

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
The Good News!



2026

Sunday Services

December

6th **2nd Sunday of Advent**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am

13th **3rd Sunday of Advent**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am

20th **4th Sunday of Advent**
Worship and Communion
Christmas Pageant
10:00 am

20th **Blue Christmas Service**
3:00 pm service

24th **Christmas Eve**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
6:00 pm Candlelight Svc.

27th **1st Sunday of Christmas**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am

January

3rd **2nd Sunday of Christmas**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am

10th **Baptism of Our Lord**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am

17th **2nd Sunday after Epiphany**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am

24th **3rd Sunday after Epiphany**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am

31st **4th Sunday after Epiphany**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
Sunday School 11:00 am



Find us on

www.stpaulstorrington.com

Call 860-482-3555

A Word from Pastor Cady

December 2026

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

December is a month focused on one of the most critical events in human history - the birth of Jesus of Nazareth. The four weeks leading up to the celebration of his birth are known as Advent - a word related to the idea of a coming or approach of some momentous person or occurrence. Christians have traditionally used these weeks to prepare for the observance of the Nativity. Prayers, lessons, readings, decorations, and festive gatherings mark the whole month of December.

In most traditions, the main celebration is on the evening before Christmas. So, it is here. Christmas Eve is one of the most popular and meaningful services of the entire year. In some ways the story is a beautiful, quiet, homey, welcome of the baby Jesus into the world. It is sweet and joyful. But like many other parts of Jesus' life, it is one of the most dramatic and radical acts of God. We Christians believe that Jesus was no ordinary child. He was not just a smart, kind, dedicated teacher or leader. He was not just brave, or powerful, or the source of divine blessings. We teach, preach, and believe that in that baby, the very substance of God entered our world, our humanity, and our history. We proclaim that God became incarnate in that infant. We declare that the Incarnation allows us to encounter the fullest expression of God's will and presence in a way that changes our lives and our destiny forever.

There have been many great prophets, teachers, rabbis, miracle workers, and ethical mentors in our history. We are grateful for them. But Jesus, the one we call Christ, is not just the best of these. He is the embodied expression of all that God intends for the world. In him it is as if we can see into God's very heart. We see God's compassion, God's mercy, God's love, and God's grace in ways that can give new life even to those for whom death or despair had held sway.
May this season be one of great blessings for you all. May the traditions we love fill us with hope and peace. May we find in our varied household and congregational activities the reminders of all the divine promises that have come to us and to our world in the baby of Bethlehem. "*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome* it."

Yours in Christ,

GSCady

Pastor Scott Cady

FROM THE OFFICE

Happy December!

If you haven't heard the number yet – the 1st Pumpkin Patch at St. Paul's Lutheran Church netted a profit of $**3,853.00** and lots of hours of community involvement. We will be back in October 2027, will you?

Now that we are ending 2026; we enter a very busy time of church life, family life and all the shopping stress that comes with the holidays. Let's just remember, "*'Jesus is the Reason for the Season*" so if something is too stressful, let it go!

I will leave you with this idea – how can you brighten someone else's day? Your smile or kind gesture may just make their day!



Blessings to all,

Kathy

Kathy Craig,
Office Administrator

Veterans Day Service and Celebration

FIELD OF FLAGS TRIBUTE

Presented by the Northwest Hills Exchange Club
Honor. Remember. Unite.

Thank you to all that participated in this "1st Veterans Day Service and Celebration" at St. Paul's. The sun was shining, the people gathered, prayed, and even joined in fellowship after the event closed. Thank you to *Lisa Bodnar*, *Ralph Boscarino*, and *John Iannelli* for your help with setting up and tearing down the display of the commemorative flags loaned from the Norwalk Exchange Club. They have been reserved for 2027, and plans are already in the works for "how can we improve on this event for next year?". If you would like to be part of the planning – please reach out to Kathy in the office. Watch for more details in the coming months.











FROM FINANCE

Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is hard to believe that this is the last newsletter of 2026! As we head into the holidays and the close of 2026, the Finance Committee would like to remind you that the 2027 Budget will be reviewed and voted on at the Congregational Meeting Part I, being held on December 17, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. It is important that all voting members of the congregation attend.

A few points about how we are doing this year:

- Currently, income is trending to surpass the amount budgeted by 5%.
- Investments are up over $41,700 from December of last year.
- Expenses are trending to be over budget, primarily due to increases in the gas (heating) bill, snow removal, and insurance.

As we close out 2026 and head into another fiscal year, the Finance Committee would like to remind you that we can increase our giving and decrease our expenses through Thrivent Action Cards. Benefit members of Thrivent are eligible for two cards a year and will receive Thrivent cash, based on their benefits. Associate members are eligible for one Thrivent Action Card and will receive $25 in Thrivent cash that can offset their Associate membership ($20 a year) or be donated to St. Paul's as part of their giving. The $250 Action Cards can be used to offset our purchases of altar supplies, office supplies, and Christian Education expenses such as Sunday School, VBS, and Bibles. These are just a few areas we could reduce our expenses using these $250 Thrivent Action cards.

We plan to invite a Thrivent representative to speak to the congregation on how this program can benefit us. Watch for the date.

With God's Blessing,

Pamela

Pamela Little,
Finance Chair and Treasurer

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." - Philippians 4:6-7

HILLTOP CHRISTIAN ELC

In the blink of an eye, it is December already! Hilltop is preparing for new enrollment for the 2027-2028 school year. Pre-enrollment will be open to existing families at Hilltop and to our St. Paul's church families beginning January 4, 2027. If you are interested or know of anyone in the church family who is interested, please give me a call and I will be happy to send out an enrollment form. Registration opens to the public on February 1, 2027

We are blessed with so many wonderful families in our program. We treated our families to a Grateful/Thankful feast on November 13th. Our families donated items for the feast and helped to set up and prepare the food. Many thanks to all who helped that day! Many hands do make light work 😊

Recently through a grant from the Office of Early Childhood and Women's Business Development Council we were offered the opportunity to purchase new games and supplies for our classrooms. It is an early Christmas present. We cannot wait to see the children's faces when they see new things!

If you have not noticed yet, we have a new playground for our two- year-olds. This was also purchased with a grant from the Office of Early Childhood. We still have some landscaping to complete and hoping we have some warmer days so it can be used before snow!

We are planning a "Christmas Spirit" week and classroom celebrations with songs and snack. We continue to ask for your prayers and blessings as we begin registrations for the coming school year. Making some of our classrooms a full day has helped with enrollment these past three years.

In His Service,

Barbara

Barbara J. Mazzei
Director/Head Teacher

AROUND THE CHURCH

SAVE THE DATE PART 1

DECEMBER 17TH @ 6:30 PM

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Women of the ELCA

The Women of Welca will be decorating the Chrismon Tree in the Sanctuary on Monday, Dec. 14th – time to be announced. Christmas angels will soon be out for the congregation to buy a gift for a person in need from our church.

BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP REMINDERS



Men's Breakfast
8:30 AM - Wednesday
December 13th
A/C Eatery
South Main Street
Torrington

Women's Breakfast
8:30 AM - Wednesday
December 13th
George's Restaurant
East Main Street
Torrington



Don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets for the "*Comfort of Psalms*" quilt created by Judy Ludwig, ticket will be drawn Dec. 1st.

Thank you, Judy, for your beautiful creation, we hope it brings in lots of sales to the church.





Available for sale in the Narthex after worship and order forms are available at any time in the office. Get your shopping done with ease and help the church at the same time.

Cards for restaurants, department stores, discount stores and outlet stores, electronics, entertainment, fast food, gas and auto, grocery, home improvement, sporting goods and even universal prepaid cards! Don't see one on the list that's available – just ask.

If you are thinking "ahead of the holidays", put your list together and see the people at the gift card table. You not only save yourself time going shopping, but the church also gets a % of your sales.

<u>Hat & Mitten Tree</u> – is up in the Nartthex for the month of December. Wanted - Hats, earmuffs, gloves, scarves, mittens, slipper socks, etc.! Please give as you can.



CONGREGATION CELEBRATIONS







December 2nd
Julie Brewster

December 3rd
Diane Boscarino

December 5th
Lois Nygren

December 6th
Mary Boscarino

December 8th
Cheryl-Ann Bombardier

December 12th
Roxanne Studelska
Pastor Dwaine Moon

December 13th
Kelli Schaller

Dember 14th
Dana O'Brien
Garrett Grening

December 15th
Cynthia Bielik

December 20th
Carmela Sanzo

December 21st
Sandra Heintz

December 25th
Rachel Takeman

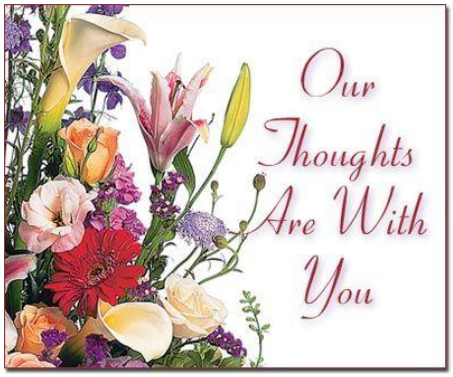
December 27th
Tom Seleman
Rosemarie Foth

December 29th
Audrey Marquard

December 30th
Pamela Ewing

December 31st
Debra Seitz

Cynthia & Lawrence	12/03/1977
Kendra & Kyle Campbell	12/07/2001
Mark & Cynthia Rose	12/26/1971
Tom & Leah Seleman	12/31/1991



*To **Beth Brower & family** in the recent passing of Chuck. Watch for more details for the Celebration of his Life in January.*



*Continued thoughts and prayers for our **Paula Rosenbeck**. She's home and on the mend but it will be a long road for her.*

Please keep her in your prayers and her family too as they try to keep her still! You all know how determined she can be…

Paula, take care of yourself, we are all here for you!

Poinsettia Memorials

Anyone wishing to memorialize a loved one with poinsettia can do so by filling out the form provided below and placing it in the offering plate or returning it to the church office.
Cost is by donation.

IN MEMORY OF/ HONOR OF:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

GIVEN BY:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Person making the request Name & Phone Number:

_____

_____



Please make checks payable to:
St. Paul's

Memo: Poinsettia

Forms must be in the church office no later than December 17th


Jesus
IS THE REASON
FOR THE SEASON
St. Paul's Evangelical
Lutheran Church
837 Charles Street
Torrington, Connecticut
www.stpaulstorrington.com
Purchase your Christmas Luminaria
in memory or in honor
of a loved one.
Pick up your luminaria
Sunday, December 6th
Drop off completed luminaria
by December 20th
to light the way into our church
for our Christmas Eve service.
If you'd like to purchase a
luminaria to light up your
home driveway,
call 860-482-3555
$5
PER BAG
A Light of Love • A Path of Faith • A Brighter Christmas

The Connecticut Yankee Chorale

cordially invites you to attend

Christmas in the Air

Annual Holiday Choral Concert

Sunday, December 6, 2026

4:00 p.m.

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

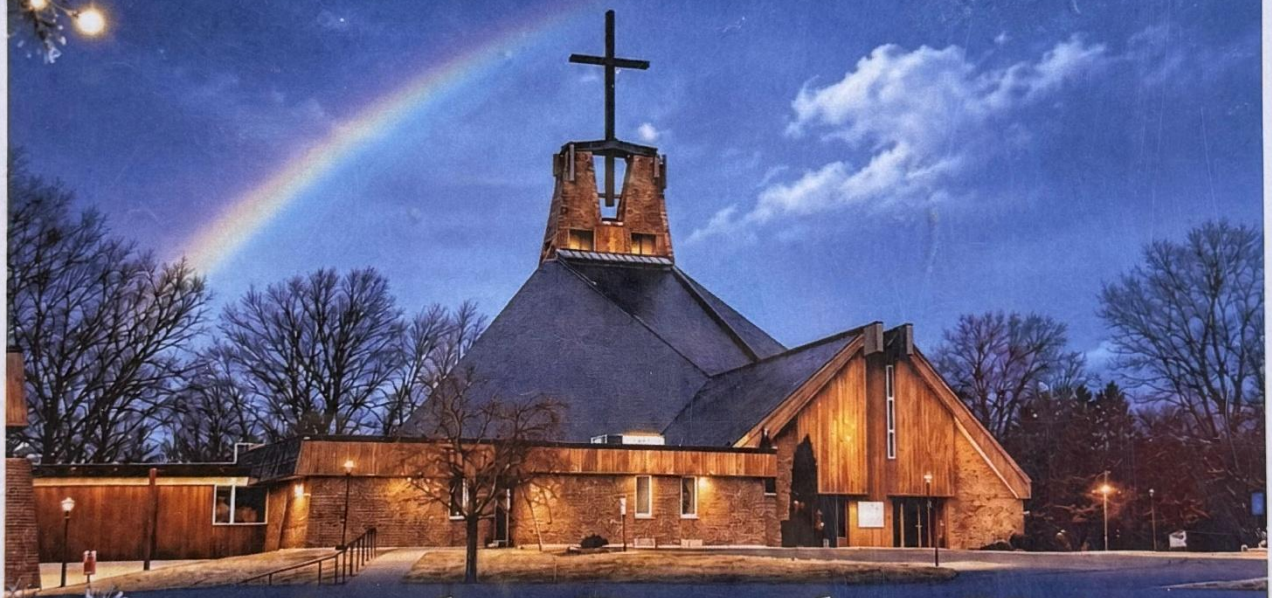
The Connecticut Yankee Chorale under the direction of Dr. William Atwood and accompanied by Laura Intravia presents this annual holiday concert! The program will feature festive choral music accompanied by chamber orchestra, along with beloved carols for the audience. Take time out of this busy season to enjoy a heartwarming afternoon of seasonal music!

TORRINGTON, CT
CONNECTICUT
Yankee Chorale

Tickets:
Adults - $15 / Children 12 & under - $5
Tickets available at the door
Donations of non-perishable food items for Friendly Hands Food Bank will be collected at the door
Facebook: @ConnecticutYankeeChorale
Instagram: @connecticutyankeechorale
For further information, email:
connecticutyankeechorale@gmail.com

BLUE Christmas

A service of hope, healing and peace for all who carry heavy hearts during the Christmas season.



Sunday, December 20th
3:00 p.m.

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

KID'S COLORING PAGE



KID'S BIBLE WORD SEARCH

BIBLE

S	D	F	Z	G	K	X	F	I	C	O	V	E	N	A	N	T	W	Y	S	L
E	T	E	R	N	A	L	D	O	D	C	S	C	R	I	P	T	U	R	E	B
E	P	S	I	I	B	R	C	A	K	E	G	Z	M	V	Z	Q	E	K	R	P
Q	D	T	I	V	V	E	A	U	A	L	L	H	O	D	Z	D	O	J	V	X
Q	M	N	Q	I	K	D	J	T	L	B	H	E	C	I	F	I	R	C	A	S
L	Z	E	U	G	H	E	C	F	T	A	Z	B	X	O	Z	S	C	F	N	O
C	E	M	T	S	Q	M	G	Z	A	R	Q	G	A	S	S	S	W	M	T	Y
L	T	D	P	K	R	P	Y	O	R	A	D	R	H	M	A	E	Z	I	B	C
D	A	N	K	N	X	T	T	R	S	P	T	A	G	T	L	N	Y	N	M	E
I	B	A	G	A	P	I	C	E	A	P	F	T	C	S	V	E	E	I	X	H
S	E	M	H	H	X	O	L	P	C	U	E	D	H	Q	A	V	S	S	S	P
C	R	M	E	T	E	N	M	R	W	N	T	L	V	Z	T	I	S	T	F	O
I	N	O	H	L	B	W	Z	A	D	W	A	C	S	Q	I	G	E	R	A	R
P	A	C	E	B	P	J	L	Y	A	G	O	T	N	O	O	R	N	Y	P	P
L	C	Y	S	L	Z	M	V	E	D	R	M	R	N	A	N	O	I	I	O	V
E	L	W	B	C	L	P	E	R	P	A	H	F	S	E	S	F	L	R	S	B
T	E	S	T	A	M	E	N	T	Y	N	E	H	D	H	P	A	O	I	T	Q
T	L	P	R	A	I	S	E	M	Q	F	I	K	G	H	I	E	H	Z	L	J
J	H	P	X	D	L	F	U	H	M	I	R	A	C	L	E	P	R	S	E	L
C	L	U	F	H	T	I	A	F	N	W	Y	O	B	E	D	I	E	N	C	E
Z	K	N	S	S	E	N	S	U	O	E	T	H	G	I	R	X	Y	R	Z	Z

SCRIPTURE
TESTAMENT
COVENANT
COMMANDMENTS
PROPHECY
MIRACLE
PARABLE
APOSTLE
DISCIPLE
GOSPEL

SALVATION
REDEMPTION
RIGHTEOUSNESS
HOLINESS
SANCTUARY
TABERNACLE
TEMPLE
ALTAR
SACRIFICE
WORSHIP

PRAYER
PRAISE
THANKSGIVING
MINISTRY
SERVANT
FAITHFUL
OBEDIENCE
REPENTANCE
FORGIVENESS
ETERNAL



SUPERSTARWORKSHEETS



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

837 Charles Street, Torrington, Connecticut 06790

December 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		**1** Tai Chi 10 AM CYC Rehearsal 7 PM	**2** Bible Study 10 AM Tai Chi 11 AM Quilters 1PM	**3** Property Mtg 7PM	**4** **Red Cross Blood Drive 1-6 PM**	**5** *Happy Hanukkah*
6 2nd Sunday Advent Worship 10 AM SS 11 AM CYC Concert 4 PM	**7** Chris Ed Mtg 6:30 PM	**8** Tai Chi 10 AM	**9** Bible Study 10 AM Tai Chi 11 AM Quilters 1PM	**10** Worship & Music (zoom) 6PM	**11**	**12**
13 3rd Sunday Advent Worship 10 AM SS 11 AM	**14** **Church Council 6:30 PM**	**15** Tai Chi 10 AM	**16** Breakfast Groups 8:30 AM Bible Study 10 AM Tai Chi 11 AM Quilters 1PM	**17** **Congregational Annual Mtg. 6:30 PM** CAFAF Group 5:30 PM	**18** Hilltop Music Program 10 AM **Pageant Rehearsal 6PM**	**19** Snow Date for Pageant Rehearsal Time TBD
20 4th Sunday Advent **Worship & Pageant 10 AM** SS 11 AM Blue Christmas	**21** Country Living 6:30 PM	**22** Tai Chi 10 AM	**23** Bible Study 10 AM Tai Chi 11 AM	**24** **Christmas Eve Worship 10 AM & 6PM**	**25** ***Christmas Day***	**26**
27 Worship 10 AM No Sunday School Today	**28**	**29** Tai Chi 10 AM **Red Cross Blood Drive 1-6 PM**	**30** **No Bible Study this week** Tai Chi 11 AM	**31** New Year's Eve 2026		



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
837 Charles Street
Torrington, CT 06790

Time Sensitive Material

STAFF DIRECTORY 860-482-3555

The Reverend Dr. G. Scott Cady, Pastor	gscady@gmail.com
Kathy Craig, Office Administrator	secretary@stpaulstorrington.com
Margaret Clavette, Bookkeeper	bookkeeper@stpaulstorrington.com
Marcia Newsome, Music Director	
Lisa Bodnar, Sexton	

WEBSITE:
WWW.STPAULSTORRINGTON.COM

HILLTOP SCHOOL STAFF – 860-482-3727

Barbara Mazzei, Director & Head Teacher	director@hilltopchristianelc.com
Nicole Waldron, Teacher	
Melanie Beebe, Teacher	
Stacey Fitzgerald, Teacher	
Amy Werner, Teacher	
Christina Brzoska, Teacher	
Brianna Ausen, Assistant Teacher	
Tracy Sierdy, Assistant Teacher	
Cynthia McPhee, Assistant Teacher	
Casaundra Abeling, Assistant Teacher	
Andi Craig, Volunteer/Substitute	
Ralph Boscarino, Custodian	

ST. PAULS HILLTOP CHRISTIAN
EARLY LEARNING CENTER
naeyc

HTTPS://HILLTOPCHRISTIANELC.COM