



# St. Matthew's United Church of Christ

## September 2019 News

# Welcome Back Sunday

SEPTEMBER 8

Return to 10:30am

Worship in the Sanctuary

Back-to-school  
blessing of students &  
teachers. Bring backpacks!

Following Worship:  
CHURCH PICNIC

Please sign up & bring  
side dish. Hot dogs,  
cake, beverages  
provided.

*Invite family ~ ask a friend to join you!*



Hello to all! Hope you're having a nice summer! As nice as taking breaks are, it's also great to get back to the things we love doing. To me, that includes the start of the St. Matthew's music season.

We're having the annual **Choir/Praise Band dinner** on the evening of our first practice, Thursday, September 5, at 6 pm. If you are (or were) (or possibly may be in the future) a member of the choir or praise band, you are invited – and bring your spouses and/or other family members!

Brenda Carver has very graciously offered to prepare the meal and provide dessert again. She's an excellent cook and has provided us with wonderful meals in the last few years! I'll bring drinks, and you are welcome to bring wine, etc. if you'd like. Please RSVP to let me know how many are coming.

Looking forward to the meal, the fellowship, and the music!

-Norm Wahl (440-5176)



## **Introduction to Christianity**

Sundays in the Council Room beginning September 15 at 9:30am

Youth, they say, is wasted on the young. A lot of us looking back on our experience as catechumens (young Christian preparing for confirmation) would have to admit that we didn't get everything we might have from our confirmation classes. If you would like to think about the basics of our Christian faith again or for the first time, you are welcome to attend. The class is designed for those who would like to be confirmed or who would like to explore membership in the United Church of Christ as well as those who would like to re-engage with the basics of the Christian faith.

## **Bibles & Bag Lunches**

Wednesdays at Noon in the Fellowship Hall beginning September 11

Each Wednesday we will gather to read and study and discuss the scriptures, inwardly digesting them as we also munch our lunch. We will pick up on our leisurely journey through the stories of the opening chapters of Genesis. We will pick up the story just as Noah and his family are getting their feet on dry land. Coffee and tea will be provided.



## **Coffee Fellowship**

The time of coffee & conversations resume on the first & third Sundays of the month beginning September 15. Please sign up to extend hospitality and welcome. Contact LaDonna Painter (715-7310) or sign up on the landing.



## **David and Pamela Kaznica Retire as Custodians of St. Matthew's**

August 31<sup>st</sup> marks the end of an era. David and Pamela Kaznica will hang up their mops and vacuums for the last time as David retires just under the wire of his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. Our whole church family extends thanksgiving to them for their many years of dedicated and loving service to the physical plant of the church. Their cheerful and loving presence in the building, day in and day out will sure be missed, but we celebrate with them and wish them every blessing in their retirement.



During the month of September, we will be collecting much-needed underwear, bras and socks for local missions through Churches In Action. Look for collection bins starting September 1. Bring in any item, any size and they will be sorted according to needs at the various mission sites.

In early October, Pamela & David Kaznica, two of our CIA reps, will help sort the items collected from all CIA churches and deliver a supply to St. Francis Peace House in Hamburg. If you're interested in buying for those currently residing at the Peace House, here are more details: children (6 boys, ages 3 through 13; 1 girl, age 5); 5 women (sizes small thru extra large); 8 men (medium & large).

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### **Looking for information about St. Matthew's events, activities, and what's happening with friends in the church family or in the community?**

The information will now be communicated weekly versus the monthly newsletter. All you have to do is read the weekly e-newsflash which is delivered to your Inbox every Thursday. There will be hard copies for those who do not have email every couple of weeks.

If you have information to share, please submit it to the office by Monday of your preferred week to announce.

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You Are All Invited To A Celebration of

**Rev. Richard Hemann's  
90<sup>th</sup> Birthday**



**On Sunday September 29, 2019  
At Ebenezer United Church of Christ  
630 Main St., West Seneca NY  
Reception 2pm – 4pm**

**Gifts gratefully declined**



If you wish, donations may be made  
in Reverend Hemann's name to:  
Ebenezer United Church of Christ  
630 Main St., West Seneca NY 14224



or

New Light Christian Church  
126 N Brier Rd., Amherst NY 14228



**Worship Schedule**

*Saturday, 4:00pm*

Service of Word & Sacrament

*Sundays*

9:30am Summer Outdoor Worship (until September 1)

10:30am Regular Worship Resumes (in Sanctuary)

***Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!***

**St. Matthew's United Church of Christ**  
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