

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Sunday Worship Schedule

Casual Praise Celebration 9 am

Traditional Style Celebration 11 am

TOTAL STEWARDSHIP: PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, AND SERVICE

Pastor

Rev. Daven Oskvig

Minister for Education & Community Enrichment

Sally J. Pollard

Office Manager/Ministry Assistant

Janelle Martin

Minister of Music

Paul Staley

Financial Secretary

Doris Schanzlin

Custodian

David Wolf



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Fax: 839-2166

www.christchurchamherst.org E-mail: Cumc350@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS UNTIL JUNE 22ND

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9-5 Tuesday & Thursday 9-noon

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS STARTING JUNE 25TH

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9-3 Tuesday & Thursday 9-noon



July/August Caller Deadline

Wednesday, June 13

to caller 350@yahoo.com or

bbmitch@verizon.net

Questions: Contact Barb Mitchell 839-2435

or bbmitch@verizon.net



The Caller

Make a Difference Day

May 20, 2018

Photo by Janelle Martin

June 2018



As our weather has warmed and our attention turned toward the maintenance and upkeep of our lawns and flowerbeds, so has the dreaded onslaught of those bright yellow weeds—dandelions! You can spray them, pray for their demise, and mow them over, but only by pulling them by the root one at a time does the tide begin to turn. I have been determined to eradicate these yellow blights from my yard year by year, tirelessly making advances against their numbers. Yet it seems that no matter how many I pull and how clean the yard appears on one day, the very next day there is more to do!

This same reality pervades other aspects of our lives as well. Hard as we try to root out those behaviors, patterns, areas, relationships, and things from our lives that do not allow us to grow to reflect the image of God, they seem to constantly reappear in new places and new ways. In the church we call these weeds sin, and there is no simple and clean solution to deal with them, no miracle easy cure. Rather, we must face them directly, get down on our hands and knees and confront them one by one. We strive toward perfection using the tool of our faith in this slow process of weeding out sin. Through our steadfast resolve and reliance upon God’s grace as the one tool that can lift these weeds by the roots, slowly our lives are cleared out so that they begin to reflect God’s perfection. It is hard work; it is dirty work; it is work that seems never to have an end.

But together we can begin to make a difference, giving a glimpse of the perfection that living in God’s love can provide. It may be just one little gesture and effort at a time, one little weed pulled up, but little by little comes a vision of what is possible. So as we grumble over the state of our lawns and gardens and battle against the dandelions, may we likewise work on ourselves, our relationships and our community that we may ever more reflect and faithfully be ‘A Loving Church Serving A LOVING GOD!’

*God’s peace to you all,
Pastor Daven*



Bethel Concert Choir—May 7

- Paul Staley playing the organ for the choir members
- Lined up for dinner prior to concert
- Hands joined in prayer before the concert
- Performance

Wonderful voices filled the air with their inspirational music.

Thank you to all who provided housing and breakfast for the choir members and to those who provided food for the dinner prior to the concert.



Keith O’Neil and Sally Pollard (wearing his super bowl ring!)

(Photos by Ian Webber)



Keith O’Neil , Mental Health Advocate and former NFL Player, spoke on May 9th about his struggle with bipolar disorder.

We extend our sympathies and prayers to the families of Ed Fisher, Peter Shanley, Bob Snyder and Fred Painton upon their recent deaths.

A Memorial Service for Ed, who passed on April 23, 2018, was held in his honor on May 4 .

A Memorial Service for Bob, who passed on May 4, was held in his honor on May 11.

A Memorial Service for Peter, who passed on April 29, was held in his honor on May 21.

A Memorial Service for Fred, who passed on May 18, was held in his honor on May 26.

Thank You

Thank you all for your many expressions of concern during Ed's illness. We are most grateful for your gifts of food, cards, visits, and most of all, your prayers. Ed and I joined CUMC in February 1963 and with everyone living out of town, you are our extended family and have always been there for us.

Blessings,
Cindy Fisher



Altar Flowers

Is there an event this summer that you wish to commemorate? Perhaps a loved one is having a birthday or anniversary? You can show your appreciation or your memories by dedicating the altar flowers to that person or event. Contact Barbara Carier at 688-5274 or Julie Wrisley at 839-3395. You may choose the kind of flowers, the colors, and the size of the bouquet. God's beauty in flowers complements our worship.



With Joy... From Sally

It seems that every day we pick up the newspaper or listen to the news we learn of yet another person who has been a leader, an inspiration, a trailblazer, an upholder of justice—people we admired, who helped shape our own living, have now been exposed for behaviors unlike anything we would have imagined. And we're reminded that we are all humanly limited, ordinary human beings.

There were eleven of them. One of them, who was a leader among them, had denied Jesus when he needed him most. The others had all abandoned Jesus at his arrest. Sometimes, they didn't have a clue. Early Christians were sure of many aspects of their life together. They were on a learning journey. They were to be the ones who would carry the message and the life of the kingdom community to the world. They were... humanly limited, very ordinary human beings, but they were the "kingdom of God" for that place and time. And now...that's who we are.

Like the ones before us, we face challenges for which we have no answers. Even the rules of hospitality aren't clear to us. How will decisions be made and who will lead? These are all things that must be learned. Slowly, we learn to do new things well. We learn to defer our own opinion for the benefit of others and how to explore challenging aspects of our faith. Life is for learning, but learning doesn't just happen. There are disappointments along the way, ups and downs, discoveries and failures. We are still learning. We need one another and structure and resources to sustain our learning. The church community supports our journey with the potential of love, connection with others, forgiveness, service, and more. For all our human limitations, the church community provides a means for human flourishing that can't be sustained on our own.

The book of Acts shows us the challenges and explorations of the early church, and Epistle letters describe discoveries and projects undertaken. They are evidence of learning journeys. We need look no further than the Sunday bulletin and this newsletter to see some of our learnings. "Bridges of Hope" is helping us take a fresh look at mental health challenges and the ways we can support individuals and families as they navigate on that path. Community connections enable us to provide important information that will improve our financial decisions, provide a connecting place for middle and high school youth, and shelter

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Join us at
Vacation Bible School
July 9 - 13 9 am - 12 noon
Rolling River Rampage

Experience the ride of a lifetime with God!

Sign up on our website www.christchurchamherst.org
 or call the church at 839-2460.

All Church Meeting - Strategy Update

On June 15, 2017, Christ Church adopted key strategies relative to living into its purpose of **'Making Connections and Offering Opportunities in Faith, Love, and Service.'** These foci are only as good as our review and work toward their achievement. We will be holding a church-wide meeting at **10 am** on Sunday, **June 10, 2018**, to review the 7 strategy work areas (website, child-friendly areas, outreach (hub for community service,) hospitality, engaging our neighbors, spiritual formation, and outreach (how we differentiate ourselves) including completed work, current work, and work still not begun.

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community groups that enrich the lives of young people through music, song, and service to others. Dances offer people social engagement, fun and respite from the challenges of dementia. Opportunities to make a difference and make us more aware are abundant! New learning is taking place as strategy teams focus our energy and move us beyond disappointment to discover something new about ourselves and the faith community of which we are a part. We'll have opportunities to feel closer to God and to others with whom we are learning. God's purpose is our purpose. God uses us just as we are. Life is for learning.

Sally



CIRCLE NEWS

Elizabeth Circle will meet Thursday, June 7 at 1pm for lunch at The Gate House Grill, 8220 Main St., Clarence Center, NY. Contact Mary Ball (741-3301) if you plan to attend.

Rachel Circle will meet Tuesday, June 26 at 12 Noon for a picnic at Asbury Pointe.

Circle of Joy will visit the Buffalo Zoo on Sunday June 10. Time TBD

Niagara Frontier District News

Rev. Wayne Butler Retiring in June

Our District Superintendent, Rev. Wayne Butler, is retiring on June 30. All are welcome to attend a celebration of worship and fellowship on **FRIDAY, JUNE 8 AT 7:00 pm** at **Harris Hill UMC (8495 Main St, Williamsville, NY 14221)** to thank Wayne and wish him well in his retirement!

A monetary gift will be presented to Rev. Butler and Molly to use toward setting up their very first home! If you would like to contribute to that gift, please send a check payable to PCUMC to Pendleton Center UMC, 6864 Campbell Boulevard, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 and mark WAYNE in the note portion of your check. Any questions or concerns may be addressed to debbieparise@pendletonchurch.org or (716) 344-8165.

OUTREACH MISSIONS OF THE MONTH-JUNE 2018

Central City Café Share a Meal

Thank you everyone who made a casserole for Central City Café recently. Together we provided over 200 meals for hungry people and for people who are trying to make ends meet. With your continued assistance we are able to carry out this important ministry several times per year.

Tiger's Den Food Pantry

The Pantry is located in St. Paul's Lutheran Church and is open to anyone in the 14226 zip code or by referral. They are accepting: *Cereal & Oatmeal, Healthy Snacks (cereal bars, granola bars, crackers), Canned Fruit (particularly mandarin oranges, pineapple, and pears), Canned or Dried Beans (cannellini beans, garbanzo beans), Cooking Oil, Spaghetti Sauce, Juice/Juice Boxes, Shampoo, Toilet Paper & Paper Towels, Salad Dressing and ANY non-perishable food items, toiletries/hygiene items, paper products.* Please place your donations in the shopping cart labeled Tigers Den. For more information, please see Michele Sciolino.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Fiesta Fashions Thank You from UMW

United Methodist Women would like to express their thanks to all who made the Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Fashion Show and Luncheon a success – all who planned, shopped, baked, made favors, decorated, cooked, greeted, served, modeled, and helped with clean-up. It was truly a fun and festive day. \$1,185 was raised for missions that serve women, children, and youth! THANK YOU!



Photos by Alicia Bermudez

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



Richard Ball.....4	Samuel Suggs 13
Diane Poe Schroeder5	Laura Smith..... 17
Carol Gundlach6	Vincent Malpica 18
Forrest (Woody) Rhinehart6	Andrew Rapini 18
Karen Hoffmann7	Taylor Ramsey..... 19
Ross Markello7	Donna Hammond 22
John Lopez8	Laura Nye Hagley 22
Nicole Takac.....8	Emily Nye Heimer 22
Charlotte Davis9	Sean Brown..... 23
Samantha Willhauck.....10	Julie Sciolino 25
Patricia Zaleski.....12	Ruth Munson 27
	Barbara Mitchell 28

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES



Dave & Patti Bechtel.....	June 05, 1971
Kent & Michelle Panasiewicz.....	June 07, 2008
Woody and Jan Rhinehart.....	June 09, 1956
Steven and Kathleen Morris Mong.....	June 15, 2013
Scott and Viki Smith.....	June 15, 1985
Greg and Donna Yungbluth.....	June 20, 1981
Charles and Joanne Gilbert.....	June 22, 1968
Bill and Marg Bauza.....	June 29, 1968

FINANCE - JUNE

There are two up-dates to report: the total amount collected for the Nabukondo School in Uganda is now \$778 and the Make A Difference Day Offerings total \$342.

The Native American Awareness offering totaled \$67.

We are receiving Memorial Gifts for Ed Fisher, Bob Snyder, Peter Shanley and Fred Painton. A portion of Ed's Memorial Gifts will be sent to Cohocton UM Church.

The 2nd Sunday, 2nd Helping, 2nd Chance offering raised \$288 to help paint and redecorate the youth room downstairs for our Community Youth Group.

Please remember Christ Church during the summer months by keeping up with your offerings, as our financial commitments continue, no matter what the season!

Thank you for all your support of CUMC.

The Finance Team

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Books We Have Loved 11a Annual Conference Syracuse	2 Annual Conference Syracuse
3 Casual Praise 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Worship 11a GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY	4 Library Team 10a Praise Team 5p	5 Exploring Sunday Scriptures - Noon Church Council 7p	6 Morning Prayer 10a Choir 7p	7 Visitation Team 10a Elizabeth Circle Luncheon 1 pm Nomination Team 7p	8 Farewell Gathering for D. S. Wayne Butler 7p	9
10 Casual Praise 9a Congregational Meeting 10a Traditional Worship 11a Circle of Joy at Zoo	11 Mental Health Team 10a Praise Team 5p	12 Exploring Sunday Scriptures - Noon Finance Team 7p	13 Morning Prayer 10a JULY-AUGUST CALLER DEADLINE	14 Stewardship Team 10:30a Hospitality Team 7p	15	16
17 Casual Praise 9a Education Hour 10a Traditional Worship 11a 	18 Praise Team 5p	19 Exploring Sunday Scriptures - Noon Trustees 7:30p	20 Morning Prayer 10a	21 SPR Team 7p	22	23
24 Casual Praise 9a Traditional Worship 11a	25 SUMMER OFFICE HOURS BEGIN Praise Team 5p	26 Exploring Sunday Scriptures Noon Rachel Circle - Noon	27 Morning Prayer 10a	28	29 Game Night 7p	30