

ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

OCTOBER 2023

ISSUE 10

VOLUME 10

*For everything there is
a season, and a time
for every matter
under heaven.*

Ecclesiastes 3.1



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR CUMMINGS

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

Welcome to Fall! The temperature has started to get cooler, and the leaves have begun to change their color. Everywhere I look, I can see evidence of God's good creation in the world. I am excited for the things that are coming up in the life of our congregation this month.

Last year, we had our first **St. Francis Pet Blessing Service** and I'm hoping you will join me once again on the front lawn for this new annual event. We will gather with our animals (please feel free to bring a picture or a stuffed animal if your pet cannot make it) at **4pm on October 14**. If you would like to participate during the service by reading one of our scriptures, please let me know. This is a chance for us to give thanks to God for trusting us to care for the animals that we have come to love as part of our lives.

Don't forget to wear **RED** on **Reformation Sunday, October 29**. We will remember Martin Luther who nailed the 95 Theses to the Wittenberg Church door and began the Protestant Reformation. Worship and Music has some new and exciting things planned for that day. If you would like to join us for a special song or skit, please let me know. We will begin practicing for those who are interested soon.

I'm giving thanks for the ways that St. Paul's continues to share the love of God with others. Keep being the people that God created you to be. Keep answering God's call and sharing the story of your faith!

Peace and Blessings,

The Rev. Elizabeth A Cummings

ST. PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT:

We of St. Paul's Lutheran Church believe in God's grace given to us freely. We are called to faithfully follow God's Word, sharing in the good news of this grace. We are to be God's hands helping those in need—those we know, and those we do not know.

When we say, "Here I am Lord," we express our desire to become disciples of Christ, accepting the mission to do what is asked of us. Our prayer on this journey is to walk with faith, to love one another, to share God's love and to be the hands of God.

OCTOBER GOSPEL READINGS

October 1st: Matthew 21:23-32

October 8th: Matthew 21:33-46

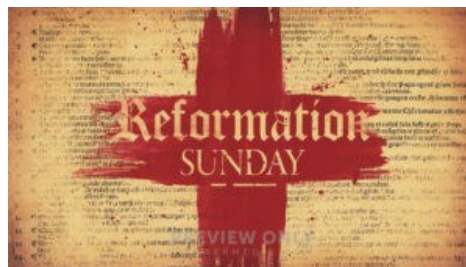
October 15th: Matthew 22:1-14

October 22nd: Matthew 22:15-22

October 29th: Matthew 22:34-46



**WEAR RED FOR
REFORMATION DAY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH**



FULLY WRITTEN ARTICLES FOR THE NOVEMBER EPISTLE are due by **October 22nd**.

Please send your article to me exactly the way you would like it to appear to Lorraine at:
office@stpaulswethersfield.org

Thank you!

New Organ Coming to St. Paul's!



The new sanctuary organ will be on its way soon! At a special congregational meeting held on September 10th, the congregation voted overwhelmingly in favor of using funds from Lois Woy's generous bequest for a \$15,000 downpayment on the new organ. We are so very grateful for this outcome.

This organ, which will be called the Lois Woy Memorial Organ, will be built and installed by Arnold Organs of Barnum, MN. It will use the latest Hauptwerk Technology, which takes digital samples from great pipe organs from around the world. According to the organ builder, the organ should be installed in early 2024!

The members of the organ committee wanted our congregation to have the opportunity to be a part of the purchase of our new instrument. Therefore, we are asking our members to prayerfully consider making a pledge to pay a portion of the remaining balance of \$15,000. Any amount is welcome, and payments in either a lump-sum or installment may be selected. You should have received a letter with a pledge form for the new organ. Simply complete the form at the bottom of the letter, and mail it with a check to St. Paul's, or return it to church and place in the offering plate during a Sunday service. Please write "Organ Fund" on the memo line of your check, so that the check may be properly allocated. We ask that the pledge forms be received by October 29, 2023 and that the donations be received by March 17, 2024. Any donations received after the installation of our new organ will be allocated back to the Lois Woy fund.

We are very appreciative that the congregation also approved drawing from the Lois Woy fund to make up any shortfall in pledges, after the congregation has had the opportunity to donate. We are also thankful that \$3,000 in memorial funds from Louise Lostocco has been made available for the organ purchase.

Our music program is taking a giant step forward, and we so very blessed!

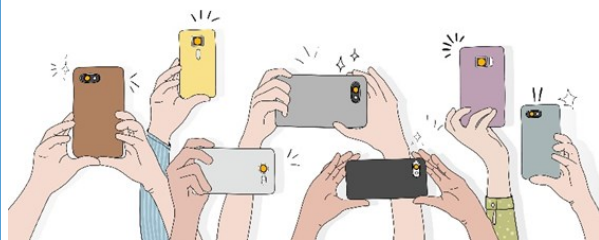
In His Name,

*Melissa Cheyney
Music Minister*

A Halloween Craft Table will be out in Fellowship Hall on Sundays in October. Here is a sample of what will be for sale. The money will go towards donations for the Holiday Fair.



CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS: YES, YOU WITH THAT SMARTPHONE!



The Communications Committee has been working on creating an archive of photos of St. Paul's events taken in the recent past and that project has gone very well!

We are now asking for your help as we move forward to collect pictures that we can start to use as we redevelop our St. Paul's Website as well as to keep an up-to-date archive of church photos. It is impossible for a member of our committee to always be in the right place at the right time, so we are asking all of you to take a pic (or several pics!) on your phone or camera of the events and everyday happenings at our church. Even noticing something as you drive by (i.e., a rainbow shining over the church, or an eagle perched on the roof!) would be a great shot!

Please forward your photos to Sue Agne via email or text so I can organize them for the archive or perhaps use them on the website. We will not be able to post all pictures on the website but know that they will all have an important place in the pictorial history of our church. Please call me if you have any questions!
Thank you!

Sue (susanagne@yahoo.com or 860-573-3181)

**WHAT FUN IT WILL BE TO SHARE PHOTOS OF OUR HANDS DOING GOD'S WORK IN
GOD'S WONDERFUL WORLD!**





St. Paul's partnered with Our Savior's in Newington on Sept.10 and created about 150 Blessing Bags to go homeless folks in the area. Patty and

I delivered them to Mercy House/My Sister's Place, Open Hearth and a mobile unit from CTHRA (Ct Harm Reduction Alliance), an agency that serves marginalized citizens involved in homelessness, drug abuse and sex work. All were very appreciative of the job we did in collecting needed items. Good job to all involved.

Thanks, Russ

Holiday Fair "Kids Outreach " Booth



There will be a bin for "Kids Outreach" donations by the coat rack area.

The following items are needed:

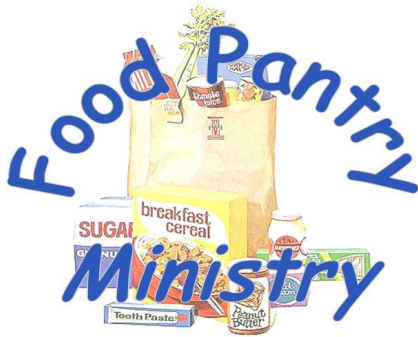
**Stuffed Animals
Children's Books
Silly Putty**

**Play Dough
Coloring/Activity Books
Washable Markers**

Thank you for your help!

Ellie Bengtson

OCTOBER 2023



For the month of October, the pantry would appreciate donations of:

Cereal, Coffee, Canned goods and gift card donations of \$10 or \$20 for Turkeys for our Food Pantry clients!

*Thank
you*



Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church & Pastor Elizabeth,

I am Muhammad Saleh from Hartford International University. I am doing my Ph.D program and enjoying my class.

I would like to say "Thank you" so much for all your help. This is so helpful for me to continue my program.

May God always bless you all for spreading the kindness - I really do appreciate it and I feel so blessed.

Again, thank you so much!

Warm Regards,

Muhammad Saleh
Ph.D Student of HIU

OCTOBER 2023

St. Paul's Holiday Fair!
November 18, 2023!



Our Annual Holiday Fair returns on November 18th, the Saturday before Thanksgiving.

We will have all of the usual booths **EXCEPT FOR THE TAG SALE!**

If every church member or family could do **ONE THING TO HELP**, the Fair will be the most successful to date.

Stay tuned for more details!

An excerpt from The 2015 Summer Epistle written by Wm. Fischer Jr. about our Holiday Fair:

"Previous Fairs have been filled with spirit, fellowship and friendship between congregants, fellow Christians, and those in our community, while raising awareness and support for charities and furthering ministries here at St. Paul's. Please keep the date open and consider being a part of this year's fair. "

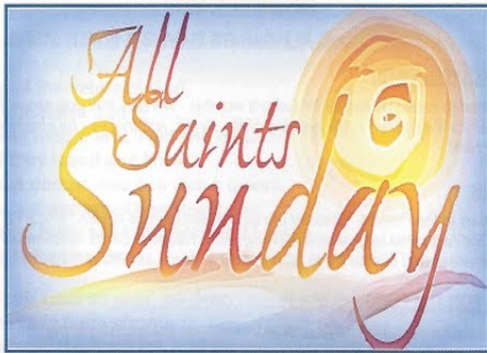
Bill's words still ring true today. He and Debbie Viola co-chaired our fair committee for several years. We are grateful for their time and dedication. Thanks for all these years and workers, since 1978 when our first outreach fair began.

Gratefully,
Ellie Bengtson

OCTOBER 2023 - Upcoming Events!!



St. Francis Blessing of the Animals Service on the front lawn on **Saturday, October 14th** at 4pm.



November 5th is All Saints Sunday, a Service in remembrance of loved ones who have passed away. Again, this year we will be ordering white long-stemmed roses for those that wish to purchase them. Last year, The Flower Box provided beautifully wrapped long-stemmed white roses with a sprig of baby's breath. Each rose was set in a water vial to enjoy for several days. **The cost of each rose is \$6.00 and the deadline for ordering is Sunday October 29th. Forms will be available for you to fill out with your name and the person's name the**

rose is in memory of. If you have any questions, you can contact Deb Howe by e-mail; Deborah.howe@snet.net; or my home phone 860-529-8583.

2023 All Saint's Day Memorial - White Rose Order Form

Please print name(s) exactly as you want it (them) to appear:

Given in memory of _____

By _____

White Rose price with a sprig of Baby's Breath set in a water vial.

\$6.00

Quantity _____

Total Amt. _____



Orders and payment need to be in the church office by **Sunday, October 29th**. Any questions, contact Deb Howe via email at: Deborah.howe@snet.net or by phone at 860-529-8583.

OCTOBER 2023

AS SEEN RECENTLY AROUND ST. PAUL'S



Our fall picnic
was held on
September
16th.
Good fun,
food and
fellowship!



OCTOBER 2023

AS SEEN RECENTLY AROUND ST. PAUL'S



A few more pics
from the picnic!



OCTOBER 2023

AS SEEN RECENTLY AROUND ST. PAUL'S

A few more pics
from the picnic!



OCTOBER 2023

**RICK AND BETSY SEIP
AFFIRMATION OF MARRIAGE ON SEPT. 24TH, 2023**



OCTOBER 2023

*God's Work, Our Hands Sunday Pictures
Sunday, Sept. 10th
Thank you to all our Volunteers for helping make the
Blessing Bags!*



OCTOBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	2	3	4 GET TOGETHER GROUP 10AM CHOIR 7:30	5 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	5	7 SALEM CHURCH
8 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	9	10 PARISH ADMIN MTG 6:30 PM	11 GET TOGETHER GROUP 10AM CHOIR 7:30	12 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00 Communications Mtg. 5:30 PM	13	14 SALEM CHURCH St. Francis Pet Blessing 4pm
15 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM OUTREACH MTG, COFFEE	16	17 WORSHIP & MUSIC MTG. 4:30 PM COUNCIL MTG. 7:00 PM	18 GET TOGETHER GROUP 10AM CHOIR 7:30	19 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	20	21 SALEM CHURCH
22 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP EPISTLE DEADLINE	23	24	25 GET TOGETHER GROUP 10AM CHOIR 7:30	26 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	27	28 SALEM CHURCH
29 REFORMATION SUNDAY—WEAR RED 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	30	31				

OCTOBER 2023

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS - OCTOBER THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

OCTOBER 1ST

ASSISTING MINISTER: Carol Bruce
READER: Matthew Perry
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: Carol Bruce
COUNTER: Heather Christensen
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **Need**_____

OCTOBER 8TH

ASSISTING MINISTER: **Need**_____
READER: **Need**_____
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: George & Deb Howe
COUNTER: Bob Bowman
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Margaret DeBlois

OCTOBER 15TH

ASSISTING MINISTER: **Need**_____
READER: Joan Kratzer
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: Elaine Strecker
COUNTER: George Howe
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **Need**_____

OCTOBER 22ND:

ASSISTING MINISTER: **Need**_____
READER: Rory Cummings
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: **Need**_____
COUNTER: Judy Gerken
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Rory Cummings

OCTOBER 29TH:

ASSISTING MINISTER: Joy Hansen
READER: Joy Hansen
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: George & Deb Howe
COUNTER: Mary Procyk
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **Need**_____

OCTOBER 2023

BIBLE VERSE OF THE MONTH



OCTOBER 2023

**PASTOR:**

The Reverend Elizabeth Cummings
pastor@stpaulswethersfield.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Lorraine Gianakos
office@stpaulswethersfield.org

MINISTER OF MUSIC:

Melissa Cheyney

**SUPERINTENDENT OF
SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL:**

Alice Rupp

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Karen Potter
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