



Christ United Methodist Church - Amherst, NY

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

## Weekly Update – October 23



### *Colorful Trees*

In a book called 'Sundial of the Seasons' containing reflections on the outside world around us, Hal Borland writes how any one of us can *own* a tree in the fall. This is not the sense of ownership of property, but laying claim to it with our eyes and heart as it goes through its seasonal expression as if it is just for us.

I have admirably laid claim to a tree or two in recent days. Each time I see them, a whisper of thanks rises to my lips for this gift. As I sit now reflecting on both Borland's take and my experience, a new word of thanks rises ...

Certainly we can feel as though we don't stand out among others, just another tree on a hillside. But God lays claim to each of us uniquely, sees our colors, and in Christ reaches to us. Psalm 139:14 states "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

So lay claim to that colorful tree and raise a word of thanks for it. Then, raise a thanks to God that we are seen each in the same way. "I have called you by name and you are mine." (Isaiah 43:1)

-Pastor Daven

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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.

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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 23**

- *NO Choir Rehearsal*

### **Thursday, October 24**

- 1pm - 'Thirstaid' Thursday
- 7pm - Hospitality Team

### **Friday, October 25**

- 7pm - Crafting for a Cause

### **Sunday, October 27**

- **10am - Worship Service**
- **11am - a.o.l. (Adult Opportunities for Learning)**
- **11am - FaithXpress**
- 11am - UMW Mission Pin Meeting

## ***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.

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### ***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.

October 23: Jeremiah 9-10; 1 Timothy 3

October 24: Jeremiah 11-13; 1 Timothy 4

October 25: Jeremiah 14-16; 1 Timothy 5

October 26: Jeremiah 17-19; 1 Timothy 6

October 27: Jeremiah 20-22; 2 Timothy 1

October 28: Jeremiah 23-24; 2 Timothy 2

October 29: Jeremiah 25-26; 2 Timothy 3

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### ***In Our Healing Prayers***

**Dave Mitchell** – coming home from the hospital today

**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, 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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### *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.*

-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.*

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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.

**October 24 - 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!

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## *Women's Breakfast Gathering*

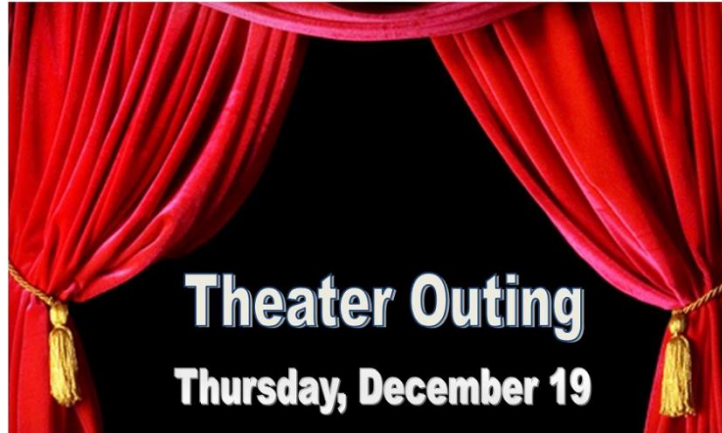
**Saturday, November 2**

**10 a.m. in the Cafe**

Elder Law with Brad Loliger, JD, MSW

Cost: \$5      *All women are invited!*

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The Men's Group is planning an outing to Shea's 710 Theatre (710 Main Street, Buffalo) on **Thursday, December 19** to see the play, "Christmas Over the Tavern".

We will meet at the Bijou Grill, across from Shea's main theatre at **5:30pm** for a casual dinner before walking to Shea's 710 Theatre, for the **7:30pm performance**. Parking is available near the Theatre (between Pearl and Main St.) or at the M&T Lot on Washington. Directions will be provided. ***This event is open to everyone.*** Tickets are \$40.50 per person and **must be paid in advance by October 25<sup>th</sup>**. Please let Ed Gilbert (716-835-4976) or Tom Nye (716-213-3642) know if you would like to attend.

Play Synopsis: The Pazinskis, four kids and two parents living over a saloon in 1959 Buffalo, are not having their usual merry Christmas. Dad is going through a mid-life depression and refuses to buy a Christmas tree. Sister Clarissa is threatening to expel 12-year-old Rudy for performing a blasphemous one-man Nativity Scene where he plays all the characters as Hollywood celebrities. With comic songs and dream sequences, they fight through depression and discord to come to a deeper understanding of what it means to be a family on this most stressful of holidays.