



Saint Paul's

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUMMER 2026 EPISTLE

*This is what the Lord says:
"In the time of my favor
I will answer you,
and in the day of salvation
I will help you;
Is. 49:8*

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR CUMMINGS

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

Welcome Summer! I pray you are doing your best to stay cool and finding time for rest and relaxation over these next months. I am looking forward to some time away in July to be with my family. I am also excited to continue the tradition of Summer Lunches at local restaurants with you. The dates for July and August have been set (July 21 and August 18) I am always looking for recommendations of your favorite spots to eat in our community so, please share your favorites.

Please welcome our guest preachers and musicians on the Sundays Missy and I are away. On July 5, Pr. James Krauser will lead the service with guest organist Jerry Bilack and on July 12, Pr. Elisabeth Aurand will preach and preside with Linda Brouder on the piano. Both pastors expressed how excited they are to be with you again.

Now that our first Rejoicing Spirits, no-shushing, worship service is under our belts, I am looking forward to the next service in July hosted by Emanuel, Hartford. Pr. Mark and I will continue to trade off hosting every other month. Please keep this inclusive ministry in your prayers as we gather monthly with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their caregivers, and volunteers.

I will be praying for your safe travels this summer and that you find time to experience and notice God's good creation in your everyday lives.

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

SUMMER 2026

JULY GOSPEL READINGS

July 5th: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12th: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 18th: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 26th: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



AUGUST GOSPEL READINGS

August 2nd: Matthew 14:13-21

August 9th: Matthew 14:22-33

August 16th: Matthew 15:10-28

August 23rd: Matthew 16:13-20

August 30th: Matthew 16:21-28



Pr. Christine Pelfrey will be covering for pastoral emergencies from July 3 - July 12th. She can be reached at 860-875-2170 (work) or 203-767-2317 (cell).

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.

SUMMER 2026

We are continuing our tradition of Summer Lunches at our local restaurants. The dates are July 21st at Kaluibon Ramen & Poke in Wethersfield and August 18th at 12:30 pm. We are looking for

recommendations of your special spots to eat for our August outing. Also feel free to invite others so they can get to know us!! We hope you can join us!



National Night Out in Wethersfield will be held on Tuesday, August 4th at 30 Greenfield St. from 5:30—8 pm. There will be grilled items prepared by Police along with live music, vendors, kids activities and games.



Pastor Elizabeth will be on vacation from June 30 - July 13th.

Lorraine will be on vacation from July 6th - July 9th and the Church Office will be closed. She will not have access to email and will be returning to the office on July 10th.

God's work. Our hands.



September 13, 2026

thrivent®

On September 13, Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Newington will join us to assemble a small water purification kit or a small solar light.

But before that day, we need all Thrivent Members to request the free kits.

How?

1. Go to thrivent.com/causekit
2. Request your free cause kit. Be ready to log in and supply information about your account.
3. **Complete requests to Thrivent for the cause by the end of August.**
4. Bring your cause kit to church once you receive it for storage.
5. Celebrate God's Work Our Hands on September 13th or generously offer the kit for others to put together.
6. Shipped back free of charge.

APPLYING FOR THIS KIT WILL NOT AFFECT OUR 2 THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS PER YEAR ALLOTMENT.

SUMMER 2026



If you find yourself with spare time this summer, feel free to gather items for our Tag Sale for **this year's Holiday Fair**. Items can be dropped off in the former "Nursery Room" upstairs in the PE Building. Items can be dropped off between 9am - 1 pm Tuesday to Friday.

If you need help with large items, call or text Heather at 860-841-6657.



FULLY WRITTEN ARTICLES FOR THE **SEPTEMBER EPISTLE** are due by **August 23rd**.

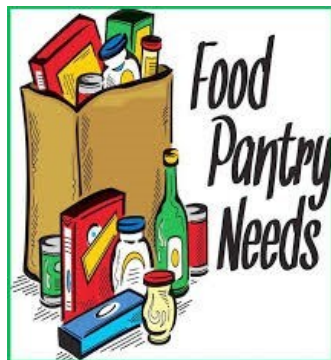
Please send your article to me exactly the way you would like it to appear to at:
office@stpaulswethersfield.org

Thank you!
Lorraine

A BIG
*thank
you*
❤️

Jenn, Steph, Sophia and I would like to thank our St. Paul's Family for their generosity, care, concern, thoughts and prayers as I recover from recent hip surgery. The kindness that has been shown has truly meant a lot to us. Hopefully I'll see you all soon - Alice Rupp

SUMMER 2026



The Food Pantry is in dire need of the following items for the months of July & August:

1 lb. Coffee, Canned Soups, Canned Tuna, Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti Pastal, Mac-n-Cheese & Ramen Noodles.

We are in need of EGG CARTONS at the present time. Thank you for all the donations!

Just remember, your monetary contributions to our Church Food Pantry are tax deductible. Remember to please put FOOD PANTRY in the memo section of your check.



The Wednesday Get Together Group next meeting will be on July 15th. Then we will meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month starting in August and will be working hard at making ornaments and crafts for our upcoming Fall Fair. We would love to see you.

Please join us if you have the time!
Deb LePage

VOLUNTEERS, GOD BLESS THEM!!

Many will be shocked to find when the day of Judgement nears that there's a special place in heaven set aside for volunteers. Furnished with big recliners, satin couches and footstools where there's no Committee Chairmen, no Group Leaders or car pools; no eager team that needs a coach, no bazaar ad no bake sale. There will be nothing to staple, not one thing to fold or mail. Telephone lists will be outlawed but a finger snap will bring cool drinks and gourmet dinners and treats fit for a king. You ask, "Who'll serve these privileged few and work for all they're worth?" Why all those who reaped the benefits and not once volunteered on earth.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

SUMMER 2026

*Lunch with Pastor Elizabeth
June 9th, 2026*



Great time at Vito's Restaurant with Doreen Matteson, Laura Speno, Lorraine Gianakos and Pastor Elizabeth.

SUMMER 2026

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS JUNE 14, 2026



We welcomed
Matt & Lynn
Acker, Irma
Fenner and
Freddie Wilson
into our
Congregation!



SUMMER 2026

OUR NEW KITCHEN FLOOR INSTALLED RECENTLY



SUMMER 2026

Farewell and Godspeed to Rick & Betsy Seip



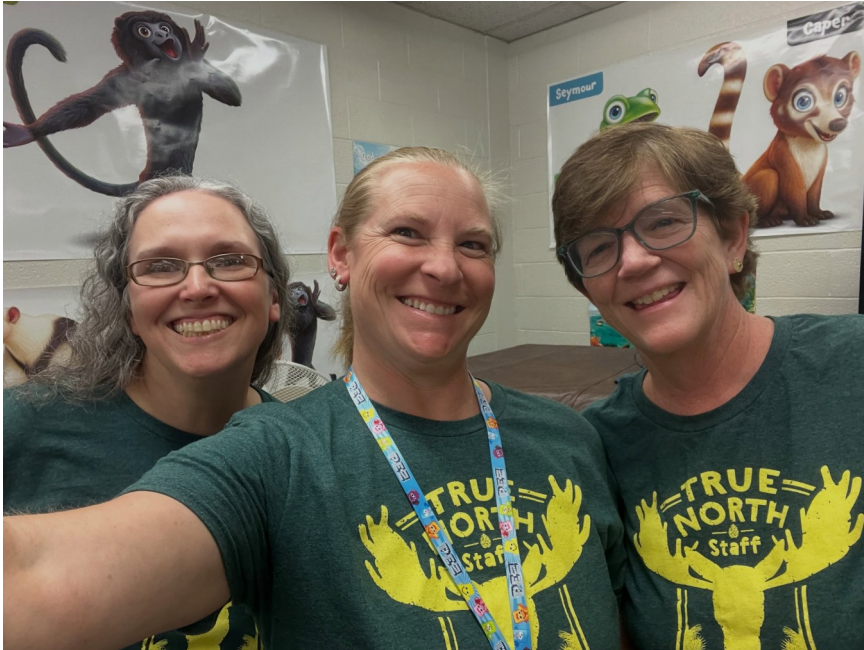
**Thank you Rick & Betsy
for all your contribu-
tions to our congregation
and community over the
years.**

You will be missed!!



SUMMER 2026

Vacation Bible Camp Pictures June 22nd - June 25th



Julie Perry, Pastor
Elizabeth & Missy
Cheyney twinning
on first night of
VBC!



SUMMER 2026

Vacation Bible Camp Pictures June 22nd - June 25th

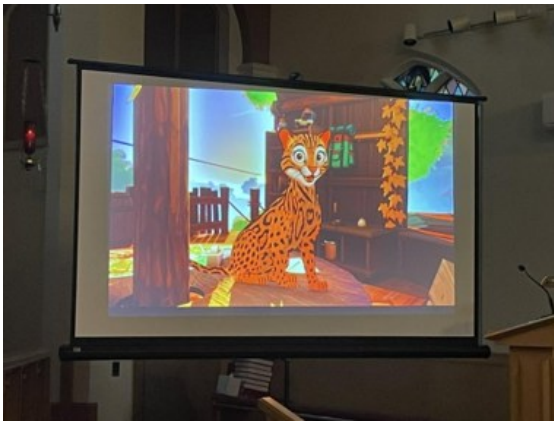
Day One of VBS at St. Paul's in Wethersfield with our friends from Our Savior's and Emanuel, Hartford. We had great fun eating dinner together, then praising God, praying, and playing together.



SUMMER 2026

Vacation Bible Camp Pictures June 22nd - June 25th

Day 2 of VBS at St. Paul's Wethersfield with our friends from Our Savior's Newington and Emanuel Hartford. We shared a yummy dinner of hotdogs and tater tots with cookies for dessert. Then we prayed together, sang together, played together and learned together about how God is our safe space - our refuge.



SUMMER 2026

Vacation Bible Camp Pictures June 22nd - June 25th

Day 3 of VBS at St. Paul's with our friends from Our Savior's and Emanuel. We learned that God is good all the time. All the time, God is good. And God loves us no matter what. We had a feast of chicken nuggets and mac & cheese with cookies for dessert. We had so much fun playing, praying, singing, and learning about God together.



SUMMER 2026

Vacation Bible Camp Pictures June 22nd - June 25th

And just like that, our annual summer Bible Camp is over! We were so honored to explore the nature of God with your children this week. Thank you to our volunteer teachers and to our collaborative partners: [Emanuel Lutheran Church](#), [Trinity Lutheran Church Vernon, CT](#), and [Our Savior's Lutheran Church Newington](#). Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram for announcements about additional children's programming at St. Paul's.



July 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	3 PR. ELIZABETH ON VACATION	4 PR. ELIZABETH
5 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP PR. ELIZABETH ON VACATION	6	7 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	8 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	9 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	10	11
						
	Lorraine on Vacation					
12 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP PR. ELIZABETH	13	14	15 THE WEDNESDAY GROUP 10 AM	16 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	17	18
19 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	20	21 12:30 pm Lunch w/ Pastor 5:30 pm Property Mtg. 7 pm Council Mtg.	22	23 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	24	25
26 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	27	28	30	30 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	31	

August 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	3	4 National Night Out 5:30 pm Wethersfield	5 THE WENESDAY GROUP 10 am	6 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	7	8
9 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	10	11 PARISH ADMIN MTG. 6:30 PM	12	13 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	14	15
16 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	17	18 12:30 pm Lunch w/Pastor 5:30 pm Property Mtg CHURCH COUNCIL MTG 7 PM	19 THE WENESDAY GROUP 10 am	20 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	21	22
23 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	24	25 11:00 am Rejoicing Spirits Svc.	26	27 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	28	29
30 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	31					

SUMMER 2026

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS - JULY THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

JULY 5th:

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

JULY 12th

ASSISTING MINISTER: **NAME**_____
READER: **NAME**_____
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: Elaine Strecker
COUNTER: Judy Gerken
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **NAME**_____

JULY 19th

ASSISTING MINISTER: Sue Agne
READER: Joan Kratzer
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: **NAME**_____
COUNTER: Heather Christensen
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **NAME**_____

JULY 26th

ASSISTING MINISTER: Joy Hansen
READER: Joy Hansen
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: **NAME**_____
COUNTER: Mary Procyk
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **NAME**_____

SUMMER 2026

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS - AUGUST 2026 THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

AUGUST 2nd

ASSISTING MINISTER: Joy Hansen
READER: Joy Hansen
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppar, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: **Name** _____
COUNTER: Dave Hourigan
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **Name** _____

AUGUST 9th

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

AUGUST 16th

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

AUGUST 23rd:

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

AUGUST 30th:

ASSISTING MINISTER: **Name** _____
READER: Carol Bruce
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppar, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: Carol Bruce
COUNTER: Heather Christensen
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: **Name** _____

SUMMER 2026

PASTOR:

The Reverend Elizabeth Cummings
pastor@stpaulswethersfield.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Lorraine Gianakos
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MINISTER OF MUSIC:

Melissa Cheyney
missycheyney@yahoo.com

**SUPERINTENDENT OF
SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL:**

Alice Rupparr
arupparr@sbcglobal.net

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Tuesday — Friday

9am — 1 pm

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