



1990

the welcome place.

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
56 Great Hammock Road
Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475

1960 - 1990

ART

In Christ's Name, Welcome!

This has been St. Paul's expression of hospitality for thirty years. Thirty years of welcoming the stranger into our midst. Thirty years of welcoming the searching and the struggling into our community, where we reveal to them our faith in God's providence. Thirty years of offering Christian hospitality to all who walk through our doors.



Why have we been about this ministry of hospitality? Because at some time during our short history, each of us was that stranger. Every one of us pictured in this Anniversary Directory was greeted in a spirit of hospitality the first day we walked through the church door. We know what it is like to come as a stranger and to be received as a sister or brother in Christ. We know what it means to come as an outsider and to be treated as family. We know first hand how powerfully such a homecoming communicates God's love and acceptance of us.

Having been so welcomed by God and God's people, we respond by offering others a cordial and generous welcome. We take seriously our task to demonstrate what in fact we are, the body of Christ. We strive to manifest by the way we greet others the good news of God's forgiveness and compassion for all people.

This will be St. Paul's tradition of hospitality for our next thirty years. We will always make time to thank God for the relationship we share with one another, and for greeting one another in Christ's name. God's acceptance of us will continue to empower us to welcome others, and then, to honestly and simply allow others to see the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ that directs our life together. After all, we are **the welcome place**.

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rev. Paul Lutz'.

Rev. Paul Lutz



HISTORY OF ST. PAUL

On October 16, 1960, 38 families signed the charter of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, and our church came into being at a special organizational service held that morning in the Old Saybrook Theater. This culminated several years of missionary work by the Rev. Paul Johnson, Seminarian Ken Johnson, and the Rev. Byron Swanson.

For two years the congregation rented the Masonic Temple for Sunday worship. Rotating "set-up" crews arrived early to put up the altar and arrange chairs, and stayed after to move everything out. All other meetings were necessarily held in homes. Members willingly opened their houses to council meetings, choir rehearsals, LCW meetings, church suppers and Lenten services. It was a blessing to eventually build a church, but there was much to be said for the closeness that existed when we were all regular visitors in each other's homes.

In the fall of 1961, Pastor Stephen B. Johnson became the first full time pastor of St. Paul. He was with us for five years. It was during his ministry that the present church was built in 1963 and the congregation doubled its membership. In 1966 Pastor Johnson left to assume the chaplaincy of Upsala College.

In the summer of 1966, the Rev. Norman E. Sutterlin accepted our call. Pastor Sutterlin's ministry was one of love, and in his care the parish flourished. We celebrated our tenth anniversary as a vital, growing congregation. In September of 1973, the congregation was stunned by the news that Pastor Sutterlin had suffered a heart attack. It was not God's will that he should return to us. He suffered two more heart attacks and on March 7, 1974, he died. The congregation mourned him deeply, and he will always be a living, loving memory in our hearts.

In September, 1974, the Rev. Elwood O. Semmel became our pastor until his resignation became effective at the end of 1977.

In September 1978, the Rev. Rolf L. Hedberg accepted our call and was installed that December as the fourth pastor of St. Paul. Pastor Hedberg was with us for nine years during which time he married and had two children. Mortgages were retired on both the church and the parsonage, and once again dreams of a new church began surfacing.

In February of 1988 Pastor Hedberg left to accept a new call and the congregation settled into a program of self-analysis to prepare us for calling a new pastor. Self-analysis provided the congregation with a view of what we needed in a new pastor and what we, as a congregation, needed to be. Pastor Paul E. Lutz was the candidate we decided would best meet our needs and the call was issued and accepted.

In December of 1988, Pastor Paul Lutz became the fifth pastor of St. Paul. One year into his ministry has proven the wisdom of our call. All systems are "go" and the congregation is growing both in ministry and numbers. We have added sixteen new families for a total of forty additional members. We are a caring community in the service of Christ, our Lord, and we invite all to share with us in worship and service.



ANDERSON, INGRID



ANDERSON, WALTER



BLASIUS, WILLIAM & SANDRA



BREITZKE, ERNST & RUTH



BROWN, TED & RUTH



BRUZIK, BOB



BRYANT, SHIRLEY & RONALD



CLARK, THOMAS & CAROL



COULTER, JACKIE



DEMAS, PETER & LINDA



DYSON, RICHARD & NORMA



EGELHOFFER, ART & GLORIA



FOWLER, DAVID & CAROL
LAURA



FOWLER, DONALD & PHYLLIS



FUSARI, ELOISE



GERBER, CLIFFORD & ALICE



GILBERT, GLADYS



GLINES, ROBERT & MILLIE



GODFREY, NEIL & KAREN



GRANDE, DAVID & BARBARA
EVE, LINNEA



GREGORY, NORMAN



HANEY, NANCY
LAUREN, SARAH



HARTLEY, KENNETH & JANET
KARYN



HESS, LILO



HESS, ROSE



HYLAN, PHILLIP & KAREN; DANIEL;
ALEXANDER, JACOB & DYLAN MELI



ILSE, GEORGE & KATHY
GEORGE



IWANICKI, DAVID & JILL



KALAL, CHARLES & ANNA



KNEALE, JANE H.



KOETZSCH, MARTHA



KUERNER, DONALD & TERRI



LASKY, WILLIAM



LIEBEGOTT, RUTH



LUNDE, ERIK



LUTENDER, CARL & LOIS



LUTZ, PAUL & JANET
DAYAN, SONIA



MAGINNIS, NANCY



MARSH, SKIP & LAURIE
KYLE, JUSTIN, ADAM



MAY, HARRY & BARBARA



METZENDORF, JOSEPH
& ELEANOR



MONTGOMERY, BROOKE



MORETTI, DAVID & JANE



NEUMAN, WILLIAM & ALICE
ANDREA



NOLL, GUY & MILDRED



OETERS, DIANE
SHERILYNNE



PARKER, SHIRLEY



RAMSDELL, ALICE



RAUENBUHLER, KENNETH
& JOAN



SHEMONSKY, MURIEL



SILVA, ELLEN
REBECCA, DANA, JASON



SIMONEAU, EARL & DORIS



TRANTINO, PETER & CAROL
ASHLEY



TRNIK, RUTH
MICHAEL, JENNIFER



WAMESTER, ALIDE



WAMESTER, WILLIAM
& NORMA; TADD, SARAH



WEISS, JOHN & KIM



WEISS,
MEGAN, TIMOTHY



WEISS, LILLIAN



WIDENMAYER, GISELA



WOXLAND, RICHARD
& MARY JANE; SUSAN



YOUNG, GREG & MARCIA
ROBERT DEMEULEMEESTER

THOSE NOT AVAILABLE FOR PHOTOGRAPHY



BUSHY, M/M WILLARD



KNEALE, ALLEN



KNEALE, STEVE



MARTIN, M/M JOHN



TEICHMANN,
REV/M FREDERICK



TRNIK, LISA



WOXLAND, LYNN



NEW MEMBERS

NAME

PHONE

ADDRESS

[illegible]

