

From Genesis to Revelation: Order, Disorder, Reorder
(portions from articles by Fr. Richard Rohr)

The Bible begins in a garden and ends in a garden. The first human being was put in the garden to cultivate and keep it. And was instructed to eat freely of every tree of the garden except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. When the first human was divided into two beings, they ate the forbidden fruit. God banned them from the garden before they could also eat from the tree of life.

Our life journeys usually begin in an initial family 'garden'. When we move out, we depart from our original state of innocence and utter dependence. We step out to grow in learning and mature in faith. As we encounter greater possibilities and face complexity, we are better able to engage in critical thinking.

Eventually, we encounter paradox. This hones our ability to hold two seemingly opposite positions at the same time. We make decisions about which family traditions to hold onto and which to expand. We may become more traditional in some areas and more progressive in others. We realize our life has seasons. And what seems absolutely essential in one season may be disposable in the next.

The Order of our 'family garden' gives us strong roots. The Disorder that occurs when we leave it- develops our ability to both withstand adversity and bend with the wind. We discover our own strength and courage. Instead of always needing external controls, we develop some semblance of self-control.

Our faith matures if we allow God to reorder us. Reorder grows our branches so we might produce fruit to benefit others. It frees us to become more generous. It helps us to be more inclusive. It empowers us to love God and others as we love ourselves.

The huge, middle section of the Bible relates some of the long journey of God's people. It tells of both their faithfulness and unfaithfulness. It includes the many prophets who call the people back to the ways of God. It provides wisdom literature and hymns of praise. It reminds us of whose we are, lists the spiritual gifts we're to embody, and helps us to hope in the coming Reign of God.

In Revelation's new garden, the home of God is among creation. The river of the water of life runs through the middle of the garden. The tree of life now exists on both sides of this river! It's no longer forbidden. Instead, it produces twelve kinds of fruit; a different kind is produced each month. And even its leaves are for the healing of the nations.

God wants to continually Reorder us. God continually creates in us a new heart. God continually realigns our minds and restores our souls. As we move from knowing all the answers to embracing the questions, we can realize that God is leading us to a more expansive place where everything belongs.



SEASON OF CREATION

Annual Meeting of the New York Conference- June 6-7, 2025

The Annual Meeting of the New York Conference of the United Church of Christ will convene at the Crowne Plaza Albany - The Desmond Hotel, Albany New York, beginning at 1:00 PM on Friday, June 6, 2025, and will be in session until after the Closing Service of Worship on Saturday, June 7, 2025. St. Paul's UCC may be represented by two delegates. If interested, please contact Pastor Laurie.

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?



The Sundays in June

- 1 Communion Sunday
- 8 Pentecost Sunday—**wear RED**
- 15 Trinity Sunday & Father's Day
- 22 July/August Newsletter Deadline
- 29 Graduation Sunday

**Attica Food Link
Distribution:
Attica Food Pantry
72 East Avenue**

June 4, 2025
10am-12pm

Bring your own bags
1st come 1st served.



Strengthen the Church Offering

The Strengthen the Church Offering supports leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and renewal initiatives in existing congregations. Donate using the enclosed envelope or pick up one from the Offering Table in the back of the Sanctuary.

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**.

June 1

Acts 16: 16-40

June 8

Genesis 11:1-9

Acts 2:1-8,12-21

June 15

John 16:7-8,12-15

Proverbs 8.1,23-30

June 22

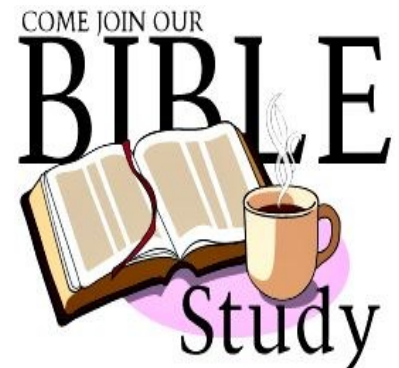
Galatians 3.23-28

Psalms 22.19-21,25-26

June 29

Galatians 5.1,16-25

Psalms 77.11-15a





REMEMBER WHEN: April 1958

COME! WORSHIP! GET ACQUAINTED WITH THE CANDIDATE FOR OUR PULPIT!

OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Congregation of St. Paul's Church, Attica, will meet for worship on Good Friday night at 8:00 pm to meet Mr. Carlton Norton who will preach at this service. Following the service the Members of the congregation will vote rather to extend a Call to the Pastorate of the Attica-Orangeville Charge.

(signed) The Pulpit Committee

Mrs. Lillian Gatgen
Mrs. Wilma Rifenburg
James Laughlin, Sr.



“Thou art the LIFE, the empty tomb
Proclaims Thy conquering arm;
And those who put their trust in Thee
Nor death, nor hell shall harm.” (Anon.)



James Neary
Church Historian

Annual Church Picnic

June?

Watch for details to follow

**Church
Picnic**



GRADUATES

Graduation Sunday is June 29th.

If you have someone in your family graduation from High School or college, please email the following Information **(along with a picture if possible)** no later than June 15th.

The information will be in the July/August newsletter.

Name of graduate:

School attended/degree received:

Honors/Awards/Scholarships received:

Name of college they will be attending and major/future plans:



Graduation time is almost here.

St. Paul's UCC Scholarship Fund could use your help.

If you feel compelled to help out a graduate, you can make a donation to this fund.

You can donate for a birthday gift, in honor of,
in memory of someone or just because you feel it in your heart to help.

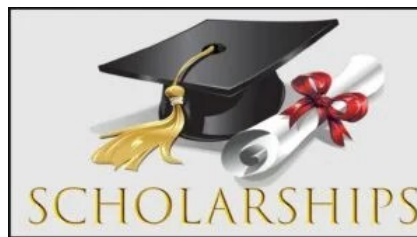
We would like this tradition to continue. With your help it can.

This year we have two graduating seniors that are continuing their education in college.

We will accept cash or check.

Place your donation in an envelope marked
St. Paul's UCC scholarship fund/Memorial Committee.

Thank you for helping this tradition to continue.



Have you been Decluttering your Home?
Now is a good time to think about this.

INSIDE GARAGE SALE

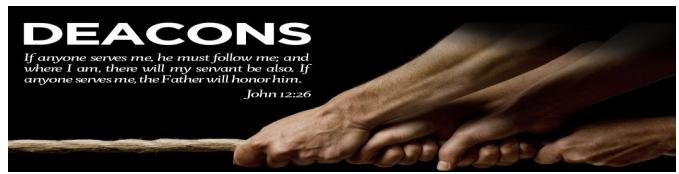
In conjunction with the Village wide Garage Sales

June 14th

Pay \$10 for a 6' table and bring your stuff to sell.

RSVP by calling the church by June 1st





Council minutes - April 15, 2025

Council meeting was called to order by President Jeff Peters at 6:55pm. Members present- Jeff Peters, Laurie Bellucci, John Brandon, Ruth Hopfinger, Justin Kipfer, David Williman, Roy Ticen, Lisa Knerr, Marie Lowe, Pastor Laurie.

Pastor Laurie led us in prayer.

Agenda was reviewed and accepted- MMSC Justin Kipfer, Marie Lowe. March minutes were reviewed- correction made regarding change of membership to Flo Nolan, not family. MMSC - Laurie Bellucci, Ruth Hopfinger.

Reports

Deacons- see report

Trustees- see report

Treasurer- see report- no questions

Christian Education- 5 children to go to Dunkirk camp 2025. Cost will be \$50 application by family, remainder covered by Christian Education. Easter egg hunt during Sunday school on 4/20. Need Sunday School teachers for the summer- sign up sheet to be posted.

Pastor Laurie- vacation 4/20 after service through 4/30. Spring Association meeting in Hamburg 5/3. NY Annual Conference in Albany 6/5-6/7.

All reports MMSC- Laurie Bellucci, Marie Lowe.

Old Business

Roy to arrange meeting with his son Eric to discuss improvement and retention of members.

New Business

Easter week services- scheduled for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Easter Sunrise service- advertisement on Facebook, village screen, letters to area churches. Cross will be brought to park, Jeff and Justin to arrange tables facing east. Jeff will provide coffee, cups, napkins and creamer. Marie will do pastries.

Community engagement - Fall backpacks- will have lunch, activities arranged. Plan to start gathering supplies. Jeff will ask Lions Club for donations.

Add church history to website.

Roy discussed "Best kept secret" in Attica to promote St.Paul's .

1) Suggests bulk mailing postcards- Hope, Faith, Love. Will add events to cards and send to village/ town residents. Justin to check into adding QR code for access to Facebook page.

2) Stressed need to greet visitors, sign guest book, inform of events. Recommend updating brochure and social media.

Lisa suggested opening church for community events such as yoga or exercise classes- will need to check insurance policy. Suggestion to put Sisters in Faith cross outside for community

to add to. Will do at backpack giveaway day.

Lisa suggested doing raised garden beds and putting produce on stand out front.

Meeting adjourned with Lord's Prayer @815pm

Next meeting May 20, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Lowe Council Secretary

Deacon's Meeting Minutes - April 15, 2025

Laurie Bellucci called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Pastor Laurie led us in prayer. Agenda was reviewed and accepted MMSC John Brandon, Ruth Hopfinger. March Minutes were reviewed and accepted MMSC Justin Kipfer, John.

Maundy Thursday service is set for April 17th, 5:30pm. It is a potluck dinner with drinks provided.

Good Friday service is April 18th at noon. There are enough readers. Organist is set. Laurie will get candles ready.

Easter Sunrise service is at 6am. Justin will be lay reader. Bulletins will be provided; decided to print 45.

Reviewed months for each deacon to obtain lay readers, ushers, and greeters.

Graduation Sunday is the end of June. Laurie will order the cake and get the gifts. Justin will get the punch, Ruth Hopfinger will get the napkins and Lisa Knerr and Ruth will help with set up/clean up.

We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is May 20th at 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Hopfinger

April Trustees Minutes—April 15, 2025

Maundy Thursday Service set up

Easter Services set up & prep

Christian Education Wing attic

Roof & Vent discussion

Respectfully submitted,

David Williman

June Parish Nurse Notes



June- the beginning of summer and outdoor activities. This is the time we enjoy barbecues, concerts, swimming, sports and parties. Remember to stay safe and aware during this time. Pay attention to weather forecasts for sudden inclement weather patterns. While outside, use sunscreen- recommended at least SPF30. Reapply frequently, especially after swimming. If you have fair complexion, wear a wide brimmed hat and long sleeves during the hottest time- usually 11-3pm. Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes from damaging sun rays. Stay hydrated with water, iced tea or lemonade. Balance alcohol intake with alternate water intake. Stay active and enjoy sports and exercise - remember to start slow if you have not been active. Be aware of ticks if you are near wooded areas- check your body after you come inside. Swimming is fun and refreshing; make sure you know the area you are swimming in, if a pond or lake. If you are at the beach, stay aware of different currents in the water.

With all the outside activities and increased heat and humidity, people may be more prone to heat related issues. Learn the signs of heat stroke; cool skin with goosebumps, dizziness, increased sweating, muscle cramps, weak and rapid pulse, feeling of faintness. Get the person in a shaded area, lying down and drink cool water. If someone becomes confused and lethargic, call 911. These symptoms could be heat exhaustion, which is a medical emergency.

June is CPR and AED Awareness month. Learn how to do CPR and use an AED. Quick response is crucial to positive outcomes. Red Cross and American Heart Association conduct classes to learn these skills.

Enjoy the beautiful outside and stay safe!



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

MERIT ROLL:

8th Grade:
Christopher Eddy


HONOR ROLL:

6th Grade:
Eleanor Eddy
Levi Perry



JUNE 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Worship and Communion 10am <i>Jennifer Eddy</i>	2 Bible Study 6:30pm	3	4 Bible Study 10 am Food Link	5 Chancel Choir 6:45pm <i>Emilia Perry</i>	6 NY Conference Annual Meeting and Learning Institute	7 <i>Alyssa Jacoby</i>
8 Worship 10 am Pentecost Sunday <i>Steve & Joanne Ripstein</i>	9 Bible Study 6:30pm	10	11 Bible Study 10 am <i>Larry Taylor Henry Donabne</i>	12 Chancel Choir 6:45pm	13	14 Flag Day Garage Sale 8:30-2pm
15 Worship 10 am Trinity Sunday Happy Father's day	16 Bible Study 6:30pm	17 Deacons/Trustees Council meeting 6:30/7pm <i>Danielle Paganello</i>	18 Bible Study 10 am <i>Jen & Chris Eddy</i>	19 Chancel Choir 6:45pm Juneteenth	20 First day of Summer 	21
22 Worship 10 am Newsletter Deadline	23 Bible Study 6:30pm	24	25 Bible Study 10 am	26 Chancel Choir 6:45pm <i>Lisa Knerr & Roy Tien</i>	27	28 <i>Bev West</i>
29 Worship 10 am Graduation Sunday	30 Bible Study 6:30pm <i>John & Chris Prusak Megan & Shawn Simonsen</i>					

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



SP The Spirit

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

*June
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

**July/August Newsletter Deadline
June 22nd**

**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