office.

UMCOR Hygiene Kits

The Outreach Team invites you to assemble a Hygiene Kit for UMCOR! These kits will help people who have suffered due to natural disasters. The supplies can be assembled and placed in a large plastic gallon bag and then brought to church. We will collect them until **Sunday, March 28, 2021**.

Hygiene Kit Materials

- **One hand towel** (15 x 25 –17 x 27 inches)
 - No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels
- **One washcloth**
 - No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels
- **One comb**
 - Must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth
 - No pocket combs or picks
 - Rattail/ combs without handles are acceptable but must have at least 6 inches of teeth
- **One toenail or fingernail clipper**
 - No emery boards or metal nail files
- **Bath-size soap** (3 oz. bar or larger)
 - No Ivory or Jergen's soap
 - Do not remove from packaging
- **One adult toothbrush**
 - Do not remove from packaging

- *Personal advertising not acceptable*
 - **10 adhesive bandages** (¾ by 3 inches)
 - *Common household bandages acceptable*
 - **One one-gallon size re-sealable bag**
- Hygiene Kit Value: \$12.00 per kit

Assembly Instructions

1. Lay hand towel flat on a table.
2. Lay the washcloth in the center of the hand towel.
3. Place all remaining items on top of the washcloth (except the plastic bag).
4. Fold the sides of the hand towel to cover the items.
5. Grasp the bundle tightly and roll over the remainder of the towel.
6. Place the tightly rolled bundle in the plastic bag, remove air, and seal.

<https://www.gnjumc.org/resource/umcor-hygiene-kit-assembly-instructions/>
<https://umcmmission.org/umcor-hygiene-kit/>



Holy Week

March 29 - April 3

Thursday, April 1

Maundy Thursday Worship Service
with Communion
7 p.m.

Friday, April 2

Good Friday
Music & Meditation
5:30 p.m.

**Both services will be available both in-person and via live-stream*

Custodian Position

We are hiring! A job description and online employment form are available on our website for those interested in applying. You can find both under the "Staff" menu heading on [the Custodian page](#).



CUMC Identity - Questions to Ponder

A small team has been meeting over the past few months to discuss the identity of our Church, so we better understand ourselves, tell our story to the community, and invite others into our community. Over the next few weeks, we invite you to ponder the following questions:

- **Why does Christ Church exist?**
- ***Other than the people, why do you come to Christ Church?***
- **What would you nurture in our Church to see it through to the future?**

A fillable Google Docs form is available on our website under the "News" section, or [click this link](#). Team chairs will also be discussing these questions with their groups. We look forward to your response as we take stock of where we've been, where we are, and as we imagine what the future will hold!



Catch the Spirit

**“Virtual”
Praise & Prayer Worship**

**April 10, 2021
11:00 a.m**

“Come follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” - Matthew 4:19



**Email Tracy Hagler - thagler0125@yahoo.com
to register.**

Advanced Lay Servant Course - “Accountable Discipleship” to start the following week led by Pastor Cheryl Brown.

-Email {cheryla14049@yahoo.com} for more information