

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

The Good News!

Sunday Services

January

- 7 **Baptism of Our Lord**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 14 **Epiphany 2**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 21 **Epiphany 3**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 28 **Epiphany 4**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am

**Midweek services will begin on
February 22**

February

- 4 **Epiphany 5**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am
- 11 **Transfiguration of Our Lord**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 14 **Ash Wednesday**
Worship & Communion
TBA
- 18 **Lent 1**
Worship & Communion
10:00 am
- 25 **Lent 2**
Worship and Communion
10:00 am



Find us on  facebook.com/StPaulsTorrington





A Word from Pastor Cady



Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

Moving into a new year is often an occasion for looking back. We are reminded of the people who have made history in the last 12 months, or the historic events that have made the news. We hear again for the movies that were the biggest hits, or the innovative products that change our lives. We reflect on those we've lost, either close to us, or prominent figures on the world stage. As we enter 2024, we think back on the high and low points of 2023.

I understand this pattern. It is a version of what some of us do every evening as we think back on the events of the day that is passing, both to be pleased with accomplishments, or to consider mistakes that we do not want to repeat. There is always something to learn from a review of the past.

But let us not lose sight of this opportunity to look ahead. The future lies before us, and, just as every new morning gives us a chance to live a better life, so each new year God calls us to write a new chapter in our journey.

As a congregation, St. Paul's has a rich and inspiring past. It is my conviction that we also have everything we need to have an even more inspiring future. Some of our conversations of late have revolved around our challenges. These challenges are real, and fostering open discussion of them is healthy. This new year is our time to be creative, invigorated, and constructive in forging a sustainable and faithful future.

Nothing about a congregation's life is ever static. Changes in membership, leadership and social changes around us all create an ever shifting dynamic. It is in the intersection of these changes, and in our adaptations to them that a vibrant and effective ministry can continue to evolve. We are poised to make important strides that will have a lasting impact on this church and those we serve.

I'm encouraging you all to be as involved in this exciting year as you can be. Watch for new or renewed opportunities for joyful fellowship, a series of events focused on generosity, some new initiatives for our youth, some creative engagement with other parishes, other non-profits and businesses in town, and activities geared toward deepening our spirituality. Be ready to offer your own best ideas about ways to live out our faith for the good of all. Help us to find ways to bring our best gifts to bear on the needs of the church and the world.

And let us ground all this in worship. We are not just an organization seeking its own good. We are "a royal priesthood, a holy nation," rooted in the promises of God. Our future is in God's hands, and we will be best equipped to joyfully move into it as we embrace the great blessing of time together in praise and prayer to our Maker and Redeemer.

Blessing to you all this new year, and may we together be a blessing to our neighbors in the name of Christ.

Pastor Scott Cady



Finance



Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ,

It's hard to believe, but here we are beginning a new year. I am so thankful for our Lord God! He provided two very nice contributions from a couple of members that were received at the end of 2023. These contributions allowed us to end the year without having to pull more money from investments! Our God is good! Many thanks to those members who listened to his urging.

As you can see, the capital campaign is off and running. We plan to keep you informed on how we are doing weekly with the thermometer being updated, quarterly with temple talks, and through the newsletter. You can find envelopes earmarked for the campaign in the pews as well as in the Narthex. Please use these envelopes when making a contribution to assure these funds can be tracked.

If you have any questions regarding the campaign, please feel free to contact me. You can email me at plittle1.pl@gmail.com or call me at 203.612.1375. We pray this campaign will be a success and with your help, it will be.

I wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year filled with our Lord's love, peace and joy!

Your Sister in Christ,

Pamela Little

Treasurer/Finance Committee

ANNUAL MEETING



Annual Meeting of the Congregation Part II Sunday, February 25th

The meeting will take place in the Fellowship Hall with a potluck brunch at 11:00 am followed by the meeting at noon. Sunday School will take place as scheduled. We urge all to attend to hear what are various ministries and committees have done in the past year!

Capital Campaign

If you hadn't noticed, there is a big glass JAR in the Narthex. Hard to miss. The "JAR" is a project of your Capital Campaign Committee. One of many ideas to come, in our work to maintain the solvency of our beloved St. Paul's.

So here is how it works, as you pass by the JAR in your coming and going, toss in some spare change or yes, even bills. Both kids and adults will love to hear the tinkle of coins as they work to fill the belly of our JAR friend.

For some, coins in their purses are an annoyance. Here at St. Paul's these coins and bills present opportunity. As Benjamin Franklin said "A penny saved is a penny earned." I had to inquire as to who coined that familiar saying. Get it "coined." Sorry, for my lame pun.

So, think about every church service you attend, you have the chance to add some to your regular offering. Think about starting a coin collection "JAR" at home with the goal of transferring these coins into the Narthex "JAR."

There are 52 Sundays in a year. So, do the math. If I/You make a commitment to drop a "dollar" in the Jar for each of these services, that is \$52.00. You can see how that adds up with individuals and families engaged in the challenge to fill the JAR.

The Capital Campaign Committee will have more to say about the JAR in the coming weeks and months.

A Blessed New Year to You All
from your Capital Campaign Committee!



Thank you!



As we enter a new year there are many things to be thankful for. As I look back onto the past several weeks, I want to say thank you to the congregation and friends for the amazing response to the various opportunities which so many of you responded to. St. Paul's Women put together four beautiful Thanksgiving baskets for families in need within our congregation. Jane and Wayne Yurgalevich provided a basket and Brian and Diane Miller donated frozen turkeys in memory of Brian's Mom, Erna Miller. (This

project was near and dear to Erna's heart for many years.) The Women's group provided fresh fruits and veggies as well as non-perishables, snacks and treats. Four families were thankful for these gifts of bounty and love.

In early November the Weingart's placed the Hat and Mitten Tree in the Narthex to collect hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, and socks for children and adults. The donations were far greater than we ever expected and donations were shared with many grateful children and adults. I know some of you are probably already knitting away making mittens and hats for next year! There were many handmade items on the tree this year – a blessing, indeed! Our Cookie Project took on a whole new look this year due to the generosity of not only our two confirmation families, but the Christian Education Committee and members of the congregation. Confirmands have traditionally done this project but with only two families we put an invitation out for help! And help we got! Thank you to those who baked so many tasty treats to share with college students, sick, shut-in, and elderly members. Thanks, also, to those who so willingly helped with deliveries.

The Angel Project took place during November and early December. Sincere thanks to those who participated to make the season brighter for families and individuals in need. We also made fruit baskets for families and individuals who had lost a member of their family during the last year. I am pleased to report that two families who received help in the past were in a better situation this year and didn't need our help while we picked up another family who is experiencing hardship. It is a privilege to do God's work for members in need as we continue to share His love at Christmastime for the last 36 years. This is one of the only projects we do almost solely in house.

St. Paul's Women and the Property Committee gathered in early December to decorate the Chrismon tree and nave. We then gather for a meal and celebration. Thanks to those who come out year after year to help do this year after year. As with everything, what goes up must also come down! The snow on January 7th forced us to change our plans but folks still came out the following evening to "untrim" the tree. Thanks to all participants.

I would be remiss if I didn't express thanks to our Sunday School and Confirmation families for their participation in our Pageant on December 17th. We had almost 100% participation for the second year. Sadly, one child came down with the croup. The pageants are simple ways for children to express the Christmas story in a way they can easily understand.

Thanks to the parents who so willingly bring their children to the rehearsal and to Sunday School and Confirmation class each week.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!
Paula

"SOUP"ER BOWL OF CARING

Food Insecurity in our nation continues to be a problem. Reasons probably differ from area to area but I believe nationwide, inflation is a lingering problem. At this writing, gone are the days where you could feed a family of 4 for a few bucks; rarely can you find a cut of meat below \$4/lb. Those of us who are food secure are called to help fill the gaps for our hungry neighbors. Through the "Soup"er Bowl of Caring faith communities, school groups, businesses, and social organizations around the country are joining forces to "Tackle Hunger." Begun in 1990, countless groups nationwide have worked to help feed the hungry on the weekend of Super Bowl, when so many are gathered for the big game, feasting on snacks, pizza, and wings, while neighbors worry about what they will feed their children the next day. This year our food donations will go to Friendly Hands Food Bank. Thanks for helping to make a difference in our community. "Can Can you help?" Sales on many non-perishables is going on now. If you're able to take advantage of some of these sales, it's not too early to start bringing donations to church. We will be accepting donations through February 11th.

Can-Can You Help?



As part of "Soup"er Bowl of Caring Weekend we'd like to collect as many non-perishable food items as possible to support hungry neighbors. Join thousands of other churches, school, and civic organizations as we try to

"Tackle Hunger in our Communities."



Suggested items include:

Peanut Butter & Jelly

Proteins – Tuna, Chicken, Beef Stew,
Beans

Canned Pasta

Hot & Cold Cereals

Mac & Cheese

Pasta & Sauces

Hearty Soups

Crackers, Cookies, & Snacks

Complete Pancake Mix & Syrup

Donations can be stacked in the Narthex until February 12th.

“Soup”er Bowl of Caring

Grinder, Salad, and Chili Sale & Non-Perishable Food Drive

to Benefit Friendly Hands Food Bank

Saturday, February 10, 2024

(snow date Sunday, February 11th)



12:00pm – 2:00pm



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

837 Charles Street, Torrington, CT 06790

**Detach & Return with Payment to Offering Plate or
St. Paul's Office no later than 2/6/2024**

Name: _____ **Phone:** (____) _____

_____ **Grinder, Chili, & Chips (Deluxe) = \$15.00 each**

(Circle One) Ham, Turkey, Italian Combo

_____ **Chef Salad, Chili, & Chips (Deluxe) = \$15.00 each**

_____ **Grinder & Chips = \$10.00 each**

(Circle One) Ham, Turkey, Italian Combo

_____ **Chef Salad & Chips = \$10.00 each**

_____ **1-Quart Container Chili = \$15.00**



January already! We hope that all had a relaxing and rejuvenating Holiday! We are back and ready to tackle the remainder of our 2023-2024 school year.

We were delighted to have our families join us for Holiday Celebrations in the classroom. Parents and guardians were able to join in a sing-along and enjoy holiday treats.



Registration is now underway for the 2024-2025 school year. Right now, we are accepting registrations from St. Paul's members and current Hilltop families. Registration will open to the public on January 24, 2024. As we have done in the last few years, it is not required for people to show up in person for registrations. They can be mailed or emailed; however, it is convenient for families. If your family has a child eligible for our 2-, 3-, or 4-year-old classes, be sure to register early to save your spot! If you know someone with a preschooler, let them know! Our full day "school day" classroom was very popular for those families needing a longer day than our usual 2.5-hour preschool program. Other classroom options include: two days for two-year-olds, 3 ½ days for 3- or 4-year-olds and the state funded School Readiness Classroom that meets 9-3 Monday through Friday.

As always, the school portraits were adorable! We earned a bit of commission that will help to offset our budget due to lower than usual enrollment this year.

We would like to thank everyone who supported us with our Spice Fundraiser. This event helped us to raise over \$900.00 that will be used to purchase supplies.

Our next fundraiser is "BINGO With a Kick!" join us IN PERSON for a fun night of BINGO, with amazing prizes! This is run by "Everything Happens for a Reason Fundraising" and will be held on Friday, March 1 at 7 pm. Look for the event on Facebook at Everything Happens for a Reason Fundraising. More information on purchasing BINGO cards will be forthcoming.

We covet your prayers for the Hilltop ministry. We pray that 2024 will bring health, happiness & PEACE!

In His Service,
Barbara J. Mazzei, Director
& Head Teacher

BINGO WITH A KICK! FUNDRAISER

ST. PAUL'S HILLTOP CHRISTIAN EARLY LEARNING CENTER

6 GAMES
2 PRIZES per GAME
Bingo Winner PICKS
Other Prize KICKS
to the
Second Chance Drawing

12 PRIZES
\$100 Gift Cards & Designer Handbags

Friday March 1st

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

BONUS
RESERVE A TABLE OF 6
Receives one extra pack of bingo cards

\$35
Per Person

1 Bingo Card
for each of the 6 games

1 Kick Ticket

BRING YOUR OWN SNACKS & BEVERAGES
Non-Alcoholic only

Door Prizes!

RAFFLE

BINGO @ 7pm
Doors open @ 6pm

HOW TO ORDER
On-Line: Scan Code →
Call/Text: 860.550.3249
Seats are limited - Pre-sale only



Church safety



St. Paul's Lutheran Church Safety Guidelines

The Church Council would like everyone to be safe while volunteering at church. If you find that you will be alone in the building, please follow these guidelines.

- ♦ Make sure all doors are locked.
- ♦ Please make sure you always carry your cell phone.
- ♦ Please let someone know that you are here alone and what time you are leaving. If the parking lot is empty, please call someone to talk to while you are walking to the car.

If you suspect someone is in the building or something is out of place, do not enter the building. If you are inside, get out of the building immediately, or lock yourself into a room. When you are safe, call 911. After you call 911, please inform the Council President and Property chair.

If an incident or accident occurs, please fill out an incident/accident report within 24 hours.

Thank you

St Paul's Council





Around the church



Garden of memories



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

MOVIE NIGHT

While St. Paul's Women don't have a scheduled meeting in January, we decided to try a Movie and Popcorn Night! Come and join your sisters for some downtime and relaxation. We're using Pastor Cady's suggestion to watch an oldie but goodie, "Oh, God," starring John Denver and George Burns. Join us on Friday evening, January 19th, at 6:30pm, in the Parlor. Wear your PJs if you wish and bring a beverage for yourself. We'll have the popcorn popped for your enjoyment. Snow date is January 26th. All are invited and bring a friend!

of the
Women ELCA 



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Cady will lead St. Paul's Women in a Lenten Bible Study at their monthly meeting on Monday, February 26th, beginning at 7pm. All are welcome to attend. On the agenda will be planning for the Naugatuck Valley Women's Spring Gathering, Lenten Suppers & Services, and other Spring activities. Please join us if you are able. Hostesses for the evening are Kathy Depaoli, Karen Marciano, and Karen Ness. Taking a look ahead to March, on the 25th, we will be hearing from Susan Suhanovsky, sister to Pamela Little and Liz Falls, about her experience on her Holy Walk/El Camino de Santiago in Spain. Pamela and Liz are serving as hostesses in March.



Women's Breakfast
Wednesday,
17th of January
21st of February

George's Restaurant
East Main St. Torrington

Men's Breakfast
Wednesday,
17th of January
21st of February

A/C Eatery
South Main St. Torrington



2

Cynthia Rose

3

David Barone
Luca Reginatto

4

Ron Travis

6

Betty Grunder

8

Cathy Winzler

11

Bill Richards

13

Will Siss

14

Sterling Jones

18

William Hohensee
Curtis Stone

20

Ty Hogan
Colton Wilmot

21

Kathleen Olkowski

22

Renate Higgins

23

Kenneth Muller
Joan Wolfinger
Martin Thompson
Jonathan Magyar

24

Heinz Beier

27

Maggie Cady

28

Margaret Clavette
Kendra Campbell

29

Sarah Corey

Walter & Liz Emmett

1-19-91



St. Paul's Quilters will resume their sewing on Wednesday, January 17th after a brief hiatus for the holidays. Experience is not necessary; we have some master quilters who are very willing to lend a hand!

**We meet most Wednesdays
from 1pm – 4pm.**



A baby girl, Amelia, was born on December 10, 2023 to Joceline and Steve Mosca. Her grandmother is Michele Binelli and great-grandmother is Emily Decker.



2

Eileen Schroeder

7

Pamela Little

9

Avery Rosenbeck
Pilar Weingart

10

Gene Schroeder, Sr.
Gabbie Abeling
Atlas Muhl

11

Edie Balkun
Dori Wityak
Emily Szabo

12

Arianna Begey

14

Richard Hanusch
Gianna Begey

17

Ely Barone

20

Rosemary Schibi
Laurel Siss

22

Christine Dickinson

26

David Nygren
Danielle Begey
Juilett Dziedzic

28

Glenn Hornfischer

Dennis and Barbara Nalette
David and Laura Barone
Mark and Leslie Langenheim, Sr.

2/14/76
2/16/08
2/27/ 88

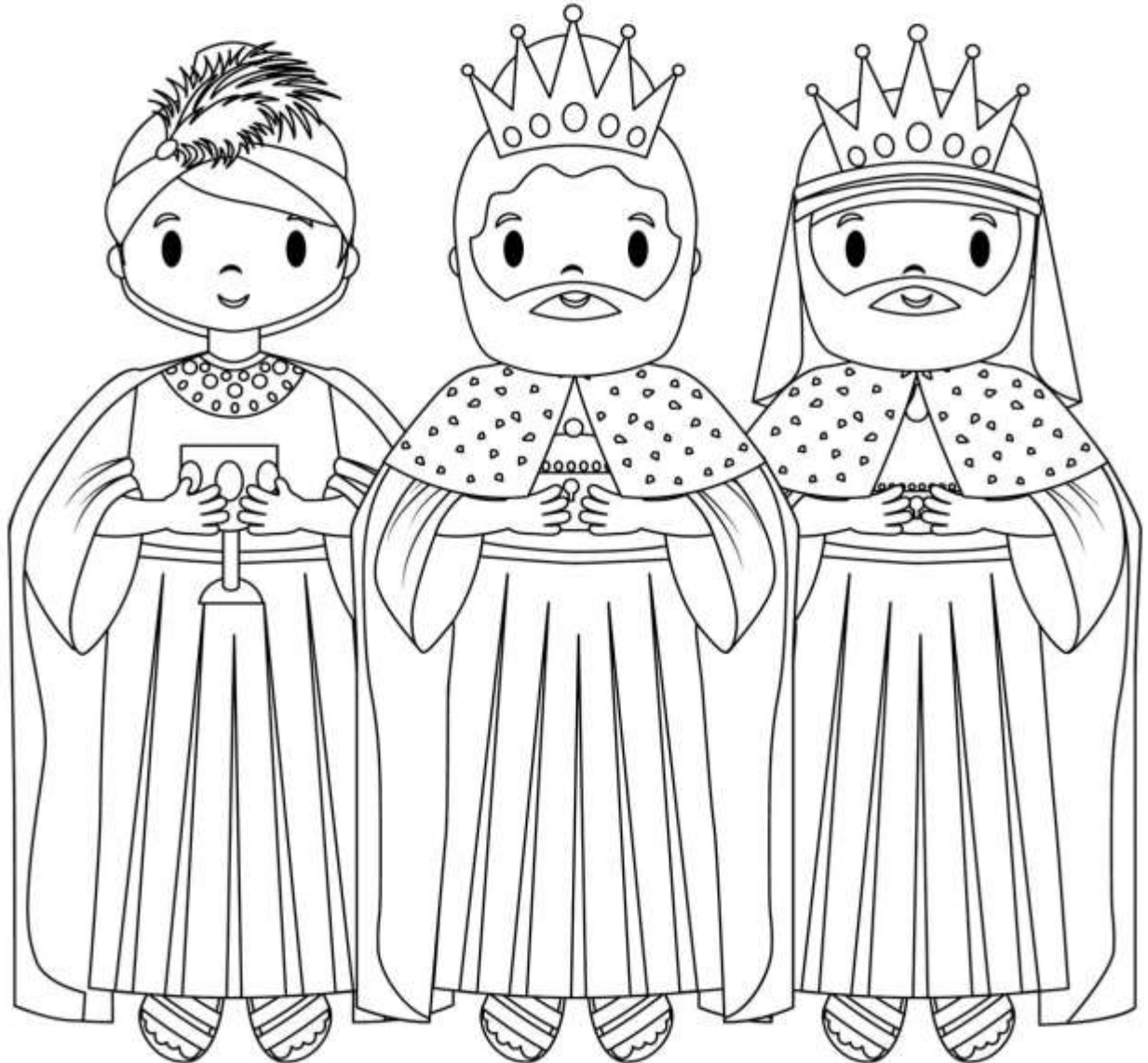
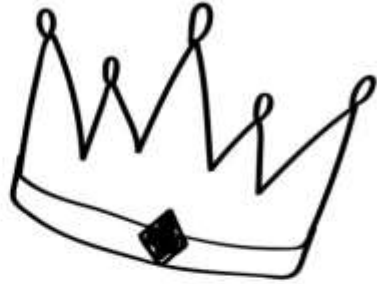


Tai Chi Wednesday Mornings
11:00

Drop in whenever the mood
strikes. Free to all!
For more information
karen.trippodi@gmail.com

Kids Page!

the three KINGS





Community Support



How you can help out our friends at Trinity Episcopal Church:



Trinity Episcopal Church, Torrington CT

January 10 at 8:55 PM · 🌐

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THERE HAVE BEEN MANY INQUIRIES AS TO HOW PEOPLE CAN ASSIST THE OVERFLOW SHELTER:
Read on!

You can volunteer at the shelter via the Y. Apply at <https://www.nwcty.org/volunteer/> or reach out to Willem Donahue at wdonahue@nwcty.org. Volunteering could involve monitoring people in different areas of the building, connecting with guests, and assisting staff with different duties. It could be for two or more hours or a whole shift, likely awake. Volunteers are especially needed during cold weather events when the shelter is open as a warming center.

Another volunteer role is washing and sorting overflow linens at Laundry Magic (683 Main Street). Contact Mel at Trinity Church (860) 482-6027 for details on assisting with the linens.

You can donate money to the Y for the shelter: <https://www.nwcty.org/donate/>

Shelter wish list:

- Bus Passes (one card with ten rides is \$15.75, monthly card is \$63)
- Laundry gift cards
- Gas cards (for guests with cars)
- Uber gift cards (for those who don't have cars)
- Y and Planet Fitness memberships (for showers and exercise)
- Lysol spray cans
- Hand warmers
- New gloves
- New socks and underwear
- New boots
- Covid tests
- Playing cards, games, puzzles
- Cups, creamer, sugar, bottled water, hot cocoa packets or K-cups
- Microwavable items (mac and cheese, etc..)
- New clothing and shoes - we prefer that you donate a few items at a time to people who need it, as Overflow lacks space to store unused donations. Come to the shelter and talk to staff about which guests need clothing and what their sizes are. Large clothing donations can go to the Gathering Place (see below)

Please DO NOT deliver or leave donations at the church outside of shelter hours. The shelter is open from 8:00 P.M. until 7:00 A.M.

Meals: Community Soup Kitchen of Torrington, 220 Prospect Street (Maiden Lane entrance).
Breakfast served weekdays at 8am, Mon-Sat lunch at 11:30am, Sunday lunch at 1pm.

Volunteer at the Soup Kitchen: <https://torringtonsoupkitchen.com/volunteer/> or call (860) 482-0130. They have expanded hours to serve as a warming center in morning and evening.

Large clothing donations can go to the Gathering Place, 21 Prospect Street, Suite A (860) 618-3455. This is a drop in center with showers, washing machines, clothing, and referrals. Weekdays 9am-3pm.

Monetary donations: Trinity Episcopal Church (for heating, electricity, water, janitorial supplies etc.) 220 Prospect Street

(860) 482-6027 <https://www.trinity-torrington.org/donate>

Please consider volunteering or donating goods or money to any of the above-mentioned organizations that are helping to shelter and feed the neediest among us.

Thank you



I delivered the hats and mittens from our tree in the Narthex to the Community Soup Kitchen. They were very appreciative. I said "the things we take for granted are what they need most". The board member I was speaking with mentioned they could also use umbrellas, tents and sleeping bags. If anyone has these items that they no longer use, I would gladly take them down for you.

You can contact me via email jeanetterichard@hotmail.com

Blessings,

Jeanette Richard

Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT



837 Charles Street
Torrington, CT
06790

Staff Directory 860-482-3555

The Reverend Dr. G. Scott Cady, Pastor
Rachel Harrel, Secretary
Jean Schlapfer, 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
Nicole Sears, Teacher
Monica Valente, Teacher
Christina Brzoska, Teacher
Nicole Waldron, Teacher
Melanie Beebe, Teacher
Teresa Guzman-Sanchez, Assistant Teacher
Tracy Sierdy, Assistant Teacher
Emily Jury, Student Teacher
Shaelynn Holmgren, Custodian

director@hilltopchristianelc.com

www.stpaulstorrington.com
