

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

**Weekly Update - October 10**

**Christ United Methodist Church**

Harlem & Saratoga Roads  
Amherst, NY 14226

**A Word From Pastor Daven**

**Stones On a Shore**

This past weekend, seeking to capitalize on the warm weather, we took a drive as a family. Visiting many of the farm stands and cider mills of the area, we punctuated our journey with several stops to enjoy the natural surroundings. In Wilson we walked along the lakeshore of Lake Ontario as the wind whipped up waves, sending them crashing into the rocky shore.

I have long collected little bits of sea glass from such jaunts. As I walked along I inspected the area right at the edge of the wave's reach where I have generally been rewarded. My eyes fell upon a unique rock during this shore inspection, a robin's egg blue with hints of sparkle in it. It stood out among all the others glistening in the sunshine.

We may think of ourselves as nothing unique, just like all the other rocks that did not stand out to my eyes on the lakeshore. But in God's eyes each one of us is truly unique, something God knows. As we come to know God, we are lifted from anonymity to awareness and presence in the hands of the Lord. Each of us, wonderfully made. May our glory in God's hands be shown and shared with the world.



Our Worship Strategy Team will continue to meet throughout the fall for continued conversation

and recommendations concerning the single Sunday morning worship service, as well as the potential for additional worship experiences. Please see any team member with ideas, concerns, or comments you'd like to share relating to worship at Christ Church.

Worship Strategy Team members: Beth Reilly Brown, Sue Estee, Paula Kreib, Brad Loliger, Greg Maliken, David Pliss, and Laura Smith.

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## 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.

October 10: Isaiah 43-44; Colossians 2

October 11: Isaiah 45-47; Colossians 3

October 12: Isaiah 48-49; Colossians 4

October 13: Isaiah 50-52; 1 Thessalonians 1

October 14: Isaiah 53-55; 1 Thessalonians 2

October 15: Isaiah 56-58; 1 Thessalonians 3

October 16: Isaiah 59-61; 1 Thessalonians 4

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### In Sympathy

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Doris Schanzlin and her family. Doris' sister, Kay Campagna, died October 6.

### In Our Healing Prayers

**The Lovejoy Family, The Varian Family, Janet Hill, Woody Rhinehart, Valari Zanghi, Pat Noyes, Pam Elberson, Frank Annunziata, Michele Sciolino, Sue Estee, 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. – 9am to Noon

Wednesday, October 10 - 7pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 11 - 1pm- "Thirstaid" Thursday Study  
7pm - Staff-Parish Relations Team

Saturday, October 13 - *Caller Newsletter Deadline*

Sunday, October 14 - **10am - Worship Service**

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

***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.*

11:30am- UMW Pin Meeting

4pm- Bishop's Gathering at Clarence UMC: "A Way Forward"

6:30pm- "Immersing Ourselves in Worship" Study



### 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 **broth (chicken, beef, vegetable) & side dishes (i.e. Rice-A-Roni, Knorr pasta packets, etc.)** in October.

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

## Coat Drive

We are currently collecting **gently-used coats** with working zippers and buttons, as well as **hats, mittens, scarves and boots** for Clara's Closet and will continue doing so until the end of October. Please place your donations in the black totes labeled Clara's Closet in

Crafts Hall. Clara's Closet provides clothing for refugees and for low income individuals living in the Buffalo area. Clara's Closet is located in Central Park UMC. Thank you for your help in keeping someone warm this winter!



## Thanksgiving Baskets

Starting October 13, we will begin the annual gathering of ingredients for the Thanksgiving baskets for the less fortunate. **Stuffing mix, canned vegetables, canned fruit, brownie mix, instant mashed potatoes, and cranberry sauce** are included in each basket. **Frozen turkeys and gift cards** are also greatly appreciated. The supplies will be assembled to be delivered the week of November 12.



## UMW Pin Meeting

It's time to select a recipient for the United Methodist Women's Mission Pin! All former pin recipients are asked to meet in the Library at **11:30a.m.** on **Sunday, October 14.**



## Vita Abbondante!

The UMW Women's Retreat was a beautiful and relaxing weekend at Lake Chautauqua! We explored the connections between a healthy body, mind, and spirit. A big THANK YOU to the leadership and planning team for all of your hard work!

***"I (Jesus) came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." (John 10:10)***



## 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!

## Immersing Ourselves in Worship

Did you ever wonder why we do what we do during worship? Where did our traditions, patterns and symbols get started? What makes worship vital and engaging? This 4-week study will explore these questions and more. Immersing Ourselves in Worship will be offered on **Thirstaid Thursdays** from **1 - 2:30p.m.**, from **October 11 - November 1**. The same class will be offered on **Sunday evenings from 6:30 - 8 p.m.** from **October 14 - November 4**. Come immerse yourself in worship and quench your thirst!

## The Wesley Challenge!

Between November 4 and November 25 – you are invited to engage with others, using a resource titled “**The Wesley Challenge: 21 Days to a More Authentic Faith**,” using questions asked by John Wesley to his students and friends at Oxford University.

On Sundays, Nov. 11, 18 & 25, Pastor Daven Oskvig’s sermons will explore three themes of the questions:

- *Relationship With God: an Upward Focus*
- *Relationship with Self: an Inward Focus*
- *Relationship with Others: an Outward Focus*

**The Spiritual Formation Team invites adults and youth to participate in “The Wesley Challenge” by reading the book daily beginning November 4 (one question for each day), attending worship each Sunday, and joining with others in group reflection and conversation during the three-week period.**

So we will know how many books to order, we invite you to complete the following form and return it to the church, or submit it on Sundays in the Café, or indicate your interest on the yellow “Connection Card” If you wish to make a donation toward the cost of the book (\$11), checks payable to “Christ UMC” should have “Wesley Challenge” on the check memo line.

**Please turn in your response by Wednesday, Oct. 17**

*Books will be ordered based on responses,  
and available at the church on Sunday, November 4.*

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The Wesley Challenge

\_\_\_ Yes, I want \_\_\_ book(s).

Your name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Donation attached/enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Christ UMC, 350 Saratoga Rd, Amherst, NY 14226 -or- submit to church office

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**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