



**ST. MARGARET'S**  
ECUMENICAL & RETREAT CENTER

May & June 2023



# May & June 2023

## On-Going Weekly Activities

### Worship Services Wednesdays at Noon

Zoom and In-Person Worship Services - All Welcome!

Zoom.us ID: 842 3057 0175 Passcode: SMH

### Wednesday Lunches at 12:30pm

Includes main + veggies, salad, bread, and dessert

Please make a reservation by the Friday before 315-724-2324

Suggested donation \$13 per person

## On-Going Monthly Activities

Details about our monthly events can be found under Special Events.

### It Takes a Village (Canceled - program updating)

1st Thursdays @ **The Morrow Warming Center**

New Members Welcome!

### Friends of Emmaus House Meetings

2nd Wednesdays at 10AM @ **St. Margaret's**

New Members Welcome!

### Conversations with Rev. Gillett

2nd Wednesdays at 1:15 PM at St. Margaret's

Group discussion about Matters of Faith - All Welcome!

### Grief Support Group

2nd Tuesdays at 6:30pm at St. Margaret's

## What's Cooking with Irene

### May 17th Monthly Dinner

Grilled London Broil, Oven Roasted Potatoes with Dill, Veg, Salad, Bread, & Dessert

### June 21st Monthly Dinner

Kielbasa Sandwich, Homemade Sauerkraut, Salt Potatoes, Salad, Bread, & Dessert

\*\* Third Wednesdays at 5:00pm (take out) and 6:00pm (dine in) \*\*

Please make a reservation by the Friday before 315-724-2324

\*\* Suggested donation \$17 per person \*\*



# All Welcome!

Welcome! As the world around us begins to blossom and once again surround us with the sounds, smells, and beauty of renewal, it is my hope that you will come and find refreshment and renewal for yourself here at St. Margaret's House. Perhaps you would like to spend time with a book in our newly reorganized library. Maybe you'll sit with friends on the patio. Share in Eucharist and then share in a meal with us each Wednesday at noon – all are welcome!

I hope to see you soon!

All the best,

Judith H. Reilly  
Executive Director

## **SAVE THE DATE: St Margaret's Day - July 20th**

Please save the date for our St. Margaret's Day events to be held on Thursday, July 20th. We are planning a 2 PM service followed by light refreshments at 3 PM. Additional details will be released in our next newsletter and online.

## **Quilt Raffle Fundraiser for St. Margaret's**



Tickets: \$2 Each; \$5 for 3; \$10 for 7 - available at St. Margaret's

Drawing St. Margaret's Day, July 20th

*Our sincere thanks to Suzanne Bauer for her beautiful work!*

## Special Events

### **The Joy of Julian, Overnight Retreat - April 30th to May 1st**

Join the Rev. Elizabeth Gillett in an exploration of Julian of Norwich's "Revelations of Divine Love," which vividly depict God's passionate love of us and all creation. We will do this in an overnight retreat at St. Margaret's House beginning on Sunday, April 30th at 3PM, and ending on Monday, May 1st at 3PM. Our time together will include a series of meditations on Julian's revelations, interspersed with periods of silence for reflection and personal insight, along with time for discussion and optional sharing. We also will enjoy St. Margaret's beautiful Springtime grounds, chef Irene's delicious meals, and optional worship in the chapel. The cost of the retreat will be \$100 all inclusive, with scholarship aid available. Please reserve your place as soon as possible by calling us at 315-724-2324 or emailing [info@stmargarets houseny.org](mailto:info@stmargarets houseny.org).

### **It Takes A Village - May 4th and June 1st (Canceled - program updating)**

A social action-oriented initiative organized by St. Margaret's to prepare and serve a meal once a month at The Morrow Warming Center of Utica, located at 500 Plant St. *Please note: our service days are moving to First Thursdays from 4:30pm to 9pm.* Please consider joining us to prepare and/or serve a meal that day! If you would like to assist, but are unable to help on the day that we prepare and serve, perhaps you would consider assisting in a different manner. We always need Kool-Aid, hot cocoa, fruit, baked goods, and cups for hot/cold drinks. These items should be dropped off at St. Margaret's. Thank you for your generosity! *Thank you to the Episcopal Diocese of Central NY for funding to support this program!*

### **The Journey Program - May 9th at 10:00 AM**

Clergy, laity, individuals, and organizations alike are invited to join Rev. Carol Jubenville for an introduction and discussion around "The Journey: Shepherding God's People." *Please register ahead by calling or emailing St. Margaret's.*

### **Grief Group - May 9th and June 13th at 6:30 PM**

St. Margaret's hosts a peer-facilitated group to support anyone experiencing loss second Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00pm. *Please reach out if you have questions.*

## **Friends of Emmaus House - May 10th and June 14th at 10 AM**

Friends of Emmaus House is a group of volunteers who provide support to help meet the needs of the house & guests. Upcoming meeting dates are May 10th and June 14th at 10am at St. Margaret's. *New Members Welcome!*

## **Respite Day at St. Margaret's - May 12th from 9 AM to 3 PM**

We will hold a Respite Day on May 12th open for all who would like to set aside time to dedicate to a quiet day of prayer and reflection. What can you expect? The day will begin with an optional focused-meditation lead by Rev. Elizabeth Gillett to start your day. The rest of the day will be quiet time on your own.

There will be coffee/tea, morning/afternoon snacks, and a light lunch. Lunch will be a time that visiting with the others will be encouraged, but if you would like to remain in silence, a space for that will be afforded you. *Suggested donation \$25.*

## **Scrabble Day - May 24th and June 28th at 9:15 AM**

Join us for Scrabble! Our scrabble crew meets Fourth Wednesdays at 9:15am. *Please let us know if you would like to stay for lunch by the preceding Monday.*

## **A Special Service for Peace - May 25th at 3 PM**

On Thursday, May 25th, at 3:00PM, St. Margaret's will be offering a Eucharist for Peace. The purpose is to pray for peace in all the conflicted areas of the world, as well as for peace here in our own country. Peacemaking begins with us, as we attempt to reconcile the conflicts and divisions within ourselves, so we will be praying for personal peace as well. A reception will follow the service, to which everyone is invited. If you would like to contribute to the service in some way or if you would like to participate in it, please contact Judy Reilly or chaplain Elizabeth Gillett at St. Margaret's by Thursday, May 4th.

During the reception, Judy Reilly will discuss plans for a Peace Pole Path on the grounds of St. Margaret's and give guests the opportunity to sign-up to help with painting, designing, and/or installing the peace poles over the summer. It is our hope to have the installation ready to unveil on International Day of Peace this September 21st. There will be many ways to get involved in this wonderful project. *Please email [jreilly@stmargaretshouseny.org](mailto:jreilly@stmargaretshouseny.org) for more information.*



## **Open House at Emmaus House - June 9th from 2 - 4 PM**

We are excited to invite you to visit Emmaus House - located at 1215 Kemble Street - and learn more about our work, programs, and services provided to support homeless women and their children in Utica.

We would also welcome donations of themed baskets for raffle during the open house as a fundraiser for Emmaus House. Please drop off raffle baskets to St. Margaret's by June 1st. Many thanks to all who have donated their time, money, and goods to support Emmaus House.

## **Sacred Sites Tours - June, July, and August**

We are excited to bring back our popular group tours of local area holy places this June, July, and August.

On Sunday, June 4th, we will gather to carpool from St. Margaret's at 9:30 AM to visit the Định Thành Buddhist Temple in Frankfort. June 4th is Vesak Day, a special day to remember the birth, enlightenment, and death of the Gautama Buddha. There will be an on site celebratory ceremony followed by a vegetarian meal. *Please call us to reserve your seat! By donation.*

July 10th	The Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibit at the Good News Center and local religious sites
August 7th	Oneida Community Mansion House

## **Summer Concert Series - June 8th, July 13th, and August 1st at 7 PM**

We are excited to continue our Summer Concert Series in 2023! We will provide refreshments each night. Our August evening will also include an ice cream social. Please bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets. In case of inclement weather, events will be held indoors.

These concerts are free, thanks to a grant from Stewart's Shops Foundation! Donations will gladly be accepted to support the ministries of St. Margaret's and Emmaus House.

June 8th	Mark Bolos Ministries
July 13th	2 Friends: Donna Mucks and Amy Boulrice
August 1st	Floyd Community Instrumental Ensemble

# CALLED TO BE EASTER PEOPLE

Even though we celebrated Easter Sunday on April 6th, the season of Easter lasts until Pentecost on May 28th. This delights me, because Easter is too momentous to be limited to a mere 24 hours. Think about it. If Jesus had died a natural death as a venerated and wise old man, Christianity would not exist. It was the fact of his resurrection, and the subsequent gift of the Holy Spirit, that set the Apostles and St. Paul on fire, motivating them to preach and teach in Jerusalem and all around the Mediterranean. They sowed the seeds which sprouted and grew into Christianity.

Richard Rohr, the well-known Franciscan monk, spiritual guide, and writer states: “Christ Crucified is all of the hidden, private, tragic pain of history made public and given over to God. Christ resurrected is all suffering received, loved, and transformed by an all-caring God. How else could we have any cosmic hope? . . . The cross is the standing statement of what we do to one another and to ourselves. The resurrection is the standing statement of what God does to us in return.”

Easter is about resurrection and transformed life. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we believe that we too shall experience new life after our physical bodies have died. We too will be raised by an all-caring, passionately-loving God. We affirm with St. Paul in his Letter to the Romans that: “neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Easter is about rejoicing in God’s immense love of us, about living joyfully. It also means that because we are confident of God’s gift of life after physical death, we have the courage to live our faith and to put our Christian values into action. We have the trust to be an Easter people, loving God with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength; and loving our neighbors as ourselves. In doing so, we may emulate the inspiring examples of countless Christians, from St. Paul and the Apostles to contemporary Christians, who have put their lives on the line to do just that. We have the courage to risk as they did and do.

Will Rogers, the homespun humorist and entertainer, once asked “Why not go out on a limb? That’s where the fruit is.” So let’s go on our way rejoicing, to share the fruits of resurrection, to go out on a limb to share the love of God, as Easter people.

With best wishes for a meaningful Easter season, Elizabeth+

(The Rev. Elizabeth Gillett, Chaplain)

# Emmaus House

Thank you to all who donate necessities and niceties to the women and children staying at Emmaus House! New Home Welcome Kits and Hygiene Supplies are always in need. *Donations may be brought to St. Margaret's or directly to Emmaus House. Thank you for your kindness.*



Serving Women & Children  
Since 1983

**Friends of Emmaus House** is a group of volunteers who provide support to help meet the needs of the house & guests. This is done through donations, fundraisers, and our annual Open House. We typically meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month to determine needs and find solutions to those needs. Upcoming meeting dates are May 10th and June 14th at 10am at St. Margaret's. *New Members Welcome!*

**Monetary Donations:** Donations can be mailed to St. Margaret's or made through our website: [www.stmargarethouse.org](http://www.stmargarethouse.org). All checks should be made out to "St. Margaret's." Please write "Emmaus House" in the "for" line if you would like your donation to go to Emmaus House. All donations are tax-deductible.

## ↷ Community Donation & Volunteer Opportunities ↶

**It Takes a Village** members are asking for your assistance in gathering donations for Hope House. Needs include diapers (ten pounds and up), baby formula, toilet paper, toothbrushes & paste, shampoo & conditioner for all hair types, and coffee. Donations can be dropped off at St. Margaret's or directly at Hope House.

**Volunteers Needed:** With the help of people like you, St. Margaret's Food Pantry at Grace Episcopal Church, has the opportunity to support families in our neighborhood and families across our community. Because of food pantries our most vulnerable neighbors never have to decide between food or bills. With just a little of your time, you can help families achieve the stability and independence they need to feed themselves and their families. If you are available to volunteer on Fridays from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm at either the Food Pantry or Thrift Store, please contact Grace Episcopal Church at 315-733-7575.

**The Morrow Warming Center:** If our First Thursday meal service days don't work for you, please contact The Morrow Center for other volunteer days and times at [plymouthbethesda@cornerstoneutica.com](mailto:plymouthbethesda@cornerstoneutica.com). **(Canceled - program updating)**



# Personal & Group Retreats at St Margaret's

St. Margaret's has meeting spaces for group meetings and overnight retreats. We also welcome members of the community to come and stay at St. Margaret's for personal retreats. Those staying at St. Margaret's have use of the house, library, and chapel during their stay. There are many quiet sitting areas for relaxation and contemplation. We have a lovely path to the Wayside Cross on our grounds. Personal retreats are unguided and offer guests a chance to unwind and reconnect with themselves.

Guest rooms are \$55 per night and include overnight accommodation and use of the house and the guest kitchenette, which has a refrigerator, microwave, toaster, and instant hot water for tea and coffee. Groups of five or more can also have meals included for a total cost of \$85 per night per person.

If you would like to plan a meeting or retreat, please contact us for additional information and scheduling.



Photos: St. Margaret's Chapel, Living Room, Library, and Meditation Room.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS:**

Phone: 315-724-2324 | Email: [info@stmargarethouseeny.org](mailto:info@stmargarethouseeny.org)



# St. Margarets, Friends, & Events!



Photos: It Takes a Village; Sewing Volunteers making bags for Emmaus House; Quilts for Emmaus House; Bible Study with Rev. Deacon Barb Groves; Celebrating St David's Day with Tulips and Leeks; Scrabble Day, and our St. David's Day Celebration!

## **CONTACT INFORMATION & EVENT RESERVATIONS:**

Phone: 315-724-2324 | Email: [info@stmargaretshouseny.org](mailto:info@stmargaretshouseny.org)

# Finger Labyrinth and Prayer Guide



Name your intention: Since we embark on a “walking” meditation in order to hear and respond to the Lord, invite God to walk with you during this prayer period. Ask for the grace to hear and respond to him. If you have any particular intentions on your heart, name them to God at this time and tell him that you will carry these intentions with you during the “walk”.

“Walk” the path: Place the index finger of your nondominant hand at the entrance and follow the path of the labyrinth, knowing that God is with you. Go at a pace that feels natural. As you move along the path, notice what is happening in your mind and heart. There is no agenda to this prayer. Rather, let your prayer unfold as you go and trust in God’s guidance. If your mind wanders to thoughts that seem like distractions, name the distraction, lift it up to God and ask God to guide your mind and heart back to him. If the distraction returns, explore it with God.

Give thanks: When you reach the center of the labyrinth, thank God for being with you along the way.

Reflect: Afterwards, take time to reflect on your walking meditation. Write down your thoughts, feelings or anything else that you experienced. If something from these recollections stands out to you, consider exploring it at another time in prayer or in spiritual direction.

For World Labyrinth Day - Saturday, May 6, 2023  
Spiral Chakra-vyūha graphic by Yadina Clark





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47 Jordan Rd - New Hartford NY - 13413