

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

**Sunday Worship Schedule**  
 Praise Celebration 9 am  
 All Ages Education Hour 10 am  
 Traditional Style Celebration 11 am

*TOTAL STEWARDSHIP  
 PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS,  
 AND SERVICE*

*Serving - the nature of stewardship*

**Christ UMC Staff**

*Senior Pastor*  
**Dr. B.J. Norrix**  
*Minister for Education & Community Enrichment*  
**Sally J. Pollard**  
*Office Manager/Ministry Assistant*  
**Michelle Panasiewicz**  
*Director of Music*  
**Elizabeth Holt Curtis**  
*Financial Secretary*  
**Doris Schanzlin**  
*Custodian*  
**David Wolf**



**CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

350 Saratoga Road, Snyder, NY 14226  
 Phone: 839-2460 Fax: 839-2166  
[www.christchurchamherst.org](http://www.christchurchamherst.org)  
 Church E-mail: Cumc350@gmail.com

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**October 2013**



*With Joy... From Sally*

**It's that Simple**

God is love. Basically, that sums it up. God's most basic nature and character is love. God, aka Love, exists in community which we see in God as Father, Son, & Holy Spirit or Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer; whatever names resonate best with you. In this community there is joy, submission one to another, and grace. A perfect picture of love. God created the world even though God was sufficient in Godself. This creation gives us the model for what relationship is all about. Each part of creation is dependent on another, and when one part flourishes, all parts benefit. It's that simple.

Since God is love, God's grace, unconditional love, reaches all people. No one is unaffected. I believe God's benevolence is God's desire that people will reach out for and find God in their life. This complete, unconditional, and determined love is most evidenced in Jesus' suffering and death on a cross. God's love is given in exchange for us and our redeeming. There is no limit to which God will not go to draw us into relationship. Through God's Spirit our lives are touched by God's grace before we even know or recognize that presence in our lives. Everyone is on a spiritual journey, some wandering, and some following.

As part of a church that centers itself in Wesleyan traditions, all of the reform movements of the past are part of our DNA. This concept of constant renewal and reshaping leads us to worship, study, pray, receive the Sacraments, and enter into the needs of others. We are created for community. It's that simple.

With all of the richness of the ages, the churches, the people of faith in the past, the ones who made God's love real in our lives, we continue on the journey of faith and life. As the people of God known as Christ Church, we invite and welcome everyone to enter into this community where God is known in acceptance, care, nurture. and encouragement as we follow Jesus. It's that simple.

*Sally*

**NOVEMBER 2013 CALLER DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13**

**E-MAIL TO CALLER350@YAHOO.COM**

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT KATHY WEAVER @ 839-5918 OR KDWEAVER23@VERIZON.NET**



**FROM BJ'S DESK...**

I remember reading Daniel Levinson's Seasons of a Man's Life and Gail Sheehy's Passages more than 30 years ago. These books looked at the seasons and transformative moments in a person's life. Some of these moments were marked with rituals – like baptisms, birthdays, weddings, etc. – and some of them, though experienced by all of us, were less formally acknowl-

edged. While doing research for my Doctor of Ministry dissertation, I discovered several significant research projects that looked at churches the same way. The conclusion of many of the authors was similar to Levinson and Sheehy's conclusions about men and women. Many of these "church season" authors saw distinct stages of birth, growth, coming of age, decline, and death as the natural life cycle of congregations.

In most of these research projects there were noted exceptions. One of these studies looked at the life cycle and the rise and fall of English country churches. The study showed most of these congregations existing for centuries as stable or slowly declining in participation and membership. The study went on to show that for most of these congregations, at some point in their history, there was a season of rapid growth and extraordinary energy. When the researchers looked beyond the statistics to find a cause, they found that just preceding these periods of growth and activity, there had been a fire and the "old church" had burned to the ground. The community was rediscovered and energized by desperation and the community-focused task of rebuilding.

I think most North American main line protestant churches today are in the stable and slowly declining stage of a congregation's life. We are in need of a "wake up" event that would not just rebuild a building, but would re-imagine a community. Too many of us (me included) grew up in homes and a world where "going to church" was expected, assumed, and encouraged. The world around us no longer thinks that way. We can't just open the doors and expect people to flock to us. What is required is an English Country Church post-fire mentality. We need to rediscover Christian community.

Christian Community is a gathering where Jesus Christ is at the center and where every one of us has made a radical commitment to one another and the world around us. It is a community that is surrendered to prayer and works of mercy. It is a community that sees itself as a hostel, a hospital, a place of hospitality for a broken and hurting world.

What season are we in . . . what new life will we choose?

*Dr. BJ*

# Mission of the Month

## OCTOBER FOOD MINISTRIES

Our church participates in numerous Food Ministries throughout the year. They include making and serving casseroles for Central City Café, serving meals at Seneca street UMC through our youth group, collecting food for University Presbyterian Food Pantry, Primer Iglesias, Evangelist E's Food Pantry, the CROP Walk, and our Turkey Basket project. Please join us on October 6 when we will enjoy hearing from the coordinators of some of the Food ministries with which we are affiliated: Johnie Mae Holt from Central City Café, Janet Emminger from Evangelistic E's Food Pantry, and a speaker from Network of Religious Communities will be with us.

The CROP walk will be held this year on October 20th. The CROP walk seeks to end hunger locally and abroad. This year's walk will start at Amherst Community Church, 77 Washington Hwy., Snyder. Registration is at 12:30 pm and the walk begins at 1:00 pm. Sign ups will be available in the café. Please see Rosemary Kochan or a member of the Outreach committee for more information.

Every week you have the opportunity to help combat hunger by placing non-perishable food in one of the several shopping carts around the church. A list of suggested food items can be found on the shopping cart. In anticipation of Thanksgiving, we will begin gathering items for the Turkey Baskets on October 13. Here is a list of suggested gifts:

- October 13 - Stuffing Mix
- October 20 - Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- October 20 - Brownie Mix
- October 27 - Potato Flakes
- November 3 - Cranberry Sauce and Gravy.

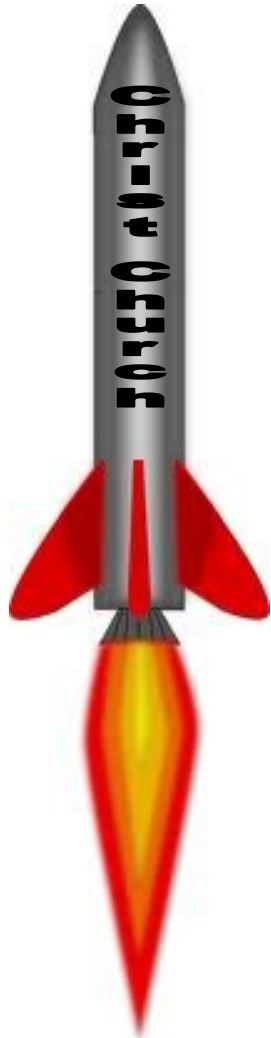
Donations of frozen turkeys will be appreciated anytime.

There's always a need for help on the first Tuesday of the month at Central City Café. There are two shifts: 9-11 am and/or 11am-1pm. Please sign up in Crafts Hall if you are able to help.

### Coat Drive for Seneca Street UMC

During October we'll be collecting gently used coats (men's, women's, & children's) mittens, scarves, hats, and boots for Seneca Street UMC. Please bring your gifts of warmth to Crafts Hall during the month.

*Thank you for sharing God's love and hope with the world and with our community by supporting the many Outreach ministries of our church*



**Pre-K–Grade 5 † Sunday mornings † 10 am † Lower level**

**October 6, 13, 20**

### INTO THE PROMISED LAND

The Bible tells us how God worked through Moses to guide the people of Israel. God leads people today to trust God and to live together in peace with all people. God entrusted the Law to Moses. The people carried this with them in the Ark of the Covenant as God's constant presence with them. Join us at FaithXpress as we build our own Ark of the Covenant.

Our thanks to the FaithXpress teaching team:

Lisa Lawson, Mary Ball, Sharon Ferrelli, Dick Radel, and Dave Mitchell.

**October 27**

Preview and sign-up for the Christmas Pageant

### MUSIC FUN

**Sundays † 11:30 am † Joyful Noise Music Room † Lower level**

Young children Pre-K and older will enjoy this time with Ms. Valerie Villa for fun with rhythm, songs, and instruments.

*“The rhythm is gonna get you!”*

**Middle School Group  
Grades 6 thru 8**



**Room 22, Lower level  
Sundays at 10 am**

*“We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.”  
Join in the adventure of making our mission possible!*



## A.O.L. @ CUMC

Adult Opportunities for Learning at Christ Church  
Sunday mornings † 10 am † Wesley Room

### The Ten Commandments for Today

Participants have the opportunity to explore the value of the 10 Commandments and the help they offer in finding our way in an increasingly complex moral universe. *Through October 13.*

Facilitator: Rev. Jim Pollard

### Embracing the Prophets in Contemporary Culture

This video resource with leading O.T. theologian Dr. Walter Brueggemann will help identify the cultural context of various prophetic writings and challenge participants to draw connections between Israel's sociological and spiritual status and that of America today.

What is our role in bringing God's perspective to today's society?

### WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays † 10 am † Wesley Room † Main level

All are welcome to join in this ongoing study and reflection.

Facilitator: Rev. BJ Norrix

### DISCIPLE 1 BIBLE STUDY

Anyone interested in participating in a 34-week basic Bible survey with a covenant community, please express your interest to Rev. BJ. Norrix.



## UNITED METHODIST MEN

The CUMC Men's Club will meet at the church at 10 am Saturday October 12 and car pool to the Paddock Golf Dome, 175 Brompton Rd in Tonawanda for miniature golf in a realistic setting (complete with sand traps!). We'll enjoy a meal at the Grill at the Dome following our round of golf. Contact Bill Bauza at 837-2421 with questions.

## UNITED METHODIST YOUTH

October 20 Family Day@ Becker Farms Noon-4pm

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



## CIRCLE NEWS

**Elizabeth Circle** will meet Thursday, October 3rd at 7:30 pm at the home of Marilyn Welker, 104 Wedgewood Dr. 689-2527. Hostess will be Julie Wrisley 839-3395. We will

be planning our programs for 2014. Contact either Marilyn or Julie if you plan to come and COME WITH IDEAS!

**Rachel Circle** will meet on Tuesday, October 15th at Noon in the Wesley Room. Our program will feature the "Life of Helen Steiner Rice", presented by Helen Markham, a friend of Helen Peacock.

**Deborah Circle** will meet at noon, Tuesday, October 22, in the Wesley Room.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

The Family Justice Center describes domestic violence as a pattern of intentional coercive behavior used to create and maintain control over family members or intimate partners through fear and intimidation. ANYONE can be victimized by domestic violence.

Here is how you can help stop the cycle of violence.

- Participate in our "Change a life" program. There are collection jars in the Sanctuary, Café, and church office.
- Make a \$15 (minimum) donation to the FJC and pick out one of the beautiful scented candles available in the church office.
- Attend the FJC's MOSAIC Event being held October 17th from 5:30-8:30 pm at Pearl @ The Lafayette. For ticket information visit the FJC website at fjcsafe.org and click on EVENTS.
- Continue to pray for all those who live with domestic violence.



## NEW OFFICE MANAGER WELCOMED

We are pleased to introduce Michelle (Vinci) Panasiewicz (pronounced "Pana-sevitch") as our new Office Manager/Ministry Assistant effective September 30. Michelle grew up on Harlem Road and graduated from Amherst Central High School and the University at Buffalo. The SPRC reviewed over 30 résumés and interviewed seven candidates before choosing Michelle. When you come by the office at the church, be sure to stop in and welcome her! Michelle and her husband Kent, members of CUMC since August, have a daughter, Kara. WELCOME!

## "FAREWELL" TO RACHEL VAUGHAN

Rachel finished her work with us on September 29 at a party held in her honor. Rachel began work at Christ Church on the 15th of August 2011. She left to marry Stephen Adam, who works in Information Technology in London, Ontario, Canada. After their wedding in Louisiana on November 2, Rachel and Stephen will live in London. We wish her and Stephen well on this next stage of their life journey.



## VETERAN MUSIC DIRECTOR TO RETIRE

On September 5, Music Director Elizabeth Holt Curtis announced her decision to retire, effective October 13, 2013. Elizabeth has been Music Director at Christ Church for the past 19 years, gracing our 11:00 worship service with organ and piano music, choral direction, and other solo offerings, as well as coordinating a host of guest musicians. A celebration of her time with us will be held on October 13 following the 11:00 am worship service. Watch for more information.



## BIBLE READING PLAN

Read two or three Old Testament chapters and one New Testament chapter each day, and read through the Bible in one year.

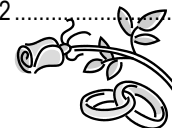
Here are October's readings:

Day	Old Testament	New
1...	Zechariah 10-12; Psalm 126	Luke 14
2...	Zechariah 13-14; Psalm 147	Luke 15
3...	Ezra 5-6; Psalm 138	Luke 16
4...	Esther 1-2; Psalm 150	Luke 17
5...	Esther 3-8	Luke 18
6...	Esther 9-10	Luke 19
7...	Ezra 7-8	Luke 20
8...	Ezra 9-10; Psalm 131	Luke 21
9...	Nehemiah 1-2; Psalm 133-134	Luke 22
10.	Nehemiah 3-4	Luke 23
11.	Nehemiah 5-6; Psalm 146	Luke 24
12.	Nehemiah 7-8	Acts 1
13.	Nehemiah 9-10	Acts 2
14.	Nehemiah 11-12; Psalm 1	Acts 3
15.	Nehemiah 13; Malachi 1,2	Acts 4
16.	Malachi 3-4; Psalm 148	Acts 5
17.	Job 1-2	Acts 6-7
18.	Job 3-4	Acts 8-9
19.	Job 5; Psalm 108	Acts 10-11
20.	Job 6-8	Acts 12
21.	Job 9-10	Acts 13-14
22.	Job 11-12	Acts 15-16
23.	Job 13-14	Acts 17-18
24.	Job 15	Acts 19,20
25.	Job 16	Acts 21-23
26.	Job 17	Acts 24-26
27.	Job 18; Psalm 114	Acts 27-28
28.	Job 19	Mark 1-2
29.	Job 20	Mark 3-4
30.	Job 21	Mark 5-6
31.	Job 22	Mark 7-8



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Carolyn Day	02
Todd Evans	02
Bradley Loliger	02
Nicholas Darling	04
Susan Cataudella	09
Bill Bauza	10
Rachel James	10
Rob Noyes	10
Julie Wrisley	12
James George	13
Abbie Gowen	22
Susanne Gelormini	23
Debbie Fiebelkorn	27
Janet Hill	27
Bob Kreib	28



## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Susan & Thomas Cataudella	October 08, 1988
Carl & Jean Ericson (64 Years!)	October 22, 1949



## UGANDA MISSION PREPARATIONS

November 3, 2013, Kathy Weaver, Joe Forte, Rev. Clair Mosher, and Pastor BJ Norrix will travel to Uganda, East Africa, to continue our mission work there. The primary focus of this trip is to work with Nexus Seminary Uganda – a 20-course certificate-level training program designed for rural Ugandan pastors. The team will visit current and potential teaching sites, and participate in the graduation of the Kikyusa class. They will also be holding medical clinics, youth rallies, and visiting some of our schools. They will be privileged to consecrate and dedicate the new clean water supply in Nabukondo, Gomba District.

If you would like to help this mission directly, please send your check payable to Christ United Methodist Church and clearly mark it Uganda 2013.

Pastor BJ will also be leading two bible scholar summits in the 17 days they are in country. To finance this, he is raising \$1000 separate from the rest of the team – if you would like to help with this next level training for our Ugandan students, please see Pastor BJ.

## FLU SHOT CLINIC OCTOBER 13



On October 13, 2013 the Health and Wellness team is hosting a Flu Shot Clinic 10-1 in the church library. For further information or to make your appointment call:

Geoff Hill 316-1522 or Barb Mitchell 839-2435.

Walk-ins are also welcome. Here's to a healthy winter season!

## DRESS OUR PEOPLE NEARS GOAL



We're slowly approaching our goal of 300 pieces of clothing to send with the Uganda team in November. Thanks to everyone who has helped in so many ways - cutting, sewing, donating fabric, donating t-shirts, etc.

Here are the last few things we need to take care of:

- We could use a few more purchased t-shirts to match with the shorts. Please contact Molly Butler if you can purchase some. If you bought some already - please turn them in so we have an accurate count!
- All sewn items need to be turned in by Sunday, October 20th. Pastor BJ and the team need items packed and ready so they can estimate their baggage needs.
- We're gathering stickers to put in the bags - last year the kids took the size stickers off the bags and stuck them on their bodies... so this year we decided to send real stickers. If you've any stickers at home or would like to purchase some - they would be greatly appreciated.
- We'll roll and pack the clothing on Wednesday afternoon, October 30th from 3 to 5 PM. Anyone is welcome to come and help.

The Dress our People mailbox is in the back hallway at the bottom right corner of the mailboxes. If you have any questions, please call (716-204-8993) or e-mail (kwmgbutler@gmail.com) Molly Butler.

## THANK YOU

It is always hard to put thoughts into words during such a difficult time. We want to thank everyone at CUMC and tell you how much we appreciate the kind and helpful words of encouragement and the simple gestures such as a smile or a hug. We thank God for the friends we have in our church community. God Bless each of you.

The Keller and Elberson Families

## STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE TEAM

As usual, our attendance was low over the summer months, which has seriously hampered our cash flow. The S&F Team would appreciate it if any of you who may be behind in your pledge commitments would bring them up to date. If you are unsure of your status, please call Doris at 839-5779, and she will get back to you.

One of the ways we have been able to keep up with our expenses is to put off paying our Shared Ministries (Apportionments). To date we should have sent \$15,000, but have only been able to send \$3,000.

In May we issued new offering envelopes and several of you have not yet picked them up. They are in the church office; feel free to come in and get yours. Also, some of you are using leftover envelopes that were issued prior to May of this year. Most of the envelope numbers have changed, so please do not use any old envelopes or someone else may get credit for your offering.

Just a reminder: the pledge campaign for the boiler ends this December 31. We are still about \$11,000 short of the amount pledged.



Save the Date

**MYM**

**Christmas Party**

Friday, December 6 at 5:30 pm

“A Dickens Christmas”  
with Victorian Dancers  
providing entertainment.



**UMW**

**HARVEST DINNER**

Friday October 18th

4:30 pm - 7 pm

**ROAST PORK**

Mashed Potatoes

Glazed Carrots

Applesauce

Homemade Pie

Adults \$10

Children under 10 \$5

Tickets:

Rosemary Kochan

908-1200



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>OCTOBER 2013</b>		<b>1</b> Library Team 9:30a  Ballroom Dance 6:15p Outreach team 7p	<b>2</b>  Financial Workshop 7p Choir 7:30p	<b>3</b>  Bible Study 10a  Elizabeth Circle 7:30p	<b>4</b>  MY+M Chautauqua Days	<b>5</b>  MY+M Chautauqua Days
<b>6</b> Praise Worship 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Worship 11a Music Fun 11:30a MY+M Chautauqua Days	<b>7</b>  Praise Team 6p SPR 7p	<b>8</b>  UMW Board 4p  Ballroom Dance 6:15p	<b>9</b>  Choir 7:30p	<b>10</b>  Bible Study 10a	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> MEN'S CLUB Paddock Golf Dome 10a @ church
<b>13</b> Praise Worship 9a Education Hour 10a Children's Sabbath Traditional Worship 11a E. H. CURTIS FAREWELL Flu Clinic 10a-1p CALLER DEADLINE	<b>14</b> <b>COLUMBUS DAY</b> OFFICE CLOSED Praise Team 6p	<b>15</b> Rachel Circle 12p  Ballroom Dance 6:15p Christian Ed. Team 7p	<b>16</b>  Financial Workshop 7p Choir 7:30p	<b>17</b>  Bible Study 10a  Prep for Harvest Dinner	<b>18</b> Books We Have Loved 10a  HARVEST DINNER 4:30-7:30p	<b>19</b> Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 10A Niagara Square
<b>20</b> Praise Worship 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Worship 11a Music Fun 11:30a	<b>21</b>  Praise Team 6p	<b>22</b> Deborah Circle 12p  Ballroom Dance 6:15p	<b>23</b>  Financial Workshop 7p Choir 7:30p	<b>24</b> Caller Collation 9:30a Bible Study 10a	<b>25</b>  Game Night 7:30p	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Praise Worship 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Worship 11a Music Fun 11:30a	<b>28</b>  Praise Team 6p	<b>29</b>  Ballroom Dance 6:15p Church Council 7p	<b>30</b> Dress Our People 3-5p  Financial Workshop 7p Choir 7:30p	<b>31</b>  Bible Study 10a		