

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

Weekly Update - May 23

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226

A Word From Pastor Daven-

I have a friend which several years ago starting taking the disregarded and unwanted dust jackets from books and making boxes. A hobby of sorts, after he finishes he puts an anonymous short note inside. He gives them randomly and often anonymously. I became the benefactor of one such box myself.

We often think of our sharing of God's love with the world in big programs and opportunities. We wait and wait and wait to be moved toward involvement through them rather than seeing that while those are wonderful ways to experience God's presence, most often it is in the shortest and smallest ways/things/expression.

The box I received now sits on a shelf in my office, a gentle reminder of the small gift we all have and can give. While I don't have these boxes to distribute to all of you, I pray that the message that was extended to me might go to you - Blessings to you today! For you are a blessing to me and others and the box of God's heart in Christ is open to you, pouring upon you warmth and belonging.

-Pastor Daven

Church Conference - June 5, 2018 at 7pm

The purpose of the upcoming church conference is related to moving our current pastoral appointment to full-time. This will be a very brief meeting within the monthly Church Council meeting. Finance had requested one full year at the current level of pastoral compensation before consideration of any change. As of July 1, 2018 one full year at the current level will have been realized. SPRT and Finance met jointly to discuss and explore options on May 17, 2018. Below is their recommendation.

Currently our pastoral appointment is considered 3/4 time to drop the appointment below the threshold which mandates the health insurance premium. This was the only

avenue by which the cash salary offered by the church could adequately secure our current pastoral charge (Rev. Daven W. Oskvig). That amount for 2018 is \$50,686 (total package with benefits and reimbursable is \$62,549.19).

With designated gross salary rising to meet the minimum threshold for credential and years of service to \$43,660 while maintaining the current budgeted housing allowance of \$9,000. The impact would include - \$1,974 additional in salary + \$325.71 additional in benefits + \$13,800 for the health care premium = \$16,099.71 in total change.

Effective start date would be July 1, 2018. While the compensation package represents a total annual reality, the impact would only be for the final 6 months of 2018, July - December.

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.

May 23: 1 Chronicles 8-10; John 8:37-59

May 24: 1 Chronicles 11-13; John 9:1-23

May 25: 1 Chronicles 14-16; John 9:24-41

May 26: 1 Chronicles 17-19; John 10:1-21

May 27: 1 Chronicles 20-22; John 10:22-42

May 28: 1 Chronicles 23-25; John 11:1-17

May 29: 1 Chronicles 26-27; John 11:18-46

In Our Healing Prayers

The Painton Family

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Lynda Painton and the Painton Family. **Fred Painton** died on Friday, May 18. A memorial service celebrating Fred's life will take place at Christ Church on **Saturday, May 26** at **10:30 a.m.** Visitation hours will take place at the Perna, Dengler & Roberts Funeral Home ([1671 Maple Road](#) in Williamsville) on **Friday, May 25** from **4-8 p.m.**

The Shanley Family, The Snyder Family, The Fisher Family, Dr. Robert Nachbar, Fred Painton, Bob Varian, Greg Mailken, Dennis Scaringi, Sue Estee, Lois Lewis, Janet Hill, 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

This Week at Christ Church

Church Office:

Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 5 pm, Tues. & Thurs. – 9am to Noon

Wednesday, May 23 - **5:30pm -"Bridges of Hope"**

Supper & Conversation

7pm- Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 24 - 7pm - Community Service "Hub" Team

Friday, May 25 - 7pm - Game Night

Saturday, May 26 - **10:30am - Memorial Service: Fred Painton**

Sunday, May 27 - *Peace with Justice Sunday*

9 am - Casual Praise Service

10 am - A.O.L. (Adult Opportunities for Learning)

11 am - Traditional Worship

Monday, May 28 - Memorial Day - *Office Closed*

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.



TONIGHT! Wednesday, May 23

5:30 – 7:00 pm

“Bridges of Hope”

A soup & bread supper will be served. Chaplain Daryl Bennett offers information & resources to faith groups about mental illness & the role of faith communities.



Graduate Recognition Sunday

Sunday, June 3rd is Graduate Recognition Sunday. If you have a high school or college graduate in your family, please contact the church office **by Wednesday, May 30**. Please include their name, relationship to you, degree(s), and future plans.

Rev. Wayne Butler Retiring in June

Our District Superintendent, Rev. Wayne Butler, is retiring on June 30. All are welcome to attend a celebration of worship and fellowship on **Friday, June 8 at 7PM** at Harris Hill UMC (8495 Main St, Williamsville, NY 14221) to thank Wayne and wish him well in his retirement! A monetary gift will be presented to Rev. Butler and Molly to use toward setting up their very first home! If you would like to contribute to that gift, please send a check payable to PCUMC to Pendleton Center UMC, [6864 Campbell Boulevard, North Tonawanda, NY 14120](https://www.pcumc.org) and mark WAYNE in the note portion of your check. Any questions or concerns may be addressed to debbieparise@pendletonchurch.org or (716) 344-8165.

Save the Dates!

Vacation Bible School at Christ Church

July 9-13

9 a.m. - Noon

[Register online today!](#)



Make A Difference Day Recap

A great big **THANK YOU** to all who were involved in this year's Make a Difference Day event this past Sunday! From our planning team and team leaders to each participant, we couldn't have done it without you! Check out event pictures on [our Facebook page!](#)

Here are a few of the ways we made a difference in our community:

- about **4,500 pounds** of papers were shredded for free by the shredding truck provided by Allaire Financial Strategies
- 91 handcrafted cards** were made to be delivered to people receiving mental health care in area facilities
- 18 pints** of blood were donated to help save lives
- 20 meals** were prepared, packaged, and frozen, ready to be given to those in need
- 2 boxes** of pajamas and **4 boxes** of children's books were donated to be given to Child & Family Services and Home Space
- over a **mile** of Harlem Road in Amherst and the church grounds were cleared of garbage and debris



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:

Paper towels, toilet paper, dish detergent, deodorant, heart-healthy cereals (look for a heart on the box!), pasta, and sauces.

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

Peace with Justice Sunday - May 27

Moved by Christ's love to pursue reconciliation and peace, and honoring the dignity of every individual made in God's image, The United Methodist Church is unwilling to turn a blind eye to injustice. Together, we spread the gospel of peace and encourage cooperation locally, in the United States, and globally. Your giving on Peace with Justice Sunday is vital for the UMC to continue its global ministries of reconciliation. The people of The United Methodist Church are able to make a difference together by sowing seeds—and yielding fruit!—of peace.

Exploring Sunday Scriptures

Every **Tuesday at Noon**, Pastor Daven will lead 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!

Wednesday Morning Prayer

This Lenten discipline will be continued weekly every **Wednesday at 10 a.m.** Pastor Daven will lead a brief time of morning prayer, which employs a ritual of plain chant, Scripture readings, and prayers specific to the day. All are welcome anytime!

“In this life we cannot always do great things.
But we can do small things with great love.”
-Mother Teresa

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