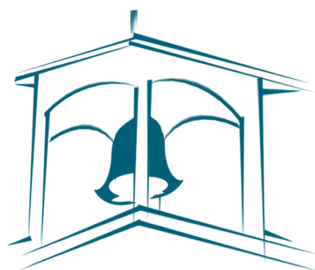


January - April 2025



ST. MARGARET'S

ECUMENICAL & RETREAT CENTER



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

3rd Fridays from Noon to 1:30 PM (please note new day/time)

New Men's Group with Father Nick

1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 10:30 AM to 11:45 AM

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 Tuesdays - Dine In at 5:30 PM and Take Out at 6 PM

Meals served with main, sides, salad, and dessert - Suggested Donation \$17

Please make your reservation by the preceding Friday.

January 21st

Chicken & Biscuits

February 18th

Meatloaf with Mashed Potatoes

March 18th

Corned Beef & Cabbage

April 15th

Hats, Chicken & Broccoli Alfredo

All Welcome!

When we sit planning out the offerings for the season, it sometimes seems like an insurmountable task. As an example, I'm currently sitting in my office planning events through the month of April; it's September; and yet, somehow it always works! I truly think that we have God and His hand over this House to thank for that.

In this issue, we have put together a nice balance of activities for you that will fuel your spiritual growth – conversations, book studies, Lenten studies, workshops, and of course Holy Eucharist. We also have some opportunities for you to get involved in our community through the Friends of Emmaus, or the It Takes a Village group.

Maybe you'd like to come and sit in the Chapel – just you and God spending some much-needed time with one another. You're also always welcomed to come and bring a book, pull up a chair, and enjoy the peace of the house. Did you ever think about gifting yourself a personal retreat? Many people like to spend a night or two away from their homes and dedicate themselves to furthering their relationship with our Lord through quiet, thoughtful introspection; maybe you'd like to as well! To schedule a personal retreat, please give Adrienne a call at 315.724.2324.

I'm looking forward to seeing you soon and perhaps we can enjoy a cup of coffee and a bit of conversation while you're here!

Yours in Christ,

Judy

Judith H. Reilly
Executive Director



On-Going & Special Events

Please call (315) 724-2324 or email 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. 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!*

***New* Men's Group | 1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 10:30 AM to 11:45 AM**

Fr. Nick Smith will lead a new men's group beginning on January 15th at 10:30 am. Meant to be a time of fellowship and exploration, Nick would like to begin each week by asking the question "What is saving your life today?" Is it spiritual practice? Is it coffee? Is it a random friendly smile? Is it some deep profound insight? Is it some curious enigma? Let's find out and share our conclusions!

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

Join us for conversations about faith hosted by Father John LaVoe.

Grief Support Group | 3rd Fridays at Noon

St. Margaret's continues to host a peer facilitated grief support group for anyone experiencing loss - new members are welcome to join.

Coffee & Conversation | 4th Wednesdays at 1:30 PM

Join The Reverend Deacon Jean Skinner for conversation and coffee in our library. Please consider bringing a few cans of food for our food pantry as a donation.

Scrabble Days | 4th Wednesdays at 9:15 AM

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

Bridge Basics with Barb | January 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th at 1:00 PM

Always wanted to play but didn't know how? Or, did you used to play but want to brush up? Now's your chance! Please register by January 2nd.

The Epiphany: Are We There Yet? | January 6th at 2:30 PM

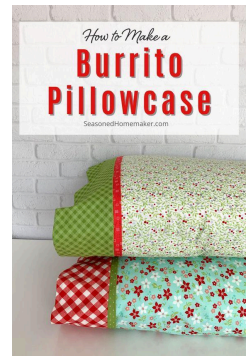
On January 6, twelve days after we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we now are following three wise men, better known as the Magi. Where did they come from? How long was their journey? Why were they prepared to bring gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh? Did you know the Magi weren't part of the actual nativity that we have come to expect in our Christmas pageants? Come and Journey with us as we revisit the purpose of the Magi and how it sends a clear message for all of us as we continue in our own faith journey. What treasures do you bring for Jesus? Rev. Carol Jubenville will be our presenter. Bring your bibles and your journeying clothes.... Finding Jesus has never been so exciting!! Please register by January 2nd.

InterSpiritual Wisdom and Practices | February 4th from 9 AM to 3 PM

Join Rev. Dr. John Wilde for this wonderful retreat day! According to many pioneers on the InterSpiritual path, the planet requires a new consciousness where we can overcome centuries of suspicion toward others within our cultures and religions. Let us explore this essential path of the mystic heart, particularly focusing on Thomas Merton (prolific writer who saw how much Christian monks and contemplatives and Buddhist monks and contemplatives had in common), Thomas Keating (popular teacher of Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina), Wayne Teasdale (student of Keating who wrote 3 books introducing the tenets of the InterSpiritual Path), and Edward Bastian (founder of the Spiritual Paths Institute and creator of a seven-step InterSpiritual Meditation). Teasdale coined the term "InterSpiritual" in *The Mystic Heart* published in 1999. Here is a quote from that book: "Humanity stands at a crossroads between horror and hope. In choosing hope, we must seed a new consciousness, a radically fresh approach to life drawing its inspiration from perennial spiritual and moral insights, intuition and experience. We call this new awareness interspiritual, implying not the homogenization of religion, but the recovering of the shared mystic heart beating in the center of the world's deepest spiritual traditions." Practices during the day will include Centering Prayer, Lectio Divina, InterSpiritual Meditation and QiGong. Cost is \$15 and includes lunch. Please register by January 27th.

Beginner Sewing Class with Debbie Skinner | Feb 10th, 9:30 to 2 PM

Do you have an interest in learning how to sew, but don't want to make quilts? Do you have a sewing machine sitting around waiting for you? Does your sewing machine have stitches on it that you want to learn? If any of your answers are yes, I have the class for you! We will be learning how to make a flange (the red and green stripe in picture), the Burrito method of making a rolled hem, and how to make a French Seam. We can also explore decorative stitches. I will have fabric available to make pillowcases for Emmaus House or you can bring your own fabrics. The cost of the workshop is a \$10.00 donation for St. Margaret's. You can bring your lunch or we can order out. A supply list for the workshop is below. Space is limited, please register by February 3rd.



Materials needed: sewing machine in good working order, basic sewing supplies (thread, pins, scissors, seam ripper), Frixion marking pen (marks disappear with heat) or a chalk marker for fabric; Rotary cutter and ruler; Main Fabric 1 yard; Cuff Fabric $\frac{1}{3}$ yard; Trim Fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ yard.

Come Make a Joyful Noise Ceilidh | February 20th 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.

Unoffendable: How Just One Change Can Make All of Life Better | Mondays, February 24th - March 31st from 10:30 AM to Noon

Join Executive Director, Judy Reilly, for a book study based upon Brant Hansen's book of the same name. Learn to live life with less stress and more care, by: (1) adjusting our expectations to fit human nature, (2) replacing perpetual anger with refreshing humility and gratitude, and (3) embracing forgiveness and beginning to love others in unexpected ways. This study lifts burdens from our backs and allows us to experience the joy of gratitude every day of their lives—flourishing the way God intended. Participants are asked to get the book and if desired, the workbook. They should attend the first session having read chapters 1 – 4. Please register by February 17th.

For more information or to register for any event, please call or email
St. Margaret's: 315-724-2324 or info@stmargarethouseny.org

Lenten Study | March 3rd through April 7th, Mondays at 1:30 PM

Join Rev. Deacon Barb Groves for a Lenten study which will use the book *Meeting Jesus at the Table: A Lenten Study* by Cynthia M. Campbell and Christine Coy Fohr. Please register by February 24th.

Ash Wednesday | March 5th at Noon

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

Sacred Sites Tour 2025

We are excited to announce our Sacred Sites tours of 2025. Details are still being worked out, but we anticipate visiting a host of area churches to learn about their buildings, history, and mission work. We will meet first Thursdays from April 3rd to September 4th at 9:50 AM. Please reach out to St. Margaret's for details.

Sew Day with Deb Skinner | April 7th, 9:30 AM to 3 PM

Please come and share a joyful day of community sewing at St. Margaret's House. We will be making bags for the women at Emmaus House to carry their personal care products. This project is beginner friendly as Debbie will walk you through the steps needed. All that is needed is a sewing machine in good working order and basic sewing supplies. Everything needed for the bag will be included in a kit. If you want to participate but don't wish to sew you can sign up to cut fabric for kits or iron. Please be sure to sign-up early to ensure that everyone will receive a kit and instructions. Please register by March 26th.



Pilgrimage and Mission Fair | April 22nd from 2 to 4 PM

Join us on April 22nd for a Pilgrimage and Mission Fair. Wander about the Great Room to speak with people who have taken part in mission trips or pilgrimages around the States and around the world. If you have taken part in one and want to be a part of this, we'd love to have you too! You'll engage with participants from the comfort of your table with your display. We're hoping that this event will whet your appetite for opportunities to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Please contact Judy at (315) 724-2324 to sign up for a table display by April 11th.

St. Margaret's, Friends, & Events!



Photos: Events at St. Margaret's, Sacred Sites Tours 2024, Music Practice in the Chapel, African Youth Choir, Apple Picking, Service with Reverend Janet Stengel, Around the Grounds of St. Margaret's, and Workshop with Rev. Deacon Barbara Groves

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!

Monetary Donations: Donations can be mailed to St. Margaret's or made through our website: www.stmargarethouseny.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.



Serving Women & Children
Since 1983



Photos: Donations for Emmaus House and Friends of Emmaus House Outreach

↪ 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, April 20th:	ham, scalloped potatoes, vegetables, rolls, Easter baskets, decorations, party goods

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@stmargarethouseny.org



ST.MARGARET'S
ECUMENICAL & RETREAT CENTER

47 Jordan Rd - New Hartford NY - 13413