



St. Paul's
Syracuse

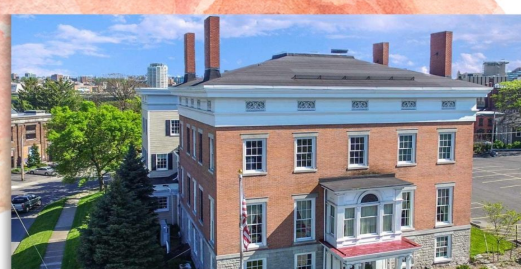
The Downtown
Episcopal Church

The Courier

The Newsletter of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Syracuse

April 2024

Women of St. Paul's Luncheon at the Century Club



*No Matter Who You Are, Or Where You Have Been,
There Is A Place For You At St. Paul's*

www.stpaulsyr.org



OPEN DOORS

Preparing for our
3rd Century of Ministry in Downtown Syracuse NY

Open Doors Capital Campaign Update

—by Cathy Wolff

Exciting news - as of March 13th, **the members of St. Paul's have collectively given \$1,033,079** in support of Open Doors! A big thank you to all of you – solicitors and donors! This is a huge accomplishment!

Our solicitors have done a fantastic job reaching out to most of you. If you have not yet been contacted but would like to be, please talk with any member of the Open Doors Steering Committee: The Rev. Philip Major, Rebecca Livengood, David Ridings, Cathy Wolff, Betsy Elkins, Marion Greenhalgh, Doug Mouncey, Tom Cantwell, Joe Moorman, and Michael Mach.

We are now also soliciting Friends of St. Paul's – former members and clergy, and people from the broader community – and have a goal of raising \$60,000 from this Friends group. So far, we have raised \$35,930 towards that goal.

You may wonder how these people know about Open Doors. We invited many to attend an Open House in 2022 and the groundbreaking ceremony last fall. We have sent letters and a postcard to our diaspora (former members/clergy), many of whom also follow the St. Paul's Facebook page or read the Courier. Our partnership with A Tiny Home for Good was the subject of a feature article in the Syracuse Post-Standard newspaper. Open Doors was just featured in the March issue of the Diocesan newsletter, The Messenger. Those attending Syracuse Orchestra concerts in 2024 have been given copies of our Open Doors Fall 2023 Update. They also see that construction is under way and can learn more from posters in the nave. Some have visited our website and donated there. Most have a connection with one of us – and we are not shy about asking for a donation.

Do you have friends who

- used to worship at St. Paul's?
- attend concerts at St. Paul's?
- care about our mission project with A Tiny Home for Good?

Do you

- talk with them about what is going on at your church?
- share Facebook posts like the picture of the hole for the elevator shaft with your friends?

These are all small things that you can do to promote Open Doors. You can even ask them to consider donating. Online donations are easy on the St. Paul's website.

Since September 30, 2023, we have raised \$114,225 or 33% toward our final goal of an additional \$298,000. Together, we will be successful in completing Open Doors!



The Sargent Foyer is sporting a new temporary wall. This will protect the sanctuary from dust and such during the installation of the new exterior door.



Construction Update from our Project Manager Jeff Spain

—by Betsy Elkins

When I returned to St. Paul's this morning to check out the construction progress, having been away for 10 days, I spoke with Jeff Spain, our construction manager. Here is what he told me:

“Currently we are about 95% complete on the demolition phase. During the demolition we encountered some unforeseen conditions which have been forwarded to Crawford & Stearns (the architects) for consideration of how we should best move forward with these. Our current estimate on when major work will resume is in the week of April 1st (and that’s not a joke).

Due to the extent of the demolition, we ask that nobody enters our construction zones as they are extremely hazardous areas for tourists not accustomed to construction hazards (especially our precious children).

Our window restoration samples will be ready for Crawford and Stearns to review on or about 3/25/24. If approved, we will move forward with the mass restoration of the entire building’s windows which include broken glass replacements, restoring hardware, new weather stripping, deteriorated wood repair/replacement, repairing storm windows, strip old paint, prime/new paint, and other restoration scopes.”

This all means we will begin to see new construction work instead of demolition in the months ahead, which is very exciting. We will put together another “update” video in the next few weeks to show you what is happening behind the scenes where we cannot safely travel. Be sure you read the article by Cathy Wolff describing the progress of our capital campaign. Thank you everyone for your support and patience as our long-awaited project is completed.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT ST. PAUL'S SYRACUSE



Palm Sunday, March 24, 10 a.m.
Single service

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 5:30 p.m.

Good Friday, March 29, 5:30 p.m.

Easter Vigil, March 30, 7:00 p.m.
Begins with 40 minutes of candlelight with incense

Easter Sunday, March 31, 10:00 a.m.
Single service

Resurrection

—by Father Philip



The young man said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here...But go, tell his disciples...that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.
Mark 16:6-8

I arrived at St. Paul's eight years ago, in March of 2016. I had never lived in Syracuse, but as a native of Cleveland, Syracuse felt immediately comfortable. One of the parts of Syracuse that felt familiar was the poverty and relative emptiness of our downtown neighborhood. I did not have a car for my first 3 months, so I spent many hours walking, biking, and riding the bus around the city, and especially around our downtown neighborhood.

Most hours of the week the streets were relatively quiet. As I walked the six blocks from my apartment to St. Paul's the sidewalks were often empty. By 2016, two or three buildings formerly vacant buildings, such as the old Dey Brothers department store, had been converted to apartments. Yet many of the buildings in our downtown neighborhood had been vacant, or only partially occupied, for at least ten years.

At the time, St. Paul's congregation was solid but could be described as 'compact'. Our members were extremely faithful; there were just not a lot of us in 2016. On the other hand, our group of leaders was large, faithful, and highly skilled. So I was in for a bit of a surprise my first Easter at St. Paul's. As we lined up for the procession at 10 a.m., the choir looking and sounding great, the acolytes and other ministers in place with the processional cross and torches, I looked out into the nave. About a dozen

people were sitting in the pews. I said to myself, "Where are all the people?"



I've always been fond of our fair city, and I've always thought the people of St. Paul's were the finest, and that our leaders, including our wardens, were the wisest and best ever. Yet if one of our wardens had told me, back in 2016, the day is going to come (in *your lifetime*) when thousands of people will move into our downtown neighborhood, I would

have been skeptical. If one of our wardens had suggested to me that someone would move to Syracuse, and move into an apartment across the street from the church, and look out their bedroom window and see St. Paul's and say to themselves, "I'm going to try a worship service at that church this Sunday" I would have been quite skeptical.

I would have been wrong, because that is exactly what has happened. Each year at least 500 people move into our downtown neighborhood. In the past year at least a few of them have looked out of their bedroom windows and said something like, "I'm going to try a worship service at that church

St Paul's Syracuse

with the great grey spire this Sunday". At least a few of them have become regular attenders at St. Paul's.

This is a glimpse of what resurrection sometimes looks like. God's love and power are working in ways we do not expect and in ways we do not understand. As in this example, sometimes resurrection means our lives have changed in ways that we would have said was extremely unlikely, if not impossible. Sometimes we are not entirely comfortable with the changes, as the women at the tomb were overwhelmed with fear. Sometimes we say to ourselves, 'that's just not going to happen.' Sometimes, in our doubts, we are wrong.

God is working in your life and my life. God's power and love bring the power of the resurrection into our lives in ways we do not expect, in ways we think are impossible. We pray to restrain ourselves from running away in fear. We pray to be ready for God's new creation in our lives.

Phils +



From the Facebook page of Humans of Syracuse:

"A woman from St. Paul's Syracuse, The Downtown Episcopal Church refills the little free pantry as a boy glances back at the love in action."

Senior Warden's Report

—by Marion Greenhalgh

Continuing on with the second to last section to be covered from the Emergency Action Plan (EAP), this section can also be useful at home should authorities ask you to shelter in place, which can happen.



SHELTER IN PLACE

Sometimes an emergency requires occupants to stay within the building, known as Shelter in Place. Rooms to use for sheltering in place at St. Paul's include the choir room, the Brewster Room, and the basement. These rooms would serve as the best locations in case of a tornado warning, hazardous material incident, or similar event.

Planning Activities (to be completed **before** an emergency):

- Pre-select an interior room(s) with the fewest windows or vents.
- Room(s) should have adequate space for everyone to be able to sit down.
- Consider assembling a Shelter-in-Place kit containing the following:
- A battery-operated/hand cranked AM/FM radio and batteries,
- Plastic sheeting (preferably pre-cut to size to cover any windows and doors),
- Duct tape for sealing cracks around doors and windows,
- Alternate lighting in the event of a power outage such as a flashlight(s) or light-sticks,
- Towels to block the bottoms of each door in the room,
- First-aid kit.
- Create a Shelter-in-Place announcement for occupants of the building asking them to stay and not leave.
- Conduct occasional Shelter-in-Place drills.
- Check the supplies of the Shelter-in-Place kit regularly.

Emergency Action Plan



Response Activities (**during** shelter-in-place emergency):

- Announce to all occupants that there is a Shelter-in-Place emergency.
- Request all occupants to stay and not leave.
- Instruct everyone outside to come inside immediately.
- Close all doors, windows and any openings to the outside.
- Direct staff and all visitors to the designated Shelter-in-Place room(s).
- Monitor media for updates (e.g., radio, cell phones, etc.).
- Account for all building occupants.
- Remain in the room(s) until an ALL CLEAR is given by emergency officials.

In case of an outside chemical release:

- Shutdown HVAC system.
- Seal any doors, windows, vents with plastic sheeting and duct tape.
- Place wet towels at base of door(s).

I am almost to the end of the EAP sections review. I hope you are getting some useful information from these reports. If you ever have any questions, please contact me.

Pastoral Care

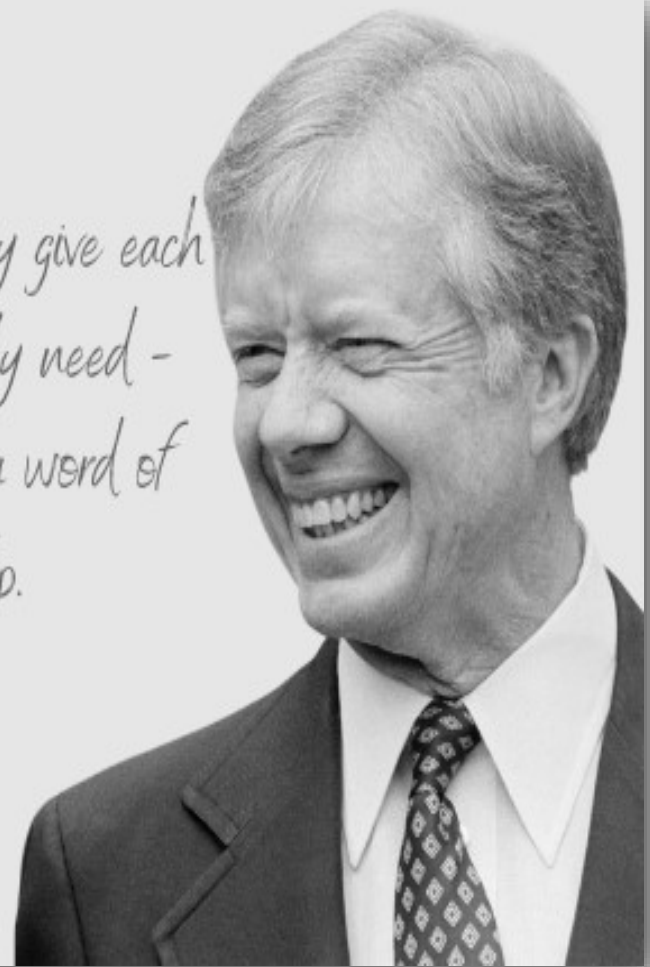
—by Kira Dirghalli

I am grateful for all of you who shared with me and continue to do so, the need for yourself or loved ones for extra healing prayers and the gratitude and joy when healing has occurred. I also share in your sorrow when loved ones have died and am hopeful and grateful that will receive their souls in His loving arms.

I have returned from Florida and am thankful to be at worship in person with my St. Paul's family. Fr. Philip and I will be planning a Pastoral Care meeting sometime in April or May. I found this quote from Jimmy Carter to share with you.

The only things that we can truly give each other are the only things we truly need - an ear to listen, a heart to care, a word of encouragement and a hand to help.

— Jimmy Carter



Thank You

A big thank you to **Sandi Yingling** who has been helping in the office on Wednesdays. We sincerely appreciate all she has contributed with her time and talents.



Junior Warden's Report

—by Joe Moorman



Easter is a season of new beginnings. Since 2019 St. Paul's has planned and prepared for its Open Doors Project, making this the fifth, and we hope the last, Easter Season leading to a renewed St. Paul's Church that can be a vital and more accessible downtown Syracuse institution.

I was able to look into the construction zone inside the old Montgomery Street office doors where crews have cut through floors and walls for the new elevator shaft. It is a startling change from the serene leaded glass windows and the niche that we passed displaying church notices and some St. Paul's history, before coming to the Brewster Room entrance and the Hadley Chapel around the corner.

But the most surprising thing to me was the large steel beams revealed by the demolition. After the initial construction, you rarely get to see the infrastructure that keeps a building the size of St. Paul's standing for decades. I was also told that a few of those beams would have to be cut through and reconfigured to accommodate the elevator shaft. If I was reading a novel that contained a scene like this I would understand it as a metaphor for our church congregation: what holds up St. Paul's and keeps it functioning isn't always seen, and sometimes things have to change to keep it going.



When you see pictures of the Open Doors construction, you may think about the work done with power tools, blowtorches and crowbars, but don't forget about all the work that went into the project by members of St. Paul's before the first hammer was swung. Others are still at work monitoring the project, or helping with worship services, or stocking the Open Pantry. I got a glimpse beneath the surface at what physically holds up the building, but we should all appreciate the efforts so many make keep St. Paul's Church in place.

**The submission deadline for the
May Courier is by
5:00 p.m. Sunday, April 21**

***Please do not indent paragraphs, and be sure to include a
title for your article.***

Newsletter



YMCA Easter Coffee & Donut Social



A Concert for Haiti



TO SUPPORT AN ANNUAL MEDICAL
CLINIC IN PAULETTE, HAITI

SUNDAY APRIL 7
3:00 P.M.

PEBBLE HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5299 JAMESVILLE RD, SYRACUSE



A concert for Haiti is being performed by retired and
current members of the Onondaga Community College
Music Faculty

Musicians Performing:
Rob Bridge - Marimba
Kevin Moore - Piano
Selma Moore - Flute
David Rudari - Vocals
Timothy Schmidt - Guitar



They will perform a wide variety of music including flute
and guitar duets from Italy and Brazil, a solo guitar piece
from Haiti, classical piano, opera and music theater and
popular music arranged for marimba.



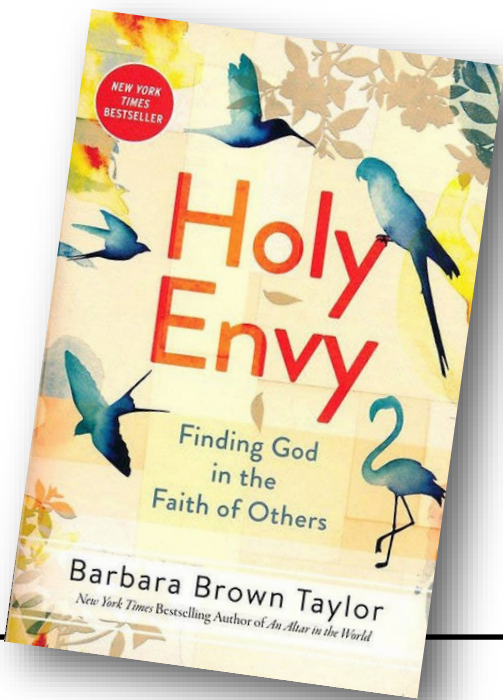
There will be a basket for donations and a reception after
the concert sponsored by the
Haiti Education Mission



Feminist Theology

—by Laurie Sanderson

Feminist Theology continues to thrive as we welcome new members! Our next meeting will be Tuesday April 16th at 7:30 pm via Zoom. We will begin discussing Barbara Taylor Brown's book *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others*. Any questions, contact Laurie Sanderson.



Common Threads Group

—by Georgette Schmidt



There were six people and one lovely cat at the Common Threads gathering on Monday, March 11th. It was a warm time of fellowship, knitting, mending and crocheting.

The next gathering will be at 7:30 pm on Monday, April 8th at the home of Tim & Georgette Schmidt, 309 Scottholm Boulevard, Syracuse. Everyone is very welcome to join the gathering. For more information, please contact Georgette at 315-446-1176 or gschmidt@twcny.rr.com.

Let's Celebrate Together



- NOLAN PALSMA 4/1
- PERRY MOUNCEY 4/6
- ANNA KEMP 4/6
- VIVIAN MINER-SIMMONS 4/9
- CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON 4/11
- LYNN FALLON 4/20
- JOAN SAMMONS 4/25
- PETER EARLE 4/25
- JIM POTTS 4/26
- RUTH BROWN 4/29
- HARRY LEWIS 4/30

Have we missed your birthday or anniversary? Please let us know so we can celebrate with you.

Thank You to Tom Cantwell from the Sunday School Children

—by Barbara Bell

The children and staff of the Sunday School and Nursery have been blessed by the generosity of Tom Cantwell, who has donated (without being asked!) a variety of items such as food treats, Advent calendars, craft kits and stuffed animals. He never forgets a holiday for the children who are so grateful!

The Sunday School and nursery are also the recipients of other gifts for the children and want to thank everyone who remembers these little ones in a variety of ways. Thank you!



Sunday School Happenings

—by Jeanne Avery, Convener of the Formation Ministry Team

Each Sunday during Lent we are discussing Godly Play's Ten Best Ways to Live, otherwise known as the 10 Commandments. How we are following them each week, for each one that we have had a success following, we put a coin in our red wood heart. On Easter Sunday our heart will be part of the offering and our coins donated to the Open Pantry. Of course, the children decided we need to bring food as well. The children report that they are perfect on each commandment and encourage their teacher to try harder to be perfect.

We also are following the lectionary readings through discussion and the activity sheet bulletins. The St. Patrick's Day Special was busy and fun. We went into the Brewster Room for some quiet time to discuss who was St. Patrick and why does everyone enjoy him. (I was prepared with information found on the computer—evidently Connor's teacher did the same because he had all the information. I could not remember how long Patrick was held prisoner in Ireland—Connor knew 6 years.) We returned to the Chapel for our crafts.

We would like to thank Terri & Greg Tuttle and Laurie Sanderson for support in the month of March. Palm Sunday we did the Children's Stations of the Cross, looking at the events of Holy Week. We will celebrate the joy of Easter.

Once again Tom Cantwell has been very kind to our program in bringing roosters and chocolate. We love to see him coming.

Vivian is in the nursery in the Chapel. She has a nice assortment of toys and a rocking chair for Barbara Bell. On occasion Sophia decides to play, on other Sundays she is feeling older and joins the "big kids". The Soft Space in the back of the church is still available for a parent and child.

April 14 is going to be exciting. We are having a guest. Tim Cassavaw along with Jessica King and Barbara Bell will be overseeing the start of the gardening/planting season with the children. April 21 is our Sunday special, the theme being "The Good Shepherd".

Special Sunday School Event



The April Special is:

The Good Shepherd

**Sunday, April 21st
at 9:50– 11:15 a.m.**

**All ages invited.
Bring your friends!**

April Calendar

Tuesday, April 2, 1:00 pm, OD Steering Committee—Montgomery Zoom
Tuesday, April 2, 4:30 pm, Listening Hearts Group—Location TBD
Wednesday, April 3, 4:30 pm, Contemplative Prayer—Private Zoom Channel
Thursday, April 4, 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal —Chase Music Room

Sunday, April 7, 8:00 am, Worship – In Person
Sunday, April 7, 9:50 am, Godly Play Sunday School & Nursery in the Hadley Chapel
Sunday, April 7, 10:00 am, Worship – Live Stream & In Person
Monday, April 8, 1:00 pm, Finance Meeting Special Time—Montgomery Zoom
Monday, April 8, 7:30 pm, Common Threads—309 Scottholm Blvd, Syracuse
Tuesday, April 9, 5:00 pm, Vestry Meeting—Brewster Room
Wednesday, April 10, Time TBD, Poister Organ Competition Rehearsals
Wednesday, April 10, 4:30 pm, Contemplative Prayer—Private Zoom Channel
Thursday, April 11, Time TBD, Poister Organ Competition Rehearsals
Thursday, April 11, 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal —Chase Music Room
Friday, April 12, 7:00 pm, Poister Organ Competition Concert-Open to the Public
Saturday, April 13, 9:00 am, Vestry Retreat at Father Philip's 257 Robineau Rd Syracuse

Sunday, April 14, 8:00 am, Worship – In Person
Sunday, April 14, 9:50 am, Godly Play Sunday School & Nursery in the Hadley Chapel
Sunday, April 14, 10:00 am, Worship – Live Stream & In Person
Monday, April 15, 9:30 am, Open Doors Capital Campaign Meeting—Montgomery Zoom
Monday, April 15, 12:00 pm, Bible Study in the Brewster Room
Tuesday, April 16, 1:00 pm, Open Doors Project Management Meeting—Montgomery Zoom
Tuesday, April 16, 7:30 pm, Feminist Theology—Montgomery Zoom
Wednesday, April 17, 4:30 pm, Contemplative Prayer—Private Zoom Channel
Thursday, April 18, 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal —Chase Music Room
Saturday, April 20, 10:00 am, Open Pantry Drop Off at the East Fayette St Door

Sunday, April 21, 8:00 am, Worship – In Person
Sunday, April 21, 9:50 am, Godly Play Sunday School & Nursery in the Hadley Chapel—Special event
Sunday, April 21, 10:00 am, Worship – Live Stream & In Person
Sunday, April 21, 11:30 am, Earth Day Clean Up after the 10:00 am service
Sunday, April 21, 5:00 pm, DEADLINE FOR MAY COURIER
Monday, April 22, 12:00 pm, Bible Study in the Brewster Room
Tuesday, April 23, 1:00 pm, OD Contractor's Meeting—Brewster Room
Tuesday, April 23, 5:00 pm, Buildings & Grounds Meeting—Montgomery Zoom
Wednesday, April 24, 4:30 pm, Contemplative Prayer—Private Zoom Channel
Thursday, April 25, 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal —Chase Music Room
Friday, April 26, All Day, Syracuse Orchestra Rehearsal
Saturday, April 27, All Day, Syracuse Orchestra Rehearsal

Sunday, April 28, 8:00 am, Worship – In Person
Sunday, April 28, 9:50 am, Godly Play Sunday School & Nursery in the Hadley Chapel
Sunday, April 28, 10:00 am, Worship – Live Stream & In Person
Sunday, April 28, 3:00 pm, Syracuse Orchestra Concert
Monday, April 29, 12:00 pm, Bible Study in the Brewster Room



**Always check
St. Paul's website
for the most up to
date calendar.
www.stpaulsyr.org**

Earth Day at St. Paul's

Sunday April 21

after the 10 a.m. service



Buildings & Grounds invites everyone to join in the following tasks

- picking up ground litter around the church
- power wash the garden love seat
- power wash all of the red entrance doors on Fayette and Montgomery
- install the new church signs
- work on Rainbow Doors: remove two which are in the worst condition, and paint two replacements.



Poister Organ Competition Concert

Friday, April 12, 7:00 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
220 E. Fayette St.
Downtown Syracuse



The Syracuse Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, in cooperation with the Syracuse University Setnor School of Music, is pleased to announce the 2024 Arthur Poister Scholarship Competition in Organ Playing.

Upcoming Syracuse Orchestra Concert

**BACH,
COPLAND, AND
SHOSTAKOVICH**



The Syracuse Orchestra welcomes back Monica Fosnaugh, English horn player from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, to join principal trumpet John Raschella in a performance of Copland's Quiet City. The work is bookended by Shostakovich's Chamber Symphony at the start and Bach's Orchestral Suite No. 4 in D Major to complete the afternoon.

The Syracuse Orchestra will be performing at St. Paul's Episcopal Church
220 E. Fayette St. Downtown Syracuse

Sunday, April 28 at 3:00 pm

Tickets available at the door or online: www.syracuseorchestra.org

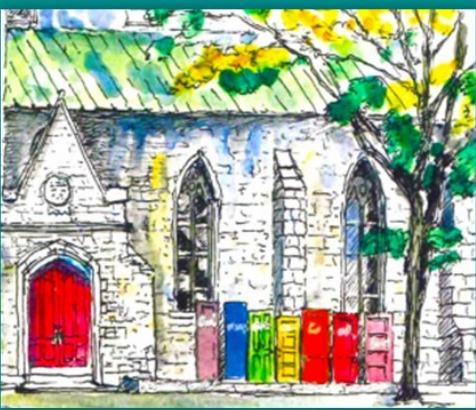
Open Doors Challenge Grant!

Loyal supporters of St. Paul's for four generations have issued
a challenge to St. Paul's members:

If St. Paul's receives donations or pledges to Open Doors for \$50,000,
they will match these contributions with another \$50,000!

Pledges and donations received between March 24th and June 30th will
count toward this challenge grant. If you have been meaning to pledge or
donate to Open Doors, do it now and have your gift doubled!

*Please contact Tom Cantwell, Cathy Wolff, or another member of the
Open Doors Steering Committee (see p.2) for information about making a pledge or donation.*



St. Paul's
Syracuse

The Downtown
Episcopal Church

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