



Questions and Planning

Worship at Christ Church is very much something we do together: shared vision, shared planning, shared leadership, sharing in prayer and praise. To the already vital role that the worship planning teams play in creating an inspiring worship experience, for the last few years we have been inviting you to offer thoughts about the themes, scriptures, issues, and images you hope we will engage in worship. Each week we turn to the Holy One with our questions, our struggles, our gratitude, our praise. Thanks to you, our Sunday morning conversations are more reflective of what folks are actually thinking about and struggling with. Thanks to your contributions and the advanced planning, our publicity is getting better, graphics come more easily, and other creative opportunities have emerged.

This year Pastor Janet and I will take time apart at the end of November to pray, reflect and work on a worship/preaching plan from Advent 2011-Advent 2012. We are asking for your help.

First, please pray for me, Pastor Janet, our staff, our congregation and for all of our ministries together. Second, please take the time to think about the following questions:

1. Are there personal issues that you think God may be calling us to address in worship in the coming year?
2. Are there theological questions that you feel God may be calling us to struggle together with in worship?
3. Are there neglected parts of the Bible you are longing to hear?
4. What might friends who don't go to church come to hear about?

You will also see these questions as an insert in the bulletin for the Sundays of November. Please think about them and email me your responses (PastorNina.ChristChurchTroy@gmail.com) or plan to jot down your thoughts on the bulletin insert and give them to me that way.

Your feedback is the first step in the process. There will be ongoing conversations when we return from the retreat with the worship planning teams as we, together, make adjustments.

I am grateful for the privilege of serving as one of the pastors here at Christ Church and am eager for all the ways we will be church together in the season to come.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Nina

Charge Conference

The annual conference will be on Tuesday November 1st at Pawling Avenue UMC. We will join other Methodist congregations for worship and to handle various administrative tasks. One of these tasks is hold elections for Trustee positions.

All are encouraged to attend.

C ontents	Anniversaries	3	Extravagant Generosity.....	4	
Devotion.....	2	Calendar	3	Festival Celebration Choir	4
Music.....	2	Flowers.....	3	Live Streaming.....	4
This Old Church.....	2	Birthdays	3	Spire Deadline.....	4
		Adult Forum.....	4		

God intends the church to be a community that embodies love, grace, and justice for all people. As a Reconciling Congregation, we therefore affirm the sacred worth of and welcome persons of any sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, age, marital status, race, ethnic background, economic condition, and physical or mental ability as full participants in our community of faith. God's love includes everyone, as does Christ Church United Methodist.

Music Notes

A lot coming up in the near future! At our November 1st Annual Meeting both our i-Gen and Bell Ensemble groups will be performing.

On November 19th i-Gen will participate for the third consecutive year in the Thanksgiving Choirfest hosted by The Joy of Troy in Lansingburgh (6.30-8.30pm). The public is invited, refreshments are served and the performances are wonderful. Come along if you're free. Some of you may remember that this congregation met upstairs for a time at Christ Church before they found a building.

Finally, Victorian Stroll is December 4th. Once again, we'll have a full afternoon of music, dance and magic. One of the newest groups to start using our facilities, the Capital English Country Dancers, will be upstairs from 2-5pm and a variety of groups will be performing in our Sanctuary throughout the afternoon. Churros and something to drink are also on the agenda!

Tentative schedule for Victorian Stroll...

- 11.45-Penny Jar (folk/traditional from Fulton County)
- 12.30-The Staffords (Jennifer-concertina and Fritz-guitar)
- 1pm--Christ Church Bell Choir
- 1.30--Capital English Country Dancers (Demo in the Sanctuary, then from 2-5pm upstairs)
- 2pm-i-Gen
- 2.30--Guided Footsteps (choir/dance from Emmaus Church)
- 3pm--Bell Choir--reprise
- 3.30--Magic of Dave MacDonald
- 4pm--50's-60's Sing-a-Long (Doo-Wop and more:)
- 4.30--George and friends

If I had a hammer...

The trustees would like to thank everyone who helped out after the services on Sunday October 16th with the "This Old Church" group. Each third Sunday people are welcome, invited, and encouraged to join in helping to do small work projects supporting the up keep of Christ Church

Fueled by soda and subs members of the church including several of our younger members focused their attention on the upstairs kitchen. Cabinets were organized, serving pieces were cleaned, recyclables were properly disposed of, cooking supplies were made more accessible and things that needed throwing out were thrown out.

The next meeting of This Old Church will be Sunday November 20th when we plan on breaking out the power tools and installing windows in the Pastors' office doors. This is an important part of our commitment to providing a safe environment while allowing privacy when people are meeting with the Pastors. We also plan on changing some light bulbs, for those who like to climb ladders.

The Trustees are also happy to report that we have been working with a roofer to make permanent repairs to the leaks around the spire. Additionally we continue to move forward on the renovations to the Bathrooms.

The Trustees.

Devotion:

Nancy Burgin

The portraits looked fantastic, which was quite a feat, considering I was in them. I turned to Ron and said, "We have to thank the photographer!" We located her and thanked her for doing such a great job. For the remainder of our cruise, we sought her out whenever we could. We shared our excitement about a full moon at sea. We would exchange friendly greetings as we got off the ship. "Bring back a good story!" she told us.

When we found her that evening, we said, "Do we have a story for you. One of Ron's camera's fell overboard!" When we came to say our goodbyes, on the last night of the cruise, she said, "You made me feel like there was someone from home here; someone I knew and could wave to." We felt the same way. And it all started, because I thought to say "Thank you". (Diane, in Bible study, has made me sensitive to the need to thank others.)

It wasn't until I was home that I realized the Bible verse that says, "In everything give thanks" (Eph.5:20) doesn't have to mean just to give thanks to God. It can also mean giving thanks – to our friends, to our neighbors, and especially to photographers on long voyages.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Every Tuesday: 6:30pm iGen 7:30pm Bells		1 9am Wshp Planning 10:30am Study 7pm Charge Conf. Pawling	2	3	4	5
6 Daylight Saving ends	7	8 9am Wshp Planning 10:30am Study	9	10 7pm Trustees	11	12
13	14	15 9am Wshp Planning 10:30am Study	16	17 7pm Church Council	18	19
20 Spire Deadline Greening the Sanctuary	21 6:30pm Wshp Planning	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Office closed	25 Office closed	26
27 Advent Sunday	28 6:30pm Wshp Planning	29	30	Regular Sunday Schedule 9.30am: Church School (All ages) 10:30am: Worship 11:30am Coffee fellowship		

October Flowers

2nd	Given by the Family in loving memory of Dorothy R. Large.
9th	Given by Dorcas & Ken Rose
16th	Given by Marta Andersen in memory of Loved Ones.
23rd	Given in memory of Mildred & Herbert Kennedy.
30th	Given by Annee Borthwick

November Anniversaries

30th	Roger and Lee Kemp
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Memorial Poinsettias

Coming up--It will soon be time to think about ordering memorial poinsettias for the Christmas altar arrangement. The letter has not yet arrived from our supplier but the price will probably be in the \$9.00 to \$10.00 range, depending upon red or white. The deadline is usually early in December but watch the Sunday bulletin for further details or contact Marilyn Blom or the church office.

November Birthdays.

3rd	Mac Cook	5th	Peter Nazarian	5th	Claire Pitts
5th	Alice Rose	5th	Moses Torres	6th	Jessica MacDonald
7th	Joey Farrell	10th	John Haldin	11th	Andrew Torres
12th	Heather Packard	13th	Cindy Ashline	14th	Ben Northrup
15th	Mary Farrell	18th	Paul Marano	18th	Sheryl Martucci (Blom)
19th	Sam Cook	23rd	Suzanne Sherman	25th	Joseph Farrell III
26th	Agnes Mukasa	27th	Nicole Suscietto	28th	Spud Mack
30th	Eric Kemp				

December Spire Deadline

The December Spire deadline is Sunday November 20th.

Adult Forum - Ken Rose

The theme for the next four weeks will be Spirituality, using lesson materials from the Thoughtful Christian website on Appreciating Spiritual Gifts and Spiritual but Not Religious.

For the four weeks of Advent we will be using a DVD-based study, The Journey, in which Adam Hamilton is our tour guide, traveling in present-day Israel and Palestine, looking at places we associate with Jesus' birth. Looking at samples of the material, I think it will be very interesting - each session beginning with a 10 to 15 minute video, followed by reflection and discussion. You may remember that Adam Hamilton is the Methodist pastor who developed the study "Enough - Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity" that we used last year.

We meet from about 9:30 to 10:15 on Sunday mornings in the parlor, but feel free to drop in at any time to join the discussion.

United Methodist Student Day – November 27, 2011

I have always been grateful for my college education. I also went to college at a time when, although it may have seemed expensive to my parents and me, compared to today, the cost was small. That is why United Methodist Student Sunday is important to me. It's a way to help students achieve secondary education that otherwise might not be able to.

Student Day recipient, Andrea Parker is a student at Michigan State University. Here is part of her story: I want to be an endocrinologist. Using my medical training and faith, I will be able to run Christian, health based after-school programs for all children, particularly those with diabetes, and participate in medical missions to help children in Third World countries. If not for the United Methodist Student Day Gift of Hope Scholarship, I would have never had this opportunity to grow as a student and as a Christian.

When we support students like Andrea with our offering on United Methodist Student Day, we are practicing extravagant generosity and connecting our giving to the work of God

Lee Kemp

Extravagant Generosity

If you have not received an estimate of giving card and would like to pledge support of the church in 2012 or if you would like to receive envelopes so that you might contribute weekly as you are able, please contact the church office at 272-8392. Pledges are not a firm contract, but an estimate which will help us to create next year's budget. We would appreciate hearing from you before November 10th. Thank you!

Dorcas and Ken Rose, for the finance committee

Festival Celebration Choir

The Festival Celebration Choir will hold their 2011 Christmas Concert program on Sunday, December 11. A poster will be on the bulletin board in late November with more information.

Live Streaming

If you're unable to attend church you can watch each Sunday on the live stream channel. Go to the church website (www.christchurchtroy.org) and click on the live stream link.



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The Rev. C. Joseph Ingraham, Pastor Emeritus