



"The greatest use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts it." This quote by pioneering American psychologist and philosopher, William James, found expression in the work of the Nobel-winning playwright, George Bernard Shaw, who famously declared: "This is the true joy of life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being thoroughly worn out before you are thrown on the scrap heap; the being a force of Nature instead of a feverish selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote

itself to making you happy."

We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience. We are to be transformed by God's refining fire. We are to invite others to God's refining fire. We are to love others as the gifts of God that they are.

You are a gift from God. Your life is God's gift to you. Receive it as such. As Christians, our whole purpose is to serve God with thanksgiving- in the messy relationships of the human experience. As long as there is a human element in God's church, it will be prone to corruption. But as long as God's Spirit moves, there will be reform and renewal.

Learning, healing, forgiveness and transformation occur in environments that encourage disclosure and transparency (repentance), rather than systems that respond with blame and punishment. When we allow for repentance, we encourage the development of empathy and reconciliation. This allows for positive growth. It is what we are called to as Christ's church- and as the Body of Christ active today.

We are incorporated into the universal church, "the Body of Christ", at Baptism. The *United Church of Christ Book of Worship* includes these words as part of our baptismal promise: "by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ ... furthering Christ's mission in the world." We carry out these covenantal promises within a congregation. The local church embodies God's mission in a particular place. It is here we become part of the universal church and the revolutionary Spirit transforming the world.

In joining together, we can prevail over difficulties that are insurmountable by only one. As we give of our time, treasure, and talent to support the work of the local congregation and "Our Church's Wider Mission" (OCWM), we plug into the joy of love and justice overcoming all that separates us from the goodness of creation. We can strive to become one again, just as Jesus and his Father in heaven are one. May we give generously this Lenten season, to local ministry and to OCWM, and help to make our world a more joyful place for all to live.



SAVE THE DATE

Easter Dawn Sunrise Service at the Attica Park  
April 5th 2026— 6:30 a.m.

# Pray for our Shut-ins



Russ Wackenheim

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

MAY THE ROAD RISE TO MEET YOU,  
MAY THE WIND BE ALWAYS AT YOUR BACK.  
MAY THE SUN SHINE WARM UPON YOUR FACE,  
THE RAINS FALL SOFT UPON YOUR FIELDS.  
AND UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN,  
MAY GOD HOLD YOU IN THE PALM OF HIS HAND.



IRISH  
BLESSING



The Attica Food Pantry  
Located at  
121 Prospect Street

Open: Tuesday and Fridays  
9 am to 12 Noon



Please call or e-mail the church office when ...

- ... either your home phone, address, or e-mail address changes, so that church records can be corrected.
- ... you are planning to move or return to college, university, trade school, etc.
- ... a new baby arrives, a death occurs, or a special event occurs.
- ... a new family moves into your neighborhood.
- ... you feel the congregation can assist you in some way.

## 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.6:30pm

Marilyn Wilson-Wed. morning, 10 am

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

March 1

**John 3:1-8**

*Genesis 11:31-12:4*

*Romans 4:13-16*

March 8

**Romans 5:1-5**

*Psalms 95:1-7a*

March 15

**Matthew 4:12-17**

*Isaiah 9:2-7*

March 22

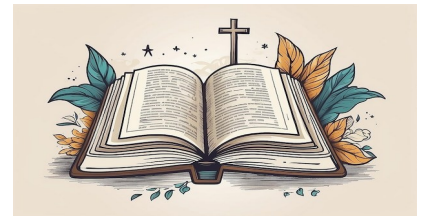
**John 11:1-3,17,20-22,25-29,  
32-35,38,41-45**

*Ezekiel 37:1,4-6,10*

March 29

**Matthew 21:1-11**

*Psalms 118:26-29*



COME JOIN OUR  
**BIBLE**  
Study

Thank you to those who volunteered and those who attended our Pancake Breakfast and Christian Education's Basket raffle.

Our Breakfast raised \$545 and CE raised \$660



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Thank you St. Paul's for your generous donation to  
The Attica Food Pantry.  
We raised \$128.90 to help feed those less fortunate.



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### UCC One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

One Great Hour of Sharing reminds us that God can bring transformation anywhere. The 2026 OGHS theme is Our Love Offering to the World. It's based on 2 Corinthians 9:7 "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

OGHS funds support partners worldwide with ministries that provide health, education, agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries, and disaster response. An OGHS envelope is included in this newsletter.



## Upcoming Important Dates:

March 29<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday  
10 am Service with distribution of palms

April 2<sup>nd</sup> Maundy Thursday Service  
5:30 pm with potluck dinner

April 3<sup>rd</sup> Good Friday Service  
12 Noon service

April 5<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunrise Service  
6:30 am service in Attica Memorial Park

April 5<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday Service  
10 am service with Communion



## 2026 EASTER FLOWERS

EASTER LILLIES:  \$11.00

TULIPS: White  Pink  Yellow  \$8.00

HYANCINTHS: White  Pink  Blue  \$8.00

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

### DEADLINE TO ORDER FLOWERS:

Order flowers by to ensure requests: March 15<sup>th</sup>  
Please make all checks payable to: Laurie Bellucci  
Payment needed by March 29<sup>th</sup>

# CHURCH COUNCIL

December Council Minutes  
December 28, 2025

Meeting called to order at 1045 am by President Jeff Peters.

Members present Jeff Peters, Justin Kipfer, Ruth Hopfinger,

Lisa Knerr, Roy Ticen, Lynn Jacoby, Laurie Bellucci, Marie

Lowe, David Williman.

Jeff led us in prayer

Agenda was reviewed- MMSC Laurie and Ruth

December minutes reviewed- MMSC Marie and Justin  
(MMSC- motion made, seconded and carried)

New Business

Review of 2026 proposed budget for St. Paul's- Local Mission

line added with \$1000 from Sauerkraut Supper- MMSC Marie

and Lisa. Laurie abstained from vote

The Pastor and Pastoral Relations Committee designate \$14,000 of the 2026 base salary as Housing Allowance for Internal Revenue Service purposes.

Adjourned with Lord's Prayer at 1055 am

Next meeting January 18th after Annual Meeting

Respectfully submitted

Marie Lowe Council Secretary

## Stay Cyber Savvy!

*Occasionally you may receive spammy, phishing-style emails (like everybody else). Never open any links from unverified accounts. Use block features. Neither St. Paul's UCC nor Pastor Laurie will ever ask for gift cards or any other type of financial requests in a random email. If you still are not sure, please contact us directly via a fresh email or give us a call!*

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## *REMEMBER WHEN?*

*St. Paul's Women's Guild had a Bake Sale.*

*Selling Fancy Work, Plants and Baked goods.*

*March 20, 1959*

*Held at Hardings old store on Market Street*

*Laura Dumke  
Chairman*



## March Parish Nurse Notes



March - the 3rd month of the year- wedged between winter and spring. Also the month we start day light savings which can alter sleep patterns. This is addressed in March as we acknowledge Sleep Awareness Week. It has long been studied and determined that good, restful sleep is important for our overall physical and mental health. Poor sleep can cause daytime drowsiness which can cause problems when driving, decreased work output, increased risk of accidents and increased sick time use. Suggestions to improve sleep include not eating big meals late in evening, decrease caffeine and alcohol intake in the evening, do not exercise 2-3 hours before bed, reduce screen time in evening. Keep a set time for bed through the week, keep room cool, dark and quiet and make sure you have comfortable mattress and pillows. If you continue to have problems sleeping speak with your PCP for additional help and resources.

World Kidney Day is March 13th. This day is set aside to draw attention to the importance of healthy kidneys. Your kidneys control fluid output, regulate release of toxins from your blood, help to control blood pressure, and keep bones healthy along with producing red blood cells. Chronic kidney disease is silent and can progress to kidney failure without close monitoring. Symptoms present as swollen ankles, fatigue, shortness of breath or change in urine color. Simple blood tests can detect and track kidney disease.

Treatment consists of keeping active to maintain healthy weight, eating healthy diet, control blood sugar and blood pressure, stop smoking, drink adequate fluids especially water, and follow up with PCP routinely.

Poison prevention week in March draws attention to accidental poisoning in the home. Check your cabinets for items such as cleaners that may contain harmful ingredients. Make sure items are properly stored away from reach of pets or young animals.

March is also Colorectal Awareness Month. Colorectal cancer is highly preventable and treatable when caught early. Screening is imperative and is easy to do. Symptoms include changes in bowel habits, rectal bleeding, abdominal pain or fatigue. Check with your PCP for screening options.

Enjoy the start of spring by improving your diet, increasing activity and taking better care of yourself. Stay safe and wash your hands!

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## 2nd Quarter Merit and Honor Roll Acknowledgements

### Merit Roll

9th Grade  
Christopher Eddy



### Honor Roll

11th Grade  
Joshua Kipfer





# MARCH 2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Worship & Communion 10 am	2 Bible Study 6:30pm <i>Porter Luce</i>	3	4 Food Link Bible Study 10 am <i>Chris Eddy</i>	5 Chancel Choir 6:45 pm	6	7
8 Worship 10 am Daylight Saving Time Begins <i>Lisa &amp; Jim Neary</i>	9 Bible Study 6:30pm	10	11 Bible Study 10 am	12 Sisters In Faith 5:30 pm Chancel Choir 6:45 pm	13	14 <i>Sharon Hynnb</i>
15 Worship 10 am <i>Linda Hughes</i>	16 Bible Study 6:30pm <i>Russ Wackenheim</i>	17 St. Patrick's day Deacons / Trustees / Council 6:30/7pm <i>Eric Lovell</i>	18 Bible Study 10 am <i>Lena Donohue</i>	19 Chancel Choir 6:45 pm <i>John Prusak Cris Mahoney</i>	20 First Day of Spring <i>Michele &amp; Eric Lovell</i>	21
22 Worship 10 am Newsletter Deadline	23 Bible Study 6:30pm <i>Elizabeth Peters Kent Storch</i>	24	25 Bible Study 10 am	26 Chancel Choir 6:45 pm	27	28
29 Palm Sunday 10 am	30 Bible Study 6:30pm <i>Tracy O'Neil</i>	31				

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

*March  
2026*

**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](mailto:stpaulunited@verizon.net) or [pastorucc@verizon.net](mailto:pastorucc@verizon.net)

Website: [atticaucc.org](http://atticaucc.org)

**April Newsletter Deadline  
March 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](mailto:stpaulunited@verizon.net)