

Weekly Update: September 13, 2016

A Personal Word ... From Jim Pollard

Imagining the Future...

What are signs and qualities of a vital church? How can churches grow in vitality and ministry? Questions such as these were addressed in three presentations made by Rev. Adam Hamilton at the June session of the Upper NY Annual Conference. Rev. Hamilton is Senior Pastor of Church of the Resurrection, Leawood, Kansas, the largest United Methodist Church in the US, a church of over 18,000 members.

He made three presentations, each 90 minutes in length. Following are the titles of each presentation, followed by a link to videos of each presentation that you can use to connect through your own computer to view them. As you listen and watch, make notes. How do the subjects and ideas relate to Christ UMC? Note new ideas. List questions.

Study session 1: Creating Effective Leaders - www.vimeo.com/170942096

Study session 2: Effective Worship & Preaching - www.vimeo.com/170947455

Study session 3: Transitioning a Visitor to a Member - www.vimeo.com/170954752

Hint: Remember, they are 90 minutes each. So I suggest that you don't "binge" watch. Take them at your own pace. Enjoy them. Christ Church is not, and will not be, Church of the Resurrection. We will be Christ Church, but maybe something Rev. Hamilton says, or questions he asks, gets you thinking about Christ Church, and stimulates new ideas and energy. Write them down. What challenges you? Inspires you? Excites you as you think about Christ Church? In doing so, you'll be preparing to participate in the planning process in which we will be engaged in the coming months.

And let this question challenge you as well: *Are you/are we willing to do whatever is necessary to enable Christ Church to live into the future that God will open as we make the journey together?*

In Christ's service,
Jim

Daily Bible Reading – 2016 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.

September 13: Proverbs 23-24; 2 Corinthians 5
September 14: Proverbs 25-27; 2 Corinthians 6
September 15: Proverbs 28-29; 2 Corinthians 7
September 16: Proverbs 30-31; 2 Corinthians 8
September 17: Ecclesiastes 1-3; 2 Corinthians 9
September 18: Ecclesiastes 4-6; 2 Corinthians 10
September 19: Ecclesiastes 7-9; 2 Corinthians 11:1-15

In Our Prayers

Chris Klenk – recovering from Shingles, Alicia Ticconi – recent surgery, Patty Keller

Carolyn Day, Susan Schauer, John Yungbluth – recovering at home

Jean Ericson – Asbury Pointe, Elvira Gonzalez –Bristol Village, Glenn Hurst and

Florence Stengel –Beechwood Continuing Care

Charles Terranova, Richard Mestler, Guy Ferrelli, Fred & Lynda Painton, Gaetano Castellino Sr.,
Castellino Family

Chris Maliken, Alex Dunbar, Lindsey Darling & Ian Johnson – all serve in the US Navy

Women of Hamburg UMC on retreat September 16 -18 at United Methodist House in Chautauqua. Sally Pollard is the retreat leader.

This Week at Christ Church

Tuesday, September 13 – **Caller Newsletter deadline**

4 pm - United Methodist Women Exec. Board

7 pm – Stewardship & Finance Team

Wednesday, September 14 - 6 pm – Youth Choir

7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 15 - 11 am – Visitation Team

Saturday, September 17 - 8:45 am Carpool for Architecture Tour - Buffalo

Sunday, September 18 - 9 am – Informal Praise

10 am – FaithXpress – God’s Creation Story

11 am – Traditional Worship

Luke 16:1-13

Opportunities to Make A Difference

Flood Bucket Project



Cleaning supplies for flood buckets will be collected all during September. The complete list is available on the church website and below.

www.christchurchamherst.org

Cleaning Bucket

1 5-gallon bucket with resealable lid Buckets from fast-food restaurants or bakeries can be used if washed and cleaned. Do not use buckets that have stored chemicals such as paint or pool cleaner. Advertisements on the outside are acceptable.

Liquid laundry detergent two 25-oz. or one 50-oz. bottle(s) only

Liquid household cleaner 12-16 oz. liquid cleaner that can be mixed with water no spray cleaners

Dish soap 16-28 oz. bottle, any brand

1 can air freshener aerosol or pump

1 insect-repellent spray 6-14 oz. aerosol or spray pump with protective cover

1 scrub brush plastic or wooden handle

18 cleaning wipes handi-wipes or reusable wipes no terry cleaning towels – remove from packaging

7 sponges no cellulose sponges due to mold issues remove from wrapper

5 scouring pads remove from wrapper **no** stainless steel, Brillo pads or SOS pads
(nothing with soap built in)

50 clothespins

Clothesline two 50-ft. or one 100-ft. cotton or plastic

24-roll heavy-duty trash bags 33-45 gallon sizes-
remove from the box

5 dust masks

2 pairs kitchen dishwashing gloves should be durable enough for multiple uses
remove from packaging

1 pair work gloves cotton with leather palm or all leather

A complete bucket costs approx. \$65

Money donations will also be received – put flood bucket in the memo line.

Uganda Wells of Love



An anonymous donor has generously agreed to make a matching gift to the Wells of Love project in Uganda!! All gifts *up to \$5,000* will be matched to provide clean, safe drinking water to remote areas of Uganda. Your gift makes a difference! Donations and questions can be directed to the church office or Kathy Weaver.

Food Pantry – suggested items:

September 11 – Canned Meats – tuna, chicken, salmon

September 18 – Baby items – food, formula, diapers

All food items are always needed. Paper products and toiletries are welcome anytime. Grocery carts are available in the church for your donations. Thank you!

Hospitality & Welcome

Sign up on the bulletin board in the Café to host some Sunday morning!

Invite your family, friends, ministry team or group to join you!
Share in this Café ministry of hospitality and welcome.

Café – Donations are welcome in the Café for use on Sunday mornings –
baked goods, half & half, OJ, fruit & cookies are useful!

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Community Youth – Middle & High School **Sunday, Sept. 25 at 1 pm**



**Try out your acting skills
With Valerie Villa!**

You may be a star!



Invite your friends and neighbors. All youth are welcome!

Check out a video of the hovercraft built by our Community Youth Group this last Sunday:

https://youtu.be/LEB330u_afQ

Day of Dance Fundraiser – Saturday, September 24

We are looking for volunteers to help provide child care during the Day of Dance fundraiser on Saturday September 24th. We have shifts starting at 9:00 am and running until we close at 5:00 pm. Please contact Kathy Weaver at 839-5918 for more details, or sign up in Crafts Hall. Volunteers are also needed to help with ticket sales and provide and sell concessions.

Christ Church...What a Musical Place!!!

Welcome to the Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra, Amherst Bel Canto, the Red Blazers Men's Chorus, the Christ Church Youth Choir, and the Chancel Choir!

The Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra and the Greater Buffalo Youth String Orchestra are now rehearsing at Church on Monday evenings (except school holidays) at 6:00 pm through May 1, 2017. Rehearsals began Mon., Sept. 12 when the String Orchestra gathered, directed by Lynne Ruda, Instrumental Music teacher at Lancaster High School, The orchestra

consists of younger players who are preparing themselves for eventual participation in the larger orchestra.

The Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra, is directed by Ansgarius Aylward, Asst. Concertmaster of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, and is a full symphony orchestra of musicians through high school age. It will rehearse in Crafts Hall.

When you are in the building on Mondays, you're welcome to sit in the Café and listen in. And give them a warm welcome!! **For more information about the GBYO, go to www.gbyo.net**

The orchestras add to the music organizations that rehearse in the church:

Christ Church Youth Choir, Wednesdays at 6 pm in the choir room. (New this year!!)

Christ Church Chancel Choir, Wednesdays at 7:30 pm in the choir room.

Amherst Bel Canto choirs, Thursdays 4 – 9 pm in Crafts Hall

Red Blazers Men's Chorus, Thursdays at 7:30 pm in Youth Hall

A local woman is in need of an apartment to rent. She is in cancer treatment, recently lost her husband, and her home is in foreclosure due to medical bills. If you know of any affordable places to rent in Amherst, please contact Stephennae Allen (768-3990 or stephennae1@aol.com).

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“Love your neighbor as yourself.” We commonly take this to mean “love your neighbor like you love yourself.” The other way to understand this verse is “love your neighbor who is like yourself.” Jesus quoted this command from Leviticus and just a few sentences later gives this admonition, “The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt.” v.34 Love your neighbor who you think is weird, because they are human. By the way, you're weird too. Like you they are amazing messes and made in the image of God and have fallen short of that image.”

From the book, The Neighboring Church