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

**January - April 2024**



# Ongoing Events

## Weekly Activities

### Worship Services Wednesdays at Noon

Zoom and In-Person Worship Services - All Welcome!  
Please contact St. Margaret's for the information to join by Zoom

### Wednesday Lunches at 12:30 PM

Includes main, sides, salad, and dessert  
Please make a reservation by the Friday before - Suggested donation \$13 per person

### Volunteer: It Takes a Village | Tuesdays from 2-5 PM

Call or email St. Margaret's to sign-up to assist for one or more Tuesdays  
at St. Margaret's Food Pantry at Grace Church

## Monthly Activities

### Grief Support Group

2nd Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 PM

### Friends of Emmaus House Meetings

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

### Conversations with Father John

2nd Wednesdays at 1:30 PM - Discussions of faith

### Scrabble Day

4th Wednesdays at 9:15 AM at St. Margaret's

## Monthly Dinners

3rd Wednesdays - Take Out at 5:30 PM and Dine In at 6 PM  
Meals served with main, sides, salad, and dessert - Suggested Donation \$17  
Please make your reservation by the preceding Friday.

January 17th	Beef Stroganoff
February 21st	Lasagna
March 20th	Corned Beef Dinner
April 17th	Chicken & Broccoli Alfredo

All are welcome! For more information or to register for any event, please call or email St. Margaret's: 315-724-2324 or [info@stmargarethouseny.org](mailto:info@stmargarethouseny.org)

# All Welcome!

Wishing you all a joyous Christmas season! This edition of our newsletter is going to take us from January all the way until the end of April. Don't worry, we'll help you keep track of all of the great stuff that's going on at St. Margaret's and Emmaus House along the way with our event sign-up reminders, emails, and Facebook posts. As always, I hope that you find some events and activities that nurture your spirit. I would encourage you to come and enjoy the House and spend a quiet day of reading and prayer. You're always welcome!

I often ask folks when I see them this question – maybe you'll drop me a note and answer it too: When you open up our newsletter and read through our offerings, is there anything that you would like to see that you've not seen yet? Please let me know. Thanks in advance.

By the time this newsletter comes out most of us will be well into the shopping, bustle, traffic, and noise that is so prevalent all around us. Might I encourage you to keep the traditions that fill you up, let go of the ones that no longer serve you, and find the true meaning of Christmas.

May the joy of Christ be with you always,

Judy

— MERRY —  
CHRISTMAS  
and  
HAPPY NEW YEAR



# On-Going & Special Events

Please call (315) 724-2324 or email [info@stmargarets houseny.org](mailto:info@stmargarets houseny.org) to learn more about any of our events and to register.

## **It Takes A Village | Tuesdays from 2:00 to 5:00 PM**

Our social action-oriented initiative volunteers at the St. Margaret's Food Pantry at Grace Church on Tuesdays. Please contact us if you would like to sign-up. If you would like to assist, but are unable to help on Tuesdays, perhaps consider donating toiletries, reusable bags, or shelf stable foods (canned vegetables, coffee/filters, peanut butter, jam and jelly, canned fruits and meats, mayonnaise, pasta, and the like). Gift cards to Aldi's or BJ's are also appreciated. *Thank you for your generosity and to the Episcopal Diocese of Central NY for supporting this program!*

## **Coffee, Conversation, and Coloring | 1st Wednesdays of January, February, and April at 1:30 PM**

Join The Reverend Deacon Jean Skinner for afternoons of coloring spiritual pictures while sipping coffee/tea and enjoying conversation in our library. Please consider bringing a few cans of food for our food pantry as a donation.

## **Grief Support Group | 2nd Tuesdays at 6:30 PM**

St. Margaret's continues to host a peer facilitated grief support group for anyone experiencing loss - new members are welcome to join. The group meets monthly on second Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00pm.

## **Conversations with Father John LaVoe | 2nd Wednesdays at 1:30 PM**

Join us for conversations about faith on 2nd Wednesdays in January, February, and April, hosted by Father John LaVoe. *In March St. Margaret's will be hosting a Lenten Study on Wednesdays, details under Lenten Study.*

## **Scrabble Days | 4th Wednesdays at 9:15 AM**

Join our Scrabble group for monthly mornings of fun, coffee, and conversation.

## **Food Drive to Support the Food Pantry | January 15th ALL DAY**

St. Margaret's will be hosting a special food drive in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. on January 15th from 8am to 4pm. Donated food goods will go to support the food pantry and its mission to assist members of our community who are food insecure.

## **Come Walk the Labyrinth | February 7th from 10:00 - 11:30 AM**

Have you heard about labyrinths but don't really know what they are? Have you wondered exactly what one does with or in a labyrinth? Come and find out about its origins and take the time to experience it for yourself. Participants will join Executive Director Judy Reilly on February 7th from 10:00AM - 11:30AM for this contemplative experience perfectly timed as we head into the Lenten season.

## **Ash Wednesday | February 14th at Noon**

St. Margaret's weekly Holy Eucharist will include the Imposition of Ashes for Ash Wednesday. All are welcome.

## **Lenten Study | February 21st to March 27th, Wednesdays at 1:30 PM**

Join guest clergy each week through Lent for a Lenten study. It will be held on Wednesdays from February 21st through March 27th at 1:30PM. The study will use the book entitled *Lent with Evelyn Underhill*. The book is available at Amazon and other retailers.

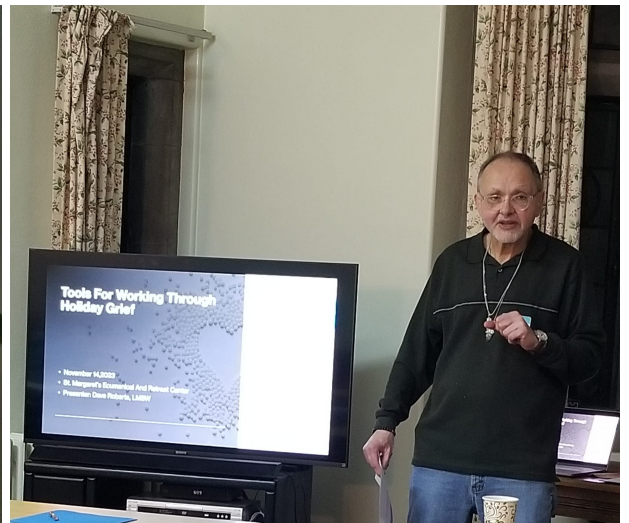
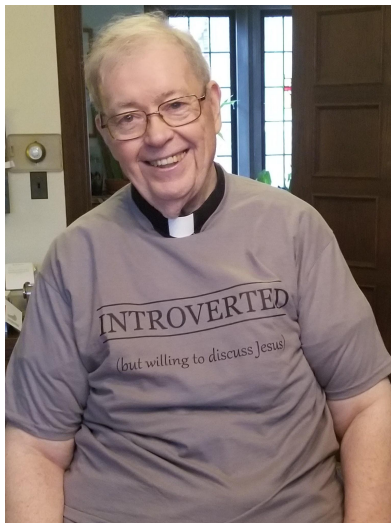
## **Come Make a Joyful Noise | March 14th at 2:00 PM**

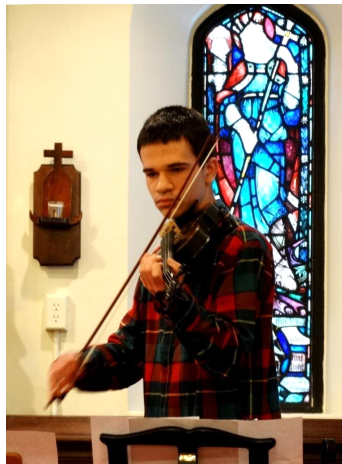
Come and enjoy music and songs by friends of St. Margaret's House from 2:00pm to 3:30pm! Seasonal refreshments and time for wonderful conversations included.

## **Earth Day Work Day | April 22nd from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

Join us on April 22nd to help with projects around the house and grounds, depending on the weather. Community members are welcome to come for part or all of the time as they are able. A simple lunch will be provided to all of our volunteers. Many thanks!

# St. Margaret's, Friends, & Events!





Photos: St. Margaret's Grounds and Path of Peace, Rev. John LaVoe, David Roberts & Tools for Working Through Holiday Grief workshop, Support for Emmaus House, Bell Ringer practice under the direction of Vicky Stockton Allen, and The Joy of Christmas: Music of the Season annual event with photos of Judith Reilly, Zachary Hirst, Lynne Howard, Rev. Janet Stengel, and Rev. John LaVoe

# Emmaus House

Thank you to all who donate necessities and niceties to the women and children staying at Emmaus House!

**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 meet monthly on 2nd Wednesdays to determine needs and find solutions to those needs.

*New Members Welcome!*



Serving Women & Children  
Since 1983

**Monetary Donations:** Donations can be mailed to St. Margaret's or made through our website: [www.stmargaretshouseny.org](http://www.stmargaretshouseny.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.

**Donations in Kind:** Emmaus House graciously accepts donations in kind to include New Home Welcome Kits and Hygiene Supplies, clothing, household goods, towels, shower shoes, slippers, laundry baskets, and underwear and pajamas for all ages/genders. We will also be accepting donations to host a Valentine's Party and Easter Dinner for our guests at Emmaus House. Donations may be dropped off at St. Margaret's. Please call or email if you have questions.



## ↷ Community Donation & Volunteer Opportunities ↶

**Shelf Stable Goods for Grace Church Food Pantry:** St. Margaret's is accepting shelf stable goods (pasta, rice, canned goods, peanut butter, etc.) for the Grace Church Food Pantry. Donations can be dropped off at St. Margaret's.

**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.





## Helping Hands at St. Margaret's

If you would like to volunteer at St. Margaret's, we are in need of assistance with projects in our library and gardens, as well as volunteers to assist with events and our Altar Society to assist with our weekly Holy Eucharist, held Wednesdays at noon. Please call or email for more information and to get involved. *Thank you!*



## Holiday Support at Emmaus House

If you would like to help support holiday meals and events for the women and children at Emmaus House, here is a list of upcoming needs. Donations can be dropped off at St. Margaret's or Emmaus House four days prior to any event. Gift cards for area grocery stores will also be graciously accepted. *Thank you!*

**Valentine's Day, February 14th:** cookies, cakes, drinks, decorations, party goods  
**St. Patrick's Day, March 17th:** cookies, cakes, drinks, decorations, party goods  
**Easter Sunday, March 31st:** ham, scalloped potatoes, vegetables, rolls, Easter baskets, decorations, party goods



## Spiritual Wellness | Exciting times for 2024!

Is your church, team, or organization looking for a way to grow spiritually throughout the year? We have a program for YOU! Take a look at [www.thejourneyvideo.com](http://www.thejourneyvideo.com). "The Journey: Shepherding God's People" is a video/spiritual formation study series that is fully funded through the generosity of St. Joseph's Pastoral Care, Inc. Our goal is to offer the gift of ecumenical ministry to churches and organizations who value spiritual wellness through means of grace, hope and the reassurance of God's love for all people. Please contact St. Margaret's for more information or to schedule a presentation by one of our presenters, or visit: <https://www.thejourneyvideo.com/contact-us/>

# 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 Grounds.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS:**

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

*Today in the town of David a Savior has been  
born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.*

*Luke 2:11*





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47 Jordan Rd - New Hartford NY - 13413