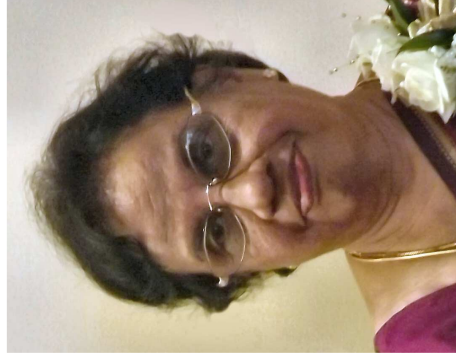


Christ UMC Vision Statement
*"Living Christ's ways and
exploding with love and service"*

Summer Schedule
June 5- September 4
Worship Service 10 am
*TOTAL STEWARDSHIP
PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS,
AND SERVICE*
Serving - the nature of stewardship

Christ UMC Staff

Pastor 2007-2011:
Sinnathamby Thevanesan
Minister for Education & Community Enrichment:
Sally J. Pollard
Office Manager/Ministry Assistant:
Richard Stanley
Director of Music:
Elizabeth Holt Curtis
Praise team Leader:
Oren Hollasch
Financial Secretary:
Doris Schanzlin
Treasurer:
Dennis Scaringi
Custodian:
David Wolf



CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

350 Saratoga Road, Snyder, NY 14226
Phone: 839-2460 Fax: 839-2166
www.christchurchamerst.org
Church E-mail: Cumc350@gmail.com

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The Caller



June 2011

HELLO, CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



My name is B.J. Norrix and I am excited and looking forward to being your new Pastor. I have served 30 years in the United Methodist Church, the last 23 years at the Christ Community United Methodist Church near Syracuse. I am married to Rev. Karen Bellimer, a musician and ordained American Baptist Pastor. We have been married since 1979. We share our living space with three aging cats.

I was ordained in 1980 (Deacon in the Central New York Conference) and in 1984 (Elder in the Northern New York Conference). Christ United Methodist Church is my fourth appointment (Waddington/Louisville 1982-1984; Onondaga Hill 1984-1988; Christ Community 1988-2011; Christ United Methodist Church 2011-?)

I am looking forward to getting to know all of you and the extended family of Christ United Methodist Church, and I am praying hard about our future together.

I was asked to share some of my vision for Christ United Methodist Church. I believe the vision will emerge as we get to know each other, pray together, and discern the call of God for our lives together. Rather than speak of vision, I thought it might be more helpful for all of you to hear some of my core beliefs. They are below:

My Personal Mission Statement: I want to build a great church for God. To that end I am committed to working with whomever, whenever, and wherever it is necessary to do this. I am Co-Dean of Local Pastor's Licensing School; I help run a pastor's training program in Uganda (called Nexus Seminary); I regularly consult with other pastors and denominational leaders on strategies for developing vital churches and effective church leaders.

I believe faith in Jesus Christ is something we choose – the invitation Jesus extends is the same today as it was 2000 years ago. Jesus says “Come and Follow me.” The life of faith begins when we choose to follow.

I believe following Jesus is the most difficult, rewarding, challenging, exhilarating, and life-giving way to live.

I believe following Jesus changes my personal values (in terms of my own behaviors) and it changes my social values (how I live my life in this world.)

*I believe all followers of Jesus are called to serve. Every Christian is gifted and called for ministry of some sort. The question is not IF we will give our lives in service as Christians, the question is **what** we will do and **where** we will do it.*

I believe that God first calls us to be; be a Christ-follower, be a lover of God. What we do rises out of what God is calling us to be.

I believe in the power of prayer. Prayer changes me. Prayer is how we partner with God. The Bible says there are some things God will not do unless we pray.

I believe that the primary thing the Church has to offer is relationships: God sent





Jesus so that we could be in right relationship with God, with ourselves, with each other, and with the rest of the world.

I believe the goal of the Church is to grow up disciples of Jesus and to send them out into the world in mission and ministry.

I believe the goal of the church should not be to gain members but to develop missionaries. If we make members we gain an occasional missionary. If we develop missionaries, the only question is geography:

Mission trajectory is Acts 1:8 – Jerusalem (where we are) Judea (near where we are but similar to us) Samaria (near where we are but different from us) and to the ends of the world.

I believe every church has the capacity to grow numerically and in influence in its broader community; the keys to growth are these:

- 1. growing disciples*
- 2. training leaders*
- 3. dynamic worship*
- 4. quality ministry for children and youth*
- 5. high percentage mission and ministry engagement*

Christ United Methodist Church has an excellent and productive history and a history of excellent leadership. The United Methodist Church in the United States has seen a precipitous decline in membership and attendance over the past 40 years, primarily because the world around us has changed and we have failed to change our methods and ministries to meet that change. In order for Christ United Methodist Church to have an excellent and productive future, we will need to find ways to reach new generations in new ways with the very old love story of God and God's creation.

I am very excited to be coming to Christ Church, Snyder and look forward to engaging all of you on some of these points, as I learn your beliefs, your history, your hopes, and your dreams.

I believe the best years of the Christian church (and Christ United Methodist Church) are not in some glorious halcyon days of yore. I believe in the future and I believe God has great things in store for us and great ministry for us to do.

I am looking forward to getting moved and going to work. Please pray for Karen and me as we work through our transition.

Peace,

B J Norrix



With Joy... From Sally

First the experience, then the faith

On Sunday, June 5, the Christ Church community celebrates with the Reilly/Brown and Mugel families as their children, Conor and Emily, are presented for Confirmation. This milestone in their lives doesn't mark achievement.

Instead it marks connection and commitment in the adventure of discipleship—living with Jesus in the world. Rather than a fulfillment of a list of requirements, the spiritual act of Confirmation names a step on a lifetime journey with Jesus as we fulfill our calling as God's people.

The truths and practices of living as a Christ follower are caught more than taught. By observing and experiencing life for themselves, children learn to walk, count, sing, pray, and share long before they understand the significance of these behaviors. Truths about God and what it means to be human are woven into every part of creation to be discovered and to help us live life to the fullest. After Jesus' death and resurrection, the disciples shared what they had experienced of God in and through Jesus and began to follow his example in their everyday lives. They trusted in the things Jesus had shown them and practiced a way of living their lives that they had discovered with Jesus. In doing so, they continued to experience his presence and grew in their faith.

In the same way people of every age, in every time and place, have grown in their faith by sharing life alongside more mature followers. This year's Confirmation mentors, Viki Smith and Dick Mugel, along with many other church friends and others who've gone before us, have been sources of guidance, friendship, and support in an ongoing journey through the seasons of life. In the midst of life's journey we experience joyful wonders and terrible sadness and pain: loving relationships, rejections, loneliness, acceptance, hard work, questions, and doubts. These are the challenges of living in community and discovering who we are. Living our lives with love, compassion, and courage invites others to share in a community where hurts are healed, relationships are mended, walls are torn down, and old ways of seeing and shaping the world open to new possibilities for being and doing. First we open ourselves to the possibility of God's love, then through our experiences of love and community, we find our faith in God.

Sally

JULY-AUGUST CALLER EARLY DEADLINE: MONDAY, JUNE 6
QUESTIONS? CONTACT KATHY WEAVER @ 839-5918 OR KDW23@ROADRUNNER.COM

UMW GARAGE SALE
Saturday, June 25 • 9 AM – 1 PM
\$1 admission
TABLE RENTALS - \$10 (No vendors please)
For a table call Diane Lovejoy at 835-9572
 Baked goods and food will be available

AFRICA UNIVERSITY CHOIR TO PERFORM

Africa University was founded by The United Methodist Church in Old Mutare, Zimbabwe. Its choir will perform two concerts in area churches:

- **Sunday, June 5, 7 PM at Kenmore UMC, Delaware Rd. at Landers Rd., Kenmore**
- **Monday, June 6, 7 PM at Baker Memorial UMC 345 Main St., East Aurora.**



The program will include sacred and secular music selected from the African and Western repertoire. Choir members are students in the University who will become music leaders in Africa's churches and communities.

After gaining national recognition at the 1996 General Conference of The United Methodist Church, the choir has made five tours of the United States.

Begun with 40 students in 1992, the University today enrolls 1300 students from 28 countries. Since 1994, Africa University has awarded over 3,500 degrees in theology, agriculture, business administration, health sciences, humanities, peace, leadership development and governance, and intellectual property. It is recognized as one of the continent's leading universities.

The University receives financial support from The United Methodist Church through the Africa University Fund and through special designated giving. The choir's tour through this area is part of the University's fund-raising effort. The churches of the Upper NY Conference contributed \$404,000 in 2010, seventh highest among the 59 U.S. conferences.



OUR OUTREACH

Sharing Our Love, Living Our Faith

Opportunities to share ourselves, our talents and our resources with others.

Current Community Outreach Opportunities



Services for Hire: The Outreach committee is hiring itself out to raise funds for the various Outreach organizations which we as a church support. Our services include: housekeeping, dog walking/pet sitting, child care. We request a donation of \$10 per hour. Please see the following members of the Outreach Team for details: Peggy Bermudez, Lee Watson, Rosemary Kochan, Peggy Nye, or Chris Klenk.



Family Promise of Western New York: Family Promise is about keeping entire families together while they work toward having a home to call their own. Our next opportunity to help with this ministry is the week of July 2-9. We generally will know of any special needs the week before the family arrives. Volunteers are needed to prepare and share dinner with the family(ies,) visit with them and spend the overnight. Traditionally, we have provided dinner and visiting on the Friday night of that week. The Friday would be July 8. If you would like to help out with this ministry, please see Lee Watson or Peggy Bermudez.

Thank You!

Thank you for sharing God's love and hope with the world and with our community



Christ Church invites all children to get cookin' at



Explore and experience recipes for living out God's Word

The fun begins

Monday, July 18 and ends on Friday, July 22
from 9am to 12 Noon each day at

Christ Church

Corner of Harlem & Saratoga Roads

Registration cost: \$10 per child includes Friday field trip

To be a part of the excitement at Shake It Up Café
call Sally Pollard at 839-2460, fill out and return the form below, or visit the
church's website at www.christchurchamherst.org

Name(s) _____

Name(s) _____

Grade completed or age _____

Parent _____ Phone _____

CONFIRMATION DAY JUNE 5, 2011

Celebrating a milestone in the journey of faith



Congratulations to Conor Brown and Emily Mugel

With thanks to their mentors, Dick Mugel and Viki Smith

STUDY THE BIBLE



June 2011

Follow these readings each month and read through the Bible in one year.

W 1	Moses promises God's presence	Deuteronomy 31:1-13
Th 2	Ascension of the Lord	Luke 24:44-53
F 3	Sing to God	Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35
S 4	God sustains those who suffer	1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
S 5	Seventh Sunday of Easter	John 11:1-11
M 6	Live by the will of God	1 Peter 4:1-6
Th 7	The high priest Aaron makes atonement	Numbers 16:41-50
W 8	The Son and the Father	John 3:31-36
Th 9	Filled with the Spirit	Acts 2:1-21
F 10	Renewing the face of the earth	Psalms 104:24~34, 35b
S 11	Varieties of gifts, the same Spirit	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
S 12	Pentecost	John 20:19-23
M 13	The promised spirit of God	Joel 2:18-29
Th 14	Praying in the Spirit	Romans 8:26-27
W 15	The spirit rests on Israel's elders	Numbers 11:24-30
Th 16	Creation of the heavens and earth	Genesis 1:1-2:40
F 17	How exulted is your name	Psalms 8
S 18	Paul's farewell	2 Corinthians 13:11-13
S 19	Trinity Sunday	Matthew 28:16-20
M 20	Creation story from Job	Job 38:39-39:12
Th 21	The Spirit in the community	1 Corinthians 12:4-13
W 22	Father, Son, Spirit	John 14:25-26
Th 23	The testing of Abraham	Genesis 22:1-14
F 24	Will you forget me forever?	Psalms 13
S 25	No longer under law but under grace	Romans 6:12-23
S 26	13th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Matthew 10:40-42
M 27	God's blessing promised again	Genesis 22:15-18
Th 28	Testing the spirits	1 John 4:1-6
W 29	Look to Abraham and Sarah	Isaiah 51:1-3
Th 30	Marriage of Isaac and Rebekah	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67



UNITED METHODIST MEN



In May, we toured the Amherst Police Call and Fire Control centers, followed by lunch at Sean Patrick's. On Saturday, June 4, we'll carpool from the church at 10:30 am to the Williamsville Railroad station and Erie RR caboose, with lunch to follow. Prefer to meet us at the station? It's on South Long St., one block East of Union Rd. - turn South off Main. All men are welcome. Questions? See Tom Nye or Chris Klenk.

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH

June 4-11-18-25 Saturday Car washes 10a-2 p



June 26 No meeting

More Information? Call Tim Reed, 838-4230 or Viki Smith, 839-1989

MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR

June 19 will be Pastor Theva's last Sunday in our pulpit. There'll be a reception for him and Malar following the service. It would be great to have a full church to give them a royal sendoff as they retire from active ministry. On **July 10**, our new pastor, Rev. B. J. Norrix, will preach his first sermon at Christ UMC, marking a new chapter in the life of our church. It would be equally great if the church could be packed to welcome B J and start his ministry here off on a really positive note. Onward and upward!!





UMW School of Missions
"All Things Made New"

July 21-23, 2011
SUNY Geneseo
 Marie Follett, Dean

Topics include:

- Coming Out on the Side of Grace* – Rev. Craig French
- Joy to the World* – Wayne Bank
- Discovering Haiti* – Genie Bank and Molly Golando

Reservations must be made by the end of June.
See Peggy Bermudez or Beth Sweet for more information.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

The S & F Team wishes to thank the congregation for their very generous Easter Offerings which totaled \$1533. The Loose Plate for Apportionments that Sunday was an additional \$358.



CIRCLE NEWS

Elizabeth Circle will enjoy our annual "dinner out" on Thursday June 2 at 6:30 pm (note the time change) at Mr. Bill's, 1500 Cleveland Dr., Cheektowaga. If you plan to attend, contact Mary Jane Shanley - 839-2506 by May 30th

Deborah Circle will meet Tuesday, June 28 in the Wesley Room at 12 noon.

Rachel Circle will meet at 12 noon, Tuesday, June 21, in the Wesley Room.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The team would like to thank all who dropped loose change into the piggy banks last month. We are happy to report that we donated enough to buy \$100 worth of chicks, ducks and rabbits!!!

We would also like to thank Rick Stanley and David Wolf for facilitating the return of the extra AED equipment.

Watch for the First Aid Corner in the parlor. There'll be a privacy screen, a cot, first aid kit, and AED equipment (for use by trained personnel only.)

Please let any team member know of any interests or concerns you have regarding Health and Wellness in our church and community so that we may try to provide helpful information and/or programs.

The members of Christ United Methodist Church extend their sincere condolences to the family of Mary L. Ball, who died March 11, 2011.

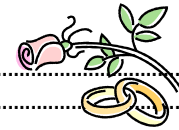


JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Laura Curthoys	01	Richard Mestler.....*	14
Richard Ball	04	Laura Smith	17
Barbara Clinton.....	05	Vincent Malpica.....	18
Diane Poe Schroeder	05	Andrew Rapini.....	18
Nina Shanley	05	Taylor Ramsey.....	19
Carol Gundlach.....	06	Grace Critoph (101)	20
Forrest (Woody) Rhinehart.....	06	Jean DiDomenico	21
June Traquair.....	06	Kristen Webb	21
Karen Hoffmann	07	Louise Barber.....	22
Ross Markello	07	Donna Hammond	22
John Lopez	08	Emily Nye.....	22
Nicole Takac.....	08	Laura Nye Hagley	22
Charlotte Davis.....	09	Sean Brown.....	23
Samantha Willhauck.....	10	Julie Sciolino.....	25
Patricia Zaleski.....	12	Ruth Munson.....	27
Nathan Gowen.....	13	Mildred Anderson.....	28
Samuel Suggs	13	Barbara Mitchell.....	28

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Gene and Jayne Kremzier	June 08, 1974
Woody and Jan Rhinehart (55)	June 09, 1956
Barry and Jean Wood	June 13, 1964
Scott and Viki Smith.....	June 15, 1985
James and Linnea George	June 18, 1988
Bill and Gail LaVigne.....	June 19, 1982
Allen and Joan Lesswing (58)	June 20, 1953
Charles and Marion Wenner (63)	June 20, 1948
Greg and Donna Yungbluth.....	June 20, 1981
Charles and Joanne Gilbert.....	June 22, 1968
Peter and Wendy Johnston	June 23, 1984



BIRTHS

Roger and Dede Johnson welcome their new granddaughter, Danielle Claire Johnson, born May 2nd.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Beginning on Sunday, June 5, the worship service will be held at 10 am. This time will continue through Labor Day weekend, Sunday, September 4.

Confirmation and Communion will be held on Sunday, June 5.

Pastor Theva's last service will be on June 19, and we will welcome our new pastor B. J. Norrix on Sunday, July 10.

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

JUNE 2011

1

2

Elizabeth Circle 7:30p

3

4

Men's Club 10:30-1p
Confirmation Picnic
and Rehearsal

5 *One Service every
Sunday this month*
**CONFIRMATION
SUNDAY**
*Traditional Service 10a
Communion*

6 Staff Meeting 10a
DEADLINE
JULY-AUGUST
CALLER
SPR Team 7p

7
Dance 6:15p

8

9

10

11

Habitat Work Day
Ballroom Dance 7-9p

12
PENTECOST
Combined Service 10a
Angel Food Deadline

13

14
Dance 6:15p
Christian Ed Team 7p

15

16

Trustees 7:30p

17

18



19
**PASTOR THEVA'S LAST
DAY IN THE PULPIT**
*Traditional Service 10a
Reception after service*

20

21
Rachel Circle 12n

Dance 6:15p

22

23

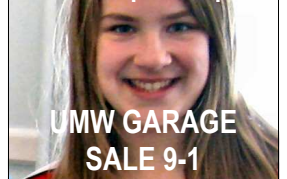
Church Council 7p

24



Game Night 7:30p

25 Angel Food
Pick Up 12n-1p



UMW GARAGE
SALE 9-1

26
Traditional Service 10a

27

28
Deborah Circle 12n
Dance 6:15p

29

30

**Thank You,
Pastor Theva
and Malar**

