

## Weekly Update – November 16, 2016

### CHURCH CONFERENCE SET FOR DECEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00 AM

The Annual Church Conference will convene on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016 at 10:00 AM in Crafts Hall. District Superintendent, Rev. Wayne Butler, will preside. All church members are invited, and have voice and vote on all matters.

The agenda of an annual Church Conference includes reports from:

- The Church Council and Ministry Teams
- The Lay Leader and recommendation of Lay Servant certification.
- The Staff Parish Relations Team and recommendation of pastoral compensation.
- The Board of Trustees and the Endowment Team.
- The Director of Music.
- The Minister for Christian Education and Community Life.
- The Pastor
- The Stewardship & Finance Team, Financial Secretary and Church Treasurer.
- Election of Trustees and church leaders and ministry teams.
- Update from the Consultation Process Planning Team and next steps in developing strategies for the future ministries of Christ Church.

### Daily Bible Reading – 2016      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.

November 16: Ezekiel 13-15; Hebrews 11:20-40

November 17: Ezekiel 16; Hebrews 12

November 18: Ezekiel 17-19; Hebrews 13

November 19: Ezekiel 20-21; James 1

November 20: Ezekiel 22-23; James 2

November 21: Ezekiel 24-26; James 3

November 22: Ezekiel 27-28; James 4

### In Our Prayers

**JOY!** – Family from the Congo arriving Thursday November 17!

**JOY! – Emilia Johnson, Joseph Teresi and Olivia Smith** received gift Bibles during Sunday's Children's Sabbath worship service. Gio Castellino was not present due to the death of his grandfather. We will present his Bible at a later time.

**Joy!** Ann Burdette was at worship on Sunday!

**Joy! 9 Blankets were made** by members of the **Community Youth Group** and members of **Crafting For A Cause**. The blankets will go to children at Gateway Longview.



We offer our sympathy and prayers for Guy Castellino, Jamie Kendall, Ariana and Gio and their family on the death of Guy's father, Gaetano Castellino Sr. on Saturday, November 12. A memorial service will be held at a later time.

We also extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Alice Schmidt, who died at the age of 98 on November 13. Calling hours will be held at Wedekindt Funeral Home (280 Grover Cleveland Hwy. at Bailey) on Friday, November 18 from 4-7 p.m., and a service will be held at Wedekindt on Saturday morning at 10 a.m.

Al Tolsma, Joyce Moser, Bob Kreib, Rita Arnold, Carol Teresi, Patty Keller, Charles Terranova, Carolyn Day, Janet Hill, Elvira Gonzalez, Florence Stengel, Richard Mestler, Fred & Lynda Panton

Keep the church consultation process and planning team in your prayers as we discern the purpose of Christ Church for the coming years.

Pray for the healing of the nation

Chris Maliken, Alex Dunbar, Lindsey Darling & Ian Johnson – all serve 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, November 16 - 1 pm Focus Group @ Vinecroft- all are welcome

6 pm Focus Group @ the church- all are welcome

6 pm – Moving items from Christ Church for refugee family

7:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 17 -

11 am Visitation Team

6:30 pm - Praise team

7 pm Focus Group @ John Miller's home 590 Kaymar Dr.

7 pm Outreach Team

**7 pm Greet Refugee Family @ the airport**

Sunday, November 20 -

**Commitment Sunday**

9 am – Casual Praise

10 am – FaithXpress

11 am – Traditional Style Worship

## **Opportunities to Make A Difference**

### **Journey's End Refugee Services**

We will welcome our family from the Congo tomorrow evening! Help is needed tonight at 6:00 pm to load the moving truck at church and unload at 270 Loring Ave. Tomorrow, we'll be unpacking and setting up the apartment starting at 9:30 am until we've done as much as possible to make it warm and welcoming. Help is welcome for an hour or two or more. Thank you!

### **Singers! - You are invited to sing in the choir for Christmas Eve!!**

Come to rehearsals on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary. The first 45 minutes of each rehearsal will be devoted to preparing the Christmas Eve anthems.

## **Turkey Baskets – *Project ends this Friday, November 18***

Christ Church is partnering with North Presbyterian Church, Temple Shir Shalom, Temple Beth Zion, Presbyterian Village, Amherst Presbyterian Church, Williamsville East High School, local Girl Scout Troops, and Dash's, Tops & Wegmans Food Markets to provide 500 families with all the ingredients for Thanksgiving dinner.

**\*Turkeys or gift cards to purchase turkeys are also needed**

**November 13 – Peanut butter**

**November 20 – Canned meats, stews, tuna**

All food items are always needed to help stock local food pantries. Paper products and toiletries are welcome anytime. Grocery carts are available in the church for your donations.

## **Giving Tuesday - November 29 THE BEST Day to Donate to Feed the Hungry**

Do the most good all year when you give to the Society of St. Andrew on [November 29](#), [#GivingTuesday!](#)

Every dollar you give will be matched in-kind, with 10 pounds of potatoes. So extend your impact through a donation to the Society of St. Andrew on November 29.

Give online at [endhunger.org](http://endhunger.org), give by phone **800-333-4597**, or give by check, dated or postmarked November 29. Just say it's for Giving Tuesday!

With this gift match, you will be sharing even more fresh fruits and vegetables with people in greatest need. Through your gift, you will help a child stay alert and focused at school. You'll help a senior better manage his chronic illness through healthier eating, and you will ensure that a single mom can pay the light bill or put gas in her car because you've put good food in her refrigerator. Your gift matters!

## **Giving Tree – in the Parlor this Sunday!**

Gift tags for recipients at Gateway Longview, Haven House, Priimera Iglesia, Family Justice Center and Veterans will be available on the tree. Return gifts unwrapped. Contact Diane Klenk with questions 651-0236.

## **The Café is a connecting place.**

Sign up on the bulletin board in the Café to host some Sunday morning! Invite your family, friends, ministry team or group to join you! Share in this Café ministry of hospitality and

welcome. Donations are welcome in the Café for use on Sunday mornings – baked goods, half & half, OJ, fruit & cookies are useful!

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**Christmas Pageant – Sunday, December 18 11 am Worship**



**Merry Christ-Mess...  
...Beyond Time**

***Only God can turn a mess into a message!***

***Followed by the Open The Door party  
Everyone welcome!***



***Coming Soon...Mark your calendar***

**Advent Fridays – Give yourself the gift of peace**

5:30 – 6 pm – Music & Meditation Taizé style\*

*(Contemplative form of prayer, meditation, music, silence and abundant candles)*

**Advent Sundays – Adult Study Group with Dr. David Pliss**

**ADVENT STUDY: GOD IS WITH US – Sunday mornings at 10 AM in the Wesley Room**

A look at the scripture readings for the Sundays in Advent using the study book God Is With Us, by Robin Wilson. Participants will be led by David Pliss, beginning on Sunday, November 27, the first Sunday in Advent. Study books are available at the church.

**Saturday, December 3 - Red Blazers Male Glee Club Concert**

3 pm at Christ Church

**Sunday, December 11 – Concert by the *Buffalo Brass***

5 pm at Christ Church

**Sunday, December 18 – Christmas Pageant 11 am**

**Merry Christ-Mess!...Beyond Time**

*Only God can turn a mess into a message!*

**Open The Door Party** following the pageant

**Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve 9 pm**

**Service of Lessons & Carols**

*Candles & Choir*

**Sunday, December 25 – Christmas Day Worship**

1 worship service at 11 am

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“The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.”

— **Ralph Waldo Emerson**