



Transformation Isn't Easy

We live in a rapidly changing world. In *Reaching People Under 40 While Keeping People Over 60*, Eddie Hammett and James Pierce write: "Transitioning puts heavy demands on church leaders, both paid and volunteer. The church must continue as it always has, which is demanding in itself, while researching, dreaming, praying, seeking God's guidance, and giving birth to a new direction- all at the same time. Workloads and stress may increase exponentially."

Mainline church people who have not encountered this stress are few. Many unconsciously react with anxiety. We attempt to rid ourselves of it by scapegoating. We determine that someone else- most commonly the pastor, conference, or national church- is at fault. We place all our anxiety on that entity and then attempt to banish it from our lives. But all too soon, the anxiety returns and we must find another scapegoat to alienate.

Some think that 'the answer' lies in the megachurch. However, in spite of their escalation, research shows that there has been no corresponding growth in overall church attendance. "Many churchgoers are merely spectators, not driving toward a deeper faith. Without transformation, the Christian message is not advanced," says Ed Stetzer, head of Lifeway Research. The number of people who say they attend at least once a week hovers around 30% year after year. But, those who say they 'never' go to church climbs. The unchurched remain untouched. The megachurch story is really about shifting allegiances so people can feel good about who they already are.

And yet as Christians, Jesus calls us to be transformed so that we might transform our society and world. As a potter shapes clay into a piece of artwork, God's presence in our lives should mold and shape us as individuals and as the church. The anxieties that keep us from becoming whole must be placed in God's hands. This requires patience and endurance since we don't know how the finished vessel will look.

Revitalized congregations overwhelmingly show a painful awareness that they need to make radical changes in their awareness of God's continuing work. Giving their anxiety to God makes an opening for the Holy Spirit to move in and create change. In *If It Could Happen Here ... Turning the Small-Membership Church Around*, author Jeff Paton lists six things that can transform any congregation: prayer, discerning a clear vision, indigenous worship, growth groups, membership that means something, and forming lay pastors.

Prayer changes our attitude. A clear vision changes our understanding of what it means to be church. Indigenous worship can change the way we celebrate. Growth groups change the way we care for people. Meaningful membership changes the way we work. Developing lay pastors makes leaders out of disciples.

If we want St. Paul's UCC to grow again, how will we work with God to empower transformation?



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?



Attica Food Link Distribution:

Food Pantry location, North Walnut St.

October 1, 2025

10am-12pm

Bring your own bags
1st come 1st served.



Sponsored by Attica Food Pantry

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!

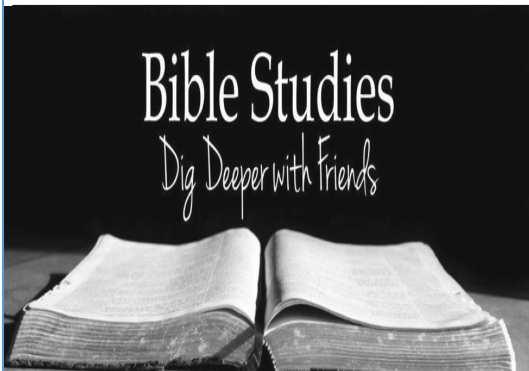
SAVE-THE-DATE!



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 Kirsch

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.6:30pm

Marilyn Wilson-Wed. morning, 10 am

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

Oct 5

Luke 17.5-6

2 Timothy 1.5-7,8c-9,14

October 12

2 Kings 5.1-5a,7-14

Luke 17.11-14

October 19

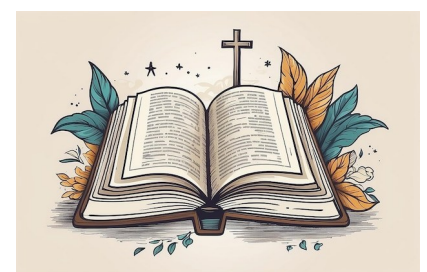
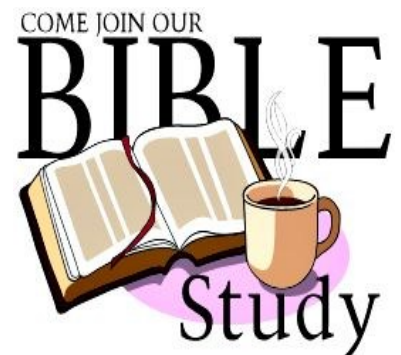
Jeremiah 31:31-34

2 Timothy 3.16-4.4

October 26

Jeremiah 14.7-10,19-22

Luke 18.9-14



- 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.
 - ... you would like to visit with the pastor.



UCC Neighbors in Need Offering

Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering of the UCC. It supports ministries of compassion throughout the United States. This year's theme comes from Galatians 6:2 "Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations who are doing justice work in their communities. Your donation envelope is included in this newsletter.



Looking to be part of our annual Sauerkraut Supper?

We are looking for volunteers for a Sauerkraut Supper Leadership Committee.

Sign up on the Bulletin Board in the hallway.

Any questions, please see Jeff Peters

Sauerkraut Supper—November 4th
Christian Education Basket Raffle
Get your baskets together now.

More details to come

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

ALL proceeds benefit Dunkirk Campers

Carry-in help Friday night and Saturday morning, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner plus a snack in afternoon. Networking, fellowship, meeting the youth you're supporting, and the use of the elevator lift!

The cost:

\$40 day/\$75 for both Saturdays

\$25 half day/\$45 2 half days

6 pm – 9 pm Friday evening – no charge for set-up

There are electrical outlets available for Cricut machines.

Please fill out the form below. Indicate if you will be dropping off/ crafting Friday night, would like a full or half day Saturday & who (if you have a preference) you would like to sit with/ near.

Please send reservation & payment to St. Paul's at the address above **NO LATER than October 12th**

Feel free to contact us with any questions. 585-591-2705 or stpaulunited@verizon.net

Thank you in advance for supporting our Campers!

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

_____ Oct 17 & 18 Full Day (\$40) _____ 9am – 3pm (\$25) _____ 3pm – 9pm (\$25)

_____ Oct 24 & 25 Full Day (\$40) _____ 9am – 3pm (\$25) _____ 3pm – 9pm (\$25)

I would like to sit with: _____

I would like carry in assistance: _____ I need an electrical outlet: _____

Please make checks payable to: St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Thank you for supporting St. Paul's Campers!



Operating 2025

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept
Beginning Balance	\$ 33,914.72	33,923.54	32252.1	32076.7	34024.06	34765.14	35650.6	36256.21	
Income	9,065.00	8,823.37	13764.1	14727.1	9138.95	12207.5	8935	9150.02	
Expenses	9,056.18	10,494.81	13939.5	12779.14	8397.87	11322.04	8329.39	9004.98	
Income/loss	8.82	(1,671.44)	-175.4	1947.96	591.08	885.46	605.61	145.04	
Ending Balance	33,923.54	32,252.10	32076.7	34024.06	34765.14	35650.6	36256.21	38604.52	



October Parish Nurse Notes



Autumn- change of seasons and weather. With this change also comes change in daylight hours and usually decreased sunlight. This is also the time that some depression increases with the decrease of daylight hours. October 5-11 is Mental Illness Awareness Week; established to raise awareness and help to educate regarding mental illness. 1 in 5 adults experience a mental health condition yearly, which impacts the person and family and friends. If you, a family member or friend are experiencing mental health problems, contact your health care provider for directions, or NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) for help.

Arthritis affects many people of all ages. Bone and Joint Health Awareness is also in October. Educating people on the importance of musculoskeletal health for overall well-being is the purpose of this awareness. Promotion of healthy lifestyles including a diet rich in calcium and vitamin D, regular exercise, maintaining healthy weight and avoiding smoking and excessive alcohol use is important to reduce symptoms of arthritis. Keeping active helps maintain mobility and flexibility.

Respiratory Care Week occurs in October and coincides with start of flu season. The week also acknowledges the impact on respiratory care workers who help keep us breathing well.

Saturday October 25th is Prescription Drug Takeback Day. Clean out your medication cabinet. Take all unused medications, OTC medications that are outdated or no longer used to your local pharmacy to discard in a designated receptacle. Never flush medications to prevent any possibility of contamination of water sources.

Keep healthy with all the changes in the season. Drink plenty of liquids, get adequate sleep, stay active, eat healthy and avoid crowds if you are sick. Remember to wash your hands and get your flu shots.

Did you ever think of joining choir? Its so easy, you don't have to pick out something special to wear to church on a Sunday, you also have your own seat and don't have to think about where you will sit. You don't have to read music just have an interest and everyone will help you with the rest.

We are a fun group of people that have the love to sing, with two fun and exciting choir directors.

Practice is weekly on a Thursday at 6:45 pm.

We've had our first practice and its not too late to join in.

Consider joining us.

If you have any questions contact Arlene or Lani.

We would love to have you.



OCTOBER 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Food Link Bible Study 10 am	2 Chancel Choir 6:45pm	3 <i>Christopher Eddy Jr</i>	4
5 Worship and World Communion Sunday 10 am 50 yr member celebration	6 Bible Study 6:30pm	7 <i>Lauren West</i>	8 Bible Study 10 am	9 Sisters In Faith 5:30pm Chancel Choir 6:45pm	10	11 <i>Lisa Knerr</i> <i>Liz & Jason Mest</i>
12 Worship 10 am <i>Nancy Covenbach</i>	13 Office closed Bible Study 6:30pm	14 <i>Becki & Jeff Peters</i>	15 Bible Study 10 am	16 Chancel Choir 6:45pm	17 Scrapbooking 7pm <i>Cheri Phillips</i>	18 Scrapbooking 9am-9pm <i>Eric Peters</i>
19 Worship 10 am	20 Bible Study 6:30pm <i>Tracy & Paul O'Neil</i>	21 Deacons/Trustees/ Council meeting 6:30/7pm	22 Bible Study 10 am	23 Chancel Choir 6:45pm	24 Scrapbooking 7 pm	25 Scrapbooking 9am-9pm
26 Worship 10 am	27 Bible Study 6:30pm <i>Randy Berry</i>	28	29 Bible Study 10 am	30 Chancel Choir 6:45pm	31	

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



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

*October
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

**November Newsletter Deadline
October 19th**

**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