

**St. Paul's United  
Methodist Church**

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*A Reconciling  
Congregation  
where all are  
invited to share  
the Basics of  
God's love with  
the world*

# St. Paul's Letter

October 2011

## Make Things New

Dear Friends,

Bernard Berenson was a world-renowned art critic. He was an intimate of beauty. Yet, when he walked in his own garden he would say: *"Each morning, as I look, I wonder where my eyes were yesterday."*

I believe one purpose of the church is to stir that response in us about things we assume we already know, have done before, are familiar with, or perhaps are tired of.

The Fall is upon us and once more we walk in our own garden. It's all familiar somehow:

Autumn and the routine taken up as the leaves come down

The faces in the pews

The programs of study

We've been there before...Familiarity may breed at least boredom if not contempt. And yet ---*"Each morning as I look, I wonder where my eyes were yesterday."*

Somehow it's new because each one of us is different. We've known joy and sorrow over the summer, we've traveled and read books, we've lost loved ones and given birth to young ones, and, if we are fortunate, we have realized just how precious life is in all its various manifestations, and that each day brings newness and hope. As that incredible biblical announcement has it: *"Behold, I make all things new."*

The question is, do you believe that? Can you open yourself up to the newness that God longs to show us? My hope is that you will choose to do something new this year...maybe it is taking a class like "Living the Questions" (p. 10) or "Invitation to the Old Testament", or joining a new project initiative like creating a labyrinth (p. 4), or attending an event like Lift Every Voice (p. 6), or starting a new practice of prayer, or giving more than you ever thought you could....

Each time we surrender to the desire to grow in our faith, to seek God and make a change in our lives, I believe the door opens to God to make things new, in us and in the world. It is a collaborative partnership that we share with God...who never forces us to do anything, but who always welcomes the openings we provide for the world of healing and wholeness to occur.

*Margie*

*Lectionary Readings for October:***October 2, 2011**

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9,  
12-20  
Psalm 19  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
Matthew 21:33-46

**October 9, 2011**

Exodus 32:1-14  
Psalm 106:1-6,  
19-23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

**October 16, 2011**

Exodus 33:12-23  
Psalm 99  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22  
Luke 16:19-31

**October 23, 2011**

Deuteronomy 34:1-12  
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46

**October 30, 2011**

Joshua 3:7-17  
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37  
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13  
Matthew 23:1-12

*Child Care***Sunday, 9:15 a.m.***Adult Fellowship Class***Sunday, 9:15 a.m.***Worship Services***Sunday, 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.***Church Office Hours***Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.***Eunice Tabor***Tuesday, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Note: Margie is off on Fridays  
Jacqueline is off on Fridays**

*St. Paul's Letter***St. Paul's United Methodist Church**

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*Bell Choir Director*

Dorothy Preston

*Loving Care Ministries**Coordinator*

Eunice Tabor

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*Music Director & Organist*

John W. White

*Ministers*

All The People

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## Special Worship

Dr. Melanie May, Professor of Theology at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School will be our guest preacher on October 16th. Dr. May is a graduate of Harvard University and Divinity School. She is the author of *A Body Knows: A Theopoetics of Death and Resurrection* (1995), in which she describes her own journey from near death to living resurrected by the grace and love of God, and she has long-standing interests in global Christianity, ecumenism, and women and gender studies. With gentleness and deep passion, Dr. May brings biblical insight and understanding to issues of hospitality and compassionate community. She has been invited to be our guest speaker, as we kick off our study of transgender concerns.

## Around the Church

### We're ALMOST there! — BUILDING ON THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

Can you believe we are only \$22,300 shy of reaching our capital campaign goal of \$650,000?! 143 St. Paulians have enthusiastically committed to support this exciting and vitally important project for our church. And, what's really exciting is we can positively reach the goal if everyone supports the project at some level. What's waiting on the other side of this campaign are new bathrooms and some much needed repair to the structure of the church. It's been a very busy summer as we have tried to personally contact every member of St. Paul's in order to have a conversation about St. Paul's — what it means to each of us and how we envision its future. These conversations have been tremendously valuable and we want to make sure that everyone has had the opportunity to take part. If you have not met with one of your fellow St. Paulians to talk about St. Paul's and you would like to, or, if you are not able to schedule a time to meet but you would like to support the capital campaign, please contact the church office or Bev and Greg Hartz.



## Fall Stewardship Campaign

*Making Room for the Spirit*

On Sunday, September 25th, we launched our Fall Stewardship Campaign, which invites us all to consider the ways we commit to Making Room for the Spirit, and the **real** value of our experience of the Spirit here at St. Paul's. We can put numbers on the cost of maintaining our lovely building, supporting worldwide missions, and providing a variety of programs for members of all ages. We can also take into account the many ways we participate in the ministries of the church by volunteering, attending classes or retreats, or inviting a friend to join us in worship. **But, the real value of our experience of the Spirit at St. Paul's is . . . priceless.**

You will have a chance to bring your 2012 Faith Commitment card forward during the Offering on Sundays in October, or you can send it to the church. Your pledge makes a difference. If you have not pledged in the past, we encourage you to do so this year. Make Room for the Spirit, and experience the sheer joy of giving!

**Make Room for the Spirit by Making a Pledge**

## The Labyrinth is Coming to St. Paul's



### Labyrinth

At their last meeting, the Trustees voted to give permission for a labyrinth to be painted onto the gym floor. As this newsletter goes to print, plans are being made for cleaning the floor, dedicating the space, and beginning the work of mapping out and painting the labyrinth. Our hope is that this labyrinth will provide opportunities for our own members to engage in spiritual meditation and walking it, and that it will also be a place where members of the larger Ithaca community who are perhaps are not comfortable in more traditional church settings will come and find a welcoming space.

The Labyrinth is an archetype, a divine imprint, found in all religious traditions in various forms around the world. We hope to create a replica of the Chartres Labyrinth, laid in the floor of Chartres Cathedral around 1220.

The labyrinth has only one path, so there are no tricks to it and no dead ends...in other words, it is not a maze. Instead, the path winds in concentric circles toward a center and becomes a mirror for where we are in our lives; it touches our sorrows and releases our joys. It is a way of "making a pilgrimage" without having to travel to distant lands. It simulates going on a "journey" while staying in one place, for the "journey" happens in your heart and mind as you walk the sacred path. Anyone who would like to be a part of the process of creating the St. Paul's labyrinth is invited to join us

For cleaning: Saturday morning October 1st, 9-12

For dedicating the space: Thursday evening October 6th at 6:00 p.m.

For mapping and painting: TBA

## Offering Counters Needed



Would you like to serve the church, but wonder when you can find the time to volunteer? **Offering Counters** work for **less than an hour** approximately **once a month** after the 10:30 a.m. service. Training provided, and you always have an experienced counter working with you. Occasionally, as on major holidays, it may take closer to an hour, and we try to schedule 3 counters on those special days.

**If you would like to become a volunteer counter, or have some questions about the job, please contact Paula Smith, 273-7644, or by email to [pjs15@cornell.edu](mailto:pjs15@cornell.edu)**

I would like to thank the current counter group: Gene Bartell, Sara Jane Hymes, Steve Jalso, Becky Johnson, Song Kyong, Pam Lillard, and Dick Sheffield. Also thanks to recent retirees Michael Culotta and Lori Bushway. All have given much appreciated service to St. Paul's.

*Paula Smith, Counter Coordinator*

## Feed My Starving Children Project



Twenty-seven St. Paulians took part in a Feed My Starving Children food-packing event in early September and helped send 233,280 nutritious meals to Guatemala. Members of our congregation worked two two-hour shifts during the three-day event. By packing 15,552 meals in one shift and 12,960 in the other, they prepared enough meals to feed 78 children one meal a day for an entire year! Thank you everyone!

## Loving Care Ministries

**We Need Everyone's Help...** it has come to our attention that some members of our congregation have been hospitalized and were not visited because we were unaware of their situation. Please, if you know that someone from St. Paul's is ill, in the hospital, moved to a new facility, or simply in need of a visit from a pastor or a member of our Visitation Team, let us know. If the person is a family member and you are unable to call, please ask a friend or other family member to call for you. Notify us through the office, email, or call Eunice Tabor, the Loving Care Coordinator (home 319-0228, cell 592-8192). It's better to receive several calls or messages about a person than none at all. Your help is greatly appreciated.

**Home Communion Available...** We are able to bring communion on Communion Sundays to anyone who is unable to attend church. If you or someone you know would like to receive communion, please let us know.

**Sunday Service Available on CD...** Now available on CD are portions of our Sunday service. We also have CD players available if needed. Call the office if you are interested. The sermon is also available online through our website <[www.stpaulsithaca.org](http://www.stpaulsithaca.org)>.

**Don't Forget...** to pick up the PRAYER LIST for each week on the table outside the sanctuary. If you would like to place the name of someone on the prayer list, please call the office. If there are changes to the names on the prayer list, please let us know. Thanks.

### Looking for Volunteers for...

- Sunday Gadabout Ministry — drivers, assistants, coordinator
- Visitors to connect with those who are unable to attend church
- Loving Care Team

Our new vision statement reads, "St. Paul's is a compassionate community led and transformed by the love of God." Thank you for your part in helping us to be a compassionate community. May we all be led and transformed by the love of God to give of ourselves in service to others.

Blessings, Eunice

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## St. Paul's Connections

# Lift Every Voice for Success!

*Musical concert benefitting the Village at Ithaca and highlighting community resources for student success*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2011 at St. Paul's**

**Pre-Concert Reception - 5:30 p.m.**

**Concert - 7 to 9 p.m.**

Fall is a wonderful time of hope, promise and expectation as our children return to school! Every child is gifted with talents and abilities that make her/him special and unique, and each has amazing potential to learn, grow and achieve success. But **a history of educational inequity in America means that low-income and students of color often need more support and advocacy to fully develop their potential.** The Village at Ithaca helps those students in a myriad of ways. Visit [www.VillageatIthaca.org](http://www.VillageatIthaca.org) to learn more.

The **Lift Every Voice for Success concert** is a major fundraiser for the organization, with a suggested donation of \$10. This year (our 8th annual) promises to be **even more inspirational** and entertaining than ever. In addition to a diverse line-up of musical performances, **video clips of Village students and families** will be featured. The **Pre-Concert Reception** will connect concertgoers with community resources helping all our youth to achieve success academically, vocationally, and socially. These **local organizations and programs will be tabling** in our Dining Room, sharing information about a range of services and opportunities, from 5:30—6:45. **Yummy snacks** and beverages will be offered. And you can take a sneak peek at handmade quilts being donated for a December **Village of Quilts** event. Everyone is welcome!

**Please mark your calendar to attend** on Saturday October 15th, and consider **helping out:**

**Volunteers needed to:** Donate baked goods for the reception ♡ Set up tables and chairs in the dining room Friday or Saturday ♡ Serve as a greeter 5—7 p.m. ♡ Serve as an usher 6:30—8 p.m. ♡ Post flyers around town ♡ Sell tickets at church or elsewhere ♡ Use your computer printer to make signs ♡ Advertise in the program booklet.

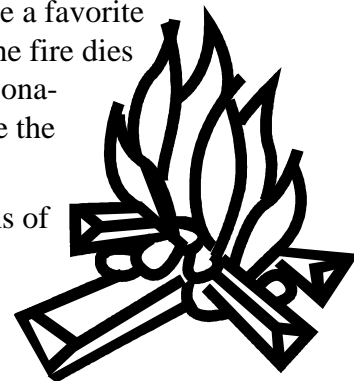
**Contact St. Paulians** on the Planning Team: Amy Benedict-Augustine [alb6381@gmail.com](mailto:alb6381@gmail.com) or Sara Culotta [sara.culotta@gmail.com](mailto:sara.culotta@gmail.com) (member of The Village Board of Directors).

## October Campfire

What is October without a campfire on a crisp fall evening? Singing, skits, laughter, hot dogs and s'mores! Come and join other St. Paulians for the second Club Cascowasco Retreat campfire fundraiser. Held once again at the Tenney's, 220 Banks Rd. (off of Coddington Rd.), Saturday evening October 29th. Would you, your family, St. Paul's class or group like to perform a song or do a skit? Have a favorite Halloween story? We'll start about 5:30 and cook the hot dogs and s'mores after the fire dies down. Don't forget warm clothes, lawn chairs, a flashlight and maybe a blanket. Donations toward reduced retreat fees for all gratefully accepted! Rain location will be the church dining room.

Club Cascowasco Retreat will be held April 20-22 and is open to St. Paulians of all ages.

Questions? Ideas? Beth Mudge [bethmudge@hotmail.com](mailto:bethmudge@hotmail.com)



## Halloween Fun!

There is a crispness in the air, leaves are changing from green to golden yellow, and all across the Finger Lakes, pumpkin patches are growing bigger. Yay, it's almost Halloween! The Spirited Connections Team would like to invite St. Paulian families to an **afternoon of Halloween fun & fellowship on Saturday, October 22nd from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.** at **Steve & Kelly Richards' house in Hector, New York** on beautiful Seneca Lake. Want to try your luck at "Donuts on a String," or "Bobbing for Apples?" How about walking through a haunted house or making caramel apples? There will be something for everyone! **Children are encouraged to dress up!** Light fall snacks and cider will be provided. Please reserve your spot on the signup poster outside of the Welcome Room by **Sunday, October 16.**

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## Spiritual Life Team

(The Adult Spiritual Growth and the Worship Teams have combined to form the Spiritual Life Team)

### A message from Lisa Lennox, our Church Council chair:

The first step in becoming a “compassionate community” (which our new St. Paul’s vision statement calls us to be), is getting to know the individual members of our church family. If we don’t know a person or a group within our community, we can’t possibly begin to appreciate them—the insights and talents they bring, as well as their physical and spiritual needs. Compassion can only exist when we first have a foundation of understanding.

As a church family, we have an upcoming opportunity to seek understanding about a not-so-well-known segment of our community—those who are transgender. St. Paul’s is a reconciling congregation but, currently, our statement only includes Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals. What about those who are transgender? If we want to truly be inclusive—and compassionate—perhaps we had best begin conversing with each other about what it means to be transgender. Then we can move on to thinking about how to truly welcome transgender individuals into our church family.



Sunday Mornings

October 23, 30 & November 6

9:15 am – 10:15 a.m.

Durham Room

Greg Eells and Pam Carey, Facilitators

### The Reconciling Ministries Team & the Spiritual Life Team Co-host *transACTION* Class

*transACTION... a three-week study this fall* inviting interested St. Paulians into a place of understanding, acceptance, and welcome of transgender persons in our congregation and community.

*transACTION.... using a format of readings, reflection and facilitated discussion*, the three sessions will explore the concept of gender, how church and culture approach questions of gender identity, and suggestions for congregational action toward welcome and inclusion.

*transACTION... the study materials come to us from The Institute for Welcoming Resources* of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, working with member programs of the Welcoming Church movement.

*transACTION.... a chance to explore, stretch, engage, expand* our understanding of the rooted and radical love of Jesus Christ.

*I felt very blessed to have the opportunity to learn about the experience of being transgender, terminology, and how to ask some things (or not), so I could do as good a job as possible to help welcome people in the future. The enthusiasm and thoughtfulness was incredible. Thank you for the class.* Helen Closs

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## Witness to Innocence

With the death penalty so much in the news, St. Paul's Spiritual Life team has joined with the local Episcopal Peace Fellowship to co-host **Nathson Fields**, an exonerated 20-year death row inmate from Illinois, from October 26-28. Fields will speak at St. Paul's on **Thursday evening, October 27 at 7:30 p.m.**, with opportunity for questions and light refreshments to follow. He will also be speaking with social studies classes at Ithaca High School and, hopefully, with Cornell law students during his visit.

Fields comes to us under the sponsorship of the **Witness to Innocence** project, a speakers bureau of exonerated inmates and a working partner with the United Methodist Board of Church and Society, which is also helping to sponsor the visit. You can read more about Fields and Witness to Innocence at [WitnessToInnocence.org](http://WitnessToInnocence.org). By all accounts, he is an engaging and inspiring speaker, with a story of justice gone awry and a spirit of endurance and forgiveness that transforms injustice into generosity and truth-telling.

Why is St. Paul's taking on this issue? Not only is it timely, and the consequence of mistake tragic, but our **United Methodist Social Principles**, adopted by our General Conference, place our denomination in firm opposition to the death penalty. An excerpt from the Principles on the death penalty states:

*We believe the death penalty denies the power of Christ to redeem, restore, and transform all human beings.... We believe all human life is sacred and created by God and therefore, we must see all human life as significant and valuable. ... We oppose the death penalty and urge its elimination from all criminal codes.*

Our Social Principles, and our denomination's broad engagement on social issues, are often hidden treasures of the church. St. Paul's Spiritual Life Team hopes to spark congregational conversation about a faithful response to crime and punishment, among other social issues. To that end, on **Sunday, November 6**, we'll be hosting a luncheon conversation and follow-up to Fields' talk, drawing on church and community resources to inform our understanding of the many layers of concern involved. We also invite you to look at the Social Principles (copies available in the Church Office), and/or to read a moving account of exoneration and forgiveness in *Picking Cotton: Our Memoir of Justice and Redemption* by Ronald Cotton and Jennifer Thompson-Cannino (2007).

And in this time of division in our national psyche about the morality and the effectiveness of capital punishment, let us keep all--the exonerated, the executed, the victims, the families, and the justice system--in our prayers.

Karen Kaufmann for the Spiritual Life Team.



Sundays Afternoons

September 11 through December 4

4:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Memorial Rooms

Rev. Margie Mayson and Wes Perkins, Facilitators

*"Wisdom is asking the questions for which there are no answers." Harrell Beck*

If you have ever had questions about theology, the Bible, or Christianity in general, this is a great class in which to explore your questions. Each week a different topic is discussed by various scholars presenting the “progressive” perspective in an engaging video, after which the class responds with questions of our own. Each week is independent and we welcome anyone to join us when they are able. We are meeting on Sunday afternoons from 4-6 p.m. in the Memorial Rooms. Come get to know other St. Paulians and grow your faith!!

## Community Connections

The Ithaca Waldorf School, meeting at St. Paul's for the 2011-2012 academic year, extends an invitation to the following events.

### **All-School Sing - 8:00 a.m. Wednesday mornings**

What better way to start your day? All children, parents, grandparents, community members, and guests are welcome. Meet downstairs in the dining hall at 8 a.m. at St. Paul's Church.

### **Thursday Morning Craft (and coffee/tea) group**

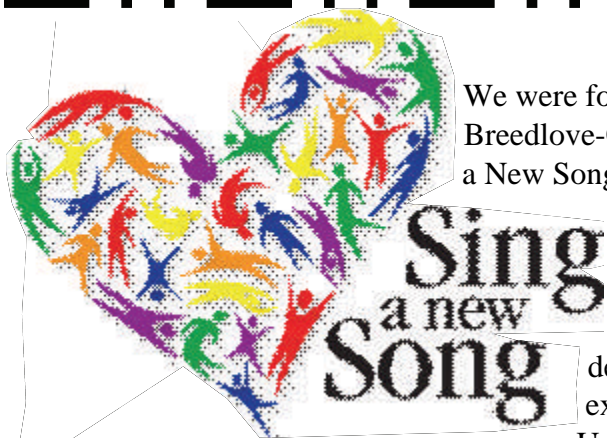
Join us on Thursday mornings starting at 8:30 a.m. in the Handwork room (this is downstairs and to your left down the long hallway.) We will be making crafts for the Elves' Faire and other outreach events. Don't worry if you aren't a crafter. Our Handwork teacher, Lisa Marshall will be available to help. Or, just come for coffee and conversation!

## CSMA "Rocking" Fundraiser

The Community School of Music and the Arts (CSMA) will be holding a "rocking" fundraiser on Friday, October 21, 8:00 —11:00 p.m. Music is being provided by the TARPS, which is the Savage Club Rock & Roll Band. The cost is \$5 per person.

We are looking for volunteers to donate either cookies or apples for refreshments. Or perhaps you would prefer to sell some advance tickets. If you are willing to do either of these activities, please contact Patricia Baxter at [pabaxterLCSWR@aol.com](mailto:pabaxterLCSWR@aol.com) or 607-273-4569.

This is going to be a fun evening of rock & roll. Bring your dancing shoes..., and be prepared to turn back time to another era. Those refreshments will be greatly appreciated.



We were fortunate to be among six St. Paulians (along with Jami and Diana Breedlove-Crouch, Wes Buchanan and Patsy Brannon) who attended Sing a New Song, a convocation sponsored by the Reconciling Ministries Network and Methodist Federation for Social Action. The purpose of the convocation, which is held every other year, is to work for inclusion of LGBT persons within the church, and the specific focus of this year's event was to prepare people to lobby delegates to General Conference to support legislation aimed at excising discriminatory language and policies in the current United Methodist Book of Discipline (the denomination's policy

statement). In three and a half days of workshops, worship, and Bible study we, and over 600 others in attendance, learned about topics ranging from the history of exclusion in the Methodist church, including exclusion of lay persons, women, and African-Americans, to leading the reconciling process in one's own congregation.

The event that both of us found most rewarding was the one that caused us the most anxiety. Neither of us enjoys making phone calls, but we found ourselves on Saturday afternoon in a room with hundreds of other people, cell phones charged, each of us with contact information for two General or Jurisdictional Conference delegates. Everyone dialed their first number in unison and the room quickly filled with a cacophony of voices, each one talking about why fully including LGBT persons in the church is important. It was amazing to be part of such a huge effort to reach out and to hear that over 100 of the people we called stated that they would support the elimination of discriminatory language from the Book of Discipline.

The other part of the weekend we found most striking were recurring instances of connectedness. We expected to connect with other New Yorkers who had attended Believe Out Loud Together training in Syracuse last spring, but there were numerous unexpected connections throughout the weekend as well. We reconnected with a person who had been a student at West Virginia Wesleyan when we both taught there. We met another WV Wesleyan alumnus from Oneonta who's a good friend of Bud Dolch. At dinner on Saturday, Danette serendipitously sat down next to a pastor who had previously served a small Maryland church where several members of Danette's extended family and family friends worship. This pastor's present church just became a reconciling congregation this summer. These connections were a constant reminder of how we are one church body, even if our congregations are spread throughout the world, and of why we need to work actively so that everyone is genuinely and fully included in that cradle of connectedness.

Although Sing a New Song has ended, the work of the convocation continues. On November 5th, there will be workshops in Syracuse on how to continue reaching out to General Conference delegates and asking them to support the removal of discriminatory language and policy from our Book of Discipline. As members of a Reconciling Congregation, we can extend our local commitment to the broader United Methodist Church by joining St. Paulians and others who are engaged in this important work.

Steve and Danette Johnson

# Children's Ministries



**FAITH**

**EXPLORERS**

**(K-6th grades)**

*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear. Psalm 46:1-2*

The Faith Explorers are in the middle of their first unit about some of the stories in the book of Exodus. Workshops include:

**Burning Bush** – Taught by Jennifer Colvin. In this workshop the children are making burning bush sun catchers to remind them of a holy space. They are hearing about God's call to Moses while sitting by a burning bush (indoor campfire!)

**10 Plagues** – Taught by Catherine Thrasher-Carroll. In this workshop, the children are learning about the 10 plagues imposed on the Pharaoh and Egypt when Moses and Aaron pleaded for freedom of the Israelite people. They are playing "10 plagues bingo" with lots of fun props to help them visualize the plagues and to help them understand the power of God.

**Unleavened Bread** – Taught by Patty Sipman. In this cooking workshop, the groups are learning about the first Passover and how quickly the Hebrew people had to leave Egypt. They are also doing a counting activity to help them understand the huge number of Israelites that fled.

**Red Sea** – Taught by Karen Kauffman. In this drama workshop the children are learning about the story of Moses leading his people through the parted Red Sea and about how God was with them on their long journey.

**Wilderness** – Taught by Sarah Fiorello and Lindsay France. In this workshop, the classes are learning about the 40 years the Hebrew people spent wandering in the wilderness. They are also doing a trust walk to experience trust (as a trustee and a truster) firsthand.

The memory verse for the unit is from Psalm 46:1-2. *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear.*

We are also looking for adult volunteers for the Faith Explorers program. Roles large or small, on weekdays or Sundays, hands on or behind the scenes. Please contact Laura Dolch ([lauradolch@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:lauradolch@stpaulsithaca.org)) to learn more.

## Faith Discovery Group



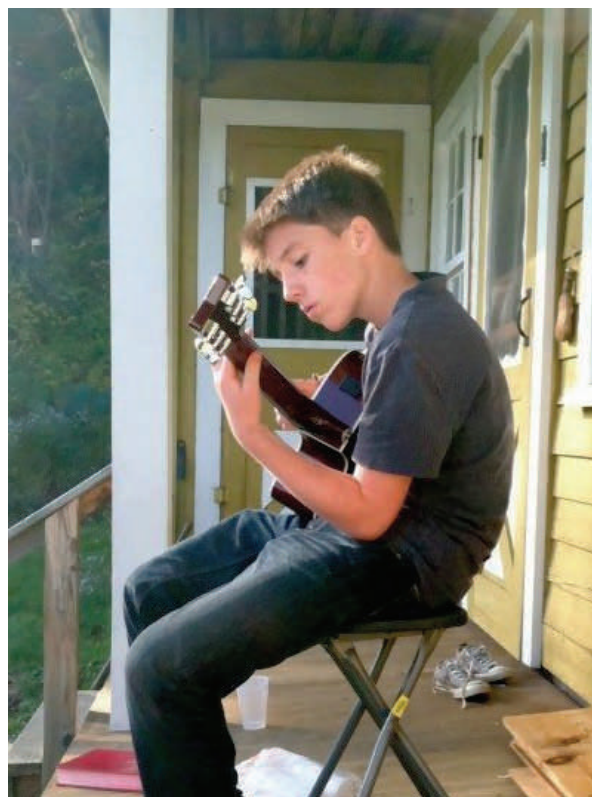
We are in the middle of a unit about Old Testament heroes and have learned about Abraham and Sarah, Elijah, Elisha, and Amos. Thanks to Jenny Lewis and Angela Gaige who have been teaching!

All 3- and 4-year olds are invited to Faith Discovery Group. Each week we'll sing songs, hear a story, share a snack, and work on a craft or play a game. We'll also continue learning our memory verses in sign language this year.

We meet in the middle preschool room after Children's Time. Parents can pick children up there after the service.

## Youth Ensemble

Seventeen youth from St. Paul's spent the weekend of September 17-18 making music in the Adirondacks. They delved into Exodus, connecting the "big ideas" to their own lives, then used those themes to write their own piece of music. Between jam sessions, the youth enjoyed boating, swimming, hiking, and strengthening friendships. A huge thanks goes out to the families who provided the food, the Potter/Gulls, McCunes and Dolch families for the use of their camps, as well as the chaperones, Ally Rooks, Audrey Bradburn, Greg Eells, Sally Lamb McCune, and Dave McCune. It was truly a beautiful experience in the "Promised Land".



## Childcare



## Child Care

Childcare is available every Sunday morning starting at 9:15. Parents are invited to drop their kids off and enjoy fellowship time with each other, join the choir, or participate in one of the Adult classes. Childcare runs through the end of the service (about 11:45).

# Youth Ministries

## Youth Events for October

Middle School Youth Group will meet:

Morning youth group on October 2, 16, 23 and 30 from 9:45 — 10:20 a.m.

Afternoon youth group on October 16 and 30

Senior High Youth Group will meet:

Evening youth group on October 2, 16, 23 and 30 from 4:00 — 6:00 p.m.

Youth Movie Night on Friday, October 7 — 6:30 — 10:00 p.m.

## Confirmation Class

This year, all 9th and 10th grade youth, (as well as any older youth that have not yet taken this class), are invited to be part of our very exciting confirmation class. Confirmation class will be meeting one Saturday morning a month from September through May.



This new scheduling will allow our confirmands to engage in projects that would be impossible on Sunday mornings and give them more time for in-depth conversations. We are excited to have Reverend Jeff Shepardson along with Reverend Margie Mayson facilitate our class this year.

Our confirmands will all be looking for adult mentors to work with them throughout the year. We hope you will consider joining them in their spiritual journey!

**Confirmation Class will meet on Saturday, October 15th, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.**



## ALTAR FLOWER ORDER FORM

We invite you to purchase a Sunday altar flower arrangement in memory of a loved one, in honor of someone special in your life, or in celebration of a special event.

**Please choose three dates:**

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

### **The bulletin will read:**

The flowers on the altar are given this morning by

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ in memory of    \_\_\_\_ in honor of    \_\_\_\_ in celebration of

\_\_\_\_\_

Type or color requested for bouquet \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\$25-\$50 will cover the cost of an altar arrangement.

Contact Sara Culotta at [sara@bizbloom.biz](mailto:sara@bizbloom.biz) or at #273-1287 to discuss further.

Purchased by \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \_\_\_\_\_

**Checks payable to St. Paul's United Methodist Church.**

**Please submit at least 2 weeks prior to your desired date.**

**St. Paul's United  
Methodist Church**

St. Paul's Letter

402 N. Aurora Street

Ithaca, NY 14850

Phone: (607) 273-5971

Fax: (607) 275-0726

E-Mail: [info@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:info@stpaulsithaca.org)

<http://www.stpaulsithaca.org>

Periodicals Postage Paid

Ithaca, NY 14850

**Please pray for these members of our church family:**

Lenora Bradley and family; Tina Champion; Roy and Alma Coats; Jeanne Corbit; Dockstader Family; Doug Dockstader; Dora Fratelli; Kay Friedlander; Melissa Gould; Jessie Helton; Rue Keagle; Priscilla Lawrence; Jane Mazurek; Lucille McBean; Bonnie Meyerhoff; Calissa Mosher; Ocello Family; Patricia Parke; Ellie Phillips-Burdge; Elsie Price; Sallie Pure; Bill Schoch; Ruth Shannon; LaVerne Snyder; Andrea Downing Zheng.



**Please pray for these members of our extended church family:**

Beverly Allen (Elaine Weiss' cousin); Bill Arden (Tina Champion's friend); Alex Arnold (Ellie Phillips-Burdge's nephew); Margaret Arnold (Ellie Phillips-Burdge's sister); Jordan Boardman (Mary Boardman's grandson); Matt Boardman (Mary Boardman's son); Dianne Cornish (Elaine Weiss' cousin); William Deming (Melissa Gould's nephew); Colin Diehm (Julie Weeks' father); George Eberhardt and Larry R. (David McElrath's friends); Kip Flint and family (Kevin Flint's brother); Maria Isabel Garcia (Ellie Phillips-Burdge's great niece); Sheryl and Myranda Gillow (Pam Gillow's daughters); Terry Gladstone (Andrew Highland's mother-in-law); Elaine Greco

(Jason Keagle's Aunt); Jeffrey Howarth; Julie Hughs' mother; Craig Kitchner and family (Lisa Harris' family); Larry Mayfield (Carolyn Longhouse's brother); Steven Mente (Shirley Murray's brother); Amanda Miller (Ruth Keagle's niece); Ev Morgan (John & Elaine Weiss' friend); Edith Nantz (Josette Garrison's mother); Arthur Preston (George Preston's father); Sallie Pure's brother John; Melody Ramey (James Haines-Burnham's sister); John Saltsman & Thelma Saltsman (LaVerne Snyder's friend and his mother); Dorothy and William Schumacher (LaVerne Snyder's aunt & uncle); Abby Springhorn (Maria Magill's niece); Cathy Waddington (Susan Eyster's friend); Gerard Weiss (John Weiss' father).



**To add a name to the Prayer List,** call the church office at 273-5971 or email [info@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:info@stpaulsithaca.org). Requests for prayers to be added to the **Prayer Chain** may be directed to **Elinor John at 273-0915.**

*"Bear one another's burdens....." Galatians 6:2*