

May

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

The Good News!

2025

Sunday Services

May

- 4 **3rd of Easter– Rachel's Day**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 11 **4th of Easter**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 18 **5th of Easter**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 25 **6th of Easter**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am

June

- 1 **7th of Easter**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 8 **Pentecost & Confirmation**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 15 **The Holy Trinity**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 22 **Pentecost 3**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 29 **Pentecost 4**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am

Sunday School concludes on May 18!

See you in September!!!

Find us on  fa-



www.stpaulstorrington.com

860-482-3555



A Word from Pastor Cady



Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

Since Easter is a bit later this year than most, we do not get to Pentecost until June 8. While most of our secular holidays are observed on only one day, the central Christian festivals occupy several weeks. This is especially true of Lent/Easter. Lent is 6 weeks and the Easter Season is 7. So our liturgical calendar dedicates a full 13 weeks to these two interconnected and deeply spiritual seasons. Even though most households put away any Easter decorations soon after the day, the gathered Church continues to celebrate the mystery of and promise that flow from the resurrection of Christ.

This is fitting since the resurrection really shapes all of Christian theology. If Christ had not been raised, it's doubtful there would ever have been a Christian movement at all. The disciples would have gone home dejected. They may have continued passing on Jesus' teachings, but probably would not have risked their lives to create this community of grace which we now experience as the Church.

In our own time, there are many people who seem confused about what an authentic Christian life looks like. It is as if there were conflicting signposts pointing us to a life that reflects the true intention of God. Even many Christians seem unfamiliar or unconvinced of the words and deeds of Jesus as the true heart of God's address to humanity.

Let us be clear: the resurrection of Jesus is all the confirmation we need to see that what he taught in word and deed are the ultimate revelation of God's life-giving word to the whole human race. It's good to know the rest of the Bible, of course. And it's good to be aware of other, non-biblical sources of ethics and wisdom. But for Christians, the rising of Jesus from the tomb is supposed to draw us into his new community of love, grace, mercy, forgiveness, and joy in a way that definitively shows us how we are intended to live.

We are a New Testament people. Our way is to be His way. As we continue this month to focus on Christ's new resurrected life, let us recommit to letting Him shape our words and deeds, too, so that they faithfully reflect those we have received from Him.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Scott Cady





FINANCE

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ,

HE IS RISEN! Praise be to God! The Finance committee hopes you all had a very blessed Easter with your family, friends and/or church family.

As the committee looks at our finances after the close of the first quarter of 2025, we find our income up just under \$14,000 from what we budgeted, while expense are down just under \$1500 from the budgeted number. This is a trend we would like to see continue throughout the year! These figures include all income. The figures you see on the Sunday morning slide reflects what we need to cover expense less the amount we receive from Sunday morning envelopes, Vanco, and direct deposits. The hope is to cover our expenses through our congregations' offering and not have to rely on fundraisers, use of facilities, and special gifts.

Finance is working closely with the property committee to determine what repair to our building is most critical and what the cost will be. We plan to launch a capital campaign to raise the funds necessary to complete the project. There will be more to follow on what the project will be, and the cost associated with it, once property obtains the necessary bids.

The Finance committee appreciates the support of the congregation and your generosity in meeting our financial needs.

Your Sister in Christ,

Pamela Little

Treasurer/Finance Committee

"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you". Deuteronomy 16:17

New to the church? Do you need envelopes?

Drop an email to secretary@stpaulstorrington.com or give the office a call, 860-482-3555. Envelopes come from a 3rd party company, and will be delivered to your address in the mail once a quarter. This will be your weekly giving envelopes along with a handful of special envelopes, including building and restoration, World Hunger, Pastor's Discretionary and more! If you decide to give electronically, the special envelopes do not come in the mail. In the case of electronic giving, the special envelopes are found in the Narthex for all to use.

Wait, you mean you didn't know you can give electronically?

The form and instructions, to set that up are also in the Narthex in the same area as the envelopes! Look for the Thrivent Logo!

Any further questions can be answered by Rachel in the office!



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

HILLTOP ELC

I can't believe we are in the last 7 weeks of our school year! The end of our year comes on June 9th then the teachers come in for their year end clean up before our summer break!

We have our annual Mother's Day flower fundraiser going on. Orders are due Thursday, May 1st.

Mother's Day flowers will be available to pick up on Thursday, May 08, 2025. There will be many colors to choose from but if you're looking for a specific one, it might be best for you to come early. I asked for delivery between 10 a.m. to noon.



We held our annual Art Show/Auction a bit earlier this year on Friday, April 11, 2025. Our special guest for the evening was "Mother Goose," she presented her nursery rhymes for children beginning at 6:00pm. There were refreshments available for sale. There were also raffle items and artwork to be auctioned off. I'd like to thank everyone who donated, helped to set up and clean up, and to the teachers and students for their creations. The proceeds from the Art Show/Silent Auction will benefit the Tuition Assistance Fund.

It's the time of year to recognize our sensational staff! We are fortunate to have strong staff in place. I wish to recognize and thank our Lead Teachers, Monica Valente, Linda Arigoni, and Melanie Beebe, their co-teachers, Christina Brzoska, Teresa Guzman, Nicole Sears, and Nicole Waldron and our assistant teachers Tracy Sierdy and Stacey Fitzgerald who have all worked extremely hard this year. I am honored to be completing my fifth year here at Hilltop alongside these awesome ladies!

A special recognition to the Hilltop Advisory Committee as they supported and helped me navigate this year as Director of Hilltop. We have continued to meet via Zoom, we have been a very productive group. Getting things done in a timely manner. We thank our members Pamela, Jane, Casaundra, Ron, and Gabrielle for your dedication to Hilltop!

Thank you to the property committee, Greg and Ralph, they help keep us safe by maintaining the area we use.

A special thanks to church office staff. Rachel supports Hilltop in so many ways, always with a joyful heart and a smile on her face. The work Jean and Margaret do for Hilltop is a part-time job on its own, never mind adding it on to the duties they have for the church! It is a pleasure collaborating with these lovely ladies! Hilltop sends best wishes to Jean in her retirement.

Registrations for the 2025-2026 school year are ongoing. Our teachers use their creativity to set up the classroom for the health and safety of everyone. I'm happy to report that registration thus far is going well. We have added a new full-day classroom for the three-year-olds. Although it has not been as popular as the four-year-old full-day class we are happy to report that this classroom is at capacity for the 2025-2026 half-day session. Please keep referring us to your friends and families. Once classes are filled, we maintain waiting lists for all classes, please continue to send folks our way.

At this time, we will have openings in twos and the M-F full-day classroom. Our publicly funded class only has 5 spaces available.

Our program choices include:

2-year-olds meet Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-11:30

3-year-olds meet 3 days a week. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 9:30-12:00 or 9:30- 2:45.

4-year-olds meet 5 days a week. Monday-Friday 9:15-2:45

Early Start CT (formerly School Readiness) is our publicly funded class for preschool children who live in Torrington and fit within financial guidelines for a LOW-COST preschool experience. This class is from Monday through Friday 9:00-3:00.

Thank you all for your love, support, and prayers!

Blessings,
Barbara Mazzei



SUNDAY SCHOOL

LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL IS SUNDAY, MAY 18TH

It seems like the Sunday School year flew! Weren't we just celebrating the beginning of the new school year in September?! I am happy to report that the year saw us with moderate gains in enrollment and a steady attendance. With only two senior confirmands, (and no children in either 7th or 8th grade), we are getting ready to confirm the two senior confirmands on June 8th. We have a dedicated staff of volunteer teachers who come prepared to teach our little saints each week. Thanks are expressed to Michelle Skibesky, Cathy and Hannah Winzler, Pamela Little and Diane Boscarino, Casaundra Abeling and Gabrielle Dziedzic, and I teach senior confirmation.

Thanks to all for a great year!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025 “SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS”

Pastor Cady and the Christian Education Committee are penning their own Vacation Bible School for this summer. VBS will be held during the week of August 4-8th from 9am – 12pm and there will be real-life lessons on serving our neighbors. We hope to have as our guests, firefighters, police officers, EMTs, a lifeguard, and someone who helps to feed others. On some days we hope to be able to do a “Touch A Truck” theme. We will have story time, music, games, snacks, and crafts each day to help reinforce the lessons. All children, age 4 by September 1st through grade 5 are invited to attend. A registration form will be available very soon. A registration fee of \$25 per child is requested to help cover costs, however if that is a hardship, we can work something out. Please come and invite a friend to join you. As always, we welcome help from older children and adults. Questions can be directed to any member of the Christian Education Committee. (Casaundra Abeling, Pastor Cady, May Friday, Pamela Little, Paula Rosenbeck, Michelle Skibesky, Cathy or Hannah Winzler) PLEASE, ... SAVE THE DATE!





ALTAR GUILD



The Altar Guild, who sets up communion for you every week, needs new members. We currently only have 7 volunteers and we need more. All that is required is coming in on a Saturday for about an hour to water the plants, fill the oil candles and set the altar for communion. Then on Sunday after the service it takes less than 15 minutes to clean up. Right now we are on a rotation of every 4 weeks, however, with more people it would be less. Any new volunteers will train with us until they are comfortable to be on their own. Please consider being on this much needed ministry.

Current members are Bonnie Schaff, Lisa Bodnar, Dana O'Brien, Angela DiStefano, Liz Falls, Vinni Carey and Jeanette Richard, Chair.

Please feel free to speak with any of our members to find out more about Altar Guild and contact me if interested in joining us.

Thanks and God Bless,
Jeanette (860-489-7140)



GARDEN OF MEMORIES



**Information about the Garden of Memories,
whether it about interment or to volunteer to help
with maintenance,
please contact
Lisa Bodnar
860-491-6342 or bodnar983@gmail.com**

**Tai Chi
Wednesday
Mornings 11:00**

**Drop in whenever the mood
strikes. Free to all!**



Wednesdays
Experience is not necessary; we have some master quilters who are very willing to lend a hand!
**We meet most Wednesdays
from 1pm – 4pm.**



The world-famous St. Paul's TAG SALE!!!

Lisa Bodnar will be hosting another tag sale at St. Paul's! If you would like to be on the planning committee, reach out to Lisa. If you are doing your spring cleaning and have stuff to donate, bring it in! Office hours 9 am– 3pm or contact Lisa to set up a drop off time! Household items, jewelry, books, craft items, vintage, small furniture, and so much more!**

****no clothes or shoes please!**** Pricing not necessary, contact Lisa at 860-491-6342 or email bodnar983@gmail.com

DATE July 19, 2025

**Men's Breakfast
Wednesday
May 21
A/C Eatery
South Main St.
Torrington**



**Women's Breakfast
Wednesd6y
May 21
George's Restaurant
East Main St.
Torrington**



BLESSING OF THE BIKES & BIKE SHOW



WHEN: May 10, 2025 (rain date 5/17)
Where: St. Paul's Lutheran Church
837 Charles Street, Torrington CT
Time: 10:00 – 2:00

Lunch! Trophies
Music! 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place &
Fun! People's Choice
Show Entry Fee: \$10



Come enjoy a lunch, good music and show while receiving the blessing for a safe riding season.



Member Appreciation & End of Sunday School CHURCH



**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025**

**ALL ARE INVITED AND WELCOMED!
FUN FOR ALL AGES!**

CHANGE THIS YEAR : BRING YOUR OWN MEAT!

Potluck Lunch: (if your name begins with...)

A-E please bring appetizers, chips, beverages etc.

F-N please bring salads, pasta, potato, green etc

O-Z please bring dessert

**Please bring blankets, towels, lawn chairs, sunscreen
and a friend or 2!**

Please sign up by May 13th so we can have an approximate headcount.

CRAFTS AFTERNOONS CONTINUE

In preparation for our annual Fall Fair (November 1, 2025), all are invited to come on Wednesday afternoon, beginning at about 1pm. We will work on several of the angels we have made over the years and then work on other projects. If you have your own craft or hobby you want you wish to work on, please bring it! The quilters will be sewing simultaneously so, the more that come, the merrier it will be! We are always looking for new ideas so please share it, if you think of something we can work on. We have women of all abilities, so please give us a try! We are blessed with one new member attending each week!



May Meeting W/ELCA



On Monday, May 19th at 7pm, St. Paul's Women will gather to plan their 2025 – 2026 Program Year. All are invited to share ideas for educational, informative, creative, fun, or service activities for the program year that begins in September. No matter what we do, He is with us always!

Pamela Little will offer devotions and we will enjoy an Ice Cream Social.

Save the Date of Monday, June 23rd for our Annual Banquet. We will decide on the location at our next meeting. All women are invited to sign up to attend.

SHARING GARDEN

The Torrington Area Families for Autism (TAFA) has gotten a grant to improve and replace the raised beds and some of the fencing in the garden. They'll use the gardening experience to enrich and engage their kids on the spectrum, and sell the produce at the Farmers' Market to raise money for their organization. At present, St. Paul's has no volunteers organized to work the garden at all. Pastor Cady will probably be asked to say a blessing at planting time for them.



AN IDEA FROM ROBIN THURLOUGH

Robin Thurlough was recently scanning Pinterest and came upon the article printed below from Ginger Ail and on Pinterest. I submitted this request to our congregation council. Most families have at least one prescription that they get in on of these small (or not so small!) orange plastic bottles. I am also confident that many of them end up in the recycling bin, which ordinarily, is a good thing! Below is another take on recycling them! A collection box will be in the Narthex so anyone who wished to join in this effort.

****Please note, all bottles must be clean and dry with all labels removed. Covers much be on each bottle.****
IF everyone can follow these steps, we will send them on to Ohio, where they are distributed from. Please don't waste our time by putting in dirty or unusable bottles. If we can make a difference, let's do it together!

From Pinterest – Author, Ginger Ail

"Pill bottles: those translucent orange soldiers that pile up all around us... in our drawers, cabinets, shelves... sometimes I wonder, if I had saved every empty pill bottle since I got sick could I build a small house by now?

One thing I have always hated the most about being sick, is how you often need more help than you can give back. I'd see those specials on TV and think: I want to build a Habitat for Humanity house or dig wells in Africa with Oprah! (this might be an insomnia induced thought, but the general sentiment still stands). Okay, so I can't dig a hole in the blazing African sun. There are still a lot of ways to help others. Like this, this is a project with an idea so simple, it's brilliant. I've tried this myself so I can vouch for how easy it is to do and how good it feels to pass on something that is trash to you, but will be a treasure to others... Imagine you've walked miles to a remote village hospital to receive any form of medical care you can find. You are given the medication you desperately needed and now you have to start the journey back home (often many miles). You don't shake the pill bottle maraca as you walk because there is no pill bottle, (there was barely medicine). The pills bought in impoverished areas are often bought in huge quantities, in large jars, and doled out (if you're lucky) wrapped in a tiny scrap of newspaper.

It doesn't sound like a big deal at first. But the more I thought about it the more I realized: beyond the thought of just getting the medication home, what keeps the meds from swelling up from moisture by day 5? What keeps kids from getting into them? Or their getting lost? Those orange bottles that seem to accumulate so easily for us, can actually do more than you think for others...

How to Help:

Step 1:

When you finish your meds, save the bottle! This includes bottles you might receive over the counter like for Advil, Motrin, vitamin bottles, supplements – as long as the bottles aren't too (Large bottles cost too much to ship).

Step 2:

****Follow the instructions for preparing the bottles****

Step 3:

Throw the bottles in a box or manila envelope, when you have enough of them, mail it off!

The bottles are not wasted in anyway. Once the meds are finished, the families often use the bottles in 100 other ways (just think of how helpful it could be to have a container with a lid that seals). And if the bottle you send isn't able to be used, it will be recycled.

The New Organization is called:
Matthew 25: Ministries
11060 Kenwood Road
Cincinnati, OH 45242



Note: Matthew Ministries is an international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization helping the poorest of the poor, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally regardless of race, creed or political persuasion across the US and worldwide. They were cited on many sites throughout my research."

**A BOX FOR YOUR DONATIONS IS ON THE TABLE IN THE
NARTHEX.**

**May 1st**

Camden Ferrucci
Francine Ahrens

May 2nd

Brooklynn Dickinson

May 3rd

Ainslee Campbell

May 6th

Angela DiStefano

May 8th

Kendhyall Abeling

May 10th

Ernest Marquard

May 12th

Ethan Schaller

May 15th

Renate Riese
Karen Ness
Noah Shapiro

May 16th

Jessica Nardine

May 17th

Jacob Friday

May 18th

Casaundra Abeling
Coni-Jo Aparo
Linda Hamm

May 21st

John Krochalis

May 22nd

Wendy Iannelli
Doug Harrel
Ignacio Vega

May 24th

Tyler Rosenbeck
Bill Perry

May 26th

Fran Seitz
Freyja Harrel

May 27th

Donny Crossman
Eli Boda
Dax Baker

May 30th

Mason Ferrucci

James and Joan Wolfinger

5-1-64

James and Margaret Clavette, Jr.

5-2-92

Richard and Cheryl Corey

5-10-80

John and Wendy Iannelli

5-12-84

Gary and Nancy Begey

5-20-83

H. Curtis and Margita Stone

5-20-89

Roman & Leisa Radzins

5-22-82

Charles & Roxanne Studelska

5-28-77

Jon and Deb Sterling

5-31-04



Greg O'Brien

Bill Pierson

Bill Blank

Christine Esker

Anne Zaharek Murray

Pastor Don Carpenter

Gerald Casson

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Keeping Your Sanity Tuesday, May 13, 2025

10:00 AM 2:00 PM

Wisdom House Retreat & Conference Center

229 East Litchfield Road Litchfield, CT, 06759

Today, we are in a monumental struggle. What seems like an extreme political power play is considerably more significant than that. Beneath the endless debates about policies, economics, religion, and culture, something more profound is unfolding—a spiritual reckoning—a call to action.

In the face of global chaos, we must embrace our interconnectedness and take meaningful action while remaining strong.

In this workshop, Keeping Your Sanity, we will share and explore strategies for caring for our mental and spiritual health, strengthening our resilience, and remaining informed while contributing in ways that will make a difference.

Please bring pens and notebooks.

COST | \$50, lunch is included register by visiting their website or call 860-567-3163



Our Lady of Calvary 31 Colton St. Farmington CT 06032

Spirituality often provides a built-in community, which can influence health, happiness, and longevity. Engaging in religious and spiritual practices seems to slow cognitive decline and equips us with better coping strategies. Join Sisters Eileen Fucito, CP, and Kathleen

Dorney, CND, as they explore seven spiritual tasks that we all encounter as we age: belonging, meaning, hope, the sacred, morality, beauty, and the acceptance of dying. They will discuss how our spirituality can help us navigate these challenges, leading to a more graceful acceptance of the aging process.

Register for this program by visiting their website or call (860) 677-8519.



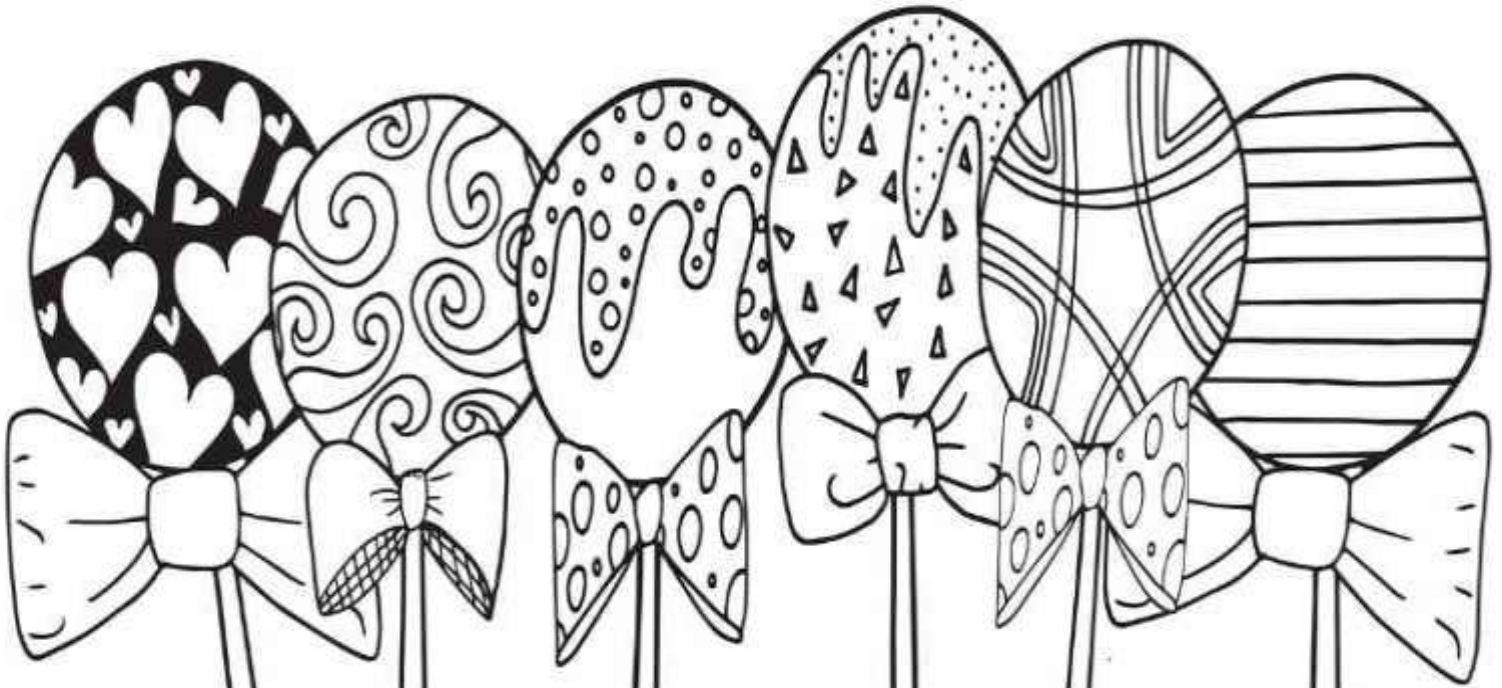
Blood Drives @ St. Paul's— May 5th



**American
Red Cross**

Make an appointment today on their website to give the gift of life.

KID'S PAGE



God is Love

Joke of the month!

Q: How Long did Cain dislike his brother?

A: As long as he was Abel!





837 Charles Street
Torrington, CT
06790

Staff Directory 860-482-3555

The Reverend Dr. G. Scott Cady, Pastor
Rachel Harrel, Secretary
Margaret Clavette, Bookkeeper
Marcia Newcome, Music Director
Lisa Bodnar, Custodian

gscady@gmail.com
secretary@stpaulstorrington.com
bookkeeper@stpaulstorrington.com

Hilltop School Staff 860-482-3727

Barbara Mazzei, Director & Head Teacher
Nicole Sears, Teacher
Monica Valente, Teacher
Christina Brzoska, Teacher
Nicole Waldron, Teacher
Melanie Beebe, Teacher
Linda Arigoni, Teacher
Teresa Guzman-Sanchez, Assistant Teacher
Tracy Sierdy, Assistant Teacher
Stacey Fitzgerald, Assistant Teacher
Casaundra Abeling, Custodian

director@hilltopchristianelc.com

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