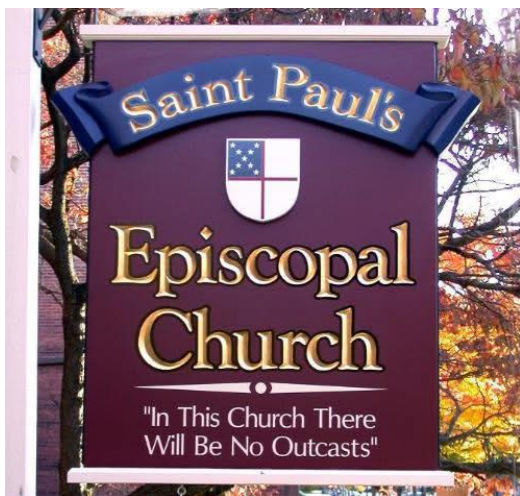


ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

May 2025 Newsletter



MAY 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 Sundays Morning Prayer at 8 A.M. and 9:30 A.M.
*Morning Prayer will be on the 3rd Sunday in May

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRAYER & REFLECTION

Wednesdays 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM (see page 12)

NOON SERVICE- AN INVITATION TO FELLOWSHIP & FUN

Wednesdays – 12:00 PM (see page 8)

CHILDRENS BELL CHOIR

Sunday May 4–Rehearsal at 9:10AM (see page 6)

CELTIC WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday May 4 – 6:00 PM (see page 5)

ADULT FORUM ON ZOOM – A STUDY OF GALATIANS

Begins on Wednesday, May 7- 7:00PM – (see page 5)

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP/MOTHER’S DAY

Sunday May 11 (see page 6)

CHORISTERS REHEARSAL

Sundays May 11 & May 25 after the 9:30 worship service (see pages 6 & 7)

VESTRY MEETING

Tuesday May 13 – 7:00 PM

FOOD DRIVE AT STOP & SHOP

Saturday May 17 (see pages 6, 9 & 10)

CHORISTERS SINGING IN WORSHIP

Sunday May 18 (see page 6)

BAKING & GAME NIGHT

Saturday May 24 – 4:00 PM (see page 6)

HONORARIA DEADLINE

Monday, June 30 (see page 4)

DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER IS TUESDAY, May 20 by NOON

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!

New Life at Easter



On Easter morning, about a dozen red tulips bloomed at my front door. We aren't sure what the previous owner of our house planted in the many little patches of garden, so this was a nice surprise. Easter always comes with surprise. Flowers decorate the church. Candy shows up in Easter baskets, after many weeks in the grocery store. Part of our surprise at Easter is that it doesn't fall neatly in our plans. Most of us have to look up when Easter falls each year. This is because it is tied to date of Passover. The formula we use to determine Easter is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. There is even an obscure section in our Prayer Book that will help you figure this out. It makes great reading when the sermon is a little boring. (This is a pro tip from a lifelong acolyte.)

In our modern world, there are few of us who are tied to the cycles of the earth. Few of us pay attention to the movement of the stars or the moon. We do not depend upon the slow changes of the earth for our livelihood. Our days are plotted by the work week. Perhaps we follow an academic schedule, or quarterly reports, the due dates of the tax schedule. These cycles are all about producing outcomes at predictable times. We are measured and evaluated by cycles of buying and selling. We are valued by whatever profit we furnish.

Our true lives are more organic. We don't just produce, we belong. We are valuable because of who we are not because of what we can make or do. We are remembered and defined through our relationships with others, and we in turn define our friends and family in the same way. Easter is a celebration of the new life God is creating. We are invited to look beyond the world we think we know and appreciate the miraculous world God is creating all around us. There is far more to the universe than we can understand. Sometimes our best response is to simply be in awe.

We can also hold the lives of others with reverence and joy. We can appreciate the many people who have journeyed with us, and we can hold wonder for people who are strangers to us. God is working in their lives as well. The world is full of people who are living and loving and trying to make sense of all the complexities of life. What we think we make and accumulate is of less importance than how we dwell with others. We can marvel at our neighbors even if we do not always understand them. God has chosen to love us despite ourselves. Perhaps the best way to understand this is not through what we deserve, but by wondering how God makes life out of earth and water and sunlight. In just this sort of mysterious way God changes us as well.

Greg +

Vestry Update

In our April meeting, along with our regular business, the Vestry took time to share gleanings from the various ECCT Spring Training sessions we attended, ranging from marketing strategies to ideas for supporting our LGBTQ population to tips for listening to opposing viewpoints, and so much more. We hope to get more parishioners involved in these informative and engaging sessions next spring, so keep your ear out for that opportunity in 2026!

We also discussed plans for a church clean up day, which could include various spaces inside (classrooms, library, undercroft) and out. Stay tuned for more on this!

Separate from the work of the Vestry, we have new committees and groups popping up this spring - it's exciting to see so much activity! Some folks are meeting for fun and fellowship, enjoying lunch and games with each other mid-week. Others are fitting in meetings after coffee hour to help us find our next Director of Christian Education and Formation.

After the 9:30 Palm Sunday service, a group met to discuss what “stewardship” means at St. Paul’s and how we might expand (and maybe rebrand) that word. Ideas ranged from promoting one time offertory donations with our new QR code to helping parishioners learn more about planned giving. Many of our current efforts and events - things like the thrift shop and the Harvest Fair - are anchors of our fundraising, and we thought about how we can expand on the great things we are already doing. Lastly, we discussed the importance of pledging, which, as Greg reminded us, is less about helping the church plan for the next year’s budget and more about helping each one of us give with prayerful intention. If you have ideas around stewardship that you would like to share, please reach out to the wardens or anyone on the Vestry.

We hope you had a meaningful Lent and Holy Week and continue to find joy and wonder in the miracle of the Easter season.

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

St Paul’s logo wear

During the month of May orders will be taken for St Paul’s tee shirts and windbreakers. Look for complete details and order forms in the Sunday service bulletins.

Honoraria for post-secondary education



All St. Paul's parishioners who are headed to college this fall or already enrolled are eligible for an honoraria to support their post-secondary education. Please complete the application [using this form](#) and return it to the church office by June 30th for consideration.

Celtic Worship Service



On May 4th at 6 pm, St. Paul's will be holding a candlelit Celtic worship service featuring prayers, poetry and music from the Celtic tradition. The music will feature the Irish band, The Jolly Beggars, along with St. Paul's choir. Please join us for a service of contemplative prayer, reflection, and beautiful music. The event is open to the community, and all are invited and welcome to attend, so feel free to invite friends!

Adult Forum - A Study of Galatians



This spring the Adult Forum will read and discuss Paul's Letter to the Galatians. During this six-week session we will explore the context and content of the letter and consider ways in which it might speak to us today. The Forum meets on Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. **This session will begin on**

May 7 and run through June 11. In preparation for the first week, we encourage you to read the first chapter of the letter. If you would like to participate or have questions, please contact Amy Foster (foster9092@gmail.com).

The Zoom link is below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84046492740?pwd=eWlWZ0tuZGVZeUJlM5Rng1ekZvV0hSZz0>



Dear St. Paul's,

Here are the upcoming events for children and families at St. Paul's. Please mark your calendars, and we look forward to seeing you!

May 4th: Bells for Beginners

On the first Sunday of May, Bells for Beginners will play during 9:30 worship. As always, rehearsal starts at 9:10. All are welcome, and no musical experience is required! Following rehearsal, children will proceed to Church School, and then they will join worship in time for Communion.

May 11th: Mother's Day, Children in worship, Choristers Rehearsal

The second Sunday of the month is Mother's Day. Children are invited to participate fully in the 9:30 worship service as readers, acolytes, and ushers. If your child is interested in participating in one of these roles, please reach out. After 9:30 worship, choristers will have a brief rehearsal.

May 17th: Food Drive at Stop & Shop

On Saturday, May 17th, St. Paul's will have a food drive to support Master's Manna. Stay tuned for more updates.

May 18th: Choristers Singing in Worship

For the second time this year, choristers will be singing during the 9:30 worship service! This is a great opportunity for your child to gain experience with music and contribute to the worship life of St. Paul's.

May 24th: Baking and Game Night

At 4:00 on Saturday, May 24th, we will host a baking and game night at St. Paul's! We invite children and families to come hang out, decorate cookies and cupcakes, and play board games.

May 25th: Choristers Rehearsal

After the 9:30 worship service, choristers will have a brief rehearsal.

That's it for now! Keep an eye on your inboxes for more updates and ways to stay connected.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Nathan Leach

Director of Christian Education & Formation

christianeducation@stpaulswallingford.org



LAWN MOWING

The St. Paul's lawn mowing brigade is looking for additional volunteers. Please call/text Curt Griesing at 203-213-9120 if you are interested in being added to the schedule. The lawn takes about an hour to mow, and each person on the team usually only has 2-3 weeks assigned throughout the entire summer. Equipment is provided!

THRIFT SHOP

Starting May 1, we will not be accepting any donations until further notice. It is imperative that we clear out the attic.



Thank you for your cooperation and support of our shop.

Carole Ireland and Helen Stowe

Thrift Shop CEO'S

AN INVITATION TO FELLOWSHIP AND FUN AT ST. PAUL'S WEDNESDAY, NOON SERVICE**



At the heart of community lies the simple joy of coming together,



sharing moments of reflection, and embracing fellowship. St. Paul's invites you to experience exactly that with our **Noon Service**, followed by an afternoon of light-hearted fun and camaraderie.

The service, held at the stroke of twelve, offers a serene respite from the hustle and bustle of daily life. It's a chance to pause, reflect, and connect in a spiritual and welcoming environment. Whether you're seeking quiet contemplation or a shared sense of purpose, the Noon Service is designed to refresh the soul.



But the joy doesn't end when the service concludes. Bring along a bagged lunch and a sense of fun, because we're extending the fellowship into the afternoon! Gather with others to enjoy your meal, share stories, and partake in simple yet delightful games. From classic board games to rounds of charades, laughter and smiles are the only requirements. The games are thoughtfully chosen to be inclusive, ensuring that everyone, young and old alike, can join in the merriment.

So! mark your calendar, bring your lunch, and let's create moments of joy together!

You can contact Sharon Turlis at sharonturlis@yahoo.com or call 860-836-6328 to leave a message.

COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE



Saturday May 17th 9:00am-12:00pm



930 N Colony Rd
Wallingford, CT 06492

Please donate
non-perishable
food to benefit



Sponsored by:
St. Paul's
Episcopal Church

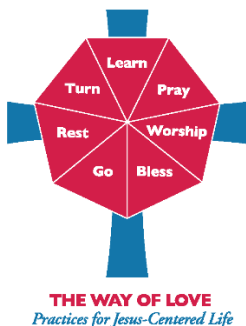
Food Drive for Masters Manna at STOP & SHOP

SATURDAY, MAY 17TH . . . St. Paul's May Food Drive for Master's Manna at the **Wallingford Stop & Shop, 9:00 – 12:00.**

Come join us – it will be fun; it will be rewarding, it will be helping feed our community. And we really could use your help – and maybe your vehicle. Questions? Please contact Sharon Rogalski or Art Sousa.



The Way of Love Word – LEARN



I love to learn. I'm one of those annoying individuals that interrogates people. "How long have you lived here, where do you live, What do you do for a living."? I am not trying to be nosy, I am just really interested. The same holds true for books, lectures, music, history etc. etc. This how I feel about the Bible. It is so vast, so many writers, so much information. What is so great about the

Bible though is that no matter how many times I read a portion, something new is revealed to me. I am always learning!

--submitted by Charmaine Craggs

**If you would like to share a reflection on one of the Way of Love words (Turn, Go, Learn, Worship, Bless, Pray, Rest) in a future newsletter, please sign up on the easel at church or contact Amy Foster at foster9092@gmail.com.

Altar Flowers for Sundays



Altar Flowers

A nice way to remember a loved one is to place a bouquet of spring or summer flowers on the altar. A \$45.00 donation is requested for ordering flowers. Or you may even have beautiful flowers in your garden that you would like to offer. To reserve a Sunday, please submit the names of those to be remembered and the date of the Sunday on which you wish the flowers to be on the altar. Forms are on the tables at the side and front entrances. Checks for flowers ordered should be made payable to "St. Paul's Memorial Flower Fund" and submitted to the church office along with the form. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Rogalski at srogal156@comcast.net or 203-678-4824.

St. Paul's Texts

St. Paul's sends out a weekly text with links to the bulletin and the livestream. In addition, if there is an emergency (such as a service or event being cancelled), a text will also be sent. If you are not currently receiving these texts and would like to, please contact Amy Foster at foster9092@gmail.com.



Worship Leaders

Calling all readers, crucifers, ministers of communion! Sign-up sheets are available on the easel in the back of the church. You may also call the parish office and Jen Parsons will sign you up.



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

Prayer requests and prayers will be offered from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

The Parish Office Hours: The parish office is open to the public on Wednesdays and Fridays from 11AM-2:00PM.

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.

Contact information for the Rev. 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!

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.](#)

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](#)



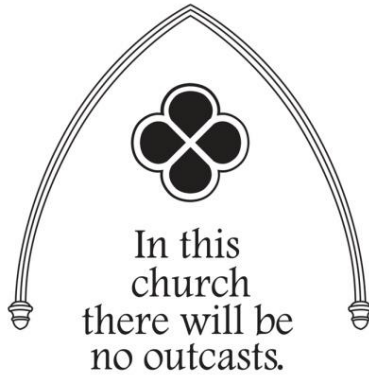
St. Paul's Episcopal Church Wallingford, CT



Thank you for pledging!
We appreciate your faithful giving.

You may give online by scanning the QR code above 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

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

Senior Warden, Kristin Liu

Junior Warden, Art Sousa

Clerk, Claire Minneman

Treasurer, Ted Hartsoe

David Adams

Linda Krasko

Wendy Oestreicher

Sharon Turlis

Shelley Cruz

Larry Stowe

David Desjardins

Karen Hlavac

Karen Rowe



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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Wallingford, CT 06492

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Episcopal Church