

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

Weekly Update - May 8, 2019

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226



A Word From Pastor Daven

Dandelions

I have begun my annual assault against the dandelions. While my yard is not a picture of grassed perfection, I take particular exception to the presence of these tap rooted enemies. Neighbors have curiously watched as I engage in hand-to-hand combat with these pernicious weeds, speculating in the past what and why I am involved in this annual activity.

Sometimes we all benefit from a different perspective. Children provide a wonderful one when it comes to dandelions. When they come with handfuls of the yellow flowers proud of their bounty and glowing with the gift they give, it is hard not to find the beauty in them. I can nearly accept their crowding presence among the grass seeing the joy they become in the gift bestowed. Sometimes that which we would declare weed and pest is beauty and gift in the eyes of another.

Honestly, that could be the best expression of living as a disciple of Christ. It is seeing in everyone that they are a child of God, beauty in the eyes of the Creator. None are beyond redemption in Christ and all deserve the sustaining care and presence of the Holy Spirit through others. Undoubtedly we are challenged through our encounters with others. Let us try as we might to recognize that all are a treasure to God. Maybe I will just let some of those dandelions persist this year to remind me ...



Make A Difference Day

Sunday, May 19

Worship: 10 a.m.

Projects: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Potluck Lunch: 12:30 p.m.

Wondering how to get involved on Make a Difference Day?

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- **Sign up for a project!** This Sunday is the last week to sign up on the bulletin board in the Family Room! There are a variety of ways to serve for every body and every ability! Signing up will help our team leaders better prepare for May 19.
- **Clean out your closets & garage!** We will be collecting new and gently-used sports equipment, clothing, non-perishable foods, household goods, etc. Items will be re-purposed by local organizations.
- **Give blood!** The American Red Cross will be in Youth Hall from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Call Geoff Hill to register to donate (316-1522).
- **Get ready to shred!** Bring your outdated documents, receipts and files to be shredded for free, sponsored by Christ Church and Allaire Financial Strategies.
- **Come thirsty!** Our kids will be setting up lemonade stands close to the church to raise money for Oishei Children's Hospital in Buffalo.
- **Share a meal!** We will be having a taco bar potluck lunch for all involved at 12:30 p.m. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Family Room to bring

an item (or two!) to share. Chat with friends and hear about how others made a difference throughout the morning.

- **Tell your friends and spread the word!!**

[Check out a full list of what we're collecting and what to shred on our website.](#) www.ChristChurchAmherst.org

Daily Bible Reading – 2019

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 8: 1 Kings 16-18; John 1:29-51

May 9: 1 Kings 19-20; John 2

May 10: 1 Kings 21-22; John 3:1-21

May 11: 2 Kings 1-3; John 3:22-36

May 12: 2 Kings 4-5; John 4:1-30

May 13: 2 Kings 6-8; John 4:31-54

May 14: 2 Kings 9-11; John 5:1-24

Joys

We celebrate with Jeremiah & Michelle Cordero and big sister Graciella as they welcomed baby Andrew David Cordero into the world on May 1. Proud grandparents are Tom & Kathy Brunner.

In Our Healing Prayers

Bruce Burr, Inez Beachley, Lynne Beller, Virginia 'Ginny' Molin, Helen Peacock, Joyce Moser, Bob Varian, Harold Weaver, Janet Hill, Sissie Mooney, Mary Jane Shanley, Sue Estee, Frank Annunziata, Jean Ericson, Kevin Cetola

*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 8 - 7pm- Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 9 - 1pm- 'Thirstaid' Thursday

Saturday, May 11 - 10 am- Women's Breakfast Gathering

Sunday, May 12 - 10am - Worship Service

11am- Education Hour & Fellowship

Happy Mother's Day!

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 & 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:
cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper, personal hygiene products, deodorant, and soap.

The Tiger's Den is collecting **sugar, flour, and spaghetti sauce** in May.
Collecting carts at Christ Church are marked for Tiger's Den Food Pantry and for local families.

Second Sunday, Second Helping Offering Sunday, May 12

The 2nd Helping offering for May will go towards Make a Difference Day (May 19). Your generous gifts will help to defray the costs of renting the shredding truck, preparing meals for those in need at Seneca Street UMC, lemonade supplies for our kids' lemonade stands, etc. Thank you!



Exploring Sunday Scriptures

Every **Tuesday at Noon**, Pastor Daven leads 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!

Thirstaid Thursdays

You are invited to join in 'Thirstaid' Thursdays

each Thursday at 1 p.m. through May 9 in the Wesley Room!

"Hope When Your Heart Breaks (Navigating Grief and Loss)"

Facilitators: Pastor Daven, Peggy Bermudez, Dr. David Pliss

We'll look at how life experiences challenge us and how God powerfully uses the gifts of prayer, presence, and witness to move us and others through these times to thrive again.

United Methodist Women Breakfast Gathering

All are invited to a Breakfast Gathering on **Saturday, May 11, at 10 a.m.** in the Café. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Diann Holt of Durham Baby Café. Rev. Holt is an ordained elder of the AME Zion Church, a social worker, and a member of the New York State Taskforce on Maternal Mortality and Disparate Racial Outcomes. She opened the first Baby Café for pregnant women and new mothers in New York State in 2013 at Durham Memorial AME Zion Church in Buffalo. ALL are welcome to come and learn more about this important ministry! The Executive Board will host and cost is \$5. For reservations, please contact Peggy Bermudez at 626-4897 or bradbermudez@hotmail.com. *We will be gathering Uber cards so that young mothers will have transportation to the Baby Café.*

Church Office Hours:

Monday -Wednesday- Friday, 9 am to 5 pm Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am to Noon

SUNDAYS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Worship at 10 am

Educational Opportunities at 11 am