

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

The Good News!

www.stpaulstorrington.com

860-482-3555

June 2020

SERVICES ARE CURRENTLY SUSPENDED.

The calendars are set and hopefully we will be able to resume normal worship soon!

Calendars

June

7th **The Holy Trinity**
Worship and Communion
Healing Rite
10:00 am

14th **Pentecost 2**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am

21st **Pentecost 3**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am

28th **Pentecost 4**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am

July

5th **Pentecost 5**
Worship and Communion
Healing Rite
10:00 am

12th **Pentecost 6**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am

19th **Pentecost 7**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am

26th **Pentecost 8**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am

In this issue:

A Word from
Pastor Cady

- Holy Communion at most services
- Bible Study Mondays at 10:30 am and Tuesdays at 6:30 pm
- Council Meetings the second Monday of each month.
- Soup Kitchen Volunteers report the second Sunday of each month to Trinity Episcopal Church, rain or shine!

A complete calendar of events can be found on our website. Click on the "Our Calendar" tab!





A Word from Pastor Cady



Dear Friends and Members of St. Paul's,

As we continue in shut-down mode, I need your assistance to provide the best care for our own membership and the wider community we serve. To that end, I am asking for some of your best thoughts and ideas to support our families, friends, and neighbors.

There are a few specific groups I'm concerned about:

- The very isolated...those who live alone, especially those who have no near relatives or friends to check in on them, and those who have little or no access to computers, tablets, cell phones, or other electronic media
- Those who have challenging medical conditions
- Those who lost loved ones in the past year, or whose grief is still deep
- Those who may live with others, but in relationships that are a source of stress or hurt
- Young people who are cut off from friends, social activities, and events
- Anyone who had a special day planned...a wedding, baptism, ordination, confirmation, prom, etc.
- Anyone who was looking forward to a special vacation or trip, in-person class or job, or other event that has been either cancelled or postponed.

I'm also interested in your best ideas about worship. As you read this, I will have done two different formats: Facebook Live at 10 am most Sundays, and recorded and uploaded to the church website for May 31, Pentecost. I need to know your feelings and reactions to these two styles. Our services from last year are also always posted. As we consider whether to offer something like a drive in service, how would you feel about that, and would you attend? We would expect strict distancing, so there would be no exiting of cars to get close to the cars of others.

I am also concerned for our wider community. I need your help to understand which social services and non profits are in most need of help, which underserved populations are most in need, and creative ways we can reach out. Is our Sharing Garden viable in this time? If so, are the normal ways of getting the food to people functioning? Do our neighbors and agencies need more food drives, cash help, or extended publicity that we could provide? Should we ramp up and continue our mask making? If so, are distribution modes working? If not, are there other ways to meet basic needs?

I see all this as a combination of pastoral/spiritual care, social ministry, and safe church commitments. We are caring for each other and for those who need our help. All ideas are welcome and encouraged. One note, if you want to let me know of a specific person in need, please do not use their full name in any public or non-secure format. For example, do not use email or an open Facebook post to tell me "Eddie Haskell is struggling with depression. You should call him." Rather, let me know that you are concerned about someone. I'll call you to get details. Or call the office to let Rachel know. She'll contact me in a secure way. Of course, if you yourself are in need, do not hesitate to call me.

We are grateful for the inflow of offerings during this time. If you need help getting your offerings to the church, please call the office. If you would like information on setting up an automatic withdrawal as an easy way to make your offering, also call the office.

Thank you all also for your faithful service and compassion. Together, we can serve each other and our neighbors in the name and Spirit of Christ.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Scott Cady

HILLTOP NEWS

What strange times we are in! Due to Covid-19, Hilltop has been closed since March 13th. None of our spring plans happened, and we will continue to be closed through the end of the school year and will not have any summer programming. With the uncertainty around how this virus is affecting things, we don't really know what to expect by September. The Hilltop Advisory Committee is staying in close contact with me and I with them in regards to protocols and recommendations for early childhood programs. I am doing all I can to stay informed from the Office of Early Childhood and other supports in regards to what reopening would look like.



Since we have been out of school, our Hilltop staff has been doing amazing things to keep our families engaged. We have a private Facebook group where they have been doing daily posts with activities around math, literacy, fine motor, gross motor, art, music, social-emotional as well as sharing recipes to do at home. Someone reads a book every day in the group, and I am continuing the Music Together Online through this group. Teachers are also leading weekly Zoom Circle Time Meetings for each class. What fun to hear their voices and see their faces!

We will be closing out our year a little early, as family/child participation in these activities has been dropping. The teachers will come in for their final clean out on May 26. Most of their deep cleaning was completed in March, but they still need to take down photos, artwork and do a final button down of their rooms. They will need to bag up the children's things to return to them. On May 29, we will have a parade in the commuter parking lot at St. Paul's. The teachers will be safely distanced from one another in the parking lot, and families will come through the lot in parade fashion for a final "see you later" parade. I expect there will be some smiles and tears!

As I mentioned earlier, we are doing our best to stay informed about what we need to do if we are prepared to reopen in September. As it stands, our license through the state of Connecticut's Office of Early Childhood makes us "essential". However, since we are primarily part time preschool, most families do not rely on us for child care. Our policy has always been that we follow the lead of the Torrington Public Schools in relation to opening and closing, so we have stayed true to that and have been closed. We are in a position to reopen when we wish, but there are strong restrictions that need to be considered if and when we are ready to reopen. I suspect most, if not all of those restrictions will still be in place in September, so we will have a lot to contemplate as we make a decision to move ahead. Please keep the Hilltop Advisory Committee and the staff in your thoughts and prayers, that we would make wise judgements moving forward.

I want to recognize the Hilltop staff as we close out the year. They have stayed true to Hilltop and been the voice calm in the midst of chaos, and I appreciate the team we are and the way we have navigated this challenging situation. Hilltop is blessed to have such loving and high quality teachers! Nicole Sears, Monica Valente, Lezlie Fosbrook and Michelle Miller lead each class with affection and patience. Christina Brzoska, Megan Roberts, Nicole Waldron and Teresa Guzman have come alongside the lead teachers and helped build strong teams in each room, which easily translated into a top notch Hilltop team! What a blessing it is to be a part of Hilltop and St. Paul's. I am proud of the role Hilltop plays in the community, and I hope that you are too!



HILLTOP NEWS



Hilltop Advisory Committee is a real blessing to Hilltop! Pam Little and Ron Travis along with the rest of the committee, dedicate their time, not only for the monthly meetings, but also for other projects they take on! There are many challenges in the supervising of Hilltop, but they are always thinking only of the best for everyone! Thank God for their leadership during this challenging time. Truly, the saying “we are in this together” couldn’t ring more true! The Property Board Is always quick to respond when Hilltop has a property need. The Property board rep for Hilltop, Jim Clavette has answered the call when needed in a timely fashion!

We are truly grateful for our custodian, who puts his heart in keeping this space looking good! He keeps the education wing clean for not just Hilltop, but also the church and other organizations who meet here. Though his work was cut short due to Covid, he is planning to come in over the summer to polish up the floors! He completed his deep cleaning in March, but will come back at the end of the summer to be sure all things are ready and waiting for a new school year!

We would also like to thank Rachel and Jean for all the work they do for us! Whatever question or concern I have, they have an answer! Jean is a saint as she wrestles with the challenges that Hilltop offers her! Thank you to Pastor Cady for supporting Hilltop.

Finally, we thank Mary Magnoli for her continuing efforts with the Boxtops for Education program. The boxtops campaign adds money to our play yard/ Enrichment Fund when it’s needed. I also wish to thank each of YOU for your support for Hilltop through prayer, public relations, and saving those Boxtops for Education!

The School Readiness funds continued to come in to us even though we were closed the last few months, of which we are grateful for. These funds will continue next year.

We are sending out our regular communications to our incoming families as usual, with hopes we will reopen. We continue to take in registrations for the fall. Registration is ongoing through the summer. If classes fill, we keep waiting lists. We have spaces in most classes, though class sizes may have to change due to the virus. Don’t forget...we have some slots for families from lower incomes in the School Readiness class. Please be sure to share Hilltop with friends and family.

I pray you have a safe and restful summer!

In His Service,
Jan Sosnicki



REALM ONLINE



Here comes Realm Online! One of our goals is to have the congregation members be able to access their giving statements and status. This will save time and money during tax season when you need your statements for tax deductions. Members will be able to access giving information when needed.

Also, Realm Online serves as an electronic directory for our members, it allows members access to other people's pages. Don't panic though, you can control how much information is shared with others!

An e-mail inviting you to join Realm will be sent out on June 19. Click the link to set up your account. It is very user friendly, but here is a link to help you along! <https://onrealm.org/StPaulsTorr/Help/LMS>

You can also download the app and have this information on your device! Download Realm Connect from Google Play or Apple's App Store! Here is a link to learn more about the app <https://resources.realmchurch.com/videos>

Let's be the church together... online.

- 🔍 Look up members in our church directory
- 👤 Update your personal information
- 💰 Give online - one time & recurring gifts
- 📄 View giving history & print giving statements
- 📅 Make & keep track of pledges



[Sign up or sign in](#) at onrealm.org





THANK YOU PAGE



Dear Friends,

I just want to say thank you for helping today with the food drive. We had a wonderful group of people to help set-up, collect, box, and load food! I was a bit concerned mid week when Valerie Vega learned about a large food drive at THS on Friday. IT sounds like that collection was a success but today, our drive was equally successful! I am so thankful that we had invited fresh/frozen meats, dairy, eggs, fresh fruits & veggies, and of course, non perishables. We had a wonderful variety of fresh and non perishable foods; enough to fill the Friendly Hands van three times and then Kyle Thomas brought his pick up truck and we filled that too! We were also blessed to collect nearly two full cases of individually wrapped toilet paper also!



Many members also supported the drive with food; members of the community were generous as well. Together we were able to make a difference for hungry neighbors. Karen, Kenny, and Kyle Thomas were very helpful in loading the van and truck and Karen was overjoyed by the generosity of everyone. With the struggles and losses Friendly Hands has faced over the last few months, it is nice to know they have overcome some substantial obstacles and are able to continue their mission to serve those in need.

We spent quite a bit of time publicizing our event on social media as well as through TV and radio. WZBG's, Jeff Zeiner, did a phone interview with me early in the week so I know that aired on a number of occasions. I was thrilled to hear a report highlighting our food drive twice on Channel 4 this morning!

Covid 19 may have gotten us down and unable to worship in a traditional way, but we were able to help in our own classic way despite the virus! Thanks from the bottom of my heart, Fred and Kim, Rachel and Freyja, Valerie and Gabrielle, May and Jacob, Ben and Lizzie, Diane, June, Margaret, Jim, Sarah and Meagan, June, Pastor, and Jill Petrillo (Adrienne Weik's niece). You guys are the best! And thank you, Karen, Kenny, and Kyle for allowing us to help you, help others!

God's Blessings,
Paula



Dear Paula & everyone :

We are so blessed by your kindness and generosity. What an amazing group of friends you are to us! Please accept our sincere thanks to each of you and everyone who came out to film our shelves at the food bank. I look to a fabulous new collaboration with you all and thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your good work .

Please feel free to stop by anytime (or after the Covid) for a quick tour of our facility to see your good work in action. My new mantra is #ittakesacomunity and FHFB is certainly proud to be a part of your community!

Be safe and well
Karen Thomas
Executive Director - Friendly Hands Food Bank

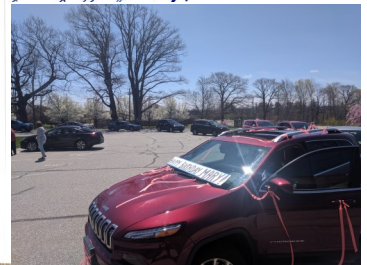
THANK YOU PAGE



Dear Paula,
 Thanking all of you and, thanking you for
 the special birthday (car) celebration
 on my birthday. Please extend my
 thanks for the very special wishes
 plus the sight of my Church family
 and the time involved in making
 a special happening



special and, not to be forgotten. I
 also received over 50 birthday wishes.
 My thanks are never ending. It
 will be a blessing to the
 encounter of the Church family,
 Please extend blessings
 to, also, the Pastor.
 I enjoyed his presence
 at my birthday car
 celebration!



COVID-19

There is a disease called Covid-19,
 It's the worse disease we've ever seen

Our way of living subjects us to change,
 Social distancing seems so very strange

We miss the normal hug and kiss,
 These are the things we really miss

In time this will be behind us,
 So trust in the Lord and do not fuss

He'll give us the knowledge we need,
 With faith and his love, we will succeed

So put your faith in the Great Physician,
 He'll remove us from this terrible position

Just remember to give thanks to the Lord above,
 He'll never abandon us, He gives everlasting love.

Enclosed is a poem
 written by my niece.
 If possible, would you
 make copies. Keep what
 you want so, it can be
 passed on before you
 returns it to me.
 I'm sitting at my
 kitchen table surrounded
 by the many balloons
 and the thoughts of
 my very special
 birthday.

Shumble thanks
 over Mary

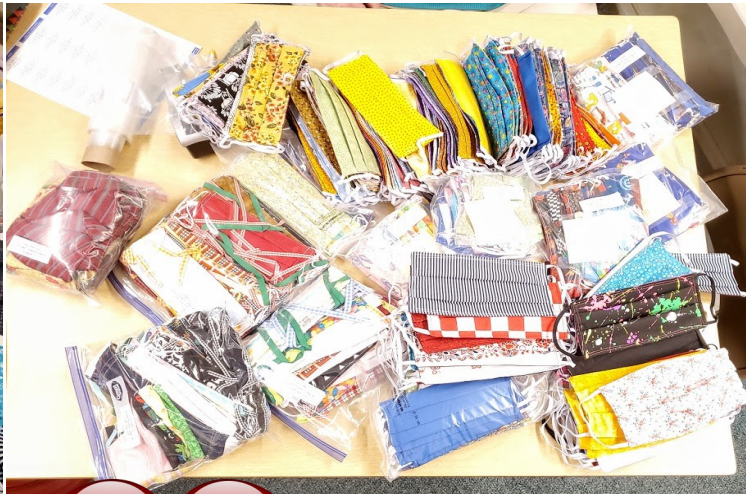




THANK YOU PAGE



We sent out a plea on Facebook: "We are trying to get 200 masks together by Thursday 5/28 to ship out to the Navajos in Rock Point Az. They have been hit hard and are in desperate need of masks." and thanks to the sewers of congregation and sewing friends of St. Paul's we had an overwhelming response to the Navajo Mission mask drive! The church building maybe closed, but the work of the church is thriving! From Paula "Dear St. Paul's Members and Friends, It is with sincere thanks that I am thrilled to announce that in our last few days worth of sewing, we have collected 522 masks. I have them bundled according to size and they will be shipped to our Navajo Friends in Rock Point, AZ as well as to Lutheran World Relief's 75,000+ Mask Challenge. Our church building may be closed but we continue to do God's Work with Our Hands. Thanks to all who contributed in any way. The need for masks continues locally and beyond. We will continue to receive masks here at St. Paul's, 837 Charles St. Torrington. We promise to place these gifts of love into the hands of those who need them most. Thank you from the bottom of our collective hearts!"



AROUND THE CHURCH

So this is not your normal newsletter. We are not announcing upcoming events as we do not know when we will get back to business as usual, however we wanted to keep in touch. We also want to let you know about events that have been cancelled or postponed. We are hoping everyone is staying safe and well.

Here are a couple of announcements:

Vacation Bible School

It is with a heavy heart that we have decided to cancel VBS this summer. Do to the uncertain times, we are erring on the side of caution. We will have Sidney the Sloth join us in the summer of 2021!



Payroll Protection Program Loan

As a result of the COVID 19 / Coronavirus, the US Congress has approved, and the President of the United States has signed a 2.2 trillion relief package called, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES ACT). One of the components to the relief package is what is called the Payroll Protection Program (PPP), supported by a 350 billion dollar allocation. It essentially allows for non-profits and small businesses to apply for relief of eligible expenses such as: payroll, utilities, rent, and mortgage. The Payroll Protection Program allows for non-profits and small business to apply for eligible expenses over the 8 week period start February 15 until June 30th.

In order to apply, non-profits, like St. Paul's Church would need to calculate its average monthly expenses based on numbers for 2019 (of which St. Paul's eligible expenses would be payroll and utilities only, because the church does not pay rent or have a mortgage), and multiple by a factor of 2.5 (application instructions) to arrive at the amount applying for.

St. Paul's has applied for the Payroll Protection Program in the amount of \$66,254.85, and has been approved through Torrington Savings Bank. Funds have been transferred into the church checking account. At the inception of the Payroll Protection Program, funds are treated as a loan, and providing PPP funds are allocated for eligible expenses, and documentation is provided to substantiate the said, then the loan and any accrued interest is forgiven. The loan essentially transitions from the status of a loan to one of a forgivable grant.

If there are any questions, feel free to reach out to Fred Rakyta.

Women of the ELCA- Book Club!

If you would like to join in on the reading and discussion here are the details: this summer at a time and date to be announced we will discuss the book is **The Boys in the Boat** by Daniel James Brown. It is about "*Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold in the 1936 Berlin Olympics.*" It comes highly recommended by Dixie Travis and we all agreed it sounded like a good choice! So, if you'd like you can download it for your device or order a hard copy for yourself. If you have trouble finding it, email the office and we will order it for you, we will find the cheapest copies and you can mail in a check. So, ... if you'd like, go ahead and get the book and settle in and relax. We will announce the review date in next month's newsletter.

SHARING GARDEN

Good Sunny Day to you!!

We know that you have been growing starter plans for us and for that we are blessed by your assistance. Feel free to contact one of us or Rachel when you drop them by. We will be planting non- frost resistant crops at the end of May. All the food pantries need our supplies now more than ever as unfortunately unemployment is at about 14.7% as of this writing. There are many households we are aware of that have filed for benefits and have not received them yet. There is quite the backlog.

We also need "man" power. We truly need devoted assistance; weeding, planting and most importantly harvesting and delivery. Thankfully many are still working on our committee, but that leaves us in a predicament. We ask for 1 day a week of weeding and harvesting. If you cannot deliver on that day, we understand, and that is where the delivery folks come in. If you don't know when to pick something, we can assist with that (it should be a little smaller than what you are receiving from the store). If you are unsure if it is a weed, we can assist you with that also. Most of our beds will have something in them to keep the weeds down, but weeding is still needed.

Also, if you would like to "adopt a bed" meaning providing plants for that bed or even better planting it yourself. Each week each person will be weeding and harvesting the whole garden so there is limited stress and who doesn't love sunshine and fresh air. Bring you kids down with you as it would count toward community service!!!

Please spread the word. We need to feed our sheep!!

God's blessing on you today and always

The Sharing Garden

May and Jacob Friday, June Seiser, Leah Seleman, Karen Marciano, Jeanette Richards



GIVE+ Mobile



If it seems like there's a smartphone app for everything these days — paying for coffee, checking in for a flight, arranging for a ride — it's because apps make life easier. Church members are looking for the same ease and convenience when it comes to giving.

With the award-winning giving app from Vanco Payment Solutions, your church can put the power of smartphone giving directly into your members' hands.

Our Give+ Mobile app is included with ACH or debit/credit card processing, and there are no additional fees or software for church staff to learn or integrate. Even better, Give+ Mobile is FREE for members to download and use.

Benefits for your church

- Boost overall giving by letting members and guests give anytime, anywhere from their smartphone
- Start using the app today with no additional set-up, monthly or service fees
- Simplify forecasting/reconciliation with consistent transaction costs on all Vanco products
- Donors can choose to increase gifts to help offset processing fees
- Integrate seamlessly with ChMS and Vanco reporting

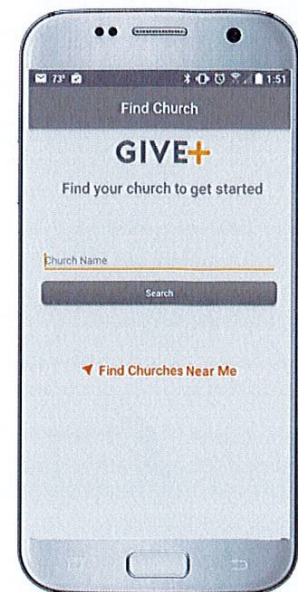
Benefits for your members

- Quickly and easily donate using a debit/credit card or checking/savings account
- Make one-time donations or set up recurring giving to multiple funds
- Choose to create an account or donate as a guest
- Securely and conveniently manage donations using Touch ID/Fingerprint, PIN or password

Contact Vanco to learn more about how Give+ Mobile can increase financial stewardship at your church.



Search for "GivePlus Church" to quickly find and download the app today!

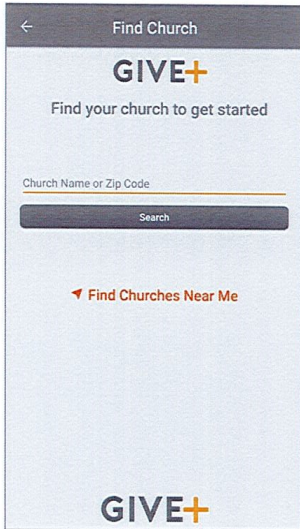


800-675-7430
vancopayments.com/giveplus

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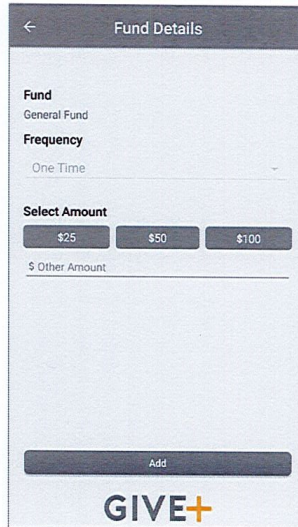
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1) Search



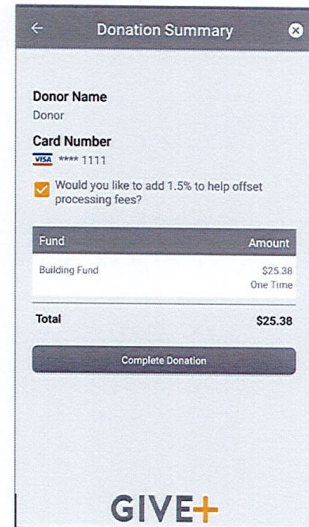
- Enter church name or tap *Find Churches Near Me* to start your search
- Select your church
- Your selected church will be displayed as your default church
- Tap *Give Now*

2) Select



- Choose a fund and a preset amount or enter another amount
- Select *Add* to add another fund or move forward to the payment information
- Scan or enter your card or bank account information

3) Submit



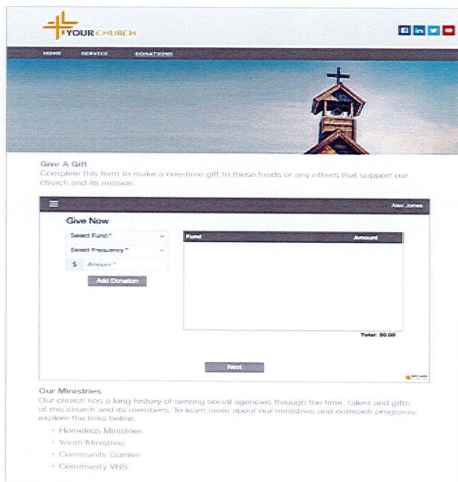
- Review your donation summary then select *Complete Donation*

Tip! Create an account to manage your giving: Set up recurring gifts, update payment methods, view giving history and more.

GIVE+ Online

How it works

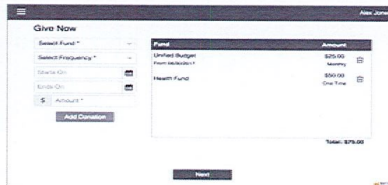
Easy online giving for members or guests without leaving your church website.



1. Select fund(s) and amount

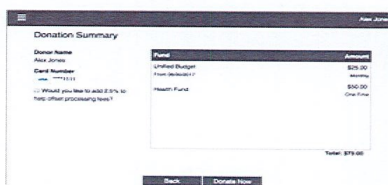
Donors select a fund, enter the amount and choose a frequency if they have created a Give+ account.

Note: All donors can give to multiple funds in one transaction. Account holders can choose start dates for gifts and payments.



3. Complete donation

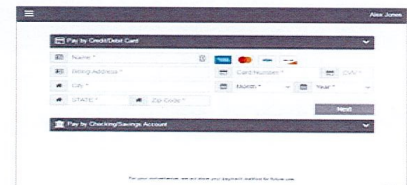
Donors review their summary and then select *Donate Now* to complete their donation(s).



2. Enter payment method

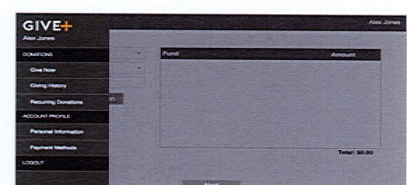
Donors enter their debit/credit card information or choose to pay with their checking or savings account.

Note: Give+ account holders can store this information for future use.



4. Give+ account features

When logged into their Give+ account, donors can review giving history, manage recurring donations or edit stored payment methods.



For the kids!

Print out and color pictures and send them out to our local nursing homes!

Valerie Manor attn.: Recreation 1360 Torrington Street Torrington CT 06790

Litchfield Woods attn.: Recreation 255 Roberts Street Torrington CT 06790

Regal Care attn.: Recreation 80 Fern Drive Torrington, CT 06790

Wolcott Hall attn.: Recreation 215 Forest Street Torrington, CT 06790

The Workman 244 Forest St. Apt. 36 Torrington, CT 06790

Brandywine 19 Constitution Way Apt. 133 Litchfield, CT 06759

Senior living facilities: Atria 376 Goshen Road Torrington, CT 06790
Keystone Place 1058 Litchfield Street Torrington, CT 06790







June 2nd

Kim Rakyta

June 3rd

Bruce Ejzak

June 4th

Mary Grening

June 5th

Joseph Roller
Karen Trippodi
Shaelynn Holmgren

June 9th

Donna Bruno
June Meyers

June 10th

Ralph Boscarino

June 11th

Lynn Shuhi
Caroline Quintal

June 12th

Robert Magyar

June 13th

Karen Kelleher
Sabra Rosenbeck

June 14th

Harriet Vergaro
Gabrielle Vega
Jaiden Buel

June 15th

June Seiser
Paul Winzler

June 16th

Brandon & Dale
Osterman

June 17th

Bonnie Schaff

June 18th

Kristen Edman
Leslie Langenheim

June 19th

Harry Stone
Wil Wesley

June 21st

Frederick Lang

June 23rd

Walter "Cookie" Joray

June 25th

Kathy-Ann Campbell

June 26th

Linda Gryniuk
Kent Madia

June 29th

Brian Bodnar
Shawn Tobin

June 30th

Mark Langenheim
Laura Barone

Victor & Charlotte Madia

Alexander & Iris Barko

John & Helen Winzler

Kenneth & Judith Ludwig

Sal & Marie Barbieri

James & Debra Weber

Paul & Catherine Winzler

Brian & Lisa Bodnar

Alan & Fran Seitz

Thomas & Linda Richard

William & Cynthia Muhl

Bruce & Kristy Ejzak

June 02, 1990

June 05, 1982

June 06, 1953

June 10, 1972

June 13, 1998

June 18, 1977

June 18, 1994

June 19, 1993

June 20, 1964

June 20, 1981

June 23, 1990

June 28, 1980



Antoinette Regner

Allison Steeves



Welcome to the world Adeline Emma Tancredi Ness! She was born on May 18th at 5:34 pm. She weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces at birth, 21.5 inches long. Adeline is the daughter of Pastor Tim Ness and Pastor Laura Tancredi. She is the granddaughter of Karen and Dave Ness and the niece of Taylor and Tanner Ness.





837 Charles Street
Torrington, CT 06790

Staff Directory 860-482-3555

The Reverend Dr. G. Scott Cady, Pastor
Rachel Harrel, Secretary
Jean Schlapfer, Bookkeeper
Adrienne Weik, Director of Music

pastorscottcady@stpaulstorrington.com
secretary@stpaulstorrington.com
bookkeeper@stpaulstorrington.com

Hilltop School Staff 860-482-3727

Jan Sosnicki, Director & Teacher
Nicole Sears, Teacher
Monica Valente, Teacher
Lezlie Fosbrook, Teacher
Michelle Miller, Teacher
Christina Brzoska, Teacher
Teresa Guzman, Teacher Assistant
Megan Roberts, Teacher Assistant
Nicole Waldron, Teacher Assistant
Mike Sosnicki, Custodian

director@hilltopchristianelc.com

www.stpaulstorrington.com
