



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

Weekly Update – March 31

Holy Week

. Fears Stoked and Provoked by Fire

Yesterday my neighbors had a fire in their outdoor fire pit at midday. I was curious why on this day, at this time, and in these conditions they had decided to ignite this blaze, but I saw that it was to rid themselves of piles of respective fuel by way of remnants of old fence recently replaced. All of it caused alarm and worry on my part.

I listened to the cracks and pops as I suspiciously glanced out the window again and again with anxiety growing with every gust of wind. It gave me a perspective on Peter himself, anxious by a fire in the stories we hear this week. Our insecurities were the same. Both of us at our respective distances to these flames worried over our own safety; both us received comments or glances relative to this fear and desire for self-preservation; both of us struggled to answer in our reply how we were showing our commitment of love of God and love of neighbor.

The winds blow hard this week, stoking the flames of our fears. And we will face hard questions in our hearts of our commitment and faith in Jesus as we face the days and nights ahead. They come direct in Scripture and indirect in our encounter with neighbor. How we answer will make all the difference in our lives, the lives of others, and in the world.

-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](#)

Music & Meditation

Fridays at 5:30 p.m.
Good Friday, 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.

Janelle will be out of the office April 1-11. If you have an important matter that requires immediate attention, please call or email Rev. Daven Oskvig at (716) 903-6024 or revdwoskvig@gmail.com. Thank you for your understanding!

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

Wednesday, March 31

7 p.m. - Lenten Study

Maundy Thursday, April 1

1 p.m. - Lenten Study

7p.m. - **Maundy Thursday Worship Service**

Good Friday, April 2

5:30 p.m. - **Music & Meditation**

In-Person and Live-Stream

Sunday, April 4

Resurrection 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 31: Judges 3-5; Luke 7:31-50

April 1: Judges 6-7; Luke 8:1-21

April 2: Judges 8-9; Luke 8:22-56

April 3: Judges 10-11; Luke 9:1-36

April 4: Judges 12-14; Luke 9:37-62

April 5: Judges 15-17; Luke 10:1-24

April 6: Judges 18-19; Luke 10:25-42

In Our Healing Prayers

-Carolyn Day - hospitalized

Janelle Davis, Kevin Cetola, Paul Staley, Scott Smith, Debbie Laberta, Dave Wolf, Laura June Merrill, Helen Peacock, Mary Gerhardt (Mother of Lisa Lawson), Lynda Painton, Sue Estee, Ruth Munson, Dave Mitchell, 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.



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*

Mission Of The Month

During the month of April, the Outreach Team will provide a food bin by the Church entrance to collect goods for HEARTS FOR THE HOMELESS. This organization works tirelessly to bring meals, necessities, and comfort to those in need.



We will be collecting: canned beef stew, chili, baked beans, canned potatoes, canned carrots, spaghetti sauce, & parmesan cheese.

Thank you for sharing God's love!

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