

SAINT PAUL'S EPISTLE



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
371 Wolcott Hill Road,
Wethersfield, CT 06109
www.stpaulswethersfield.org
(860) 529-5397

MINISTRY LEADERSHIP & STAFF SUPPORT

PASTOR

Rev. Hugh R. B. Haffenreffer
Office: (860) 529-5397
Cell Phone: (860) 966-7360
pastorh@stpaulswethersfield.org

OFFICE MANAGER

Janet Vasel
janet@stpaulswethersfield.org

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Rick Seip:
rseip@stpaulswethersfield.org

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Julie Perry
jperry@stpaulswethersfield.org

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Sue Sonstrom
suesonstrom@stpaulswethersfield.org

TREASURER

Roy Lewis
roy@roylewiscpa.com

FINANCIAL SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER

Mary Procyk
mprocyk@stpaulswethersfield.org

MINISTER OF MUSIC

Melissa Cheyney

SUPERINTENDENT OF SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

Alice Rupp

SUMMER AND THE DISCIPLINE OF REST

Summer officially began on Tuesday, June 21, at 17:16 UTC (Coordinated Universal Time—the standard time by which the world regulates clocks and time), or 12:16 PM around here. Thank God.

Summer is that time of the year when I get to catch my breath. We begin our summer worship schedule, allowing me to wake up on Sunday mornings an hour later and having the luxury of leading one, rather than two services. Church Council doesn't meet during July. Wednesday Bible study and other ministries "take a vacation" until September. In other words, during Summer, I have the opportunity to practice the discipline of rest.

Now, it may seem to some that the phrase "the discipline of rest" is a kind of oxymoron, a phrase that combines two contrary elements. "Discipline," we might argue, conjures up the idea of hard work; "rest," on the other hand, is its opposite. I would respectfully disagree.

There are times and seasons in life, and throughout the year, when we *need* to struggle with all our might to accomplish an important goal or a task. In the work of Christ, in "doing what matters" in Christ's name (to borrow from the theme of the recent Synod Assembly), we often have to roll up our sleeves and get to work. It is hard work insisting on justice in a world that easily gets bored. It is difficult and exhausting work loving those who are the most in need: the hungry, the homeless, the hopeless and lost. Being an advocate for those who are vulnerable and expendable takes time and effort. I recently spent several hours on the phone over a number of days trying to find housing for someone who is severely disabled, "living" out of a Motel 6, unable to pay her bills, and facing eviction and the street. It was exhausting and dispiriting to hear one town social worker after another tell me that, due to governmental cutbacks, "the funds have run out and there's nothing we can do to help." (We can spend hundreds of billions on corporate bailouts, but nothing on the vulnerable poor? Am I missing something?) It is at moments like this that we *must* find "rest"—rest in a reality that transcends all that we are capable of doing and whose ways are beyond anything we could imagine. In those moments I have to remind myself that, "I am not Jesus Christ. I only work for him."

Summer reminds us that true discipleship is not found only in hard work and struggle; it is found also in the discipline of rest—that is, in coming back home to our source, to find renewal, to gain a renewed perspective, to *relax* in God's grace. It is through the discipline of rest that we find the strength for the discipline of work. The two *must* go together or everyone, including those who need us the most, suffer.

So here's to a long restful summer. September will be here sooner than we think. But, not yet.

Oh, did I mention the "discipline of *play*?"

Pastor Hugh Haffenreffer

WORSHIP SCHEDULE: 9:00am

St. Paul's MEMBERS IN SERVICE for JULY & AUGUST 2011

ACOLYTES:

Linda Anderson, Coordinator, 659-4094

- July 3 - Kaitlin Anderson
- 10 - Jared Christensen
- 17 - Autumn DeBlois
- 24 - Celia Cheyney
- 31 - Cameron Cheyney
- August 7 - Celia Cheyney
- 14 - Autumn DeBlois
- 21 - Jared Christensen
- 28 - Cameron Cheyney

ALTAR GUILD:

Linda Anderson, Coordinator, 659-4094

- July 3 - Linda & Kaitlin Anderson
- 10 - Mary Procyk
- 17 - Winnie Sawrun
- 24 - Patty Bengtson
- 31 - Debbie Viola & Jeannette Serafine
- August 7 - Jennie Dotts & Sue Sonstrom
- 14 - Linda & Kaitlin Anderson
- 21 - Mary Procyk
- 28 - Winnie Sawrun

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

- July 3 - Mary Procyk 9:00
- 10 - Jim Newmark..... 9:00
- 17 - Bill Fischer 9:00
- 24 - Jerry Vaillancourt..... 9:00
- 31 - Art Bruce 9:00
- August 7 - Emily Lourigan..... 9:00
- 14 - Kathy Coyle 9:00
- 21 - Mike Coyle 9:00
- 28 - Patty Bengtson..... 9:00

USHERS:

Brian Beckwith, Coordinator, 8 AM, 563-4066

Louise Lostocco, Coordinator, 10:30AM*, 529-079

- July - Dave Bayek & Lillian Doerschler..... 9:00
- August 7 -
- 14 -
- 21 - Rick Seip..... 9:00
- 28 - Rick Seip..... 9:00

TAPING:

Jan Pergande, Coordinator, 644-2888

July & August Summer Break

FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS:

Winnie Sawrun, Coordinator, 529-7588

- July 3 - Mary Procyk & Lois Woy
- 10 - Debbie & George Howe
- 17 - Pat Granger & Alan Niederfringer
- 24 - Carol Hopkins & Pat Sirocco
- 31 - Winnie Sawrun & Lillian Doerschler
- August 7 - Patty & Russ Bengtson
- 14 - Amanda & Debbie Viola
- 21 - Margaret DeBlois & Pam Speno
- 28 - Kaitlin & Linda Anderson

FINANCE:

Mary Procyk, Coordinator, 257-4793

- July 3 - Betty Lamo
- 10 - Dick Agne
- 17 - Bob Bowman
- 24 - Debbie Viola
- 31 - Winnie Sawrun
- August 7 - George Howe
- 14 - Art Bruce
- 21 - Mike Coyle
- 28 - Mary Procyk

LECTORS:

Lillian Doerschler, Coordinator, 529-1939

- July 3 - Mary Procyk
- 10 - William Fischer, Jr.
- 17 - Kathy Coyle
- 24 - Jerry Vaillancourt
- 31 - Art Bruce
- August 7 - Emily Lourigan
- 14 - Kaitlin Anderson
- 21 - Mike Coyle
- 28 - Patty Bengtson

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

Sue Agne, Coordinator, 563-0776

- July 3 - Carole Hughes
- 10 - Dick Agne
- 17 - Mike Coyle
- 24 - Jim Newmark
- 31 - Walter Ruppap
- August 7 - Mary Procyk
- 14 - Patty Bengtson
- 21 - Helen Peterson
- 28 - Curt Leonard

KITCHEN UPDATE

As many will remember, a special congregational meeting was held on Sunday, May 22 where we unanimously approved a plan to upgrade our kitchen by purchasing a new commercial-grade electric stove, replace the exhaust hood above the stove, put in a fire-suppression unit, and add a stainless steel counter top to the butcher-block island. Last month we gave a big "Wow" to Brian Beckwith and "Big John" who installed the stainless steel counter top and the hanging pot rack above it. In July the new stove, hood and fire-suppression system will be purchased. And, if all goes according to plans, some time in August our upgrade will be completed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summertime, Summertime Sun, Sun, Summertime Reminder:

Preparation for this year's Harvest Fair is ongoing. The fair will be held: September 24th from 9:00am – 3:00pm. Please remember the harvest fair when you are using your God given talents this summer.

Abundant garden produce can be turned into delicious jams, jellies, relishes, and sauces that can be jarred for sale in our Country Store. Your extra herbs and fragrant flowers can be dried and turn into an array of beautiful items that our repeat customers have become a custom to. Please contact: Carol Farley or Debbie Viola if you have any of these items that you would like to donate to the fair.

If you are talented with creating crafts: wood, painting, sewing, knitting etc.....and are creating or would like to create items to be sold at our craft booth, please speak with Jackie Fischer.

During the month of August you will probably be receiving an invitation from Winnie Sawrun and/or Alice Ruppap to create a bakery item for our bake sale. If you are able too, please make an item(s) for the fair, as we sold out of baked goods during our last fair.

Monetary donations are always welcome prior to, during or after the fair. If you know of any congregant that is able to grow money in their gardens please let the chairpersons know, as we would like to speak with them personally. I believe it must be a tree of some sort as the root form is from paper.

Volunteers will also be needed to help-out during the fair. A list of opportunities will be forthcoming in the September Epistle.

All proceeds from this year's fair will go to support a project here a St. Paul's. If any congregant would like to submit a suggestion(s) for the use of these proceeds please speak with the fair chairpersons: Debbie Viola or Wm. Fischer. The fair committee will select the use of these funds at their next meeting scheduled for: Sunday July 17th after the 9:00 am church service.

Have a safe and bountiful summer!

From, The Harvest Fair Committee

What's Up With Those Signs? An Update.

Over the past month we have been actively exploring how to strike the right balance between signs that help our visitors feel welcome and signs that better fit with the style and decor of this church. By our next Council meeting (August 23) our "Signage Team," lead by Brian Beckwith and Walter Ruppap, should have a draft proposal for us to consider. The proposal will include costs, design options, suggested wording, and optimal locations.

Since our first priority is to make our visitors feel welcome, we will keep the existing signs in their present locations until they can be replaced. Let us consider this small aesthetic annoyance of little concern to us when compared with our greater call to hospitality. In sacrificing a little in order to make our visitors feel welcome we open the door ever wider to Christ.

Pledge Reminder:

Please remember to keep up your pledge during the summer.

JULY:

1 Joe Creevy
7 Elizabeth Todaro
10 Charles Dotts
10 Betty Lamo
10 Chris Homick
14 Doreen Matteson
16 Linda DiCioccio
16 Fred Vogt
22 Vicki Anderson
24 Kaitlin Anderson
28 Matthew Perry
30 Sue Beckwith

AUGUST:

2 Steve Gentino
4 Pam Vaillancourt
6 Ann French
7 Elaine Henderson
7 Kathy Smith
8 Franklyn Matteson II
9 Mary Susla
10 Joanna Piscitello
12 Jeanette Serafine
19 Sue Agne
20 Howard Cogswell
20 Sue Sonstrom
22 Allan Barr
26 Sallyann Wolf
30 Scott Correll
31 Betsy Remes

Happy Birthday!

MERCY HOUSE MEAL SERVING SCHEDULE FOR JULY & AUGUST

Saturday, July 9: Lunch at noon Saturday, July 23: Dinner at 5 PM
Saturday, July 30: Dinner at 5 PM Saturday, August 27, Dinner at 5 PM

If you would like to participate in any of these events, or wish more information about them, please contact Jim Newmark at 860-432-2060, or email him at kiwijbn@gmail.com



just joking...
Bumper Sticker:

**Prepare for your FINALS
Read the Bible**

CHURCH CHAPTERS

We are excited about our book club and invite you to join us! Listed below are dates and titles for our monthly meetings starting in September. Enjoy the books over the summer and come discuss them with us!

**September 7th | Art and Carol Bruce's home
381 Hartford Avenue, Wethersfield**

BREAKING NIGHT: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard by Liz Murray
When Liz' s mother died of AIDS, she decided to take control of her own destiny and go back to high school, often completing her assignments in the hallways and subway stations where she slept. Liz squeezed four years of high school into two, while homeless; won a New York Times scholarship; and made it into the Ivy League. Breaking Night is an unforgettable and beautifully written story of one young woman's indomitable spirit to survive and prevail, against all odds.

**October 12th | Dick and Sue Agne's home
74 Stockingmill Road, Wethersfield**

Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10 by Marcus Luttrell

Four US Navy SEALs departed one clear night in early July, 2005 for the mountainous Afghanistan-Pakistan border for a reconnaissance mission. Their task was to document the activity of an al Qaeda leader rumored to have a small army in a Taliban stronghold. Five days later, only one of those Navy SEALs made it out alive. This is the story of the only survivor of Operation Redwing, fire team leader Marcus Luttrell, and the extraordinary firefight that led to the largest loss of life in American Navy SEAL history.

**November 9th | Tim and Nancy Malinguaggio's Home
14 Butternut Circle, Wethersfield**

Stones from the River by Ursula Hegi

This book is a daring, dramatic and complex novel of life in Germany. It is set in Burgdorf, a small fictional German town, between 1915 and 1951. Trudi Montag, the town librarian, feels dissociated from society because she is a dwarf. In her role as librarian, Trudi meticulously archives secrets, stories, and history, all of which become her source of power when the townspeople allow Jews to be mistreated during World War II.

January 11th

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson

You are about to travel to Edgecombe St. Mary, a small village in the English countryside filled with rolling hills, thatched cottages, and a cast of characters both hilariously original and as familiar as the members of your own family. Among them is Major Ernest Pettigrew (retired), the unlikely hero of Helen Simonson's wondrous debut. Wry, courtly, opinionated, and completely endearing, Major Pettigrew is one of the most indelible characters in contemporary fiction, and from the very first page of this remarkable novel he will steal your heart.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

FUTURE DATES (*Titles To Be Decided!*)

February 8th, March 14th, April 11th, May 9th

Any questions, thoughts, suggestions, please call or email Sue Agne (susana23@sbcglobal.net 860-563-0776)

WANTED:

TASTE AND SEE COOKBOOK.

If you happen to have an extra copy and are willing to part with it. Please contact Ellie Bengtson.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS OF PEOPLE IN THE PEWS

Congratulations to Kimberlee Ruppap who graduated from The University of New Haven.

The graduation was on May 15th 2011 and Kimberly received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice Investigative Services. She also needs to be commended for being on the Dean's List several times during her studies.

Well done, Kimberlee. Your family is so proud of your dedication and hard work. We at St. Paul's also extend our best wishes for a wonderful and exciting career.

Pray For Peace
Emily



St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, born over 67 years ago right here in Wethersfield at 371 Wolcott Hill Rd., would like to introduce ourselves. Our family is rich with local history and community. We've begun a project to interview and record conversations with our members and we'd like to share these with you. Please consider this your formal invitation to enjoy the first of many interviews as told to Woody Anderson, St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Ellie B.

It's a warm, busy house on a hill in a wooded area off the Berlin Turnpike in Newington. It's dark red as is the wooden garage near it giving the area a farm feel.

Rooms which should be called living, dining, and guest don't have those names because that's not what they're used for. Eleanor Bengtson's stuff has long since taken over the 52-year-old house. Much of it is quilting material for her craft projects for St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Wethersfield where she has been a member since 1950.

If 78-year-old Ellie B., as she is known, isn't busy she said she gets cranky. Depressed.

"I'm different," she says. Husband Charlie lovingly calls her a "bulldog."

Ellie B. gets her space. The "gnome room" has over 150 of the figurines on shelves and in cabinets Ellie B. has collected for over 40 years. "It's a Swedish thing," she says. Somewhere in there is a TV.

"A place for things," is what would normally be the living room. But what would Ellie B. use to organize and spread out her quilts? She has made over 100. One was raffled-off for nearly \$1,000 at a St. Paul's function.

Ellie B. gets her energy, direction and spiritual comfort from St. Paul's. She was married to Charlie at 18 (their 60th anniversary is in July) and they have five children, 16 grand children and 12 great grand children.

"I was shy, so unsure of myself, a sheep who had to be led," she says. "Friends called me names." After joining the church as a teenager, pulled in by her aunt and uncle who were members, she said, "I learned values I never would have learned anywhere else."

Outside of St. Paul's she studied writing and personality determination and discovered she can never please herself because she's never perfect. Sometimes she gets into several projects at once and "drowns." Like the quilt she began in 1978. All it needs is binding.

Also in the works are two other quilts that will hang next to each other at St. Paul's. She started those in 1983. When not busy she has a feeling of worthlessness, "because I'm not doing anything of value for someone." Not busy? She's worked with dozens of committees, charities, projects, some that go beyond St. Paul's. For 25 years she and Charlie have been bringing eggs every month to the Youth Challenge in Hartford. Thirty dozen per month for twenty five years. That's over 100,000 eggs.

When Katrina hit she formed a St. Paul's group that made over 100 fleece blankets for babies. And then there's making manna meals, helping refugee families settle in the area, fairs, teaching Sunday school, prayer chain....

And she has a healing touch. When her grandson died tragically in 1994, Ellie B. wrote, "Hold on", 50 lines of verse dedicated to anyone having a bad time:

"Let your hearts learn to dance in darkness...have patience my beloved people. In the morning the sun will return."

Wethersfield Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service: Survey Results

The results of our Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service survey are in: St. Paul's will host an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service to take place on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, November 22, at 7PM. Of the 51 responses we received, nearly 3/4 said they not only liked the idea, but either "definitely" or "probably" would attend! So stay tuned for more details to come. In the meantime, MARK YOUR CALENDARS, and say "thank you" to Emily Lourigan who single-handedly proposed this idea, brought it to Council and to Worship and Music, canvassed the other congregations throughout Wethersfield, developed our survey, and tallied the results! Thank you, Emily! We are continually blessed by your vision, as well as your patient yet persistent leadership!

CONFIRMATION 2011-13

Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday, September 21 at 6 PM and continue on Wednesday evenings from September through May (with vacation breaks) for the next 2 years. Team teaching this year will be Melissa Cheyney. (Thanks, Missy!)

Please keep our young Confirmands in your prayers. If anyone would like more information about our program, feel free to contact Pastor Hugh.

Pesto Sauce ~ by Betty Lamo



2 cups of fresh basil leaves
½ cup of olive oil
2 TBS of chopped walnuts or pine nuts
2 cloves of garlic, lightly crushed
1 TSP of salt
½ cup of grated parmesan cheese
3 TBS of softened butter

-With blender on high basil, olive oil, nuts, garlic salt in blender
-Pour into sauce pan and beat in grated cheese
-Add butter
-Before serving over pasta add 1-2 TSP of water

JULY 2011 | EVENT CALENDAR

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
Notes: Pastor Hugh will be on vacation from July 14 through 28. Pastor Richard Burgess will be on call for pastoral emergencies (860-462-6545) and preach on July 17 and 24. Charlie & Ellie Bengtson and Brian & Sue Beckwith to renew their wedding vows on July 10. Missy Cheyney on vacation July 3, 10, 17 and 24. Sonja LaBarbera will be our guest organizer.						
3 Holy Comm. 9 AM	4 Independence Day	5 OA 7:30 PM	6 AA 7 PM	7 Thur. Grp 10 AM Welcome Packet Planning Team 6:30 PM	8 AA 10 AM	9 Mercy House 12:00 PM AA 7:30 PM
10 Holy Comm. 9 AM Renewal of Wedding Vows Bengtson Event 1 PM	11 OA 7:30 PM	12 OA 7:30 PM	13 AA 7 PM	14 Thursday Grp 10 AM	15 AA 10 AM	16 AA 7:30 PM
17 Holy Comm. 9 AM Harvest Fair Meeting after service	18 OA 7:30 PM	19 OA 7:30 PM	20 AA 7 PM	21 Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM Thursday Grp 10 AM	22 AA 10 AM	23 Mercy House 5:00 PM AA 7:30 PM
24 Holy Comm. 9 AM	25 OA 7:30 PM	26 OA 7:30 PM	27 AA 7 PM	28 Thursday Grp 10 AM	29 AA 10 AM	30 Mercy House 5:00 PM AA 7:30 PM
31 Holy Comm. 9 AM Confirmation Meeting with Parents 10:30 AM						

AUGUST 2011 | EVENT CALENDAR

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		OA 7:30 PM	AA 7 PM	Thur. Grp 10 AM	AA 10 AM	AA 7:30 PM
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Holy Comm. 9 AM		OA 7:30 PM	AA 7 PM	Thur. Grp 10 AM	AA 10 AM	AA 7:30 PM
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Worship & Music Meeting 7 PM OA 7:30 PM	AA 7 PM	Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM Thursday Grp 10 AM	AA 10 AM	AA 7:30 PM
Holy Comm. 9 AM	Epistle Deadline					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Parish Admin 6:30 PM Council 7:30 PM OA 7:30 PM	AA 7 PM	Thursday Grp 10 AM	AA 10 AM	Mercy House 5:00 PM AA 7:30 PM
Holy Comm. 9 AM						
28	29	30	31			
Holy Comm. 9 AM		OA 7:30 PM	AA 7 PM			

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July & August 2011

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