

## Christ United Methodist Church

*"Making connections and offering opportunities  
for faith, love, and service"*

**Worship Service-10 am**

**Education Hour-11 am**

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

*Pastor*

**Rev. Daven Oskvig**

*Minister for Christian Education & Community Life*  
**Sally J. Pollard**

*Office Manager/Ministry Assistant*  
**Janelle Martin**

*Minister of Music*  
**Paul Staley**

*Financial Secretary*  
**Doris Schanzlin**

*Custodian*  
**David Wolf**

350 Saratoga Road, Amherst, NY 14226

Phone: 839-2460 Fax: 839-2166

[www.christchurchamherst.org](http://www.christchurchamherst.org) E-mail: [Cumc350@gmail.com](mailto:Cumc350@gmail.com)

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9-5 Tuesday & Thursday 9-Noon**



**May Caller Deadline:**  
**Saturday, April 13**  
to  
[caller350@yahoo.com](mailto:caller350@yahoo.com) or  
[bbmitch@verizon.net](mailto:bbmitch@verizon.net)

Questions? Contact  
**Barb Mitchell 839-2435** or  
[bbmitch@verizon.net](mailto:bbmitch@verizon.net)



*Photo by Barb Carrier  
Easter 2018*



We will pass through this penitential season in the coming weeks, and eventually into Holy Week and the Great Three Days of worship on which our faith rests. This holy time is not only the climax of Lent, but of the whole Christian year. This single worship experience, spread over three days, goes by the churchy sounding word of *Triduum* (pronounced

TRID-oo-um) coming from a Latin term meaning three days. To truly understand and experience our faith is to participate in the reality of this unified observance beginning in the evening of Holy Thursday and concluding with sunset on Easter.

Through these days we journey in worship with Jesus from the upper room, to the cross, to the tomb, and finally to the garden. We begin on Thursday with the Maundy Thursday service, a name given to the day to recall the new commandment (*mandatum novum* in Latin) in John 13:34 and so appropriately named when foot-washing takes place in imitation of Jesus' actions and as a response to his new commandment to love one another. We will experience this, celebrate the new meal instituted by Christ to strengthen and sustain us, and through the stripping of the church, suffer the humiliation of Jesus. Then on Good Friday through the service of Tenebrae, meaning darkness, we walk through the final events of Jesus' life as the light is slowly extinguished candle by candle before us in our darkened worship space. Both of these days conclude in silence without benediction as a way to express that the worship continues. Then on Easter morning, the day of resurrection, that dramatic conclusion occurs in God's action of new life. As the service closes with the benediction, we are sent out to announce and to be the living examples of this Good News.

While many seek out the beauty and glory of Easter morning, few walk the entire journey. Let us put back together through our faith what we have separated by time, the one divine action of the passion, death, and resurrection of the Lord. Only then can Easter be a bursting forth of faith, opening to us the divine mystery through the One who has called us out of darkness into his own marvelous light!

*Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Daven*

## April Birthdays



Kathy Weaver.....	5	* Linda ReKate.....	15
Charles Gilbert.....	6	Judy Radel.....	17
Stephen Mugel.....	6	Joyce Delong.....	18
Tom Brunner.....	7	Charles Terranova.....	19
Larry Burdette.....	10	Drew Smith.....	21
Don Critoph.....	10	Chris Klenk.....	22
Mary Jayne Nehrboss.....	12	David Lawson.....	22
Al Tolsma.....	13	Pamela Gibson.....	23
Michelle Cordero.....	14	Doris Schanzlin.....	26
Daven Oskvig.....	15	Benjamin Weaver.....	30

## April Anniversaries



Brad & Mary Loliger .....	April 7, 2018
Andrew & Jamie Rapini.....	April 26, 2003
Bob & Anna Lovell .....	April 26, 2006
Richard & Marcia Miller.....	April 29, 1950



**TOUR OF GRAYCLIFF ESTATE**  
6472 Old Lake Shore Rd  
Derby, NY  
May 2 1:30pm  
\$25

Elizabeth Circle is planning a trip to Graycliff Estate for an extended tour (includes both floors of house and grounds) of the newly restored home designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. We will carpool from Church at 12:15pm or meet at Graycliff at 1pm.

**Pre-payment is required by April 13.** Contact Kay Barber (634-6987) to make a payment and for more information. **ALL ARE WELCOME**



## CIRCLE NEWS

**Elizabeth Circle** will meet Thursday, April 4 at 7pm at Barb Carrier's home at Asbury Pointe, Apt 328, 50 Stahl Rd (688-5274.) Hostess is Kay Barber (634-6987.) Our program is Helen Markham "Don't Let Old Age Get You Down, Because It's Too Hard to Get Up."

**Rachel Circle** will meet Thursday, April 23 at 12:15pm in the Wesley Room. We will have a video presentation, "Same Kind of Different."

**Circle of Joy** will meet at the church at 10am on Saturday, April 6 to go to Moore's Maple Shack in Freedom, NY.

## 2019 Easter Plant Order Form

Pink Tulips, Yellow Daffodils, and White Lilies

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate by circling one:

In Memory of

In Honor of

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person (s) being remembered/honored  
(Please PRINT)

### Flower Information

Cost of each pot of blooms is \$9.00 (several blooms in a 6" pot)

Please indicate how many pots.

\_\_\_\_ Pink Tulips    \_\_\_\_ White Lilies    \_\_\_\_ Yellow Daffodils

Total amount paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check or Cash

(Circle one)

Make checks payable to Christ United Methodist Church

### Distribution Instructions (Check one)

\_\_\_\_ Will pick up after service

\_\_\_\_ Please deliver to Beechwood or other shut ins

\_\_\_\_ Please decorate the Sanctuary

A Worship Team member will be collecting orders in the Family Room after services on March 31, April 7, and 14.



### *With Joy... From Sally*

Throughout the church's history Lent has been an observance of penitence, fasting, and atoning for sins. People who committed the "big sins" – murder, adultery, abandoning their beliefs - these sinners were set aside from the church community for fasting and atoning for their sins and then welcomed back after Easter.

Fast forward a few years and instead of isolating sinners, the entire community received a sprinkling of ashes on their heads and were reminded that they would all return to dust. It was meant to sound worrying. In those long ago times it was almost like pronouncing a curse or a punishment on people. As if being a mortal being was a Plan B. Death is not a punishment for sins or for making bad choices. Things that are born die. It's part of life. We are mortal beings that rightly return to the earth and this is Plan A. That smudge we receive on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday is like a brush with death... one that anchors us in life. Focusing on our mortality, our humanity, with all its vulnerabilities, is an invitation to turn, to wonder at the lives we choose to live. It's an opportunity to recalibrate or refocus on who we are and who we're meant to be. It's an opportunity to come alive and consider what survives from the ashes.

John's gospel tells us what Jesus offers with these words, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." Forgiveness is great, but Jesus says he came to give us *life!* Others recall Jesus also saying things like, "I am the bread of *life.*" and "Whoever believes in me... streams of *living* water will flow from within them." And, "Come to me and have *life.*" It seems to me that the life we humans live is of great importance to God, even providing us with a pattern for life in Jesus. Some people hear Jesus' offer of life and think "later" or "after" life. But eternal life means ongoing, unending, now and forever life... life that can't be taken away from us. Life that starts now. The offer is *life!* As we continue the Lenten journey and celebrate ongoing life on Easter, consider how God is inviting you to come alive and how your life may provide a pattern to share with others.

# FAITH X PRESS

Sunday mornings 11 am Lower Level

APRIL - LENT

## A Week That Changed The World

Experience the last days of Jesus' life. Join Jesus and his friends as they are welcomed to Jerusalem, share a meal, spend time talking to God in a special garden, and face deep sadness. What will happen next??

Community Youth Group at 5 Wits

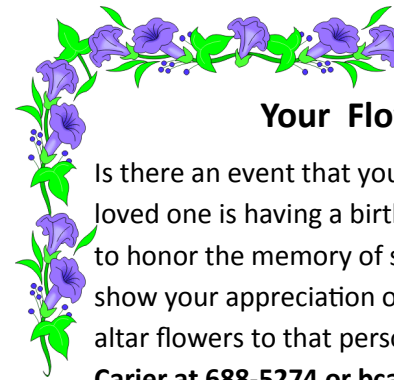


### Worship Leadership

Would you be interested in participating in worship through reading scripture, leading the Call to Worship & Prayer for Illumination? Pastor Daven is compiling a list and schedule of those who have already done so and looking for all who are interested. The commitment would be 2-3x/year. Let Pastor Daven know if you are interested.

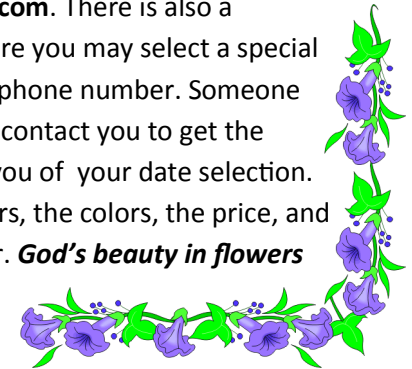
### Educational Opportunities

All-Church read for Lent:  
"The Anatomy of Peace: Resolving the Heart of Conflict"



### Your Flowers for the Altar

Is there an event that you wish to commemorate? Perhaps a loved one is having a birthday or anniversary? Would you like to honor the memory of someone who has passed? You can show your appreciation or your memories by dedicating our altar flowers to that person or event. Contact either **Barbara Carier** at 688-5274 or [bcarier3@gmail.com](mailto:bcarier3@gmail.com), or **Julie Wisley** at 839-3395 or [jkwris448@gmail.com](mailto:jkwris448@gmail.com). There is also a calendar in the Family Room where you may select a special date by providing your name and phone number. Someone from the Worship Committee will contact you to get the information and later, to remind you of your date selection. You may choose the kind of flowers, the colors, the price, and the size of the bouquet you prefer. *God's beauty in flowers complements our worship.*



### FINANCE TEAM—APRIL

Our 2nd Sunday offering for March was \$290 to help with Make a Difference Day expenses.

The final amount of the Blanket Sunday offering was \$327.

As of February 2019:

Total Income: \$50,585.50

Total Expenses: \$47,169.44

Again, we thank you for all your support to Christ Church.

-The CUMC Finance Team

# Congratulations!



John Jonathan Marie  
Miller Miller

**Jonathan Miller** was awarded the **Eagle Scout Court of Honor** on February 16, 2019. **John Miller**, Jonathan's father, was also honored for 15 years as a Scout Leader.



**Tom Nye** was presented the **UMM lifetime member pin and certificate** on Sunday, February 17, in recognition of his participation, support, and leadership in CUMC and the United Methodist Men's Group.

*Thank You!*

I am appreciative of all of the cards and well wishes that I have received and continue to receive during this time of my recovery.

**Joyce Moser**



Celebrating and thanking those who gave of their time, talents, and support renovating the Café and Kitchen.

-The Hospitality Team



## NIAGARA FRONTIER DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Communion Breakfast and Memorial Service

2019 Theme - "The Next 150 Years"

Saturday, April 13

Metropolitan UMC

657 Best St. Buffalo, NY 14211

Registration starts at 9 am, then Breakfast

Program: 10:30 am

Cost: \$5 per person

**Speaker: Dee Finch of Seneca Street Church**

**RSVP NO LATER THAN APRIL 1st to Peggy Bermudez (626-4897)**



*Brought to you by United Methodist Women*

*Genesee Valley District & Niagara Frontier District*

All women are welcome to indulge in a day of



**Health with a Twist**

*Caring for Our Bodies, Minds, and Spirits*

**Saturday, May 4, 2019**

**9:30 am – 3:00 pm**

**Batavia First UMC**

Mind Wellness \* Prayer Beads  
Chair Yoga \* Interpretive Dance

**\$20.00**

*includes 2 workshops, lunch, refreshments,  
food demonstrations, prayer beads,  
activities, and materials!*

**8221 Lewiston Rd, Batavia, NY 14020**

**Free Childcare!**

**Reservations are due by April 26.**

**Registration forms can be found on the UMW bulletin board in Crafts Hall or contact Peggy Bermudez at: (716) 626-4897 [bradbermudez@hotmail.com](mailto:bradbermudez@hotmail.com)**

## OUTREACH MISSIONS OF THE MONTH - APRIL

### **New Ministry Hearts for the Homeless**

Hearts for the Homeless of Western New York, Inc. is a mobile soup kitchen that feeds the poor and homeless on the street, characterized by a profound spiritual motivation. The program offers nourishing food, as well as winter clothing, pertinent information regarding area services, companionship, and hope for the future.

Have you wondered what that large Red Bin is doing in the church parking lot? It is for collecting new and gently used clothing, linens, and accessories to be used by Hearts for the Homeless. Please - no wet or soiled items.



### **Make A Difference Day Sunday, May 19**

**Worship: 10am**

**Service Projects: 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Lunch: 12:30 p.m.**

Sign-ups for this year's Make A Difference Day begin on April 14, Palm Sunday! Look for the bulletin board in the back of the worship space & check out the Sunday bulletin for complete project listings.

**Service Projects Include:** creating a community garden, neighborhood clean-up, cooking and crafting projects, sorting of donations, and a kid's lemonade stand for a cause.

**Items to Collect:** new & gently-used sporting equipment, children's books, clothing & linens, non-perishable food items

A Shredding Truck will be on-site for free document destruction, as well as a Bloodmobile from the American Red Cross.

There will also be a MADD on Saturday, September 28. That day will be more community based. Please invite your friends to enjoy the day with us and to help us make a difference on one or both days.



Circle of Joy on the tour of the City of Lights



### **Walking to and through the Labyrinth at Daemen College**

A labyrinth has a long history with Christian tradition. Different from a maze, a labyrinth has only one path and no dead ends. As far back as the 4th Century, they have been present on church walls and floors. Part of their usage relates to providing an alternative to pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The hope is that through the walk pilgrims would shed everything on their minds; all of their worries, fears, and concerns. Upon reaching the center, one is still and waits for illumination or healing or a sense of God's presence. Then, walking the winding way out, one feels at one with God, self, others, and nature.

The path winds throughout becoming a mirror for where we are in our lives, touching our sorrows and releasing our joys. One approaches with an open mind and an open heart. There are three stages in the walking - purgation (releasing); illumination (receiving); union (returning). First, purgation is the act of shedding thoughts and distractions enabling one to let go of the details of life. It is a time to open the heart and mind. Second, illumination at the center seeks guidance. Finally, union follows the same path out with strength and clarity to find and do the work to which God has called one.

On Good Friday at 12 pm (Friday, April 19) for those able, we will walk in silence from the church to the outdoor labyrinth in front of Curtis Hall on the campus of Daemen College (Main St. & Getzville.) After walking the labyrinth at whatever pace is comfortable, each is encouraged to return in silence. For those unable to walk from the church, please join us at Daemen College where classes are not in session so parking will be open and available in front of the Thomas Reynolds Center for Special Education, the Haberman Gacioch Center for Visual & Performing Arts, or on Main St.

### **Ecumenical Good Friday Service**

There will be an Ecumenical Good Friday Service held at Crossroads Lutheran Church (Main St. & Burroughs) at 2 pm on Friday, April 19.

### **Tenebrae Explained**

A service of Tenebrae, or Service of the Shadows /Darkness, is based on a 12th century late night/early morning service and is an extended meditation on the passion of Christ. Fourteen candles, along with a central Christ candle, are lit as the service begins; then one is extinguished at the conclusion of each section. The service ends in near darkness and silence until Easter.

**We will gather at Christ Church for a service of Tenebrae at 5:30 pm on Friday, April 19.**

## How To Organize Before It's Too Late

*Making Decisions and Celebrating Lives*

**Tuesday, April 9**

**1:30 pm or 7:00 pm**

Participants in this seminar will be equipped with documents and necessary steps for making decisions and plans for their future.

Seminar presenters include:

**Bradley (Brad) Loliger, JD, MSW**

Staff Attorney in the Guardianship Unit  
at the Center for Elder Law & Justice.

**Charles Durante, Licensed Funeral Director**

Roberts & Wedekindt Funeral Home

**Jeffrey Reed, President**

Mt. Calvary Cemetery Group

**Keith Schottman, Vice-President**

Allaire Financial Strategies

**Rev. Daven Oskvig, Pastor**

Christ Church Amherst

Seminar is free and open to the public.

Reserve your spot by calling **839-2460** or email [cumc350@gmail.com](mailto:cumc350@gmail.com)



### **Food & Supplies needed for Local Families**

Christ Church serves local families in need. The following items are needed: **cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper, personal Hygiene products, deodorant, and soap.**

### **The Tigers Den**

For April they are collecting:

**tuna fish, juice, and canned fruit** (*not fruit cocktail*)

Collecting bins are in the office hallway and are marked for Tiger's Den and for local families.






## Spiritual Formation Team and Stewardship Team

Our Stewardship theme for 2019 is, "What Weighs You Down?" An 11-week study will be offered in the Thirstaid Thursday time slot from March 7 – May 9. We'll look at how life experiences challenge us and how God powerfully uses the gifts of prayer, presence, and witness to move us and others through these times to thrive again. "Hope When Your Heart Breaks" by Michael W. Newman will connect with adults of all ages.

## Maundy Thursday Explained

This evening service commemorates the supper Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion, when Jesus washed the disciples' feet and instituted the Lord's Supper. Particular traditional actions are part of this night including confession and pardon, proclamation of the Word, foot-washing, the Lord's Supper, and the stripping of the church. Foot-washing is a powerful symbolic response to the Word, dramatizing the servanthood of Jesus, both on the night before his death and in his continuing presence in our midst. The title of this day, Maundy Thursday, recalls the new commandment (*mandatum novum* in Latin) in John 13:34. The service may be appropriately called Maundy Thursday when foot-washing occurs in imitation of Jesus' actions and as a response to his new commandment to love one another. The ancient practice of stripping the Lord's Table and Sanctuary following communion is a vivid and dramatic way of showing the desolation and abandonment of the long night in Gethsemane and what followed. The church remains bare until Easter.

We will gather at Christ Church for Maundy Thursday worship at 7pm on April 18.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Library Team 10:30a 	<b>2</b> Exploring Sunday Scriptures-Noon  Church Council 7p	<b>3</b>  Choir 7p	<b>4</b> Visitation Team 11:30a Thirstaid Thursday 1p  Elizabeth Circle 7p	<b>5</b> Books We Have Loved 11a  <b>Music and Meditation 5:30p</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <i>Worship 10a</i> <i>Education Hour 11a</i>	<b>8</b>  Christian Ed. Team 7p	<b>9</b> Exploring Sunday Scriptures-Noon <b>Workshops 1:30p &amp; 7p in Café</b>  Finance Team 7p	<b>10</b>  Choir 7p	<b>11</b>  Thirstaid Thursday 1p	<b>12</b>  <b>Music and Meditation 5:30p</b>	<b>13</b> Niagara Frontier District UMW—9a Communion Breakfast & Memorial Service Metropolitan UMC  <b>MAY CALLER DEADLINE</b>
<b>14</b> <i>Worship 10a</i> <i>Education Hour 11a</i>  	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Exploring Sunday Scriptures-Noon  Outreach Team 7p Trustees 7:30p	<b>17</b>  Choir 7p	<b>18</b> Thirstaid Thursday 1p  <b>Maundy Thursday Service 7p</b>	<b>19</b> Office Closed at noon <b>Service 5:30p</b> 	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <i>Worship 10a</i>  	<b>22</b> Office Closed	<b>23</b> Exploring Sunday Scriptures-Noon  Rachel Circle 12:15p	<b>24</b>  Choir 7p	<b>25</b> Thirstaid Thursdays 1p  Hospitality Team 7p	<b>26</b>   Game Night 7p	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <i>Worship 10a</i> <i>Education Hour 11a</i>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Exploring Sunday Scriptures-Noon	