The Courier Newsletter
May 2019

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

www.stpaulsyr.org
Please allow 10-15 minutes extra to get to St. Paul’s on May 5th due to the Mountain Goat Run.

Here are suggestions for getting to St. Paul’s on Sunday May 5

The easiest way to get to St. Paul’s will be to take Interstate 81. Since the Interstate is elevated it brings you into the center of the city above the road closures.

Option A - From the north: Take I-81 south to the Harrison Street exit. Follow Harrison west one block to Townsend. Make a right on Townsend. Follow Townsend a few blocks north to Firefighters Park. Make a left onto Fayette St.

Option B - From the south: Take I-81 north to the Adams/Almond Street exit. Go one block north on Almond St. Turn left onto Harrison, then follow the directions in option A.

Option C - From the east or the west: Take 690 to I-81 south. You will take the first exit, Harrison Street – see Option A above.

It is likely that regular street access from the north, the west and the south will be extremely limited beginning sometime between 7-8 a.m.

It is likely that regular street access from the east side of town will be extremely limited beginning sometime between 8-9 a.m.
ST. PAUL’S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Our lovely Easter altar. Thank you to all who made St. Paul’s so beautiful for Holy Week.
Prayers of the People
—By The Reverend Philip Major

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood. from the service of Holy Baptism
Book of Common Prayer, p. 308

18 months ago we celebrated the 500th anniversary of the official beginning of the Protestant Reformation. As Episcopalians, we consider ourselves to be both Protestant and Catholic. One of our Catholic attributes is that every Episcopal priest was ordained by a bishop, who was ordained by a previous bishop, who was ordained by an even older bishop, and so on...all the way back to St. Peter. At least, that is the way the story is told.

As Episcopalians, three main principles of the Protestant Reformation guide our practices:

* Our worship is in the language of the people.
* Scripture is the authority for all matters of faith.
* We uphold all baptized Christians as members of the Priesthood of All Believers.

As members of the priesthood of all believers, we make the claim that each person has a direct relationship with God. Our relationships with God are supported by the church, but they are not dependent on the church. We make the claim that each person is fully capable of a life of prayer and faithfulness.

This principle is at the heart of the Prayers of the People. The Prayers of the People consists of a set of four or five or six petitions and thanksgivings. The leader begins the prayers with words like these:
We pray for our church leaders, Michael our presiding bishop, DeDe, our bishop and Philip, our Rector. We pray for leaders in our nation, our state and our city. May they work together to sow good seeds for all those they represent. Then the congregation is invited to respond with their own prayers.

It is important for our members to add their own prayers at this time, which is why we allow 10-15 seconds of silence during the prayers. The silence is a signal: it is time for you to add your own intercessions. In the prayer petition above we are praying for leaders of the church. I often add prayers for clergy friends who are facing difficult challenges.

Recently our prayer leaders have expanded our listing of church leaders to include Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Francis, Bishop of Rome, and Bartholomew, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople. I encourage you to pray for these leaders and any other leaders of the church that you hold in your hearts on a daily basis. But the point of the Prayers of the People is not to be all-inclusive. The point of the Prayers of the People is to invite our entire congregation into the activity of prayer.

In recent months I have come to realize that naming more individual leaders in our prayers for leaders of the church has two negative effects:

1. We place an undo focus on those in positions of high authority. This is in direct disagreement with the Gospel of Christ. Jesus encouraged all people to serve the highest calling, which is to serve as agents of God’s love in the world.

2. We are leaving out more leaders with each new leader we include. For instance, if we pray for Pope Francis, why not pray for the Bishop of the Upstate New York ELCA Synod, Bishop John Macholz? We have full communion with our ELCA brothers and sisters, so why not include them? Why not pray for Bishop Kenneth Carter, president of the Council of Bishop of the United Methodist Church?

No list of church leaders could ever be complete. As with other portions of our prayer list, the list of spiritual leaders will almost certainly not include someone who is very important to you. That is on purpose. We need you to offer prayers for all those you hold in your heart!
Senior Warden's Report
—By Laurie Sanderson, Senior Warden

This Lenten journey and glorious beginning of the Easter season has made me think a great deal about Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus. I am sure you all remember the story: Mary wanted to be at Jesus' feet learning all she could from this man, her savior. Martha kept things going, kept the house running and people fed and cared for. A very tiresome role and I am sure she felt unappreciated at times. Come on, admit it, haven't you felt that way sometimes?

But this season, as I have spent time serving at the altar, attending to Pastoral Care channeling Mary perhaps, and preparing special foods and time in the kitchen at St. Paul's, I felt a direct line to Martha. And to my delight, both warmed my heart! Being part of a community as Jesus calls us to be, requires both roles in our life. There are many ways we are called through Mary to serve Christ—writing the prayers, lay reading, ushering, just being there and listening to the word of the Lord, all tap into our Mary side. And our Martha side is tapped whether we help with coffee hour, serve on buildings and grounds, help with flowers, in so many ways. Mary and Martha were both loved by Jesus and he valued their gifts.

There are many ways you can serve at St. Paul's and we are grateful for all that is done and welcome others who look for ways to channel their Mary and Martha!
The Basics


L to R: Kathy Corley, Mary Powell, Julia Fine, DJ Igelsrud
It is the Monday after Easter as I write a little something from the Jr. Warden for the Courier. It was a busy Holy Week that culminated with our beautiful services on Easter. On the one hand I am a bit weary after such a busy week that involved so many Mary and Martha activities (see Laurie’s article; I agree with everything she wrote!) But on the other hand I am rejuvenated by the promises of the Easter message.

This is why I am weary. My week began with the noon time Bible Study at Café Kubal last Monday. On Tuesday I shopped for Wednesday’s soup lunch and the Maundy Thursday meal. I made soup on Wednesday (with the help of several others and assembled a tabouli salad for Thursday’s meal. I made communion bread for Thursday’s service on Thursday morning. The Maundy Thursday service was beautiful, delicious and powerful. (Washing each other’s feet is a powerful experience.) On Friday I attended the quiet noon service and had lunch with a fellow choir member at the Mission, something choir members always did after we sang a requiem (old habits die hard!) And to get my requiem fix I went to Plymouth Congregational Church on Friday evening to hear three choirs sing the Rutter Requiem which was truly lovely and so well done. I spent Saturday morning arranging flowers in the church and in the afternoon I made some cookies for the Vigil reception. Easter really began for me with the Vigil on Saturday evening. And of course again there was the Easter day service on Sunday morning. Phew!

But here is why I am rejuvenated. Several years ago when I asked a priest for help in explaining Easter to my grandchildren she told me to tell them it is about happy endings. Indeed! Easter is certainly a happy ending following Good Friday and the message is all about hope, resurrection, new things and a new commandment to love one another. And today is Earth Day! It is warm and sunny in Syracuse,
a happy ending perhaps to the long cold dark winter we have experienced and a sign of hope that spring is coming again; the earth will be rejuvenated.

And in the midst of all the busyness of Holy Week, that I and so many others experienced last week, there was much love and a sense of community at St. Paul’s. With the exception of making communion bread and cookies in my home, I didn’t do any of those things I described above by myself. I was always with others, in fellowship, in community and with love. Today at our Bible study Fr. Philip said he thought perhaps if we were to rename St. Paul’s, it could be the Agape Church of Syracuse! Don’t worry we aren’t going to change our name, but agape certainly describes what is happening here. There is clearly a love “originating from God for humankind.” The people of St. Paul’s truly care about each other as witnessed by the service, fellowship and worship that we experienced together last week.

We are all very happy for the upcoming marriage ceremony of Fr. Philip to Rev. Kathy Corley on June first. It will indeed be a glorious day. We are honored to be organizing the reception.

If you received an invitation and haven’t RSVP'd yet, please do so soon, so we can plan accordingly. The web address for the RSVP is not an email. Type the address into your browser window, and follow the prompts in the website.
On March 31st our own Dr. Jessica King hosted a Formation event titled *Christian Music from Chant to the Present and Beyond!* During the last 30 minutes of the event members shared their ideas and preferences for congregational singing. I encourage you to continue sharing your thoughts about our congregational singing with me. The most helpful thing is for you to tell me when we have sung a hymn that is meaningful for you.

When I choose music for congregational singing I keep several things in mind:

1. **Hymns are the theology we bring home with us when we leave church.**

   There is a reason we will never sing “Onward Christian Soldiers” during a Sunday morning worship service while I am serving as your rector. The militant triumphalism of the words makes for a good battle cry, but these words push us towards conformity, towards aggressive, even violent actions, and towards the thought that faithfulness has something to do with being in the largest, most powerful group. These ideas are not consistent with the work and message of Christ Jesus.

   The theology of our hymns must convey the reality of our faith journeys today. The text of any hymn is the first consideration as I make decisions about our congregational singing.

2. **We have a small core of hymns that are familiar to everyone.**

   New members make up 10-30% of our congregation most Sundays. Many of our new and experienced members came to the Episcopal Church from
other traditions. This means that many of the hymns in our hymnal are unfamiliar to many of our members. I cannot name more than five hymns (other than Christmas Carols) that are likely known by all our members.

Since we cannot assume that “everyone knows this one” we need to be deliberate about building up a core of hymns for our congregational singing. You will notice that there are at least 30 hymns which we sing at least three or four times each year. There is a reason for that; we are working on building up the core of our hymns. I try to include at least one of these ‘core’ hymns every Sunday.

3. Our members bring interest and experience from many different music traditions.

This is a good thing. In recent years St. Paul's congregation has come to look more like the diverse population of our entire community. (See page 4-5 for more thoughts about this.) The hymns we sing reflect some of this diversity. Our hymns come from many different traditions and genres:

* African-American (Hymn #172)
* Anglican (#287)
* Chorales (#168)
* French (#324)
* German (#400)
* Irish (#488)
* Lutheran (#417)
* Pre-20th Century American (#686)
* Plainchant (#56)
* Post-War Hymn Explosion (#490)
* Southern Harmony (#439)
* Renaissance (#489)
* Welsh (#657)

continued
There are no good or bad musical traditions. There is good music in all music traditions. We try to sing the strongest theological texts paired with the best musical settings of each tradition.

4. **It is sometimes difficult for us to hear one another as we are singing.**

   This is our greatest challenge. Our worship space is enormous. On an average Sunday morning many of our members sit far apart from each other. We sit far away from the choir. The sound of our voices is absorbed by soft pew cushions and carpeting. We cannot hear each other very well. This makes it more difficult for us to sing together.

   If you attended worship on Maundy Thursday you heard the best of our congregational singing. We were sitting very close together. We could hear one another singing.

5. **We have a very strong choir, a very good organist, and our congregation includes many music lovers.**

   These are our greatest strengths. Our choir and organist play a crucial role in leading our congregational singing. Our choir does not ‘perform’ for the congregation. At St. Paul’s all our music is offered for the glory of God. Our choir:

   * leads our congregation in singing our worship music.
   * offers anthems as an act of worship.

   We give thanks for the musical leadership of our choir and our organist and choirmaster, Jim Potts.

   I would suggest that worship is the most important thing we do as a congregation. We are taking deliberate steps to help us sing better together, such as removing the cushions from the side pews when we are not in ‘Symphoria Season’. Strengthening our congregational singing is one of the most important steps our 10 a.m. congregation can take to strengthen our worship.

   Here are two steps you can take on your own that will help:

   * Tell me when we sing a hymn that is very meaningful for you.
   * Sit closer to each other and sit closer to the choir. You don’t have to share a pew with someone else, just try sitting behind or in front of someone else, somewhere close to the front. This will help our singing be strong and it will help our worship be strong.
Please Note: Memorial Day Weekend, Sunday May 26, there will be a single service at 9:15 a.m.

St. Paul’s parishioners Betsy Brown, Staci McHugh & Erin Fox pose with Jim and Julie Boeheim at the Basketball Gala at Turning Stone. What a great night they had.
May Birthdays

Nancy Schimmel 5/2
Rev. Hal Avery 5/2
Staci McHugh 5/5
Emma McCloskey 5/6
Hannah McCloskey 5/9
Grant Dolge 5/11
Mary Buske 5/11
Hal Brown III 5/12
Mary Powell 5/14
Eva Lewis-Mulvey 5/15
David Webb 5/18
Rebecca Livengood 5/18
Derek Lane 5/23
Bob Frye 5/24
Tiffany Miner (Simmons) 5/25
Gladys Cooper 5/26
Peg Hastings 5/31

May Anniversaries

Dick & Marilyn Alberding 5/1
John & Jane Woodman 5/6
Rev. Hal & Jeanne Avery 5/25
Edward & Gladys Cooper 5/26
Thank You to the People of St. Paul’s

I want to thank everyone for making me feel welcome and loved since the first day I walked beyond the big red doors. It’s been proven to me that it didn’t matter where you have been, you are always welcome into the family of St. Paul’s.

When I first walked into the church, I had just got to the halfway house after doing 8 1/2 years in prison. I had a big fear of never being welcome or loved by members of the real world, as we called it in prison. Boy, was I wrong!

St. Paul’s has become my true family. It’s been proven every time I’m at church during my health issues and just last month for my birthday. The greatest command is “Love thy neighbor as yourself.” The word love is shown at St. Paul’s all over the place.

I want to thank you for all the love of God you have shown and given to me.

Sincerely,

Mark

Mark McGrath
In Our Children’s Ministry
—By Debbie Santucci, Children’s Ministry Leader

Time to Register for St. Paul's Church Camp!

Church Camp registration is upon us! If you are in the life of a child between 6 and 14 years of age, they may soon be a happy camper. For four days, August 12, 13, 14, and 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., children have a no-cost opportunity for fun and creativity in a supportive atmosphere. Contact Deb Santucci at santucci.debbie@gmail.com or 908-954-8275 for information and registration.

Pentecost Prayers

St. Paul's Sunday School requests your prayer intentions so that we may offer them silently during the Pentecost liturgy. Slips of paper to write your prayer upon will be available soon. Thank you for participating!

Visit our Sunday school at 10 a.m. and 12:30!
Feminist Theology
—By Laurie Sanderson

Feminist Theology will not meet in May. Our regularly scheduled evening is the night the Illini bike group will be with us and we want to be part of welcoming them.

Our last meeting for the season will be Tuesday, June 25th at 6:30, a dinner meal at Betsy Elkin's downtown home! The book we are discussing is "Good and Mad the Revolutionary Power of Women's Anger." A relatively new book available at several libraries. If you are interested in joining us, please speak with Laurie Sanderson or Betsy Elkins.

A Word from Pastoral Care

Thank you to all who have supported our pantry donations and personal care items. The food items are shared with the All Faith Pantry at St. John the Baptist and the YMCA residents. The personal care items sometimes go to the Y, sometimes the pantry and sometimes the Samaritan Center.

In the past we have designated the second Sunday of the month as Personal Care Items Day and the fourth Sunday as Pantry Day. Of course all items will be welcome at anytime, but on those Sundays, a basket of the appropriate items will be brought forth at the offering.

Thank you again for helping to serve Christ through helping others in your support of this vital ministry.

Another word from Pastoral Care

Thank you to all who have filled out and submitted to their "I.C.E." (In Case of Emergency) forms. We have the file established in the church office and we will be contacting those who did not respond.

We also have available now for church families, St. Paul's magnets that say "In case of an emergency", please contact my church. Soon we will also have cards for your wallet as well.
Upcoming events in our Adult Formation programming include the following.

**Sunday May 5:** (See poster on pages 20-21) Post-modern philosopher/theologian John Caputo will be preaching at the 10 o’clock service, and be offering a discussion of his work in a conversation after that service in the Hansen Dining Room. Here’s someone thinking afresh about how we might understand God and the Christian story in the 21st century. (Note the special hurdles of getting to church on time that day because of the Mt. Goat Run taking place on downtown streets that morning. Suggested routes are on the inside front cover of this Courier.)

**Sunday, June 2:** (See poster to the right) We will host another expert guest, Dr. Ronald Cavanagh, emeritus professor of religion at Syracuse University, discussing the book “Thank God for Evolution” by Michael Dowd. This provocative book offers a view of God (and Christianity) that – by its claim – has absolutely no conflicts with science since God, here, is “night language” (mytho-poetic truth) for what we call – in “day language” (scientific truth) – the cosmos/world/universe/nature.

Please join us for these last adult formation programs in the current program year.
A SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY

DR. RONALD CAVANAGH

EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF RELIGION AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

“Thank God for Evolution”

HOW THE MARRIAGE OF SCIENCE AND RELIGION WILL TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE AND OUR WORLD

MICHAEL DOWD

WITH A NEW PREFACE

“The universe took 13.7 billion years to produce this amazing book.”
—John Mather, NASA senior astrophysicist, 2006 Nobel Prize in Physics

Sunday
June 2nd
11:30 AM
In the Hansen Dining Room

This provocative book offers a view of God (and Christianity) that - by its claim - has absolutely no conflicts with science since God, here, is “night language” (mytho-poetic truth) for what we call - in “day language” (scientific truth) - the cosmos/world/universe/nature.

In addition, we will discuss Dowd’s book at our next Science & Spirituality Discussion Group / Time and Location TBA

St. Paul’s Syracuse / The Downtown Episcopal Church / 220 East Fayette Street / Syracuse 13202
Announcing A Special Guest!
John D. Caputo, Ph.D.
“Is Christianity Credible?”

Is it taboo to question church doctrines and beliefs?

Jesus was courageous enough to ask questions. Shouldn’t we have the courage to do the same?

Fifty years ago Paul Tillich asked: “Is Christianity Answering Questions Nobody is Asking?”

Why do the churches continue with business as usual, holding onto lifeless symbols, obsolete creeds, outdated pieties, myths, magic, superstition, and supernatural interventions?

With its history of conquest and crusades and the daily headlines exposing an array of abuses, is it any wonder the churches are empty?

Will our Christian inheritance be reduced to a reaction against pluralism, and at worst, complicit with homophobia, Islamophobia, and anti-Semitism?

When will the church change its tune and address the real life needs and concerns of the young people, who oppose racism, sexism, nationalism, ethnocentrism, and the destruction of the planet?

Can we open our doors not only to ‘welcome the stranger’, but also to invite questions that make space for new ideas and experiences, and perhaps, for invention and surprise?

Does the institutional church have a future?

Or have we reached a point where we would be better off without it? Does the generation of “spiritual, but not religious” need religious institutions?

Would we be better served by a religion without religious institutions?
A religionless religion?
Sunday, May 5th!
10:00 AM: Choral Eucharist with Guest Sermon by John D. Caputo
11:30 AM: Reception and Presentation by John D. Caputo

John D. Caputo is a native Philadelphian who is the David R. Cook Professor of Philosophy Emeritus at Villanova University, where he taught for 36 years, from 1968 to 2004. After taking early retirement from Villanova, he served as the Thomas J. Watson Professor of Religion at Syracuse University from 2004 until his retirement in 2011. He is the author of twenty books in hermeneutics, postmodern Christianity, phenomenology, deconstruction, and theology, including most recently:

What Would Jesus Deconstruct? (2007),
The Insistence of God: A Theology of Perhaps (2013),
Truth [Philosophy in Transit] (2014),
Hoping Against Hope: Confessions of a Postmodern Pilgrim (2015),
The Folly of God: A Theology of the Unconditional (2015),

In his next book, Cross and Cosmos: A Theology of Difficult Glory, forthcoming from Indiana University Press in 2019, he takes his point of departure from Luther’s theology of the cross to explore the notion of the hidden god, cosmology, and poetics of the cross in order to find the glory proper to the human condition. He is currently working on the challenges posed by post-humanism.
For the past three years participants in our Wednesday evening EfM seminar group have engaged in lively theological discussions and serious study of the Hebrew Scriptures, the New Testament and the history of the Christian church. Each year we have made minor changes to the structure of our program in order to better meet the needs of our members. As we wrap up our 2018-2019 program year we are preparing for next year’s work.

Next year we are making one major change to our Wednesday evening seminar: we will no longer be associated with the EfM program. There were several reasons for making this change. The main difference for our members is that the cost of the program will drop dramatically, from $375 per year to $40 for the entire year. Other than that, many elements of the program will be similar to what we have been doing for the past three years:

1. Participants make a commitment to participating on a weekly basis for a nine month period. Everyone misses a few weeks here and there, but the group works so well because most of our participants attend each week. We have made adjustments in our meeting times to meet the needs of our members. Currently, one group meets from 4-6 p.m. and a second group overlaps with them, meeting from 5-7 p.m.

2. Participants prepare for each weekly session by reading their assignments prior to the seminar. Next year’s seminar group will have assignments that require 2-3 hours of preparation.
3. Each weekly assignment is focused on a topic which comes in a sequence. Sample assignments would be to read Paul’s Letter to the Philippians or to read a forty page chapter about the Eastern Orthodox Church from 900-1700.

4. Each weekly seminar is divided into three sections:
   A. Discuss the weekly reading assignment and develop a larger, deeper understanding of the themes presented (60 minutes).
   B. Worship (10 minutes).
   C. Theological Reflection (50 minutes) about a topic chosen by one of our participants, such as:
      * Salvation
      * Visions & Dreams
      * The three way relationship between religion, economics and politics

   Since we will no longer be connected to EfM we are beginning to use a new name for our group: *Foundations Seminar*. There are two ideas behind this. First, we meet as a seminar group. I serve as the convener of the group, but participants help lead the discussion by raising questions and themes. Second, the seminar group focuses on the basic, foundational materials, questions and themes of the Christian tradition. One of the purposes of our *Foundations Seminar* is to provide a strong foundation for the ongoing ministries of our members.

   Are you interested in joining us? Our study materials for next year will be focused on the New Testament Scriptures. If you are interested in participating please talk to me and consider joining us for a *Foundations Seminar* sampler on Wednesday, May 15\textsuperscript{th} or May 22\textsuperscript{nd} from 5-6 p.m.
First Friday News
—By Carol Decker

Welcome to May 3rd First Friday. The menu will be Balsamic Pork Scallopini w/ Creamy Noodles, Asparagus & Snap-Pea Salad, Italian Bread & Butter, Brownies w/ Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce. The vegetarian option is Tofu in Balsamic Scallopini Sauce. Please let Beverly know by Wednesday, May 1st, if you are attending, and if you want the vegetarian option.

Thank you to all who helped cook and clean up for the April dinner. We were down in numbers. Several people had reservations and didn’t make it to dinner. I hope May will have a better reservation/attendance fit.

I wrote and published a booklet, Events to Behold, A first Friday Reader with Recipes. The events that took place from the December 2018 First Friday to March 2019, were special to me. Events that made me feel the presence of God in my life. Writing allowed me a way to give back to all who have sustained me and First Friday through the years. I gave the booklet to the people at the April dinner, and to others. There is a signup sheet at the front desk. If you want one, I’ll see that you get it.

We will cook on Thursday, May 2nd, from 10:15 a.m. until noon, and on Friday starting about 3:45 p.m. If you like to chop, peel, and cleanup behind yourself, please join us.

In June we’re looking forward to our traditional Chicken & Biscuits dinner with a variety of strawberry desserts.

Looking forward to seeing you all. xo

Carol
First Friday Dinner
May 3
JOIN US!
Please Come At 6:00pm for Social Hour.
Dinner Will Be At 6:45pm

Menu

Balsamic Pork Scallopini w/ Creamy Noodles, Asparagus & Snap-Pea Salad, Italian Bread & Butter, Brownies w/ Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce. The Vegetarian Option is Tofu in Balsamic Scallopini Sauce.
The cost for this dinner will be $10.00 for adults, $5 for Ages 5 - 12, and under 5 is free. Should you wish to pay less than the suggested amount, you may do so.

Please bring your own place settings, and beverage for social hour.

RSVP by Wednesday, May 1. Call Beverly Bolton at home @ 315 474–6909

Proceeds from our First Friday Dinners go to the support of Global Mission Initiatives

Use the door at 310 Montgomery Street Downtown Syracuse
www.stpaulsyr.org
The Communication Committee is kicking off its transportation project. Maps indicating where our members live throughout Onondaga County have been mounted on the south wall of the Sargent Foyer near the hallway to the Brewster Room. In addition, forms to request a ride are now available next to the maps.

Should you need a ride: fill out the form, fold it and place it in an envelope, place the envelope either in the collection plate or in the mail slot of the business office. That’s step one.

Step two is establishing a list of volunteers willing to pick-up and drive someone to St. Paul’s. Whoever signs up to drive will be placed on a list. When a ride request comes in, an email will be sent out to everyone on the list stating that someone in a certain area needs a ride, maybe also offering the name, and noting if they have a special need, such as a wheelchair. If you are available for that day and can pick up the person, you will reply to all on the email blast that you can drive. That way everyone will know that the person is taken care of. Once we know who has volunteered, we will send just this driver the particular details on the person needing the ride so the driver can directly contact the person to arrange the pick-up.

So far, we do not have anyone on this volunteer driver list. In order for this project to work, we need to have volunteers willing to drive. Being on this list does not commit you to anything as you will have complete control on whether you volunteer or not. If there is no one available to pick up the person, then no ride will be offered and they will be told this. If you are interested in getting on the driver volunteer list, please contact me (preferred) or the office. I only need your name, email address and contact telephone number. My contact information is listed below.

If you need a ride but cannot get to church to fill out a form, you can call me or the office and we will fill out the form for you. Please try to plan
ahead, as it will take some time to match requests; a week ahead minimum would be ideal.

We will try this on a trial basis. Any improvements or suggestions will gladly be accepted. We hope to get several people to volunteer their services. Thank you!

Marion Greenhalgh, Communications Committee Chair
mgreenha34@gmail.com
315.214.9061 (cell)

In Memory of Letty Murray

Laetitia (Letty) Meachem Murray, 99, died Tuesday, April 23, 2019. Beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, she was born May 1, 1919, in Syracuse, to Laetitia Donne Meachem and Joseph Forman Sabine Meachem. Letty came from a family with a rich history in Onondaga County. One of her ancestors – Joshua Forman – incorporated the City of Syracuse and was its first mayor. Her grandfather, T.W. Meachem, started New Process Gear. Meachem School and Meachem Field in the Onondaga valley take their name from the family.

Mrs. Murray attended Goodyear Burlingame School in Syracuse, Lawnside School in Malvern, England, and Smith College in Northhampton, MA. She served for 25 years in various capacities with the Everson Museum, culminating with her position as membership secretary. Letty was a community leader and served as president of the Junior League of Syracuse, interim director of the Onondaga Historical Association, and was awarded the Post-Standard Woman of Achievement in 1976. She served on the boards of the Onondaga Historic Association, The Women of St. Paul’s, the Syracuse Garden Club, the English-Speaking Union, the Social Art Club, the Literary and Social Club of Onondaga Valley, the Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association, and the Syracuse Museum of Science and Technology.
Rummage Sale
season is here….

As has been our custom for many years now we will hold a Rummage Sale during the Downtown Arts and Crafts Festival Week-end: Friday July 26- Sunday July 28. So as you clean out your attics, basements and garages this Spring, bring in your treasures that you no longer want/need for us to sell: clothes, books, games, kitchen and other household items are all welcome. Small appliances are ok if they are clean and they work. Outdated sports equipment (like those skis you had in 1960) will not be appropriate for our sale. You may bring them to the church anytime and leave them in the small room off the kitchen. We will store them upstairs as needed.

The Community Fellowship Ministry Team will coordinate the sale this year. We invite everyone to help. Sign-up sheets where you can commit to specific times and tasks will be available in June. Mark your calendars for the dates of the sale and plan to help if you can:

- On Sunday July 21, the weekend before the sale, we will need many hands to get all the items into the Hansen Dining room. If everyone who attends church that day spends 20-30 minutes, that can happen easily. Some may stay longer and begin to do a rough sort of items.

- During the week before the sale, Monday July 22-Thursday July 25 we will need many folks to help sort items. Just a few hours from many people, gets the job done easily.

- During the sale we will need folks to work the sale.

- After the sale (Monday July 29) we will need folks to help pack up what remains.

This is a great opportunity to get involved in some meaningful outreach and fellowship while helping to make a bit of money for St. Paul's. And you can get rid of stuff you don’t want. Thanks for helping!
Serving at the Samaritan Center

Mark your Calendars

—By Betsy Elkins

St. Paul’s will serve lunch at the Samaritan Center on Sunday June 23. Mark your calendars and plan to help if you can.

We also seek contributions to pay for the food that we will be serving. You may write a check to ST. Paul’s with “Samaritan Center June 23” in the note field.

Some candid photos

Laurie Sanderson & Liz Handler

Holy Week services can be exhausting!

DJ Igelsrud, Julia Fine, Nancy & Harry Lambright

Betsy Elkins, Mark McGrath, Mary Powell, Jim Doyle, Liz Handler, Bodo Rasoa
The family of Annette Wine is thankful to God for her life, for your friendship, and for your kindness and prayers.
Symphoria Concert & Reception on May 5
—By Betsy Elkins

The last Symphoria Casual Concert of the season at St. Paul’s will be on Sunday May 5. As is our custom we will host a reception following the concert for the orchestra members and concert goers. If you are able to provide some help in some way please let Betsy Elkins know. We will need help with set up following the 10 am service (and formation program scheduled for that day) serving during the reception and clean up. You might also contribute some cookies, or cheese and crackers or other light snacks for the reception. Or donate some money to help purchase some food. Any of these gestures of support would be welcome. These receptions are so appreciated by Symphoria and those who attend the concerts. St. Paul’s receives wonderful feedback in the form of thanks and compliments whenever Symphoria plays in our beautiful space. If you have never attended a concert you are missing something wonderful. Join us!

WOSP Survey

The mission of the Women of St. Paul’s is to provide fellowship, education and service to our members, our congregation and to the larger community. Several of us met recently to discuss ways we can increase our membership and improve our programing. This group, which included Nancy Lambright, DJ Igelsrud, Carol Decker, Liz Beldon-Handler, Wendy Jones, Betsy Elkins and Marion Greenhalgh is preparing a brief survey for members and non-members to offer suggestions. This survey will be mailed to members soon and available to others in the church bulletin. Thanks for your help in advancing the work of the Women of St. Paul’s.
Funeral Consumers Alliance of Central New York
A Nonprofit Funeral Consumer Information Organization

FCA of CNY Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 18, 2:00 p.m.
Park Central Presbyterian, 3rd Floor Meeting Room
504 East Fayette Street, Syracuse
Parking is available across the street and behind the church.

Don’t miss this summer’s annual meeting! This year’s program will feature Mr. Herbert John Engman, President, Board of Trustees of the Greensprings Natural Cemetery in Newfield, NY (just outside of Ithaca).

There will be an opportunity to ask questions of Mr. Engman and the FCA of CNY board members, chat with other members and enjoy summertime refreshments. This meeting is open to the public, so please bring friends or relatives who might be interested in the mission of your FCA of CNY.

One of the most frequent questions on our answering machine is about green or “natural burials”.

Greensprings is one of the oldest natural cemeteries in the country. Mr. Engman will talk not only about the history of the natural cemetery movement but also about the requirements for a green burial.
Becky Griswold has been a long time member of St Paul's. Her children grew up with us. Becky's daughter Caroline, lives in the Hudson Valley with her husband Vadim. She is the mother of Juliana, 18 months old, and expecting another baby as well. Her son, Ian lives in Buffalo. Becky also had another son, Mark that many of us share fond memories of. Mark had gone to live with his father and took his life at age 16. Many of us have grieved with Becky and her children in this terrible loss in the past. Becky married Antonio Caruso here at St. Paul's in 2006. They live in Liverpool and attend the eight o'clock service.

About four years ago Becky went out on her deck in January to tend to the bird feeder. She fell and broke her arm. In her recovery she began painting again and took up pastels for the first time. Recently she took her favorite photo of Mark as a child and painted it. Those of us who knew Mark, gasped at how alive he was to us in the picture.

In April she entered it into an art show called "The Central Adirondack Art Show" at the View Museum in Old Forge, titling it "Mark's Discovery". The picture was named 'outstanding in pastels'. The award will be announced Friday night, May 3rd in Old Forge. Becky will be at the women's retreat but will slip away to go the ceremony. It fits in perfectly with our theme on the retreat of where are we now on our journey.

We all celebrate with Becky the love she has captured in her painting.
Many Thanks!

A very heartfelt thanks from my family and me for everyone involved in Mom’s funeral. Mom’s death was totally unexpected, but the multitudes of my church family pulled together and offered us a beautiful funeral service. For fear of missing someone, I don’t want to mention names, but from the office, altar guild, flower guild, ushers, community services, worship and music (and any group I may have forgotten) the service and reception were perfect. Of course, I do have to offer a very special thank you to my choir family who sang magnificently and made the service extra special. Thank you! And, lastly, a very special thank you to Georgina Hegney for stepping in and offering extra special officiating. All was so appreciated and was absolutely perfect. Mom would have loved it! Thank you all so much!

With love,

Marion Greenhalgh
Photos of the Great Vigil & Easter Sunday by DJ Igelsrud

More photos on the digital display in the Sargent Foyer.
Wednesday, May 1
LAST DAY TO RSVP FOR FIRST FRIDAY DINNER
12:10 pm Healing Service in the Hadley Chapel
1:00 pm Building Project Conversation
1:00 pm Community Fellowship Meeting
4:00 pm Formation Seminar
Thursday May 2
First day of Women’s Retreat at St. Margaret’s House
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
Friday, May 3
Second day of Women’s Retreat at St. Margaret’s House
7:30 am N.A.
8:00 Symphoria Rehearsal All Day
6:00 pm First Friday Dinner
Saturday, May 4
8:00 am Symphoria Rehearsal All Day
6:00 pm Sudanese Event
Sunday, May 5
8:00 am Eucharist
10:00 am Eucharist and Children’s Sunday School
11:30 am Formation Event with Jack Caputo
12:30 pm S. Sudanese prayers in the Brewster Room
3:00 pm Symphoria Concert
Monday May 6
12:00 pm Noon Bible Study @Café Kubal
3:00 pm Buildings & Grounds
5:15 pm Building Project Conversation
Tuesday May 7
7:30 am N.A.
4:00 pm Finance Meeting
5:15 pm Worship Ministry Team
7:15 pm Common Threads
7:30 pm AA Group
Wednesday May 8
12:10 pm Healing Service in the Hadley Chapel
1:00 pm Building Project Conversation
4:00 pm Formation Seminar
Thursday May 9
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
Friday May 10
7:30 am N.A.
Saturday May 11
11:00 am Intercessory Prayer in Chapel
3:00 pm Reserved for Private Party
Sunday May 12
8:00 am Eucharist
10:00 am Eucharist and Children’s Sunday School
11:30 am Building Project Conversation
12:30 pm S. Sudanese prayers in the Brewster Room
Monday May 13
12:00 pm Bible study at Café Kubal
5:15 pm Building Project Conversation
Tuesday May 14
7:30 am N.A.
5:00 pm Vestry Meeting
7:30 pm AA Group
Wednesday May 15
12:10 pm Healing Service in the Hadley Chapel
1:00 pm Building Project Conversation
4:00 pm Formation Seminar
Thursday May 16
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday May 17
7:30 am N.A.
11:30 am WOSP at Century Club

Saturday May 18
1:00 pm Sacred Sites Open House

Sunday May 19
8:00 am Eucharist
9:00 am Building Project Conversation
10:00 am Eucharist and Children’s Sunday Sch.
12:30 pm S. Sudanese Dinka Prayers in Brewster Room
1:00 pm Sacred Sites Open House

Monday May 20
12:00 pm Noon Bible Study @Café Kubal

Tuesday May 21
7:30 am N.A.
3:00 pm SSS Meeting
3:00 pm Bike Group arrives for overnight at St. Paul’s
7:30 pm AA Group-Chapel

Wednesday, May 22
DEADLINE FOR THE COURIER
9:00 am Bike Group leaves
12:10 pm Healing Service in the Chapel
4:00 pm Formation Seminar

Thursday May 23
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday May 24
7:30 am N.A.
6:00 pm Science & Spirituality TBD location

Please Note: Memorial Day Weekend, Sunday May 26, there will be a single service at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday May 26
9:15 am SINGLE SERVICE
10:30 am Building Project Conversations
10:30 am Pastoral Care Meeting
12:30 pm S. Sudanese Dinka Prayers in the Brewster Room

Monday May 27
HOLIDAY—ST PAULS CLOSED

Tuesday May 28
7:30 am N.A.
5:00 pm Worship Space Task Force
7:30 pm A.A.

Wednesday May 29
12:10 pm Healing Service in the Chapel
4:00 pm Formation Seminar

Thursday May 30
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday May 31
7:30 am N.A.
Officers
Senior Warden: Laurie Sanderson
Junior Warden: Betsy Elkins
Treasurer and Finance Committee Chairperson: Walley Francis
Clerk of the Vestry: Terri Tuttle

Vestry & Team Leaders
2019: Abraham Deng, Jenifer Breyer, Liz Handler
2020: DJ Igelsrud, Tom Cantwell, Staci McHugh
2021: Mary Hastings, Rebecca Livengood, David Webb
Worship Ministry Team Convener: Betsy Barker
Formation Ministry Team Convener: Dick Pilgrim
Mission & Service Team Convener: Doug Mouncey
Community Fellowship Min. Conveners: Elizabeth Belden-Handler & Denise Dolge

Staff
The Right Reverend Dr. DeDe Duncan Probe, Bishop of Central New York
The Reverend Philip Major, Rector of St. Paul’s
James L. Potts, Organist and Choirmaster
Debbie Santucci, Children’s Ministry Leader
John Pizzi, Building Manager
Judy McAdoo-Pelton, Business Manager
Amy Youker, Bookkeeper
Derek Lane, Sunday Security

Office Secretary/Reception Volunteers

Office Hours: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Thursday