

UPDATE - September 30, 2015

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

Church Office Hours - Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm

SUNDAY AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday October 4 – Worship at 10 am

Why not 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)

Like us on Facebook

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

A word from Pastor Darryl

I am very pleased to hear the inspiring witness and stories shared last Sunday in our worship experiences. My thanks to our United Methodist Women for providing the opportunity for our members who were on the Uganda Mission Team to share on the national Children’s Sabbath theme, *“How Long Must I Cry for Help? Bending the Arc toward God’s Vision of Justice for Children.”* My thanks also to Sally and her team in collaboration with the Uganda Mission Team in hosting a “sleep over” this past weekend for our Faith Xpress kids as they had the opportunities to learn and participate in the African experience! Pope Francis has reminded the Church and the world that *“children are the greatest blessing God has bestowed on us... to focus our attention on the suffering which many children are experiencing. From the first moments of their lives, some are rejected, abandoned, and robbed of their infancy and future...Every child who begs on the streets, who is denied an education or medical care, is a cry to God. Too often, these children become prey to criminals, who exploit them for commerce or violence. Even in wealthy countries, they suffer due to family crises and living conditions which are at times inhumane. In every case, their childhood is violated in body and soul. How did Jesus respond to the children and their parents who brought them to him: ‘Let the children come to me... for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven’ (Mt 19:14). How beautiful the trust of these parents, and the response of Jesus! And there are many extraordinary parents who daily make sacrifices for their children. The Church offers her*

maternal care to all children and their families, and she brings them the blessing of Jesus. May we always care for our children, not counting the cost, so that they may never believe themselves to be mistakes, but always know their infinite worth."

The sharing of stories, songs and food last Sunday for Children's Sabbath was indeed a joy-filled celebration for those of you who were able to be a part of it. We will have the opportunity this coming Sunday to continue this celebration as we get a "Taste of Cultures" from within our congregation and from friends who will join us for worship and an "International Community Meal" for **World Communion Sunday**. Remember to **bring a dish to share** that represents your family's cultural heritage. As always, I am praying for you and with you daily. May God's love and blessings be always with you, and my love to all of you. Invite someone to join us for worship!

Here's what's happening at church...

Many thanks to the UM Women's Group leaders, Peggy Bermudez and Beth Sweet and to members of the Mission team to Uganda – Viki & Hannah Smith, John & Brandon Miller, Kathy Weaver and Janelle Martin for planning and leading worship. Janelle took on the coordinating role for worship, Viki oversaw the kitchen. The whole team helped the FaithXpress children experience stepping into someone else's shoes as they shared their first hand experiences and stories each Sunday in September. Check out the team's experience through pictures in a video slideshow: <https://youtu.be/N5Rj0QzqbAA>

Special thanks goes to Mary Ball and John Miller for helping with the FaithXpress sleepover. And thanks also to Laura Smith and Janelle Martin who joined the children during the evening hours. The African Village was a busy place and our children are excellent cooks over an open fire! Like us on Facebook to see photos from this event.

Kevin Durkin has announced his resignation as Organist/Choir Director at the end of this year, stating that he wishes to go in a different direction. Kevin has brought much joy and meaning to worship at Christ Church with skill and creativity. Keep Kevin and our church in your prayers as we go through this time of transition.

In our Prayers:

The sympathy and prayers of this church community are with **Dorothy Brown** on the recent death of her son, Christopher Hanson, following a bike accident. Chris

lived in the Chicago area and a celebration of his life will be held there on Saturday. Keep Dorothy and her daughter Natalie Hanson (Paul Womack) and the extended Hanson family in your thoughts and prayers.

Dennis Scaringi, Peter Zaleski, Herb Wilber, Barbara Critoph and Ed Maker - at home recovering from surgery – *(All are able to get out and have been with us in worship on Sunday)*

Elizabeth Brunner , recovering from broken arm;

Sharon Ferrelli, radiation treatment; **Charles Terranova**, Hodgkins Lymphoma

Ann Burdette at Brompton Heights; - *getting to worship occasionally*

Mitch Mooney - Amberleigh; **Glenn Hurst** at home; **Tom Davis** at Elderwood 200 Bassett Rd., **Robert Nachbar, Mary Jo Evans, Rosemary Little** - Blocher Home; **Brian Martin** for continued healing; **Barbara Clinton, Fred and Lynda Panton, Bim Rowlands, Nicky Sebastiano, Ruth Kitson, Ruth Luss, Shirley Downey; Alice Schmidt, Diane Lovejoy.**

Remember our service men and women (domestic and foreign)

Alex Dunbar, Ian Johnson and Lindsey Darling (all serving in the US Navy).

Food Collection - for local food pantries

Suggested donation for **this week: Beans** – dry **Next week: Pancake Mix**

These are suggested food items. **All** non-perishable food items are welcome and paper products are also needed - tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, sanitary products. Please place items in the grocery carts at the church.

This ongoing ministry makes a difference for men, women & children who face many challenges in life. Families and individuals come to Christ Church during the week for assistance with food and other needs. Your ongoing help makes a difference.

Café Connection – Hosts are always needed – Sign up in the Cafe

Donations of food & drink items are also of help if you are not able to be a host.

Coming up this **Sunday, October 4.....**

World Communion Sunday - Worship at 10 am

with guests from the Zimbabwe Church of Toronto
Join us for an international lunch at 12 noon (following worship)

Lunch is potluck. Please bring a dish to share.
Celebrate your culture of origin.

Happening this week:

Wednesday, Sept 30 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Oct 1 10 am "Life Lessons with Pastor Darryl"
7 pm Circle of Joy
7 pm Elizabeth Circle

Friday, Oct 2 10 am Books We Have Loved

Saturday, Oct 3 9:15 am Men's Group River History Tour -All welcome!

New information about child care during worship...

Our Child Care room has moved to room #9 located across from the double door entrance at the bottom of the stairs off of the main entryway. (Door covered with butterflies) This room is nearer the worship space and has a lavatory attached.

Parents PLEASE NOTE ...

Child care is provided each Sunday morning for little ones – **infants through Pre K** as stated in our worship bulletin. Our child care providers, Julie Sciolino and Leanne Paddock, are often caring for older children as well. They want to remind parents...

1. An adult needs to accompany children and sign them in to the child care room.
2. The number of children cannot exceed a 1:7 ratio by law.

3. Children will only be released from child care to the parent who has signed them in or someone they have designated.

The child care providers will **not** allow children into the room unaccompanied by an adult and properly signed in.

The child care providers will only care for older children if the number of children is lower than the number allowed by law (1:7 ratio)

If infants and toddlers are present, older children will not be received in the child care room.

The **Sky Box** is available for families with children who would like to see and hear the worship service, but need a quiet space for their children.

The care and safety of your children is important to us. Thank you for following these procedures.

Coming Soon.....

New information -MYM October Days Retreat at Chautauqua will take place **Tuesday – Thursday October 13 – 15**
There is still room available. Contact Marcia Snyder for information.

Sunday, October 11 – Flu Shot Clinic at Christ Church –
Contact Geoff Hill for details (316-1522)

Friday, October 23 – Harvest Dinner 4:30 – 7 pm

Friday, October 30 – Variety Show Contact Peggy Bermudez or
Lee Watson for more information

You don't need to wait another minute to make a difference for someone!

Christ Church is a Community Center for Faith & Service

Like us on Facebook

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DRB/sjp