

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



## Weekly Update - November 28

### Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226

## A Word From Pastor Daven

I saw this coming into church last week. I snapped a quick picture, picked it up and then quickly forgot about it ... except I set it on my desk to stare at me every day at work.



With the full onslaught on Christmas upon us, that guy in the big red suit having arrived in each of our local malls, and the carols in full blast we are surrounded. "You better watch out, you better not cry ...". It's a good reminder to our children, but perhaps this silly google eye is a reminder to me and maybe to all of you. God is always watching through all the seasons. And maybe particularly in this season, this eye is begging us to be watchful ourselves.

To spend this time considering God's watchful eye over us all the time. To be watchful of how our lives (thoughts, words and deeds) express our commitment to God and express our love of Christ. I doubt if this will start a sudden flurry of these silly eyes associated with this season of expectation, but if I start handing out google eyes on Sunday, you will know why.

### Reminder Wednesday

With Black Friday, Cyber Monday, and Giving Tuesday all behind us, let this be a gentle reminder to the invitation to participate in our plan for ministry for 2019. We will soon be meeting to use those responses to guide our projections for the work we will undertake in the name of God. Thank you to all who have already responded. If you haven't yet had a chance, please get them in soon! If you have misplaced the response card, extras are available in the rear of the Sanctuary or by calling the church office.



## 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.

November 28: Ezekiel 40; 1 Peter 5

November 29: Ezekiel 41-42; 2 Peter 1

November 30: Ezekiel 43-44; 2 Peter 2

December 1: Ezekiel 45-46; 2 Peter 3

December 2: Ezekiel 47-48; 1 John 1

December 3: Daniel 1-2; 1 John 2

December 4: Daniel 3-4; 1 John 3

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### Joys

**Joy! 24 donors** came out to the Red Cross Blood Drive on Black Friday! 18 units were collected, which has the potential to save 44 lives!

### In Our Healing Prayers

**Larry Burdette, Mary Parsons, Bruce Burr, Michele Sciolino, Sue Estee, Janet Hill, Woody Rhinehart, Valari Zanghi & father Harold Weaver, Pam Elbersen, Frank Annunziata, Mary Jane Shanley, Lois Lewis, 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. – 9 am to Noon**

Wednesday, November 28 - 7pm- Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 29 - 1pm- "Thirstaid Thursday" Study

Friday, November 30- **5:30pm- Music & Meditation**

7pm- Game Night

7pm- Yoga

Saturday, December 1- 10am- UMW Christmas Breakfast

**3pm- Red Blazer Holiday Concert at Christ Church**

Sunday, December 2 - **10am - Worship Service**

**11am - FaithXpress, AOL & Fellowship Opportunities**

Noon - Confirmation Informational Meeting

***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.***

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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 tuna fish and garbanzo beans in December.**

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

## Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is up in Crafts Hall! You're invited to take a tag(s) and return your gift(s) (unwrapped, with tag attached) **by December 9**. This year's gift recipients are: Gateway Longview, the SPCA, Haven House, Primera UMC (Jehovah Jireh). If you have any questions, please contact Diane Klenk at 651-0236. Let us remember those who are less fortunate at this time of the year and make their lives more joyful! Thank you for your help!

## Cookie & Candy Sale

The Outreach Team will host a Candy and Baked Goods fundraiser on **Sunday, December 9**. Donations of baked goods and candy will be much appreciated. Please bring your goodies to church *by December 7* for plating. All proceeds support the many outreach missions of our church.



## 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!

## The Twelve Voices of Christmas

As you experience twelve different perspectives of the story of Christ's coming, your understanding of Christmas will be enriched. See the blessing, wonder, joy and peace in a fresh way as you celebrate the birth of our Savior! This study will be led by Paula Kreib and offered on **Thirstaid Thursdays** from **1 - 2:30p.m.**, through **December 20**. Come and quench your thirst!

a.o.l. @ CUMC

**Sundays at 11 a.m.**

**December 2 – 23**

The Redemption of Scrooge

The study will look at Charles Dickens' classic, A Christmas Carol through the lens of faith.

Facilitator: Dr. David Pliss

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### Music & Meditation

**Fridays at 5:30p.m.**

**Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, 21**

30 minutes of meditative songs, Scripture reading and prayer in a quiet, candlelit setting. Give yourself the gift of quiet reflection in the midst of the Advent-Christmas season.

### Feasting on the Word

**Friday, December 7 – 6 p.m.**

A devotional meal focused on Scripture

Immediately following the 5:30 pm “Music and Meditation” service, you are invited to participate in a simple meal during which a passage of Scripture will be read aloud, with table conversation devoted only to reflection on the Scripture. Not a “study” experience, but a time for focused listening and sharing in conversation with one another of the connection of the Scripture passage with our personal life and faith as we enter the Advent season.

If you decide to participate in the meal, please call the church office, 839-2460, or e-mail the church at [cumc350@gmail.com](mailto:cumc350@gmail.com), or note on the yellow Connection Card on Sunday. Your indication will aid in meal planning.

## Mind/Body Connection Yoga

**Fridays, 7-8 p.m. in the Family Room**

Join Ryan Meegan, certified Bikram Yoga instructor, this Friday to practice conscious breathing and body postures (including chair yoga) that bridge the mind/body connection, draw you closer to God and help you enjoy life more. Suitable for all abilities.



God is watching us,  
but He loves us so  
much that He can't  
take His eyes off us.  
We may lose sight of  
God, but He never  
loses sight of us.

Greg Laurie

WWW.STOREMYPIC.COM

**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