3

November St. Paul's Lutheran Church

2024

The Good News!

Sunday Services

November

All Saint's Day

Worship and Communion 10:00 am All Children's Church 11:00 am

10 16 **Pentecost**

Worship & Communion 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am

17 **25 Pentecost**

Worship & Communion 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am

24 **Christ the King**

Worship & Communion 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service

Trinity Episcopal Church Prospect St. Torrington 7:00 pm Tuesday November 26, 2024.

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December

1 Advent

Worship and Communion 10:00 am Family Advent Day 11:00 am

8 2 Advent

Worship & Communion 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am

15 3 Advent

Worship & Communion 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am

22 4 Advent

Worship & Communion 10:00 am & Pageant Sunday School 11:00 am

24 **Christmas Eve Service**

10:00 am 4:00 pm—Candlelight

29 1 Christmas

Worship & Communion 10:00 am



A Word from Pastor Cady

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's

November moves us to the end of our annual cycle of liturgical readings and observances, It begins with All Saints' Day and ends with Christ the King Sunday. Just for good measure, it also includes one of our favorite National Holidays, Thanksgiving.

All Saints' Day, November 1, was originally a day to celebrate the formal, official saints of the Church. These would be people like St. Paul, St. Peter, St. Mary, etc. The idea is that these formal saints died without any unconfessed sin and with "merits" of righteousness that exceeded any sins they may have committed. Leaving this life in such a state allowed them to proceed directly to heaven without any time in purgatory. From there, they could bestow some of their merits to the rest of us, hence the practice of praying to the saints to shorten our own time in purgatory. November 2 was called "All Souls' Day," a day to celebrate the rest of us common Christian sinners.

The Reformation, which we had just celebrated on Oct 31, or the Sunday just before, reintroduced the biblical notion that all the faithful baptized are to be considered saints. Paul will use the word like that for example in Colossians 1:2: "To all the saints...in Christ in Colossae." Most traditions stemming from the Reformation are so confident that Christ, in his sacrifice, took our sins to death on the cross. This work of redemption took away the need for purgatory and the distinction between ordinary Christians and those famous saints whose lives are so exemplary. Thus, All Saints' Day, or, more likely, All Saints' Sunday, is now celebrated among us as a day to rejoice in the whole community of faithful baptized people.

Here at St. Paul's, as in many other parishes, we use the Sunday after Nov. 1 to lift up those of our community whose earthy lives have come to an end during the past year. It is a bittersweet day, recalling the grief and loss related to their deaths, but also rejoicing in their new life in the presence of Christ forever.

Christ the King is a more recently added festival on our calendar, to put a kind of emphasis on the fulfillment of Jesus' earthly ministry by recalling his eternal role as "King of kings and Lord of lords." Taken together, these two festivals resound with our full confidence in the saving work of Jesus for our sake, and his eternal sovereignty which begins for us individually at our baptism and culminates in our entrance into that divine kingdom. I invite you to take time as we observe these special days to embrace the holy love that has been poured out upon us.

Thanksgiving, while a secular, national holiday, is nevertheless imbued with a kind of spiritual dimension. This is especially true for Christians, for whom God is the source of all that draws forth our gratitude. We are not just thankful that we have food, homes, families, etc., We are very specifically grateful to God for providing all those gifts to us and our neighbors. And we are grateful to live in a nation whose highest values include liberty, peace, prosperity, compassion, courage, democracy, and justice. While it is clear that those who founded this nation intended us to be a society bound together by mutual respect, a deep concern for the common good, a harmonious political process, and a commitment to equality for all, we Christians also see behind these commitments the providential hand of a gracious God for the good of all who dwell in this land, regardless of their origins. May this month be for us, both as Christians and as Americans, a time to lift humble and grateful hearts to the giver of all blessings, in this life and the next.

Yours in Christ,

Scott Cady

FINANCE

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ,

Each week, we see a slide that shows our shortfall in the amount collected on Sunday mornings and what was budgeted. As of this writing we are reflecting a \$72,588 shortfall. However that being said, we are actually doing better than these numbers reflect.

As of the end of September, our total income received was \$306,453.39. This was from weekly offerings, Hilltop, Use of Facilities, festival Offerings, fundraising, other income, parking lot income, cell tower income, and the capital campaign. Our expenses were \$306,251.79, reflecting a net gain of \$201.60.

Also, if we compare our income and expenses to the same time last year, we are trending in the right direction. Income shows that we are down \$247 compared to last year, however I think it is important to note that last year we took just over \$57,000 out of investments. This year we haven't touched investments. I've included a summary recap for your perusal.

While this might seem like a small accomplishment, we need to remember we anticipated a \$97,000 budget shortfall. We on the finance committee, are proud of the work the committees have done in keeping expenses down and helping to support our operating budget. This couldn't be done without everyone doing their part.

"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will, abound in every good work."

2 Corinthians 9:8

Your Sister in Christ, Pamela Little Treasurer/Finance Committee

SUMMARY							
FINANCIAL	2024 Actual YTD Sep-24	2023 Year to Date Sep -23	Var 2024/2023 Year to Date				
				INCOME			
				Envelopes	\$123,766.93	\$115,582.62	\$8,184.31
Loose	\$715.13	\$341.97	\$373.16				
Parking Lot (Quarterly)	\$9,196.00	\$9,196.00	\$0.00				
Phone Tower	\$20,706.84	\$20,706.84	\$0.00				
Capital Campaign	\$13,452.42	\$0.00	\$13,452.42				
Tranfer from Investments	\$0.00	\$57,286.67	(\$57,286.67)				
All Other Income	\$138,616.07	\$103,586.47	\$35,029.60				
TOTAL INCOME	\$306,453.39	\$306,700.57	(\$247.18)				
EXPENSES							
Electricity	\$9,780.61	\$12,446.33	(\$2,665.72)				
Gas	\$8,831.68	\$11,395.75	(\$2,564.07)				
Insurance	\$32,913.63	\$27,127.84	\$5,785.79				
Salaries	\$205,261.47	\$190,113.21	\$15,148.26				
Synod	\$7,604.00	\$9,970.00	(\$2,366.00)				
All Other Expense	\$41,860.40	\$56,046.32	(\$14,185.92)				
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$306,251.79	\$307,099.45	(\$847.66)				
Surplus/Shortage	\$201.60	(\$398.88)	\$600.48				

HILLTOP

We have been busy these past couple of months getting to know each other, learning new routines, practicing kindness and best of all having fun! We are happy to report that we have filled the school readiness classroom with 14 students. Other classrooms are near capacity but could use a few more students. Keep spreading the good news about Hilltop.



We have been outside most of the days and using the outdoor classroom to the max! We are taking advantage of the beautiful weather we have been having.

We are still working on getting the new camera system hooked up to the police department. We have found that we will need to purchase "panic buttons" in each classroom in order for the camera feed to reach the local police department. Looking for ideas to raise \$14,000!!!

We took a field trip to Ruwet Farm on October 18th and 21st to pick pumpkins!

We will report on our NAEYC renewal visit next month.

We are having a Fall Spice sale! There is an order form in the Narthex with all the details! The proceeds from this sale will help go towards the cost of the panic buttons. Thank you in advance for your supporting our Fall spice sale fundraiser.

Hilltop will bring back the family "feast" this November. Our families and students will enjoy a meal together. Families will be asked to help with donations and preparations. We look forward to this opportunity to be together.

Thank you for supporting us with your prayers.

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



CHRIS ED

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT FAMILY & INDIVIDUAL PROJECT & LUNCHEON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST FOLLOWING THE OUTSIDE TREE LIGHTING

On Sunday, December 1st beginning during the Sunday School hour, we will have our First Sunday in Advent celebration. ALL are invited, however, it will be helpful if you could sign-up by November 24th so we are sure to have enough supplies for everyone. All parents are asked to stay with their children that day. We will be making a wooden craft, similar to the one pictured. It will be mounted on a small wooden base so it will hopefully become an annual tradition to bring it out each Advent as a reminder of "the reason for the season."



Following the craft we will be having a sandwich and dessert luncheon. Each family is asked to bring either sandwiches OR finger desserts. We will have a couple of soups as well. We hope to make this a congregation-wide event, so please plan to stay at church into the afternoon! This is a great opportunity for fellowship amongst members. Who knows, you might even meet someone new to you!

HOMEMADE COOKIE HELP NEEDED, PLEASE!

For many many years St. Paul's has remembered our senior saints, infirm, lonely, and college students with a container of homemade cookies during the beginning of the Advent season. The First Sunday in Advent is Sunday, December 1st and yes, it IS a very busy day here at St. Paul's! (See the above notice about our Family & Individual Project!

This used to be a Confirmation project with a little help from friends, but our Confirmation classes have dwindled in recent years. Thus, ... we are asking for a LOT of help from our friends! We will need probably thousands of homemade cookies to be able to fill each container. The only stipulation is that they have no nuts in them; peanut butter should be okay. I am not aware of any adults or children currently in school who have an allergy.

Cookies will be packed beginning at 9am on December 1st so donations need to be at church by then, please. If you know someone with a key or key code, feel free to drop off donations on Friday or Saturday. Please leave them in the kitchen, clearly marked for Cookie Project.

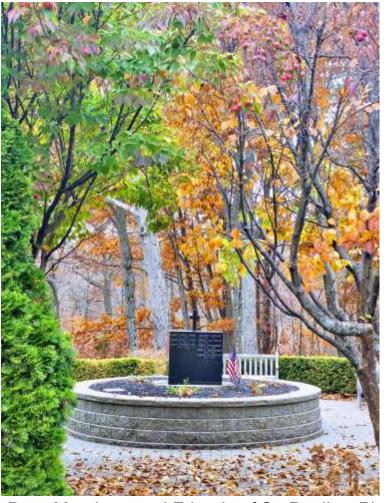
Children and parents in the Intermediate Sunday School class AND our two confirmands and their parents are being asked to help out that morning. Please bring a couple of batches of homemade cookies and together, we will make a whole lot of people very happy!

College Students are asked to be sure to stop at the church on Sunday morning before heading back to school to get your tasty treats! I know they will help as final exams stressors!

We hope to have the cookie containers ready for folks to help deliver by the time church is dismissed on the First Sunday in Advent. If you are able to deliver to a neighbor, a friend, or a family member, please help us out. It is impossible to make every single delivery without your help! Thank you in advance!

THE GARDEN OF MEMORIES & PROPERTY

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



We are looking for volunteers!

 Fall grounds clean up is happening on November 16th. We will start at 8:00 am and get it done!

For more information email torringtonstpaulsproperty@gmail.com or see Greg Weingart



Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's...Please accept my sincere gratitude for all the work and generosity that went into my "milestone" party on Oct. 20! Seventy six trips around the sun, 40 years of parish ministry, and 7 great years here at St. Paul's. Everyone was so positive and gracious in their greetings, their shared food, and their ongoing support. Both Amy and I feel very much at home here, and continue to rejoice in this very special Christian community. May God's blessings flow freely to and through us in our common ministry and mission.



Yours in Christ,

Pr. Scott Cady

WOMEN OF THE ELCA



The WELCA 2024-2025 Schedule of Events can be found on our website under the ministry tab!

ST. PAUL'S WOMEN OF THE ELCA

At our meeting in October we welcomed members of three area social service agencies to serve as celebrity judges for our Pumpkin Cook/Bake Off. We were happy to have from FISH, Margaret Franzi and Dan Santorso; from the Community Soup Kitchen we welcomed DJ Hernandez and Margaret Petit; and lastly from Friendly Hands we had Christina and Danny Hartnett. They tasted many pumpkin treats as well as a savory pumpkin soup and decided on a winner and a runner up. Congratulations to Carol Speaker and Karen Ness! Carol make a pumpkin fudge that turned out to be a very tasty pumpkin dip and Karen mae a Pumpkin Crumb Cake. The real winners were our agencies; the Women's Group gave each of them a check toward needs.

St. Paul's has had a relationship with these three agencies dating back many many years. We have had food collections for many occasions over the years; we have the annual Coat Drive nearing its' end very soon for FISH; we have teams who serve at the Soup Kitchen every second Sunday of each month. Friendly Hands has used our parking lot for food and various give aways since their building is so small. They are soon to open a new location, thanks to a state grant that has afforded them a much larger building for their needs of serving the hungry and marginalized in NW CT.

On November 25^{th,} at 7pm, we will gather for our Annual Angel Craft and to make four Thanksgiving baskets for families in need. Women will be making an angel using a 16.9 oz. soda bottle as a base. Because it is Thanksgiving week, women are invited to bring fresh fruits and veggies as well as other non-perishable foods to complete a nice meal. Items needed include potatoes, squash/sweet potatoes or other fresh veggies and fruits, cranberry sauce, canned fruits and veggies, gravy mix, stuffing, pie makings, etc. Most of these families have children so a kid's treat is welcome (Advent Calendar, makings of Christmas Cookies, Candy Treats, etc.).

HOSTS NEEDED!

Do you enjoy a good cup of coffee or tea on a Sunday morning after church? If so, you are encouraged to share the load and sign up to host a Coffee Hour on a Sunday morning. It isn't hard! Put coffee on – regular and decaf coffee is stored in the fridge in the kitchen. Set up the buffet with the coffee carafes, milk (before Sunday morning check the fridge to see if you need to bring whole milk), sugar, artificial sweeteners, tea bags, cups, dessert plates, plastic cutlery, and napkins, etc. Oftentimes there are frozen treats in the freezer that can be used, otherwise bring a few snacks to share. If everyone takes a turn, the same folks won't have to do it over and

over! A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Thank you!

COFFEE HOUR

AROUND THE CHURCH



Hat & Mitten Tree

The Hat and Mitten Tree for donations of store bought or handmade new hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, slippers, and socks will be up on November 9 until December 8th. The tree will be placed in memory of Gladys Gasser and Ludwig Mueller. Gladys oversaw the project for many years and Louie placed the tree each year. Since his death, his family places the tree. I have heard from some of you that you've been busy making mittens, hats, etc. so hopefully we'll be able to keep many heads and hands warm this winter with your generosity.

ANGEL PROJECT 2024

Begins on Sunday, November 24, 2024

For well over thirty years, closer to 40 years actually, St. Paul's has been doing the Angel Project each Christmas season. We have some families and individuals in the church who have some real financial struggles. We also have some families and individuals who experience other forms of serious need.

Most of us have experienced how difficult it is to spend that first Christmas without a loved one at the dinner table or sitting around the tree. If you are able, please come and join our fruit party on Friday December 13 at 12 pm. Families receiving fruit baskets will be asked to pick up these memorial gifts on Saturday morning, December 14th.

Gift preferences are also placed out on the Sunday before Thanksgiving for your purchasing pleasure. We don't have a lot of young children in need, but I know many of you love to buy for them! We have a few older kids who are unlike other older kids, they like

receiving gift cards to be able to buy their own perfect gift! Please consider that as well. If you purchase a gift or a gift card, please try to include the receipt. Should it need to be exchanged, the receipt will help in the process.

Puppettude will again be selling gift cards through their Scrip program. Volunteers will be in the Narthex each week selling the cards, and taking orders. Judy Ludwig will be updating the order form for everyone's convenience. Please keep an eye out for the gift cards to be on display. Consider purchasing your favorite gift cards for family and friends from Puppettude also! Many folks can benefit from your purchases! Thank you.





Save the Date!
Part I
December 15, 2024
11: 00 am

AROUND THE CHURCH



CPR Classes at St. Paul's

Are you interested in learning CPR and how to use an AED? If we get enough interested people, we will schedule a course for early next year. The class would be approximately 2 hours long and cost \$65 per person. If you would like more information, please see Bill Skibesky or email him at wski312@yahoo.com.

Sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

Free Thanksgiving Meals

A collaboration between the Knights of Columbus and St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Delivery of a limited number of meals is first come first serve. Please call 860-482-3555 to get on the list. If a message is left include your name, phone number, address, and the number of meals needed. If you would like to eat in, please go to the Columbia Club, no reservations needed. Volunteers needed to deliver the meals on Thanksgiving morning, please email keekee97@optonline.net to volunteer Members of St. Paul's are asked to provide pies to be included with delivery. Details to follow.

Columbia Club- Knights of Columbus 152 Litchfield St. Torrington, CT For information, call 860-482-6462

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 837 Charles Street Torrington, CT For delivery call 860-482-3555



St. Paul's Quilters are sewing on 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.



Tai Chi Wednesday Mornings 11:00

Drop in whenever the mood strikes.

Free to all!



Women's Breakfast Wednesday November 20, 2024

George's Restaurant East Main St. Torrington Men's Breakfast Wednesday November 20, 2024

A/C Eatery
South Main St. Torrington

Winter Coat Drive



November Concert Maximum Dosage November 9, 2024 5:30 pm

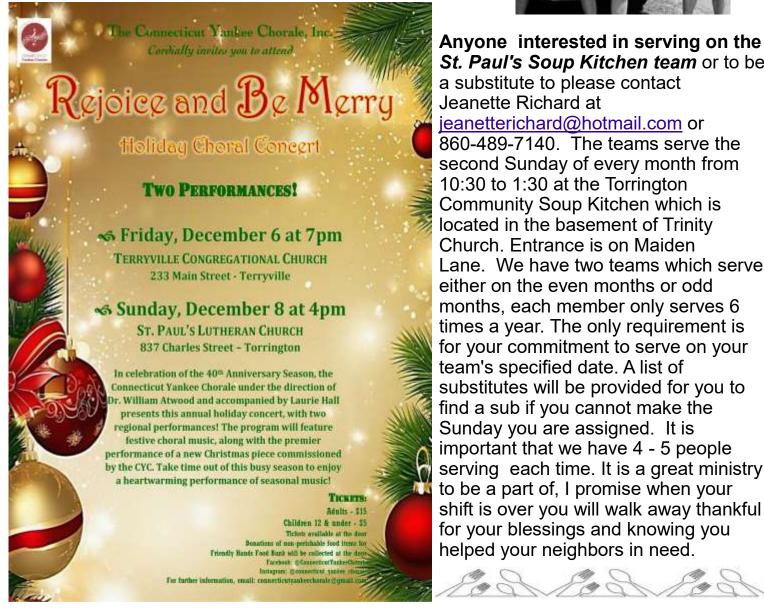


St. Paul's will again this year be collecting new or gently used winter coats in all sizes. Please clean coats only; no holes, stains or broken zippers. They can be dropped off in the bin outside of the church doors, to the office Monday-Friday 9-3 or on Sundays prior to services.

We will be collecting them until November 12th.

Thank you for your continued support!

PLEASE COATS ONLY!



St. Paul's Soup Kitchen team or to be a substitute to please contact Jeanette Richard at jeanetterichard@hotmail.com or 860-489-7140. The teams serve the second Sunday of every month from 10:30 to 1:30 at the Torrington Community Soup Kitchen which is located in the basement of Trinity Church. Entrance is on Maiden Lane. We have two teams which serve either on the even months or odd months, each member only serves 6 times a year. The only requirement is for your commitment to serve on your team's specified date. A list of substitutes will be provided for you to find a sub if you cannot make the Sunday you are assigned. It is important that we have 4 - 5 people serving each time. It is a great ministry to be a part of, I promise when your shift is over you will walk away thankful for your blessings and knowing you

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



31 Colton Street Farmington, CT 860-677-8519

On this Retreat Day, we will delve into the narrative about Martha and Mary from the Gospel of Luke. Mary and Martha, as we know, represent contemplation and action, a tension that resonates in each of our lives as we strive to find a balance. But what if the Christian ideal is not about choosing one over the other, but about integrating both? Together, we'll explore what Scripture scholars are saying about this story and whether there is some good news in it for active women like us, navigating the complexities of faith and daily life. We value your insights and invite you to join us at Our Lady of Calvary for Morning Prayer and a Retreat Conference, followed by an opportunity for Confession and Mass celebrated by Father Matthew Gworek of Saint Mary-Saint Patrick Parish Unionville and Farmington, CT. Our day will include lunch. Presenter: Sister Mary Ann Strain, C.P. entered the Sisters of the Cross and Passion in 1977 and was professed in 1979. She holds a Master of Arts in Religious Studies from Providence College. Sister Mary Ann has spent most of her religious life in retreat ministry; as Program Director here at OLC, on the Passionist Preaching band, preaching parish missions throughout the United States, and as a member of the retreat team at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center.

Please register for this retreat by calling (860) 677-8519. Cost \$50.00







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St. Paul's Lutheran Church November 5th 1-6 pm & 9th 8 am - 2 pm December 5th 1- 6 pm

Wisdom House Retreat Center 229 East Litchfield Road Litchfield CT 860-567-3163

For over 20 years, Wisdom House has proudly presented the "Wisdom Award" to members of the Northwest Connecticut community who have dedicated significant volunteer service to improving the lives of others and enhancing the environment. This award celebrates individuals who embody values of creativity, education, hospitality, justice, generosity, and outreach to the vulnerable—making the presence of Divine Wisdom felt among us. The Wisdom Award is a recognition of their profound impact and an affirmation of their role as beacons of inspiration and transformation in our community. This year, we are honored to present the Wisdom Award to Jeff Geddes and Maria Gonzales, whose tireless efforts have truly made

Sonzales, whose tireless efforts have truly made them a physical manifestation of the Divine in our midst.

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 6:00 PM- Cocktail Hour 6:45 PM- Dinner

Register by visiting wisdomhouse.org







November 1st
Anthony Boscarino
Dominic Boscarino

November 2nd
Jane Yurgalevicz

November 4th Vinni Carey

November 6th
Elijah Shapiro
Zac Boutot

November 9th
Richard Sawitzke
Sal Barbieri

November 10th Ava Newkirk

November 12th
Janice Capolupo
Kevin Brewster

November 14th Marilyn Killingbeck

November 15th Lenni Lee Nilsson

November 16th Heinz Roller Elizabeth Klebe

November 18th Bruce Magyar

November 20th Midge Rosenbeck

November 22nd
Arielle Newkirk

November 24th Kristine Murdick

November 25th Liz Falls

November 30th Lindsay Ferrucci

Charles & Beth Brower	11-03-2001
Mark & Linda Gryniuk	11-06-1992
Martin & Michelle Thompson	11-06-1995
Walter & Christine Dickinson	11-17-1989
Jacquelyn and Tom Wassik	11-19-1994

Save the dates!

- * Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Service in Torrington will be at Trinity Episcopal Church at 220 Prospect St.. Tuesday evening, November 26th 7:00 pm.
- * Christmas Eve Service @ St. Paul's 10:00 am
 & Candlelight service 4:30 pm
- * Super Bowl Grinder, Chili & Chef Salad Sale ordering begins in January, pick up is Saturday, February 8th



Vinnie Aparo Joe Kopler John Todor Egidio Recidivi Matthew White

Kids Page!





837 Charles Street Torrington, CT 06790

Staff Directory 860-482-3555

The Reverend Dr. G. Scott Cady, Pastor Rachel Harrel, Secretary Jean Schlapfer, 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 Sears, Teacher Monica Valente, Teacher Christina Brzoska, Teacher Nicole Waldron, Teacher Melanie Beebe, Teacher Linda Arigoni, Teacher

Teresa Guzman-Sanchez. Assistant Teacher

Tracy Sierdy, Assistant Teacher Stacey Fitzgerald ,Assistant Teacher Casaundra Abeling, Custodian

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