

January 25th – Grades 6 – 10

January 18th - January 25th is celebrated as the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. It is a time to remember all the Christian churches throughout the world who follow Jesus Christ and to pray that all those churches will come together as one church united by Christ.

Ecumenism is the movement within to unite all Christian churches emphasizing the same loyalty to Jesus Christ.

Read the chart of the various Christian churches.

Religion	Founded	Beliefs	Significant information
Lutheran	Germany; Martin Luther; 16 th century	Two sacraments: Baptism and Eucharist No allegiance to the pope; Liturgy is similar to Catholic Mass	Martin Luther was an Augustinian priest. Lutheranism is the largest Protestant denomination in the world and 4 th largest in the U.S.
Presbyterian, also Congregationalists	Switzerland; John Calvin; 16 th century; loyalty to Jesus, more than founder	Predestination to heaven is for elect; Simple churches; sing only psalms; present-day, more liberal	Arrived in Salem, Ma – 1629; 6 U.S. presidents; U.S. govt. is based on Presbyterian ideals
Episcopalian/ Anglican	As Church of England; Henry VIII over a controversy with the pope	7 sacraments; Real Presence; divorce; married and women clergy; saints & Mary	Canterbury, England – spiritual center; George Washington, Patrick Henry, James Madison
Methodist; African Methodist Episcopal; Puritans; Christian Methodist-Episcopal	England	Perfection is attainable; action of the Holy Spirit; most liberal	Strong in activism; founded many colleges and charitable services
Baptist	Holland by English Separatists; in U.S by Roger Williams	Simple theology; Bible = sole authority Less rituals Adult baptism No Real Presence, but a memorial Baptism and communion	Largest Protestant denomination in the U.S.; small or very large congregations; Rockefellers and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; Billy Graham
United Church of Christ	Puritans and Pilgrims merged	Sovereign God Only elect go to heaven; no creeds; open membership	Founded Harvard and Yale; began system of town meetings; first had simple

			meetinghouses, now more formal churches
Disciples of Christ	New England; Thomas & Alexander Campbell, Barton Stone	New Testament; no creeds; immersion baptism; any person can preach; bread and wine are symbolic not Body and Blood	Presidents Lyndon Johnson; Ronald Reagan; Senator William Fullbright
Pentecostal; Assembly of God; Church of God in Christ	United States; 1900	Speaking in tongues; spirit baptism; lively, informal religion; emotional preaching; strong moral code	Worship in storefronts and in large churches
Peace Churches: Quakers, Mennonites, Amish, Church of the Brethren	1700s; Quakers – George Foxx; Mennonites & Brethren – part of Baptists	Oppose military service; refuse oaths, simple living; no formal rituals	
Orthodox	1054; Great Schism; 1965 – Pope John XXIII – Patriarch Athenagoras mutually lifted excommunication	Triple immersion baptism; Married clergy, not bishops; do not recognize the authority of pope; no purgatory, but do pray for the dead; object to the ‘filioque clause’ in Nicen Creed	Fourth major religion in the U.S. Have Mysteries not sacraments Bishops are elected not appointed Greek, Russian, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Romania

Assignment: Choose one.

1. Answer the following questions, and return to ohiojen@hotmail.com or St. John XXIII Parish, 1 Arcade Street, West Seneca, NY 14224
2. Find a church in Western New York for each denomination

Name _____

January 25th – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity; Option One

1. Who founded the following denominations’

Lutheran _____

Presbyterian _____

Episcopalian _____

Quakers _____

2. Where did these denominations begin?

Baptist _____

Methodist _____

Presbyterian _____

Disciples of Christ _____

3. Which denomination has the Bible as its sole authority?

4. Where is the spiritual center (like Rome) of the Episcopal or Anglican Church?

5. Which denomination founded Harvard and Yale Universities?

6. Which denomination is most likely found in storefront churches of cities?

7. Find the six U.S. Presidents that followed the Presbyterian denomination.

Name _____

January 25th – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity; Option Two

Find a church in Western New York for each denomination.

1. Lutheran: _____
Address _____
2. Presbyterian _____
Address _____
3. Episcopalian _____
Address _____
4. Methodist _____
Address _____
5. Baptist _____
Address _____
6. United Church of Christ _____
Address _____
7. Disciples of Christ _____
Address _____
8. Pentecostal _____
Address _____
9. Peace Church _____
Address _____
10. Orthodox _____
Address _____

For Fun: Take a picture of the churches in Western New York and upload to the St. John XXIII Website.