

St. Paul's

Episcopal Church

September 2026 Newsletter



SEPTEMBER AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 A.M. Rite I Holy Eucharist

9:30 A.M. Rite II Holy Eucharist (9:30 A.M. is livestreamed to YouTube)

2nd & 5th Sundays Morning Prayer at 8 A.M. and 9:30 A.M.

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRAYER & REFLECTION

Wednesdays 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

WEDNESDAY JOY and FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Wednesdays, 12:00 PM (see page 12)

ST. PAUL'S PLAYERS VS. PRAYERS FOOD CHALLENGE

September 8 - September 27 (see pages 9 & 10)

VESTRY MEETING

Tuesday September 8 – 7:00 PM

INGATHERING

Sunday, September 13– AFTER THE 9:30AM (see page 4)

CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Sunday, September 13 (see page 6)

CHOIR & CHORISTERS

(see page 5)

ADULT FORUM on ZOOM

Begins Wednesday, September 16 – 7:00PM (see page 5)

HARVEST FAIR ORGANIZING MEETING

Sunday, September 27 after the 9:30 service (see page 12)

DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER IS

TUESDAY, September 22 by NOON

******SAVE THE DATE for these events*****

OCTOBER 3-4 (see page 9)

Celebrate Wallingford!

OCTOBER 4

Blessing of the Animals at St. Paul's

SATURDAY OCTOBER 24 (see page 11)

St. Paul's Harvest Fair

With more on-site events taking place in the church building again, just a gentle reminder to please be in touch with the parish office to advise and request dates and times for any activity or meeting that will be taking place at St. Paul's. It is important to make sure events are on the calendar to avoid any potential overlapping dates! Thank you in advance for your help with this important task!

A New School Year

Whether by design or by habit, our church program year mirrors the school year. We see September as a new start. Our liturgical seasons follow a similar pattern of school breaks. We end at the start of summer, and we take a break from our busy activities. September is upon us and we begin our programs again. I'm sure no one feels the need to purchase new clothes or to gather paper and pens. However, we are gathering again, and we might have the same curiosity of a student in a new grade wondering how things will turn out this year.

Some of the anxiety of a new school year is dealing with change. We may have figured out last year, but what will the new year bring? In church, we hold on to traditions that comfort and strengthen us. We also grieve the loss of friends who have left us through death or through people needing to move away. This is not the end of our story. We find new friends. We find new ways to share ministry. We discover new ways of being followers of Jesus.

When we come together for Ingathering Sunday on September 13, we don't need to repeat the past. We come to start again. We meet old friends and introduce ourselves to new friends. We return to ministry that challenges and encourages us. We might even respond to a call to try something new. We may carry anxiety about how we will do all the work before us. We might wonder if we will have enough volunteers or enough money. We need to remember how we belong and what brought us here.

We did not join because we wanted to solve a problem with a program. We joined this community because we found love and joy. We found strength and support. We found followers of Jesus who showed us the love of God by how they loved us. That is all we must do. As we proceed as a community, we will participate in many programs, and we will use many of our gifts. We may let go of some things that no longer work or are no longer needed. If we seek to love as we have been loved, we will be living as Jesus has invited us to live and we will have a great year together.

Vestry Update

Here we are, at the end of summer and the start of the school year, which for many people has the crisp feeling of a fresh start the same way New Year's Day might. For St. Paul's, it's the start of our busy season, with Ingathering and Ministry Fair (9/13), Celebrate Wallingford (10/3 and 10/4), Blessing of the Animals (10/4), our Harvest Fair and pie making (10/24 and the week leading up to it), and, this year, a special joint service with St. Luke's on All Saints Day (11/1) to recognize and honor the lives of the formerly enslaved people associated with St. Paul's.

The Vestry met on August 11 to discuss church business and line up plans for these various events. We focused on the importance of community building both within our walls and in our town, and we celebrated the opportunities the next few months will bring to grow that sense of community. But those things were quietly happening throughout the summer, too, as we shared our summer coffee hours in the air conditioned Wilkinson Hall or worked the Thrift Shop together. Others gathered to take care of our property, perhaps meeting to manage the new ramp project on the south side of the church, mowing the north lawn, or opening the building on Wednesdays to visitors. Friends found community at the Wednesday Fellowship and Joy Club, too, and I'm sure many informal gatherings took place among our parishioners over the summer months.

This fall, as we enter into this blessedly busy stretch, let's keep that sense of community at the forefront of our minds, centering it as we attend services, volunteer for various ministries, and invite folks to join us at St. Paul's. With your presence, the St. Paul's community will continue to grow in love and fellowship.

Kristin Liu, Senior Warden
Art Sousa, Junior Warden
On behalf of the Vestry

JOIN US FOR
INGATHERING

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Sunday, September 13th

Services at 8:00 and 9:30

Potluck Brunch Following 9:30 Service

**LIVE MUSIC FROM
BIRDS OVER ARKANSAS!**



**St. Paul's
Episcopal Church**

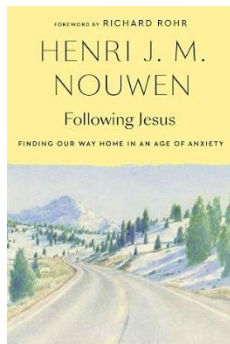
65 North Main Street
Wallingford CT 06492
203-269-5050

**LEARN HOW TO GET
INVOLVED AT OUR
MINISTRY FAIR!**

JOIN US ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Ingathering Sunday this year will be held on September 13th. We hope you will join us as our parish comes together to celebrate the upcoming year. There will be a potluck brunch in Wilkinson Hall following the 9:30 service with live music, a ministry fair, and registration for church school. Sign-up sheets for the brunch are posted on the easel in the back of the church. When you sign up, please indicate the number of people attending and what you would like to contribute to the brunch. If you're not able to sign up at church, please call the church office at 203-269-5050 to let us know you'll be coming. We hope to see everyone there!

Adult Forum: *Henri Nouwen*



This fall the Adult Forum will read and discuss together some of Henri Nouwen's writings collected in the book *Following Jesus: Finding Our Way Home in an Age of Anxiety*. From the cover of the book: "At one of the lowest points in his life, Henri Nouwen gave a series of lectures on the importance of following Jesus in an age of anxiety. Drawn from those talks, this new work reveals what sustained Nouwen to remain faithful to the teachings of Jesus and led him to become an icon of compassion and vulnerability. Here he writes eloquently about calling and purpose, fear and hope."

The Forum meets via Zoom on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m.

This session will begin on September 16 and will run for 6 weeks.

If you are able, please read the short introduction and first chapter before our meeting on 9/16. If you would like to participate and/or have any questions, please contact Amy Foster (foster9092@gmail.com). All are welcome!

Here is the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84046492740?pwd=eWlWZ0tuZGVZeJlM5Rng1ekZvV0hSZz0>

Choir and Choristers



Now is a great time to join the Choir or Choristers! Choir rehearsals will begin on September 3rd and will be held on Thursdays from 7 - 9 pm. Choristers is open to anyone in K-8 who would like to sing. Rehearsals will take place on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month immediately following the 9:30 service. The first rehearsal will be on September 27th. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact our music director Jay Lindsay at musicdirector@stpaulswallingford.org. Hope to see you there!



CHURCH SCHOOL

I hope everyone has had a wonderful and restful summer! I am looking forward to seeing everyone at Ingathering Sunday on September 13, following the 9:30 service. We will have family-friendly games, church school registration, opportunities to sign up to teach church school, food, and fellowship! As we begin the new church school year with two classes, I would greatly appreciate as many volunteers as possible. This is important and meaningful work, and our children truly appreciate the time and love you share with them. Please reach out if you have any questions or would like to volunteer. I hope to see everyone there and am looking forward to a wonderful church school year together! Warmly, Becky Scalesse

Expansive Language Liturgy

Beginning in September, our Sunday worship will use expansive language at our 9:30 service. Most of our liturgy will sound much the same, but there are places where references to God and the people will not be using masculine pronouns exclusively. I invite you to pay attention to the wording. If anything seems very different, we can use this as an opportunity to explore how words we use are important. I do not wish to interrupt the flow of worship, but to express what we believe. I welcome your reflections on this change. Greg+



Safe Church Training: Registration for Fall Semester Now Open - As followers of Christ, we all share

responsibility for creating safe spaces in our worshipping communities. ECCT's Safe Church policies & training are grounded in our baptismal call to "seek and serve Christ in all persons and respect the dignity of every human being." Safe Church Training is required by The Episcopal Church for all ordained persons and lay leaders who work with children, youth, or vulnerable adults. Zoom and in-person dates are available.

To register:

<https://www.episcopalct.org/events/calendar/safe-church-training/>

To learn more about Safe Church training:

<https://www.episcopalct.org/safe-church/safe-church-training/>

Finance Committee and new Treasurer assignment

The vestry is working on gathering a Finance Committee to work with the Treasurer. At the same time, our present Treasurer will be stepping down, and we are thinking about re-imaging the position for two people, a Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. At this point we need suggestions about people who have some experience and skill around topics of finance. We also need help creating new systems and procedures for handling our finances. You can help by offering your thoughts and by suggesting other people who might have the skills we need. We plan to hold a meeting in the fall gathering everyone with any interest to open a discussion about how we might create a system that can be shared and passed on over time.

TREASURER'S REPORT

St. Paul's Church

Treasurer's Report
July 2026

	This month	Budget	Difference vs Budget	Last Year	Difference vs Last Year
<u>Income</u>					
Pledges	117,129	105,000	12,129	104,649	12,480
Other Donations	5,155	7,800	-2,645	7,599	-2,444
Other operating income	13,186	12,975	211	13,048	138
Group contributions	951	700	251	800	151
Investment income	47,240	47,243	-3	47,054	186
Total Income	183,661	173,718	9,943	173,149	10,512
<u>Expenditures</u>					
Salaries	82,255	83,942	-1,687	82,257	-2
Fringe Benefits	37,344	39,354	-2,010	36,516	828
Property Expenses	48,494	45,948	2,546	39,738	8,756
Utilities	12,894	10,400	2,494	10,325	2,569
Other Expenses	11,512	17,955	-6,443	11,422	91
Common Mission Support	19,502	19,502	0	19,502	0
Total Expenditures	212,002	217,102	-5,099	199,760	12,242
Surplus/Deficit	-28,341	-43,384	15,043	-26,611	-1,731

Starfish Refugee Resettlement Update

St. Paul's participates in Starfish, an interdenominational refugee resettlement group that is currently assisting an Afghan family in Meriden. In recent months, the group has enabled the son of the family to attend a soccer camp by assisting with the fee and with rides. We continued with tutoring for both children and for their mother. We also provided ongoing support in assisting the father navigate the healthcare system, and he recently accessed important care to help him manage what has been intractable pain. We continue to provide financial support as they make the journey toward self-sufficiency. If you have questions or are interested in contributing financial resources or time to this effort, please contact Amy Foster at foster9092@gmail.com. Finally, we have begun exploring remote options for work and/or training for the father, so if you have any suggestions, please reach out to Amy.

A promotional poster for an ECW CT Spotlight event. The background is a gradient of blue and green with a spotlight effect at the top. The text is centered and includes the event title, date, time, host, featured guest, and a link to join. There are three logos at the bottom: a white snowflake on a blue square, a circular button with 'To Join click here', and a white star on a blue square.

ECW CT
Spotlight

Sharing Inspiring Stories and Connecting Our Parishes

Thursday, September 3, 2026
Via Zoom
6:30pm - 7:30pm

Host:
Dr. Paulette Blythe Russell
President of Episcopal Church Women In Connecticut

Featured Guest:
A Sacred Place -
Programs of Hope for Incarcerated Women
Presented By Allison Fresher of
St. John's Episcopal Church, Essex

To join, here's the link:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/81399416871?pwd=2P3D0aC3Xdkkho9Vs3ClOKyVxIJCnV.1#success>

For more information on *Spotlight* or *A Sacred Place* visit our new ECW CT website <https://ecwconnecticut.org/>



St Paul's thrift shop is now accepting clean fall clothing and other small household items in limited

quantities. Items may be dropped off during the shop's hours; Thursday - Saturday 10 AM - 1:00 PM. Also volunteers are needed at the shop on Wednesdays from 10:00 to noon to help price and sort donated items. Any time you may have to give is appreciated. Please contact Helen Stowe or Carole Ireland with questions.

Celebrate Wallingford

SAVE THE DATE: Celebrate Wallingford will be the weekend of October 3 and 4!! St Paul's will have a booth and volunteers will be needed. Look for the sign up sheet in church beginning Ingathering Sunday.

Food Drives

SUMMER FOOD DRIVES UPDATE

Our summertime food drives were a great success. At the end of August, we delivered 250 lbs of food to Master's Manna. In addition, our Boy Scouts Troop 4 held a food drive at Stop & Shop on August 1st and collected 1400 lbs of food for Master's Manna. A great achievement and a special thank you to everyone for your donations to our summer Food Drives.

But Wait – Summer isn't over yet . . .

“PLAYERS” vs. “PRAYERS”: The St. Paul's Nursery School (the “Players”) has challenged the St. Paul's Parishioners (the “Prayers”) to a “Food Drive Challenge”. Starting on September 8th and running thru September 27th, each team will be collecting food for Master's Manna throughout the month. Donation Boxes for the “Players” are located in the Nursery School areas. Donations Boxes for the “Prayers” are located in the church areas and at the back entrance. **PICK YOUR TEAM –TAKE THE CHALLENGE . . .** and help fill the boxes. (see next page!)

St. Paul's "PLAYERS" vs. "PRAYERS"
Episcopal Church
65 North Main Street
Wallingford CT 06492

FOOD CHALLENGE



September 8th - September 27th

The St. Paul's Nursery School ("Players")

Has Challenged

The St. Paul's Parishioners ("Prayers")

to a Food Drive to
Support Master's Manna



Pick Your Team

Players vs. Prayers

Donation Boxes
for the "Players"
located in the
Nursery School areas



Donation Boxes
for the "Prayers"
located in the
church areas and
at the back entrance



FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

There are times in our lives when we need a little help – a pot of soup when we are ill, a meal when we welcome a new baby or say goodbye to a family member, or a ride to a doctor's appointment. If you would like to be on the list to cook a meal or offer a ride to a member of our parish family, please sign up on the sheet posted at the back of the church. If you are in need of help, please contact Patti Cullen at 203-545-7422 or patticn@aol.com.

SAVE THESE DATES!

THE HARVEST FAIR NEEDS YOUR HELP!!



This year's Harvest Fair will be held on **Saturday, October**

24th, from 10:00 to 2:00. This

event is the major fundraiser for St. Paul's. And it takes a "Parish Village" to make it a success. It doesn't just happen the day of the Fair. Vendors are already being sought out. The flyers have already been made (thank you to Harriet Sholtes). The luncheon menu and the schedule for making our famous Mile High Apple Pies are being drafted. Supplies are being ordered. And now we are asking you to dedicate your time and energy to make it all happen. This year we won't have some of our long-time members who in the past worked tireless hours making and baking pies, setting up the hall, working the luncheon, and manning the church sponsored tables. **We need you** to step up and fill those spots.

On **Sunday, October 18th**, following the 9:30 service we need help setting up the tables in Wilkinson Hall for making pies. Starting **Monday, October 19th thru Thursday, October 22nd**, we need help making those pies – we usually get enough "peelers", but this year we need people to make the dough, roll out the dough, assemble the pies, and stay late into the night baking the pies. Yes, these are long hours, and last year we made 272 pies in three days!! Please contact Chuck Maynard (203-671-0041 or cblmaynard@att.net) to let him know how and when you can help.

On **Friday evening, October 23rd**, we need help taking down the "pie tables" and putting up the "vendor and church" tables in Wilkinsen Hall and setting up for the fair. And on the day of the fair, **Saturday, October 24th**, we need help in the kitchen cooking and serving lunch and manning our church-run tables. Please contact Sharon Rogalski (203-678-4824 or srogal156@comcast.net) to let her know how and when you can help.

The success and future of the Harvest Fair depends on the commitment and dedication of you -- our parishioners. The community looks forward to our Harvest Fair every year – and to our pies! Please set aside one, two or three days during that week to help keep this event alive. The Harvest Fair organizing meeting will be held on **September 27th** in Wilkinson Hall following the 9:30 service – please come and let us know how you can help.

Joy And Fellowship Group Our group will continue to share prayer at NOON in the Chapel on Wednesdays. We tend to be a little rowdy, with friendly competition, teasing and laughter. God has truly blessed us with joy and closer relationships. Bring along a simple bag lunch and drink. We meet from 12 noon to 2PM. Contact Sharonturlis@yahoo.com to be added to our text chain for reminders and information.

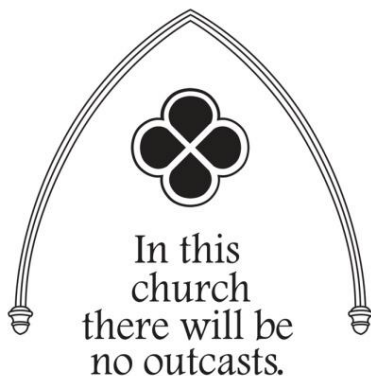


The Church will be open Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 1:00pm for prayer & reflection.

Contact information for Rev. Dr. Greg Welin

You may reach me in the office on most Wednesdays and Thursdays. It would be best to make an appointment to see me if you can. My email is rector@stpaulswallingford.org. In the event of an emergency, you may call my cell phone at 203 206 4802. Please add my number to your contact list!

The Parish Office Hours The parish office is open to the public on Wednesdays and Fridays from 11AM-2PM. Please email or call the office at (203) 269-5050 to arrange any additional times to meet during the week. Calls, emails and other matters will generally be addressed during business hours of 9:00-3:00 Tuesday-Friday.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The parish office can be reached at (203) 269-5050.

E-mail – office@stpaulswallingford.org

Fax – (203) 269-3813

Web Site – www.stpaulswallingford.org

If we are not in the office, please leave a message.

The Rev. Dr. Greg Welin, Rector

rector@stpaulswallingford.org

(203) 206 4802

VESTRY

Kristin Liu, Senior Warden

Art Sousa, Junior Warden

Ted Hartsoe, Treasurer

Claire Minneman, Clerk

Zac Boulter

Stephanie Crump

Jennifer Oquendo

David Desjardins

Karen Hlavac

Karen Rowe

Larry Stowe

Sharon Turlis

Please advise us of

- change of address or telephone numbers
 - illness, hospitalizations, deaths
 - requests for baptisms, weddings, etc
-

Times for St. Paul's Sunday Service
Comcast Cable Channel 18
Frontier Channel 99
www.WPAA.TV - WPAA on the Internet
Sunday - 5:00 PM
Monday - 12:30 AM, 1:00 PM, and 11:00 PM

[Click here to sign up for email blasts and text messages.](#)

St. Paul's is on YouTube & Facebook!
Please follow us and "LIKE" us:

[YouTube](#)  **YouTube**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Wallingford, CT
Please subscribe to our YouTube channel

[Facebook](#)



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Wallingford, CT



Thank you for pledging!
We appreciate your faithful giving.

You may give online by scanning the QR code or by going to stpaulswallingford.org and clicking the "Donate Now" button, mail your gifts into the parish office or place your offering in the basket during Sunday worship.
It's all good! Thank you.



St. Paul's
Episcopal Church

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
65 North Main Street
Wallingford, CT 06492
