Weekly Update – March 1, 2016

Daily Bible Reading – 2017 Shaping Our Life Experience

Excerpts from both the Old and New Testament are included each day. This is a great way to support your ongoing growth in faith and the Christ Church community as well.

March 1: Numbers 24-27; Mark 8:11-38
March 2: Numbers 28-29; Mark 9:1-29
March 3: Numbers 30-31; Mark 9:30-50
March 4: Numbers 32-33; Mark 10:1-31
March 5: Numbers 34-36; Mark 10:32-52
March 6: Deuteronomy 1-2; Mark 11:1-19
March 7: Deuteronomy 3-4; Mark 11:20-33

In Our Prayers

Joy! Michelle and Jeremiah Cordero are celebrating **Graciella's 1st birthday** on March 3. **Happy birthday!**

Joy! Paul Staley, our Minister for Music, celebrated his birthday on February 23rd!

Joy! Peter Shanley, Pastor Darryl Barrow recovering at home.

Keep in your prayers –Joyce Moser – upcoming surgery, Beverley Hurst, Ruth Swenson, Ron Corsaro, Millie Staley's mother, Dolores, in rehab in Rochester, Janet Hill, Richard Mestler, Al Tolsma, Rita Arnold, Carol Teresi, Patty Keller, Charles Terranova, Joe & Carolyn Day, Ruth Malone, Elvira Gonzalez, Florence Stengel, Fred & Lynda Painton, Janelle Martin's grandmother, Castellino family.

Keep the church consultation process and planning team in your prayers as we continue to identify strategies toward goals for the next few years.

Pray for peaceful relationships among the nations of the world.

Pray for Chris Maliken, Lindsey Darling & Ian Johnson serving in the US Navy

This Week at Christ Church

Church Office – Mon., Wed., Fri. – 9 am to 5 pm, Tues. & Thurs. – 9am to Noon

Wednesday, March 1 - **5- 7 pm – Roll Down Justice – Supper & Study**

7 pm – Ash Wednesday Worship

7:45 pm – Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 2 - 6:30 pm – Praise Team Rehearsal

7 pm – Church Council Meeting

Friday, March 3 - 10 am – Books We Have Loved – Julie Wrisley, reviewer

5:30 pm Music & Meditation – *Give yourself the gift of peace*

Sunday, March 5 - 9 am – Casual Praise *

10 am – FaithXpress – **Peacemakers**

11 am – Traditional Style Worship *

Communion offered at both worship times

Opportunities to Make A Difference

Serving Buffalo and all of Erie County, the Compeer Program matches volunteers and mentors in one-to-one friendship and mentoring relationships with children, adults and seniors striving for good mental health. Compeer friends and mentors come from every walk of life. Volunteers make a significant and proven impact upon the lives of those they befriend by providing social support, being positive role models and helping engage their friend in a variety of different community/recreational activities. The ever-growing program currently has four different venues of volunteering: **Compeer for Kids** (ages 3 to 17), **Compeer for Adults** (ages 18 to 59), Compeer CORPS (veterans with PTSD), and **Compeer for Seniors** (age 60 and above). For more information go to www.compeerbuffalo.org or call 883-3331

Food Pantry –

All food items are always needed to help stock local food pantries. Paper products and toiletries are welcome anytime. Grocery carts are available the church for your donations.

Hosts needed--The Café is a where people connect!

Sign up on the Café bulletin board to host the Café and help bring people together. Invite your family, friends, ministry team or group to join you! Share in this Café ministry of hospitality and welcome. Donations are welcome in the Café for use on Sunday mornings – baked goods, half & half, OJ, fruit & cookies are useful!

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Peacemakers – Journey Toward the Promise

As winter turns to spring the children of Faith Express continue to learn how to be peacemakers. Using the story of Jacob & Esau we have practiced rules for fighting fair, how to work through difficult situations with respect and care. Each week we have added words and symbols to a peace pole and created pathways of peace with our own footprints. We hope everyone will look for these in the Parlor and join us in adding to the peace pole and joining us on the journey toward the promise of peace by adding your own footprints to the path.

God leads people today to trust God's leading, to work for the well-being of all people and to live together in peace.

Lent begins Ash Wednesday, March 1st

Supper & Study – ***Roll Down Justice***

-Supper in the Café at 5 pm

-Conversation at 6 pm

Worship at 7 pm

Supper and Study Series – Wednesdays in Lent

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 3 5 – 7 pm

"Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream," says the prophet, Amos. Lent is a time for reminding ourselves who we're called to be in this world. Through the powerful music of Mark Miller and the remembrance of our baptism, this season will offer reflection and renewed inspiration to let our voices be tuned to the heart of the gospel— telling God's love for all people.

Give yourself the gift of peace

Music & Meditation

Fridays during Lent

5:30 – 6 pm
March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
April 7

Contemplative form of prayer, meditation, music, silence and candle light

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The season of Lent begins with a call to repent, which means to "turn around." This year, we will turn from our apathy, turn from simply going through the motions of our life…instead we will pray to be active instruments of peace, agents of change in the world. We begin the journey toward renewing our baptismal identity as the hand and feet of Christ by "re-cognizing"-tuning our minds and hearts toward the world and its people.

~General Commission on Religion & Race, UMC