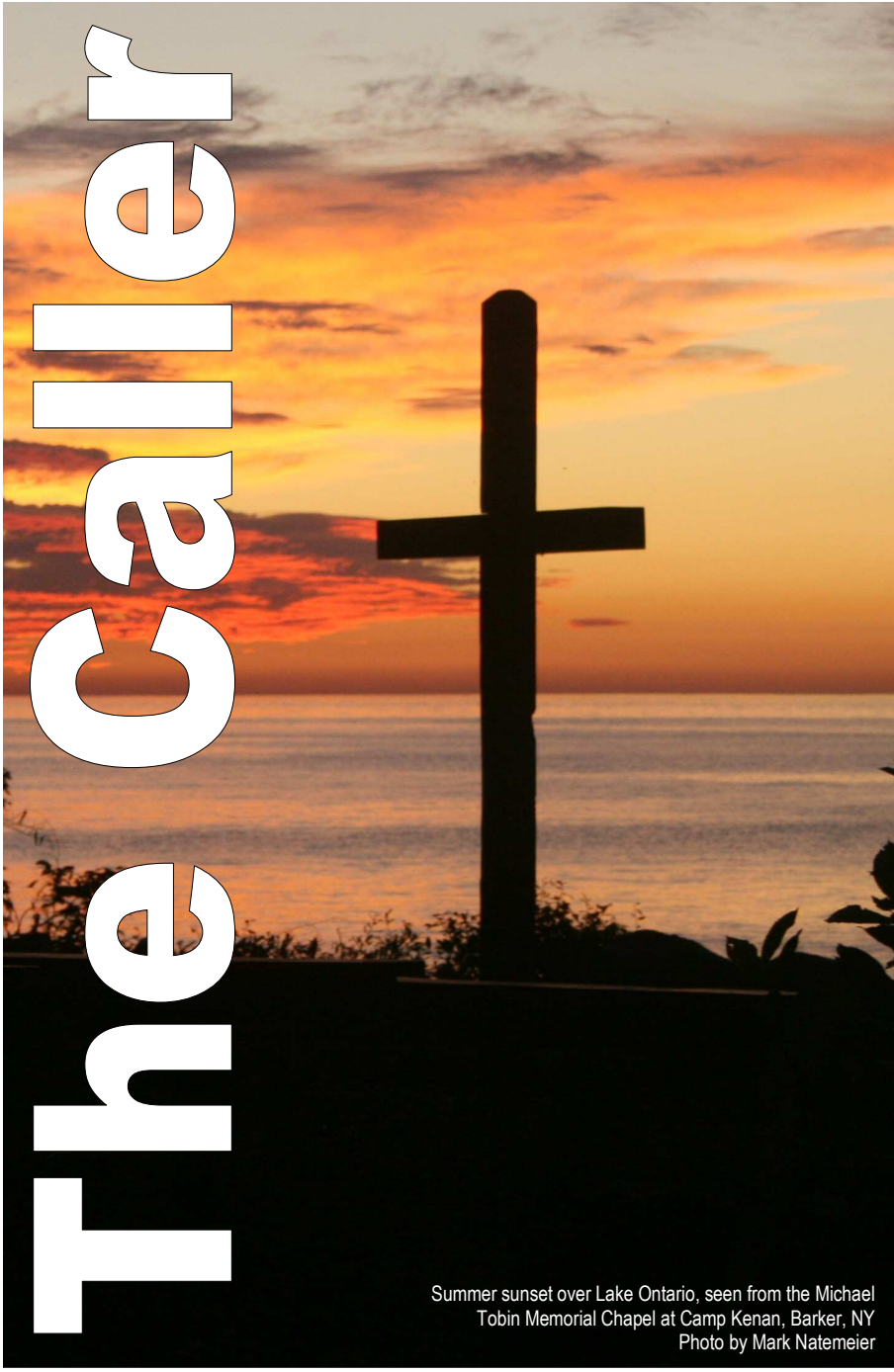


The Caller



Summer sunset over Lake Ontario, seen from the Michael
Tobin Memorial Chapel at Camp Kenan, Barker, NY
Photo by Mark Natemeier

October 2011



With Joy... From Sally

Ready For Newness

I'm not sure if the title, Ready For Newness, is a statement or a question. Let's just say it's a starting point for this reflection and we'll all find out where I end up!

With my mind on final plans for The Day to Make A Difference at Christ Church, and what to write for this newsletter article, I'm aware of a window being cleaned outside my office. On my desk is a pad on which I've previously written some notes, but I don't recall what prompted them-- reading of some kind, no doubt, but I've failed to make note of book or article or resource. Here's what is written: "windows--a window into scripture--think of what you see, imagine -- windows into the mind of God--framed by my own words and associations." Also written are four questions...

"Where is the church going in this exciting time?"

"What kind of new future are we going to create?"

"What vision of hope do we hold out to a new world?"

"Do we just want a continuation of what we've seen and known or do we hope for something greater?"

The words, "something greater" bring to mind Pastor B.J.'s recent sermon about Nicodemus' meeting with Jesus in search of "something more" that Jesus offered.

Scripture is full of stories of Jesus offering "more" ...more love, more forgiveness, more reaching out to touch humanity in a way they could understand. Being ready for something new requires being open and trusting enough to relinquish some of the old stuff, the mundane stuff that lacks the power to ignite our passion and offer meaning to our lives. We need to open the windows expecting to see how God is at work in the world; expecting to see ourselves entering into the "something more" that God has in store for us, individually and as a church; and giving words to what we see so we can invite others to join in. The key is letting our desire lead to believing that we can and will make these visions real. Ready for newness? I know my answer.

Sally

NOVEMBER CALLER DEADLINE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

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



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

FEASTS AND FESTIVALS

Join us in celebrating special feasts and festivals that help people of faith remember to give thanks for the things God has done. Jesus grew up in a Jewish home, learned to read the Jewish Scripture, and celebrated special festivals of the Jewish people. At FaithXpress we'll learn some of the same things that Jesus learned as a child.

October 2 - Happy Hanukkah October 9 - Passover

October 16 - Shavuot, Festival of Weeks October 23 - Children's Sabbath

October 30—Sign up for Christmas Pageant



SOUL-STRENGTH GROUP

Middle School † Grades 6-8 † 10 am † Room 22 † Lower Level

FILL UP ON GOD'S GOODNESS



YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

High School † Grades 9-12 † 10 am † Room 23 † Lower Level

A.O.L.@CUMC

Adult Opportunities for Learning at Christ Church

Sunday mornings † 10 am † Wesley Room

EVERYTHING IS SPIRITUAL

DVD series presented by Rob Bell, pastor of Mars Hill Church, taking a close look at the creation story and discovering the fusion of two realms. Jesus never used the words "spiritual life." For Jesus and his tradition all of life is spiritual. So what does that mean?

Monday evenings † 7pm † Wesley Room † October 3 & 31

PASTOR'S BIBLE CONVERSATIONS

Exploring the Bible with Pastor BJ

Thursday mornings † 10 am † Wesley Room

ACTS - SEEING GOD'S POWER IN ACTION

Diane Klenk, Facilitator

Sunday Evenings † 6 pm † 249 S. Huxley Rd

FOOD, FRIENDSHIP, AND FUN

Meets every other Sunday at the home of Audrey and Mike Gavin, 249 S. Huxley Drive, Cheektowaga. Call them at 835-2619 for dates and topics. Bring some food and come at 6 pm for the meal, or at 7 pm for the discussion, or come for both!



The United Methodist Women of Christ UAC present our annual

Harvest Dinner

Friday October 21, 2011 from 4:30 to 7pm

Christ United Methodist Church

Harlem at Saratoga, Snyder

roast pork, mashed potato, sauerkraut, glazed carrots,
applesauce, pie

tickets on sale starting Sunday October 3rd

or call Rosemary Kochan 908-1200

\$10 adults, \$5 under 10, under 4 free

proceeds benefit mission projects of United Methodist Women

UMW NOTICES

UMW Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 11, 4:00 pm at CUMC.

United Methodist Women General Meeting

Saturday, November 5, 2011 at 10:00 am

Program: The Cheerful Messenger - Carol Ann Gleason, Storyteller

Hostess: Deborah Circle

Continental Breakfast will be served \$5.00



Celebrate Children's Sabbath

Sunday, October 23 at 9:00 and 11:00 am

Message from Lena Sweet of *Peace of the City*

**“Loving and Empowering Children, Youth,
and Families in the Name of Christ”**

STUDY THE BIBLE



October 2011

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

S	1	Nothing surpasses knowing Christ	Philippians 3:4b-14
S	2	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Matthew 21:33-46
M	3	Christ the cornerstone	I Peter 2:4-10
T	4	God reconciles us through Christ	2 Corinthians 5:17-21
W	5	Keeping the commandments	Deuteronomy 6:10-25
Th	6	The golden calf	Exodus 32:1-14
F	7	God's favor for the people	Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23
S	8	Rejoice in the Lord always	Philippians 4:1-9
S	9	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Matthew 22:1-14
M	10	Prepare for the Lord's coming	Jude 17-25
T	11	The people in mourning	Exodus 33:1-6
W	12	God will feed the believer	John 6:25-35
Th	13	God's glory revealed to Moses	Exodus 33:12-23
F	14	Proclaim God's greatness	Psalms 99
S	15	Thanksgiving for church at Thessalonica ...	I Thessalonians 1:1-10
S	16	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Matthew 22:15-22
M	17	The fall of Babylon	Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20
Tu	18	Babylon will be found no more	Revelation 18:21-24
W	19	Jesus pays the temple tax	Matthew 17:22-27
Th	20	Death of Moses	Deuteronomy 34:1-12
F	21	Show your servants your works.....	Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17,
S	22	The apostle's concern	I Thessalonians 2:1-8
S	23	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Matthew 22:34-46
M	24	Death of Aaron	Numbers 33:38-39
T	25	Faith without works is dead	James 2:14-26
W	26	The covenant ratified	Deuteronomy 26:16-27:7
Th	27	Crossing into the promised land	Joshua 3:7-17
F	28	Thanks for a beautiful land	Psalms 107:1-7, 33-37
S	29	The apostle's teaching	I Thessalonians 2:9-13
S	30	31st Sunday in Ordinary Time	Matthew 23:1-12
M	31	Another story of the crossing	Joshua 4:1-24



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Susan & Thomas Cataudella	October 08, 1988
Mary and Don Parsons 66 YEARS!!!	October 16, 1945
Carl & Jean Ericson 62 YEARS!!!	October 22, 1949

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Carolyn Day	02
Bradley Loliger.....	02
Elleigha Nye.....	02
Nicholas Darling.....	04
Jacob Horley.....	07
Susan Cataudella.....	09
Rachel James.....	10
Rob Noyes.....	10

Julie Wrisley.....	12
James George.....	13
Abbie Gowen.....	22
Susanne Gelormini.....	23
Curt Barber.....	24
Debbie Fiebelkorn.....	27
Janet Hill.....	27



PRAISE SERVICE PHOTOGRAPHER WANTED



Your Church Photographer is seeking an associate shutterbug to contribute first service photos. Since he is usually at the second service, there is no shortage of coverage at 11 am, but we don't want to slight early risers. If you have a digital camera , an e-mail connection, and are interested in seeing your work in print, please contact Richard Mestler at 830-1175 or e-mail him at bflokids@yahoo.com.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 MY+M Autumn Days at Chautauqua Retreat
2 Praise Celebration 9a All Ages Education 10a Traditional Celebration 11a MY+M Autumn Days Youth - Seneca St. Church	3 Pastor's Bible Conversations 7p SPR Team 7:30p	4 Library Team 9:30a Dance 6:15p Outreach Team 7p	5 Praise T Rehearsal 6p Choir 7:30p	6 Bible Study 10a Elizabeth Circle 7:30p	7 Books We Have Loved 10a	8 Habitat Work Day
9 Praise Celebration 9a All Ages Education 10a Traditional Celebration 11a Youth-Becker Farms 1-5p	10	11 UMW Board 4-5:30p Dance 6:15p	12 Praise T Rehearsal 6p Choir 7:30p	13 Bible Study 10a Stewardship/Finance 7p CALLER DEADLINE	14	15 Youth Sleepover 6p
16 Praise Celebration 9a All Ages Education 10a Traditional Celebration 11a Youth- Bake Sale ANGEL FOOD DEADLINE	17	18 Rachel Circle 12n Dance 6:15p Christian Ed. Team 7p	19 Praise T Rehearsal 6p Choir 7:30p	20 Bible Study 10a Caller Collating Trustees 7:30p	21 Books We Have Loved 10a Harvest Dinner	22
23 Praise Celebration 9a All Ages Education 10a Traditional Celebration 11a Children's Sabbath Youth - 12-3p	24	25 Deborah Circle 12n Dance 6:15p	26 Praise T Rehearsal 6p Choir 7:30p	27 Bible Study 10a Church Council 7:30p	28  Game night 7:30p	29 Health Fair 8a-2p Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference Angel Food pickup 1-2p
30 Praise Celebration 9a All Ages Education 10a Traditional Celebration 11a Youth-Letchworth Canoe Trip 8a	31 Pastor's Bible Conversations 7p					



CIRCLE NEWS

Elizabeth Circle will meet Thursday, October 6 at the home of Marilyn Welker, 104 Wedgewood Dr. , 689-2527, at 7:30 pm. Hostess is Julie Wrisley, 839-3395. We will be planning our programs for 2012. Please contact either Marilyn or Julie if you plan to attend and come with suggestions for the meetings.

Deborah Circle will meet Tuesday, October 18 in the Wesley Room at 12 noon.

Rachel Circle will meet at 12 noon, Tuesday, October 25, in the Wesley Room.

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH



- 2: Seneca St. Church, meet @ CUMC 1:30, return after 5
 - 9: Becker Farms 12-5p, pick apples for bake sale
 - 15: Sleepover at CUMC, 5p, bring sleeping bag, \$5 for food
 - 16 Bake sale
 - 23: Youth meeting 12-3p, church cleanup
 - 30 Meet @8a for Letchworth raft trip w/Seneca St. youth
- More Information? Call Tim Reed, 838-4230 or Viki Smith, 839-1989

UNITED METHODIST MEN



What a trip. Led by Commodore Tim Reed, the intrepid band of CUMC men paddled down the Buffalo River to see the area from a new perspective. Following the expedition, Don Critoph hosted us on his sailboat, which is (almost) big enough for President Tom Nye to stand up in.

In October, we will be attending the **Iron Sharpens Iron** Men's Conference on October 29 at the Wesleyan Church of Hamburg. Cost is \$39, lunch is extra. All men welcome. Questions? Call Tom Nye at 648-1850 or Bill Bauza at 837-2421



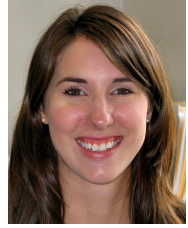
Don Critoph Photo



Don Critoph Photo

NEW HOME WANTED

Christ Church's new office administrator, Rachel Vaughan, is looking for a new place to live! One bedroom would be perfect. If you know of any place in the area please contact Rachel at the church 839-2460 or by her personal email, rachelvaughan@oru.edu.



CUMC BLESSED WITH AN EXTRAORDINARY LIBRARY

One of the first things I noticed when I came to Christ Church was the extraordinary library we provide. Are you aware that the library is filled with biblical and historical reference books? Did you know there are theological works by many significant theologians and that there are children's books and novels, and lots of other good stuff? Have you visited the library to check out what is there lately? I would encourage you to do so.

Dr. BJ

THE LIBRARY TEAM...

...is planning some electronic upgrades. Would you be interested in pod casts or in books on tape, or other audio means? Would you like to learn your way around a library computer? Watch for more information as the Library team seeks to make more resources available.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

The Stewardship and Finance Team wants to let you know that we are planning some changes for the coming year: the annual Stewardship Pledge Campaign will be moved from this fall to the spring of 2012. You will be hearing more about this as time goes on.

Along these lines, the Church Council is undertaking a special study entitled "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations"; one of the Practices is entitled "Extravagant Generosity." In this section is a passage I wish to quote here: *"Pledge campaigns are not about money, dollars, and budgets, but about mission, spiritual growth, and relationship to God. Stewardship efforts deepen prayer life, build community, unite people with purpose, and clarify mission. People feel strengthened and grateful to serve God through giving."*

This year the Special Thanksgiving offering will be Sunday, November 20 and will be dedicated to our World Service commitment. Special envelopes will be available in the pews, as well as in the Bulletin.

OUR OUTREACH

Sharing Our Love, Living Our Faith

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

Current Community Outreach Opportunities



RAISE A HAND TO STOP HUNGER IN OCTOBER!

In Upstate New York over 800,000 people do not have enough food to meet their needs. That's over 14% of the people living in our part of the state. The number of people who are hungry is rising. You can help us fight against hunger in the Upper New York Area!

All gifts of non-perishable food are welcome!

The following are needed for Turkey Baskets to be given to area families for Thanksgiving: boxes or bags of stuffing mix, canned cranberry sauce, canned vegetables (corn, peas, or green beans), canned fruit, boxes of brownie mix (no cake mixes please.)

To assist families who come to the church for help we need: tuna, boxed macaroni & cheese, canned fruits and vegetables, oatmeal, pasta, sauce, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, soup, crackers, family sized canned dinners, and powdered milk.



Coats, Boots, Hats, and Mittens,

for both adults and children, are needed to make winter warmer for families in the Seneca-Babcock neighborhood. **Coats should be washable with**

working zippers and buttons. All items can be brought to church during the month of October.

More Outreach Opportunities:

- Media Sale to Benefit Outreach - November 12
- Holiday gifts and decorations are requested for the Holiday Shop at Asbury Shalom Zone

FROM YOUR HEALTH AND WELLNESS TEAM

Protecting ourselves and our families against the flu is not only good for our health and well-being, but can also decrease absences from work and school during the flu season. The team will be sponsoring a flu shot clinic on October 30 open to anyone over 18 years old. Most health insurances will pay for most or all of the cost. A team member will be in the Café on Sundays between services and after the second service to answer questions and sign you up. Please bring your health insurance card with you. Co-pays will be collected at the clinic. Check upcoming church bulletins for more information. If you have any questions contact Geoff Hill at 316-1522.

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

We are looking for volunteers to become certified in the use of the church's AED. You do not need to be in the medical profession to get certified. Please contact Sandy Cumming at 835-1061 if interested.

2ND ANNUAL HEALTH FAIR & DIABETES SCREENING

In conjunction with the Amherst Lions Club, the Health & Wellness Team will host the second annual Health Fair & Diabetes Screening at Christ Church on Saturday, October 29 from 8 am until 2 pm. Last year's event was a huge success, and we hope many of you will attend to take advantage of the free information and screenings, including one for macular degeneration. Please mark your calendars and watch your Sunday Bulletins for more details as the date approaches!

GATEWAY COLLECTIONS

Just a reminder: We collect Campbell's Soup Labels, Box Tops for Education, and cancelled postage stamps for Gateway. Please put them in the labeled containers on top of the microwave in the kitchen. Thank you.

ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS AND TRAVELLERS!!!

If you leave town for the winter or for a long period and have your mail forwarded, PLEASE let the office know when you'll leave and plan to return. The Caller is bulk mail & not forwardable; the post office charges \$.44 for each return. It may not seem like much, but multiplied by all the returns, it adds up. Thank you in advance for helping the Caller team reduce costs.



MY+M Christmas Party

Christmas Dinner at Mount Vernon

**Save The Date!
Friday, December 9, 2011**





FROM BJ'S DESK...

I have spent most of October out of town for the past 5 years. In October of 2007 I first traveled to Uganda with my covenant group: Rev. Alan Howe, Rev. Bill Mudge, Rev. Aaron Bouwens. We were led to Uganda by Alan, who had been working with Ugandan pastors to develop a training program for rural pastors. The Ugandan pastors were led by Rev. Davis Matovu (who visited Christ Church on the first Sunday in August.) The program became known as Nexus Seminary, Uganda. In 2008, 2009, 2010, and now in 2011, I have returned to teach to encourage to train teachers and pastors, to preside at graduations, and to see what my one life could do to make a difference halfway around the world.

I have been profoundly blessed by these journeys. I have to admit that, though I can see the tangible results of the training we are providing, the experience transforms me. There is something about being with a church that has no institutional memory that refreshes my spirit. There is something about being in a situation where I have to fully rely on the leading and inspiration of the Holy Spirit for every moment of every day that breeds trust and grace, and deepens my faith and sense of calling.

While you are reading this, I will be preparing to visit places called Mbale, Kikyusa, Kalangaalo, and Kampala. I will be working with pastors and teachers and church leaders in these and other places. I covet your prayers and appreciate your support as I do God's work 1/3 of the way around the world (7 time zones)!

Uganda is in east Africa and is located just north of the equator. It is 85° to 90° most days, and October is the rainy season. I will be traveling Turkish Air with Rev. Linda Prell, associate pastor at Christ Community UMC in Syracuse; Rev. Clair Mosher, pastor of Onativia and Erieville UMCs; Ms. Barbara Walter, retired Syracuse city school teacher; and Ms. Kathy Walter of New York City (Barb and Kathy are mother/daughter.) I ask that you pray for us; we travel October 9 (after worship) and return late evening of October 27.

I will show pictures, tell stories, etc. at an event in November. Please hold me in your prayers.

Dr. BJ



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 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
Rachel Vaughan
Director of Music
Elizabeth Holt Curtis
Financial Secretary
Doris Schanzlin
Treasurer
Dennis Scaringi
Custodian
David Wolf



Don Critoph-Photo

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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