



Christ United Methodist Church - Amherst, NY

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

## Weekly Update – October 2



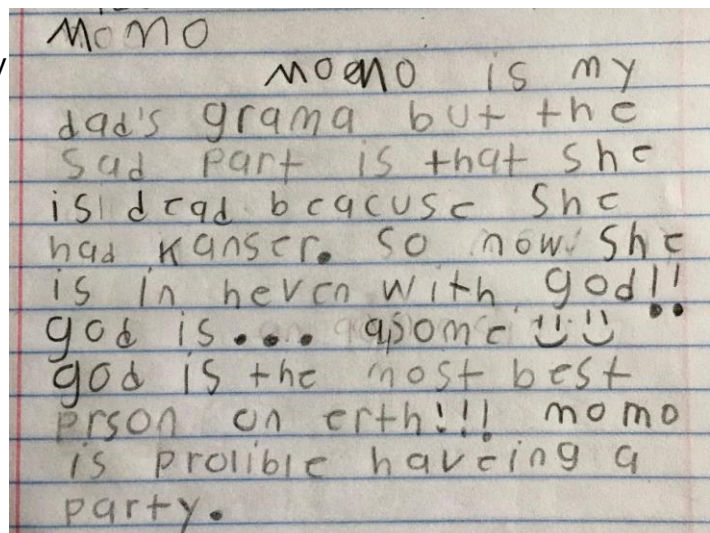
### *A Party*

"Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

-Hebrews 11:1

Ben Franklin wrote, "nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes." I've never heard anyone celebrate taxes. We, as people of faith, say death is merely a gateway. In our rituals surrounding death, we seek to celebrate both the individual and now their union with God. The truth is, we still mourn our loss.

As I was at a conference this past week, my wife shared with me something a student in her class wrote. I was not in the best of spirits as I continue to struggle with what sounds like the death of the denomination I have belonged to since birth. What I found in his word, however, was the witness I needed to be reminded of — the awesomeness of God who overcomes death and encourages us in the joy of possibility, hope and new life. It was a



declaration of faith and an encouragement through faith to celebrate. As the author of Hebrews wrote, “the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

Sometimes it is the children who remind us of the truth - the conviction of things not seen. As Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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## *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 **boxed stuffing mix, boxed mashed potatoes, and canned yams/sweet potatoes** during October. 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.

### *Cards for Caring*

Have you seen the cards in the Cafe? They're free! Send a card, send a smile to a friend or neighbor who can't make it to church. Spread some joy and sunshine!

### *World Communion Sunday Offering - October 6*

United Methodist churches observe [World Communion Sunday](#) on the first Sunday in October. World Communion Sunday is a celebration by people of many denominations in an effort to promote unity among Christians around the world. Offerings collected in United Methodist churches on World Communion Sunday are used to fund scholarships for young scholars and seminarians.

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## *This Week at Christ Church*

*Church Office Hours:*

*Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 5 pm, Thurs. – 9am to Noon*

**Wednesday, October 2**

- 10am - Stewardship Team
- 7pm - Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, October 3**

- 1pm - 'Thirstaid' Thursday
- 7pm - Circle of Joy
- 7pm- Elizabeth Circle
- *Happy Birthday to our Office Manager Janelle!*

**Friday, October 4**

- 11am - Books We Have Loved

**Sunday, October 6 -            *World Communion Sunday***

- **10am - Worship Service**
- 11am - a.o.l. (Adult Opportunities for Learning)
- 11am - **FaithXpress**
- 11am - **Community Youth Group** - Apple Picking & Applesauce Making

*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.*

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 2: Isaiah 24-26; Ephesians 4

October 3: Isaiah 27-28; Ephesians 5

October 4: Isaiah 29-30; Ephesians 6

October 5: Isaiah 31-33; Philippians 1

October 6: Isaiah 34-36; Philippians 2

October 7: Isaiah 37-38; Philippians 3

October 8: Isaiah 39-40; Philippians 4

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## *In Our Healing Prayers*

**Barbara Weaver** - recent fall

**Bruce Burr, Jan Rhinehart, Dave Mitchell, Karen Phillips, Pat Zaleski, Joe & Carolyn Day, Michael Farley, Dick Radel, 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**

\*Those who are **care partners** with others

\*Pray for Chris Maliken, Lindsey Darling & Ian Johnson, serving in the US Navy

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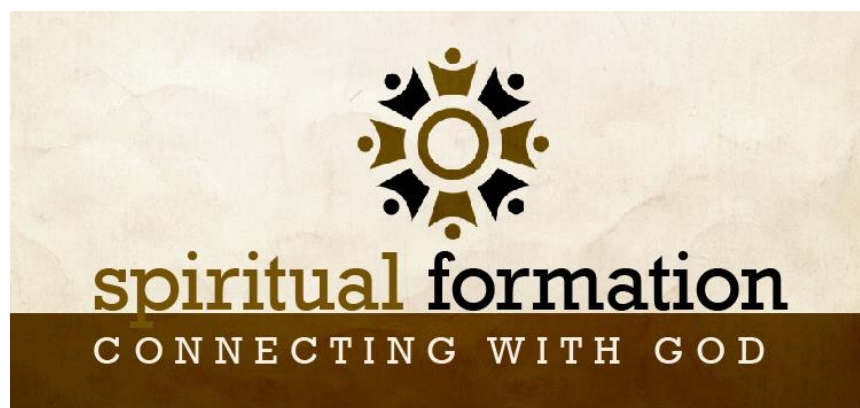
## Make a Difference Day, Part 2

**A great big THANK YOU to all who participated in last Saturday's Make a Difference Day, Part 2!!**

Check out pictures from the event on [our Facebook page](#).

***We welcome your feedback!*** Let us know your thoughts as we reflect on our Make a Difference Day opportunities. Did you enjoy this event? Would you like to continue having two Make a Difference Day opportunities each year, one at the church and one in the community, or just one or the other? Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

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

**Sundays Following Worship**

**Through October 27**

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 October 17

All are invited to participate in discussion about prayer each Thursday afternoon in the Wesley Room. How should I pray? Does prayer make a difference? Are there different kinds of prayer? What can I do to improve my prayer life? Come quench your thirst for a vibrant prayer life!

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## Community Youth Group

All youth (grades 6-12) are invited to meet downstairs following worship every other Sunday for fun activities and events!

Here's our fall schedule:

**October 6 @ 11 a.m.:** Apple Picking and Applesauce Making

**October 20 @ 11 a.m.:** Pumpkin Picking at Akron Acres

**November 3 @ 11 a.m.:** Planning Meeting for Winter Activities & Room Set-Up

Contact John Miller ([jptmiller30@msn.com](mailto:jptmiller30@msn.com)) with any questions or to sign up!

## Women's Weekend

There are still a few spots open to join in the 'unplugged' women's weekend at Lake Chautauqua from **October 11-13!** All activities are optional – do what's best for your soul as we explore the importance of laughter, play, and creativity, including movies, games, puzzles, devotions, long walks, side trips—whatever helps you to relax and recharge! Look for the sign-up in the Cafe.

Cost: \$40- includes 2 nights at the UM House, breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday. (At your own expense: dinner on Friday, optional side trips and tours) Please make checks payable to: United Methodist Women.