

ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

SEPTEMBER 2025

To every thing there is a season,
and a time to every purpose under the heaven

Ecccl 3:1



SEPTEMBER 2025

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR CUMMINGS

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

As we enter the month of September, I offer a reminder that we return to our 10:00am worship service schedule this month. I pray that you had a delightful summer and had time to rest, relax, and rejuvenate. I enjoyed some time away with my family and even got the chance to babysit my niece a few times over the past few months!

I enjoyed participating in Vacation Bible Camp at St. Paul's at the end of June and cannot thank our congregation and volunteers enough for the memorable moments the children and adults shared during that time.

I am grateful we had the opportunity to break bread together over the summer months with our Summer Lunches. It is a good way to try new places and meet new people. I look forward to continuing this tradition next year.

On September 7, we will once again join with Our Savior's Lutheran Church from Newington for "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. However, they will be hosting us this year! We will worship together that morning at 10:00 am and following the combined service, we will gather downstairs for lunch and the opportunity to participate in a few service projects. This is a tangible way for us to carry out our baptismal calling by being the hands and feet of God in our community.

Our congregational picnic is scheduled for September 27 at 4:00 pm. Join us on the front lawn for a time of fellowship and good food. Hotdogs, hamburgers, and chicken will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Feel free to invite your friends and neighbors.

**Wishing you Peace and Blessings,
The Rev. Elizabeth A Cummings**

SEPTEMBER 2025

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.



EPISTLE articles are due by **September 22nd**. Please send your article to Lorraine exactly the way you would like it to appear at:
office@stpaulswethersfield.org

Thank you!

SEPTEMBER GOSPEL READINGS

September 7th - Luke 14:25-33

September 14th - Luke 15: 1-10

September 21st - Luke 16:1-13

September 28th - Luke 16:19-31



Altar Flowers

There are a few weeks available in September and October for flower donations. Please consider choosing a Sunday. The Avenue Florist supplies the flowers. The bouquets are \$25 for 1 and \$50 for two bouquets per week and can be shared by multiple donors. Please call Debbie Howe at 860-529-8583 if you have any questions.

SEPTEMBER 2024



Coffee Fellowship

Many thanks to Jerry Hansen for hosting our after service coffee hours for many months. We are looking for people to sign up to host the coffee hour.

If you are interested or have any questions, see Jerry.



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH FAIR
SATURDAY, NOV. 22ND
9 AM - 2 PM



We will once again have our Grandma's Attic at our Church Fair on November 22nd. **NOW WE NEED YOUR TREASURES!**

Please start gathering your "slightly used treasures" this month to donate. We will have drop off days and times in October TBD.

NO CLOTHING OR TAG SALE ITEMS THIS YEAR!

SEPTEMBER 2025

God's work. Our hands.



September 7, 2025

We will once again partner with Our Savior's in Newington on Sept. 7th for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. At 10:00 am we will join together to worship at Our Savior followed by lunch and work on a few Service Projects. We look forward to seeing you there!



**Congregational Church Fall Picnic -
Saturday, September 27th, 4:00pm -
6:00pm**

Join us for food, fellowship, and fun! Burgers, hot dogs, chicken, corn on the cob and beverages will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

There is a sign up sheet on the Whiteboard in the Fellowship Area. Please let us know how many people are coming so we can plan accordingly. We hope to see you there!



The Food Pantry A Ministry of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

THANK YOU - THANK YOU!! The Food Pantry would like to thank St. Paul's Congregation for their wonderful support over the past summer months. We really appreciate all the food donations and monetary support the Food Pantry is given from our church family.

We are happy to report that the Food Pantry received from Connecticut Food Share a \$1,200.00 grant to be used for any needed equipment. The funds were used for purchasing heavy duty shelving, three shopping carts and various sizes of storage bins. These new items have really helped. The Food Pantry is extremely busy on Wednesdays (delivery day) and on Thursdays (client days).

We are currently averaging 75 clients a week; due to the economy, our numbers have increased.

<u>Number of Clients</u>		<u>Total in Household</u>
January	310	1,022
February	248	885
March	278	949
April	270	965
May	365	1,338
June	275	978
July	355	1,246
Total:	2,101	7,383

Connecticut Food Share has provided the pantry with 14,797 pounds of food. Donations from Big Y, Aldi's, Fresh Market, Stop and Shop (2), and Price Rite have given us 34,457 pounds of food. Donations from our church family and friends are not included in this number and we are really grateful for your generosity.

Number wise we have had an increase of 423 clients and the number of people in household is an increase of 2,843 since last year. The food we have received has also increased especially from Connecticut Food Share by 9,197 pounds and with 6 stores donating that has increased by 24,457 pounds.

Our sincere thanks to all the volunteers who give us their free time to help. It's a terrific big job serving, sorting, passing out and driving to pick up food.
We could not do it without your help - THANK YOU!!

SEPTEMBER 2024



The Wednesday Get-Together Group is back after a few month's hiatus. We will resume on **Wednesday, September 3rd**. We are currently working on group projects for our upcoming Church Fair. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month from 10 am—1 pm. Please come and join us!!



September 6, 2025 10:00 - 4:00 Rain or Shine

The Wethersfield Cornfest is a beloved Community event held each year in September. Originally hosted on the Broad Street Green, the festival has recently been moved to Cove Park on State Street, near the DMV.

Come visit and enjoy a variety of vendors, children's activities, the business expo, and live entertainment. Of course, there will be delicious food offerings, including fresh local corn from Anderson Farms.

There's something for everyone - lots of fun activities for kids and plenty of local vendors to browse and support. Don't miss out on this festive celebration of community and harvest!



THRIVENT FINANCIAL ACTION TEAMS

Are you a Thrivent member? Did you know there are grants available that could help us with our **Church Fair in November**? The process is simple - any Thrivent member can request \$250 to be used to meet some of the needs of the fair.

In past years, we have used action team funding to cover the cost of ingredients for goodies for the bake sale, food for the Kitchen Café, items for the country store, and much more. The possibilities are endless!!

If you would be willing to apply for an Action Team for the church fair, please come to the Outreach Meeting on Sept. 14 so we can coordinate the various areas that we can use this seed money. If you have any questions or need assistance with the process, please contact Pastor or Carol Bruce.

Thank you so much!!

Behler Fund Request

Years ago the Behler family left a generous sum of money to assist families in need. We have used these funds countless times to help people, both those we know and those we do not know. Help with rent, medical bills, and unseen emergencies has been given.

It is a vital service. This fund was replenished once with the help of Lois Woy's gift to St. Paul's.

The Behler Fund Committee consists of myself, Heather Christensen, Joan Kratzer and Pastor Elizabeth.

We would like to open up an opportunity to the congregation to be a part of this important ministry to replenish this fund. Some folks have already done this on their own.

If you would like to help just put an envelope in the offering plate clearly marked "Behler Fund" (check made out to St. Paul's).

This is an important part of our mission especially in these trying times.

Thank you in advance.

In Christ,
Russ Bengtson



A View into the Outreach Program of St. Paul's

The Outreach Committee has been very active this year. Thanks to the generosity and devotion of a dedicated couple, Harold and Vernal Schnabel.

The Schnabel's were active members of St. Paul's for many years. They left a bequest to the church and Outreach was to have 10% of their trust.

In keeping with their wishes, the Committee has given out \$2,000.00 to Wethersfield Ambulance, Dollars for Scholars, Bobby Garten Memorial Fund, Blessing Bags, Wethersfield High School Marching Band, Charles Wright Elementary School (PTO Program Hawk Helpers) and Mosaic ELCA Organization. All were voted on to be recipients of their kindness.

Now the Committee is looking forward to working with our friends at Our Savior's Lutheran Church on Sunday, Sept. 7th on 2 service projects for the communities we live in. Hope you will join us!!

Our next Outreach Meeting is Sept. 14th after worship.

SEPTEMBER 2025

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

1 lb. Coffee, Cereal, Canned Soup, Canned Vegetables, Spaghetti Sauce, Ramen Noodles and Mac-n-Cheese
Thank you!!



The St. Francis Blessing of the Pets will be held at St. Paul's on Saturday, October 4th at 4:00 pm. People are encouraged to bring a photo of their pet or a stuffed animal if they are not able to bring their pet in person.

VETERAN'S WALL COMING TO WETHERSFIELD SEPTEMBER 10 - 14TH AT THE COVE



September 10, 2025: Open to Public 4:00 pm— 8:00 pm

12pm- Escort of Wall - 4pm- Event opens to the public 4:30pm- Story time & The Wall experience

5:00 pm — Pastor Elizabeth will do the Opening Prayer

SEPTEMBER 2025

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2025 — AUGUST 5TH



Pastor Elizabeth, Matt Perry & Oliver represented our church and handed out St. Paul's bags, pencils and brochures. It was a great night!

Pastor's Lunch - August 14th The Cove Deli, Wethersfield, CT



SEPTEMBER 2025

**Good Luck Jeanette on your move to Florida!
Here are some pictures from her reception here
at St. Paul's on August 10th**



SEPTEMBER 2025

Blessing of Back Packs August 24, 2025



September 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 	2 Clergy Mtg. 12 Noon WORSHIP & MUSIC MTG. 4:30 PM	3 GET TOGETHER GRP 10:00 AM	4 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	5	6 WETHERSFIELD CORNFEST 10AM-4PM COVE PARK (NEAR DMV)
7 10:00 AM JOINT WORSHIP AT OUR SAVIOR'S	8	9 PARISH ADMIN 6:30 PM	10 CHOIR 7:30 PM	11 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00 COMMUNICATIONS MTG 6:00 PM	12	13
14 10 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP OUTREACH MTG. 11:15 AM	15	16 PROPERTY MTG. 5:30 PM CHURCH COUNCIL MTG 7 PM	17 GET TOGETHER GRP 10:00 AM CHOIR 7:30 PM	18 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	19	20
21 10 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	22	23	24 CHOIR 7:30 PM	25 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	26	27 CHURCH PICNIC 4-6PM
28 10 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	29	30				

SEPTEMBER 2025

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS - September THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 7TH - 10:00 AM

JOINT SERVICE AT OUR SAVIOR'S CHURCH IN NEWINGTON

SEPTEMBER 14TH -10:00 AM

ASSISTING MINISTER:	Matt Perry
READER:	
USHERS:	Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppar, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR	Elaine Strecker
COUNTER:	Heather Christensen
FELLOWSHIP HOUR:	Rory Cummings

SEPTEMBER 21ST - 10:00 AM

ASSISTING MINISTER:	Joy Hansen
READER:	Joy Hansen
USHERS:	Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppar & Sophia
ALTAR	Deb & George Howe
COUNTER:	Rory Cummings
FELLOWSHIP HOUR:	

SEPTEMBER 28TH -10:00 AM

ASSISTING MINISTER:	Carol Bruce
READER:	
USHERS:	Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppar & Sophia
ALTAR	Carol Bruce
COUNTER:	Dave Hourigan
FELLOWSHIP HOUR:	



7 Prayers For September

1. May your finances multiply.
 2. May your health improve.
 3. May your friends prosper.
 4. May your family be loved.
 5. May your pains be less.
 6. May your worries disappear.
 7. May God Bless You.
- Amen!

SEPTEMBER 2024

PASTOR:

The Reverend Elizabeth Cummings
pastor@stpaulswethersfield.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Lorraine Gianakos
office@stpaulswethersfield.org

MINISTER OF MUSIC:

Melissa Cheyney
missycheyney@yahoo.com

**SUPERINTENDENT OF
SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL:**

Alice Rupparr
arupparr@sbcglobal.net

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

371 WOLCOTT HILL ROAD
WETHERSFIELD, CT 06109

860-529-5397

stpaulswethersfield.org

Office Hours -

Tuesday — Friday

9am — 1 pm

COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Matt Perry
mperry0905@aol.com

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT:

Heather Christensen
heather.christensen@combined.com

COUNCIL SECRETARY:

Margaret DeBlois
mdebloisrpt@yahoo.com

TREASURER:

Tom Grottke
tgrottke@thenbsgroup.com

BOOKKEEPER

Peter Dunn
bookkeeper@stpaulswethersfield.org

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

David Hourigan
dhourigan1953@gmail.com

