

October

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

The Good News!

2025

Sunday Services

October

- 5 **Pentecost 17**
Worship and Communion
First Communion,
Teacher Installation &
Bible Distribution
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am
- 12 **Pentecost 18**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am
- 19 **Pentecost 19**
Worship
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am
- 26 **Reformation Sunday**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am

November

- 2 **All Saints Day**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 9 **Pentecost 22**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 16 **Pentecost 23**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 23 **Christ the King**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am
- 30 **First of Advent**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am

Find us on



facebook.com/StPaulsTorrington



www.stpaulstorrington.com

860-482-3555

Commitment Sheet for 2026

Name_____

Best Phone Number _____email_____

Do you have any prayer requests?

Are there committees, programs, events, or activities at St. Paul's that you'd like to help with in 2026?

Please share your plans for offerings for 2026

I plan to give to the general operating fund \$_____ weekly____
monthly____ Other_____

I would like to sign up for automatic electronic giving____(forms are in the narthex)

Other charitable causes you support, either through St. Paul's or another agency or organization. For example you might write Red Cross, World Hunger, Camp Calumet, Angel Project, Building Fund, etc.

This form can be put in the offering plate, dropped off in the office, or mailed to the office anytime during the month of October.

Thank you very much for your participation in our common mission!

Stewardship Thoughts from the Pastor

I believe that many members of St. Paul's sometimes feel like you wish you were able to give more in offerings, but things seem so tight, it's hard to see how.

I know this feeling. In my young adult days, money was very tight, yet I wanted to support my church more than I was. Out of that desire, I did develop a few strategies that worked for me as I grew in my understanding of stewardship as a joyful response to all the blessings God had poured upon me.

I'll use hypothetical numbers for some of these suggestions, but you'll easily see how they can work in your own specific situation.

One method I tried that turned out to be pretty easy is this: each week when I wrote the check for my regular offering, I also wrote a smaller one and put it in a jar. So if my offering was \$20, I'd write a second check for maybe \$5 and put it in the jar. I would do this for 6 or 8 weeks in a row. If everything was going well, and I was not missing those smaller checks, I'd take them to the church. In this example, my weekly offering increased by 25% without any stress on my budget. On the other hand, if I ran into some unexpected expense during those weeks, I'd have that jar to help me address it. The other cool thing about this method is that you have a kind of cushion if you happen to accidentally overdraw your account, while those uncashed checks are in the jar.

Another version of this that worked for me at another time is this: Let's say my weekly offering was \$20 (remember, this was decades ago and I had very limited income.) When the next Sunday came, I gave \$21. I didn't miss that extra dollar. So the next Sunday I gave \$22. Still didn't miss the extra dollar. I kept adding \$1 each week for several weeks until it started to put stress on my budget. By that time I'd increased my weekly giving many percentages without any struggle.

Yet another way is simply to put any loose change you have at the end of each day in a jar. After some weeks you can take the change to the bank to exchange for paper cash and put it in your offering.

There is also the "windfall" method. Many of us receive some unexpected money during the year. It might be an unexpected refund of some kind, or some winning at Bingo or the lottery, or an inheritance. It could be income from a tag sale or a birthday gift. Any of us could decide to offer some portion of that new money to the church.

It is also common for people who give weekly to miss weeks when they are away. We can simply decide to write those checks before we go on vacation so we don't fall behind. Using automatic withdrawal also prevents this.

Here's another idea. Let's say you decide to buy a new item - tv, phone, couch, mower, etc. When you go to get it, you discover to your glee that it is on sale. You could donate some portion of what you saved to the church.

All these ways may seem small steps, but they add up, especially if many households are trying them. Together we can build a strong financial foundation for our present and future ministry.



A Word from Pastor Cady



Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

Our fall programs are getting under way with great enthusiasm and excitement. Sunday School, Confirmation, Fall Dinner, Fall Fair, Car Show, last summer Concert, and our ecumenical Thanksgiving service are all ways to extend God's promise and welcome. In addition, we are already looking ahead to Trunk or Treat, Advent/Christmas events and more.

All these activities are possible because of two kinds of support. One is the hands-on involvement of many willing volunteers. The other is the wider body of the congregation whose financial offerings make all our ministries viable. Both the volunteer time and the generous monetary gifts are forms of Stewardship.

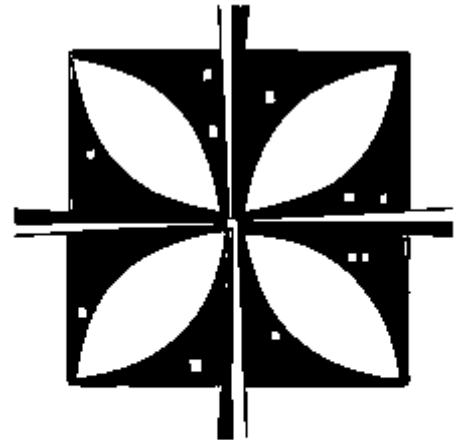
Stewardship is the faithful use of our blessings from God to accomplish the purposes of God. All of us have skills, talents, passions, and/or financial means that can be put to use for the overall effectiveness of Christian mission. Every year about this time most churches invite their members and friends to pray again about how each person's blessings can be offered to advance the cause of Christ. That cause is to restore and redeem humanity to loving relationships to one another, and a joyful relationship to our common Lord.

All of us have limits, and none of us can do everything. But as a community of grace, we can work together toward the goal of a more compassionate and just world. There are really only a handful of important things we can do with the time we're given to live on this earth. Giving of ourselves to draw more people into the orbit of Christ's mission is surely one of the most important.

So I am now asking all of you to reflect this season on ways you can grow in your support of St. Paul's and bear your most faithful witness to the life-giving gospel shown to us by Jesus. As we each seek God's guidance and respond, we will touch lives in ways that bring real hope and joy.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Scott Cady



AUTUMN

FROM FINANCE

October 2025 Newsletter

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ,

Wow! It's hard to believe we are entering the last quarter of 2025! Where has the time gone? It's been a busy year and is trending to end the same way with the start of the roof and solar project. The financial information has been submitted to secure the loan. Once approved we can move on to the next step which property will handle.

For this newsletter, I would like to focus on the 2026 budget process. All committees must submit their budget to Margaret at bookkeeper@stpaulstorrington.com **NO LATER** than October 17, 2025. Once received, Margaret and I will compile the information into the budget format to present at the finance meeting on November 5th. The finance committee will review the budget and make recommendations if applicable. Finance will then submit the budget to the church council at the meeting to be held on November 10th. Council will also review each line item and make recommendations if applicable. The final budget will be presented to the congregation in December at the Annual meeting scheduled for December 11th. Key dates are below:

October 17, 2026 - Committees must submit their 2026 budget to the bookkeeper's via email at bookkeeper@stpaulstorrington.com

November 5, 2026 – Finance reviews the budget to submit to council.

November 10, 2026 – Council review the budget to submit to the congregation.

November 30, 2026 – Budget packet is available to the congregation.

December 11, 2026 – Congregational Meeting Part I

Please note, if a budget is **NOT** received by October 17th, we will use the run rate for your committee's line items off of the 2025 P&L. You can request a copy of your committee's spending, by line item, by contacting office, emailing the bookkeeper, or contacting me. You can also see a copy of the YTD P&L hanging on the bulletin board outside the office to see what you have spent this year YTD.

If you have any questions concerning your budget, please do not hesitate to contact me. My email is plittle1.pl@gmail.com or my cell is 203.62.1375.

Your Sister in Christ,

Pamela Little

Treasurer/Finance Committee

***"May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed."
Psalm 20:4***

HILLTOP ELC

Hilltop has once again made it through our first weeks of school, we are all trying our best to stay healthy and well.

We are enjoying the wonderful late summer and early fall weather, giving our students as much time as possible outside! The outdoor classroom is getting lots of use. Bringing the classroom outdoors is helpful when doing messy projects!

We have planned a field trip for the entire school at Ruwet Farm to pick pumpkins. Our students and staff along with parent chaperones have a great time picking pumpkins and riding a school bus!! The staff and students look forward to extending this theme in the classroom once we return.

Beginning October 15th through October 31st, Hilltop is having our 6th annual spice fundraiser through the Nutmeg Spice Company. Order forms will be available through the church office or the Hilltop office if you would be interested in purchasing spices, especially with the baking season upon us! Orders will be delivered between November 17th and November 21st. Cash or checks made payable to St. Paul's will be accepted. **ALL orders are prepaid.** Thanks in advance for your support.

Hilltop will participate in St. Paul's craft fair this year. We will have a grab bag table called "Festival of Bags". The cost of a bag is \$2.00. We have been receiving small items that fit into regular size lunch bags. Thank you to the congregation and others that have so graciously given to this cause. We hope to fill "100" bags.

As always, Thank you for supporting us with your prayers.

In His Service,
Barbara J. Mazzei
Director/Head Teacher

"Festival of Bags"

This November Hilltop will participate in the St. Paul's craft fair. Our table will be called "Festival of Bags". Basically, it's a grab bag. The tickets will be \$2 each. The person will choose a number (chip) and get the corresponding bag with the same number. We are looking for donations of small items that will fit a regular size lunch bag. Some suggested items are:

- ♥ Small toys (Matchbox cars, Small sensory pop it, key chain toys, playdough,
- ♥ Small stuffed animals Mittens/scarf/hat Individually wrapped candies
- ♥ Candles Art supplies- crayons/markers Bubbles
- ♥ Hand lotions Hair accessories/bows Christmas Cards
- ♥ Playing cards
- ♥

Your help is greatly appreciated; we hope to fill at least 100 bags.

Sincerely,
Hilltop Staff





Trunk or Treat @ St. Paul's!

**Sunday, October 26, 2024
2:00 to 3:30 pm**

Rain or shine!

*All are welcome regardless of tradition,
background, or religious affiliation.*

**This is a family event so
not-so-scary costumes only please.**



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

860-482-3555

www.stpaulstorrington.com





Socktober!

During the month of October help decorate the tree in the Narthex with donations of socks in all sizes and shapes. The socks will be donated at the end of the month to local service agencies. The event is sponsored by the Chris Ed and Social Concerns committees.

**OCTOBER
18TH**

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



FALL FAIR

Saturday, November 1st
9:00am – 3:00pm

**Handmade Crafts,
 Artisans Market
 Soup & Sandwich Lunch,
 Bake Sale, Theme Baskets
 and More!**

For info: 860-482-3555





FIRST COMMUNICANTS

Congratulations to four of our young people who will celebrate their First Holy Communion on Sunday, October 5th at the 10am service. Together with their parents, they have undergone instruction with Pastor Cady, Pamela Little, and Paula Rosenbeck. Please welcome these new communicant members:



Camden Charles Ferruci, Jonas William Layton, Ripley Nyx Baker, Tyler James Woolford

HELP NEEDED!

One of the most important things in a church is the Christian Education of our young saints. We are blessed with a group of dedicated volunteers who have assumed this responsibility faithfully. We are at a point where we need more volunteers. As I explained last month, one of our long time teachers has had to step down due to family commitments and we have another teacher who needs relief, at least parttime relief, to enable her to bring her husband to church. For any of you who grew up in a church, I'm sure you remember a Sunday School teacher who had an impact in your faith journey. Perhaps it was something they taught you, a way they made you feel, or perhaps it was something you did with your class. Won't you consider becoming someone our children can look up to? The reward far outweighs the sacrifice of a couple of hours a week. See any member of the Christian Education Committee (Pastor Cady, Paula Rosenbeck, Casaundra Abeling, May Friday, Pamela Little, Michelle Skibesky, Cathy Winzler, and Hannah Winzler.)



508! Food Items. That's the Challenge!

October 26th is the day we celebrate the 508th anniversary of the Reformation. In honor of this anniversary we are trying to collect 508 non-perishable food items for hungry neighbors. For the month of October there will be boxes on a table in the Narthex for your donations. With Thanksgiving and Christmas approaching quickly, the need will be great. Anything goes, but please, ... no open containers/boxes and no expired items. It's fine to clean out your pantry but please don't send things that you haven't used in years. Canned veggies & fruit, Ramen noodles, proteins (tuna, chicken, beans, peanut butter, nuts), canned pasta, dry pasta & sauce, jelly, crackers, potatoes, rice, hot & cold cereal, pudding/Jello, cake/brownies/cookie mixes, stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce, are only some ideas! Most anything can be used!



Please help as you are able!

AROUND THE CHURCH

Gift Cards with Purpose at St. Paul's!

Looking for a simple way to support St. Paul's Church?

We will be selling gift cards every Sunday, to your favorite retailers – and a percentage of every sale goes straight to St. Paul's, and helps the general fund and mission and ministries of our church!

Whether you're buying groceries, filling up your gas tank, shopping for birthdays and holidays, or shopping online, using these gift cards turns your everyday spending into meaningful support for the work God is doing through St. Paul's.

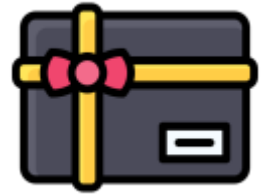
Choose from top brands. Some of the most popular are:

Grocery Stores - Stop & Shop, Shop Rite

Gas Stations – Gulf, Mobile, Shell

Restaurants – Applebee's, Panera, 99's

Retail shops - Walmart, Target, Lowes, Home Depot



And many more! Over 500 retailers to choose from.

Cards will be available after the worship service in the Narthex.

Pay with cash, check, or card.

No extra cost to you

Cards for everyday use or gift-giving

A great way to give back while you shop!

Favorite cards are in stock, for purchase on Sunday. Additional cards can be ordered.

Buy gift cards. Support our Church. Be a blessing.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Paul's.

ANGEL PROJECT 2025

For many many years St. Paul's members have been making the Christmas season brighter for members in need. This is one of the only things we do solely in-house. If you know of a member or family who is struggling financially, please speak to Pastor or Paula. We do our absolute best to keep names confidential. We also remember families who have lost a member of their immediate family with a fruit basket in memory of their loved one. Typically, gift preferences are made available just before Thanksgiving.



THEME BASKET ASSIGNMENTS FOR FALL FAIR 2025

In order to make the Fall Fair a true congregation-wide event, all Sunday School and confirmation classes as well as committees and organizations within the church, and members & friends, are invited to bring items for a specific theme basket for our annual Fall Fair. The theme baskets are always a favorite part of the fair. Donations for the theme baskets should be returned to the church no later than Sunday, October 26th, to allow time for baskets to be arranged and wrapped before the fair. Donations can be left in the Narthex or Parlor in the baskets marked for "Theme Basket Donations." Ideas are below, but don't be limited by ideas; please be creative! Thank you in advance! Theme Baskets for each group are listed below:

ST. PAUL'S CONGREGATION – LAST NAME WITH INITIALS A – M

"HOLIDAY BAKING+

Apron, potholders, cookie cutters, baking mixes, frosting, sprinkles, cutting board, spatula, spices, hand towels, gadgets, cake decorating, and all things baking!

ST. PAUL'S CONGREGATION – LAST NAME WITH INITIALS N – Z

"SNACK ATTACK!"

Anything that can serve as a snack or considered Junk Food! Please be sure edibles are dated well after Christmas.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/CONFIRMATION

"SWEET TOOTH"

Everyone has a "sweet tooth" now and then! Anything sweet fits the bill! Don't forget the tooth brush!

ALTAR GUILD

"CHOCOLATE BASKET"

Sweets/Candy, Chocolate Candle, Baking Mixes, Chocolate Wine! etc.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

"COZY FIRESIDE CHAT"

Fleece Blanket, Fireplace starters, Hats, Gloves & Scarf, Chicken Soup, Hot Cocoa & Mug, Hand & Foot Warmers, Chap Stick, good book, etc.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, HILLTOP ADVISORY BOARD,

"SOUP'S ON!"

Small Stock Pot, seasonings/spices, broths, ladle, soup mugs, soup starters, grains/rice, recipe, etc.

PROPERTY/FINANCE/IT

"COCKTAILS, CRAFT BEER, & WINE BASKET"

Mixology Book, napkins, glasses, wine glass charms, shaker, mixer, craft beer, alcohol. and wine.

SOCIAL CONCERNS, QUILTING, WORSHIP & MUSIC. W/ELCA

"GIFT CARDS"

Gift Cards of any kind to local establishments (DD, Jimmy's, Panera, Grocery Store, McD, BK, Wendy's, Movies, 99, Applebee's, Walmart, Target, Walgreen's, CVS, Starbuck, George's, etc.)

GARDEN OF MEMORIES



**Please visit our garden
before the frost sets in. It
truly is a beautiful and
peaceful place to sit, relax
and reflect.**



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.**

**Men's Breakfast
Wednesday
October 15
A/C Eatery
South Main St.
Torrington**



**Women's Breakfast
Wednesd6y
October 15
George's Restaurant
East Main St.
Torrington**





October 1st
Leah Seleman

October 3rd
Brigitte Mueller
Deborah Kolek

October 5th
Gene Schroeder, Jr.

October 7th
Rebecca Little

October 8th
Paula Rosenbeck
James Thurlough

October 9th
Caroline Hogan

October 12th
Linda Samele

October 14th
Lisa Bodnar
Kyle Thurlough
Robin Potwora

October 17th
Patricia Switzer

October 19th
Maddie Siss

October 20th
Michelle Skibesky

October 21st
Carol Cianciolo

October 23
Amber Mangione
Sandra Follett

October 24th
Pastor Scott Cady
Heinz Beier

Steve and Angela Distefano 10/01/2017

David & Pamela Little 10/04/1975

Arielle & James Newkirk 10/05/2013

Eric & Danielle Begey 10/07/2017

Harry & RuthAnn Stone 10/10/1959

Chuck & Laurie Chepiga 10/15/1977

David & Lois Nygren 10/18/1980

Ricardo & Deborah Kolek 10/22/1988

Steven & Mary Grening 10/24/1998

Kathleen Olkowski & Mark Kopchak 10/29/1994



Friends and Family of
Renate Riese

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Theory and Practice of Compassionate Communication

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 9:30-3:30

Presented by Rabbi Andrea Cohen Kiener

Inspirational and skilled strategies for difficult conversations. Heartfelt and curious conversation can unleash personal and social healing.

AM Session:

World faiths and psychological analyses all agree: Communication expresses the real intention of the speaker and is the main tool we have to communicate, confront and persuade. We all know this and we all know that it can be hard. Sometimes we need to adjust, not just our words, but our inner intention, to formulate a question that can open and touch the heart of the other person.

During the morning session, we will review some of the rich and varied religious and psychological teachings about effective communication. Applying these teachings can affect not only the person we are speaking to. It can also help us center, know ourselves and speak the truth; a true tool for evolution.

PM Session:

In the afternoon we will practice some of the theory we learned in the morning session.

We will experience exercises for asking open-ended questions, compassionate confrontation, and preparing ourselves for difficult conversations.



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

229 East Litchfield Road • Litchfield, Connecticut 06759

Coat Drive season begins!

In conjunction with FISH and other local supporters, coats will be collected for distribution to our neighbors in need in November. Please bring new or gently used warm coats to St. Paul's starting October 1. The drive runs until November 10th. Please remember, no stains, holes, broken zippers etc. and coats only.

Thank you for your support!



Blood Drives @ St. Paul's

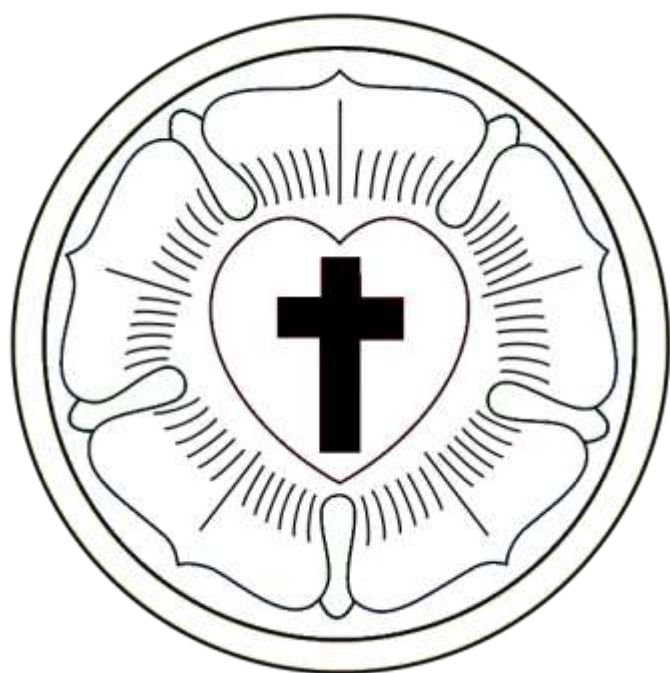
Oct. 7, Nov. 4 or 25

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



**American
Red Cross**

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
Stacey Fitzgerald, Teacher
Amy Werner, Teacher
Tracy Sierdy, Assistant Teacher
Cynthia McPhee, Assistant Teacher
Casaundra Abeling, Custodian

director@hilltopchristianelc.com

www.stpaulstorrington.com
