

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 35, Issue 4

April, 2012

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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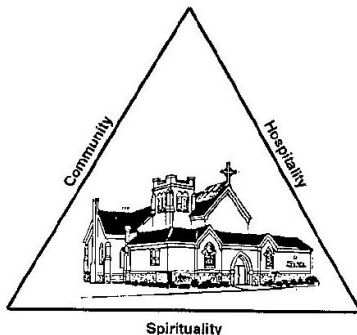
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Dear Friends,

Dare we say it too soon? **Alleluia! Christ is Risen!** Traditionally, we don't say Alleluia's before Easter, yet, it somehow seems like we need to shout a new Alleluia as we enter this month and begin Holy Week. After all, we are remembering what Jesus did for us and we are celebrating his resurrection that promises us new life in him. **Alleluia!**

New life abounds as we move through spring: buds on trees, flowers blooming, and the need to mow grass. Although we didn't have a hard winter, and some of these signs came to us before the first day of spring, we still see more and more new life as we move further into warmer weather and longer days.

So, what does the promise of new life in Jesus Christ hold out for you? Most of us think of the promise of life after death in heaven when we transition from this life. But, new life is available to us now, if we are willing to receive it. That new life means we are willing to put away the choices and habits that hold us captive to things that take life from us: worry, anxiety, excesses of any kind (remember the Seven Deadly Sins?) and selfishness.

That new life comes when we are ready to "put on the robe of righteousness," which may seem burdensome to keep up. Yet, that right way of living is what gives us life now. Living in fellowship with God and others, loving God, ourselves as children of God, and others, and giving generously of ourselves and all we have because God has so generously given to us, all leads us into that new life we are promised in Christ.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Claim the new life that he has given you. See you in church.

Peace to you all.
Pastor Ruth Solo

*From the
Pastor*

Thought for the Month:

Easter is the demonstration of God that life is essentially spiritual and timeless.

— Charles M. Crowe

Congratulations

Congratulations to Coach Denny Thompson, Aric Thompson, Reggie McAadms, and the Elida Boys Basketball team in earning the Western Buckeye League Co-Champions title and the Division II Regional Champions.

Congratulations to Reggie McAdams for being named Co-Player of the Year in the WBL and First Team All-Ohio for Boys Basketball.

Congratulations to Coach Denny Thompson for being named Co-Coach of the Year in the WBL for boys basketball.



Elida's Boys Basketball team went on to win the **Division II State Runner-Up Title!**



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

SENIORS DAY OUT Tuesday, April 10

The Seniors will be eating lunch out, and visiting the Delphos Canal Commission Museum. Details to Follow.



April 21, 2012

St. Paul's Chicken Barbeque

5-7:00 PM

Tickets are \$7.00

Menu: half chicken, homemade potato salad, applesauce, roll, and homemade desserts

Walk-in, dine-in, or carry-out

St. Paul's Epistle

is published by St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Subscription Rate: NONE

Secretary:	Gail Fessler
Secretary:	Jone Lane
Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Choir Director:	Judy Chaffins
Custodian:	Dave Decker



The Easter offering this year will be divided between the West Ohio Conference Love First Miracle Offering, which goes to Wings of the Morning aviation ministry in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to help purchase a Cessna Caravan plane, and to the Elida Area Community Center, still seeking to raise the rest of the funds to purchase the building that once housed the old IGA store on Sunnydale St.

April 15 Missions carry-In luncheon

following the worship service



Newsletter deadline: the 16th of each month



CONGRATS!!

To Torie McAdams

**For sinking a layup, free throw and
3-point shot at halftime of state
tournament to win \$100!**

Way to go, Torie!

NOTICE

The High/Middle School class will meet on **April 22nd and April 29th** before finishing for the school year. All middle school and high school students are invited to join Jan Wyant in the classroom beside the office during the worship service after the choir sings.

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

PALM SUNDAY CANTATA
April 1, 2012
"One Sacrifice" by Joel Raney
Directed by: Judy Chaffins



EASTER SUNDAY
April 8, 2012
Sunrise Service 8:00 AM
"Go and Tell"

MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 5, 2012
at 7:00 PM
"Sacrificial Service"



EASTER BREAKFAST
in Fellowship Hall
Following Sunrise Service
Provided by the Nurture Comm.



**COMMUNITY
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**
April 6, 2012
Pike Mennonite Church
7:00 PM
Pastor Ruth will be preaching



EASTER WORSHIP
10:00 AM
"Dancing with the Lord of the Dance"

CONGRATS TO OUR ELIDA DAWGS & COACH THOMPSON!

2011-12

Elida Bulldogs

First trip to State Final Four



Art Thompson

Eric Stratton

2011-12 SCHEDULE

23-3 Record

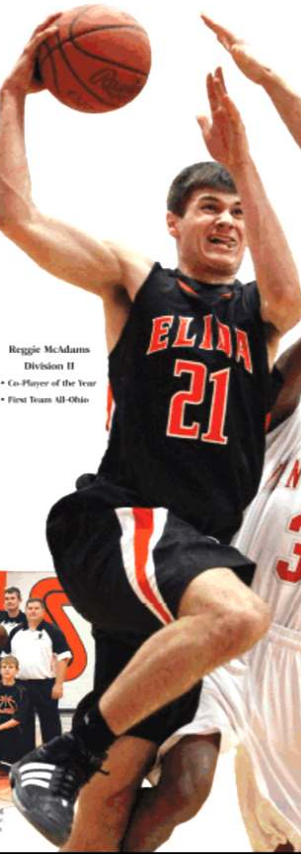
Shawnee	70-20
Beth	67-42
Spanghero	65-54
Duquesne St. John's	58-49
Woodbridge	46-41
Coltsville	43-34
York Senior	38-53
Towson Center Catholic	36-48
St. Mary's	39-29
Liberty Mountain	45-48
Warrenton	63-66
Alachua	58-37
Madison	72-42
Brookline Senior	71-58
Kenzie	58-41
Offshoot/Stanford	53-41
Beth	40-48
Lima Central Catholic	57-62
Cathie	80-53
Delaware	65-61



Dakota Nathan



Larry Boster



Reggie McDams
Division II
• Co-Player of the Year
• First Team All-Ohio

The Lima News



From left to right: Earl Van Shatin Smith, Louis Gray, Mike Starnborough, Mike McDonald, David Cohen, Sean Long, Matt Lee, Mike McArthur, Second row: Head Coach David Thompson, Chance Webb, Dennis Mathias, Cory Blyden, Reggie McDams, Eric Stratton, Art Thompson, James Newby, Reggie McDams, Coach Matt Smith, Art Coach Steve Smith, Matt Johnson, Brandon Johnson, Matt Long, Brady Williams.



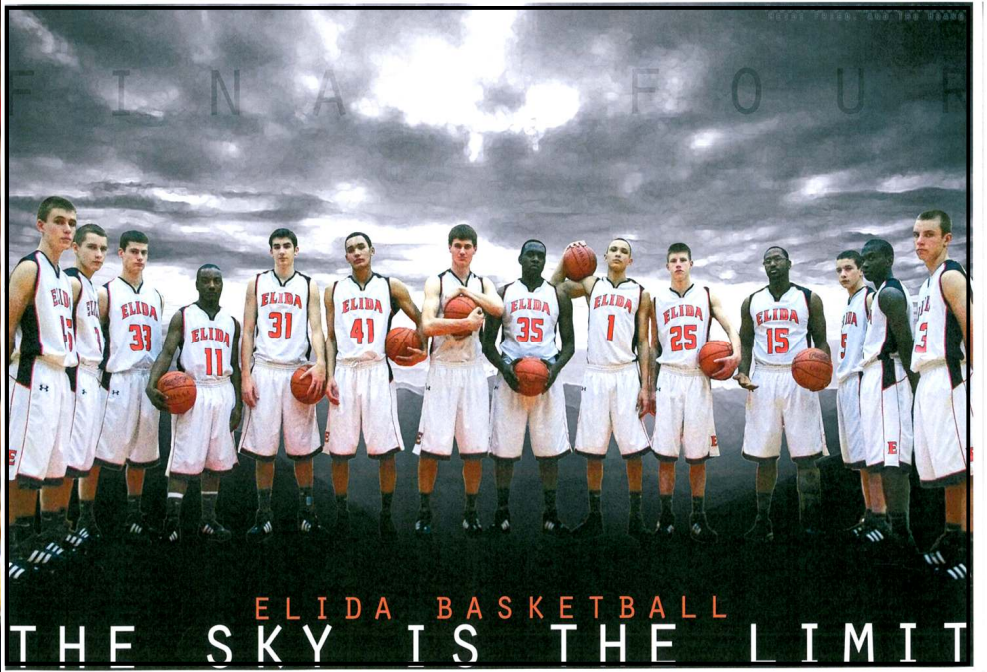
WBL Co-Champs!

Sectional Champs!

District Champs!

Regional Champs!

Division II
State
Runners-
Up!



ELIDA BASKETBALL
THE SKY IS THE LIMIT

The Business of Church

Mission Committee Report for March

The Lima Area Methodist Men's (LAMM) breakfast was held on March 3rd at Immanuel United Methodist Church. Pastor Ruth gave an excellent talk and PowerPoint presentation on the Elida Community Center and showed an architect's rendering of how the old IGA building could be transformed to convert it into a community center. Neal Whitney reported on the Camp Sierra Linda mission project at Monterrey, Mexico. Also at the breakfast, Dan Bucher gave an account of the mission trip to Haiti in February sponsored by Shawnee United Methodist Church.

A conference call was held on February 27th with several different churches participating to discuss the Camp Wesley Mission Project for this June. Todd Hanes is leading the project. Jamie Wyant will lead a team from St. Paul's church to try to repair the metal roof on the conference center at the camp to stop the leaks in the roof. Other projects at Camp Wesley will include a new sign at the entrance, a new roof for the cafeteria and landscaping projects. Each church involved will decide on the amount of funding it will be able to contribute to the Camp Wesley project.

Family Promise week at Immanuel UMC in March was canceled due to no families being present to be served.

Upcoming missions for St. Paul's church include Food Pantry Sunday on April 15th with food collected going to the Five Loaves Food Pantry at Allentown, and serving at Our Daily Bread soup kitchen on Friday, March 30th. Denny and Carole Grapner, Larry and Shirley Moser, Martha Vasquez and Deb Hurd have volunteered to help serve at the soup kitchen.

**The Missions Committee will have a Carry-In Luncheon
Sunday, April 15th after the worship service.
Donations from this luncheon will go towards the funding of the
Camp Wesley project.**

Book of Timothy



Committee Chairs

Committee Chairs	
PPR Chair	Dwain Metzger
Trustees Chair	Ron Steiner
Finance Chair	Marty White
Treasurer	Jenessa Fletcher
Education Chair	Jan Wyant
Administrative Council Chair	Scott Fessler
Worship	Ruth Solo
Nurture	Linda Holman
Missions	Tim Piper

Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:	
March 4, 2012	98
March 11, 2012	93
March 18, 2012	74
March 25, 2012	74

Financial Giving
 Weekly Need for
 Unified Ministry Budget
 \$3,466.00

	Unified Ministry Giving:	Other:
March 4, 2012	\$4,935.00	\$652.93
March 11, 2012	\$3,427.00	\$425.00
March 18, 2012	\$1,773.00	\$737.88
March 25, 2012	\$1,551.00	\$220.00

Praying Together

Jesus, you are the shepherd.
 We are the sheep.
 Bless us all day
 and when we sleep.
 Help us to trust
 in your tender care.
 Give us your blessings
 and help us to share. Amen.

Greeters:	
April 1, 2012	Norm & Mary Grigsby
April 8, 2012	Scott & Gail Fessler
April 15, 2012	Tim & Sue Theodore
April 22, 2012	Denny & Carole Grapner
April 29, 2012	Lynda Evans

Flowers:	
April 1, 2012	Chris Bowsher
April 8, 2012	Virginia Hollar
April 15, 2012	Ray & Phyllis Trigg
April 22, 2012	Jerry Crates
April 29, 2012	Susan Nartker

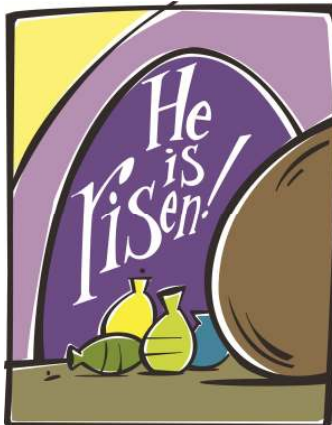


**Visit The United
 Methodist Website at:
www.umw.org**

Consulting the Manual



Blessed are those who have not seen.
John 20:29



Bible Readings for
Revised Common Lectionary
Year B

Week of April 1

Palm Sunday

Color: Purple or Red

Old Testament:

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

New Testament:

Mark 11:1-11

Mark 14:1-15

John 12:12-16

John 12:20-33

Week of April 8

Easter Sunday

Color: White or Gold

Old Testament:

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

New Testament:

Acts 10:34-43

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

John 20:1-18

Mark 16:1-8

For more detailed information on the
Revised Common Lectionary, please visit:
www.gbod.org

Week of April 15

Second Sunday of Easter

Color: White or Gold

Old Testament:

Psalm 133

New Testament:

1 John 1:1-2:2

John 20:19-31

Acts 4:32-35

Week of April 22

Third Sunday of Easter

Color: White or Gold

Old Testament:

Psalm 4

New Testament:

Acts 3:12-19

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

Week of April 29

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Color: White or Gold

Old Testament:

Psalm 23

New Testament:

Acts 4:5-12

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18



Jesus Intrudes into Jerusalem



In the text for Palm Sunday, Jesus is bouncing upon the back of a borrowed donkey, moving toward the city where, by the end of the week, he will face betrayal, torture, and death. We also call this Passion Sunday, from the Latin meaning “to suffer.” That’s where he resolutely rides and how he will eventually die . . .

He is surrounded by a throng, some of whom wish him well and others who want him ill. Some of the crowd wave palm branches in welcome. Others now seek to set wheels in motion whereby Jesus will be finally shut up. That’s the seething human caldron into which Jesus intrudes.

The modern world, in order to make itself work, first needed to pacify God. We could not move ahead with our modern plans without the assistance of deistic philosophers who made distinction between “particular providence” and “general providence.” It is the glory of God that God need not get involved in the grubby little particulars of the world in order to make the world work . . .

On most Sundays we say the Apostles’ Creed. We say that Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. Note that it’s all in the passive voice, which in Miss Boggs’ English composition class was a sign of grammatical weakness. Jesus is thereby rendered into a sort of divine automaton who passively is brought onto the scene, passively to be born, to suffer, and to die.

But not today. The beginning of the story is God speaking into the silence, light intruding. Into the darkness, a word “God said, ‘let there be light . . .’” (Gen 1), and there was.

And the story ends, in the last book of the Bible, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more..” (Rev 21:3-4).

Something’s afoot. I am sorry if you thought that we had tucked God safely to bed. This God is on the move. God’s not hunkered down at church. God’s invading the city.

A student once said to me, “In order to major in history, the first thing you have got to do is try to be an atheist.”

That’s right. We can’t have God intruding into exclusively human events. We’ve got to explain all of human history as self-made, from the inside, as the tug and pull of various forms of human interaction.

But here Jesus comes, not necessarily to fix what is wrong with the world but to reclaim the world. Sometimes he just bears what’s wrong, shoulders it, takes it up with us, stands beside us.

Crucifixion, which awaits him at the end of this week, was a death that was not chosen just for Jesus and no one else. Crucifixion was the typical Roman way with Jews who got too big for their britches and caused trouble for the Empire. Thousands of Jews were tortured to death this way. This is fate that Jesus took upon himself. He could have bypassed Jerusalem, but then he would not have been the kind of Savior that he was.

Look. Jesus is on the move. He will ride, encroach, with a whip cleanse our corrupted temple, enrage people in power – both political and religious, unmask our deceit, evoke the violence upon which our culture is created, take the full force upon his back, hang there, bleed, and gasp his last. All for us, and for our salvation. Ride on.

– by William Willimon, excerpted with permission from *Pulpit Resource*, © Logos Productions

Remember When...



Acolytes and Bell Ringers
April, 2006
Oliver Fessler and Aric Thompson



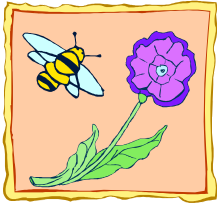
Easter Breakfast
April 16, 2006

Remember When...



Chancel Choir and Youth Singers
Easter Sunday
April 16, 2006

Bell Choir
Easter Sunday
April 16, 2006



Easter Breakfast
April 8, 2008

Connecting With ...



Puppeteers at Easter Sunrise Service
April 12, 2009

L-R: Oliver Fessler, Steve and Shirley Moser, Michele Theodore, Gene Craft, Tracy and Steve Sdao



Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital
Corinne Piper
Lynda Evans

Homebound Members
Hazel Dunn
Edna Osman
Jean Redd
Gladys Sherrick

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement
Joanna Hurd
Rodney Lee
Rick Scholfield

In the Military
Jason Stanley



Visit The United Methodist Communications website : www.umcom.org

This website offers book reviews, music reviews, and web ministry information among other relevant and interesting links.

The People of St. Paul's

Thank you to **Linda Holman, Margie Best, Gloria Brunk, Linda Craft, Larry and Shirley Moser, and Corinne Piper** for being faithful helpers to make our **Seniors Day Out** lunches a success. Your hard work and dedication to St. Paul's and it's people are greatly appreciated.

Thank You!

To Our Church Family,
 We appreciate all your prayers and concerns during the illness and passing of **Becky's sister Eunice Benton** who passed away February 19, 2012, in TN.
Jerry and Becky Bean

To My Church Family,
 Thank you for the flowers, prayers and concerns during my stay in the hospital. Thank you **Pastor Ruth** for your visit.
Lynda Evans



A special thank you to the family of **Wilbur Hurd** for the gift of **Wilbur's piano** to St. Paul's. **Wilbur** was a very accomplished musician as an instrumentalist, vocalist and band director. He valued music and he valued his piano. **Joanna Hurd** shares that the piano was purchased very early in their marriage when they felt they really couldn't afford it. She is now honoring **Wilbur's** wishes that the piano be given to their church where he shared his talent. Thank you to the church trustees for approving the receipt of this gift and many thanks to **Ron Steiner, Larry Moser, Scott Fessler, Jonathan Cook and his friends,** for assisting in the move of the piano.

Congratulations to **Jacinda Fletcher** and **Nicholas Perry** on their engagement. **Jacinda** is the daughter of **John and Joy Fletcher**. **Nicholas** is the son of **Mark Perry** and the late **Debbie Perry**. They will be married at St. Paul's UMC on October 20, 2012.



Prayer List Updates
 Please Contact
Lavonne Segovia

Meetings

TBA
PPR...7:00 PM

April 3, 2012
Trustees...7:00 PM

No April Meeting
Worship Team..6:00 PM

TBA
Finance...7:00 PM

No April Meeting
Ad Council...7:30 PM

April 17, 2012
Missions...7:00 PM

Sundays
Prayer...9:30 AM
Fellowship...9:30 AM
Worship...10:00 AM

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir...7:00 PM

April 2012

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 Jim Michael Palm Sunday	2	3 Helen Scholfield 90 years Trustees	4 Lynda Evans Ivan Vazquez	5	6	7 Dan Best
8 EASTER Sunrise 8AM, Breakfast, Worship 10AM	9	10 Pam Lozano	11	12	13	14
15 Todd Chaffins	16 Denise Thomas	17 Doug Guess Missions	18 Brent Stemen	19 Maedene Holmes	20 Lori Motzer Aaron Piper Kelley Warris	21 Mike Crates Krista Slemmons
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Jaxson Stemen
29 Gerald Strayer	30					

Anniversaries

- Carl & Lois Rabley
April 4
48 years*
- Ray & Phyllis Trigg
April 15
52 years*
- John & Joy Fletcher
April 17*
- Tony & Pam Lozano
April 17*
- Robert & Jacquie Bice
April 19*

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Cookbook

Egg Breakfast (served at St. Paul's book club)

by Jone Lane

Ingredients		Instructions
1 pound	Bacon, cooked and diced	Butter 9x13 pan. Spread bread cubes, layer of cheese, and layer of bacon. Mix eggs, dry mustard, salt, and milk together. Pour over bacon. Cover with foil. Bake 350 degrees for 1 hour. Can mix the night before and keep refrigerated until morning.
5 slices	Bread, lightly buttered and cubed	
3/4 pound	Shredded cheddar cheese	
5	Eggs, slightly beaten	
1/2 tsp.	Dry mustard	
1/2 tsp.	Salt	
2 cups	Milk	



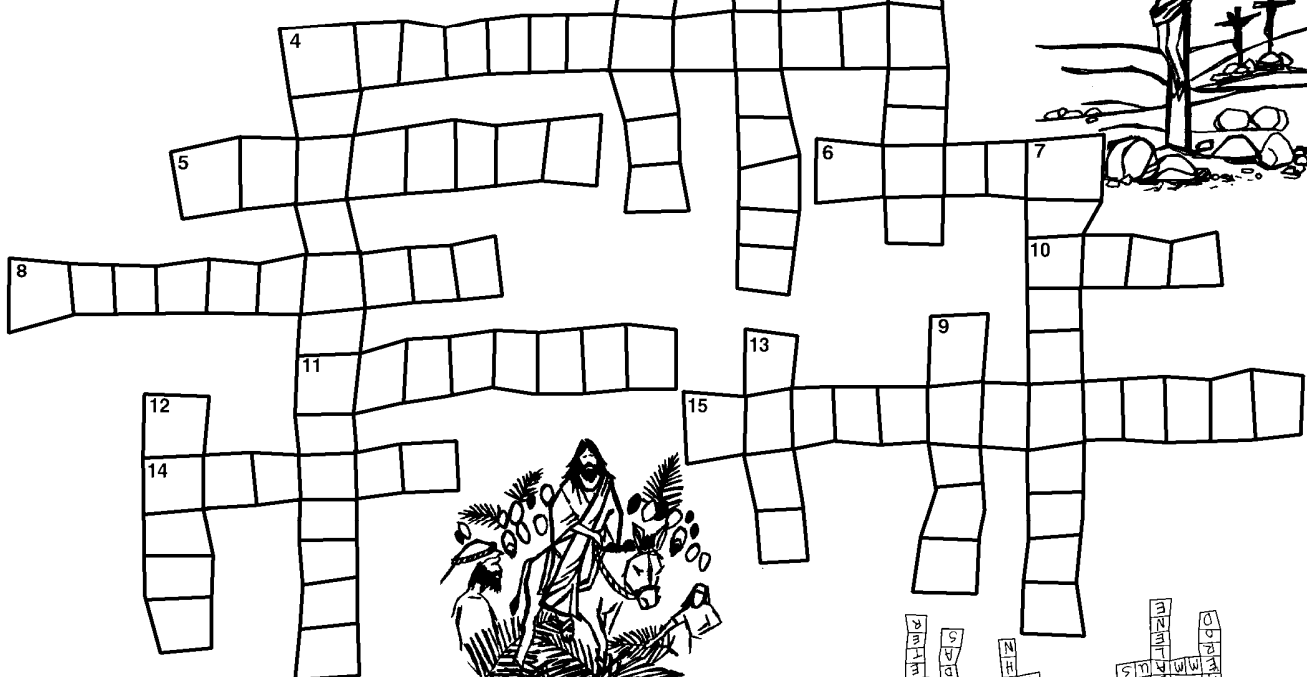
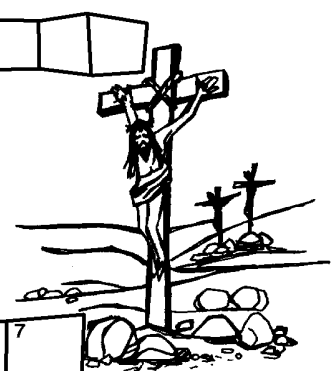
Pistachio-Pineapple Salad (served at Seniors Day Out)

By Margie Best

Ingredients		Instructions
1 box	Pistachio instant pudding	Mix pudding (no milk), pineapple (don't drain), nuts (optional), miniature marshmallows, and Cool Whip all together. Keep in refrigerator.
1 (20 oz.) can	Crushed pineapple	
1 cup	Nuts, chopped fine (optional)	
1 cup	Miniature marshmallows	
1 medium	Cool Whip	



KIDZ KORNER



The Easter Story

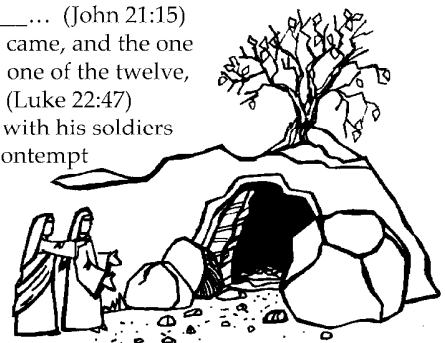
The Easter story can be found in Mark 11–16 and other books. Find some of the people and places from the story and add them to the puzzle.

Across

1. He took with him Peter, _____, and John. (Mark 14:33)
4. When he was sitting on the _____ . . . (Mark 13:3)
5. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release _____ instead. (Mark 15:11)
6. But _____ made no further reply. (Mark 15:5)
8. They went to a place called _____. (Mark 14:32)
10. When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and _____, the mother of James, and Salome bought spices. (Mark 16:1)
11. Then they brought Jesus to the place called _____. (Mark 15:22)
14. Now on the same day two of them were going to a village called _____. (Luke 24:13)
15. _____ was governor of Judea. (Luke 3:1)

Down

1. The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to _____. (John 12:12)
2. One of them, whose name was _____ . . . (Luke 24:18)
3. The high priest was called _____. (Matthew 26:3)
4. There were also women looking on from a distance. Among them was _____. (Mark 15:40)
7. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to _____ . . . (John 21:15)
9. Suddenly a crowd came, and the one called _____, one of the twelve, was leading them. (Luke 22:47)
12. Even _____ with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. (Luke 23:11)
13. Jesus sent Peter and _____ . (Luke 22:8)



St. Paul's United Methodist Church

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April 2012



Living Our Faith

Who Needs a Good Shepherd?

Each year, the fourth Sunday of Easter is called Good Shepherd Sunday. The Bible stories we read in church that day all talk about shepherds - a job that was very common in Jesus' day, but not so common today.

- A shepherd is someone who:
- *knows each individual sheep.
- *takes sheep to places where food and water can be found.
- *watches over and protects them from wild animals.
- *rescues them when they get caught in thorny bushes.
- *helps them if they fall or get hurt.
- *puts medicine on their wounds.
- *brings them back safely to the sheepfold at night.

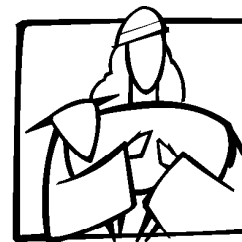
- *looks for them if they are lost.
- *carries them home if need be.
- *is willing to risk his or her life to protect the sheep.

Read John 10:11-15. What does Jesus tell us about himself? Why do you think Jesus chooses this way to describe himself when he didn't actually work as a shepherd who took care of animals?

In order for us to understand Jesus' words about shepherds better, we probably need to admit that we are like sheep! How do you think people might be like sheep? We want to do things on our own and take care of ourselves, but sometimes we get into trouble or need protection from danger. Sometimes we

feel lost. Sometimes we get hurt. And every day, we need the basics to grow strong and healthy - food and water, a safe place to sleep, love and care. We all need a good shepherd!

Once we have known the love and care of Jesus, the good shepherd, Jesus asks us to share it with others. Think of one person and start today to imitate the love and care of Jesus, the good shepherd.



One flock, one shepherd.
Jn 10:16