

ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

SUMMER 2024

ISSUE 11

VOLUME 6

*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



SUMMER 2024

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR CUMMINGS

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

Summer is now in full swing, and I hope you are staying cool and finding time to rest, recharge, and relax. I am looking forward to some time away over the next few months to visit with extended family and have the chance to explore Connecticut more with some day trips. I am also excited to continue the tradition of Summer Lunches at local restaurants. The dates for July and August have been set (July 18 and August 20) but I am still looking for recommendations of your favorite spots to eat. Please feel free to invite others so they can get to know us and all the great ways we are active in our community.

As we look ahead, St. Paul's will have a table at National Night Out on August 6 at the Pitkin Center. Please consider stopping by, manning the table for a bit, and sharing your faith with others. **We will once again partner with Our Savior's, Newington, on Sept. 8 for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. We will worship together and then gather for food and fellowship while we participate in a community service project. Mark your calendars because that is also the Sunday that we will push our worship time to 10:00 am.** Pr. Joe McGary and I are also looking ahead to a joint outdoor pet blessing service in October. I hope you and your furry family members will be able to attend.

Praying for your safe travels this summer and that you find time to experience God's good creation in your everyday lives.

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

SUMMER 2024

JULY GOSPEL READINGS

July 7th: Mark 6:1-13

July 14th: Mark 6:14-29

July 21st: Mark 6:30-34,53-56

July 28th: John 6:1-21



AUGUST GOSPEL READINGS

August 4th: John 6:24-35

August 11th: John 6:35,41-51

August 18th: John 6:51-58

August 25th: John 6:56-59



Pr. Joe McGary will be covering for pastoral emergencies from July 1 - July 7th., He can be reached at 315-935-7240. **Pr. Dick Burgess** is also available and his number is 860-462-6545.

Pr. Joanna Hertzog-Betkoski will be covering from August 5–11. She can be reached at 860-595-2004.

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 2024

We are continuing our tradition of Summer Lunches at our local restaurants. The dates are July 18th and August 20th at 1 pm.

We are looking for recommendations of your special spots to eat.

Also feel free to invite others so they can get to know us!! We hope you can join us!



We will have a table at National Night Out on August 6th at the Pitkin Center. Please consider stopping by, manning the table for a bit and sharing your faith with others!

God's work. Our hands.



September 8, 2024

We will once again partner with Our Savior's in Newington on Sept. 8th for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. We will worship together and then gather for food and fellowship while joining in a community service project. Also mark your calendars as that is also the Sunday we will start worship at 10 am.



DONATE BUTTONS

Joy Hansen is looking for donations of any extra buttons you may have to be turned into craft creations for our **Inspiration Garden Booth at this year's Holiday Fair**. Too many is not enough—looking for all shapes, sizes and colors. Please leave your button donations in the specially marked container near the mailboxes.

Thank you for looking into your sewing baskets for her!!

On Saturday, June 8th a small group of church members gathered at our church and accomplished many housekeeping tasks.

The kitchen cabinets and drawers were put back in order; the storage room off the Social Hall was cleaned out and put in order, as well as the Furnace Room. These are just a few of the tasks done.

We enjoyed the fellowship of working together and we were glad to be of service to our church.

Thank you for your energy, time and talents. Your coming in and working was so appreciated!!



Thank You Note to Salem Seventh-Day Adventist Church from Melissa Cheyney

Dear Members of Salem Seventh Day Adventist Church:

On behalf of Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, I would like to convey how privileged and blessed we have been to share our worship space with you since June 2015. You have been such diligent and faithful stewards of our church. I will always treasure my memories of watching Elder Gus sweeping the sanctuary!

But more than sharing a sacred space, we have built a yearslong faith partnership with you. You always participated in Christmas Caroling with our shut-ins, and any time there was a special concert, you were always there. As the Minister of Music, I really appreciated having your members singing with our choir on Christmas Eve and other special occasions. You have generously contributed to many of our programs, including the Holiday Fair and the new organ fund. And I know there is a loyal group of St. Paul's members, that look forward to the Salem citrus fundraiser for the Seventh Day Adventist Academy, every fall.

After the COVID-19 shutdown, it was my honor and joy to play the organ for your Saturday worship services. Although small in number, you were large in spirit, and I loved having to pull out every stop on the organ to accompany your spirited singing.

More than anything, together we shared a love of God and a common purpose: to spread God's word in the community, and to grow deeper in our faith.

We are so sad to see you leave to go to your church in Hartford, and you will be sorely missed. We take consolation in knowing this is the best step for Salem Church's congregation. We also know that although St. Paul's Church and Salem Church may be separate in location, we will always be together in our faith, purpose, and heart. St. Paul's church wishes you all the best in your faith journey.

God's Blessings,

Melissa Cheyney
Minister of Music

SUMMER 2024

Thank You Note from Elder Gus
Salem Seventh-Day Adventist Church

June 22, 2024

*To: Our Brothers and Sisters at St. Paul's Lutheran
Church*

We are forever grateful to the Lord and you for opening your doors nine years ago to a bunch of strangers seeking a place of worship. During our stay, you have been gracious, welcoming, hospitable and caring. We will continue to praise God and express our gratitude to Him and to you for this enlightening and rewarding experience. Our prayer is that although we may part company for a time, we look forward to that great reunion in heaven. May the Lord continue to bless your many ministries in the Wethersfield community and beyond. May He also continue to bless your wonderful pastor, Rev. Elizabeth Cummings and your devoted music ministry leader, sister Missy Cheyney and their families in an extraordinary way. May He also bless all the families of St. Paul's.

From: Salem SDA Church

Elder Gus Descouflair



SUMMER 2024

OUTREACH TEAM

Fall is a busy time of year and 2024 has some exciting new events on the horizon.

Last year we participated in **Wethersfield's National Night Out**. It was a super organized and well attended event and St. Paul's will have a presence again this year on **August 6th**. Please spread the word about this night and come and see for yourself what our community has to offer! If you are able to help out at our table, it would be appreciated very much.

Cornfest: The date will be Sept. 14th. St. Paul's had planned on participating last year - for the first time- but the event was cancelled due to weather. We plan to have a table there this year. Volunteers will be ESSENTIAL and more information will follow. Share the word so more people know about **The Cornfest**. We hope that this will become an annual event for St. Paul's.

Outreach Annual Fair: Even though the fair ran smoothly without a chair person last year, at the last meeting an opinion was shared that a co-coordinator was important. Sue Agne and Patty Bengtson agreed to take on this role. Important information thus far:

November 23rd will be the date.

Sue Agne & Patty Bengtson will Co-chair

Kitchen : Rick Seip and Jerry Hansen

Country Store: Erica Dublois (and family)

Inspirational Garden: Joy Hansen

Christmas Boutique: Debbie LePage

Baked Goods: Jan Pergande, Judy Lundin, and Elaine Strecker

Tag Sale: Heather Christensen

Rare Reminder: we will look into placing ads in this paper well in advance to let the community know about our Fair.

Open door to sanctuary: As an effort to showcase our worship space and our beautiful new organ to our guests, we will have doors open to the church for a part of the day. Missy has graciously offered to play some beautiful music for part of the time. This will depend on if we have enough volunteers agreeing to be present and willing to greet newcomers. **This is a new volunteer position and one that does not require physical labor or any preparation. We just ask that we have members be present in church to greet anyone who should come in. Sitting in the pew, listening to music and being a cheerful greeter is the only request.**

Check white board for announcements, volunteer opportunities and date for next meeting.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY TO HELP OTHERS



School Supplies Collection

Through August, St. Paul's Outreach Committee will be coordinating a school supply collection for Wethersfield students as part of the Wethersfield Social and Youth Services Backpack program.

Here is the wish list of supplies:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Backpacks for grades K-12 | Pens |
| Filler paper | Erasers |
| Subject dividers for binders | Markers |
| Pocket Folders | Pencils |
| 3 ring binder; 1-2 inch size | Crayons |
| 1, 3, and 5 subject notebooks | Colored Pencils |
| Composition Notebooks | Highlighters |
| 3x5 size Post-Its | Pencil boxes/bags |
| Small handheld whiteboards | Expo markers |

There will be a box in the coatroom/mailbox area for your donations!

Thank you for helping our students in town get off to a great start to the school year!!

SUMMER 2024



Our Donate Life Breakfast held on Sunday, June 23rd was a big success. There were 50 people in attendance including 5 heart recipients. The food was delicious and we raised \$1200+ for this wonderful organization. It was also an honor to hear the recipients speak about their special gift.

A touching moment was when a daughter of one of the recipient's told on the "Walk of Honor."

Special thanks to the Thrivent Action Team for sponsoring this worthwhile event!!



FULLY WRITTEN ARTICLES FOR THE **SEPTEMBER EPISTLE** are due by **August 18th**.

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

Thank you!
Lorraine

SUMMER 2024



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

**Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, White Rice, Peanut Butter, Mac & Cheese
and Canned Soups**

We are also in need of any brown or plastic bags that you might have on hand since we are getting many more clients!

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 will resume meeting on Wednesday, July 17th at 10 am, and 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

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, **bearing with one another in love.** Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:2-3



SUMMER 2024

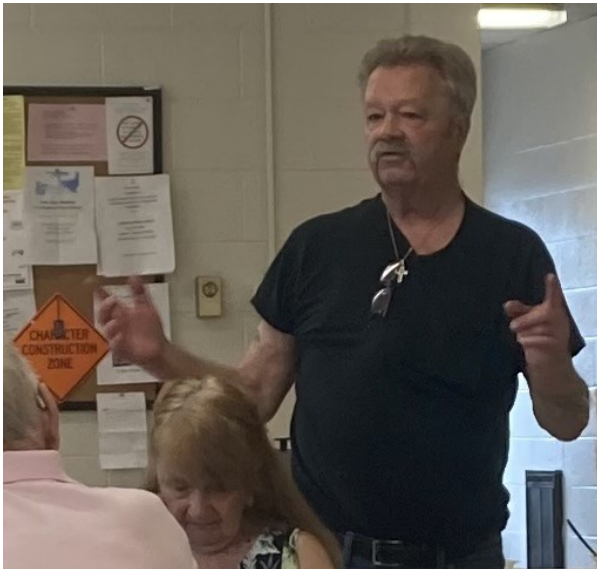


We honored our Senior Graduates Will and Emily on June 16th. Missing from photo is Dylan. We wish them all God's blessings as they move on to the next steps in their futures!



SUMMER 2024

**DONATE LIFE PANCAKE FUNDRAISER
JUNE 23RD, 2024**



SUMMER 2024

**DONATE LIFE PANCAKE FUNDRAISER
JUNE 23RD, 2024**



SUMMER 2024

BIBLE VERSE OF THE MONTH



*The flowers
appear on
the earth;
the season
of singing
has come,
and the
voice of
the
turtledove
is heard in
our land.*

**Song of
Soloman
2:12**

July 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 PR. ELIZABETH ON VACATION	2	3 GET TOGETHER WED. GROUP 10 am	4 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	5	6
7 9:30 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP PR. ELIZABETH ON VACATION	8	9	10 PR. ELIZABETH ON VACATION	11 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	12	13
14 9:30 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	15	16	17 GET TOGETHER WED. GROUP 10 am	18 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00 Lunch w/Pastor 1 pm	19	20
21 9:30 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	22	23	24	25 FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00	26	27
28 9:00 AM WORSHIP COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	29	30	31			

August 2024

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

SUMMER 2024

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS - JULY THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

JULY 7th:

ASSISTING MINISTER: Sue Agne
READER: Judy Gerken
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: Patty Bengtson
COUNTER: George Howe
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Jerry Hansen & Judy Lundin

JULY 14th

ASSISTING MINISTER: **Name** _____
READER: Joan Kratzer
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: Elaine Strecker
COUNTER: Mary Procyk
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Sophia

JULY 21st

ASSISTING MINISTER: Carol Bruce
READER: Patty Bengtson
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: Carol Bruce
COUNTER: Bob Bowman
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Jerry Hansen & Judy Lundin

JULY 28th

ASSISTING MINISTER: Joy Hansen
READER: Joy Hansen
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: Patty Bengtson
COUNTER: Heather Christensen
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Jerry Hansen & Judy Lundin

SUMMER 2024

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS - AUGUST THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

AUGUST 4TH

ASSISTING MINISTER: **Name** _____
READER: **Name** _____
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: **Name** _____
COUNTER: Mary Procyk
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Jerry Hansen & Judy Lundin

AUGUST 11TH

ASSISTING MINISTER: **Name** _____
READER: **Name** _____
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: **Name** _____
COUNTER: Dave Hourigan
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Jerry Hansen & Judy Lundin

AUGUST 18TH

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

AUGUST 25TH:

ASSISTING MINISTER: Carol Bruce
READER: **Name** _____
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: Carol Bruce
COUNTER: Judy Gerken
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Jerry Hansen & Judy Lundin

SUMMER 2024

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



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9am — 1 pm

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