

# Christ United Methodist Church

***Living Christ's Ways and Exploding With Love and Service!***

Weekly Update Tuesday, November 12, 2013

We've been hearing the news recently about the troubled healthcare website making it difficult for people to sign up themselves and their families for insurance. The people who didn't support the affordable Healthcare Act in the first place are there to say, "See, I told you it wouldn't work." While others are just plain disappointed that something that showed real promise to make a difference is taking so long to show positive results. Still others are confused and dismayed that such a great country can't seem to find a way to take care of it's people in the margins while sorting out the ever present forces that subvert and corrupt the integrity of our best intentions. It always feels like we're climbing a mountain.

This morning's news brought the story of three men in their 20's who managed to get a website up and running using the same public information the government uses in their website and, just as originally stated in the planning stage for the ACA, people are signing up for their healthcare in a matter of minutes. Why can three 20-somethings accomplish in minutes what all the government resources cannot do? I'll leave that question to your consideration today.....

1. On Children's Sabbath Sunday 125 worshipers gathered. The members of the United Methodist Women planned and led worship with Catherine Miles-Kania from Gateway-Longview as our guest speaker. Catherine shared stories of two young men whose lives were completely changed for the better because of the wrap around resources available to them through their care at Gateway-Longview. I heard people after worship saying they were so glad they had come and heard this hopeful message. Others were

so moved that already plans are in the works for how to supply some greatly needed beds for children at G-L. We'll be hearing more about that on Sunday.

The Praise Team under the direction of Bill Bauza and the Choir directed by Mac Sabol and accompanied by Melanie Rodgers brought us into God's presence and touched our hearts with their voices and their songs. What a blessing they are in our midst.

2. This Sunday, November 17, at the 9am and 11 am worship celebrations, we'll continue to focus on hope as the Rev. Jim Pollard brings our morning message entitled, "People of Indestructible Hope." The Uganda Mission Team continues their travels. Brief calls home tell us everything is going well. Kathy Weaver, Joe Fort and Pastor BJ (and Rev. Claire Mosher) along with our Uganda friends continue to be close in our prayers. Also pray for and encourage their families here at home.

3. **Phyllis Nicholson** and **Guy Castellino** were both in church on Sunday after having been in the hospital last week. Continue to hold them in prayer along with **Mitch Mooney, Nicky Sebastiano, Glenn Hurst, Dick Ball and Bim Rowlands** as they continue to gather strength and healing at home.

Prayers are also requested for **Linda Shupe** - undergoing treatment for breast cancer, **Rosemary Kochen** - Her father, Frank Leo, died on Monday, November 11 and for **Brad Loliger as his grandfather** is hospitalized and treatment decisions are made. Remember in your prayers all those who are caregivers for others. They need our encouragement and perhaps some phone calls or cards.

With Veteran's Day just past we also remember and hold in our prayers those currently serving in the Navy at this time: **Ian Johnson (US) and Alex Dunbar (Afghanistan)**.

4. We celebrate with **Todd and MaryJo Evans** and their family as their son, **Dr. David Evans** was honored as one of 12 distinguished alumni added to the Williamsville Wall of Fame. Recipients were recognized for achievement in their career, , their contribution to society and community service. Dr. Evans is an AIDS researcher, ad Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Wisconsin.

5. The **AARP Safe Driver class** being offered at Christ Church on Monday, November 18 is now full.

6. **Church Staff changes** - Office Manager, **Michelle Panasiewicz** will be leaving at the end of this week to take a new position in a science lab which better suits her family life and her goals. Beginning as new Office Manager on Monday, November 18th will be **Janelle Martin**. Please introduce yourself and give information for your groups and ministry teams to Janelle.

7. **Special Church Conference - Sunday, November 24 at noon.** Don't miss this opportunity to meet together for the purpose of discussion and decision regarding the opportunity to purchase the property located directly behind the church on Harwood Drive. All of the information we currently have is available in print form at the church. You may pick it up to read in advance. District Superintendent, **Rev. Wayne Butler**, will lead that meeting following worship. All church members may vote.

#### 8. **Daily Bible Reading** -

November 12- Job 36-37, 1 Corinthians 12

November 13- Job 39-40, 1 Corinthians 13-14

November 14- Psalm 149, 1 Corinthians 15-16

November 15- Job 41-42, 2 Corinthians 1-2

November 16- 2 Corinthians 3-6

November 17- 2 Corinthians 7-10

#### **9. November birthdays this week:**

Today, Tuesday, November 12 - **Grace Markello**

Wednesday, November 13 - **Carol Corsaro, Ian Webber**

Friday, November 15 - **Chris Sciolino**

Saturday, November 16 - **Lynn Ramsey**

**10. *New!* Seat Cushions are now available in the worship space for your added comfort. The ushers will assist you.**

**11. If you or someone you know has a twin bed (frame and mattress) please call the church office and let us know. We'd like to assist Gateway-Longview in supplying beds for children. 839-2460**

**I'll see you when the church gathers! *Go play in the snow!***

**With JOY,**

***Sally***