

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Sunday Worship Schedule (beginning September 9)

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



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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Regular Hours Resume on September 4, 2018

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



Sonnenberg Gardens and Mansion
Photo by Bob Lovell

September 2018



Over the past few years, I have visited at least one Major League Baseball park each year and attend many of our local Bisons games. I enjoy the unique culture of each park, watching the teams and fans. This is the time of year when I truly awaken as a fan watching teams become contenders which not long ago were among the worst or the unexpected surges in the second half of the season as a team begins to connect.

I always look for the formula as to why this happens. There are those easy answers, like years of rebuilding, the right management, the right players, and the team playing like ... well, a team. Certainly, that's all part of what's happened, but so also is the major change that has swept over baseball as highlighted in the book 'Moneyball' by Michael Lewis. This change focuses on the use of statistics and corresponding formulas and not necessarily on huge budgets to secure players to win games. Certainly, I am not suggesting that such an approach is good or even healthy for the church of Jesus Christ, though heaven knows how the denomination loves its statistics! What I am suggesting is that we can't simply do church as it has been in the past and expect the same results. And just as deeply as it disrupted the culture of baseball when this path was charted, it will disrupt the way we think church should be done or think that church should be. This will be uncomfortable because it will mean change (the dirtiest word in the church lexicon).

God is calling us in fresh and new ways. What are those ways? What will the church of God look like in the coming years? Together we can be part of that next chapter which can one day be looked back upon, seeing that God was present through our efforts to make connections and offer opportunities for faith, love, and service. Let's write that chapter together.

*Yours in Christ,
Pastor Daven*

September Birthdays

Kayleen Hannon	4		Jim Pollard	18
Ryan James.....	4		Jessica Lawson	19
Pastor B.J. Norrix.....	5		Jonathan Miller.....	19
Al Wrisley	6		Sandra Paddock.....	20
Bim Rowlands.....	9		Beth Reilly-Brown.....	20
Patti Bechtel	11		Hildegard Webber	20
Darcie Beyer	11		Lisa Malpica	24
Kathy Brunner	11		Danielle Keller.....	25
Barbara Brayman	14		Barbara Carier	26
Marion Chalmers.....	15		Jean Wood.....	27
Kevin Johnston	18			

September Anniversaries



Herb & Jane Darling (62 years)	September 8, 1956
Tom & Kathy Weaver.....	September 8, 1984
Jeremiah & Michelle Cordero	September 12, 2014
Herb Wilber & Nora Townsend	September 21, 1990
Greg & Phyllis Malikin.....	September 22, 1979
Frank & Linda Parete	September 27, 1975

FINANCE - SEPTEMBER

We are happy to announce that all the tables and chairs for the Café have been purchased and that we have received gifts toward new screens in the Sanctuary that will hopefully make the viewing clearer and sharper for everyone, including those with visual difficulties. We have also received a gift of \$1,500 toward our utility bills.

Over the past year or so we have received a total of \$42,569.14 from the estate of Alice Schmidt, most of which paid for the Sanctuary roof. We received the final estate gift in July.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of our friends, Dorothy Hanson Brown & Ted Beachley. Memorial accounts have been opened in their names for those of you who would like to honor their memories with a gift to CUMC.

The July 2nd Second Sunday offering was \$405 for Green Shoots.

Thank you all for your support of CUMC.

The Finance Team

And What Did You Do This Summer?

Vacation Bible School July 9-13



UMM at Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion July 11, 2018



Photos by Bob Lovell

Circle of Joy at the Buffalo Zoo - June 2018



Barb Carier, Bob Lovell, Ed Gilbert, Cindy Fisher, Marcia Snyder, June Gilbert, Barb Mitchell, Dave Mitchell, Peg Nye

Kathy Weaver, Lee Watson, Dede Johnson, Peg Bermudez, Patti Bechtel, Debbie Laberta

Photo by a random stranger

Photo by Dede Johnson



With Joy... From Sally

The summer months offered many opportunities for fun, sun, gathering with friends, meeting new people and growing together in many ways. In our worship life we had opportunities to hear God's word as it came to a Counselor, a Deacon, and a Lawyer! Each one opened new insights for me and, I hope, for you as well.

One image from Deacon Jessica Glaser's message that has continued to play in my thoughts is the kingdom of God as a flash mob. Although my only experience of a flash mob has been seeing them unfold on social media, I know that a flash mob is a large group of people who assemble suddenly in a public place, perform an unusual action for a brief time, and then quickly disperse. I've seen people appear from random places with instruments to form a street orchestra, and a person in the middle of a shopping mall begin to sing and then be joined by others. These simple actions create moments that provide some sort of alternative reality. Everyone stops what they're doing for a brief time to find out "what's happening?" They're taken out of their everyday mundane existence — just for a moment. As I've been pondering Jessica's suggestion of God's kingdom community as a flash mob, I've become more aware of "kingdom moments" taking place around me. This week someone in need came to the church for help. They ended up helping me clear the clutter out of a room so painting and repurposing could take place. Or a conversation I had with a woman in the grocery store after I picked up an onion that had escaped her grip. Help offered and help received, the feeling of being needed and useful- the kingdom initiated in small, unanticipated ways.

Perhaps the rule of God's ways, or what we refer to as God's kingdom, can only happen in moments and episodes-- never fully realized. If they remained for too long they might become conventional, uninspired, and become something less. But for a few brief moments we live an alternative, we live the Kingdom, where kindness and goodness pop up in a flash and touch our lives. In this way we challenge the structures of society —we live an alternative. Perhaps others will be swept up in its flow.

Sunday Worship Schedule Change

Beginning September 9, 2018, worship will be at 10 AM on Sunday mornings with fellowship, FaithXpress, and other opportunities directly following the conclusion of the worship service.

This worship experience will use the format and style of what was offered in the late worship service. The Worship Strategy Team will continue to meet through 2018 for continued conversation and recommendations concerning this single Sunday worship experience, along with the potential of any additional seasonally-specific, unique, or ongoing complements to this primary worship witness on Sunday mornings.

FaithXpress!

Sunday mornings 11 am Lower Level
SEPTEMBER

"Never Too Young (or Old)"

Jeremiah was young and never thought he would speak for God! But he knew he needed to warn his people about the consequences of their behavior. No one likes to hear bad news, so they ignored Jeremiah's warnings. But Jeremiah didn't give up. Come and discover the ways Jeremiah used to help the people get the message!



We're looking forward to having a new Middle School group this year!!

A.O.L. @ CUMC

Adult Opportunities for Learning

September 9—October 14

Bible Study: *Parables—Short Stories by Jesus*

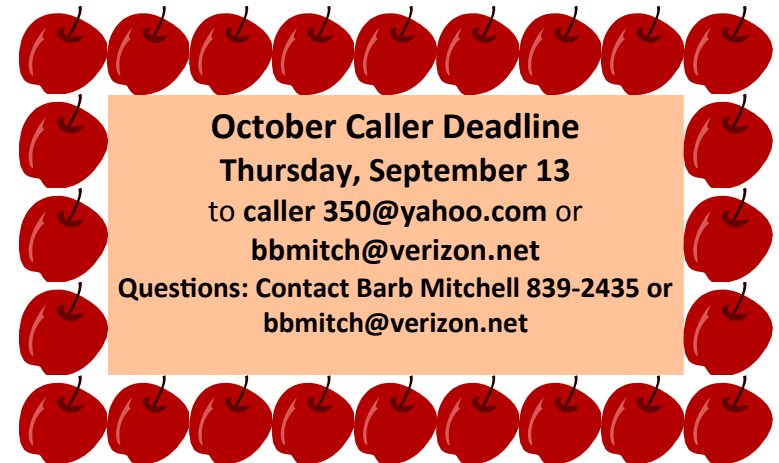
Facilitator: Dr. David Pliss

11 am in the Wesley Room

Newsboys Concert



The Newsboys will be uniting with past and present band members for a concert at The Chapel at Crosspoint on **Thursday, September 27 at 6 pm**. Tickets are \$18 each for a group of 10 or more. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact **Wayne Pruski** at wpruski@icloud.com or **(716) 525-2413**.



October Caller Deadline

Thursday, September 13

to caller 350@yahoo.com or

bbmitch@verizon.net

Questions: Contact Barb Mitchell 839-2435 or

bbmitch@verizon.net



As fall creeps ever closer, and summer draws to a close, programs are gearing up at church, and the choir and I extend a warm invitation to any and all who love to sing to join our ranks. Experience or ability to read music is not required - simply a desire to serve the church, minister to the congregation, and praise God through song is needed. While we do work hard in our preparation of music for worship, we also enjoy a genuine sense of community and fellowship, and we have fun! We rehearse every Wednesday evening from 7:00 - 8:30 pm, and meet for pre-service warm-up on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am. Our first rehearsal will take place on Wednesday, September 5 at 7 pm, and we will participate in worship on Sunday the 9. We hope to see you and welcome you on the 5th!

Paul Staley
Minister of Music



We extend our sympathies and prayers to the family and friends of Dorothy Hanson Brown upon her recent death on July 27 at the age of 103. A Memorial Service for Dorothy will be held Saturday, September 1 at 1pm at Christ Church.

We also extend our sympathies and prayers to the family and friends of Ted Beachley, who died on August 16. A Memorial Service will be held at Christ Church on September 15 at 11am.



CIRCLE NEWS

Elizabeth Circle will meet Thursday, September 6 at 7 pm for a program on hosta plants presented by Mary Jane Shanley and Off The Wall (bring a favorite object to share.) We will meet at the home of Mary Ball, 5919A Vinecroft Dr. (741-3301) and the Hostess is Joyce Moser (632-1617). Contact either Mary Jane or Joyce if you plan to attend.

Rachel Circle will meet Thursday, September 25 at 12:15 in the Wesley Room to plan our programs for the year.

Circle of Joy will meet Thursday, September 6 at 7 pm—plans TBA

United Methodist Women Breakfast Gathering

Saturday, September 8, 10:00 – 11:30

Victorian Biblical Tea Thyme

Guest Speaker - Barbara Blackburn

Hosted by Rachel Circle Cost: \$5



Tuesday, September 11 - 2:00 p.m.

UMW Executive Board Meeting

Program Planning for 2019



Vita Abbondante!

Women's Weekend, October 5-7

United Methodist House at

Chautauqua Institution



All women are welcome to join us for Vita Abbondante! Our Women's Weekend will be held from October 5-7 at the United Methodist House at Chautauqua Institution. Inspired by John 10:10, Chaplain Daryl Bennett will guide us as we explore ways to live more fully by caring for our bodies, minds, and spirits. Cost is \$90 and includes 2 nights and 4 meals. To reserve your place, please sign up on the poster in the Café by **September 16th**. Checks may be made payable to UMW and placed in the UMW mail slot near the church office.

OUTREACH MISSIONS OF THE MONTH - SEPTEMBER 2018



Mission of the Month-Compass House
caring for runaway, homeless, and street youth of Buffalo

Compass House is a non-profit agency providing services to youth in Erie County. Their mission is to provide runaway, homeless, and street youth with safe shelter and services, through a voluntary and mutually agreed-upon process, in an environment that supports dignity, respect and self-reliance. Compass House provides both an Emergency Shelter for youth ages 12-17 and a Resource Center for youth and young adults ages 14-24. Through these two programs they assist over 500 youth in crisis annually in Erie County. They are the only shelter in the county for youth in need.

For more information on ways to help, please contact Compass House at (716) 886-0935. Their wish list is also on their website at www.compasshouse.org.

Save the Date.....International Buffet Dinner
Friday, October 19 5:00-7:00pm
All proceeds support the many Outreach ministries of
Christ United Methodist Church

Build on Faith Month - Habitat Buffalo
September 14—October 16

A Day of Volunteerism

Put your faith into action by building your community! One-day volunteer opportunities are available in two areas: helping to build a house and updating furniture at their RESTORE store. For more information, please visit their website www.habitatbuffalo.org or call (716) 204-0740.

Family Promise

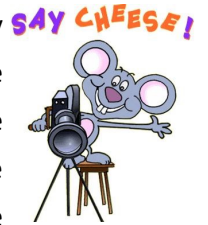
Friday, September 21, 4:30 – 9pm – Hosting Family Promise at St. Stephens-Bethlehem UCC (750 Wehrle Dr.)

If you can help with meal preparation or hosting, please contact Lee Watson at lwatson60@roadrunner.com.

Pictorial Directory



The time has come for us to update our pictorial directory! We know that this process discourages many from participating due to sales pressure or times when we are not typically at church. To simplify and encourage the broadest participation, we will be producing this new directory in-house! We are looking to conclude photography early this month. No sales involved, no times beyond when we are typically present on Sunday morning. If you are unable to be in church during this month, please call the church office. We will look for a time for you to come and have a picture taken or arrange a time to come to you and take a picture. We want this new directory to capture as many as possible of the people who make up this community of faith!



FROM THE TRUSTEES

COMPREHENSIVE PAINTING AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN



Trustees are finalizing plans to make several improvements throughout the building. Beginning this fall, with funding in place, painting will be completed in the rear hallway from the parking lot entrance thru to the Café – including the office hallway. Also, this fall, the Café will be refurbished with a new ceiling and new LED light fixtures. Future plans include new flooring from the parking lot entrance hallway all the way thru and including Crafts Hall, the complete repainting and refurbishing of Crafts Hall, painting of the Sanctuary high ceiling, new carpet in the Sanctuary and Family Room (Parlor), as well as paint and a new ceiling for the Family Room. Watch for more information on this future work and how you might help with funding for these exciting projects.



Niagara Frontier District News



Niagara Frontier District United Methodist Women Annual Meeting

North Tonawanda First United Methodist Church

65 Main St, North Tonawanda 14120

Saturday, September 29, 2018

9:15 – 10:00 am Registration, Coffee Hour, Resource Sales
10:15 Business Meeting 12:00 Lunch 1:00 Program

“The Power of Bold”

Celebrating 150 Years of Faith, Hope, and Love in Action

Cost: \$10 by September 19th (includes coffee hour & lunch)



Upper New York United Methodist Women will hold their Annual Meeting on September 14th & 15th at Chautauqua Institution. For more information, go to http://uppernyumw.org/?page_id=880.

Christ Church Sundae



After many weeks and numerous suggestions, the ingredients of a Sundae to be offered at Anita’s Scoops Ice Cream (5 Lincoln Rd, Amherst - across the street from the Snyder Fire Department) have been submitted. While the final results did not meet

everyone’s tastes, make whatever alterations you need to still proudly go in and order a Christ Church Sundae!

Coffee Ice Cream (energized by our faith in Christ), Hot Fudge (covered by God’s forgiveness), Sprinkles (sprinkled with love), Peanuts (rooted in God’s word), Whipped Cream (sweetened by grace), and a Cherry (guided by the Holy Spirit’s presence with us).

Spiritual Growth and Practices Team

One of our goals for the revitalization of Christ Church was to offer more opportunities for spiritual guidance and formation as we seek to strengthen our relationship with God and one another as a community of Christ followers. The strategy team has finished its work and a new Spiritual Growth and Practices Team has been formed. Team members are Rev. Jim Pollard, Paula Kreib, Dr. David Pliss, and Peggy Bermudez. In the coming months, there will be a variety of experiences offered as we seek to be the people of Christ Church who are “Making Connections and Offering Opportunities for Faith, Love, and Service.” A.O.L. (Adult Opportunities for Learning) will continue on Sunday mornings and Exploring Sunday Scriptures with Rev. Oskvig will continue on Tuesdays at noon.

NEW this fall will be “**Thirstaid Thursdays**” which will meet every Thursday beginning September 13 from 1:00 – 2:30pm in the Wesley Room. All are welcome to come for a weekly serving of “Thirstaid” to satisfy our spirits as we explore a variety of themes with different facilitators.

Thirstaid Thursdays
Bad Girls of the Bible
 September 13th – October 4th Facilitator: Diane Klenk
With humor and candor, we’ll take a look at what we can learn from the lives of these women.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone for your cards and prayers while I was at Brothers of Mercy. I am feeling better and hope to be back to church soon.

-Mary Jane Shanley

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		<h1>September 2018</h1>					1 Memorial Service for Dorothy Hanson Brown 1p
		2 Casual Praise 9a Traditional Worship 11a	3  Office Closed	4 Exploring Sunday Scriptures 12 Noon <div style="background-color: #90EE90; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Regular Office Hours Resume</div> Church Council 7p	5 Choir 7p		6 Elizabeth Circle 7p Circle of Joy 7p
9 Worship 10a Education Hour 11a Bible Study—Parables	10 Mental Health Team 10a	11 Exploring Sunday Scriptures 12 Noon UMW Executive Board Meeting 2p Finance Team 7p	12 Choir 7p	13 Visitation Team 11:30a Thirstaid Thursdays 1p Hospitality Team 7p OCTOBER CALLER DEADLINE	14 Books We Have Loved 10a	15 Memorial Service for Ted Beachley 11a UNY UMW Annual Meeting	
16 Worship 10a Education Hour 11a Bible Study —Parables	17	18 Exploring Sunday Scriptures 12 Noon Outreach Team 7p Trustees 7:30p	19 Choir 7p	20 Thirstaid Thursdays 1p SPR Team 7p	21 Hosting Family Promise 4-9p	22	
23 Worship 10a Education Hour 11a Bible Study—Parables 	24 Spiritual Life Team 10a	25 Exploring Sunday Scriptures 12 Noon Rachel Circle 12:15p District Committee on Lay Ministry 7p	26 Choir 7p	27 Thirstaid Thursdays 1p Community Service 'Hub' Team 7p	28  Game Night 7p	29 Niagara Frontier District UMW Annual Meeting	
30 Worship 10a Education Hour 11a Bible Study —Parables							