





ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

APRIL 2024

ISSUE 9

VOLUME 4

FOR GOD SO
loved 
THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE
HIS ONLY *son*
BEGOTTEN
THAT WHOSOEVER
believes 
in Him
SHOULD NOT PERISH
BUT HAVE
Everlasting
LIFE.

JOHN 3:16

APRIL 2024

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ELIZABETH

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

The Alleluias have returned!

During the month of April, we will be celebrating the 50 days of Easter at St. Paul's. You will notice a new liturgy on Sunday mornings, with some parts you have heard before, and some that are new. You will also get to see the new banner that has been created with your handwritten Alleluias. In case you were wondering why you were writing the word Alleluia on Transfiguration Sunday; it was a physical way for us to contribute to the life of our congregation. A way for us to "bury" the alleluias during the season of Lent, and a way for us to bring them back into our worship liturgy after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Thank you to everyone who assisted with the many services during Holy Week. It would not have been possible without your help. While it was chilly on Palm Sunday, we were fortunate enough to begin our service outside and process with our palms into the sanctuary. A great way to begin Holy Week. The Great Three Days; Maundy (Holy) Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, reminded us of the great sacrifice that was made on the cross on our behalf. All culminating with our Easter Celebration.

Also, this month, the Greater Hartford Conference of Lutheran Churches will be offering an Earth Day Eve event on the 21st. It will be an opportunity for our various churches and congregations to come together to think about the future of our climate and our impact on it. I hope you will be able to attend. There is more information in this issue of The Epistle.

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

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.



A sincere thank you to all who took the time to bake and those who gave a monetary donation for our recent **Bake Sale**. Despite a cold, rainy day and only 65 customers, we topped off at **\$1,154.00** which will be applied to the cost of refurbishing the four outside doors. In addition we couldn't accomplish this without our members taking on advertising, printing flyers, securing permits, shopping for start-up supplies, placing signs around town, setting up tables, manning Fellowship Hall during "drop off times," our Pecuniary Advisor, and of course our sales people.

Thanks for your much appreciated cooperation!

.....**IT DOES TAKE A VILLAGE!!!!**

APRIL 2024

VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE DURING APRIL THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

APRIL 7th

ASSISTING MINISTER: Need
READER: Joan Kratzer
USHERS: Need
ALTAR: Need
COUNTER: Dave Hourigan
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Need

APRIL 14th

ASSISTING MINISTER: Need
READER: Judy Gerken
USHERS: Need
ALTAR: Elaine Strecker
COUNTER: George Howe
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Need

APRIL 21st

ASSISTING MINISTER: Carol Bruce
READER: Carol Bruce
USHERS: Need
ALTAR: Carol Bruce
COUNTER: Judy Gerken
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Need

APRIL 28TH

ASSISTING MINISTER: Joy Hansen
READER: Joan Kratzer
USHERS: Need
ALTAR: Need
COUNTER: Bob Bowman
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Alice Ruppap & Sophia

APRIL 2023

APRIL GOSPEL READINGS

April 7th:	John 20:19-31
April 14th:	Luke 24:36b-48
April 21st:	John 10:11-18
April 28th:	John 15:1-8



SUNDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

If you would like to host on a Sunday morning, there is a sign-up sheet hanging on the white board in Fellowship Hall. All Sundays after April 7th are available. Jerry Hansen will help you make the coffee and there are goodies available for your use or you may provide your own. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Lundin.



FOOD PANTRY

THIS MONTH THERE IS A NEED FOR COFFEE, CANNED SOUP AND SPAGHETTI FOR THE FOOD PANTRY!!

The Wednesday Get-Together Group will now meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. Our next meeting will be April 3rd at 10:00 AM. Please mark your your calendars and we look forward to seeing you there!

APRIL 2024



What is God asking of YOU?

Outreach: the extending of services or assistance beyond current or usual limits.

Words taken from St. Paul's mission statement:

Accepting the mission to do what is asked of us, we are to be God's hands helping those in need.

The **Food Pantry Team** works tirelessly to serve the community who has come to rely on us for food assistance every week. Much planning and preparation goes into this weekly one day event. Ask Jerry Hansen if he needs help or what food items are needed – or better yet, offer a cash donation.

What else can we do to assist *those in need?*

Prayerfully consider how you can take part. What does **Outreach** mean to you? Where do you see a need? Having a good idea is as important as carrying out the work. Stay tuned for more information and opportunities for sharing your ideas. All are welcome.

Pray for Peace.



Yours in Christ,
Patty Bengtson/April 2024

APRIL 2023



RED SOX TICKET RAFFLE

TICKET SALES MARCH 23 – APRIL 7, 2024

\$10 PER TICKET (ONE WINNER)

TO BENEFIT S. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**A new Fund for Intergenerational Activities
(think about what would be promising and fun
activities to share)**

The Raffle Winner will receive:

**2 tickets for Great Seats behind Home Plate
At Fenway Park, Boston
For Sunday April 13th, 2024 at 4:10 pm**

RED SOX VS. LA ANGELS

**DRAWING OF WINNER WILL TAKE PLACE ON APRIL 7TH
WINNER WILL BE NOTIFIED BY PHONE/TEXT**

If you would like to contribute to the Fund without joining the raffle for baseball tickets, of course your donation will be welcome and put to positive use! Simply make your donation to St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, with a memo note for "Intergenerational Activity Fund".

**JOIN IN IMAGINING WHAT WE CAN DEVELOP AND
ENJOY TOGETHER!**

APRIL 2023



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church will host a National Day of Prayer Service with other Church Leaders from the community on Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 12 Noon.

The National Day of Prayer is observed annually on the first Thursday in May. This day observance, designated by the United States Congress, asks people "to turn to God in prayer and meditation."

There will be more information coming in the Weekly Emails in April!



FULLY WRITTEN ARTICLES FOR THE **MAY** EPISTLE are due by **APRIL 21st** .

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

Thank you!
Lorraine

APRIL 2024

JOIN US ON APRIL 21ST FOR THE
EARTH DAY EVE GATHERING!
EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
3:00 - 5:00 PM

We had much interest at the presentation by Pastor Darrell and Nancy Urban on Sunday, March 17th. We are hoping to have a good representation from St. Paul's at this event. There is a sign-up sheet on the white board. Please indicate if you would like to carpool from St. Paul's. **WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS IN THE WEEKLY EMAILS.**

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HELPING TO FORM A GREEN TEAM AT ST. PAUL'S?

We would like to explore the creation of a **GREEN TEAM MINISTRY** here at St. Paul's. We are off to a good start with our reusable mugs and grocery bags. There is so much more we can learn and do! We will be contacting the Synod representative for Green Teams, Nancy Wright, for some guidance as well as exploring the website *Lutherans Restoring Creation*. It is our hope that we can have an action plan to bring to council for approval and be ready to go in the fall. Please contact Patty Bengtson or Sue Agne for more information and to become involved in this new and exciting opportunity! We are all called to be dedicated stewards of the earth.

APRIL 2024

There's a place for you on "Team Stream."

DID YOU KNOW?:

On some Sundays, 20% of people attending a St. Paul's worship service aren't even inside the church? That's because they're participating remotely.

People (actually, a lot of people) are worshipping with our YouTube live stream every week.

Just like Martin Luther used the latest technology to spread the Good News ["Thank you, Gutenberg"], St. Paul's continues the tradition five centuries later. Our hymns, our sermons, our feeling of community, and even the children's sermon have been reaching around the world.

You can be part of this unique St. Paul's ministry, sending our "Here I Am, Lord" spirit to wherever people are. Even if you're new to our behind-the-scenes technology, you'll discover that learning the ropes is both challenging and very rewarding.

Come check it out. To get a close-up look at how it all comes together, please step upstairs to the balcony during any Sunday service. Dr. Luther's spirit will welcome you!!



APRIL 2024

AS SEEN RECENTLY AROUND ST. PAUL'S



PALM SUNDAY
MARCH 24, 2024



APRIL 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 WORSHIP & MUSIC MTG 4:30 PM	3 Get Together Wednesday Group 10:00am CHOIR 7:30PM	4 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	5	6 SALEM CHURCH
7 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP PASTOR ON VACATION 4/7-4/13	8 OFFICE CLOSED	9 PARISH ADMIN 6:30PM	10 CHOIR 7:30PM	11 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00 COMMUNICATIONS MTG. 6:00 PM	12	13 SALEM CHURCH
14 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP WOLFPACK HOCKEY GAME 3 PM	15 OFFICE CLOSED	16 CHURCH COUNCIL MTG 7:00 PM	17 Get Together Wednesday Group 10:00am CHOIR 7:30	18 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	19	20 SALEM CHURCH
21 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP EARTH DAY EVE 3-5 PM	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23	24 CHOIR 7:30	25 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	26	27 SALEM CHURCH
28 10:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30				

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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

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:

Russ Bengtson
rbengt@sbcglobal.net

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT:

Heather Christensen
heather.christensen@combined.com

COUNCIL SECRETARY:

Matthew Perry
mperry0905@aol.com

TREASURER:

Tom Grottke
tgrottke@thenbsgroup.com

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

Mary Procyk
Mprocyk.shopping@gmail.com

BOOKKEEPER

Peter Dunn
bookkeeper@stpaulswethersfield.org

