

Christ United Methodist Church

UPDATE

May 13, 2015

Harlem Road at Saratoga Road

Amherst, New York

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

EVERYONE is WELCOME

SUNDAY AT CHRIST CHURCH

9:00 – Praise Celebration Worship

**10:00 FaithXpress, Soul Strength and Adult Opportunities
for Learning**

11:00 – Traditional Style Worship

Why not bring a Friend this week and share the Love and Grace of God?

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

Or call us at: [716-839-2460](tel:716-839-2460)

Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Christ-United-Methodist-Church-Amherst/294709713921168?ref=hl>

Follow us on Twitter

@CUMCamherst

Hi Everyone:

REMINDER this SUNDAY is MAKE A DIFFERENCE SUNDAY – ONE worship at 9:00 only!! Then off to projects. There is still time to sign up for projects (call Janelle at 839-2460). This Sunday we will gather at 9:00a.m. for a brief worship and commissioning then we are off to our many projects on and off site. We will return to Christ Church around 1:00p.m. for lunch and some celebration time! IF YOU ORDERED a T-SHIRT, Janelle has them in the church office.

Here is what is happening at Christ Church:

1. Attendance last Sunday was 163. Joyce Moser and Phyllis Nichols battled it out for the most family present (with Joyce winning by a great grand baby). We were blessed to see so much of our extended family with us. Thank you to all who helped make the day so very special.

2. REMINDER this SUNDAY is MAKE A DIFFERENCE SUNDAY – ONE worship at 9:00 only!! Then off to projects. Come and join us as we seek to “MAKE A DIFFERENCE” in small and large ways across our community.

3. ONE THING THAT NEEDS IMMEDIATE ATTENTION: with my departure in mid-June, the 9:00a.m. worship team is without a music leader. The team can provide worship leadership but will need a lead **guitar** or **piano** or **drummer** to hold the music together and to keep the team in focus. I know that many of you play or can play . . . we are praying for you to step up and join us. See BJ for more information.

4. We have been planning a **First Responder Appreciation** Day at Christ Church since late last year. The idea was to host a community wide event that would acknowledge the Police and Fire and EMT’s who selflessly give of themselves to protect the rest of us. Unfortunately, the funding we had anticipated from some of our community partners did not come through and we are in need of some support to get the word out about this event. So we are inviting ALL of our friends and neighbors to share in the offering for the First Responder Appreciation Day event being held at Christ Church on Sunday, May 31, from 3-6 pm. ***Since we don't qualify to receive community funds to send a mailing to our community neighbors, any funding support is appreciated. Whether you write a check for a thousand dollars or a smaller amount, please know that your support is appreciated. You may donate online, send or bring your contribution to the church. A gold basket will be on the ledge in the worship space on Sunday. Thanks for***

helping to work a miracle of sharing. If you have questions please contact Sally Pollard at the church office.

5. This Week at Christ Church:

Wednesday, May 13 – Choir Rehearsal at 7:30p.m.

CALLER DEADLINE

Thursday, May 14 – Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.

SPRC at 7:00 p.m. in Wesley Room

Friday, May 15 – Books We Have Loved at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, May 19 – Trustees at 7:30p.m.

Wednesday, May 20 – Finance Workshop on Social Security – 7 keys to enhancing your benefits and how to manage your social security as part of your retirement.

6. The United Methodist Men had, well, WAY TOO MUCH FUN, last Saturday driving the go carts at Walden Galleria. Photos were pretty fun!

7. FIRST RESPONDER APPRECIATION DAY is May 31

Sunday, May 31 from 3-6 p.m. Christ Church will be hosting a community wide event honoring the first responders in our area. Touch-a-Truck emergency vehicles and k9 officers will be present throughout the afternoon, and an appreciation ceremony at 4:00 p.m. will include proclamations from the towns of Amherst and Cheektowaga. Join us in saying “Thank You” to the brave men and women who keep us safe!

REMINDER this SUNDAY is MAKE A DIFFERENCE SUNDAY – ONE worship at 9:00 only!! Then off to projects.

8. In our Prayers: **Ann Burdette** fell and broke a femur requiring surgery on 4/27 she is now at Elderwood on Harris Hill for rehab; **Sue Estee** is now HOME (and back in worship) following her surgery; Ruth Swenson (broken shoulder after a fall); Pray for **Todd and Mary Jo Evans** – Todd is now at Beechwood. **Mary Jo** is at Blocher Homes; **Mitch Mooney**, following a recent hospital stay is now home; **Glenn Hurst** is home; **Tom Davis**

is now at Elderwood Room 312-A, 200 Bassett Rd., Williamsville, NY 14221, (and is not doing well); **Laney Fuller** is at Blocher; **Jan Rhinehart** undergoing tests; **Sharon Ferrelli** continues cancer treatments; **Dr. Robert Nachbar** is at Blocher Homes; **Dorothy Brown; Dona Dalton; Brian Martin** for continued healing;; **Edmond Wrycza** (Julianna Sabol's father in nursing home in Fort Erie); **Lois Lewis, Barbara Clinton, Fred and Linda Painton, Guy Castellino** (and Guy's mother and father who are both dealing with major health matters); **Bim Rowlands, Nicky Sebastiano, Ruth Kitson, Ruth Luss, Shirley Downey, Ed Maker, Alice Schmidt, Diane Lovejoy.** Pray also for: **Marion Wenner, and Debbie Suggs.** Remember our service men and women (domestic and foreign) especially: **Alex Dunbar, Ian Johnson and Lindsey Darling** (all serving in the US Navy). Pray for **Christ UMC** in our time of transition. Pray for Pastor BJ and Rev. Darryl Barrow (and all UM pastors and congregations) in this season of pastoral transition. Pray for renewal and a fresh wind of the Holy Spirit!

9. UGANDA TEAM NOTES: John and Brandon Miller, Viki and Hannah Smith, Janelle Martin, Erisawe Briere, Kathryn Weaver and B.J. Norrix will depart for Uganda on Sunday June 28 and will return on Tuesday, July 14.

FOCUS of the Mission: We will be working with two clinics (at Lusanja and Nabukondo) we will be leading two Nexus graduations (at Rakai and Nakasangola) we will be working on a church building at a school and holding at least one youth rally. We will be dedicating a new well (at Gombe) and a new church at Seeta. There will be time taken to visit the source of the Nile river in Jinja and a Game Preserve near Rakai.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP: PRAY FOR US as we prepare, as we travel, as we work and as we return!

WAYS YOU CAN HELP: Ron Corsaro Trio (OK, now he tells me it's a quartet) in the Crafts Hall Bistro **May 29 here at Christ Church!**

WAYS YOU CAN HELP: Collect supplies for us to take with us: 1. **school supplies (pencils, colored pencils, erasers (NO CRAYONS OR PAPER));** 2. Basic medical supplies (gloves, bandages, etc.); 3. toothbrushes; 4. toys (stickers, small items); 5. Bibles, bible resources (ask BJ if in doubt); 6. Silent Auction Basket items for May 2.

We can also use “reader” glasses (1.5 or 2.0 magnification) frame styles do not matter.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP: THANK YOU for your generous donations. The publishing costs are NOW covered!

10. A word about giving from our Stewardship and Finance Chair, Brad Loliger: Now you can make ***ONLINE contributions to Christ Church!*** You can make a one-time donation, or schedule a recurring electronic contribution. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness, or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an interrupted basis.

Get Started Today!

1. Visit ChristChurchAmherst.org
2. Click on the Donate tab at the top
3. Click on Donate Now button to create an online profile and schedule your recurring contributions.

11. Happy Birthday this week:

May 13 – Mary Ball; Chuck Terranova

May 14 – Jamie Carney; Jordan Lawson

May 16 – Rosie Kochan; Linnea George

May 18 – Kristen Darling

May 20 – Mary Landel

May 21 – Rebecca Lopez, Ryan Lopez, Scott Smith, Rachel Adam

12. Happy Anniversary this week:

May 16 – Brian and Jamie Carney

May 19 – Chris and Diane Klenk

May 21 – John and Pam Lopez

13. Through the Bible this week's readings:

May 13 – 2 Samuel 24; 1 Chronicles 21; Psalm 30 and 1 Thessalonians 2

May 14 – 1 Chronicles 22-24 and 1 Thessalonians 3

May 15 – 1 Chronicles 25-27 and 1 Thessalonians 4

May 16 – 1 Kings 1; 1 Chronicles 28; Psalm 91 and 1 Thessalonians 5

May 17 – 1 Kings 2; 1 Chronicles 29; Psalm 95 and 2 Thessalonians 1

May 18 – 1 Kings 3; 2 Chronicles 1; Psalm 78 and 2 Thessalonians 2

May 19 – 1 Kings 4-5; 2 Chronicles 2; Psalm 101 and 2 Thessalonians 3

May 20 – 1 Kings 6; 2 Chronicles 3; Psalm 97 and Romans 1

HERE'S A WAY TO ENHANCE YOUR BIBLE READING: Try keeping a Journal. Sometimes, when you are reading, something in the reading will speak to you or stand out to you. Take a moment and write down the SCRIPTURE. Then make an OBSERVATION (what spoke to me??). Thirdly, ask "How would I APPLY this to my life. Finally, make what you learned into a PRAYER. This method of bible reading is called the S.O.A.P. method and allows us to ask "how will I be different because of what I just read?"

On the First of June, I will make available copies of our Bible Reading Plan for the rest of the year. You may contact Janelle in the church office or copies will be on the ledge in the back of the Sanctuary

14. REMINDER this SUNDAY is MAKE A DIFFERENCE SUNDAY – ONE worship at 9:00 only!! Then off to projects.

15. Diane Klenk is working with our local Veterans Hospital regarding supplies for the in patient, day programs and homeless. Below are needed items. If you can help see Diane or bring these items to the church and leave them in the container provided in Crafts Hall. Needed items: Socks, underwear, T-shirts (White, L to XXXL, V-neck), towels,

Toiletries (deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, disposable razors, mouthwash, nail clippers, body wash, combs, shaving cream, pocket mirrors, chap stick – be sure mouth wash and other items are “Alcohol free”); Gift cards (McDonald’s, Wendy’s, Burger King, Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Tops); Patriotic throws or lap blankets, books and audio books, DVDs.

16. COMING SOON

May 29 -- Ron Corsaro Trio (**quartet**) at 7:00p.m.

May 31 – First Responder’s Celebration and Appreciation Day

June 14 – Pastor BJ’s last Sunday

June 28 – Uganda Mission Team leaves for Uganda and returns July 14.

July 5 – Rev. Barrow’s first Sunday

17. **ONE FINAL THING:** with my departure in mid-June, the 9:00 worship team is without a music leader. The team can provide worship leadership but will need a lead **guitar** or **piano** or **drummer** to hold the music together and to keep the team in focus. I know that many of you play or can play . . . we are praying for you to step up and join us. See BJ for more information.

Parting Thought:

Hot, cold, snow two weeks ago then 90 degrees then frost warnings . . . celebrate the joy of the changing seasons all in the same week. Welcome to New York! The non-static nature of the weather should remind us that all of life is in a constant state of flux and change. No two days are alike, no two snowflakes are alike, I am different every single day. Biologists tell us that our cells are constantly dying and being replaced. There is a new me coming into being every single day! Some seasons look more like that death and resurrection, dying and being replaced imagery. No season looks more like it than the seasons of life transitions. Friends come and go. We matriculate and graduate from schools. We begin and end projects. We are hired and fired or retired or we move on to the next thing. In my final month of transition I am trying to be mindful of walking slowly through the changes. I am available and have cleared much of my schedule to be available for those of you who want to see me before I go. Just ask and we’ll work something out. I am overwhelmed with the solid anchors of Christ Church amid my

transition: deepest appreciation to Peggy Bermudez, Janelle Martin, Sally Pollard, Roger Johnson, et al, for you warmth, compassion and competence in this time. You have been and are a great blessing to me.

Blessings,

BJ Norrix, lead servant, missionary, coach