


ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

SEPTEMBER 2024

ISSUE 12

VOLUME 7



The LORD will give
strength to His people;
The LORD will bless His
people with peace.

Psalms 29:11

SEPTEMBER 2024

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR CUMMINGS

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

As we enter the Fall season, and return to our 10:00am worship service schedule, I pray that you had a wonderful summer and had time to rest, relax, and rejuvenate. I enjoyed some time away with my family and even got the chance to hold my baby niece a few times over the past few months! Thank you for keeping my sister and brother-in-law in your prayers as they welcomed their baby girl at the beginning of June.

Bishop Piphon, who was elected as the fourth bishop of the New England Synod during the Synod Assembly in June, began his 6-year term on August 1. He will be installed at a Festive Holy Eucharist on Saturday, September 7, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 73 Lancaster Street, Worcester, MA. The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA will preside and a reception will follow. We are all invited to attend. The liturgy will also be livestreamed at www.vimeo.com/trinityworchester.

On the following day, September 8, we will once again join with Our Savior's Lutheran Church from Newington for "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. We will worship together that morning and following the service, we will put together Blessing Bags for the first responders in our communities. This is a tangible way for us to carry out our baptismal calling by being the hands and feet of God in our community.

I hope you will also join us as we host a table at Cornfest (provided it doesn't get rained out again this year) on September 14 at Cove Park. By being active and visible in our community we are better able to share the love of God with others.

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

SEPTEMBER 2024

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.



SEPTEMBER GOSPEL READINGS

September 1st: Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

September 8th: Mark 7:24-37

September 15th: Mark 8:27-38

September 22nd: Mark 9:30-37

September 29th: Mark 9:38-50



Altar Flowers

There are a few weeks available in September and October for flower donations. Please consider choosing a Sunday. The Flower Box supplies the flowers. The bouquets are \$50 per week and can be shared by multiple donors. Please call Debbie Howe at 860-529-8583 if you have any questions.

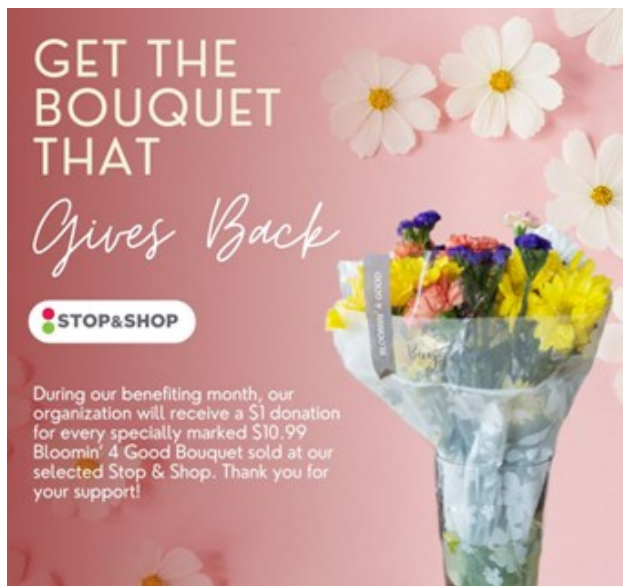
Thank you!

SEPTEMBER 2024



Coffee Fellowship

Many thanks to Judy Lundin and Jerry Hansen for hosting our after service coffee hours for many months. We are looking for people to sign up to host the coffee hour. If you are interested or have any questions, see Judy.



St. Paul's Food Pantry will receive \$1 from every specially marked \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good bouquet sold during the month of SEPTEMBER, 2024 at:

**Stop & Shop, 80 Town Line Road,
Rocky Hill, CT**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!



FULLY WRITTEN ARTICLES FOR THE OCTOBER EPISTLE are due by **September 22nd.**

Please send your article to me exactly the way you would like it to appear to Lorraine at:

office@stpaulswethersfield.org

Thank you!

SEPTEMBER 2024



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



The Rev. Nathan D. Piphon will be installed as the fourth bishop of the New England Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) at a Festive Holy Eucharist on Saturday, September 7, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 73 Lancaster Street, Worcester, MA. The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA will preside and a reception in Trinity's Jeppson Hall will follow. The public is invited to attend. The liturgy will also be livestreamed at www.vimeo.com/trinityworcester.

We will once again partner with Our Savior's in Newington on Sept. 8th for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. We will join together to worship at St. Paul's followed by food and fellowship. The Service Project will be to fill Blessing Bags for our valuable community members: First Responders. Both congregations have been collecting items to assemble into bags and there is still time to contribute to this joint venture. Items needed are:

- Gatorade or water bottles
- Kleenex
- Hand sanitizer
- Pens
- Granola bars
- Car air fresheners
- Socks
- Toothbrush + Toothpaste
- Peanut butter crackers
- Applesauce
- Granola bar
- Mints/gum/candy/chocolate bars
- Lip balm
- First-aid kit with single-dose packs of Advil, band-aids, and antibiotic ointment
- Small stuffed animals or suitable children's toy or activity
- Gallon-sized zip-top bags to hold everything

This is a great family activity.

Hope you will be able to participate!



God's work. Our hands.



September 8, 2024

SEPTEMBER 2024



The Wednesday Get-Together Group is back after a few month's hiatus. We are currently working on group projects for our upcoming Church Fair. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month from 10 am—1 pm. Please come and join us!!



The Wethersfield Cornfest 2024 will be held on Saturday, Sept. 14th from 10 am - 5 pm at Cove Park (near DMV). St. Paul's will have a table at this community event and we would appreciate some help. Please speak to Sue Agne or Patty Bengtson if you can stop by and give is a short break during the day.



Getting the word out about our Food Pantry will be part of our message this day. We will have church brochures and our coloring books to pass out, pencils and prayer intention cards to be hung on our "Prayer Tree". IMPORTANT 'SAVE THE DATE' flyers for our Church Fair will be available and we will be selling raffle tickets again for a chance to win an antique quilt donated by Ellie Bengtson. This beautiful quilt is well over 100 years old! And of course we will be inviting folks to worship with us on Sundays!

COME AND JOIN US AND BE A PART OF THE COMMUNITY CONVERSATION. THANKS BE TO GOD!

SEPTEMBER 2023



Church Fall Picnic - Saturday,
September 28th, 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Join us for food, fellowship, and fun! Burgers', hot dogs, chicken, corn on the cob, and beverages will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Area. Please let us know how many people are coming from your family so we are sure to have enough food!!



THRIVENT FINANCIAL ACTION TEAMS

Are you a member of Thrivent? Did you know there are funds available that could help us with our **Church Fair in November**? The process is simple-any Thrivent member can request a \$250 donation to be used to meet some of the needs of the fair. For example, a member requested an action team funding to cover the cost of ingredients for goodies for the bake sale. Another has been used for the country store. We have another request to help with items for the Inspiration Garden. The possibilities are endless!!

If you think you would like to apply for an Action Team donation for the church fair and to clarify what the funds can be used for and to get some assistance with the process, please contact Pastor or Patty B for assistance

Thank you so much!!



ST. PAUL'S FOOD PANTRY RECAP

Our pantry has had a busy summer! We were open every Thursday during July and August including the 4th of July! Due to the economy, our numbers have increased, and we would like to share details about this ministry St. Paul's is doing throughout our community:

| Number of Clients | Total in Household |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| January- 178 | 462 |
| February- 186 | 508 |
| March- 228 | 602 |
| April- 294 | 780 |
| May- 244 | 658 |
| June- 310 | 876 |
| July- 238 | 654 |
| Total - 1,678 | Total - 4,540 |

Connecticut Food Share has provided us with 5,600 pounds of food. Big Y, Stop and Shop, and Aldi's gave us 10,000 pounds of food. The donations from our church members, friends, and Hutchinson Farm are not accounted for but we are truly grateful for their generosity. We are so thankful to the owners of City Fish for helping with the delivery of our frozen meat. Without their help, the Food Pantry would not be allowed to give out any meat. It is wonderful how the owners of City Fish stepped up to join us in serving the needy.

ST. PAUL'S FOOD PANTRY RECAP (cont'd)

We received a \$3,000 grant from Connecticut Foodshare. The funds were used to purchase a commercial size freezer and refrigerator. This has given the pantry additional cold storage for the frozen meats that are donated by local food stores. It was QUITE a struggle to get the two units from the parking lot to the downstairs pantry. The freezer weighs 750 pounds, and the refrigerator weighs 500 pounds!!

Special thanks to Jerry Hansen, Martial Roy, Chris Bengtson Jr, Walter Ruppap, Justin Lord, David Horrigan, Cameron Cheyney, Alice Ruppap and Sophia, Janice Gengras and Judy Lundin who worked tirelessly in the July heat to get them moved, set up and running.

Following approval from the Church Council, Jerry and Martial have worked over the summer to construct a full wall to cordon off the food pantry and give it more space and make it more secure. Be sure to go downstairs in the PE Building and look at their hard work-it is just about finished! This construction will help the pantry operate more efficiently each Thursday morning!

Ongoing thanks to our team-to Jerry and Judy for their continued leadership and to Janice, Elaine, Jo-Ann, Nancy, Debbie, Alice, Sophia, Oliver, Jack, Olivia, Christopher, Sue, Justin, Josh, Walter, Dick, Bruce, and Bob. As always, we continue to thank and appreciate all the monetary and food donations that come from our St. Paul's family.

We encourage you to join the team-you will be happy and fulfilled that you did!

SEPTEMBER 2023

**SAVE THE DATE: ST. PAUL'S CHURCH FAIR
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD FROM 9:00-2:00**

Our Fair Committee has been busy with preliminary planning for our church fair. We've had two meetings to date and our next meeting is planned for September 15th. There is still plenty of time to get on board-many hands are needed to set up, help during the fair and for clean up at 2:00. Our booths and their chairpersons are listed below. Please speak to any one of them to help — they will be reaching out to you very soon!

Kitchen Café — Jerry Hansen/Rick Seip/Martial Roy

Country Store— Carol Farley and the DeBlois Family

Inspiration Garden— Joy Hansen

Christmas Boutique— Debbie LePage

Handmade Crafts— Judy Lundin

Baked Goods— Jan Pergande, Judy Lundin &
Elaine Strecker

Tag Sale/Gramma's Attic— Heather Christensen

Meditation in the Sanctuary- Missy Cheyney

Traffic Control— Carol Bruce

Raffle— Ellie and Patty Bengtson

Publicity— Sue Agne and Patty Bengtson

PROCEEDS FROM THE FAIR:

At our last fair meeting, the Committee voted that 100% of proceeds will be used for Outreach. We are presently seeking suggestions for non-profit organizations that we can donate the Church fair proceeds to. There is a suggestion box on the Conference Table in Fellowship Hall. Please place your ideas there by September 15th. The Committee will vote at our meeting on the 15th following our worship service.

SEPTEMBER 2023

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2024 — AUGUST 6TH RECAP



A wonderful evening was had with so much to see and do and EAT!!! Due to weather it was held inside at the Pitkin Community Center. St. Paul's was represented by Alice and Sophia, Sue Agne and Patty Bengtson. 15 raffle tickets were sold, 28 coloring books were given away and 22 prayers were written out and hung on the tree by visitors to our table. (The prayer tree is just outside the entrance to the church in the connector.) We distributed 'Save the Date' cards about our Fair and St. Paul's informational brochures We saw familiar faces from the community, Zach's Table, our Food Pantry and met many new folks. It was great to see the many children (and babies) having fun with family members as they stopped to chat.

For the month of September, the pantry would appreciate donations of:

Cereal, Soup and Pasta
Thank you!!



The St. Francis Blessing of the Pets will be held on Sunday, October 6th. This will be a combined service with communion with Our Savior's Church at Mill Pond Park in Newington that morning. People can bring their pets, a photo of their pet or a stuffed animal. Stay tuned for more details!!

SEPTEMBER 2024

Congratulations to Chuck and Jennie who celebrated their 73rd Wedding Anniversary in August!



We welcomed baby Hazel into our St. Paul's family. Hazel was baptized by her great uncle, Pastor Tom.



SEPTEMBER 2024

OUR NEW REFRIGERATOR, FREEZER AND NEW WALL FOR OUR FOOD PANTRY



SEPTEMBER 2024

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



September 2024

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|--|---|---|-----------|--|
| <p>1</p> <p>9:30 AM WORSHIP</p> <p>COFFEE FELLOWSHIP</p> | <p>2</p>  | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> <p>GET TOGETHER GRP 10:00 AM</p> <p>CHOIR 7:30 PM</p> | <p>5</p> <p>FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00</p> | <p>6</p> | <p>7</p> |
| <p>8</p> <p>10:00 AM WORSHIP</p> <p>COFFEE FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>11:15 AM BLESSING BAGS</p> | <p>9</p> | <p>10</p> <p>PARISH ADMIN 6:30 PM</p> | <p>11</p> <p>CHOIR 7:30 PM</p> | <p>12</p> <p>FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00</p> <p>COMMUNICA- TIONS MTG 6:00 PM</p> | <p>13</p> | <p>14</p> <p>WETHERSFIELD CORNFEST 10AM-5PM COVE PARK (NEAR DMV)</p> |
| <p>15</p> <p>10 AM WORSHIP</p> <p>COFFEE FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>OUTREACH MTG. 11:15 AM</p> | <p>16</p> | <p>17</p> <p>WORSHIP & MUSIC MTG. 4:30 PM</p> <p>CHURCH COUNCIL MTG 7 PM</p> | <p>18</p> <p>GET TOGETHER GRP 10:00 AM</p> <p>CHOIR 7:30 PM</p> | <p>19</p> <p>FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00</p> | <p>20</p> | <p>21</p> |
| <p>22</p> <p>10 AM WORSHIP</p> <p>COFFEE FELLOWSHIP</p> | <p>23</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25</p> <p>CHOIR 7:30 PM</p> | <p>26</p> <p>FOOD PANTRY 10:00-1:00</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> <p>CHURCH PICNIC 4-6PM</p> |
| <p>29</p> <p>10 AM WORSHIP</p> <p>COFFEE FELLOWSHIP</p> | <p>30</p> | | | | | |

SEPTEMBER 2024

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS - September THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 1ST

ASSISTING MINISTER: Patty Bengtson
READER: Joan Kratzer
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: George & Deb Howe
COUNTER: Bob Bowman
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Jerry Hansen, Judy Lundin

SEPTEMBER 8TH

ASSISTING MINISTER: Sue Agne
READER:
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap, Martial Roy & Sophia
ALTAR: Elaine Strecker
COUNTER: Heather Christensen
FELLOWSHIP HOUR:

SEPTEMBER 15TH

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

SEPTEMBER 22ND:

ASSISTING MINISTER: Carol Bruce
READER:
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR: Carol Bruce
COUNTER: George Howe
FELLOWSHIP HOUR:

SEPTEMBER 29TH:

ASSISTING MINISTER: Joy Hansen
READER: Joy Hansen
USHERS: Jerry Hansen, Walter Ruppap & Sophia
ALTAR:
COUNTER: Judy Gerken
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Cummings Family



SEPTEMBER 2024

Prayer for September

May You Have:

Enough happiness to keep you sweet,
Enough trials to keep you strong,
Enough sorrow to keep you human,
Enough hope to keep you happy,
Enough failure to keep you humble,
Enough success to keep you eager,
Enough wealth to meet your needs,
Enough enthusiasm to look forward,
Enough friends to give you comfort,
Enough faith to banish depression,
Enough determination to make each
day better than yesterday.

And God to Keep You going..

Bless You & Your Loved Ones.

inspire *Positive*
soul sensations

SEPTEMBER 2023

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

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860-529-5397

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9am — 1 pm

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