



Saint Paul's

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2025 EPISTLE

Praise *God's* name
with *Song*
and
magnify *Him* with
Thanksgiving

Psalm 69:30

Doreen Erhardt

NOVEMBER 2025

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR CUMMINGS

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

Let the peace of Christ keep you in tune with each other, in step with each other. None of this going off and doing your own thing. And cultivate thankfulness. Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives. Instruct and direct one another using good common sense. And sing, sing your hearts out to God! Let every detail in your lives—words, actions, whatever—be done in the name of the Master, Jesus, thanking God the Father every step of the way. (Colossians 3:15-17) "The Message"

The month of November always urges us to be thinking about how thankful we are in our everyday lives. I am thankful for this faith community and how active we are as I look ahead to all the things we have going on this month at St. Paul's.

We begin the month with our All Saint's Day worship on November 2, where we will pray the names of those in our congregation who have joined the church triumphant during the past year. We will also remember the names of the saints who surround us as part of the great cloud of witnesses. We will recognize the veterans in our congregation on November 9 during our worship service. Giving thanks for them and their military service. If you are a veteran and not able to be present that day, please let me know. I will be sure to add your name to the prayers on that morning.

The Annual Outreach Fair is on November 22 will give us the chance to open our doors to our neighbors. Welcoming them into our building and showing them hospitality. I am excited to share our church with the community in this way. Thank you to all the volunteers who are working so hard to prepare and all those who will make the day run smoothly.

Wishing you and your families a blessed and thankful Thanksgiving Holiday!

Peace and Blessings,
The Rev. Elizabeth A Cummings

NOVEMBER 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.

NOVEMBER GOSPEL READINGS

NOVEMBER 2ND: Luke 6:20-31

NOVEMBER 9TH: Luke 20:27-38

NOVEMBER 16TH: Luke 21:5-19

NOVEMBER 23RD: Luke 23:33-42

NOVEMBER 30TH: Matthew 24:36-44



November 2nd

November 23rd



FIRST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

November 30th



FULLY WRITTEN ARTICLES FOR THE **DECEMBER** EPISTLE are due by **November 23rd.**

Please send your article exactly the way you would like it to appear to Lorraine at:

office@stpaulswethersfield.org

Thank you!



NOVEMBER 2025



FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, OUR FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF

1 LB. COFFEE, CEREAL, CANNED FRUIT, CANNED VEGETABLES, CANNED SOUPS, SPAGHETTI SAUCE, MAC-N-CHEESE AND RAMEN NOODLES

THE FOOD PANTRY WILL BE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING ON NOVEMBER 27TH.

Altar Flowers



Altar Flowers

You may now sign up to provide a beautiful arrangement of altar flowers for Sunday Worship for only \$25.

We are hoping to see the natural beauty of flowers grace our Sanctuary more frequently. The hope is that the reduction in cost will allow for members to participate more often.

The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway. For anyone who wishes to have two arrangements or share with someone else, the cost will remain \$50. Please indicate this when you sign up: one bouquet (\$25), two bouquets (\$50).



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

We will be decorating the Church for Advent on Sunday, November 30th after worship service. We would appreciate any time you can give to help out.



NOVEMBER 2025



HOLIDAY FAIR
Saturday, Nov. 22, 2025
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
371 Wolcott Hill Road
Wethersfield

**Bakery & Cookie Walk,
Kitchen Café, Country Store,
Holiday Booth, Handmade
Crafts, Grandma's Attic,
Inspiration Garden &
Kids Corner**

80% of proceeds will benefit St. Paul's Food Pantry
20% will go to ELCA World Hunger

For more information or directions, please call
860-529-5397 or visit our website:
www.stpaulswethersfield.org

Thank you to Thrivent for helping fund our
Holiday Fair.

NOVEMBER 2025



ATTENTION ALL BAKERS FOR OUR
HOLIDAY FAIR — NOVEMBER 22, 2025

ONLY 3 SHORT WEEKS UNTIL WE WELCOME OUR
COMMUNITY TO ST. PAUL'S 2025 HOLIDAY FAIR.

ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, WE HOPE TO HAVE OUR
TABLES FILLED WITH A SELECTION OF FLAVORFUL
BAKED ITEMS AND OUR COOKIE WALK TRAYS BRIMMING
WITH AN ASSORTMENT OF HOLIDAY TREATS. IN ORDER
TO DO THIS, WE NEED OUR FAITHFUL BAKERS TO
START CHECKING THEIR RECIPES, DECIDE WHAT TO
BAKE AND THEN **PLEASE NOTE YOUR SELECTIONS ON
THE SIGN-UP CHART IN FELLOWSHIP HALL.**

EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE FAIR PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT
OUT FOOD PANTRY. PLEASE CONSIDER PARTICIPATING!!!



NOVEMBER 2025



The Holiday Fair is almost here!

Just a reminder that we are accepting donations for Grandma's Attic from now until Sunday, November 16th.

Items can be dropped out Tuesday - Friday from 9 am to 1 pm or weekends by appointment only.

Any questions about items, drop off or to schedule large items to be picked up, please contact Heather Christensen at 860-841-6657. Thank you!



We would like to have a Kids Corner at our Holiday Fair on November 22nd. We are seeking several volunteers to craft, encourage and have fun with youth who attend the Kids Corner. We would like to have enough adult helpers so that at least two at a time are contributing their organizational and interacting skills with the youth. That could mean 1-1/2 to 2 hour sessions including set-up and clean-up if we have enough volunteers.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the Whiteboard near the conference table for those interested in volunteering.

If you are not able to make it to sign up, but are interested in helping out at the Fair with the Kids Corner, you can text Doreen Matteson at 617-879-8005 by November 16th

Thanks in advance for helping out our Youth enjoy some fellowship while creating and decorating some individualized holiday crafts!!

NOVEMBER 2025



Dear St. Paul's Friends,
Here is a sneak peek at the flyer and instructions for this year's Adopt a Family Program. Check it out so you'll be in the know when I put up my poster for sign-up Sunday, November 2nd on the Whiteboard. Thank you in advance for your support for this wonderful program!

Please note the following:

- 1) there are **NO CARD** purchases
- 2) if you wish to make an on-line purchase, and you want to mail it directly to Church, see or call me.
- 3) Read and choose from the wish list for whom you want to buy
- 4) Sign up next to the item you wish to buy
- 5) Slips of paper and pen are provided for you below if needed
- 6) Let's try not to duplicate big items, but can, if appropriate
- 7) Bring purchases back to Church **UNWRAPPED with SALES SLIPS*** attached o later than 11/30/25
- 8) ***SALE SLIPS** determine what we give, so I can make copies of **ORIGINALS** if need be
- 9) Boxes for your gifts will be in the Choir Room for drop off.

Any questions, please see or call JOAN KRATZER
860-529-3504.

NOVEMBER 2025



ADOPT-A-FAMILY 2025 WISH LIST

Child's First Name:	Avery
Gender:	F
Age:	5
Shirt/Sweater Size:	6
Pants Size:	6
Coat Size:	Small
Sock size:	Small
Sneakers/Shoes Size:	Children's 5
Toy Wish #1	Barbie Dolls
Toy Wish #2	Barbie Accessories
Toy Wish #3	Play Sets (Cooking)

Child's First Name:	Alex
Gender:	M
Age:	11
Shirt/Sweater Size:	16/18
Pants Size:	16/18
Coat Size:	Large
Sock size:	Adult 8
Sneakers/Shoes Size:	Adult 8
Toy Wish #1	Drawing pencils
Toy Wish #2	Sketch Pads
Toy Wish #3	Reading Light

Child's First Name:	Antonia
Gender:	F
Age:	12
Shirt/Sweater Size:	16/18
Pants Size:	16/18
Coat Size:	XL
Sock size:	Adult 7
Sneakers/Shoes Size:	Adult 7
Toy Wish #1	Make Up Sets
Toy Wish #2	Nail polish sets
Toy Wish #3	Bracelet Crafts

Child's First Name:	
Gender:	
Age:	
Shirt/Sweater Size:	
Pants Size:	
Coat Size:	
Sock size:	
Sneakers/Shoes Size:	
Toy Wish #1	
Toy Wish #2	
Toy Wish #3	

Adult #1 Name:	Alanna
Household Item #1	Blankets
Household Item #2	Towels/Bathmat

Adult #2 Name:	
Household Item #1	
Household Item #2	

A brief story about the family:

All of the children have gone through our daycare center at "The Right Place Learning Center". Alanna is a single mom caring for all 3 of her children's and due to unforeseen circumstances is currently unemployed.



Finding Grace in Service: My Journey with the Altar Guild by Matt Perry

When I first considered joining the Altar Guild, I was seeking something deeper—a renewed connection to the meaning behind our church services and the sacred symbols we observe each week. I had questions: Why are things arranged the way they are? Why is the service structured in a particular order? What goes into preparing something that, when done well, appears so seamless?

What I discovered was a beautiful blend of tradition, intention, and teamwork.

Joining the Altar Guild gave me the opportunity not only to learn but to serve. I found myself working alongside people I hadn't known well before, and through shared tasks and quiet moments, I began forming meaningful relationships. I was struck by the choreography of the service — the wine poured into cups, the bread broken and shared, the quiet reverence in every detail. It's a collective effort, and it's humbling to be part of it.

That first time I volunteered to set up the altar! I was nervous. What if I misplaced something? What if the bread wasn't where it needed to be? I never needed to fear; the Altar Guild is a team in the truest sense. We support one another, and that sense of community is a gift.

I've come to appreciate the level of detail and planning that goes into every service, from major holidays to quiet Sundays. There's deep consideration for all our members, and I'm proud to be part of a church that strives to make participation in the sacrament accessible to everyone.

One of the most beautiful aspects of the Altar Guild is the distinctive touch each member brings. There's no single "right" way to prepare our altar. As I learned from others, I saw how their individual styles reflected their faith and care. It made me feel more connected — not just to the process, but to our church as a whole.

Now, I look forward to the time I spend preparing the altar. It's become a moment of reflection, a way to center myself and reconnect with God. It clears my mind and brings clarity to my spirit.

Reading scripture during service has also been a transformative experience. The act of reading during service is intimidating at first, but it's also deeply moving. It's an honor to share the Word, and doing so has made me more attentive to how others read. The inflections, the emphasis, the emotion — it's like hearing poetry come to life.

If you've ever considered joining the Altar Guild, I encourage you to take that step. We'd love to welcome you, share our experiences, and learn from yours. There's room for everyone, and every contribution adds something special to our shared worship.

NOVEMBER 2025

THANKFUL FOR OUR ST. PAUL'S FOOD PANTRY TEAM

We are thankful and count our blessings for such a dedicated team who work on multiple days each week to provide this needed service to our community. Each job is so important - our welcome desk, our team members who escort our patrons around the table of donated goods, those who fill the orders from our shelves and freezers, those who open the plastic bags so they are ready for filling and then those that bag the orders and deliver them to the waiting patrons. We can ALWAYS use additional volunteers!

Here are some pictures of Foodshare Delivery, Food Pantry Helpers, and Prayer on Thursday, October 30, 2025



NOVEMBER 2025

AS SEEN RECENTLY AROUND ST. PAUL'S

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
OCTOBER 4, 2025



NOVEMBER 2025

Work in progress and finished replacement of Side Porch Steps at our church on October 24th!



NOVEMBER 2025

AS SEEN RECENTLY AROUND ST. PAUL'S



REFORMATION
SUNDAY
OCTOBER 26, 2025



NOVEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 ALL SAINTS DAY
2 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME FALLBACK 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM COFFEE	3	4 	5 10:00 AM GET-TOGETHER GRP CHOIR 7:30	6 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00 SECURITY MTG. 5:30 PM	7	8
9 10:00 AM WORSHIP WITH VETERAN RECOGNITION 11:00 AM COFFEE HOUR 11:15 AM OUTREACH MTG.	10	11  WORSHIP & MUSIC MTG. 4:00 PM PARISH ADMIN 6:30 PM	12 CHOIR 7:30	13 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00 COMMUNICATIONS MTG 5:30 PM	14	15
16 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM COFFEE HOUR	17	18 CHURCH COUNCIL MTG 7:00 PM PROPERTY MTG. 5:30 PM	19 CHOIR 7:30	20 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	21	22 <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">HOLIDAY FAIR 9 AM-2 PM</div>
FAIR SET-UP ALL WEEK						
23 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM COFFEE HOUR	24	25 7:00 PM	26 CHOIR 7:30	27  CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	28 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM COFFEE HOUR 11:30 AM DECORATE CHURCH FOR ADVENT						

NOVEMBER 2025

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS - NOVEMBER THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

NOVEMBER 2ND— ALL SAINT'S DAY

ASSISTING MINISTER: Matt Perry
READER: Rory Cummings
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: Matt Perry
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Rory Cummings
COUNTER: Dave Hourigan

NOVEMBER 9TH

ASSISTING MINISTER: Carol Bruce
READER: Jerilyn Roy
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: Carol Bruce
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **Name** _____
COUNTER: George Howe

NOVEMBER 16TH

ASSISTING MINISTER: Joy Hansen
READER: Joy Hansen
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: Elaine Strecker
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **Name** _____
COUNTER: Heather Christensen

NOVEMBER 23RD - CHRIST THE KING

ASSISTING MINISTER: **Name** _____
READER: **Name** _____
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: Deb & George Howe
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **Name** _____
COUNTER: Rory Cummings

NOVEMBER 30TH

ASSISTING MINISTER: **Name** _____
READER: Joan Kratzer
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: **Name** _____
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **Name** _____
COUNTER: Judy Gerken



NOVEMBER 2024

BIBLE VERSE OF THE MONTH

PROVERBS 3:5

Trust
in the
Lord

with all thine
heart.

NOVEMBER 2025

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 Ruppap
aruppap@sbcglobal.net



COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

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Office Hours -

Tuesday - Friday

9am - 1 pm

