



Christ United Methodist Church - Amherst, NY

"Making Connections & Offering Opportunities for Faith, Love & Service"

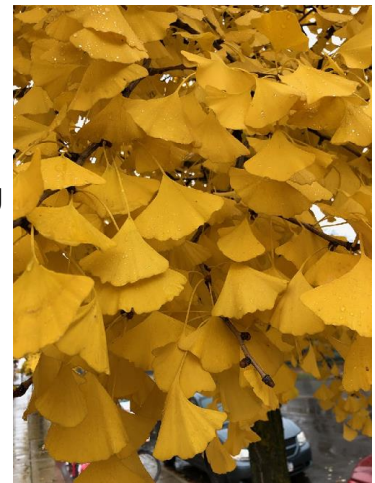
Weekly Update – November 6



Butterfly Wings

I was struck by the color first - a yellow that seemed to glow on the gloomy dreary rainy gray day. Then, as I continued to look it was the shape that captivated me. The leaves looked like thousands of butterflies perched so delicately on the branches, fluttering so lightly in the gentle breeze. I stood in the rain marveling at what I was seeing and, likewise, at what I had failed to see passing by this same tree as it wore its summer clothes the many, many times prior.

Like the leaves on a tree, there is a vast number of times in the gospel that those who seek an encounter with Christ see themselves as just plain, ordinary, maybe even less than valuable and worthy. Certainly they hope for healing, forgiveness, purpose, wholeness, and belonging. They climb trees to see him pass, reach out to touch his robe, call out from a distance, or stand in their shame ready to receive their punishment. Instead of striding past unmoved or unaware, as those who hoped for an encounter thought possible and likely, Jesus sees something else. He sees something more in each of them, something that stands out against the dull, dreary background bringing life, light, purpose, beauty ... color to all. He stops and admires the faith of each. He touches, heals, embraces, includes and then encourages that they share the same with others.



The leaves have more-or-less dropped now. We may struggle to see anything more than the ordinary or less-than ordinary in ourselves, others, or what's happening in the world. It can all seem dull, dreary, gray, and hopeless - leaves blowing in the wind. But Christ sees something more ... God has not stopped looking for each of us and through us the possibility to fill this life and world with beauty, brightness, hope, vision, possibility, and color.

-Pastor Daven

Ways 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 **shampoo, juice, and canned soups (*not chicken noodle*)** during November. They also request **paper bags** and **reusable shopping bags (*NOT plastic bags*)** to pack groceries.

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

2nd Sunday, 2nd Helping Offering

This Sunday's 2nd Sunday, 2nd Helping Offering will go towards the Turkey Basket project, sponsored by North Presbyterian Church. Our financial gifts will be used to purchase turkeys for families in need.

This Week at Christ Church

Church Office Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 5 pm, Thurs. – 9am to Noon

Wednesday, November 6

- 7pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 7

- 1pm - 'Thirstaid' Thursday
- 7pm - Circle of Joy
- 7pm - Elizabeth Circle

Friday, November 8

- *Office Closing at 3pm*
- 7:15pm - Crafting for a Cause

Sunday, November 10

- **10am - Worship Service**
- **11am - Leadership Conference Debriefing**
- **11am - FaithXpress**

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.*

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.

November 6: Jeremiah 43-45; Hebrews 3

November 7: Jeremiah 46-48; Hebrews 4

November 8: Jeremiah 49-50; Hebrews 5

November 9: Jeremiah 51-52; Hebrews 6

November 10: Lamentations 1-2; Hebrews 7

November 11: Lamentations 3-5; Hebrews 8

November 12: Ezekiel 1-3; Hebrews 9

Joys

Joy! Marcia Snyder was featured in the Buffalo News! [Click here](#) to read the incredible story of her lost bracelet making its way back home.

Joy! Chris Smith is doing well after having four stents placed in three cardiac arteries last week.

In Our Healing Prayers

Bruce Burr - hospitalized this week

Jennifer (Toni Neidel's daughter), **Dave Mitchell**, **Barbara Weaver**, **Jan Rhinehart**, **Pat Zaleski**, **Karen Phillips**, **Wendy** (Debbie Laberta's sister), **Inez Beachley**, **Joe & Carolyn Day**, **Bob Varian**, **Inez Beachley**, **John Ladowski**, **Chrissy Merrill**, **Joyce Moser**, **Janet Hill**, **Sissie Mooney**, **Mary Jane Shanley**, **Sue Estee**, **Frank Annunziata**, **Jean Ericson**, **Kevin Cetola**

In Our Healing Prayers

Dave Mitchell, **Sissie Mooney**, **Bruce Burr**, **Barbara Weaver**, **Jan Rhinehart**, **Pat Zaleski**, **Inez Beachley**, **Joe & Carolyn Day**, **Dick Radel**, **Bob Varian**, **Inez Beachley**, **John Ladowski**, **Chrissy Merrill**, **Joyce Moser**, **Janet Hill**, **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



We're Collecting!

Collection baskets are located in Crafts Hall for the following items:

-Food for **Thanksgiving Baskets**: *stuffing mix, canned vegetables, canned fruit, brownie mix, instant mashed potatoes, and cranberry sauce.* *Frozen turkeys and gift cards* are also greatly appreciated. Food donations will be collected through **Sunday, November 17**.

-Items for our **veterans**: *socks, underwear, white t-shirts, towels, toiletries & hygiene products, Chapstick, nail clippers, gift cards to Burger King, McDonalds, Wendy's, etc. or lap blankets.*

-Winter outerwear for **Clara's Closet, Hearts for the Homeless, and Central City Café:**
clean coats with working buttons and zippers, scarves, hats, mittens, and boots.

Leadership Institute Debriefing

Sunday, November 10

Join Brad Loliger and Pastor Daven in the Cafe following worship as they discuss their experiences at the Leadership Institute that was held in Kansas City in September.

Upcoming Events

Children's Sabbath

Sunday, November 24

Worship led by women and children of Christ Church

Guest Preacher: Dee Finch

Bloodmobile

Black Friday, November 29

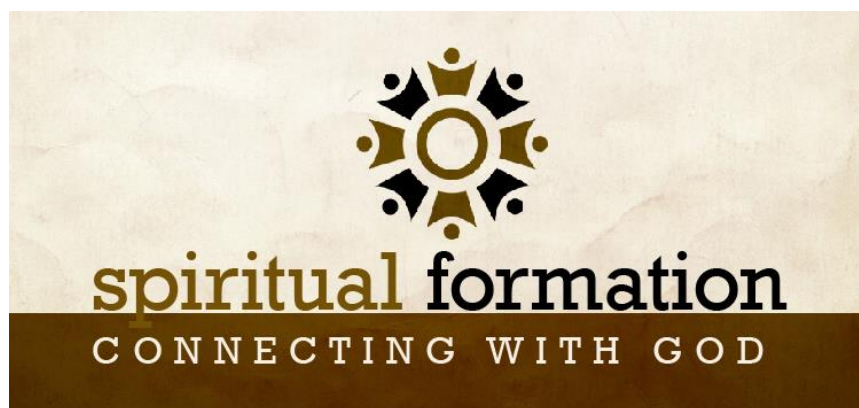
Noon - 4 p.m.

Music & Meditation

Fridays in Advent

Starting November 29

5:30 - 6 p.m.



A.O.L. (Adult Opportunities for Learning)

Sundays Following Worship

Continuing Through November

Join as we read through the book, Making Sense of the Bible. Author Adam Hamilton invites us into an honest conversation about the Bible, addressing often misunderstood

Biblical themes such as:

- How and when was the Bible written?
- Who decided which books made it into the scriptures and why?
 - Were Adam and Eve real people?
 - Why is God so violent in the Old Testament?
- Why would Paul command women to "keep silent in the church"?
- Is the Book of Revelation a guide to the End Times?

All are welcome!

Searching the Scriptures

Tuesdays at Noon

Each Tuesday 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

Thursdays from 1-2:30 p.m.

Through November 14

The Stewardship Team will be offering a study entitled, “**WHAT ABOUT OUR MONEY? A Faith Response**”. This eye-opening study will focus on our relationship with money, which shapes our relationship with God and God’s people. We’ll use some creative and thought-provoking activities to explore how our attitude toward money affects us and others every day. The answers we find may surprise us. All are welcome!