

Summer

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

## The Good News!

2025

### Sunday Services

#### July

- 6 **Pentecost 5**  
Worship and Communion  
10:00 am
- 13 **Pentecost 6**  
Worship & Communion  
10:00 am
- 20 **Pentecost 7**  
Worship & Communion  
10:00 am
- 27 **Pentecost 8**  
Worship and Communion  
10:00 am

#### August

- 3 **Pentecost 9**  
Worship and Communion  
10:00 am
- 10 **Pentecost 10**  
Worship & Communion  
10:00 am
- 17 **Pentecost 11**  
Worship  
10:00 am
- 24 **Pentecost 12**  
Worship & Communion  
10:00 am
- 31 **Pentecost 13**  
Worship & Communion  
10:00 am

*VBS begins August 4!*

*See you in September for Sunday School!!!*

Find us on



[facebook.com/StPaulsTorrington](https://facebook.com/StPaulsTorrington)



[www.stpaulstorrington.com](http://www.stpaulstorrington.com)

860-482-3555



# A Word from Pastor Cady



Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

What an interesting time to be a Christian! Many of the big issues in the world are interconnected to issues of faith and religion.

Take Ukraine for example. While it is not part of the usual reporting about the war there, a church conflict is part of the overall tension between Ukraine and Russia. Some years ago the Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church, located in Moscow, also oversaw the life of Ukrainian Orthodox Christians. The Ukrainians requested from the Ecumenical Patriarch in Istanbul - their equivalent to Rome's Pope - that they be allowed to become an independent church with their own national Patriarch. Their petition was granted, so there is now a Ukrainian Orthodox Church that is not overseen by Moscow. The Russian Church was outraged by this. Vladimir Putin is Russian Orthodox. He not only wants Ukrainian land, he wants to reunite the two churches under Moscow's oversight.

In the Holy Land there are several types of Palestinian Christians: Lutherans, Anglicans, Presbyterians, Quakers and various Catholic and Orthodox bodies. In the midst of the Gaza horrors, and the growing regional violence, these widely different groups are feeling a strong common bond in their opposition to the policies of the present Israeli administration, both in Gaza and the West Bank. They also publicly oppose the violent acts of anti-Israeli groups. They are consistent advocates for a peaceful, sustainable, and just two-state solution and reliable partners with Jewish and Muslim groups also working for a fair and stable two-state negotiation.

Here in America Christians are divided along a whole host of consequential issues: abortion, Church/State relations, environmental questions, immigration, military policy, the size and shape of the social safety net, public education, death penalty, gender issues, foreign policy, the role of women in the Church, Christian relationships with those of other faith traditions, and others. At the same time, there is a growing consensus that Christians can find strength and wisdom in working and worshipping together much more often than we once imagined. Navigating the urge towards greater unity while wrestling with the issues that pull us in divergent directions is a challenge that we have yet to fully manage, but cannot avoid.

The Roman Catholics are led for the first time by an American whose spiritual foundation is the tradition based on St. Augustine. This is the same strand of spirituality that shaped Martin Luther 500 years ago. Relationships between Rome and worldwide Lutherans have been improving dramatically in the last 50 years. That trend may accelerate under Leo XIV.

On top of all that, the developed nations of the west are all seeing a continued decline in participation in any form of Christianity at all. In the middle of all these trends are congregations like ours: diverse in political views, economic status, educational background, ethnic identity, and gender orientation. But for all that might be wedge issues for us, we remain friends with each other and try to be faithful to our Lord.

As the summer moves along, some of the national and international tensions may get more intense. May we here keep our focus on being a caring congregation, helping each other as needed, and working tirelessly to serve all our neighbors. It is our Lord's clear intention that Christians be a sign for the broken and war-weary world of a kind of joyful, compassionate and just way of living that makes a place for every person to thrive. May we gladly follow that calling in our own daily lives.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Scott Cady

# FROM FINANCE

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ,

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! The generosity of this congregations is amazing. It took less then a month to replenish the repairs and restoration account for the cost of the hot water heater. A number of members donated towards the cost and then a husband and wife paid off the balance!

At this point of the year, we are currently about \$18,000 up in income from what we budgeted, while expense are down approximately \$21,400 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 our expenses less the amount we receive from Sunday morning envelopes, Vanco, and direct deposits. The hope is to cover our expenses through our member's offerings and not have to rely on fundraises, use of facilities, and special gifts. Ideally, we would love to be able to cover our expenses through our giving, and have the other income available to pay for the much needed repairs.

Regarding our investments, we are happy to report that we have not had to withdraw any funds since the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023 and they are currently up overall from last year.

Finance continues to work 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

***“What do you mean, ‘If I can’?” Jesus asked. “Anything is possible if a person believes.” Mark 9:23***

## Envelopes...how do they work?

Envelopes are how we record giving. Giving gives members voting privileges, a tax deduction for the giver, and helps run this big beautiful church. Envelopes come from a 3rd party company, and will be delivered to your home 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 this case, 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 Drop an email to [secretary@stpaulstorrington.com](mailto:secretary@stpaulstorrington.com) or give the office a call, 860-482-3555.



# Did you know???

Did you know that there are different types of church memberships? Did you know that only certain types of members are considered voting members? Let's take a look at the different membership types:

A ***voting member*** is a person over 13 who has been confirmed or reaffirmed at St. Paul's. A voting member must take communion at least once a year and give a recorded gift of at least one dollar per year. **A recorded gift? What is that?** It is a gift that is received by the counters with your name on an envelope. Loose offerings do not count toward giving as we do not know who to attribute those gifts to.

A ***non-voting member*** is a person over 13, who has been confirmed or reaffirmed at St. Paul's, who is active in church life but does not take communion and/or give a recorded gift. This would also include people who are active in the church but who have not formally joined the congregation.

***Child members*** are kids from baptism through confirmation age. Confirmation starts in middle school through freshman year in high school, typically 14 year olds. **These are the future voting members!**

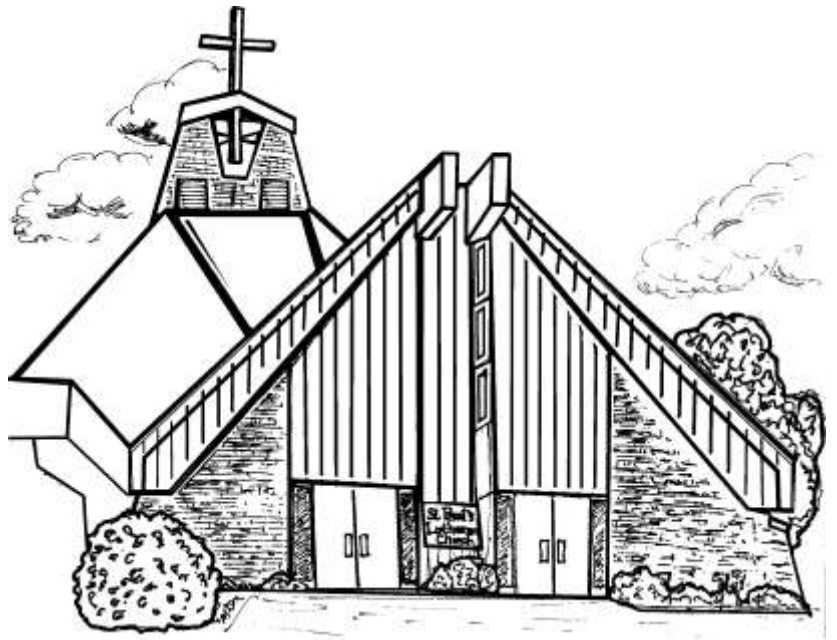
***Inactive members*** are people who were active members in the church at some point but who have not been to church, or have not given a gift in over a year. The member stays on the role in case they come back to church. They do not have voting rights.

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**Worship Announcement** - The Worship and Music committee is recommending that we return to using the rail for communion beginning in September. We will continue to use the intinction method, dipping the wafer in the wine, rather than drinking from the common cup. Those who cannot or choose not to kneel may remain standing at the rail.

The little self-contained kits will remain for those who choose to commune from their pews.

Blessings! Pr. Cady



# Tag Sale!

**Saturday, July 19th, 2025**

**8 am to 2 pm**

**St. Paul's  
Lutheran Church  
837 Charles St.  
Torrington  
860-482-3555**

**Rain or Shine!**

Household items,  
jewelry, books,  
craft items, vintage,  
small furniture, and  
so much more!\*\*

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED!**

**\*\*no clothes or shoes please!\*\***

Items can be dropped at the office, pricing not necessary,  
Monday-Friday 9-3 or contact Lisa at 860-491-6342  
or email [bodnar983@gmail.com](mailto:bodnar983@gmail.com)



# HILLTOP ELC

Happy Summer. Another School year finished! We sent 24 students out into the "Big World" to Kindergarten.

Thank you to all the Staff at Hilltop for a job well done!

Our end of year programs were held in person. It was great to have families join us. This is an important step in their child's school experience, and we celebrate each and every one of them.

I will have summer hours in the office working on getting ready for Fall. We do have openings in all our classes.

Registration forms are available at either the Hilltop office or the Church office. Please spread the word to family and friends. You may call the Hilltop office to schedule a tour and to pick up paperwork 860-482-3727.

My summer will be busy trying to fill three vacant teaching positions. We had two teachers retire and one teacher move out of town. We send best wishes for new adventures and relaxation!

Wishing you all a delightful, restful, and rejuvenating summer.

Praying you stay well. In His Service,

Barbara Mazzei



**OCTOBER  
18<sup>TH</sup>**


**St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
837 Charles Street  
Torrington, CT**

**St. Paul's Lutheran  
Church presents  
their  
Annual Car  
show**



**Saturday, October 18, 2025  
10:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Rain date: Sat. October 25, 2025  
Registration fee \$10  
Food ♦ 50/50 Raffle ♦ Music**

For more info.  
St. Paul's: 860-482-3555 or Steve: 860-601-1691



*Galatians 5:13c*

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
837 Charles St., Torrington**

**Vacation Bible School 2025  
August 4 - 8, 2025  
9am - 12pm**

**For all children ages 4 (by 9/1/2025) - Grade 5**  
[www.stpaulstorrington.com](http://www.stpaulstorrington.com) 860-482-3555  
**Registration forms can be found on our website or at church.**

# VBS

## 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 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 is available at the church. 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!

One of the things we hope to do is prepare a “survival kit” for each of our community partners who come. To that end, we will be requesting items that would go into a kit – a fireman’s/police officer/EMT’s, etc. prayer, a wrapped mint (you are worth a mint to those you help), a toothpick (to pick out the good in everyone), an elastic (to hold it all together), an instant coffee stick or K-cup (to perk you up), etc. Each kit will also include a prayer for each profession. On another note, on Wednesday when the ambulance comes, children will also make some mini blessing bags to distribute at the Community Soup Kitchen. A complete list is below. If you can help assemble the kits, we will be doing it on Thursday, July 24th between 3pm-6pm. (Please note, the children will assemble a few kits during VBS but they can’t possibly do all of them!)



## **VBS WISH LIST – RECYCLEABLES & OTHERWISE**

*Please leave your donations in the Narthex. Thank you!*

|  |                         |                                 |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Empty tissue boxes (rectangular)         | Hershey© Kisses         | K-cups or Instant Coffee Sticks |
| Tongue Depressors                        | Wrapped Mints           | Small Seashells                 |
| ½ yd. pieces of fleece fabric            | Wrapped Lifesavers      | Plastic Zippered Sandwich bags  |
| Small Snickers© Bars                     | Assorted Rubber Bands   | Individually wrapped tea bags   |
| Bic© – style stick pens                  | Spring-type clothespins | White Air-dry clay              |
| Assorted Band-aids                       | Gauze pads              | Small bottles Hand sanitizer    |
| “Pony-Bottle” Size water                 | Erasers                 | Granola Bars                    |
| Acrylic Paints (red, bright blue, black) | Sharpie© Markers        | Wrapped Bubble Gum              |
| Individually wrapped Starburst Candy     | Smarties© Candy         | Small Tootsie Roll Candies      |
| Craft (Tacky© - style) Glue              | Poly-fil Stuffing       | Small Wooden Star Shapes        |
| Gallon Zippered Plastic Bags             | Plastic tablecloths     | Large rolls of wide Duct Tape   |

### **SAVE THESE DATES!**

#### **Blessing of Your Backpack**

**Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> during worship**

We will have a blessing of your backpack on Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> during worship. Bring your backpack to church that day and receive a special blessing and a treat! All kids AND adults are invited to bring a backpack or a briefcase or even a lunch box!



## **Sunday School Rally Day**

**Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**





# 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**



Holy Hosta Batman!



It is so hot, the Dogwood is  
already shedding its flowers!



**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.**



**Men's Breakfast  
Wednesday  
July 16 & August 20  
A/C Eatery  
South Main St.  
Torrington**

**Women's Breakfast  
Wednesdays  
July 16 & August 20  
George's Restaurant  
East Main St.  
Torrington**



## AROUND THE CHURCH

Every year, there is a Farmers Market held on Tuesdays and Saturdays in the St. Paul's upper parking lot June through October. St. Paul's has an informational table set up each Saturday morning starting in Mid-June through the end of September from 9am to 1pm.

There is a group of dedicated volunteer teams who man the table each week. These volunteer teams give out info about our church happenings, Hilltop Christian Early Learning Center, Vacation Bible school, etc.

Our volunteer teams consist of 2 or more members who serve 2-3 Saturdays each Summer. We could use more volunteer teams so that the commitment can be reduced to 1 Saturday per team. Everything is provided, the team just brings their chairs and will set up the table along with the giveaways!

Please contact the church office with your information, and I will contact you. May God Bless you always.

Pam Ewing,  
Farmers Market Table Coordinator



# Save the Dates!

## St. Paul's Concert Series

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| July 26      | South Road       |
| August 23    | Potters Field    |
| September 27 | Blue Rhythm Band |

5:30 pm outside (weather permitting).



## WOMEN OF THE ELCA

St. Paul's Women of the ELCA's summer reading book is *The Mountain Between Us* by Charles Martin. Martin is an author enjoyed by many of us so I am confident you won't be disappointed! Thanks to Mary Grening for offering the suggestion. We will gather on Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm for Pizza, Salad, and a book review. Please save the date and plan to come to kick off our new program year. All women are invited to attend.

crafting cheerfully

*diy crafts to brighten your day*



### 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. If you have your own craft or hobby that 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 a small group of women attending regularly, but we have an occasional drop-in; for that we are thankful! We've made several varieties of angels, some are working on cork reindeer, others are refreshing wreaths and floral arrangements, while some are painting and decorating wooden pieces for ornaments or décor.

"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?"

Our collection of empty, clean, with labels completely detached, and caps on, continues. Once we get a good number of the empty bottles, we will ship them to Mathew: 25 Ministries, where they will handle the distribution of bottles domestically and internationally.

A BOX FOR YOUR DONATIONS IS IN THE NARTHEX.







|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1<br>Natalie Siss                                   | 19<br>David Stewart                       |
| 3<br>Hunter Hayes                                   | 20<br>Jan Eucalitto                       |
| 4<br>Leisa Radzins<br>Emmy Mangione                 | 21<br>John Stewart                        |
| 5<br>Sylvia Stevens                                 | 22<br>Rachel Harrel<br>Aurora Muhl        |
| 6<br>Susan Scott                                    | 23<br>John Iannelli                       |
| 8<br>Margita Stone<br>Valerie Vega<br>Carol Deleppo | 26<br>Carol Gesner                        |
| 9<br>Jennifer Ezzo<br>Amy Worthington-<br>Cady      | 27<br>Laura Roelofs                       |
| 10<br>Linda Magyar                                  | 29<br>Daisy Costa                         |
| 12<br>Dawn Osterman                                 | 30<br>Eleanor Klonoski<br>Kristyn Stewart |
| 15<br>Mark Dautrich                                 | 31<br>Gigi Williams                       |
| 17<br>Laney Hayes                                   |   |

|                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Ignacio and Valerie Vega      | 7/11/1998 |
| William and Michelle Skibesky | 7/12/1986 |
| Richard and Tina Hanusch      | 7/14/1984 |



Liliana Hope Boscarino was born June 25, 2025 to Dominic Boscarino and Alycia Piñera. Granddaughter to Ralph and Diane Boscarino. Anthony Boscarino is the uncle.





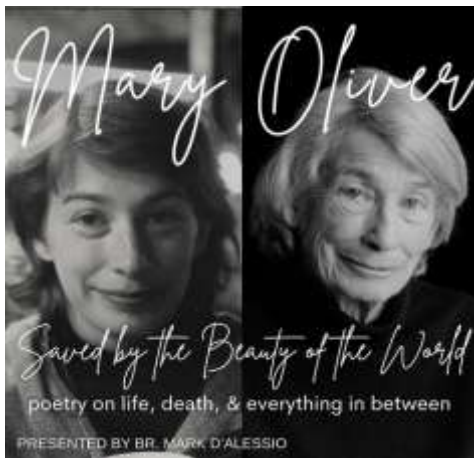
|   |                                     |   |            |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|------------|
| 2<br>Tom Seitz                                    | 23<br>David Ness                    | June and Stephen Seiser   | 08/03/1985 |
| 3<br>Ethan Rosenbeck                              | 25<br>Liz Emmett                    | Kathy-Ann & Andrew Campbell   | 08/04/1990 |
| 4<br>Max Harrel                                   | 26<br>Steve Grening<br>Janis Martin | Ed and Anne Grening   | 08/05/1953 |
| 5<br>Carrie Klebe                                 | 27<br>Ed Grening                    | Gary and Linda Rosa   | 08/07/1982 |
| 6<br>Richard Corey<br>Dixie Travis                | 28<br>Cal Bensch                    | Frank and Sandra Follett  | 08/11/2006 |
| 8<br>Kathryn Depaoli                              | 29<br>Adrienne Weik                 | Ron and Dixie Travis  | 08/24/1963 |
| 10<br>Linda Richard                               | 31<br>David Stewart                 | Kurt and Kelli Schaller   | 08/25/2007 |
| 11<br>Eric Begey                                  |                                     | Ryan and Amber Mangione   | 08/25/2008 |
| 13<br>Gary Begey                                  |                                     | Casaundra & Scott Abeling   | 08/30/2008 |
| 14<br>Stevie DiStefano                            |                                     | <br><b>Noah Gagnon</b><br><b>Christine Esker</b><br><b>Herb Mohlenhoff</b><br><b>Patty Weingart Seymour</b> |            |
| 16<br>Larry Bielik                                |                                     |   |            |
| 17<br>Debora Sterling                             |                                     |   |            |
| 18<br>Meagan Clavette                             |                                     |   |            |
| 20<br>Lydia Smith<br>John Stewart<br>Abby Nardine |                                     |   |            |

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT

## Mary Oliver Retreat: "I Got Saved by the Beauty of the World" - Her Best Poems about Life, Death, and Everything in Between • Saturday August 23 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

Mary Oliver is a favorite of poetry lovers of all ages for her lyrical, intimate, and sensitive poems, many of which use nature as a lens for exploring a wide spiritual spectrum of human emotions, from love and joy to sorrow and despair. The best Mary Oliver poems remind us to pause and take a breath, revel in our surroundings, and encourage us not to take anything for granted.

Join us this August for our annual Mary Oliver Retreat Day, led by Br. Mark, one of Wisdom House's most popular facilitators. Through reflection, discussion, and contemplative practice, we'll explore the ways in which Oliver's poetry teaches us to see the world with greater simplicity, and deeper wonder and gratitude. Together, we'll support each other awaken to life's everyday miracles and embrace poetry as a spiritual practice. Whether you're familiar with her poetry or encountering her work for the first time, we hope that this year's theme. The Beauty of the World, will move you with some of her best poems, including her own favorites — and perhaps inspire you to write some poems of your own.



Though, sadly, Mary Oliver passed away in 2019, her poems serve as a poignant reminder to be present in every moment, whether it be a joyous occasion or a quiet, somber one. Join Br. Mark for an in-person retreat day poetry, reflection, and spiritual discovery as we, too, can learn what it means to be "saved by the beauty of the world."



Call 860-567-3163 or visit their website to register for this program.

229 East Litchfield Road •  
Litchfield, Connecticut 06759



## Save the date! Rock the Kitchen!

A Fundraiser for  
The Community Kitchen of Torrington  
**NEW DATE!**  
**SEPTEMBER 20, 2025**



Event will take place at the Torrington Fish & Game and start at noon!  
More information will be forthcoming!



**American  
Red Cross**

**Blood Drives @ St. Paul's**

July 10 & 21

August 12 & 29

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

# KID'S COLORING PAGE





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 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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**[www.stpaulstorrington.com](http://www.stpaulstorrington.com)**

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