

October 21, 2014

UPDATE

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem Road at Saratoga Road

Amherst, New York

“Living Christ’s ways and exploding with love and service”

EVERYONE is WELCOME

SUNDAY AT CHRIST CHURCH

9:00 – Praise Celebration Worship

10:00 FaithXpress, Soul Strength and Adult Opportunities for Learning

11:00 – Traditional Style Worship

Bring a Friend this week and share the Love and Grace of God!

Visit us on the World Wide Web at: www.Christchurchamherst.org

Or call us at: [716-839-2460](tel:716-839-2460)

Dr. B.J.’s blog is www.drjthoughts.blogspot.com

Like us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Christ-United-Methodist-Church-Amherst/294709713921168?ref=hl>

Hi Everyone:

Fall is in full swing now and there's no better place to enjoy fall leaves, apples, cider and pumpkins than right here in NY! Savor it all!

On Sunday 100 worshipers joined together at Christ Church for a worship celebration, a community of caring people and connection with God in music, thought and prayer, and in the message brought by our guest, Mr. Jose' Cotto. Jose' and his wife, Giovanna, are members of Primera Iglesia United Methodist Church. Both are also candidates for ministry, having responded to a call from God in their lives. It was a joy to have them with us and to remember that we are all loved and chosen by God to be part of God's purpose. It's our choice to respond. Life is full of ups and downs that may lead us to believe that we can't possibly be used by God. But when we look at the big picture and consider those who have gone before us, like Moses and the people who endured all kinds of hardship and challenges, we realize that God's purpose is long term. If things haven't turned out the way you dreamed and planned today, this year or seemingly in your entire life, take heart! You are loved! And God chose to work in and through you before time began. Try to get a bigger picture. Learn from the everyday ups and downs and keep your focus on God's purpose. How does your life reveal the nature of God? It's worth thinking about.

Please note - *Every Sunday message (By Pastor BJ or others) is recorded and available for listening through our church web site. <http://www.christchurchamherst.org> Click on the tab "worship" & move the cursor to a drop screen labeled "Sermons." Click on "sermons" and you'll see a list of every sermon of this year by date, title and preacher. Click and listen to any and all.*

1. Pastor BJ and Joe Fort continue their adventures in Uganda and will be home later this week. BJ will be with us for worship this coming Sunday. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

2. We had a delicious and fun Harvest Dinner last Friday. Thank you to Peggy Bermudez and Beth Sweet who lead the United Methodist Women's Group who planned this event. Thank you to Geoff and Janet Hill and a cast of 45 helpers who cooked, made pies, served and cleaned up. And thank you to Marg and Bill Bauza for entertaining the diners with music & song. The result is \$1245.00 to go toward mission projects chosen by the UMW.

3. The Christ Church Cupcakes team (C-Cups), Peggy Bermudez, Lynn Ramsey, Patty Keller and Sally Pollard, raised \$850 with your support which goes to the American Cancer Society for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. The Buffalo walk had 5000 participants who raised \$427, 000. Thank you for making a difference!

4. Peggy Bermudez and Bill Bauza made a difference by walking in the Crop Walk to help stop hunger. Thank you to them and their supporters for making a difference!

5. Christmas Pageant - there's a place for you!

At FaithXpress at 10 am this Sunday and continuing through December we'll be preparing to tell the Christmas story in a fun and memorable way. All children, youth and adults are invited to participate in speaking & non-speaking roles as well as instrumental and song opportunities. Join us Sunday at 10 am to hear more about **The Kings of Orient, AR.**

Here's what's happening at Christ Church this week:

6. Food Pantry is collecting: Instant mashed potatoes

7. IN OUR PRAYERS: - Al Wrisley - continues recovery from surgery, Brian Martin (as he recovers following bone marrow transplant); Guy Castellino - recovering from pneumonia, Edmond Wrycza (Julianna Sabol's father in a nursing home in Fort Erie); Glenn Hurst, Lois Lewis, Barbara Clinton, Mac Sabol, Tom Davis, Fred Painton, Nicky Sebastiano, Shirley Downey, Ed Maker, Alice Schmidt, Diane Lovejoy and all who are at home and unable to get to church. Remember those who are serving in the armed forces (especially Alex Dunbar and Ian Johnson and Lindsey Darling serving in the US Navy).

Pray for the West African nations that are battling the Ebola virus.

Pray for the ongoing situation in Iraq and Syria.

Please pray for all who are in harm's way.

8. Keeping In Touch - Visit* Church Friends...

...unable to get out to church. Members of Elizabeth Circle will be in the Parlor after worship on Sundays, October 19 & 26 to help you select friends to visit. You're invited to share stories of your visits on Saturday, November 1st at the gathering planned by the United Methodist Women at 10 am at church.

*Visitation Ministry

Is visiting someone who is no longer able to get out regularly to attend worship something you enjoy or even feel called to do? Would you like to learn and practice Christian caring skills for bringing hope to people who are sick or homebound? Then you are invited to participate in this workshop: *The Practice of Visitation Ministry*.

Our District is sponsoring a pilot workshop on Christian visitation ministry. Informed by her experiences as a Stephen Ministry leader and palliative care chaplain, Deacon-candidate Rebecca Naber is offering instruction to equip those interested or currently involved in visiting the sick and/or homebound. Discussion and class exercises will focus on: listening/responding, approaches to home & hospital visitation, care-giving with older adults, supporting the bereaved, and offering hope through presence, prayer & scripture.

Dates: Tuesday, November 4th and Wednesday, November 12th from 9:00am to 4:00pm at Christ Church. (includes lunch) Contact Sally Pollard for details sjpjoy@christchurchamherst.org, 839-2460.

Living Well Coach Training -- Dr. Tom DeLoughry and Pastor BJ

Help Yourself, Your Loved Ones, Your Church and Your Community

LEARN HOW TO OFFER EMOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL SUPPORT, PLUS PROVIDE PRACTICAL HELP FOR MANY PROBLEMS.

(Approved for 10 hours of continuing education credit for Lay Servants in the UNY United Methodist Conference)

Part One: Help Yourself and Deepen Your Love

Thursday, Oct. 30th, November 6th and 13th 7-8:30 PM

Prepare to help others by using four Satisfaction Skills to reflect and act on the wisdom of the Greatest Commandment and the Golden Rule

Part Two: Practical Help and Spiritual Support

Thursday, Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26 and Apr 2. 7-8:30 PM

Learn to use twelve Action Guides as “conversation starters” that provide well-researched help for each piece of the Wellness Puzzle

9. Mission Youth - Friday, October 24 at 6 pm at Sally Pollard's house, 64 Charlestown Rd.

It's a welcome home party for Pastor BJ! We'll hear stories from his time in Uganda and make some fun plans for our group! Bring your ideas and something to share for dinner. Contact Sally for details 839-2460
sjjoy@christchurchamherst.org

10. Game Night - Friday, October 24, 7:30 pm at church

Come for the fun, the food, the friends and the laughs!

11. Outdoor Clean Up Day - 9 am to Noon at the church

Bring your rake, garden tools and a smile!

12. Happy Birthday this week:

October 22 - Abbie Gowen

October 23 - Susanne Gelormini

October 27 - Debbie Fiebelkorn, Janet Hill

October 28 - Bob Kreib

13. **Through the Bible- this week's readings:**

October 21 - 1 Samuel 22-24, 1 Timothy 1

October 22 - 1 Samuel 25-26, 1 Timothy 2

October 23 - 1 Samuel 27-29, 1 Timothy 3

October 24 - 1 Samuel 30-31, 1 Timothy 4

October 25 - 2 Samuel 1-2, 1 Timothy 5

October 26 - 2 Samuel 3-5, 1 Timothy 6

October 27 - 2 Samuel 6-8, 1 John 1

October 28 - 2 Samuel 9-11, 1 John 2

October 29 - 2 Samuel 12-13, 1 John 3

Helping Opportunity

A neighbor of Diane Lovejoy is moving to a larger apartment to accommodate medical equipment. Help is needed to clean the apartment following the move. If you would like to help call Diane at 276-9711.

For Sale

Amana Microwave. Used only one month. If interested, call Diane Lovejoy at 276-9711.

Coming attractions...

October 30, November 6, 13 - **Bible 101** Learn Bible basics in three weeks! Thursdays at 1 pm

November 2 – **350 Saratoga Concert** 3:00 p.m. Performances by groups sheltered at Christ Church. Admission will be a canned or boxed item for the food pantry. Come and enjoy the entertainment and meet some new friends from the Red Blazers, Amherst Bel Canto, Ballroom & Beyond and more...

November 7 – **Ron Corsaro Jazz Trio** *with Wayne Moose & Danny Hull* – 7:00 pm. An evening of excellent music to benefit Mission Youth.

November 16 – **Annual Charge Conference** 3:30 pm at Pendleton Center UMC

Perhaps--

Perhaps these thoughts of ours will never find an audience

Perhaps the mistaken road will end in a mistake

Perhaps the lamps we light one at a time will be blown out one at a time

Perhaps the candles of our lives will gutter out without lighting a fire to warm us

Perhaps when all the tears have been shed, the earth will be more fertile

Perhaps when we praise the sun, the sun will praise us in return

perhaps these heavy burdens will strengthen our philosophy

Perhaps when we weep for those in misery we must be silent about miseries of our own

Perhaps because of our irresistible sense of mission, we have no choice.

~Shu Ting, Selected Poems

With Joy,

Sally