

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

The Good News!

Sunday Services

January

- 4 **Epiphany of Our Lord**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 11 **Baptism of Our Lord**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 18 **2 Epiphany**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 25 **3 Epiphany**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am

February

- 1 **4 Epiphany**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 8 **5 Epiphany**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 15 **Transfiguration of our Lord**
Worship and Communion
- 18 **Ash Wednesday**
- 22 **1 Lent**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 26 **Lenten Thursday Devotional
& Potluck 5:45 pm**

Sunday School 11:00 am most Sundays!

Find us on 

[fa](#)



www.stpaulstorrington.com

860-482-3555



A Word from Pastor Cady



Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

We have just barely come past Christmas and Epiphany, but Lent is soon upon us. This year Ash Wednesday is February 18, and Easter April 5. We move quickly from the joyous reflections of Christmas and Epiphany into the more somber reflections during Lent.

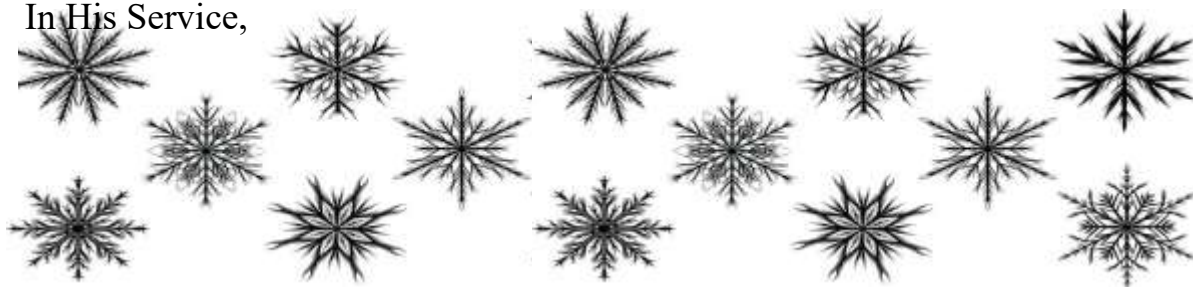
We will offer Ashes 2 or 3 times on Ash Wednesday. The morning distribution will be simple, individual ashes as people arrive and take some quiet time. The evening distribution will be part of a communion service. During Lent, we will have Thursday evening potluck meals followed by devotions related to one of the Lenten themes.

Lent can be the focus for one of several aspects of our faith. One focus is on the teachings and deeds of Jesus as he prepares himself, and us, for his passion. Another could be a more deliberate and disciplined reflection on our need for the redemption that only he can accomplish. Yet another might be a deepening sense of the spiritual unity of the Church as we realize that all around the globe people who share our faith will be observing this same period of repentant reflection. Still another could be the whole concept of forgiveness. Forgiveness is so central to our belief about Christ's mission that we are called, especially during a time like Lent, to ponder how his forgiveness of us might create in us more forgiving hearts toward others.

Lent is a good time to engage in personal faith practices that we know are of great value. Each of us can choose to do some structured practice that will open us to new depths of faithfulness. That might include reading over again the stories of Jesus' passion from the Gospels, or Paul's understanding of the meaning of those events for our lives. Or we might decide to build more regular prayer into our days. We might turn our gaze outward and find new ways to witness to God's grace in the world. We might find ourselves drawn to notice the natural world more fully, finding new wisdom or insight into the mysteries and wonders of life in and around us. We might choose to watch some of the better films related to Jesus and his ministry, or immerse ourselves in some of the masterful musical creations that are based on Lenten themes. We might decide to engage more fully in the programs of the congregation, using those efforts to draw closer to our fellow members, and to more effectively serve our neighbors.

In whatever way your Lent shapes up, may it be for you a kind of renewal of deep spiritual development. Of course I stand ready to offer any specific suggestions to any of you who might be considering a Lenten discipline, but may not be sure about the best way to begin. In addition, we Lutherans do have a brief rite for individual confession and absolution. If any of you are feeling the need for some support in the face of some burden or brokenness, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In His Service,



Pr. Scott Cady

Finance

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

As we step into a new budget year, we do so with grateful hearts for all that God has provided and for the faithfulness of this church family. Every ministry, every outreach effort, every moment of fellowship is made possible because we walk this journey together — offering our prayers, our presence, our service, and our gifts.

This new year invites us not only to look at numbers and budgets, but also to reflect on the mission God has placed before us. Our financial planning allows us to support worship, care for our facilities, equip our ministries, help those in need, and create space for spiritual growth. Your generosity is more than accounting — it is an act of discipleship and trust.

We encourage you to pray for our leadership as we steward our resources faithfully and transparently. And we invite everyone to stay engaged, ask questions, and participate in the life of the church as we seek to honor God with all that we have been given.

May 2026 be a year marked by gratitude, faith, and shared commitment to God's work in and through our congregation.

Your sister in Christ,

Pamela Little

Treasurer/Finance Committee

"Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." — 1 Corinthians 10:31

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 holidays envelopes. If you decide to give electronically, the special envelopes do not come in the mail. Special envelopes, such as Pastor Discretionary, Restoration and Repair, World Hunger etc., 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!

THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING!

As we enter a new year there are many things to be thankful for. As I look back onto the past several weeks, I want to say thank you to the congregation and friends for the amazing response to the various opportunities which so many of you responded to. St. Paul's Women put together three beautiful Thanksgiving baskets for families in need within our congregation. Jane and Wayne Yurgalevycz provided a basket and Diane Miller donated frozen turkeys in memory of her beloved husband, Brian and Brian's Mom, Erna. (This project was near and dear to Erna's heart for many years.) The Women's group provided fresh fruits and veggies as well as non-perishables, snacks and treats. Three families were thankful for these gifts of bounty and love.

In early November the Weingart's placed the Hat and Mitten Tree in the Narthex to collect hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, and socks for children and adults. The donations were many and they were shared with many grateful children and adults. I know some of you are probably already knitting away making mittens and hats for next year! There were many handmade items on the tree this year – a blessing, indeed!

Our Cookie Project was a huge success due to the generosity of not only our three confirmation families, but the Christian Education Committee and members of the congregation. Confirmands have traditionally done this project but with only one class, we put an invitation out for help! And help we got! Thank you to those who baked so many tasty treats to share with college students, sick, shut-in, and elderly members. Thanks, also, to those who so willingly helped with deliveries of many containers.

The Angel Project took place during November and early December. Sincere thanks to those who participated to make the season brighter for families and individuals in need. We also made fruit baskets for families and individuals who had lost a member of their family during the last year. It is a privilege to do God's work for members in need as we continue to share His love at Christmastime for the last close to 40 years. This is one of the only projects we do almost solely in house. There will be some changes in the coming year since I have decided to "retire." I have been involved for half of my life and it is time to pass the torch. I will work with a new person next season, but we need a younger volunteer with more time and energy. I am happy to answer questions should you be interested in helping.

St. Paul's Women and the Property Committee gathered in early December to decorate the Chrismon tree and nave. We then gather for a meal and celebration. Thanks to those who come out year after year to help decorate. As with everything, what goes up must also come down! As I write, a group is "undecorating" this week. Thanks to all participants.

I would be remiss if I didn't express thanks to our Sunday School families for their participation in our Pageant on December 21st. I am extremely thankful to my goddaughter, Freyja Harrel, for helping to direct the pageant. The pageants are a simple way for children to express the Christmas story in a way they can easily understand. Thanks to the parents who so willingly bring their children to Sunday School and Confirmation class each week.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!
Paula

Women of the ELCA

On January 23rd all women are invited to come to church, beginning at 6:30pm for an entertaining and relaxing evening of games, cards, conversations, and snacks. There is no agenda, simply fun as we all try to rid ourselves of Cabin Fever, etc. Snow date is January 30th. Bring a favorite game and a snack to share.

And for February!

February 23, 2026 – 7pm

Program: Painting with June— keep an eye out for details!

Hostesses: Pamela Little and Liz Falls



Food Insecurity in our nation continues to be a problem. Reasons probably differ from area to area but I believe nationwide, inflation is a lingering problem. At this writing, gone are the days where you could feed a family of 4 for a few bucks; rarely can you find a cut of meat below \$4/lb. Those of us who are food secure are called to help fill the gaps for our hungry neighbors. Through the “Soup”er Bowl of

Caring faith 8 are joining forces to “Tackle Hunger.” Begun in 1990, countless groups nationwide have worked to help feed the hungry on the weekend of Super Bowl, when so many are gathered for the big game, feasting on snacks, pizza, and wings, while neighbors worry about what they will feed their children the next day. This year our food donations will go to Friendly Hands Food Bank. Thanks for helping to make a difference in our community. “Can Can you help?” Sales on many non-perishables is going on now. If you’re able to take advantage of some of these sales, it’s not too early to start bringing donations to church. We will be accepting donations through February 8th.

Can-Can You Help?



As part of "Soup"er Bowl of Caring Weekend we'd like to collect as many non-perishable food items as possible to support hungry neighbors. Join thousands of other churches, school, and civic organizations as we try to "Tackle Hunger in our Communities."

Suggested items include:

Peanut Butter & Jelly

Proteins – Tuna, Chicken, Beef Stew, Beans

Canned Pasta

Hot & Cold Cereals

Mac & Cheese

Pasta & Sauces

Hearty Soups

Crackers, Cookies, & Snacks

Complete Pancake Mix & Syrup

Ramen



Donations can be stacked in the Narthex.

Collection ends February 8th

"Soup"er Bowl of Caring

Grinder, Salad, and Chili Sale

Saturday, February 7, 2026

(snow date Sunday, February 8th)

12:00pm – 1:00pm

St. Paul's Lutheran Church



On day of the pick up we are also collecting non-perishable food items to support the Friendly Hands Food Bank shelves.



837 Charles Street, Torrington, CT 06790

860-482-3555 secretary@stpaulstorrington.com



Detach & Return with Payment (due w/order) to Offering Plate or
St. Paul's Office no later than 2/2/2026

Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Items	Price (each)	Ham	Turkey	Italian Combo	Total Items	Total Price
Grinder Deluxe	\$16					
Grinder, Chili, Chips						
Grinder Only	\$11					
Chef Deluxe	\$16					
Chef Salad only	\$11					
Salad, Chips						
Quart o' Chili	\$16					
(no chips)						

Food Allergies? List here

HILLTOP ELC

Registration is now underway for the 2026-2027 school year. Right now, we are accepting registrations from St. Paul's members and current Hilltop families. As we have done in the last few years, it is not required for people to show up in person for registration. Registrations may be dropped off at school or the church office. If your family has a child eligible for our 2-, 3-, or 4-year-old classes be sure to register early to guarantee a spot! Hilltop will continue to align with the State of CT when it comes to the start date for enrollment. Example: A child must be 2 yrs by Sept 1 to enter our two-year-old classroom and so forth. Registration will be open to new families beginning February 2, 2026

We enjoyed Holiday Celebrations with our families. During the month of December families were given an option to come to the classroom to share a favorite "tradition" that they do at home. Our families were very creative in how they presented the tradition. This is a way for students to share what they do at home with their classmates. We also had celebrations in the classroom with songs and snacks on our last day before our Christmas break. We enjoyed Christmas Spirit week, everyday was different. Students and staff had a lot of fun. Teachers also had a time for fellowship with a Christmas dinner. Thank you to the Advisory Committee for supporting this special time together.

Our next fundraiser is "BINGO With a Kick!" join us in person for a fun night of BINGO, with amazing prizes! This is run by "Everything Happens for a Reason Fundraising" and will be held in the Fellowship Hall at St. Paul's on Friday, March 6th. Look for the event on Facebook at Everything Happens for a Reason Fundraising. More information on purchasing BINGO cards will be forthcoming. Thank you in advance for your support!

We covet your prayers for the Hilltop ministry. We pray that 2026 will bring health, happiness & PEACE!

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



****FRIDAY ~ MARCH 6TH****

ST PAULS LUTHERAN CHURCH
837 CHARLES ST - TORRINGTON



HOW TO ORDER

*On-Line: <https://forms.gle/yPAbFGJwqt3QMLoZ9>

*Call/Text: 860.482.3727

**Bingo starts at 7pm
Doors open at 6pm**

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.

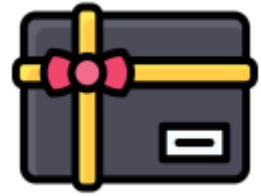
Choose from top brands. Some of the most popular are:

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.

Save the Date for VBS 2026!

The Christian Education Committee is pleased to announce plans for Vacation Bible School 2026! The dates are August 3-7, 2026 from 9:00am -12:00pm for children ages 4 – Grade 6. Our theme will center around "God's Creation." We are also seeking adult and teenage helpers for both the week of VBS as well as for planning and preparation for the fun week of Christian growth for our Little Saints.



GARDEN OF MEMORIES



If you would like more information on 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



Men's Breakfast
Wednesday
January 21
February 18
A/C Eatery
South Main St.

Torrington
Women's Breakfast
Wednesday
January 21
February 18
George's Restaurant



2026 New England Synod Assembly

And the Word became flesh - living the story of Jesus

The New England Synod Assembly will take place on June 4-6, 2026 at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA. under the theme of 'And the Word became flesh - living the story of Jesus'. To encourage congregations to plan to send their pastor, deacon or LLM and voting members, we are providing the dates of assembly for your planning calendars and the registration rates to be included in your 2026 budget calculations.

\$275 - Early Registration \$200 - Early Registration for People of Color & Youth/ Young Adult
\$375 - Regular Registration *meals may be purchased for an additional fee

More information related to next year's theme, workshops and other activities will be shared in the new year. You may expect registration information during the month of February.

News from the Sewing Ladies!

The sewing ladies took on a new mission this past holiday season; they decided to make pillowcases for Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC). Judy Ludwig and Christine Dickinson delivered 29 pillowcases just prior to Christmas to Mary at CCMC. Mary was so happy to receive the pillowcases! She told Christine the nurses set up the room with these bright and cheerful pillowcases for new patients. This helps the new patient feel a little more at ease with being in the hospital and gives the room a homey feeling. The ladies would like to continue this new tradition in 2026.

If you would like to join the ladies, they meet most Wednesdays at 1 pm in the church fellowship hall! Beginners are certainly welcome!

Pictured below (L-R) Linda Hamm, Judy Ludwig, Laurie Chepiga, Kim DeDominicis and Christine Dickinson (not pictured Paula Rosenbeck).





2 Cynthia Rose	28 Margaret Clavette Kendra Campbell
4 Ron Travis	29 Sarah Corey
6 Betty Grunder	
8 Cathy Winzler	
11 Bill Richards	
13 Will Siss	
14 Sterling Jones	
18 William Hohensee Curtis Stone	
20 Ty Hogan Colton Wilmot	
21 Kathleen Olkowski	
22 Renate Higgins	
23 Kenneth Muller	
24 Heinz Beier	
27 Maggie Cady	

Walter & Liz Emmett	1-19-91
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Friends and Family of

**Dennis Nalette
Margaret Franzi
Giovannina Nania
Caterina Madia
Kay Ackley
Keith Friday**

**Tai Chi
Wednesday
Mornings 11:00**

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



2

Eileen Schroeder

7

Pamela Little

8

Linda Sterling

9

Avery Rosenbeck
Pilar Weingart

10

Gene Schroeder, Sr.

14

Richard Hanusch

20

Rosemary Schibi
Laurel Siss

22

Christine Dickinson

26

David Nygren
Juilett Dziedzic



Congratulations, Juliett Dziedzic!

Juliett Dziedzic and her cheer squad, the Torrington Warriors Football and Cheer team, traveled to Florida in early December to compete in the American Youth Cheer National Championship. Competing against teams from across the country, the Warriors earned an impressive 4th-place national finish in the 5–8-year-old age division.

Juliett is a first-grade student at Goshen Center School. She is the daughter of Gabrielle and Anton Dziedzic, the granddaughter of Casaundra and Scott Abeling, and the great-granddaughter of Pamela and David Little.

Congratulations to Juliett and the Torrington Warriors on this outstanding achievement!



**American
Red Cross**

Blood Drives @ St. Paul's

January 12 1-6 pm & February 5 1-6 pm

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

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Creating Joy in Challenging Times

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

9:30 AM 12:00 PM

Presented by Laura McEvoy, M.S., L.P.C.

Learn how to cultivate joy, which is always possible, regardless of the circumstances. Based on the teachings of the Dalai Llama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, as revealed in their book, "Lasting Happiness in a Changing World, The Book Of Joy," learn to remove the obstacles to joy. Join us as we practice spiritual disciplines that help foster and sustain joy in our daily lives. Laura is a Licensed Professional Counselor. She is Certified Spiritual Director and a Kripalu Yoga Teacher. She has had a career in Mental Health Administration and in ministry as a Faith Formation Director. She is a certified Christian Educator and Lay Leader. Laura is a board member and chaplain to the Guild for Spiritual Guidance. She deeply enjoys her work as a Spiritual Director, workshop/retreat facilitator and yoga teacher.

COST | \$50, lunch included register

<https://www.wisdomhouse.org/program-calendar/creating-joy>



229 East Litchfield Road Litchfield, CT, 06759

860-567-3163

Walking with Grief- Eight-week Series

Wednesdays, February 4 through March 25, 2026* 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Donna Dellacamera and Nancy Janiszewski

This eight week-series will guide a small community of participants through a spiritual exploration as they navigate the path of loss and the grieving process. The group experience will offer deep listening, compassion, and camaraderie while encouraging self-care and patience. Through sharing our stories in the space of these sessions we will deepen our self-knowledge in the experience of grief. Conscious awareness of the inner journey of grief will offer support as well as guide us on the path towards personal healing and transformation.

We follow a companioning model of support and welcome you wherever you are on your own journey. <https://www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar/walking-with-grief>

*February 4, 11, 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18, and 25, 2026

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center

303 Tunxis Road

West Hartford, CT 06107

860-521-0440



KID'S COLORING PAGE



Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. It is a time of prayer and repentance.



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
