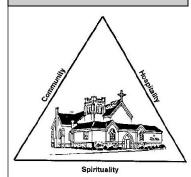
St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 35, Issue 8

August, 2012

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Well, we are getting settled in and boxes unpacked (thanks for recycling Jan & Jamie). Like any move there are bumps along the way; Elida is no exception. The parsonage phone works (419-909-9419) and sometimes we can even find the phone. Although as I write this letter there is still one phone missing, and I am sure it will be in the next box. I am getting to know St Paul's and I hope God is beginning to speak to you through the messages I am preaching on Sunday.

I mentioned in my first sermon that I would be visiting everyone. Look for contact to begin in August to get you signed up to visit with the pastor. I will be starting with people on committees and then working through the rest of the congregation. This is going to take a while but my goal is to see everyone in the first six months. I want you to be thinking of a couple things before I show up. What does St. Paul's do well and what is the biggest challenge we face? We will see how many people read the pastor's column in the newsletter.

By the time you read this we will be winding down "Where are you in God's Story" series and we will head into a little fun with the Wesley clan. I am going to talk about John and Charles but I am also going to talk about their parents. Because you have to know where you come from, to figure out where you are going. We will be singing mostly Wesley hymns and I will even preach an adaptation of John Wesley's first sermon after his Aldersgate experience.

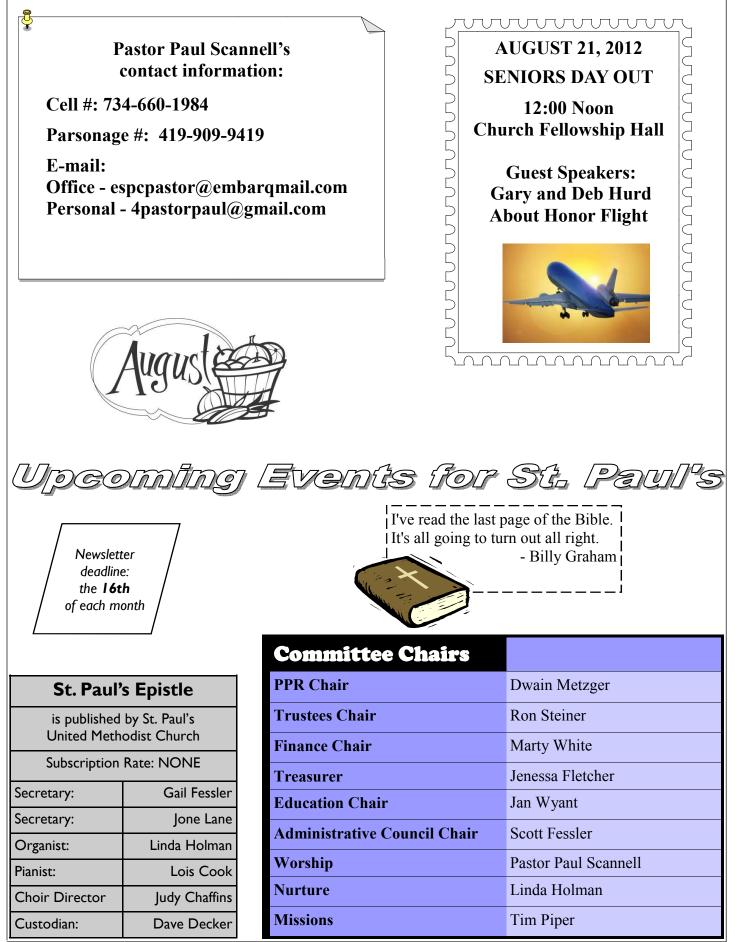
I also want you to be thinking about what you will be doing this fall for your devotional time and Bible study time (you could always use the daily readings here in the newsletter). Two things that have always been important in the Wesleyan tradition are devotional study and accountability. Devotional time with God that includes study time is good but accountability with other Christians is very important. With accountability in mind, I am thinking about leading a 10 week study by Erwin McManus called <u>Chasing Daylight</u>. I would love to have enough people to run two classes. I am willing to teach both of these classes so look for signup sheets and get ready to go back to school.

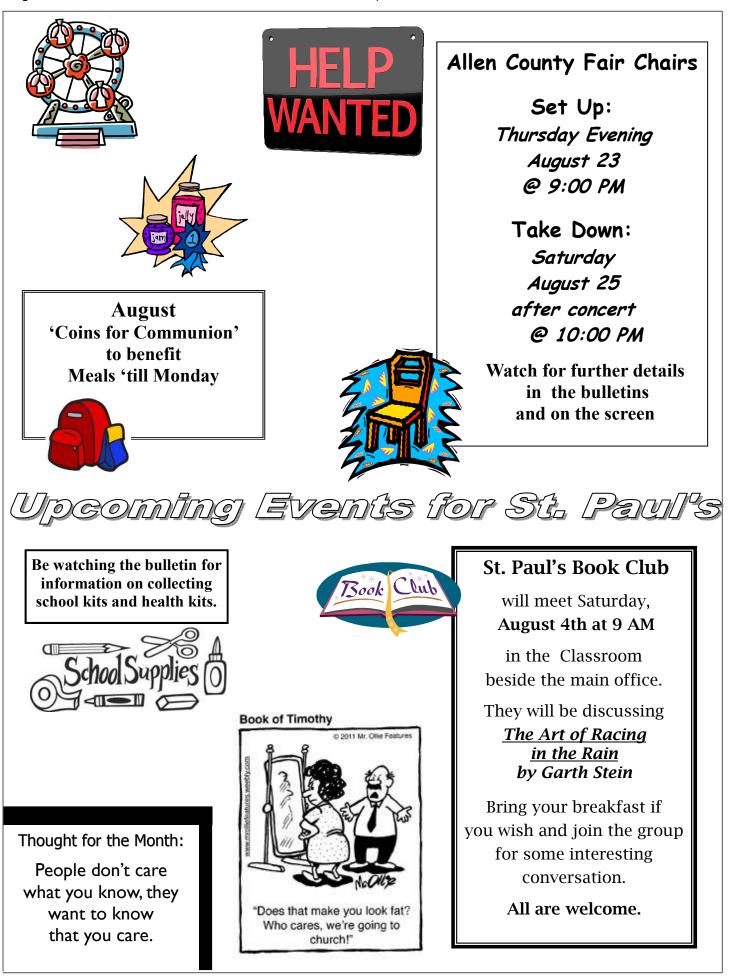
Speaking of getting back to school, hand the newsletter to your teenager. We (teens and I) need to get together and talk about what it is we could be doing and what it is we should be doing. I was thinking about having a get together with food (burgers, brats, pizza?), maybe a fun activity (go karts, bowling, movie?) and talking about what you need the church to do for you. And I can let you know what the church needs from you. I know you are busy with sports, school, friends, facebook, and a long list of other stuff but this will be a way for me to get to know who you are and what I can do to help you.

Well, I have to go unpack a box and see if I can find the other phone. So until next month let's keep looking for where God is at work and get busy being His hands and feet right where He places us.

Peace, Pastor Paul







 \sim St. Paul's UMC \sim An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples \sim

The Heart of Church

MISSION REPORT – A BUSY SUMMER FOR OUR MISSION WORKERS

On June 11th through the 15th we joined 5 other churches to do mission work at **United Methodist Camp Wesley** north of Bellefontaine, Ohio. The volunteers repaired two roofs, planted flowers and did landscaping around the administrative building. Volunteers from our church that helped at Camp Wesley include Jamie Wyant, team leader, Dennis and Shara Bowsher, Larry Moser, Maedene Holmes, Norm Grigsby, Larry Brunk and Tim & Corinne Piper. Several volunteers from Immanuel UMC and one from Trinity UMC also helped with the roofs. Todd Hanes, a former member of our church, organized the Camp Wesley mission work for this year. Thank you to our volunteers.

On Friday, June 29, St. Paul's volunteers helped again at **Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen** to serve those persons in need. St. Paul's helpers were Bill McKinney, Carole & Denny Grapner, Debra Hurd, Shara Bowsher, Martha Vasquez, her daughter, Cindy, and granddaughter, Molly, and her friend. Thank you to all who helped.

On Saturday, July 14, the **5th Annual Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing** was held at Colonial Hills Golf Course. Administrative Council voted to donate \$100, which has been sent, from our mission fund to be a hole-sponsor at the outing. Also, coins for communion this month was designated to be sent to the golf outing. We had a foursome playing golf: Larry & Shirley Moser, Margie Best and Dennis Bowsher. Volunteers who helped with the outing were Jamie Wyant, Dan Best, Norm Grigsby and Tim Piper. Proceeds from the golf outing will be used to send pharmacy interns to foreign countries to do mission work in the medical field.

Sunday, July 15, was **Food Pantry Sunday**. The food was delivered to the Five Loaves Food Pantry at Allentown UMC. Giving this month fell a little below our normal monthly giving but we want to thank those persons that diligently support the food pantry through your generous giving of food. Praise be to God!

Upcoming mission work will include collecting items for school kits. Watch the bulletin for more details.

As members of St. Paul's Church continue to rise up to be the 'hands and feet of Christ' we thank those persons involved in all mission work including those efforts mentioned above, as well as the persons volunteering to help with the welcome center on Sunday mornings, make prayer quilts and shawls and those who visit our members who are shut-ins. Your unselfish acts of kindness present the 'face of Christ' to those persons in our congregation and community who need to know that our Christ is alive and His Love is manifested through your acts and deeds. Praise God for all of you.

Tim Piper, Missions Committee Chair



Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing

Brad Joseph was a member of St. Paul's Church and a pharmacist at the Blanchard Valley Hospital in Findlay. He was killed tragically in an auto accident five years ago. His family, led by his uncle John Fleming, have hosted the Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing the past five years. The proceeds from the annual outing go toward funding Medical Mission Trip Scholarships for Pharmacy students in Northwest Ohio. The Bradley Joseph Memorial Fund assets are held at the Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation.

The Fund has given out seven \$500 scholarships over the past four years for Medical Mission trips to Kenya, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico and Uganda.

This year's winners are:

Johanna – a student at Findlay University who went to Haiti

Cate – a student at Ohio Northern who went to Nuevo Progresso, Mexico

(this was the location where Brad took many of his medical mission trips)

St. Paul's church not only sends volunteers and golfers to the outing each year but we donate \$100 to be a hole sponsor and also designate collections from 'coins for communion' to the outing as well. Brad was a vital member of our church and we honor him for service to our church as Youth Director, a member of our choir, and as someone who served Christ through his medical mission work. He is greatly missed.



St. Paul's Foursome Dennis Bowsher, Shirley Moser, Margie Best, Larry Moser St. Paul's Volunteers Jamie Wyant, Tim Piper, Norm Grigsby, Dan Best

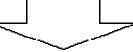
Editor's Note:

We won't know how much was raised until John Fleming gives us an update, but in the first four years the outing has raised over \$20,000 for sending pharmacy students on medical mission trips.

Faith In Action

\bigcirc		
Worship Att	endance:	
July 1, 2012	92	
July 8, 2012	101	
July 15, 2012	89	
July 22, 2012	109	





Unified Min	Other:	
July 1, 2012	\$3,335.90	\$490.85
July 8, 2012	\$4,397.50	\$541.00
July 15, 2012	\$2,048.20	\$197.00
July 22, 2012	\$8,513.47	\$466.00

Greeters			
July 29, 2012	Gary & Janet Grigg		
August 5, 2012	Tony & Shirley Shoup		
August 12, 2012	Steve & Tracy Sdao		
August 19, 2012	OPEN		
August 26, 2012	Ray & Phyllis Trigg		





Daily Bible Readings for August

Wednesday 8/1 Psalm 72 & 119:73-96 Judges 3:12-30 Acts 1:1-14 Matthew 27:45-54

Thursday 8/2 Psalm 71 & 74 Judges 4:4-23 Acts 1:15-26 Matthew 27:55-66

Friday 8/3 Psalm 69 & 73 Judges 5:1-18 Acts 2:1-21 Matthew 28:1-10

Saturday 8/4 Psalm 75, 76, 23 & 27 Judges 5:19-31 Acts 2:22-36 Matthew 28:11-20

Sunday 8/5 Psalm 93, 96 & 34 2 Samuel 6:12-23 Romans 4:7-12 John 1:43-51

Monday 8/6 Psalm 80 & 77 2 Samuel 7:1-17 Acts 18:1-11 Mark 8:11-21

Tuesday 8/7 Psalm 78 2 Samuel 7:18-29 Acts 18:12-28 Mark 8:22-33

Wednesday 8/8 Psalm 81, 82 & 119:97-120 2 Samuel 9:1-13 Acts 19:1-10 Mark 8:34-9:1

Thursday 8/9 Psalm 83, 85 & 86 2 Samuel 11:1-27 Acts 19:11-20 Mark 9:2-13

 Friday 8/10

 Psalm 88, 91 & 92
 2 Samuel 12:1-14

 Acts 19:21-41
 Mark 9:14-29

Saturday 8/11 Psalm 87, 90 & 136 2 Samuel 12:15-31 Acts 20:1-16 Mark 9:30-41

Sunday 8/12 Psalm 19, 46, 66 & 67 2 Samuel 13:1-22 Romans 15:1-13 John 3:22-36

Monday 8/13 Psalm 89 2 Samuel 13:23-39 Acts 20:17-38 Mark 9:42-50

Tuesday 8/14 Psalm 94, 97 & 99 2 Samuel 14:1-20 Acts 21:1-14 Mark 10:1-16

Wednesday 8/15 Psalm 101, 109 & 119:121-144 2 Samuel 14:21-33 Acts 21:15-26 Mark 10:17-31

Thursday 8/16 Psalm 105 2 Samuel 15:1-18 Acts 21:27-36 Mark 10:32-45

Friday 8/17 Psalm 102 & 107:1-32 2 Samuel 15:19-37 Acts 21:37-22:16 Mark 10:46-52

Saturday 8/18 Psalm 33, 107:33-43 & 108:1-6 2 Samuel 16:1-23 Acts 22:17-29 Mark 11:1-11

Sunday 8/19 Psalm 34, 93 & 96 Judges 6:1-24 2 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 Mark 3:20-30

Monday 8/20Psalm 80 & 77Judges 6:25-40Acts 2:37-47John 1:1-18

Tuesday 8/21 Psalm 78 Acts 3:1-11

Judges 7:1-18 John 1:19-28

Wednesday 8/22 Psalm 81, 82 & 119:97-120 Judges 7:19-8:12 Acts 3:12-26 John 1:29-42

Thursday 8/23 *Psalm* 83, 85 & 86 *Judges* 8:22-35 *Acts* 4:1-12 *John* 1:43-51

Friday 8/24 Psalm 88, 91 & 92 Judges 9:1-16, 19-21 Acts 4:13-31 John 2:2-12

Saturday 8/25 Psalm 87, 90 & 136 Judges 9:22-25, 50-57 Acts 4:32-5:11

Sunday 8/26 Psalm 19, 46, 66 & 67 Judges 11:1-11, 29-40 2 Corinthians 11:21b-31 Mark 4:35-41

Monday 8/27 *Psalm 89 Acts 5:12-26*

Judges 12:1-7 John 3:1-21

Tuesday 8/28 Psalm 94, 97 & 99 Judges 13:1-15 Acts 5:27-42 John 3:22-36

Wednesday 8/29 Psalm 101, 109 & 119:121-144 Judges 13:15-24 Acts 6:1-15 John 4:1-26

Thursday 8/30 *Psalm* 105 *Acts* 6:15-7:16

Judges 14:1-19 John 4:27-42

Friday 8/31 Psalm 102 & 107:1-32 Judges 14:20-15:20 Acts 7:17-29 John 4:43-54

Annual Conference Report

(Continued from Last Month)

My workshop that I attended Monday evening was <u>Breakthrough: Creating a Prayer Initiative at</u> <u>Your Church</u> led by **Sue Nilson Kibbey**. Sue is West Ohio Conference Director of Missional Initiatives.

She started with *Prayer is the greatest untapped resource in the church today,* and considered three types of prayers:

1. **Pro-functionary** – bringing prayer to the threshold of God's grace.

2. **Healing** – prayer for physical or spiritual well being

3. **Breakthrough** – prevailing prayer by asking for God's will without limits, thus giving room for God to work. Examples: "thy will be done"; "seeking alignment of our will with God's will"; and "finding power in conversation with God by taking time to listen for response."

What Sue listed under what prayer is not:

- A. a way to protect ourselves
- B. giving a political talk or sermon
- C. against other people (can be against darkness)

D. prayer is not necessary to be aloud or with words

Points to do Breakthrough prayer.

1. Study what prayer is.

2. Make sure there is prayer at every gathering in the church and there is breakthrough without limits prayer.

3. Learn to prayer walk. Start in and throughout the church, expand outside to the community.

4. Tell and share prayer stories. There was a time of sharing as members of the class shared some of their stories. A very moving one for me was of a mother who had been praying for a "lost" son who left home at age 17 until he was 45, at which time he indicated that he was finally ready to come home. Then she got a phone call to contact the minister from a church he had been attending. Her son had died in his sleep. She was in her bathroom crying and yelling at God. "Why? He was coming home!! Why now??" Then she said a calm came over her and she heard –"He **is** home."

Other thoughts:

Prayer feeds the life of Jesus in ourselves. Every prayer is for a miracle – for what we cannot do ourselves.

We could use this for a morning prayer:

Open myself to you God, fill my mind and heart to walk in love; fill my spirit; be Lord of my life today.

Sue told about a small German church in 1727 who decided to pray and pray for places unloved. After years and years of praying they started sending out missionaries to countries they had been praying for. One missionary started prayer at Aldersgate, where listening and having his heart strangely moved was John Wesley. And we know what followed that experience.

Featured Speakers:

Bishop Thomas Bickerton – speaker for Sunday evening worship. He is the resident Bishop for the Western PA Annual Conference. He believes the vitality of the local church is the key to carrying out the church's mission to *make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the word*. One of his questions was, "Is coming to church optional?" He stated, "If we unleash God, church becomes necessary for growth." He gave an example of a pillar member of his church. She felt free to study and ponder, to grow in faith and she lived it out, keeping the fire of God living in her everyday life.

Thomas Kemper – spoke Monday in the morning worship. He is General Secretary for the General Board of Global Ministries. His scripture was from Jeremiah "cry of the people oppressed by wars and invaders ...is there no balm in Gilead?" We need to heed the call in the Bible to choose life. The church is the connection, sharing Christian hope, establishing hospitals offering the balm of Gilead. He ended with "Go looking for Life!"

Bishop Bruce Ough – spoke at the Tuesday Celebration of Life and Ministry Service at 4.00 PM. He has been Resident Bishop of West Ohio UMC for the past 12 years. This is his final year in this position. There were numerous occasions of reflections and praises for his service. He spoke of the presence of the Lord in this place (here at lakeside); God's power in love; living so that we may proclaim the word of Jesus; living so that our lives reflect God; set breakthrough goals in worship, profession of faith, baptism, small groups, mission teams, persons served by mission outreach, etc.

Bishop Tambo Mkulu Ntanda – spoke at the Tuesday morning worship. He is Resident Bishop for the North Katango Area, Africa. I wrote of him in

Annual Conference Report

last month's newsletter.

During the day there were short videos of some of the churches who were doing breakthrough things.

One was **Ironton Church.** They had a shift in perspective. Not dwelling on giving to meet the bills but shifting to concern with member's relationship with God. This relationship with God included everything in their lives: giving, doing, working, etc. They were able to expand their food pantry and still meet the bills.

Another church was **Gains UMC**. They were concerned about becoming a closed church. They contacted the conference office and received a prescription of prayer. So they started with prayer as a major focus: meetings, prayer groups, prayer walks, traveling over the city in prayer groups and prayers for each other. The focus was mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. They began to be known as the church working for change through prayer. They also increased in membership.

Gosebeck UMC had a sign in front of the church. God did not call us to see thru each other but to see each other through. The Church had been large, but the community changed. It was decided that they needed to sell the church and a buyer was found. Then the deal fell through. A vision team was formed. They found that the youth in this area needed a place and developed an after school program which they called "Chaos". After promoting the start, the first day about 30 kids showed up. It grew to over 100 kids and they felt they had aptly named it "Chaos." Now the church has new energy and is excited about what God is doing. Some of the kids are going on mission trips with the church.

There were many more exciting moments at the conference. You might still find pictures and videos from the conference at www.westohioumc.org

In the legislative sessions there were 10 recommendations or resolutions.

1. Council on Finance and Administration Recommendations for Calendar Year 2013: special days and/or offerings; apportionments; budgets and reports; 2013 mission and ministry funding plan; West Ohio Conference 2013 district budget. It was approved.

2. Commission on Equitable Compensation: minimum recommendations for ministerial salaries, key leadership support, special salary support. It was approved.

3. Board of Pension and Health Benefits: shared cost church/ participant. Nate Gibson is the new chair of this board. Retires are covered by Humana plan. Active persons are covered by Midwest Mutual of Ohio. It was approved.

4. Recognize Otterbein-Lebanon Retirement Community as United Methodist Historical Site. It was approved.

5. Resolution to Stop Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse: We encourage the church to provide a safe environment, counsel and support for victims. While we deplore the actions of the abuser, we affirm that person to be in need of God's redeeming love. It was approved.

6. Recommendation for the Elimination of Elective Abortion Coverage in West Ohio Conference Health Insurance Plan. It was approved as amended.

7. Encouragement to Respond to Convictions Related to Modern Times-Opening Minds. It was defeated.

8. Meeting the Needs of the Hungry and Homeless: congregations and individuals encouraged to support and participate in efforts locally and globally to meet the needs of the hungry and homeless. It was approved.

9. Conference Health Insurance Assistance Program: concern for having in place a few assurances for participants so that they will not face an undue financial hardship related to health-care needs no matter what plan is in place. It was defeated.

10. Resolution prohibiting gun play at WOC camps: such as paintball. It was approved.

I enjoyed being your representative at the 2012 annual conference.

Lavonne Segovia



Remember When...



Left: August, 1997



Below: August, 2004

August, 2000

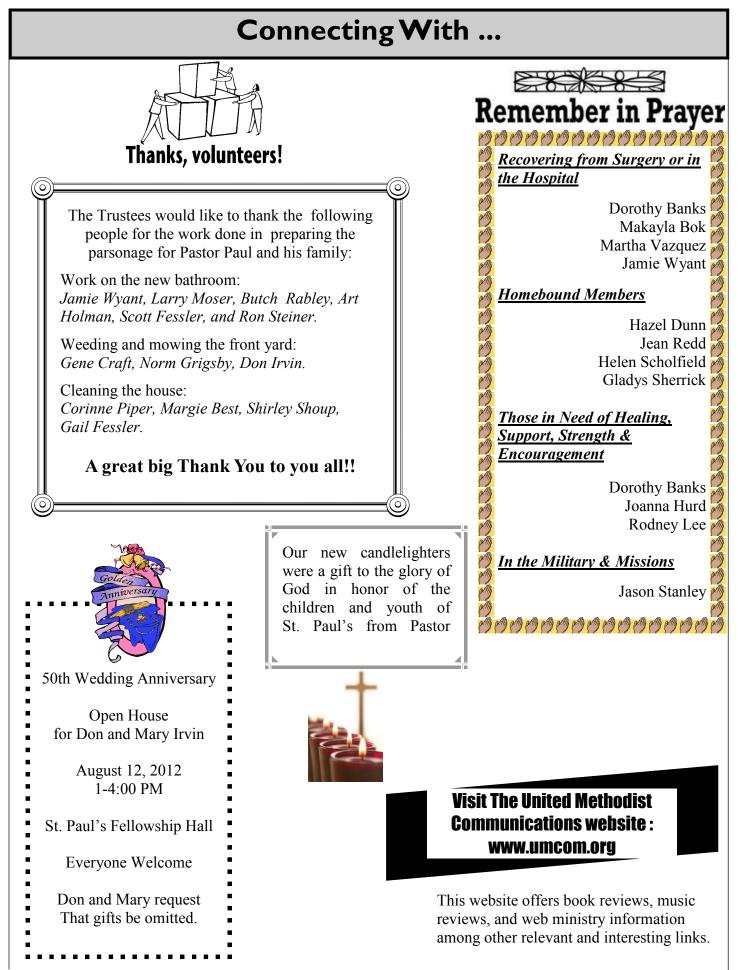
Right:



You, too, can have this much fun! Join us at the Allen County Fair Grounds to help with setting-up and takingdown the chairs on August 23 and 25!

All Help Welcome!

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The People of St. Paul's

han

Dear St. Paul's UMC, Thanks you so much for your kind expression of sympathy at Jim's death. We loved serving 14 years at Elida with such wonderful people. Sincerely, Nancy Kuhn



Our sympathy is extended to Larry and Shirley Moser and family on the death of Larry's brother, David Moser, who died on July 13, 2012. The family had a celebration of David's life was held on Saturday, July 21, 2012, in Bluffton. Cards may be sent to Larry and Shirley Moser at 703 Sunnydale St. Elida, OH 45807 Thank you for your continuous support and prayers as Ivan and I deal with various health issues. Your prayers and cards really lifted my spirits following my recent surgery. May God's blessings and peace be with you. Love,

To Our Church Family,

We extend our sympathy to Wanda and Gerald Strayer on the death of Wanda's mother, Edna Osman, who died on July 4, 2012. Edna was also the aunt of Lavonne Segovia. Her funeral was held on Tuesday, July 10, 2012, in Lima. Cards may be sent to Gerald and Wanda Strayer at 1206 Latham Ave. Lima, OH 45805 Thank you to all my dear friends at St. Paul's for the prayers, cards, visits and calls during my recent surgery. One of the reasons St. Paul's is our home is the servant attitude of the church family. Praise God for all of you. Jamie Wyant



Prayer List Updates Please Contact Lavonne Segovia

Meetings No August meeting Worship Team6:00 PM August 6, 2012			ju	st	21]]	2
PPR7:00 PM	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
August 7, 2012 Trustees7:00 PM				1 Mary Grigsby	2	3 Ron Bible	4 Joy Fletcher
TBA Finance7:00 PM				Tim White			
August 21, 2012 Missions7:00 PM							
Sundays Prayer9:30 AM Fellowship9:30 AM Worship10:00 AM	5	6	7	8 Myrna Metzger	9 Ruth Hardy 84 yrs.	10 Brian Steiner	11 Michele Theodore
Anniversaries					Sara House		
		PPR	Trustees				
Scott & Beth Warris August 1	12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Tracy Sdao
A.J. L Tara Strauch 🔶 August 2 🔶							
Ron L Mary Steiner August 3							
Jim L Christie Lewis 📍 August 3							
Steve L Tracy Sdao August 4	19 Jacquie Bice	20 Austin Lewis	21	22	23 Aric Thompson	24 Gail Fessler	25
Brandon & Jaime Chambers August 4		Dennis Metzger			•		
Jamie L Jan Wyant 🎈 August 6			Missions				
Scott & Michelle Grapner	26	27	28	29 Brad Selover	30 Kris Crates	31	
David & Susan Nartker August 16				Jamie Wyant	Bev Foster Cole Lewis		
Tony & Linda Matlock August 18					Esther McKinney		

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Zucchini Relish

by Mary Irvin

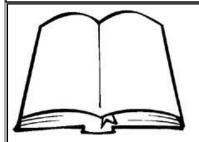
Ingredier	nts	Instructions
10 cups	Ground Zucchini	Mix first 5 ingredients and put 2 trays of ice cubes over the top. Let
4 cups	Ground Onions	stand until all the ice is melted; then drain.
1 large	Green pepper (chopped)	Combine all bottom ingredients and bring to a boil. Then pour over
1 large	Red pepper (chopped)	ground vegetables, zucchini, peppers, and onions.
5 T.	Salt	Cook until thick; around 20 min.
1tsp.	Celery Flakes	
4 cups	White Sugar	Pour into HOT jars and turn upside down and cool
2 1/2 cups	Cider Vinegar	
1 T.	Turmeric	
1tsp.	Celery Salt	
1tsp.	Ground Mustard	
2T.	Cornstarch	
1 T.	Nutmeg	
1/2 tsp.	Black Pepper	
2 T.	Brown Sugar	

Scotcheroos

by Myrna Metzgere

Ingredients		Instructions				
1 cup Sugar		Blend sugar and corn syrup. Bring to a boil and add peanut				
1 cup	Light corn syrup	Butter; then Rice Krispies.				
1 cup	Peanut butter	Press into buttered 9"x13" pan.				
6 cups	Rice Krispies	Melt together chocolate chips and butterscotch. Spread on top of				
6 oz.	Milk chocolate chips	squares.				
6 oz.	Butterscotch chips	Refrigerate to set chocolate and cut into squares.				





Making Choices

God can help us make the right choices. Just ask! Here are a few Bible verses that will help you make the right choice. Look up the passages in the left column in your Bible, and then draw a line from the verse to what it tells you.

- 1. Deuteronomy 5:11
- 2. Matthew 19:19b
- 3. Proverbs 3:27
- 4. Matthew 19:19a
- 5. Proverbs 6:18
- 6. Matthew 19:18c
- 7. Proverbs 6:20
- 8. Deuteronomy 5:12
- 9. Deuteronomy 5:17
- 10. Matthew 19:30

- a. Love your neighbor as yourself.
- b. You shall not steal.
- c. Many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.
- d. Do not forsake your parents' teaching.
- e. Do not use God's name unless you are talking to God.
- f. Honor your parents.
- g. You shall not murder.
- h. Observe the Sabbath day.
- i. Do not devise wicked plans.
- j. Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due.

Answers: 1-e, 2-a, 3-j, 4-f, 5-l, 6-b, 7-d, 8-h, 9-g, 10-c.

Non-Profit

Organization

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Our Web Address: www.elidastpaulschurch.org

August 2012



Living Our Faith

It's not true that you can't forgive something; it's a matter of the will, and you always have the choice. Forgiveness is never dependent on what the other person does or does not do; it is always under our control. Forgiveness is giving up the insistence on being understood . . .

Jesus forgave those who crucified him. This is a radically new way of thinking. For those who accept and practice this discipline, there is a release of energy and a sense of freedom.





As often happens on the journey, spiritual we have arrived at the heart of a paradox: each time a door closes, the rest of the world opens up. All we need to do is stop pounding on the door that has just closed, turn around - which puts the door behind us - and welcome the largeness of life that now lies open to our souls. The door that closed kept us from entering a room, but what now lies before us is the rest of reality.

Do you believe that God is present in the smile of a child, in the tears of a parent's grief over a suffering adolescent, in the sudden break through of understanding spouses? between quarreling Eternal truths can be learned by observing the most common elements of life: nursing an infant may be a window into God's nurturing care for each of us; bandaging a cut can help us know the healing desire of God; playing games may speak of the divine playfulness that knows our need for recreation; tending a garden may teach us the dynamics of growth. Families learn that they are sacred communities when they begin to name and claim the many forms of God's grace in their daily life.