

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Worship 10 am

Education Hour 11 am

TOTAL STEWARDSHIP: PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, AND SERVICE

Pastor

Rev. Daven Oskvig

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 E-mail: Cumc350@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9am -5pm

Thursday: 9am -Noon

November Caller Deadline:

Sunday, October 13

to

caller350@yahoo.com or

bbmitch@verizon.net

Questions? Contact Barb Mitchell
at 839-2435 or bbmitch@verizon.net

Welcome Center



THE CALLER

OCTOBER 2019



As we watch another dazzling display of autumn's wonder, we are reminded of the natural rhythms and cycles to all things. Green fades to brown before falling to the ground to become part of the rich fertilizer of next year's rebirth and growth. It has been a challenge to feel this phenomenon over-

flowing into our own lives with the news reports of devastation and violence alongside tides of political polarization and skepticism. The color seems drained from our world with little hope of the brilliance of the past or even the faded glory of yesterday.

To be part of a church community is to stand apart from this despair and proclaim a different reality possible. Death and decay are not the last words of life; darkness will not extinguish light; despair will not overwhelm hope; hate will not overcome love. So we gather to worship and proclaim this together; we work to live it and show it; we direct our lives to be examples of it. We become through our faith a steward, which means "one who actively directs affairs." As the definition implies, stewardship is more than money; it's an opportunity to rethink our way of life and re-evaluate our priorities. So we don't look back at what we should have done or point fingers and attach blame, but look ahead to the kind of world we would like to see and commit to make this vision a reality. Through this work, we rediscover what it means to be God's people. We re-claim our souls.

As we plan for our future, let us look ahead toward the color that can come to be seen as we actively direct the affairs of our lives and reclaim our souls: living soulfully and giving "soul-fully." May our active stewardship be part of the story we write showing how we connect with each other, share our gifts, raise our children to trust in their Christian values, and believe that tomorrow has brightness and color to it. Let us be the brilliant colors of tomorrow's possibilities.

God's peace to you all,
Pastor Daven

Missions of the Month - October

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

Family Justice Center

October is domestic violence awareness month.

The Family Justice Center provides services for domestic violence victims and their children through extensive collaboration with several partner agencies, all located at one secure location. CUMC remains a partner in a collection of faith communities who support the FJC at their Northtown location. There are several volunteer opportunities available. For more information please go to: <https://www.fjcsafe.org/about/volunteer/>. They are also currently accepting donations of Make-up/cosmetics (foundation and concealer,) Supermarket gift cards, Value of \$10-\$50; Paper products: 10-16 oz. paper cups for hot beverages, tissues, napkins, and paper towels; Individually wrapped, single portion size snacks (nothing with peanuts please,) juice boxes, and "kid-friendly" short-cut meals (ex: Spaghetti-O's, Chef Boyardee, etc.), Coffee Supplies; Baby Care: diapers (all sizes), formula, baby hygiene + care products; Over-the-Counter ibuprofen and acetaminophen; full-Sized toiletries: soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shave gel; Office Products: manila folders, small binders, dividers, tape; Cleaning products: Windex, Lysol Wipes, dish soap, sponges, Swiffer dry sheets, magic erasers. Please put your donations in the tote in Crafts Hall labeled Family Justice Center.



Coat Drive

This year's coat drive will benefit: **Clara's Closet, Hearts for the Homeless, and Central City Café** in the month of October. All coats must have working zippers and buttons. Scarves, hats, mittens, and boots are all welcome. There will be totes available in Crafts Hall to receive your gifts. We all know that our winters are cold. Let's see how many people can share God's warmth and love through US!





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 will be preparing for Thanksgiving by collecting **boxed stuffing mix, boxed mashed potatoes, and canned yams/sweet potatoes.**

They also are in need of paper bags and reusable cloth bags.

Collecting bins are in the office hall and are marked for Tigers' Den and for local families.



Christ Church Library

Our Library Team is looking for donations of nearly-new children's books (picture books through middle school age) to update the children's section of the Library. Bring any donations to the Library (upstairs by the church office) on Sunday mornings or during weekly office hours.

CARDS FOR CARING

Have you seen the cards in the CAFÉ? They're FREE! Send a card, send a smile to a friend or shut-in. Spread some JOY and SUNSHINE!



*Volunteers are needed to prepare the beverages and provide the sweets/fruit, etc. for the **Café Connection** Sundays after the service. Contact any member of the Hospitality Team to sign up for the Sunday(s) of your choice. Ask a friend to join you!*

*You are invited to visit the **Café Connection** each Sunday morning and enjoy delicious fair trade, **New Day Coffee**, morning treats, and friendly conversation.*

Spiritual Formation for October 2019

AOL (Adult Opportunities for Learning) Sundays following worship:

Through October 27

In *Making Sense of the Bible*, Adam Hamilton invites us into an honest conversation about the Bible, exploring questions such as:

- How and when was the Bible written?
- Who decided which books made it into the scriptures and why?
- Were Adam and Eve real people?
- Why is God so violent in the Old Testament?
- Why would Paul command women to "keep silent in the church"?
- Is the Book of Revelation a guide to the End Times?



In approachable and inviting language, Hamilton addresses these often misunderstood Biblical themes, leading readers to a deeper appreciation of the Bible so that we might hear God speak through it and find its words to be life-changing and life-giving.

Thirstaid Thursdays
 1:00 - 2:30 in the Wesley Room
PRAYER thru October 17

WHAT ABOUT OUR MONEY? A Faith Response
October 24—November 14

Searching the Scriptures
 Tuesdays at Noon in the Wesley Room
 Join Pastor Daven in a conversation about the scriptures which will be explored in the sermon on the following Sunday.

Picture on front cover: Welcome Center desk created by Dave Mitchell



CIRCLE NEWS

Elizabeth Circle will meet Thursday, October 3 at the home of Marilyn Welker (104 Wedgewood, 689-2527) at 7 pm to plan programs for 2020. Hostess is Julie Wrisley (839-3395). Contact Marilyn or Julie if you plan to attend.

Rachel Circle will meet at church Tuesday, October 22 at 12:15 pm.

Circle of Joy will meet at 7 pm on Thursday, October 3, at the home of Lisa Lawson to plan the calendar for 2020.



NIAGARA FRONTIER DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Saturday, October 5, 2019

Niagara Frontier District UMW Annual Meeting

Eden UMC, 2820 E Church St., Eden, NY 14057

9:15 am – 2:00 pm

“The Next 150 Years”

Speaker: **Carmen Vianese**, Upper New York UMW President
Carmen will lead the delegates from UNY Annual Conference at General Conference 2020.

Cost: \$10 by September 30th
(includes coffee hour & lunch)



United Methodist Women

Unplugged Women’s Weekend

October 11-13, 2019

United Methodist House at Chautauqua

All activities are optional – do what’s best for your soul as we explore the importance of laughter, play, and creativity, including movies, games, puzzles, devotions, long walks, side trips— whatever helps you to relax and recharge!

Look for the sign-up in the Cafe!

Cost: \$40 includes 2 nights at the UM House, breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday

Please make checks payable to United Methodist Women.



At your own expense: dinner on Friday and Saturday, optional side trips and tours.

Stewardship

Stewardship Pledge Campaign for 2020 will run from **October 20 through November 10.**

The Stewardship Team will offer a study during Thirstaid Thursdays (1:00 – 2:30 pm in the Wesley Room) from **October 24th – November 10th** entitled, **“WHAT ABOUT OUR MONEY? A Faith Response.”** This study will help us discover that it’s not about the money, it’s about our relationship to money. Regardless of our circumstance, our relationship to money shapes our relationship with God and God’s people, and influences our choices.

Would you rather talk about pretty much anything else before you talk about money?

What does money represent to you...freedom...security... opportunity...stress...worry?

How much is enough? Do we live in scarcity or abundance? How much should be given away?

We’ll use some creative and thought-provoking activities to explore these questions and more. The answers we find may surprise us. All are welcome as we continue to be a faith community **making connections and offering opportunities for faith, love, and service.**

FINANCE TEAM — OCTOBER

We are thankful for your generous giving and support throughout the summer months, which allowed us to continue supporting our ministries.

The 2nd Sunday offering for September was \$318 for the Ronald McDonald House. The 2nd Sunday offering for October will be for the Family Justice Center.

We received \$5,120 toward the matching gift for the painting of Crafts Hall and also received the matching gift of \$5,000.

Just a reminder for those who have Offering Envelopes, the **pink** envelope for October 6 is for the World Communion Sunday offering.

Thank you so very much for your support of Christ Church and its ministries!

-CUMC Finance Team

FAITH X PRESS

FAITH X PRESS is held for all children grades PreK—5th grade at 11:00 am after worship.



Community Youth Group

All youth (grades 6-12) are invited to meet downstairs following worship every other Sunday for fun activities and events! Contact John Miller

(jptmiller30@msn.com) with any questions or to sign up!

October 6 @ 11 a.m.: Apple Picking and Applesauce Making


October 20 @ 11 a.m.: Pumpkin Picking at Akron Acres



October Birthdays

| | | | |
|------------------------|----|-------------------------|----|
| Carolyn Day | 2 | Corrin Stier | 12 |
| Brad Loliger | 2 | Julie Wrisley..... | 12 |
| Janelle Martin..... | 3 | James George | 13 |
| Nicholas Darling | 4 | Fraser Mooney | 16 |
| Daryl Bennett | 9 | Ally Stier | 19 |
| Susan Cautadella | 9 | Wayne Pruski..... | 26 |
| Rachel James..... | 10 | Debbie Fiebelkorn | 27 |
| Greg Maliken..... | 11 | Janet Hill | 27 |

October Anniversaries

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Thomas Kossler & Kari Kibler |  | October 2, 2014 |
| Ally & Corrin Stier..... | | October 3, 2015 |
| Thomas & Susan Cautadella..... | | October 8, 1988 |
| Matt & Amy Thormahlen | | October 8, 1984 |



We extend our sympathy and prayers to our Office Manager, **Janelle Martin**. Her grandfather, Glenn Hensel, died on Saturday, August 24 at age 97.

We also extend sympathy and prayers to Financial Secretary **Doris Schanzlin**. Her brother-in-law, Joe Campagna, died on September 23.



Saturday, November 2 — Breakfast Gathering

10 am in the Café

Elder Law presentation by Brad Loliger

Keeping in Touch, Pledge Service, World Thank Offering, Least Coin

Sunday, November 24-UMW Sunday and Children’s Sabbath, 10 am

“Uniting Hearts and Voices to End Child Poverty”

Friday, December 6 — Sugar & Spice Evening 7 pm

Beading with Millie Staley



Cost: \$15



From the Hospitality Team

The Hospitality Team is very thankful for all the improvements to our building as we seek to be a welcoming space for our church family and for our larger community. We especially thank our Trustees: Tom Weaver, Scott Smith, Sandy Cumming, Karen Hoffman, Phyllis Maliken, John Miller, Tom Nye, Chris Sciolino, and our custodian, Dave Wolf, for the countless hours they spend caring for the building and doing the prep work and clean up as improvements progress; Bob Lovell and Ed Gilbert for painting meeting rooms, bathrooms, and glazing windows; and Dave Mitchell for the beautiful work he has done in the Café and Kitchen and for designing and fabricating our new Welcome Center!

In addition to our beautiful spaces, we thank all those who participate in our hospitality ministries by ushering, greeting, and hosting the Café on Sunday mornings. While it may seem like a small task, it can make a world of difference to our guests and visitors. If you would like to participate in any of these opportunities, please get in touch with a member of our team: Mary Ball, Barb Critoph, Paula Kreib, Pam Lopez, Michele Sciolino, Peggy Bermudez, Rev. Oskvig.

| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|
|  | | 1 Searching the Scriptures-Noon Church Council 7p | 2 Stewardship Team 10a Choir 7p | 3 Thirstaid Thursdays 1p Elizabeth Circle 7p Circle of Joy 7p | 4 Books We Have Loved 11a | 5 Niagara Frontier District UMW Annual Meeting 9:15a-2p |
| 6 Worship 10a Education Hour 11a A.O.L. 11a Making Sense of the Bible Community Youth Group 11a | 7 Library Team 10:30a | 8 Searching the Scriptures-Noon Finance Team 7p | 9 Choir 7p | 10 Thirstaid Thursdays 1p | 11 UMW Chautauqua Unplugged Women's Weekend 11th-13th | 12 |
| 13 Worship 10a Education Hour 11a A.O.L. 11a Making Sense of the Bible Caller Deadline UMW Chautauqua Weekend | 14  Columbus Day Office Closed | 15 Searching the Scriptures-Noon Outreach Team 7p Trustees 7:30p | 16 Choir 7p | 17 Thirstaid Thursdays 1p SPR Team 7p | 18 | 19 |
| 20 Worship 10a Education Hour 11a A.O.L. 11a Making Sense of the Bible Community Youth Group 11a | 21 | 22 Searching the Scriptures-Noon Rachel Circle 12:15p | 23 Choir 7p | 24 Thirstaid Thursdays 1p Hospitality Team 7p | 25 | 26 |
| 27 Worship 10a Education Hour 11a | 28 | 29 Searching the Scriptures-Noon | 30 Choir 7p | 31  |  | |