

Weekly Update – November 9, 2016

IMPORTANT INFORMATION...

Consultation Process Continues – Small/Focus Groups

Choose the one that is most convenient for you.

Sign up **NOW** to participate in a Focus Group – Many Choices of dates and times!

Sunday, November 13 – 10 am at church

Sunday, November 13 – 12:15 pm at church

Monday, November 14 – 3 pm at Asbury Pointe , 50 Stahl Rd. , Getzville – all are welcome.

Tuesday, November 15 – 10:30 am at church

Wednesday, November 16 – 1 pm at Vinecroft

5945 Vinecroft Rd, off Newhouse Road, Clarence Center – all are welcome.

Wednesday, November 16 – 6 pm at Church – all are welcome.

Thursday, November 17 – 7 pm at John Miller's Home

590 Kaymar Dr., West, Amherst

Each group will be kept to approx. 12 participants.

Sign up TODAY by calling 839-2460, or e-mail cumc350@gmail.com

See the first draft of the church Purpose Statement and offer your feedback.

A Personal Word ... From Jim Pollard

Meeting on Saturday, Nov. 5, the Planning Team for our consultation process developed a draft purpose statement for Christ UMC. The draft statement is based on the discussions and outcome of the Oct. 29 retreat day.

The draft statement is: ***The purpose of Christ UMC is to grow living networks of faith and service connecting home, church and community.***

The next step in the process takes place in small focus groups in which all members and friends of the church are invited to participate and share their responses to the draft statement. Each focus group will be led by a member of the Planning Team, and a Planning Team member will serve as recorder for the meeting. Following the focus group gatherings, the Planning Team will meet to prepare the final version of the purpose statement. Based on the purpose statement, we will then begin developing a strategic plan for the next steps in the ministry of Christ Church.

In Christ's service,

Jim

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 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

November 13: Ezekiel 4-6; Hebrews 10:1-23

November 14: Ezekiel 7-9; Hebrews 10:24-39

November 15: Ezekiel 10-12; Hebrews 11:1-19

In Our Prayers

JOY! – Family from the Congo arriving on November 17 through Journey’s End Refugee Services.

JOY! - **\$1339** raised at the Spaghetti Dinner for **“Wells of Love.”** Every dollar will be matched! Thanks for your help to bring clean water wells to Uganda. *There’s still time to contribute and have your donation matched!*

JOY! - **\$1000** was raised at the Harvest Dinner for the missions of the United Methodist Women, supporting women and children!

Coat/Winter Hats, Mittens - ***Thank you for your donations!***

Operation Christmas Child – ***Thank you for your donations!***

Bob Kreib, Ann Burdette, Gaetano Castellino Sr., Rita Arnold, Carol Teresi, Patty Keller, Charles Terranova, Carolyn Day, Janet Hill, Elvira Gonzalez, Florence Stengel, Richard Mestler, Fred & Lynda Painton

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 9 - 7:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal

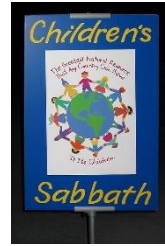
Thursday, November 10 - 6:30 pm - Praise Team Rehearsal

Friday, November 11 - Veteran’s Day – Church Office Closed

Saturday, November 12 - 10 am – UM Women “Keeping In Touch” Breakfast

Sunday, November 13 -

Children's Sabbath



9 am – Casual Praise

10 am – FaithXpress

10 am – Focus Group

Purpose statement

11 am – Traditional Style Worship

Presentation of Bibles to:

Giovanni Castellino, Emilia Johnson, Olivia Smith, Joseph Teresi

2nd Sunday 2nd Helping Offering will go to provide healthy snacks for children in the After-School program at Seneca Street UMC

12:15 pm - Focus Group – Purpose statement



1 pm – **Community Youth Group**

Knitting Fleece Blankets for children/youth at Gateway-Longview

Members of **Crafting For A Cause** will work with us

Bring your friends!

Opportunities to Make A Difference

Turkey Baskets – Project ends on November 13

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**

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.

It's Time To Keep In Touch!

Visit church friends who are unable to get to church. Gift bags have been prepared to take on your visits. Come and share the story of your visits at a breakfast gathering on **Saturday, November 12 at 10 am**. Help us all to keep in touch. Everyone welcome! Call Peggy Bermudez for details 626-4897.

Serving Veterans – Veterans Day November 11

During October the following items are being collected for men & women at the local Veterans Hospital...Socks, Underwear, Towels, V-neck T-Shirts, Toiletries, Throws or lap blankets, Gift cards (McDonalds, K-Mart, Wal-Mart, Tops, Wegmans – Please give to Diane Klenk or the church office) Audio Books and DVDs are also collected. There's a bin at the back of the worship space. Got questions? Call Diane Klenk at 651-0236

Hospitality & Welcome

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.

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

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

All children, youth and adults are invited to join in telling the story of Jesus' birth through this year's Christmas pageant. You'll be amazed at what is found in the Christmas storage room.

Meet with Director, Margaret Mugel, as the fun unfolds **each Sunday morning at 10 am** in the Music Room on the lower level. There's a part for everyone!
(speaking, non-speaking parts and playing instruments)

Only God can turn a mess into a message!

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO SING IN THE CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS?

Our Christmas Eve worship service will be A Service of Lessons and Carols, modeled after the traditional service held in Cambridge, England on Christmas Eve. If you would like to sing with the Chancel Choir for that service, you are invited to come to weekly choir rehearsals beginning Wednesday, November 9 at 7:30 PM. The first 45 minutes of each choir rehearsal will be devoted to preparing anthems for the Christmas Eve service. Paul Staley and the choir members will give you a warm 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

10 am in the Wesley Room – Begins November 27

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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“Promise” is a rich word with layers of meaning. One meaning is the potential for future success and achievement — as in “a promising student.” Truly each and every one of our children is a child of promise, born with the potential to achieve and become all they are meant to be. But that inborn promise cannot be fully realized for millions of our children because of the deprivation, pitfalls, and obstacles put in their way. We are squandering and hindering our children’s promise when we allow: • more than one in five to live in poverty; • one in seventeen to lack health coverage; • one in nine to be at risk of hunger; • two in five 8th grade public school children to read or compute below grade level; and • nearly one in five children to drop out of high school. On this Children’s Sabbath weekend, we are dedicated to removing the obstacles and closing the opportunity gaps hindering millions of children in realizing their promise.

~Marian Wright Edelman