



Living Between Stories
(Largely taken from a Meditation by Rev. Cameron Trimble)

There are times in history when it becomes clear that we're standing at the edge of something. One story is dying. Another is being born. We find ourselves in between.

The age we're leaving was defined by extraction, domination, and the pursuit of control. It measured success by how much we could consume and how efficiently we could exploit supposedly endless resources. It gave us grand narratives of conquest and triumph, wrapped in myths of innocence and progress. It promised safety, superiority, and clarity in a chaotic world.

The consequences of that age are global warming, a system running on fear, and an eroding of trust. Power and control are seen as more important than people. Entire communities are being displaced or devoured by systems designed to take rather than tend.

Just beneath that crumbling surface, something else is beginning to stir. It's quieter. It doesn't yet dominate headlines or campaign platforms. But it's present in small communities rooted in care, in movements guided by relationship rather than rivalry, in rituals that honor the Earth as teacher, not resource. It sees humans as part of an intricate, sacred web. It values reciprocity, humility, and interconnection. It asks not, "*What can I take?*" but "*How can I be in right relationship?*"

To live in this in-between moment requires a new kind of spiritual skill where we hold grief in one hand and hope in the other. We name the illusions we've outgrown. We release our need to be the saviors of every story, the protagonists of every plotline. We examine the ways we've cloaked control in spiritual language. Instead, we listen to a God who doesn't always speak in certainty. We pay attention to what might be carried differently.

What if prayer is not about asking for outcomes, but learning how to be still long enough to hear the pulse of the world? What if salvation isn't an escape, but a deeper descent into solidarity- into the complexity, pain, and beauty of shared life? What if the question is not just "*What do I believe?*" but "*What does the way I live say about what I believe?*"

These aren't questions we can answer overnight. As they guide us, we won't always know which story we're in on a given day. Sometimes we'll feel torn between them. Other times we'll feel like we don't belong to either. That's okay. The task isn't to resolve the tension. It's to remain present within it. With compassion. With discernment. With a willingness to be shaped by something truer than what we've known before.

The old world is ending. The new world is not yet fully here. But the way we live now will determine what grows next.

We Need Your Help -

St. Paul's is having a Back to School Picnic -

Looking for volunteers to help with this.

Sign up on the Bulletin Board or talk to

Jeff Peters



Pray for our Shut-ins



Bev West

Larry Taylor

Charles Williman

...and others who are physically unable to join us.
Why not call or visit, to let them know they are missed?

If you have an over abundance of garden vegetables this summer—your church family here at St. Paul's would gladly take them off your hands. We will be putting out the stand in front of church when we have something to put on our stand for everyone to share.

Our Giving/Sharing Stand



Would you like to share your talent of teaching Summer Sunday school? Sign up on the signup sheet outside the sanctuary or let Jennifer Eddy of Christian Education know.

This will allow you to enjoy our group of wonderful kids for an hour.



Attica Food Link Distribution: Attica Food Pantry 72 East Avenue

July 4, August 6, 2025
10am-12pm

Bring your own bags
1st come 1st served.



SAVE-THE-DATE!



On October 5th, we will be celebrating the commitment of our members who Joined St. Paul's UCC in 1975. We currently have Bill & Nancy Colvenbach, Debra Storch

If you believe you are a 50 year member or if you know of someone who should be included, please let us know.

Bible Studies

Dig Deeper with Friends



Bible Study groups will meet in our respective areas.

If you have additional questions or Concerns, contact the Convener:

Lisa Knerr- Mon. evening, 6:30 pm
Marilyn Wilson- Wed. morning, 10 am

Sunday Bible readings: The first reading is *italicized*; the message text is **bold**.

July 6

Galatians 6.1-1
Luke 10.1-6,17a

July 13

Colossians 1:9-14
Psalm 82.1-4,6,8

July 20

Psalm 52
Amos 8.2b-7,10

July 27

Luke 11.1-4
Colossians 2.6-7,16-19

August 3

Colossians 3.1-11
Luke 12.15-21

August 10

Isaiah 1:1-20; Psalm 50:1-8,22-23 or
Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22;
Luke 12:32-40; Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16

August 17

Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2,8-19 or
Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82;
Luke 12:49-56; Hebrews 11:29-12:2

August 24

Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6 or
Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8;
Luke 13:10-17; Hebrews 12:18-29

August 31

Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6 or
Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8
Luke 13:10-17; Hebrews 12:18-29

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
June 15, 2025

The following members were present: Christine Kipfer, Cris Mahoney, Laurie Bellucci, Diane Storch, Marilyn Wilson, Pastor Laurie.

We met to read over the scholarships and decide on what each applicant was going to receive with what was available in our account for scholarships.

Decision was made after reading each application and the award will be given on Graduation Sunday.

Sincerely,
Laurie Bellucci

Looking to be part of our annual Sauerkraut Supper?

We need many volunteers to help with this event

Sign up on the Bulletin Board in the hallway

Sauerkraut Supper—November 4th

More details to come



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Emily Peters

Emily graduates from Attica Central High School and is headed to SUNY Cortland to study Recreation and Tourism. She was a student of the year nominee for GV BOCES, and she also was awarded Designer of the Year from Graphic Arts at BOCES. She also won a Section V scholarship back in the fall for \$500 for Game Day Cheer. Emily received the following scholarships/awards: Attica Lyons Club Scholarship, Attica Central School Employee Scholarship, George C. Wilson Memorial Award and Outstanding Senior Award.



Stephanie Silvernail



Stephanie graduates from Attica Central High School this year. Stephanie has been inducted into the National Honor Society.

She will attend SUNY Corning in the fall to begin her education toward a Nursing Degree.

Stephanie received the following Awards: United States Marine Corps Youth Foundation Music Award and Five Star Bank Leadership Award

COLLEGE GRADUATE

Elizabeth Peters

Elizabeth also graduated cum laude with her Bachelor's Degree in Pharmacy Studies from St. John Fisher University, where she was also in the Honors Program. She will continue to study at St. John Fisher for the next 3 years to complete graduate school, working towards her Pharm. D. (Doctor of Pharmacy). She is working at Highland Hospital in Rochester, NY for the summer as a paid Pharmacy Intern.





Council Minutes
May 27, 2025

Meeting was called to order by President Jeff Peters @6:55pm

Members present: Jeff Peters, David Williman, Laurie Bellucci, Marie Lowe, Justin Kipfer, Ruth Hopfinger, Lisa Knerr, John Brandon, Lynn Jacoby, Pastor Laurie.

Agenda reviewed and accepted- MMSC Ruth and Laurie April minutes (corrected) reviewed and accepted- MMSC Justin and Marie

Reports

Deacons- see report

Trustees- see report

Treasurer- no questions

Christian Education- no report

Pastor Laurie- will be in Albany for meetings 6/5-6/6

Learning Instructive continuing education, 6/6-6/7- UCC

Annual Meeting. Pastors Discretionary Fund is closed.

MMSC for all reports- Laurie and Justin

Old Business

1) Mailer- will table and discuss further next month

2) Garage sale June 14th. Laurie and Jeff available to open church. Suggestion to put old plates out for purchase with donation.

3) Church Picnic- June 8th after church. Farewell to Anas- Laurie to get graduation gift for him.

New Business

1) Attica Food Pantry- have been using 501c paperwork under St. Paul's name. MMSC made to send letter rescinding use of St. Paul's name and ID- Marie and Ruth. Laurie will send letter.

2) John's letter discussed. Recommended upgrading website and possibly streaming Bible study. Discussed asking congregation to add testimonials, ask for input/ suggestions. Also discussed reviewing survey done in past for ideas.

3) Discussed doing Family Night in park with games and events

4) Laurie will send group text notices to check email for updates

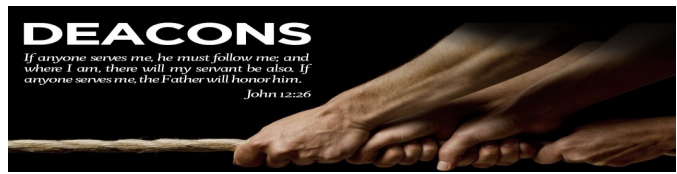
Next meeting June 17th @7pm

Meeting adjourned @ 8:15pm with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted

Marie Lowe

Council Secretary



Deacon's Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2025

Laurie Bellucci called the meeting to order at 6:33pm. Pastor Laurie led us in prayer. Agenda was reviewed and accepted MMSC Justin Kipfer, Ruth Hopfinger. April Minutes were reviewed and accepted MMSC John Brandon, Lisa Knerr.

Graduation Sunday is set for June 29th. There are 2 graduates to be recognized. We will have a cake reception following worship. We will also recognize Anas, the foreign exchange student living with the Peters family, on June 8th as he will be returning home that week.

The security policy for not including last names on the screens was discussed.

Layreaders, ushers, and greeters charts were reviewed. Please help us out and volunteer for an upcoming Sunday.

We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is June 17th at 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted

Ruth Hopfinger

TRUSTEES MEETING
May 27, 2025

1. Boiler inspection for Insurance Company arranged.

2. Battery on smoke alarms changed. Exit light checked.

3. Purchase of LED bulbs discussed.

4. Refrigerator compressor repair time set.

5. Arranged time to remove sanctuary decorations.

Sincerely,
David Williman

July/August Parish Nurse Notes



Summer is here! A time for enjoying the outside. Remember to take precautions while in the sun. Stay well hydrated, wear sunscreen and sunglasses. During these 2 months, we address UV safety and Children's Eye Health and Safety. Limit time in the sun between 10am and 3 pm. When outside, wear a wide brimmed hat, sunscreen of at least 30 SPF and sunglasses that offer UV protection. Just because sunglasses are dark and tinted, does not mean they are UV protective- check the label. This is also the time to schedule and eye exam for your children and adults too! Get a yearly exam. When competing in sports or activities, be sure to wear protective eyewear as necessary.

Park and Recreation month is in July. Enjoy our beautiful parks and explore nature. Plan ahead to have adequate footwear if you are hiking, plan your adventure, make sure you have plenty of water and snacks. Take along a nature guidebook to identify plants, birds and animals. Stay alert to surroundings and do not venture off designated paths. August 4th is a day to celebrate parks, and admission is usually free to any state and national parks to promote this adventure. Take advantage of the beautiful countryside we have.

Looking ahead to August, we start planning for the new school year. Check out your kid's immunization records and schedule any needed vaccines. Midmonth starts the process of getting ready for school - adjusting bedtimes slowly to ensure adequate sleep.

Enjoy this wonderful time of year. Stay alert and safe around water- especially ponds and lakes. Have fun with outdoor activities and cookouts- wonderful variety of veggies to grill this time of year. Stay hydrated and keep sunscreen on to protect your skin.

See you all healthy in September!



Congratulations to the following students for their academic achievement—3rd Qtr.

HONOR ROLL:

10th Grade
Joshua Kipfer

11th Grade
Sawyer West

12th Grade
Emily Peters
Stephanie Silverail



Operating 2025					
	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>
Beginning Balance	\$ 33,914.72	33,923.54	32252.1	32076.7	34024.06
Income	9,065.00	8,823.37	13764.1	14727.1	9138.95
Expenses	9,056.18	10,494.81	13939.5	12779.14	8397.87
Income/loss	8.82	(1,671.44)	-175.4	1947.96	591.08
Ending Balance	33,923.54	32,252.10	32076.7	34024.06	34765.14



St. Paul's United Church of Christ
11 Washington Street
Attica, NY 14011



of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Village of Attica

*July/August
2025*

St. Paul's UCC, 11 Washington Street

Just around the corner, first block down from Main Street.

Join us for Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

Sunday School for children K-7th Grade - Nursery always open!

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at St. Paul's."

Reverend Lauran Heidenreich

Call the church at (585-591-2705), stpaulunited@verizon.net or pastorucc@verizon.net

Website: atticaucc.org

**September Newsletter Deadline
August 24th**

**Please make sure all newsletter
submissions are in by this date.** Place in the pink
folder on the office window or e-mail to:
stpaulunited@verizon.net