

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Sunday Worship Schedule

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, Snyder, NY 14226

Phone: 839-2460 Fax: 839-2166

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

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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



**December '18 /January '19 Caller
Deadline**

**Tuesday, November 13
to caller350@yahoo.com or
bbmitch@verizon.net**

**Questions: Contact Barb Mitchell 839-2435 or
bbmitch@verizon.net**

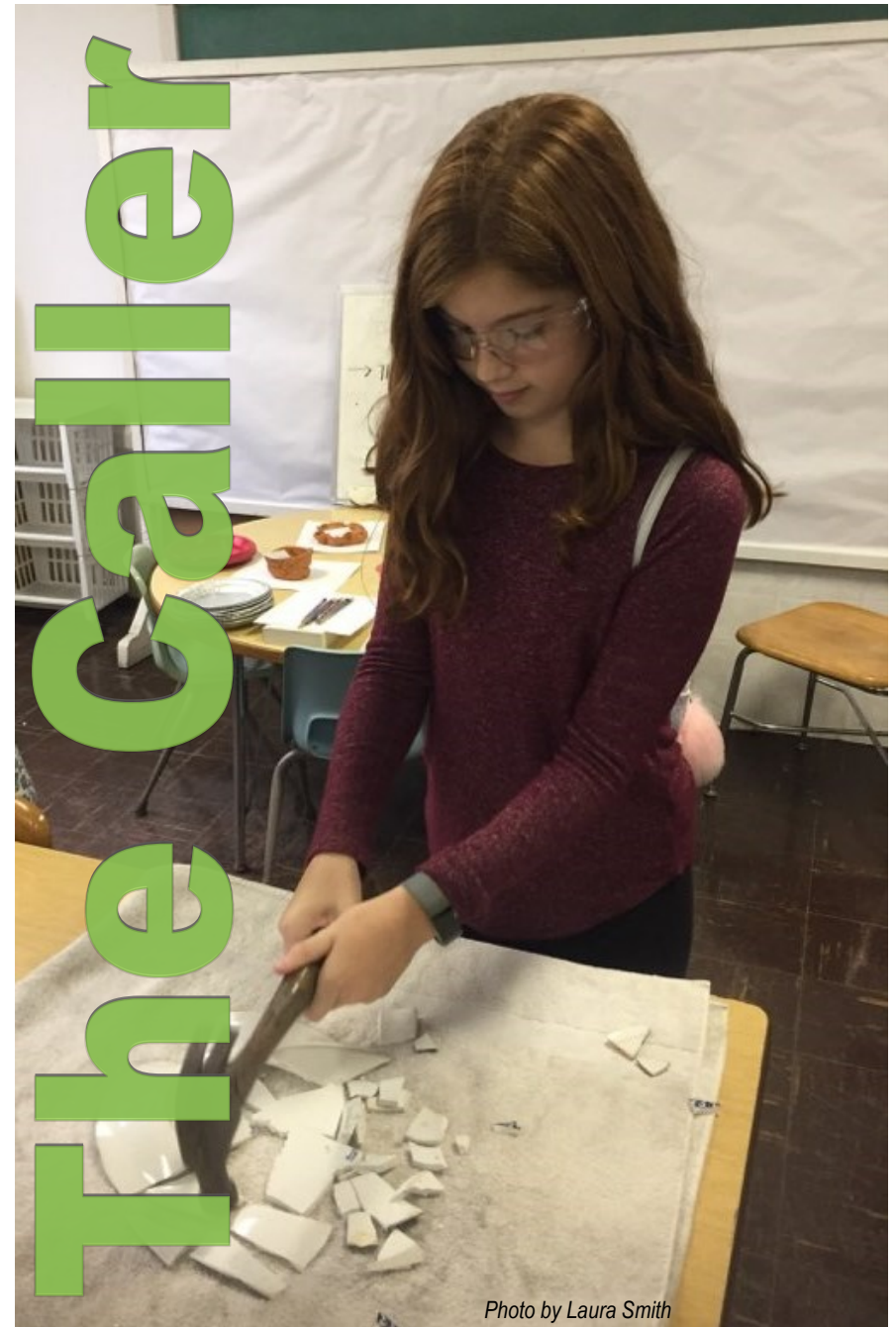


Photo by Laura Smith

November 2018



A family are those whom we lean upon in times of need and celebrate with in times of joy. They are those who hold us accountable to our word and those who help us to flourish and become the people we can be. Often, in frustration, it is our families that receive the brunt of our stress and anxiety...because they will ultimately forgive us of our shortcomings. The deeper the root of love within a family, the stronger that tree is against all the storms of life.

Church is often referred to in the language of family. Biblically called brothers and sisters with God as parent, we easily transfer this imagery to our spiritual life and connection to those with whom we share this place. Some churches even go so far within their walls to refer to one another as 'Brother this' and 'Sister that.' Like a biological family, this spiritual family goes through its own share of challenges and joys. And similarly, the deeper the root, the stronger the tree.

Of course, the deepest part of that root is a belief in God, in Jesus Christ as our Lord, and the persistent presence of the Holy Spirit. But upon that is built a connection and commitment to one another. To use biblical language, it is a covenant. This covenant began with Abraham and continues in its own way today by way of our vow to the family to faithfully participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

The challenge to us as a family is to abide by our word and call each other to accountability. Then our roots become deeper and our family stronger as we apply ourselves to activities of spiritual education & development, outreach, and commitments/pledges of support. This is the challenge we lay before the family this year: will we have deep roots making, in turn, a strong family through our covenant to one another, in a pledge to the ministries this upcoming year? It's our roots which ground, nourish, and fortify, and keep & sustain us, giving us strength to persevere through the long cold and often dark times of winter, both literal and figurative. Now is the time for all of us to strengthen those roots. Because whether it is us or others who may find themselves with little in the depths of cold and dark times, if our roots are strong, we can make it through.

As we celebrate and give thanks for earth's bounty, as we gather with family and friend at the table, let us make sure that we are rooted, that we have given the strength to get us through together as we strive to *Make Connections and Offer Opportunities for Faith, Love, and Service.*

Yours in Christ, Pastor Daven

November Birthdays



| | | | |
|----------------------|----|-----------------------|----|
| Joyce Moser | 8 | Jim Beller | 20 |
| Tammy Mugel | 8 | Anne Reed | 27 |
| Ian Johnson | 10 | Mary Jo Evans | 28 |
| David Mitchell | 10 | Barbara Weaver | 28 |
| Grace Markello..... | 12 | Alicia Bermudez | 29 |
| Carol Corsaro | 13 | Sean Johnson | 29 |
| Ian Webber | 13 | Amelia Oskvig | 29 |
| Chris Sciolino | 15 | Sue Estee | 30 |
| Lynn Ramsey | 16 | | |

November Anniversaries



| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Mitch & Sissie Mooney | November 14, 1984 |
| Ian & Nichole Johnson | November 14, 2015 |
| Geoff & Janet Hill | November 21, 1970 |
| Jim & Laurie Hannon..... | November 22, 1980 |
| Guy & Sharon Ferrelli..... | November 24, 1974 |
| Al & Julie Wrisley | November 24, 1962 |
| Jim & Sally Pollard..... | November 28, 1981 |



**We extend our prayers and sympathies
to the family and friends of**

**Gloria Varian, mother of Bob Varian, who died on
September 24, 2018,
Diane Lovejoy, who died September 27, 2018,
Kay Campagna, sister of Doris Schanzlin, who died
October 6, 2018.**



Food & Supplies Needed for Local Families

In addition to the food that goes to local food pantries, 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

They are collecting canned vegetables during November:

peas, corn, yams and beets

Collecting carts are in the office hall and are marked for Tiger's Den Food Pantry and for local families.

Share A Meal

Please pick up an empty aluminum pan and recipe on November 4th

and return the prepared frozen casserole to the freezer at church by November 11th.

BLOOD MOBILE

The Health and Wellness Team is sponsoring a blood drive on **Black Friday Nov. 23rd** from **noon to 4:00PM** in Craft's Hall. There will be pie for all donors as well as entry in a daily drawing for a \$30 Visa card. For appointments or if you have questions call Geoff Hill 316-1522.



With Christmas just around the corner, remember to save your cancelled postage stamps and put them in the labeled box on top of the microwave in the kitchen. Charlotte Davis collects them to give to a Lutheran Church who in turn uses them to provide Bibles for people in need.

We also collect Campbell's Label for Education and General Mills Box Tops for Education for Gateway and Dash's tapes that go to Meals on Wheels. The labeled collection boxes are on top of the microwave as



With Joy... From Sally

A question asked recently regarding the decision making structure of the church has led me to write about such things as others might also be wondering.

The people called United Methodist are covenant communities. We are bound together by the promises we make of our own free will to "do all in our power to strengthen its ministries...to faithfully support and uphold the UM Community with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness." Our covenant community is undergirded by two things: With God's help we live the great commandments to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We also center our life on the "General Rules" devised in 1738 by John Wesley for the early societies as he called them: "Do no harm, Do Good, Stay in love with God." These, along with our Book of Discipline, shape our life and practice.

The United Methodist Church has as its purpose statement "To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Local church communities provide a significant environment through which disciples are taught and nurtured. We seek, invite, welcome, and gather people into the living body of Christ. As people discover and experience a connection with God, they commit their lives to God through baptism and profession of faith. They continue to be nurtured in Christian living through worship, sacraments, spiritual disciplines, and through Christian conferencing together. In this way we are sent out to live lovingly, compassionately, and justly, serving as Christ-alive in the world.

In United Methodist organizational structure, a local church is called a **Charge Conference**, words that refer to the essence and spirit of United Methodism— people who covenant and conference together. There are several layers of conferencing together that guide the church and specifically Christ Church. Coming together based on the scriptural covenants and General Rules I've mentioned above, this community has conferenced together creating our purpose statement — *Making connections and offering opportunities for faith, love, and service.* This purpose is the test and guide for our decision making and all that we do. The **Church Council** is made up of **lay leaders from all of**

(continued on page 5 See Sally)

Faith ~~X~~press Children and Youth

Sundays 11 am

Time to begin preparing for our Christmas Pageant –

Greetings From The Heart

Our Sunday morning rehearsals will include photo shoots! There are parts for people of all ages with little memorization. Come and join us on Sunday mornings as we get ready to tell this important story about Jesus coming into the world and what that means for each of us.

Community Youth Group



Sunday, November 18 11 am

Greeting Card Making

We'll be creating greeting cards that will be taken to people in local hospitals and homes, and sent to others near and far where people are living with dementia and other mind/body challenges and who are sometimes forgotten.

Educational Opportunities

A.O.L. @ CUMC - Sundays at 11 am

The Wesley Challenge

Nov 11— Relationship with God: an Upward Focus

Nov 18— Relationship with Self: an Inward Focus

Nov 25— Relationship with Others: an Outward Focus

YOGA

Like relaxation, deep breathing, body postures and stretchy clothes??

Mind/Body Connection Yoga – Fridays, 7-8 pm in the Family Room

Join Ryan Meegan, certified Bikram Yoga instructor, practicing conscious breathing and body postures (including chair yoga) that bridge the mind/body connection, draw you closer to God and help you enjoy life more. Suitable for all abilities. Sign up/questions -- use the yellow Connection Card.

SING FOR YOUR HEALTH

An article discovered by Cindy Fisher follows:

A U.S. study of 166 older adults revealed that those who joined a choir were in better health, used less medication, were less lonely, and had fewer falls after a year than a similar group of non-singers. This could be due to the effect that singing has on breathing as well as the emotional benefits of creating harmony with a group. Another small study out of Sweden found that when choir members sang in unison, their heart rates slowed down and eventually synchronized, which may have long-term benefits for both cardiovascular and mental health.

**Join the choir for your physical and mental well-being
(and to have fun, too!)**

Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7 pm in the Sanctuary.

Come join us!

FINANCE - NOVEMBER

We have received a check from the Endowment for this year and it was used to open a new account paying better interest.

The offerings for World Communion Sunday were \$148 and we also received a donation of \$100 for Hurricane aid thru UMCOR. If any of you wish to contribute to UMCOR thru the church, just put your contribution in an envelope and mark it for UMCOR, making your check payable to Christ Church.

2nd Sunday , 2nd Helping offering of \$477 will be sent to the City Mission in Buffalo to support their Thanksgiving Dinner.

Again, thank you all so much for your support!

The Finance Team

What's Happening at Christ Church?



Faith ~~X~~ Press : Story of Jeremiah—making mosaics from broken pottery (See front cover)
Photos by Laura Smith



Photos by Laura Smith



UMW Weekend at Chautauqua
Photo by Peg Bermudez



BEFORE

Bob Lovell updating the new community room
Photo by Janelle Martin



HALFWAY

Newly painted and ready for carpet, curtains etc.
Photo by Barb Mitchell

(Sally-continued from page 3)

the administrative teams (finance, trustees, treasurer, SPR) and **ministry teams** (Christian Education, Spiritual Formation, Outreach, Stewardship, etc.) of the church. Conferencing together they envision, plan, implement, and evaluate the purpose and ministry of the church. The Church Council shifts the primary energy of laity and clergy leaders toward becoming spiritual leaders rather than being board members with routine administrative concerns. **Ministry Teams** and other groups are empowered with the work of planning and implementing these ongoing ministries, conferencing together, and seeking consensus based on the purpose and strategies determined through the work of the Council. Decision making is through the decision of the whole group either through consensus or majority decisions and everyone in the covenant community abides by the decision.

When the charter members of Christ Church met in the parsonage basement, they determined that “in this church we should all feel part of one family.” Being represented in all areas of decision making supports this goal, keeping us connected to the loving source of this community and to the good of all. This is God’s purpose, the purpose of the United Methodist Church and the heart and soul of Christ Church.

From your Stewardship Team

On Sunday, November 4th, we will celebrate All Saints Sunday and the impact our saints have made on our faith community. As we remember and honor their lives, each of us will have the opportunity to prayerfully consider our promises and pledges to Christ Church for 2019.

Spiritual Growth and Practices Team

Thirstaid Thursdays
1 – 2:30 pm in the Wesley Room
The Twelve Voices of Christmas
November 8 – December 20

Facilitator: Paula Kreib

OUTREACH MISSIONS OF THE MONTH - NOVEMBER



Veterans Day is just around the corner on November 11th. Let us remember those who served this country. The Veterans Hospital is in need of the following items:

Socks, underwear, t-shirts (white), towels, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs, shaving cream, Chapstick, nail clippers, gift cards to Burger King, McDonalds, Wendy's, etc. or lap blankets.

If you wish to honor those that served this country and are in need, please bring your donations in by Sunday, November 11th and place them in the container designated for **Veterans**. If you have any questions, contact Diane Klenk. Please give gift cards to Diane Klenk or the Church Office. **Thank you for the support! The veterans appreciate it! Thank you to the veterans of CUMC who have served this country! Happy Veterans Day in advance!**

The Giving Tree will be in the Family Room (Parlor) starting November 25th. If you wish to participate, please take a tag and return your gift unwrapped by December 9th. (Primera UMC gifts can be brought in as late as December 16th.) **Please attach the tag to your gift.**



This year's charities are **Gateway Longview, Haven House, Primera UMC, SPCA, and the Family Justice Center.**

If you have any questions, please contact Diane Klenk at 651-0236. Let us remember those who are less fortunate at this time of the year, and make their lives more joyful!

We are so blessed; let's pass the blessings on to others! Thank you for your help!



We are still gathering ingredients for the Thanksgiving baskets for the less fortunate. **Stuffing mix, canned vegetables, canned fruit, brownie mix, instant mashed potatoes, and cranberry sauce** are included in each basket. **Frozen turkeys and gift cards** are also greatly appreciated. The supplies will be assembled to be delivered the week of November 12th.



**Astronomy of Christmas
Breakfast Gathering
Saturday, December 1 10am
UMW Executive Board will host
Cost \$5**



Guest Speaker Pastor Michael Kistner of Starfish Ministry WNY
We will explore questions about faith and science such as What was the Star of Bethlehem? What made the Magi travel? Are science and the Bible mutually exclusive?
Contact Peggy Bermudez at 626-4897 or bradbermudez@hotmail.com for reservations.



The CUMC Men's group invites all to attend **Riviera Theater's** production of Dickens' **"A Christmas Carol"** on **December 18th at 7 pm**. We have reserved a block of tickets center stage to sit together. Attendance is

to be confirmed by November 18th to guarantee seating and the discounted group ticket price. This classic fills the stage with first class professional actors, lush costumes, stunning sets, and puppetry, song and dance, a heavy dose of humor, and a timeless message with the music of 26 beloved traditional carols of the season woven throughout this classic tale. **Tickets are \$21 for adults and \$12 for children.** We will plan on a dinner prior to the performance at a local restaurant. **Please inform Tom Nye (213-3642) before November 18th to guarantee your seat.**



**Mark Your Calendars Candy/Baked Goods Sale
Sunday, Dec 9**



Outreach will be having its Candy and Baked Goods fundraiser on December 9th. Donations of baked goods and candy will be much appreciated. More information will follow in the Dec/Jan Caller.



TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ON NOVEMBER 3RD BEFORE YOU RETIRE FOR THE NIGHT !!



As part of CUMC ministries, we would like to make sure lots of people hear the BLESSED WISHES that GOD brings to us at CHRISTMAS.

Join us on
 Sunday, November 18, 2018
 At 12 pm
 We will be making cards to spread
 Good Tidings of Great Joy!
 The cards will be shared with friends in need of support.

A light lunch will be shared.
 Supplies will be provided.
 You are welcome to bring stickers and Christmas decorations to share.

Just bring your creative holiday ideas!

ALL AGES WELCOME!



CIRCLE NEWS

Elizabeth Circle will meet Thursday, November 1 at 7pm at church. Contact our Hostess, Donna Hammond (844-8091), if you plan to attend. Our program is our service project.

Rachel Circle will meet Tuesday, November 27 at 12:15pm when Kathy Weaver will provide an update on progress in Uganda.

Circle of Joy will meet Thursday, November 1 from 6:30-8:30pm at Erika's Bead Creative, 6810 Main St. #101, Williamsville.



**UMW Keeping in Touch
 Breakfast Gathering
 Saturday, November 10
 10-11:30 am**



Circle of Joy will host. Cost \$5

Sign up to visit members of our church family who are unable to attend worship. Gift bags to take on your visits will be provided. Share the story of your visit at the Breakfast Gathering. Least Coin, World Thank Offering, and Pledges for 2019 will also be received at this gathering.

For reservations, please contact Peggy Bermudez at 626-4897 or bradbermudez@hotmail.com

All are welcome!






**NETWORK OF LEADERS
 Saturday, November 3, 2018
 9:30 – Noon**



**Trinity United Methodist Church
 711 Niagara Falls Boulevard
 Amherst, NY 14226**

In 2019, United Methodist Women will celebrate their 150th year! As we prepare to celebrate our legacy and live into our future, this morning is an opportunity for all current and new officers to sharpen their skills and for all who are interested to share ideas as we carry on the legacy of our founders and live into our mission of caring for women, children, and youth. Please RSVP to Peggy Bermudez at 626-4897 or bradbermudez@hotmail.com.

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|
|  | | |  | 1 Thirstaid Thursdays 1p <i>Immersed in Worship</i> Circle of Joy 6:30p Elizabeth Circle 7p | 2 Books We Have Loved 11a | 3 |
| 4 <i>Worship 10a</i> Education Hour 11a <i>All Saints Day</i>  | 5 Library Team 10:30a | 6 Exploring Sunday Scriptures - Noon Church Council 7p | 7 Choir 7p | 8 Thirstaid Thursdays 1p <i>The Twelve Voices of Christmas</i> Worship Team 7p | 9 | 10 UMW General Meeting 10a—11:30a "Keeping in Touch" |
| 11 <i>Worship 10a</i> <i>The Wesley Challenge</i> <i>"Upward Focus"</i> Education Hour 11a | 12  Office Closed | 13 Exploring Sunday Scriptures - Noon DEC/JAN CALLER DEADLINE Finance Team 7p | 14 Choir 7p | 15 Visitation Team 11:30a Thirstaid Thursdays 1p <i>The Twelve Voices of Christmas</i> SPR Team 7p | 16 | 17 Crafting for a Cause 10a |
| 18 <i>Worship 10a</i> <i>The Wesley Challenge</i> <i>"Inward Focus"</i> Education Hour 11a Christmas Card Making Noon | 19 | 20 Exploring Sunday Scriptures - Noon Outreach Team 7p Trustees 7:30p | 21 Choir 7p | 22  Office Closed | 23  Blood Mobile Noon-4p Office Closed | 24 |
| 25 <i>Worship 10a</i> <i>The Wesley Challenge</i> <i>"Outward Focus"</i> Education Hour 11a | 26 | 27 Exploring Sunday Scriptures - Noon Rachel Circle 12:15p Hospitality Team 7p | 28 Choir 7p | 29 Thirstaid Thursdays 1p <i>The 12 Voices of Christmas</i> | 30 Music & Meditation 5:30p  Game Night 7p |  |