

**Christ United Methodist Church
Snyder, New York
“Living Christ’s ways and exploding with love and service”**

**UPDATE
July 17, 2012**

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH

9:00 – Praise Celebration Worship with the new worship team.

10:00 – Faith Express and Soul Strength will return in September

Vacation Bible School is THIS WEEK!!!

**11:00 – Traditional Style Worship: Choir resumes in September
*Bring a Friend this week and share the Love and Grace of God!***

www.Christchurchamherst.org

716-839-2460

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

Hi Everyone:

We are off to a great start with Vacation Bible School, special thanks to all who are working with the children to learn about “Going Deep with God” and having such a great time. Special Thanks to Lynn Ramsey Phillips and her team and, as always, to Sally Pollard. It is a great crew, working well together, in our record approaching heat this week. We are grateful for the Youth Hall and its continued coolness! Vacation Bible School is an important outreach for our church as it allows us to connect with children and their families who may not yet be connected to a Christian community. I believe any time anyone can have an opportunity to connect with the great and welcoming community known as Christ Church Snyder, good things will emerge. Again, thanks to all the team for all of their hard work.

Here is what is happening at Church:

Vacation Bible School is going all week – 9:00 to Noon – for preschool through 6th grade. Come one day or come all, just come!

1. Attendance Sunday was in the 160 range. It was a weekend of big events: We baptized Daniel Joseph and Matthew Ryan Rendon at 9:00 and we baptized Samuel Gordon Webb at 11:00 and we were joined by the Fisher clan all of whom were in town to help Ed and Cindy Fisher celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary. It was a great day all around!

Thank you Sheila Manginelli for her gift of music!!

2. A number of you have been asking about membership at Christ Church. There will be a New Comer Orientation on Thursday, September 6. We will have a light supper and conversation. More information will follow but save the date now. It is my plan to receive new members on Sunday, September 9.

3. This Sunday I am preaching from Matthew 12:1-14. The message is titled "Stale Religion or Vital Faith?" We will be looking at the "religion of the Pharisees" and elements of a vibrant and vital Faith.
4. In our prayers: Gary Weeks (good friend of mine with Bladder Cancer); family and friends of Marjorie Marie Bowery Hill who died last Monday (7/9) – Grave side service is Wednesday; Barbara McCray; Nicky Sebastiano, Alicia Ticconi, Ed Maker, Carmen Ticconi, Katy Cady, Beverly Hurst, Bill Watson, and all who are hurting and suffering. Remember those in harm's way!
5. The youth group returned safely from their mission with Confrontation Point Ministries. We look forward to hearing their stories!
6. We celebrated two weddings at Christ Church on Saturday July 14. Congratulations to:
 Laura Stutzman and Stephen Thomson who were married at 10:30
 Marylou Hopkins and Vernon Lamcke who were married at 1:00
7. The Christ Church board of Trustees meets this Thursday at 7:30.
8. The Men's Club reports a great time on the Blizzard on Saturday and expresses thanks to Captain Don Critoph. Even the dead stick into the dock was pronounced fun!
9. Through the New Testament in a year: This week's readings: July 17 – Matthew 10; July 18 – Matthew 11; July 19 – Matthew 12; July 20 – Matthew 13; July 23 – Matthew 14; July 24 – Matthew 15. You can follow my comments on my blog: www.drjthoughts.blogspot.com.
10. . **HOLY LAND 2013** – at my last report there are now 9 of us signed up to make this journey. We depart January 28, 2013 for a 10 day tour of the land of the Bible. There is plenty of room for more and people can register up to 90 days prior to departure (October 28). **See me if you want more information.**
11. Happy Birthday this week:
 July 17 – Lynne Beller
 July 21 – Kay Barber
 July 24 – Laura Johnston
12. Happy Anniversary this week:
 July 16 – Rubin and Lisa Malpica (24); John and Marie Miller (18)
 July 17 – Richard and Mary Ball (19)
 July 20 – Tom and Peggy Nye (38); Darren and Sandra Paddock (16)
 July 24 – Chris and Michele Sciolino (19)
13. . ***I was hungry and you fed me*** . . . We continue to collect food for local food pantries:
 JULY 22 – we are collecting canned meals (hearty soups, spaghetti "o's", etc.)
14. Mission Prayers: Habitat Woman Build Team (ongoing); Youth Mission Team **is safely back from Kentucky** ; the Uganda Mission Team (**BJ, Kathy, John, Esther, Clair and Bill**) – leaving on October 1.
15. SEWERS Needed – for the Dress Our People project. Contact project leader: Molly Butler at 716-204-8993. Completed items can be left in the Dress Our People box outside the church office.

16. GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT – August 9 and 10. Sally, Rachel and BJ will be travelling to Syracuse to participate in the Global Leadership Summit. This annual event is provided by the Willow Creek Community Church in Chicago, Illinois. Cost is \$169 (and you will need to cover one overnight and food – unless you want to camp at Pastor BJ’s house – bring cot, sleeping bag, etc.) For more information see ME or to register contact Rachel in the church office at 839-2460.

17. **MISSION NEWS AND NOTES**

UGANDA PROJECTS UPDATE:

- a. Dr BJ will be travelling to Uganda to continue his work with the Nexus Seminary this fall (October 1-October 17). The 2012 Uganda team: Rev. B.J. Norrix, Rev. William Mudge Adirondack District Superintendent), Kathy Weaver and John Miller of Christ Church, Esther Keeney (of Pulaski) and Rev. Clair Mosher (Erieville and Ononativia United Methodist Churches in Onondaga County)
- b. Rev. Clair Mosher has formed a Uganda Youth initiative that will sponsor the training of youth leaders and hold youth rallies in Uganda. Pray for Clair’s work as well.
- c. Rev. Davis Matovu’s book has been published in Uganda.
- d. **I am very pleased to announce that my Biblical and Theological Primer goes to press this week!!**

If you would like to support the Christ Church Uganda Team or any of our Mission Teams directly: write a check to Christ UMC with the specific mission in the memo line.

The Uganda Team is in need of your help! Here is what we need:

- 1. helpers for the September 14 spaghetti and meatball dinner and silent auction (see Kathy, John or BJ)**
- 2. I need a ticket and necklace and coupon seller on Sunday morning (see BJ)**
- 3. We are collecting items for the silent auction – any items? Any ideas? Can you get stuff for us?**

18. I got this from our District Superintendent, Rev. Wayne Butler:

Our District Administrative Assistant, Debbie Parise is leaving to take another position. This will create an opening for a District Administrative Assistant. The job is to support the District Superintendent in his/her work. The District Office is local. This is a half time position with paid holidays and sick days. After one year the person in this position will be eligible to participate in the pension program. The position is open to either clergy or laity. Details and application are available at this link on the Annual Conference website: <http://www.unyumc.org/jobs>. The deadline for applications is August 5th, with the hope that this position would be filled by September 1st.

I am very excited that, after we send the check, my Biblical and Theological Primer will go to print in Uganda. In the six years I have been involved in the Nexus Seminary training, my biggest frustration has been the lack of biblical materials (even good translations of the Bible into Lugandan) available for our students and graduates. Four years ago I set out to write a resource that I would give to our students in Uganda. The Biblical and Theological Primer is my first effort

and the result of several years of work, revisions, rethinking, reimagining, and all the rest that goes into it. Copies of the book will be given to every Nexus seminary graduate. It is being published in both English and Lugandan. My plan is to print 500 copies in each language – English and Lugandan -- (I was about \$1000 short to print 1000 copies of each). I am hoping that this will be the first of many study resources for our Ugandan pastor friends and their congregations. I currently planning to write a Church history primer and, perhaps, a commentary on one of the Gospels. As servants of Jesus Christ, we are always looking for ways to help others do more and looking to put tools and resources in the hands of pastors and leaders for the building up of the Church. It is my goal as pastor at Christ church to raise up leaders, train, deploy and encourage all of us to engage in mission and ministry.

God's blessing (and try to stay cool!)

BJ Norrix, missionary, coach, author

(this e-mail is a communication ministry of the Christ United Methodist Church, Snyder, New York. If you do not wish to receive this e-mail please reply: remove).

Feel free to share this with family and friends!