

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

**Weekly Update - October 3**

**Christ United Methodist Church**

Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Amherst, NY 14226

**A Word From Pastor Daven**

My daughter, Amelia, has provided me with a strategy during difficult moments. “Stop. Think a nice thought. Think. Solve.” Wisdom from the mouth of babes.

We are quick to judgement and our conceptions of right and just. It can be easy for us when something, even if unknowingly, tossed in our direction corrupts our days (our comings and goings) to the point where our response may not be the best version of ourselves.

The challenge is trying to live in a manner which reflects the kingdom of heaven in employing that strategy so eloquently composed by my daughter. To take the time to slow down, perhaps pray, think something nice, and then respond and solve.

Although Jesus never used such an example among his parables and teachings, I wonder if his own time apart praying wasn't for this express purpose. So as we look to embody and share the kingdom with others, let us take the time to:

Stop (and pray)  
Think a nice thought  
Think  
Solve

It just must help to usher in the kingdom we seek and for which we pray ...



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 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

October 9: Isaiah 41-42; Colossians 1

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### In Sympathy

We extend our sympathy and prayers to the Lovejoy Family. **Diane Lovejoy** died September 27.

A memorial service will be held for **Gloria Varian** on Monday, October 8 at 11am at Lester Wedekindt Funeral Home (3290 Delaware Ave. Kenmore).

## In Our Healing Prayers

The Lovejoy Family, The Varian Family, Janet Hill, Woody Rhinehart, Valari Zanghi, Pat Noyes, Ann Burdette, 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 3 - 7pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 4 - 1pm- "Thirstaid" Thursday Study  
7pm - Elizabeth Circle

Friday, October 5 - 11am- Books We Have Loved  
*Office Closing at 4pm*

UMW Retreat at Lake Chautauqua: October 5-7

Sunday, October 7 - **10 am - 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.

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## 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.

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## 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.**

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## FaithXpress

Students at FaithXpress are learning about the prophet Jeremiah. This past Sunday they broke pottery to create pieces for a mosaic project! Thank you to all who donated pottery and china- it was a "smashing" success!

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## 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!

## “Thirstaid Thursdays”

This opportunity is offered every **Thursday** from **1 – 2:30 p.m.** in the Wesley Room. All are welcome to come for a weekly serving of “Thirstaid” to satisfy our spirits as we explore a variety of

themes with different facilitators. Diane Klenk is guiding “Bad Girls of the Bible” through October 4. With humor and candor, we’ll take a look at what we can learn from the lives of these women.

## 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