

St. Paul's Lutheran Church The Good News!

Sunday Services

May

- 3 **Rachel's Day**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 10 **6 Easter**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 17 **7 Easter**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 24 **Day of Pentecost**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 31 **The Holy Trinity**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am

June

- 7 **Pentecost 2**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 14 **Pentecost 3**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 21 **Pentecost 4**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 28 **Pentecost 5**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am

Last day of Sunday School 11:00 am May 17th!

Find us on



facebook.com/StPaulsTorrington





A Word from Pastor Cady



Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

May has several days of importance:

We observe Rachel's Day on May 3, a day that lifts up the world's children who have been traumatized or harmed. This is led by some of our Women of the ELCA group.

- May 8 is our Penny Auction
- May 9 is our Motorcycle blessing and car show.
- May 10 is Mothers' Day.
- May 17 is the last day of Sunday School.
- May 24 is Pentecost, and May 31 is Trinity Sunday.

All of these, both the secular events and the religious ones, are ways of recognizing our connections to God and to each other. Pentecost is what pulls them all together. On that day we are reminded of the great promise from the ancient prophet Joel. He foresaw an outpouring of the Holy Spirit "on all flesh" Women and men, young and old, would be given the very Spirit of God in a way that would bring a truly new life. In place of the spirit of the world - division, greed, hostility, selfishness, fear, and violence - humanity would be renewed by a divine Spirit. Quickened by the Holy Spirit we would become partners with God in healing the broken world. We would care for the world's children as if they were our very own. We would bless our neighbors and pray for their safety. We would celebrate the vocation of motherhood. We would rejoice in the passing on of the faith from one generation to another. We would see ourselves as the most recent manifestation of God's gracious promises, and we would proclaim the wonders of a God who creates, redeems, and sanctifies our lives.

The gift of the Holy Spirit is an extension of the Gospel promise of new life. By that gift we are "reborn" to begin a full, new, and abundant life rooted in the gracious providence of God. May we never take for granted this precious treasure of spiritual renewal that has been poured out upon us, and may we ever seek to show forth its fruits as we care for our neighbors and our world.

Peace to all in Christ's name.

Yours,



Pastor Scott Cady



FINANCE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month, I want to share the different ways you can support our church financially. Below are six (6) options:

1. **Sunday envelopes** The most common way we receive offerings. A challenge with this method is that when services are canceled (for example, due to weather) or someone is ill and misses a week or two, their giving may not be received. This can make it harder to plan for expenses and needed repairs. If you give this way, please use your preprinted envelopes, or write your name on an envelope from the pew especially if you are giving cash so you receive credit for your contribution.
2. **Vanco** This option lets you set up automatic withdrawals from a bank account (ACH) or a debit/credit card and deposit them into the church account weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly. You choose the amount and frequency. If you are interested, forms are available in the church office. This method is helpful because it reduces envelope costs and provides more predictable monthly giving.
 - Vanco notes:
 - √ **ACH (bank account) payments: the church receives 100% of your gift.**
 - √ **Debit/credit card payments: the church receives about 95% of your gift due to card processing fees.**
3. **Online giving via the website** This method uses Square (credit/debit card processing). To give, go to the church website and click the Donate button.
 - Square note:
 - √ **Card processing fees apply; the cost to the church is typically a percentage of each donation. These fees range from 3% to 9.4%, depending on the type of card used.**
4. **Direct deposit** Similar to Vanco but set up directly through your bank. St. Paul's receives 100% of your gift.
5. **Charitable giving strategies** Many options are available, including:
 - A. Gift of Cash
 - B. Gift of Appreciated Securities held longer than a year
 - C. Qualified Charitable distributions (QCD)

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a tax-efficient option for individuals age 709 or older who want to give directly from an IRA to a qualified charity, such as a church. A QCD can count toward your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) and is generally excluded from taxable income. (Please consult your tax advisor to confirm what is best for your situation.)

 - D. Charitable Bequest at Death – IRAs, Annuities, Life Insurance, and Retirement Plans

This method does require you to discuss which option is the best for you and your financial needs, with your financial advisor.
6. **Give your time by using a talent the Lord has given you** Our church building and grounds require ongoing care. If you have a skill you can share (repairs, maintenance, or other help), volunteering can save the church money funds that can then be used for other needs we cannot do in-house.

If you would like more information about any of these options, please feel free to see me.

Your Sister in Christ,

Pamela Little, Treasurer/Finance Committee

“Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you”. Deuteronomy 16:17



🍰 Penny Auction 🍰 & 50/50 Drawing

St. Paul's Lutheran Church invites you to a fun-filled evening!

Friday, May 8, 2026

Doors Open: 6:00 PM

Drawing Begins: 7:00 PM

Location: St. Paul's Lutheran Church
837 Charles St.
Torrington, CT

♥ *Bring your own snacks to enjoy during the event!* ♥

♥ Hosted by: *The Women of the ELCA*

*Join us for a wonderful evening of fellowship, fun,
and prizes as we celebrate the special
women in our lives!*

For more information: 860-482-3555

★ ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ★

BLESSING OF THE BIKES & CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Ride In. Get Blessed. Celebrate the Season.

SATURDAY • MAY 9 • 2026

(Rain Date May 16)

12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
837 Charles Street
Torrington, Connecticut

\$10 SHOW ENTRY FEE

Spectators Welcome • Free Admission



MOTORCYCLE BLESSING CEREMONY

Start the riding season with a special blessing for all bikers.

✓ All Bikes Welcome! ✓ Classic Car & Motorcycle



Bring Your Bike • Bring Your Car • Bring Your Friends

Enjoy Live Music • Great Food • Family Friendly Fun!

Come for the Blessing—Stay for the Show!

POWERED BY



THE HAYMOND LAW FIRM

1-800-HAYMOND

HILLTOP ELC

Hilltop: A Strong and Growing Ministry of St. Paul's Church

For more than fifty years, Hilltop Christian Early Learning Center has stood as one of St. Paul's most vibrant and enduring ministries — a place where faith, learning, and community come together to nurture the youngest among us.



Hilltop began in April of 1974, when Pastor Porritt and his wife, Jean felt called to open a small nursery school as an outreach of St. Paul's Church. What started as a simple, heartfelt ministry to local families quickly grew into something larger. Their vision planted the seeds for a program that would become a trusted, long-standing presence in Torrington.

Over the decades, Hilltop expanded from a nursery school into a full Early Learning Center, offering high-quality, developmentally rich programs for children and families. Today, Hilltop is recognized as a state-licensed early childhood program, a distinction it has held since the very year it opened. In 2014, the center achieved NAEYC accreditation, a national "gold standard" earned by fewer than 10% of early childhood programs — a testament to its commitment to excellence in teaching, safety, and child development.

Hilltop's ministry continues to thrive because it remains rooted in the values that shaped it from the beginning:

- Active, hands-on learning that helps children grow with curiosity and confidence
- Expert, dedicated teachers who bring both professional training and genuine care
- A welcoming, faith-centered environment where families feel supported
- Full-day programs that meet the needs of today's households

As a strong ministry of St. Paul's Church, located within the church building. What began as a small act of ministry in 1974 has become a cornerstone of St. Paul's outreach — touching generations of families, strengthening community ties, and reflecting Christ's love through early childhood education.

As Hilltop looks toward the future, it continues to honor the legacy of Pastor Porritt and his wife, Jean by doing exactly what they set out to do: serve children and families with joy, excellence, and faith.

Your Sister in Christ,
Pamela Little
Chair of The Hilltop Advisory Committee

And now from Barbara– Hilltop Director!

I cannot believe we are in the last 7 weeks of our school year! The end of our year comes on June 15th with so many snow days we are ending a bit later than scheduled.

We have our annual Mother's Day flower fundraiser going on. Orders are due Wednesday, April 29th Mother's Day flowers will be available to pick up on Wednesday, May 06, 2026. There will be many colors to choose from but if you are looking for a specific one, it might be best for you to come early. I asked for delivery between 10 a.m. to noon.

We are holding our annual Art Show/Auction on Friday, April 24, 2026. Our special guest for the evening is Dan Bowen, a magician. There will be refreshments available for sale. There were also raffle items and artwork to be auctioned off. I would like to thank everyone who donated, helped to set up and clean up, and to the teachers and students for their creations. The proceeds from the Art Show/Silent Auction will benefit the Tuition Assistance Fund.

It is that time of year to recognize our sensational staff! We are fortunate to have strong staff in place. I wish to recognize and thank our teachers and support staff; Melanie Beebe, Stacey Fitzgerald, Nicole Waldron and their co-teachers, Brianna Ausen, Christina Brzoska, Cynthia McPhee, Tracy Sierdy, and Amy Werner and our assistant teacher Casaundra Abeling who have all worked extremely hard this year. I am honored to be completing my fifth year here at Hilltop alongside these awesome ladies!

A special recognition to the Hilltop Advisory Committee as they supported and helped me navigate this year as Director of Hilltop. We have continued to meet via Zoom; we have been a very productive group. Getting things done in a timely manner. We thank our members Pamela, Jane, Casaundra, Ron, and Gabrielle for your dedication to Hilltop!

Thank you to the property committee, Greg, Ralph, and Diane, they help keep us safe by maintaining the area we use.

Special thanks to church office staff. Rachel supports Hilltop in so many ways, always with a joyful heart and a smile on her face. The work that Margaret does for Hilltop is a part-time job on its own, never mind adding it on to the duties she has for the church! It is a pleasure collaborating with these lovely ladies!

Registrations for the 2026-2027 school year are ongoing. Our teachers use their creativity to set up the classroom for the health and safety of everyone. I am happy to report that registration thus far is going well. We continue to have full-day classrooms for the three-year-olds and four-year-olds. Please keep referring us to your friends and families. Once classes are filled, we maintain waiting lists for all classes, please continue to send folks our way.

At this time, we will have openings in twos and the M-F full-day classroom. Our publicly funded class only has five spaces available.

Our program choices include:

2-year-olds meet Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-11:30

3-year-olds meet 3 days a week. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 9:30-12:00 or 9:30-2:45.

4-year-olds meet 5 days a week. Monday-Friday 9:15-2:45

Early Start CT (formerly School Readiness) is our publicly funded class for preschool children who live in Torrington and fit within financial guidelines for a LOW-COST preschool experience. This class is from Monday through Friday 9:00-3:00.

Thank you all for your love, support, and prayers!

Blessings,
Barbara Mazzei

AROUND THE CHURCH

Save the Date for VBS 2026!

The Christian Education Committee is pleased to announce plans for Vacation Bible School 2026! The dates are August 3-7, 2026 from 9:00am -12:00pm for children ages 4 – Grade 6. Our theme will center around “God’s Creation.” We are also seeking adult and teenage helpers for both the week of VBS as well as for planning and preparation for the fun week of Christian growth for our Little Saints.

Please look for the registrations forms from your Sunday School teacher.

The forms will also be on our website soon and a link to them will go out weekly with the Bulletin eBlast!



The Women of the ELCA need Blue Jeans!

They will be used for a craft to be sold at St. Paul’s Famous Fall Fair!

Jeans can be in any condition as they will be cut up anyway! Please leave your donation in the box in the Narthex by the hall door.



**Men’s Breakfast
Wednesday
May 20
A/C Eatery
South Main St.
Torrington**

**Women’s Breakfast
Wednesday
April 20
George’s Restaurant
East Main St.
Torrington**



GARDEN OF MEMORIES

May slips softly through the gate,
With hints of green and whispers late.

Petals wake in blushing rows,
Breathing secrets only bees know.

Lilacs lean in perfumed air,
Sunlight tangles in their hair.
Robins stitch the morning sky,
While tulips lift their cups on high.

The soil hums with hidden art—
Roots composing life from dark.
And every leaf, both wild and tender,
Turns the garden into splendor.

If you would like more information on the
Garden of Memories, whether it about
interment or to volunteer to help with

maintenance,
please contact

Lisa Bodnar

860-491-6342 or bodnar983@gmail.com



THE CONNECTICUT YANKEE CHORALE
cordially invites you to

SEA TO SHINING SEA

A CHORAL CELEBRATION OF THE
250TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICA



SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026

4PM

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

837 CHARLES STREET
TORRINGTON, CT

The program will feature patriotic music by the chorale, guest instrumentalists,
and a presentation of our annual CYC Scholarship,
along with honoring our current service members and veterans.



Tickets:

Adults - \$15, Children 12 & under - \$5

Tickets available at the door

Donations of non-perishable food items for Friendly Hands Food Bank will be collected

Facebook: @ConnecticutYankeeChorale

Instagram: @connecticutyankeechorale

For further information, email: connecticutyankeechorale@gmail.com

Tai Chi For Health

Mindful Movement Through Tai Chi, Qigong
and Mindful Meditation Class

Through the practice of gentle movement, breathwork and mindful meditation we will release stress and anxiety, thereby harmonizing mind, body, spirit and emotions. By enhancing tranquility, we will improve balance, posture, coordination, mind/body awareness, flexibility, circulation, strength and range of motion.

Location: St Paul Lutheran Church 837 Charles St. Torrington

Tuesdays 10:15-11:15 am

Fee: \$12.00

To Register, Contact

Name: Bonnie

Phone: 860-485-3535

Email: B.TAICHI.3@gmail.com

Begins May 5!

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

HYBRID What Are You Afraid Of? Wednesday, May 20, 2026 10:00 AM 2:00 PM
Presented by Caroline Phipps

Despite all our technological advances in safety, studies show we are more fearful than ever. The constant flow of global information, social media, and increasingly volatile times are triggering fears (many existential) we've never experienced before – often things we didn't even know to be afraid of. The Fearmonger archetype now dominates the airwaves in every aspect of our daily lives, creating an exploitative "culture of fear" because there's control and money to be had by scaring people.

In this workshop, Fear – What Are You Afraid of?, we will explore the complexities of fear - both personally and collectively. How our fears protect us, control us, and, with courage and understanding, be transformed into positive, life-affirming change. Caroline Phipps is the Founder of Living With Inner Elegance, a Radio and Podcast Personality, and a Film Producer. She is also a Writer, Public Speaker, Workshop Facilitator, and Life Coach. Living With Inner Elegance is a powerful state where dignity and grace are not just qualities we possess; they become the essence of our actions. This alignment of mind, body, and spirit empowers us to craft genuine and practical solutions to the most demanding problems in our fast-paced and chaotic world.

Workbooks will be provided in person and available electronically to Zoom participants.
IN-PERSON | \$50, lunch is included ZOOM | \$20
<https://www.wisdomhouse.org/program-calendar/afraid-of> to register



229 East Litchfield Road Litchfield, CT, 06759
860-567-3163

Praying with Creation: Encountering God in a Theophanic Universe
Saturday, May 16, 2026, 8:30 to 4:30 p.m.

On this day of enrichment, we'll explore a Trinitarian vision of Creation as 'theophanic', or 'God-revealing'. We'll engage with prayer practices to enter into the love relationship between Creator and Creation, including practices of Immanence, Ascent Transcendence, and Descent.
register <https://www.holyfamilyretreat.org/calendar/>

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center
303 Tunxis Road
West Hartford, CT 06107
860.521.0440



Blood Drives @ St. Paul's
May 4th & 11th



Make an appointment today on their website



May 1st
Camden Ferrucci
Francine Ahrens

May 2nd
Brooklynn Dickinson

May 3rd
Ainslee Campbell

May 4th
Lyle Pelton

May 6th
Angela DiStefano

May 7th
Matilda Evanoski

May 8th
Kendhyall Abeling

May 12th
Ethan Schaller

May 15th
Karen Ness
Noah Shapiro

May 16th
Jessica Nardine

May 17th
Jacob Friday

May 18th
Casaundra Abeling
Coni-Jo Aparo
Linda Hamm

May 21st
John Krochalis

May 22nd
Wendy Iannelli
Doug Harrel
Ignacio Vega

May 24th
Tyler Rosenbeck

May 26th
Fran Seitz
Freyja Harrel

May 27th
Donny Crossman
Eli Boda
Dax Baker

May 30th
Mason Ferrucci

James and Margaret Clavette, Jr. 5-2-92
John and Wendy Iannelli 5-2-84
H. Curtis and Margita Stone 5-20-89
Roman & Leisa Radzins 5-22-82
Charles & Roxanne Studelska 5-28-77
Jon and Deb Sterling 5-31-04



Friends and Family of

Eleanor Klonoski
Sigrid Devita
James Murdick
Betsy Anderson

KID'S COLORING PAGE

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



love

joy

kindness

peace

patience

goodness

faithfulness

gentleness

self-control



837 Charles Street
Torrington, CT
06790

Staff Directory 860-482-3555

The Reverend Dr. G. Scott Cady, Pastor
Rachel Harrel, Secretary
Margaret Clavette, Bookkeeper
Marcia Newcome, Music Director
Lisa Bodnar, Custodian

gscady@gmail.com
secretary@stpaulstorrington.com
bookkeeper@stpaulstorrington.com

Hilltop School Staff 860-482-3727

Barbara Mazzei, Director & Head Teacher
director@hilltopchristianelc.com

Nicole Waldron, Teacher
Melanie Beebe, Teacher
Linda Arigoni, Teacher
Stacey Fitzgerald, Teacher
Amy Werner, Teacher
Tracy Sierdy, Assistant Teacher
Cynthia McPhee, Assistant Teacher
Casaundra Abeling, Custodian

www.stpaulstorrington.com

Church Council	2026
Vinni Carey	President
Diane Boscarino	Vice President
Judy Ludwig	Secretary
Pamela Little	Treasurer
Julie Brewster	Member
Beth Brower	Member
Robin Potwora	Member
Dana O'Brien	Member
Jeanette Richard	Member
Greg Weingart	Member