

# 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

Karen Landry  
karen@stpaulswethersfield.org

### COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Debbie Viola  
debviola@stpaulswethersfield.org

### COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Russ Bengtson  
rbengt@sbcglobal.net

### COUNCIL SECRETARY

Debbie Howe

### TREASURER

Roy Lewis  
roy@roylewiscpa.com

### FINANCIAL SECRETARY/ BOOKKEEPER

Mary Procyk  
mprocyk@stpaulswethersfield.org

### MINISTER OF MUSIC

Melissa Cheyney

### SUPERINTENDENT OF SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

Cathy Evans

## KNOCK, KNOCK . . .

One of my favorite “knock, knock” jokes was told to me by my, then, 8 year-old twin nieces, Josephine and Katalene. “Knock, knock,” they would start. (They are *identical* twins, so this was in perfect stereo.) “Who’s there?” I would respond. “Interrupting cow,” they would giggle. “Interrupting cow . . .” “Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo!” they both would shout before I could ask, “who.” Then we would all dissolve into laughter.

A “knock, knock” joke, like any *good* joke, works if we are caught off guard by them. Like the “moo, moo, moo” of the “interrupting cow,” if the joke works, it’s because it presents a surprising twist, it makes an unexpected connection between things that don’t seem to go together. Our world-view is momentarily “interrupted”. Interruptions of, or challenges to the familiar can be delightfully humorous or personally devastating, depending upon the context. Unexpected news can lift our spirits—even make us laugh—when it’s good. It can shatter our lives, dropping us to our knees, when it is bad.

Our Stewardship Theme is about opening our doors to Jesus. Each week we have explored a new ministry “door” upon which *Jesus* is knocking, asking to be let in. But this is no joking matter. In Revelation 3:20, Jesus told the church at Laodicea, “Listen, I am standing at the door, knocking.” He went on to say, “If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.” This seems wonderful. It is important to note, however, that this invitation immediately follows Jesus’ sharp condemnation of the Laodiceans. You see, as a city, Laodicea had *everything*. Situated on an important trade route, it was materially self-sufficient (except that it didn’t have a very reliable water supply). This self-sufficiency led to an attitude of complacency. They had become lured into the delusional notion that their material prosperity made them secure and in need of nothing. But they were very wrong. Their false sense of security created a kind of spiritual smugness. In the eyes of God, they were actually “wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.” To Jesus, they were neither hot nor cold, but lukewarm. Like something distasteful in the mouth, he was about to spit them out.

*continued on page 3*

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sundays at 8 and 10:30 AM; Thursdays at 7 PM

# NEWS & NOTES

## POTLUCK FUNDRAISER REPORT

### A What a Wonderful Evening it Was...



On October 18th, members of St. Paul's gathered for a pot luck dinner to support Bob and Debbie Houseman in Bob's fight against ALS.

We dined on wonderful food and we were entertained by Pastor as he shared his talented voice. **WE RAISED OVER \$1,200 THROUGH A GOOD WILL OFFERING AND SELLING RAFFLE TICKETS FOR WONDERFUL PRIZES THAT WERE DONATED BY CHURCH MEMBERS AND LOCAL BUSINESSES.** Thanks go to the following Wethersfield and Rocky Hill establishments: Aroma Bistro, Card Hall, Carmela's Pasta Shop, City Fish, Gugliotti Salon and Spa, Heart of the Country, Max Bibo, Platinum Hair Salon, Vito's Pizzeria, Village Pizza, and Kim's Flower Shop. Items donated by church members included molasses cookies, banana bread, a fall foliage plane ride down the Hudson River, an electric fly swatter, a Company 31 large tote carrier and these themed baskets: Tools Basket, Thanksgiving Treat, Pasta Supper, Movie Basket, Spa Basket and a Fall Breakfast Basket.

The event was sponsored by Grateful Faithful, a new ministry here at St. Paul's. Our mission is to help meet the needs of our church family in a variety of ways. We have shared surveys asking what we can do to help as well as ways our members can offer their talents to meet any needs that develop.

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month. **OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON NOVEMBER 18TH AT THE CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL BEGINNING AT 7:00.** We spend part of our monthly meeting as a Bible study to guide us as we do God's work. Please call one of our members for more information or let us know of a way we can help: George and Debbie Howe, Carol Farley, Mike and Kathy Coyle, Margaret DeBlois, and Dick and Sue Agne.

## *Friendly's* FUNraiser Report

THANK YOU to everyone who dined at Friendly's Restaurant on Thursday, October 9th.

**We raised \$160.00 for our Children Ministries!**

*Pastor's message, continued from page 1*

When this letter arrived in the church at Laodicea, it must have shattered their world-view. Quite the opposite of a joke, there was no good news here; no reason to laugh.

But . . . there was laughter (the joyful kind), yet to come. The message continued with a promise. By returning to God, they could find true wealth to overcome their spiritual poverty; God's righteousness with which to clothe their nakedness; and healing for their spiritual blindness. Jesus was telling them, "Listen! I am at the door, knocking!" It's not too late to let me in and live.

And it's not too late for any one of us. Jesus is knocking at the door of our hearts, *begging* to be let in. It takes both an act of faith *and of humility* to unlock the door from our side. (He will never force our doors open from *his* side, by the way.) We must trust that his promise is true, that when we open the door to Jesus he will bring with him a rich and satisfying feast.

We must also understand that when he enters, he does so *on his own terms*—never on our own. We may have ideas galore about what our lives (and our church community) ought to look like. We may be very invested in these notions and prone to disappointment if they are not fulfilled. But all that changes when the door is open to Jesus. He will call us to follow him in unexpected ways

and to unanticipated destinations. The journey, however, will be exhilarating.

"Knock, knock." It's Jesus calling. Will you open the door?

— Pastor Hugh



## HATS & SCARVES FOR SEAFARERS

The Thursday Morning Group has been working on knitting hats and scarves (*pictured above*) for the Seafarers Mission program called "Christmas at Sea."

Along with the knitted items, we collected books, magazines and candy which will be delivered to Ruth Setaro in New Haven in early November.

Thanks to all who helped with this program.



## ANGEL TREE 2014

The Salvation Army's Angel Tree program provides new clothing and/or toys for children of needy families. Each Angel Tree is decorated with numbered paper angel tags with the first name, age, and gender of a child who is in need of a gift. Contributors remove one or more tags from the tree and purchase appropriate gifts for the child or children described on the tags. The suggested value of each gift is between \$15 and \$35.

Our Angel Tree will be put up on Saturday, November 29 in time for Sunday, November 30. We are asking that all gifts be returned (unwrapped and with tag attached), by Friday, December 12.

Through this important program you have the opportunity to ensure that a less fortunate child receives a gift for Christmas. We have always had a great response in the past. We pray for an even better response this year!

For more information, talk to Bernice Noeker.

*etcetera...*

# HOLIDAY FAIR

**Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
9 A.M. — 2 P.M.**

**25% of all proceeds will benefit:  
Lions Low Vision Center of Connecticut**

A representative from the center will be on-site to answer questions, demonstrate visual aids, and guide individuals faced with low vision to useful/free resources.

**Remaining proceeds:**

Will benefit furthering ministries here at St. Paul's.

Supplementary funds provided by **Thrivent Financial**®

**Please consider supporting this year's fair by sharing your:**

**Time:**

- Volunteers are needed to help set up, decorate, and reshape the Fellowship Hall / PE building into a shopper's paradise: **on Thursday 11/20 and Friday 11/21**
- Help the day of the fair: Work a booth, Parking, Greeters, Cashiers, Shoppers, etc.

**Talents:**

- Bakers are needed to create homemade goodies for the bake sale

**Treasures:**

- Donate items to Grandma's Attic:  
Gently used treasures / Clothing / Jewelry  
(These items are basically what you would find at a tag, yard, or garage sale)

*Please: No furniture or tools*

**DEAR MEMBERS OF SAINT PAUL'S,**

Thank you for your prayers and for the multitude of cards and well-wishes sent to me through the past month. We deeply appreciated knowing you had both of us in your thoughts and prayers.  
*Art and Carol Bruce*



## ST. PAUL'S GIVING TREE

### Focus for November



Our "Giving Tree" focus for the month of November is, once again, Utilities. This is an ongoing need. Our church building operates because we pay our utility bills, and when the building is up and running,

so many things are possible. Our lights are on for worship and for all the activities that take place under our roof. Now that the colder weather is again arriving, we need to be able to keep the building heated and warm. Please consider making a donation towards these items.

"Giving Tree" envelopes have been placed in the pews in church to make it easier to place in the offering plate during Sunday Worship.

As always, the "Giving Tree" remains in the Fellowship Hall with many leaves to choose that include other areas of our Ministry that will be a focus in the upcoming months. Any amount will be greatly appreciated! THANK YOU!!

If you have any questions, please give Sue Agne a call (860-563-0776).

## CHURCH



## CHAPTERS

The next meeting of St. Paul's Book Club will be held on Tuesday, November 11th at 6:30 at the home of Winnie Sawrun. Our book for this month is *The Lady and the Unicorn* by Tracey Chavlier. This story takes place in 1940 and explores the mystery behind a set of six medieval tapestries that hang in the Cluny Museum in Paris. According to Amazon's website, this talented author (she also wrote *The Girl with the Pearl Earring*) weaves fact and fiction into this beautiful, timeless and intriguing literary tapestry—creating a timeless and beautifully told story.

### Upcoming titles include:

December/January:

*My Beloved World*

by Sonia Sotomayor

(at the home of Carol Bruce)

We hope you will join us! If you have any questions, please call Sue Agne (860-563-0776).

## FIDDLER ON THE ROOF DINNER AND SHOW



The Hartford Chapter of Thrivent Financial is sponsoring a Dinner/Show of *Fiddler on the Roof* at the Broad Brook Opera House (107 Main St, Broad Brook, CT) on Sunday, November 16 at 2 pm. Tickets are \$20 and include a dinner buffet after the performance at the Main Street Grill, across from the theater.

Tickets are first come, first served and are limited in number. If you are interested, please contact Tracey Carlson at [tcarlson@snet.net](mailto:tcarlson@snet.net) or 860-620-4166, ASAP.

Payment may be made by check to the Hartford Chapter of Thrivent #31002 and mailed c/o Tracy A. Carlson, 187 Morningside Dr., Bristol, CT 06010-4547.

# St. Paul's MEMBERS IN SERVICE for NOVEMBER 2014

## ACOLYTES:

---

Nov 2 - Cameron Cheyney  
9 - Celia Cheyney  
16 - Meghan Creevy  
23 - Breen Bernard  
30 - Bryce Gentino

## ALTAR GUILD:

---

### **Debbie Howe, Coordinator, 860-529-8583**

Nov 2 - Tracy Newmark & Patty Bengtson  
9 - Jennie Dotts & Deb Howe  
16 - Winne Sawrun & Ann French  
23 - Deb Howe & Donna Camillo  
30 - Tracy Newmark & Mary Procyk

## ASSISTING MINISTERS:

---

Nov 2 - Debbie Viola . . . . .8:00 AM  
William Fischer, Jr. . . . .10:30 AM  
9 - Art Bruce . . . . .8:00 AM  
Jerry Vaillancourt . . . . .10:30 AM  
16 - Patty Bengston . . . . .8:00 AM  
Jerry Vaillancourt . . . . .10:30 AM  
23 - Jim Newmark . . . . .8:00 AM  
Mary Procyk . . . . .10:30 AM  
30 - Debbie Viola . . . . .8:00 AM  
Kathy Coyle . . . . .10:30 AM

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

---

### **Sue Agne, Coordinator, 860-563-0776**

Nov 2 - Walter Ruppap  
9 - Curt Leonard  
16 - Carol Hughes  
23 - Sue Agne  
30 - Mike Coyle

## TAPING:

---

### **Jan Pergande, Coordinator, 860-644-2888**

Nov - Jan Pergande

## FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS:

---

### **Winnie Sawrun, Coordinator, 860-529-7588**

Nov 2 - Patty & Russ Bengtson  
9 - *Needed*  
16 - Mike & Kathy Coyle  
23 - Winnie Sawrun  
30 - Mary Procyk

## FINANCE:

---

### **Mary Procyk, Coordinator, 860-257-4793**

Nov 2 - Mike Coyle  
9 - Kathy Di Martino  
16 - Helen Peterson  
23 - Lillian Doerschler  
30 - Dick Agne

## LECTORS:

---

### **Lillian Doerschler, Coordinator, 860-529-1939**

Nov 2 - Winnie Sawrun  
9 - Lillian Doerschler  
16 - Carol Bruce  
23 - Mary Procyk  
30 - Patty Bengtson

## USHERS:

---


### **Brian Beckwith, Coordinator, 8:00 AM, 860-563-4066**

Nov - Suzanne McDonald

### **Louise Lostocco, Coordinator, 10:30 AM, 860-529-3079**

Nov 2 - Mark Olson & Dick Kratzer  
9 - Mark Olson & Mary Ann Mead  
16 - Art Bruce & Bill Fischer Sr.  
23 - Art Bruce & Russ Bengtson  
30 - Russ Bengtson & Dave Bayek

# NOVEMBER 2014 | EVENT CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<b>HIGHLIGHTS FOR NOVEMBER:</b> Daylight Saving Time Ends: Nov. 2 Stewardship Sunday: Nov. 16 Holiday Fair: Saturday, November 22, 9 AM to 2 PM						
<b>2 All Saints' Sunday</b> <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> <i>"Fall Back 1 Hour"</i> <i>Family Sunday</i> Holy Comm. 8 AM Holy Comm. 10:30 AM Outreach Mtg. 12 PM	<b>3</b>	<b>4 Election Day</b> Worship & Music 7 PM	<b>5</b> AA 10 AM AA 7 PM Choir 7:30 PM	<b>6</b> Recovery Bible Study 10 AM Thursday Group 10 AM Thurs. Night Worship 7 PM	<b>7</b> AA 10:00 AM	<b>8</b> AA 7:30 PM
<b>9 Pentecost 22</b> Holy Comm. 8 AM Holy Comm. 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM	<b>10</b>	<b>11 Veterans' Day</b> Ch. Chapters 6:30 PM	<b>12</b> AA 10 AM AA 7 PM Choir 7:30 PM	<b>13</b> Recovery Bible Study 10 AM Thursday Group 10 AM Thurs. Night Worship 7 PM	<b>14</b> AA 10:00 AM	<b>15</b> AA 7:30 PM
<b>16 Pentecost 23</b> <i>Stewardship Sunday</i> Holy Comm. 8 AM Holy Comm. 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Grateful Faithful 7 PM	<b>19</b> AA 10 AM AA 7 PM Choir 7:30 PM	<b>20</b> Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM Recovery Bible Study 10 AM Thursday Group 10 AM Thurs. Night Worship 7 PM	<b>21</b> AA 10:00 AM	<b>22</b> <b>Holiday Fair</b> 9 AM to 2 PM AA 7:30 PM
<b>23 Christ the King</b> Holy Comm. 8 AM Holy Comm. 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Parish Admin. 6:30 PM Ch. Council 7:30 PM	<b>26</b> AA 10 AM AA 7 PM Choir 7:30 PM	<b>27 Thanksgiving Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>28</b> AA 10:00 AM	<b>29</b> AA 7:30 PM
<b>30 Advent 1</b> Holy Comm. 8 AM Holy Comm. 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Advent Wreath Making after Fellowship Hour	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>ADVENT WREATH MAKING</b>            Join us after fellowship on Sunday, November 30th to make your own Advent wreath to enjoy throughout the season! Supplies will be available for each family to make a wreath. Pizza and beverages will be served. Sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall.            Contact Cathy Evans with any questions.</p> </div>					

# SAINT PAUL'S EPISTLE

**Saint Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church**  
371 Wolcott Hill Road  
Wethersfield, CT 06109  
www.stpaulswethersfield.org

## November 2014

Volume 72, Number 10



### What's inside:

<b>Pastor's Message:</b>	pg. 1
Knock, knock . . .	
<b>News &amp; Notes</b>	pgs. 2-3
Fundraiser reports,	
Angel Tree,	
Seafarers' hats and scarves	
<b>etcetera...</b>	pgs. 4-5
Holiday Fair,	
Giving Tree,	
Church Chapters,	
<i>Fiddler on the Roof</i> dinner and show	
<b>Members in Service</b>	pg. 6
<b>November Calendar</b>	pg. 7
Advent Wreath Making	