

Mission of the Month: Blue Cabinets

Community members have set up blue outdoor food cabinets across the region. These cabinets are regularly stocked with non-perishable food and household items, and are open to anyone, 24/7. *“Take what you need, leave what you can.”* Non-perishable, shelf stable items are best: cereal, tuna, pb, jelly, sugar, powdered milk...**we are encouraging donations of breakfast items (cereal), bar soap and deodorant.** Donated items can be placed in the blue container in the hallway outside the Sanctuary doors.

United Methodist Summer Camps

UNY UMC Camps & Retreat Centers are still accepting summer campers. If you are interested in attending camp, register online or contact Pastor Alicia, St. Paul's would love to support you. Our closest camp is now Sky Lake and there are three other camps to choose from, <https://skylakecenter.org/summer-camp/2026-summer-programs/> or <https://www.unyumc.org/crm>.

Interfaith Community Dinner

You and yours are invited to join together with neighbors of various faith communities for an evening of good food and great conversation on **Thursday, July 30, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Myers Park Pavilion “D,” Lansing Park Road, Lansing, NY.** This event is free and open to all. Bring an open heart to meet new friends. Please bring a dish-to-share, with a label listing all ingredients. If bringing food to share is a hardship, please be our guest, your presence is gift enough!

St. Paul's Ministries ~ Week of July 26, 2026

Sunday, July 26

10:30 am – Worship~LL Dining Room
11:45 am – Coffee/Fellowship~LL DR

Thursday, July 30

11:00 am – Crafting Group~Durham Room

Wednesday, July 29

6:00 pm – Summer Sing Concert
~ Dining Room

Sunday, August 2

10:30 am – Worship w/Communion
~LL Dining Room
11:45 am – Coffee/Fellowship ~ LL DR

“A Compassionate Community Led and Transformed by the Spirit.”



Sunday, July 26, 2026 - 10:30 am Service

We welcome you, trusting that this time of worship will open our hearts to experience the Spirit's movement among us. Together, we seek peace, health, and wholeness as we gather in God's presence.

Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream music, ONE LICENSE #A-728210.

**Indicates a standing portion of the service, please stand as you are able.*

GATHERING

Gathering Music	“Star of the County Down”	<i>Molly MacMillan, piano</i>
	Traditional Irish	<i>Doug Robinson, bass</i>
	“The Water is Wide”	
	Traditional	

Greetings and Welcome *Pastor Alicia Wood*

Centering Music "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" UMH #557, v3

***Call to Worship** *Pastor Alicia Wood*

**All that I am and all that I have
Whatever gifts I received I cannot brag
They are God's grace poured in me
God loves me so much so I can be free.
God's amazing love pours grace and mercy
God wants us to walk in love generously
God works in us, through us and with us
Even if we can't understand, we must trust.**
-Ilma Barayuga-Doherty

***Sharing Peace & Love with All** *Pastor Alicia Wood*

***Opening Hymn** “They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love” FWS #2223

PROCLAIMING

A Message for All God's Children

Special Music

“A Quiet Place” *Molly MacMillan, vocal & piano*
by Ralph Carmichael *Doug Robinson, bass*

Scripture

Ephesians 4:25-5:2 (CEB) *Patty Sipman*
Hear What the Spirit is Saying to the Church!
Thanks be to God!

Hymn

“Take My Life, and Let It Be” *UMH #399*

Message

“Poured” *Pastor Alicia Wood*

RESPONDING

Hymn

“Shall We Gather at the River” *UMH #723*

Prayers of the People

Jami Breedlove-Crouch

Offering our Gifts to God

Pastor Alicia Wood

Offertory

“From the Heart” *Molly MacMillan, piano*
by Gary Aprile *Doug Robinson, bass*

***Doxology**

UMH #94

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Alicia Wood

Steadfast God, you search our hearts and know our needs even when we struggle to find the words. In your mercy, you strengthen us in our weakness and bind us together in love that cannot be broken. Bless these offerings, that they may bring hope to the weary, peace to the troubled, and joy to the hearts of your people. Through Christ, our Redeemer and Companion, we pray. Amen.

GOING FORTH

Announcements

***Benediction
Postlude**

"Rain Waltz"
by Fred Hersch

*Molly MacMillan, piano
Doug Robinson, bass*

-----PRAYERS-----

We are thankful for God's healing in all of our lives. Please pray for Jodi Glazier. For **Prayer Chain** requests, please contact Jami Breedlove-Crouch, lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org.

If this is your first visit with us today, we are thrilled that you are here! Please fill out the yellow Connect Card, place in the offering plate so that we may have a record of your visit.

Remembering Our Baptism

Today you may notice a pitcher and bowl on the altar table. During or after worship you are invited to remember our baptism by dipping your fingers in the water and saying a prayer or "I give thanks for my baptism."

Four Session Hybrid Book/Bible Study

"Building Beloved Community" will begin on **Monday, August 3 at 6:45 – 8:00 pm in the Memorial Rooms**. When fear and division threaten to take hold, faith communities face a pivotal choice: give in or rise to embody God's radical love and build inclusive, united communities. *Building Beloved Community*, a call to action from the United Methodist Council of Bishops, equips readers with theological insight, practical strategies, and inspiring global stories to resist division and foster connection. Drawing on experiences from around the world it reveals common patterns of authoritarianism and offers faithful alternatives grounded in love over fear. RSVP to Pastor Alicia, pastor@stpaulsithaca.org and reserve your \$13 book.

Thinking of Membership at St. Paul's?

A new member class will gather this August. Please contact Pastor Alicia, pastor@stpaulsithaca.org, if you have any questions or are interested in learning more about membership at St. Paul's UMC!

What's your favorite hymn?

On September 27 we will celebrate "The Rhythm of Our Faith" with our Bell Choir, Chancel Choir and your favorite hymns! Please be ready to share your

favorite hymn and why on a special form that will be provided throughout August.

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THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH

557 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
2. Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our
3. We share each oth - er's woes, our mu - tual
4. When we a - sun - der part, it gives us

Chris - tian love; the fel - low - ship of
ar - dent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our
bur - dens bear; and of - ten for each
in - ward pain; but we shall still be

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love” FWS #2223

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored
And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.**

**We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand
And together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land
And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.**

**We will work with each other, we will work side by side
We will work with each other, we will work side by side
And we’ll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride
And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.**

**All praise to the Father
From whom all things come
And all praise to Christ Jesus His only son
And all praise to the Spirit
Who makes us one
And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.**

399

Take My Life, and Let It Be

1. Take my life, and let it be con - se - cra - ted,
 2. Take my voice, and let me sing al - ways, on - ly,
 3. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no

Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments and my days;
 for my King. Take my lips, and let them be
 long - er mine. Take my heart, it is thine own;

let them flow in cease - less praise. Take my hands, and
 filled with mes - sag - es from thee. Take my sil - ver
 it shall be thy roy - al throne. Take my love, my

let them move at the im - pulse of thy love.
 and my gold; not a mite would I with - hold.
 Lord, I pour at thy feet its trea - sure - store.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 Take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.
 Take my-self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

Shall We Gather at the River

723

1. Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have
 2. On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver
 3. Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den
 4. Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er, soon our pil-grim-age will

trod, with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing
 spray, we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the
 down; grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-
 cease; soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the

Refrain
 by the throne of God?
 hap-py gold-en day. Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er,
 vide a robe and crown.
 mel-o-dy of peace.

the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er; gath-er with the
 saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.

***1. Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from his dwelling take leave.
The service is ended; oh, now be extended
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of his teaching, receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us; his love shall unite us
to work for God's kingdom and answer his call.***

***2. With praise and thanksgiving to you ever living,
The tasks of our ev'ry day life we will face,
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
Embracing your children of each tribe and race.
With your feast you feed us; with your light now lead us.
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.***