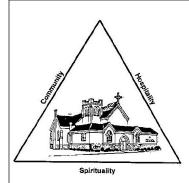
St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 35, Issue 12

December, 2012

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I have 2 completely different topics for the newsletter this month.

Number 1

Well Christmas is upon us; it is that time of year again when we are supposed to have Holiday Cheer. We say Merry Christmas to one another and put smiles on our faces. I am sure there is a story about how Christmas became Merry but I know Christmas has not always been so Merry. A young couple on the road when she gives birth to her first son, in of all places but a barn if we believe the myths. No room at the Holiday Inn Express and no family for support; Merry is not the term that comes to mind.

There are people in our midst who struggle at this very time of year, maybe they are having a bad year, perhaps they have no family support, they do not have good memories of Christmas or they have suffered a loss and Christmas is hard. No matter the reason it just is not going to be a Merry Christmas. This year, as you are going through the holiday rush, take a minute to see these people around you and help. No, I don't mean by putting money in a red kettle at the mall (although that is a very good cause); what I mean is seeing, really seeing people for who and where they are. Then helping in whatever way we can; a kind word, a hug, an invite to dinner, or an extra \$20 from a "secret" Santa.

We celebrate this season because we received the gift of life from the King of Kings and as we celebrate his earthly birth (God with Us) perhaps we can remember to share that reason with others. So as you get busy in the holiday rush remember why it is we celebrate and the message He gave to us to share with all the Earth.

Number 2

On a completely different note, wow, Wow, WOW... You people have truly blessed and overwhelmed me with your generosity and trust. I am afraid to throw out numbers for fear someone important will see them and expect me to do this in other places. But pledges are in and it is time to celebrate! Now we have to get busy fulfilling our promises and seeking God's continual Grace and Guidance in all we do.

For those of you who are struggling with percentage giving, I would love to know so I can pray with you and for you as you begin this journey. Also in the months to come I will be asking people to share their stewardship moments with the church. No, that does not mean telling us how much money you give but sharing with us the joy you find in giving of your time, talents and gifts, especially when you do it with a cheerful heart.

I am not going to end by saying have a Merry Christmas but I will say Christ's continued blessing upon you in this season when we celebrate the Greatest Gift of ALL TIME.

Pastor Paul

December, 2012 St. Paul's Epistle Volume 35, Issue 12 **Christmas Cookies and Treats Walk** December 9th, following Worship Service, in the Fellowship Hall A special treat is awaiting you. All those yummy sweets you think of at Christmas cheer and to sample and purchase. Join your friends for a little Christmas cheer and to sample a variety of cookies and treats. If you would like to take some home (and hope you will), containers will be available for you to purchase. With your container you walk around to the different tables, filling it with your favorite homemade cookies. The larger the container, the more cookies you get. Also available for purchase will be such items as buckeyes, chocolate covered pretzels, puppy chow, and even a gingerbread house kit or two. Buy some (or all) of these items for yourself, your holiday party, a neighbor, or as a gift exchange item (homemade treats are the best!). Profits from this event will go to further the work of the "Crafty Creatures" small group and the hat and mitten tree mission Mark Sunday, December 9th, on your calendar and come down to the fellowship hall after worship to partake in a variety of Christmas goodies and help support our "Crafty Creatures". If you would like to donate cookies for the walk, see Carole Grapner, Shirley Moser, or Linda Holman. Any donations will be appreciated.

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St. Paul's Epistle

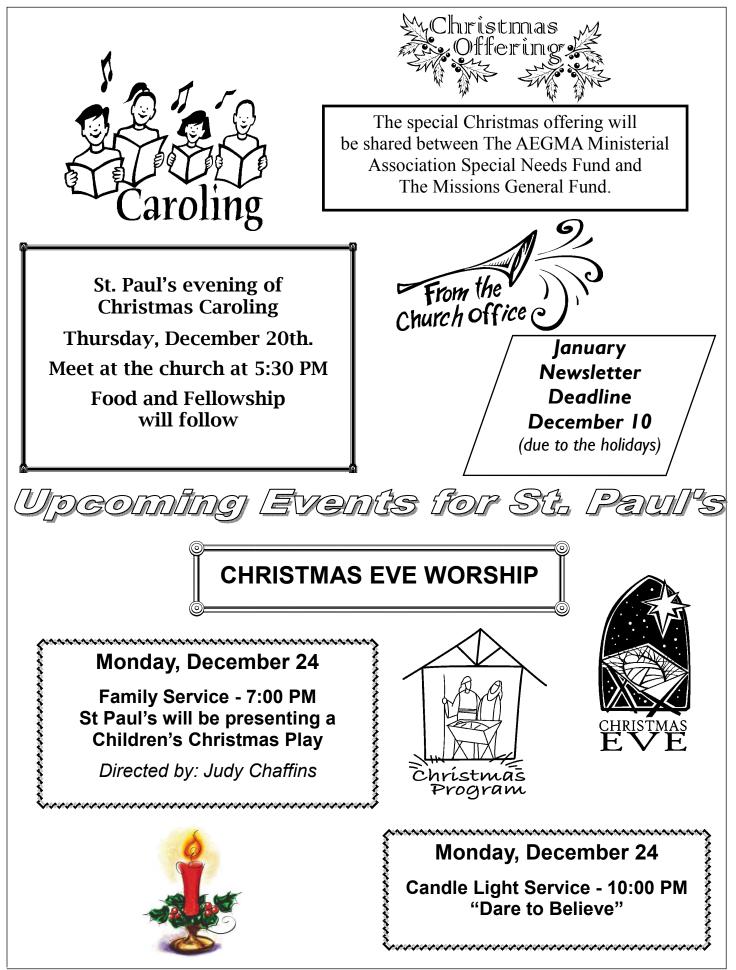
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Subscription	Rate: NONE
Secretary:	Gail Fessler
Secretary:	Jone Lane
Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Choir Director	Judy Chaffins
Custodian:	Dave Decker
Page 2	~ S

We will once again be collecting mittens, hats, gloves and scarves for the mitten tree in December. When you are out shopping, you may want to pick up something for the tree. Your donations will be much appreciated.





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The Heart of Church

A big thank you to the Nurture Committee for sponsoring the Stewardship Day luncheon on November 18. During lunch, I highlighted several financial initiatives Pastor Paul would like the Finance Committee to explore during the next few weeks for development into a formal plan going forward. They are:

- 1. Set-up an emergency finance fund;
- 2. Set-up a seed-money fund;
- 3. Retire the existing building fund loan on-time and with minimal financial hardship;
- 4. Fully fund our general operating fund.

The pledge card for the Building Fund did not explicitly define a time element and perhaps there is some confusion on this issue. The intent of the building fund collections at present is to retire the existing loan principle of approximately \$28,000 by end of 2013. The November 18 Building Fund pledge card is to reaffirm your commitment to this loan retirement process. Our prior building fund reserve balance has been depleted; consequently, we are dipping into our general operating budget for approximately \$700 each month in making the \$2,120.09 installment. We need to get back on track to finish the 2006 Standing on the Promises/Building on the Premises campaign which had an element of 2010 chimney collapse crisis added to it, meaning we withdrew our entire approved loan amount of \$140,000 for seven years. This is the intent of the 'building fund' at present. The Finance Committee, with follow-up by the Administrative Council', will discuss potential uses of a building fund following loan retirement in 2013.

Also during my November 18 finance presentation, I outlined our current spending habits and priorities. I described the amount of financial support we give to our general operating budget, including apportionments and capital improvement spending, through pledge-dollar amounts. Lately, pledge dollars account for only 60% on average of our approximate \$170,000 annual operating budget. I interpret this to mean we do an excellent job of 'maintaining' our church's plant, property, and programs, but have not reached the next level of church funding and administration which can provide for and define St. Paul's U.M.C. as a 'growing and evolving' congregation of Christ's disciples.

I see 2013 as an exciting and aggressive transition year for stepping onto this next plateau of church finance and administration at St. Paul's Elida. During 2012, we welcomed Pastor Paul Scannell,

we completed some critical church/parsonage property and utility work while keeping within budget constraints, we paid our district and conference apportionments in full – again – our ReFocus initiatives and small groups are growing, and we welcomed new members into our church and onto our standing committees. We gained some momentum here at Year-end 2012 – let's sustain and improve upon it throughout 2013!

Marty White, Chair Finance Committee



The Business of Church



Jan Wyant, Education Chair, presents Makayla Bok with her own personal Bible.

Praying Together

Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free, that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.



St. Paul's Parishioners, Committee Chairs, Staff, and Friends: Due to the busy holiday activities at church, additional services, extra bulletins and mailings, the January newsletter will be printed at least one week before Christmas. If you wish to submit an article for this newsletter, the deadline to get it to the office is **December 10th.** Articles submitted after that date will appear in the February newsletter. Thank you.

NOTICE

Thought for the Month:

To understand the truth is to do the truth. *-Jon Sobrino*

Book of Timothy

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	Pastor Paul Scannell
Nurture	Linda Holman
Missions	Tim Piper

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Faith In Action

Worship Attend	dance:
November 4, 2012	114
November 11, 2012	121
November 18, 2012	103
November 25, 2012	95



Unified Min	istry Giving:	Other:
November 4, 2012	\$7,043.00	\$1,566.60
November 11, 2012	\$2,479.62	\$267.00
November 18, 2012	\$2,103.85	\$960.00
November 25, 2012	\$2,687.25	\$818.00

Greeter	:s
December 2	Ron & Mary Steiner
December 9	Rudy & Lavonne Segovia
December 16	Denny & Janna Thompson
December 23	Bill & Esther McKinney
December 24	Jamie & Jan Wyant
December 30	Steve & Tracy Sdao



Flowers:		
December 2, 2012	Dan & Margie Best	
December 9, 2012	Mike & Kim Crates	
December 16, 2012	Poinsettias	
December 23, 2012	Poinsettias	
December 30, 2012	Poinsettias	

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A Jesse Tree

Happy new year! That's right, the church year begins at the beginning of December with the start of the season of Advent. In the West this year Advent begins December 2nd because it is the fourth Sunday before Christmas. In the Orthodox churches, Advent begins at the feast of St. Martin on November 11. Either way, it is a special season to help us get ready for the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas.

There are many traditions connected with Advent. Probably the most familiar is the Advent wreath with its four candles, one of which is lit each week during the season. Often a central candle represents Jesus, the Light of the World, and is lit on Christmas Eve.

Another important Advent symbol is a Jesse Tree. Jesse was the father of King David and in ancient times was seen as the first real ancestor of Jesus. We know from the Bible that there are, of course, many women and men who came long before Jesse, but the name for the tree has stuck. An important Bible verse for Advent makes the connection between Jesse and Jesus. "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots" (Isa 11:1). Many people think this refers to Jesus.

Traditionally, an ornament is placed on the tree each day of the season, which would involve 25 ornaments starting December 2. On December 24th you hang an ornament of the baby Jesus on the top of the tree.

You can use any kind of tree

for a Jesse Tree: regular Christmas tree (if you are going to use the tree for the whole season you will probably want an artificial one); a tree made from nailing some small dead branches together; or even a tree drawn on a large sheet of paper and placed on the wall.

Here are some ways to make ornaments:

* Traditional ornaments are white (although they do not have to be). You could cut these out of thin Styrofoam or heavy white cardboard. You could also use corrugated cardboard and paint it white.

* Look for some images from old Christmas cards. Often you can cut out a symbol, such as a star, angel, manger, Mary, Joseph, Bethlehem, the magi, their gifts, and other things.

Here are some traditional Jesse tree symbols and scripture verses that go with them: Globe - it symbolizes creation and affirms that everything God made is good (Gen 1--2) Altar - to represent Abraham's sacrifice (Gen 22) Stairway or ladder - to represent Jacob (Gen 28:10-22) Stone tablets - with the Ten Commandments (Ex 20:1-17) Star of David - six-pointed star such as on the Israeli flag (1 Sam 16:1-13) Symbols of joy - balloon, streamers, or other symbols to represent the joy of the season or that of Elizabeth and Zechariah (Lk 1:5-25) Angel - the Bible has lots of stories of angels, especially in the story of Joseph (Mt 1:18-25)

Mary - picture or drawing (Lk 1:26-38)

Ark and Rainbow - symbolize God's faithfulness and care for humanity even in the face of human disobedience and God's promise to sustain the creation forever (Gen 9:8-17)

Key People in Jesus' genealogy there are many women and men listed in Matthew 1:1-17. (Look them up in the Bible, choose some, and think of a symbol for each of them).

Joseph's Coat of Many Colors symbolizes God's care of the chosen people, the Hebrews and the sustaining of the Messianic covenant (Gen 37:3)

Ten Commandments - shows us God's will and instruction on how to live (Ex 20:3-17)

Horn of Oil - symbolizes Samuel and the oil he used to anoint David as King (1 Sam 16:1-13)

Crown - symbolizes King David, son of Jesse and an ancestor of Jesus.

Temple - symbolizes King Solomon. David's son. remembered for his great wisdom and for the beautiful temple he built for God in Jerusalem. studied. Jesus worshipped, taught, and turned over money changers' tables at the temple.

Shell and Water - symbolizes John the Baptist who was the last of the great prophets of Israel. He was a relative of Jesus and came to prepare the way for the Savior, Jesus Christ (Mk 1:1-8)

Star - symbolizes Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus *Baby Jesus* - in a manger (Lk 2:1-20)

Reflecting on an Advent Hymn

The Season of Advent includes the four Sundays	where God gave the torah or law to the people.
leading up to Christmas. There are many traditions	Reflect on how Jesus helps us learn how to live in
connected with Advent. The most familiar is that of	God's way.
lighting candles on an Advent wreath. Another tradition involves singing the verses of the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." The verses were based on ancient prayers known as the "O Antiphons" that were first sung in Latin.	O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem, from every foe deliver them that trust your mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave.
The words to the hymn are written below. Being very old, they may seem rather strange, so a brief explanation is given for some of the terms, along with a suggestion for reflecting on each verse. Sing a different verse each day of the week for the four weeks of Advent.	Jesse was King David's father. King David was considered a great king and the people longed for a new ruler from the line of David. He was also a shepherd, and Jesus - who was descended from David - showed us that being a shepherd was a wonderful way to be a leader. Who are some people who show servant leadership?
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Child of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.	O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
This verse does not refer to the modern nation of	"Key of David" was a name given to the risen Christ
Israel, but to all of God's people (often called	in Revelation 3:7 and celebrated that Jesus was God's
"Israel" in the Bible). It asks that Jesus help set	Messiah or special, chosen one, who would reconnect
people free. Who are people in the world who need	us to God when we were separated from God. Think
to be set free? Where are some places where the	(or talk) about times when you feel cut off from God
good news of God's love that Jesus brings can make	and how you have gotten reconnected.
a difference?	O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer
O come, O Wisdom from on high,	our spirits by your advent here;
and order all things far and nigh;	love stir within the womb of night,
to us the neth of knowledge show	and death's own shadows put to flight.
to us the path of knowledge show,	Dayspring was an old-fashioned way of meaning
and help us in that way to go	"new dawn" which is part of the song of Zechariah in
In the Bible, Wisdom doesn't mean knowledge or the	Luke 1:78. Zechariah sang this song to his infant son,
things we learn from books. Instead, it's when God's	John the Baptist. This new dawn would bring about
Spirit is inside us and helps us know, deep in our	God's mercy, bringing new life, love, and joy upon
heart, what is right and how God wants us to live.	the earth. How has the birth of Jesus brought joy into
Talk about something you know by heart.	your life?
O come, O come, O Adonai,	O come, Desire of nations, bind
who came to all on Sinai high,	in one the hearts of humankind;
and from its peace a single law	O bid our bitter conflict cease,
proclaimed in majesty and awe.	and be for us our Prince of Peace.
<i>Adonai</i> is a Hebrew word used to refer to the name for God that Moses learned when speaking to God at the burning bush (Ex 3:2). Sinai is the mountain	The prophet Isaiah spoke of a Prince of Peace (9:6) who would come and bring justice and righteousness. How can you help to bring peace in the world?

Daily Bible Reading for December

Saturday 12/1 Psalm 137 and 144 Micah 7:11-20 1 Peter 4:7-19 Matthew 20:29-34

Sunday 12/2 Psalm 146, 147, 111, 112, 113 Amos 1:1-5, 13-2:8 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Luke 21:5-19

Monday 12/3 Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 Amos 2:6-16 2 Peter 1:1-11 Matthew 21:1-11

Tuesday 12/4 Psalm 5, 6, 10 and 11 Amos 3:1-12 2 Peter 1:12-21 Matthew 21:12-22

Wednesday 12/5 Psalm 12, 13 and 14 Amos 3:12-4:5 2 Peter 3:1-10 Matthew 21:23-32

Thursday 12/6 Psalm 18, Amos 4:6-13 2 Peter 3:11-18 Matthew 21:33-46

Friday 12/7 Psalm 16, 17, and 21 Amos 5:1-17, Jude 1-16 Matthew 22:1-14

Saturday 12/8 Psalm 20, 21, 116 and 117 Amos 5:18-27, Jude 17-25 Matthew 22:15-22

Sunday 12/9 Psalm 148, 149, and 150 Amos 6:1-14 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Luke 1:57-68

Monday 12/10 Psalm 9, 15 and 20 Amos 7:1-9 Revelation 1:1-8 Matthew 22:23-33 **Tuesday 12/11** Psalm 26, 28, 36 and 39 Amos 7:10-17, 24-25 Revelation 1:9-16 Matthew 22:34-46

Wednesday 12/12 Psalm 38, Amos 8:1-14 Revelation 1:17-2:7 Matthew 23:1-12

Thursday 12/13 Psalm 37, Amos 9:1-10 Revelation 2:8-17 Matthew 23:13-26

Friday 12/14 Psalm 31and 35, Haggai1:1-15 Revelation 2:18-29 Matthew 23:27-39

Saturday 12/15 Psalm 30, 32, 42 and 43 Haggai 2:1-19 Revelation 3:1-6, Matthew 24:1-14

Sunday 12/16 Psalm 63, 98, and 103, Amos 9:11-15 Thessalonians 2:1-3, 13-17 John 5:30-47

Monday 12/17 Psalm 41, 52 and 44 Zechariah 1:7-17 Revelation 3:7-13, Matthew 24:15-31

Tuesday 12/18 Psalm 45, 47 and 48 Zechariah 2:1-13 Revelation 3:14-22, Matthew 24:32-44

Wednesday 12/19 Psalm 49, Zechariah 3:1-10 Revelation 4:1-8, Matthew 24:45-51

Thursday 12/20 Psalm 50 and 33, Zechariah 4:1-14 Revelation 4:9-5:5 Matthew 25:1-13

Friday 12/21 Psalm 40, 54 and 51 Zechariah 7:8-8:8 Revelation 5:6-14 Matthew 25:14-30 **Saturday 12/22** Psalm 55, 138 and 139 Zechariah 8:9-17 Revelation 6:1-17, Matthew 25:31-46

Sunday 12/23 Psalm 24, 29, 8 and 84 Genesis 3:18-25 Revelation 12:1-10, John 3:16-21

Monday 12/24 Psalm 89:1-29, Isaiah 59:15b-21 Philippians 2:5-11

Tuesday 12/25 Psalm 2 and 132, Micah 4:1-5, 5:2-4 1 John 4:7-16 John 3:31-26

Wednesday 12/26 Psalm 61, 62, 112 and 115 Zephaniah 3:14-20, Titus 1:1-16 Luke 1:1-25

Thursday 12/27 Psalm 66, 67, 116 and 117 1 Samuel 2:1b-10, Titus 2:1-10 Luke 1:26-38

Friday 12/28 Psalm 72, 111 and 113 2 Samuel 7:1-17 Titus 2:11-3:8a Luke 1:39-56

Saturday 12/29 Psalm 18, 2 Samuel 23:13-17b Revelation 1:1-8 John 7:37-52

Sunday 12/30 Psalm 20, 21, 23 and 27 1 Kings 17:17-24 Revelations 1:9-20 John 7:53-8:11

Monday 12/31 Psalm 46 and 48, 1 Kings 3:5-14 2 Corinthians 5:16-6:2 John 8:12-19



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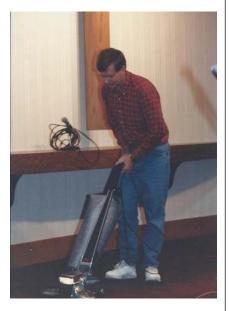
Remember When...



Christmas Party-1978 First Performance of Bell Choir

Connie Rienoehl, Mary Steiner, Helen Beeler, Dottie Jennell, Jane Brown, Carol Tuttle, Nancy Lou Bilen



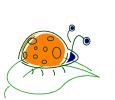


1991

Don Chaffins helps our custodian











December, 1997

The cast of "Angels, Lambs, Ladybugs, and Fireflies" perform for residents of the nursing home.



Kim Crates

Ruth Shaw

Hazel Dunn

Helen Scholfield 💋

Joanna Hurd

Rodney Lee

Eddie Mault M

Jean Redd

Remember in Praver

Recovering from Surgery or in

2¹¹3 2¹¹3

Homebound Members

Those in Need of Healing,

In the Military & Missions

<u>Support, Strength &</u> Encouragement

the Hospital

Connecting With ...

St. Paul's Shut-Ins

Please keep St. Paul's shut-ins in your prayers

Dorothy Banks c/o Dan Banks 305 Walmar St. Bay Village, OH 44140

Sandra Parker Elmcroft of Lima 2075 Eastown Rd. Elida, OH 45807

Helen Scholfield Vancrest Health Care Center 1425 E. 5th St. Delphos, OH 45833 Lima Manor 750 Brower Rd. Lima, OH 445801

Hazel Dunn

Jean Redd Otterbein Ret. Comm. 107 Red Oak Dr. Cridersville, OH 45806



We extend our sympathy to **Dave Decker** on the passing of his brother, **Jack Decker**, on November 26, 2012. The funeral service was Thursday, November 29. Cards will reach Dave at 112 E. Main St., Elida, OH 45807.

We extend our sympathy to Martha Vazquez

on the passing of her husband, Ivan Vazquez,

on October 30, 2012. Ivan and Martha became members of St. Paul UMC in 1983. Pastor Paul conducted the funeral service at the church on

November 2nd. Cards will reach Martha at

273 Brookview Court, Lima, OH 45801





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

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for all the love and support you've shown during this difficult time. Christ's love was so evident through all of you. The beautiful wind chime will be a constant reminder of God's love. A special thank you to Pastor Paul for his wonderful service, visitation, and caring heart.

> God Bless You, Martha



Dear Congregation,

Thanks so much for your generous donation to Family Promise. The money was truly an answer to our prayers as we have really been struggling. The money will enable us to continue to help our homeless families.

> Bless You! Peggy Adams

Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for your gift of \$200.00. You are making a difference by bringing care, nurture, and treatment for hurting children and their families. Our agency is grateful that you made the decision to invest in a bright future for some of Ohio's neediest children.

> Sincerely, Sean Riley, Executive Director UMCH Family Services



I would like to say **Thank You** to all who sent cards, ask Judy how I was doing and had me in your prayers during my recent rotator cuff surgery. I have started my second week of therapy and am told I am right where I should be. Which is good news. The 1st week was rough but I made it through even though I still am sleeping in the recliner. My bed is starting to call my name big time. I hope to be back to singing in the choir just as soon as the Dr. tells me I can drive again. Again I am very thankful for all the cares from my family at St. Paul's Church.

> Thank You, Kim Crates

Dear St. Paul's Family, Thank you for the flowers, prayers, cards, phone calls, and other kindnesses that were extended to me and Carl during my hospital stay and recent surgery. What a blessing it is to know people care about you and want healing to take place.

> Peace, Health, Love to All, Lois Rabley

Prayer List Updates Please Contact Lavonne Segovia December, 2012

Meetings		D	ec	en	ıbe	er	
PPR7:00 PM December 4, 2012 Trustees7:00 PM			2	01	2		
December 5, 2012 Worship6:00 PM December 10, 2012 Finance7:00 PM No December	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Ad Council December 18, 2012 Missions7:00 PM Sundays							1 Lena Whetstone A.J. White
Prayer9:30 AM Fellowship9:30 AM Worship10:00 AM Wednesdays Choir7:00 PM	2 Lavonne Segovia	3 Mary LaRue 93 years	4	5 Shirley Adams Todd Hanes David Segovia	6 Jerry Crates 82 years Sue Theodore	7	8
Anniversaries John L. Beverly Foster December 17; 46 yrs.	9	10	11 Ron McAdams Phyllis Trigg John Segovia	12	13	14	15
Derrick I. Ashley Edwards December 18 Dennis I. Shara Bowsher December 19 Larry I. Gloria Brunk	16	17 Audrey Fox	18 Mary Holmes	19	20 Ruth Burgoon 83 years Mary Steiner	21	22 Kara Woeller
December 21; 44 yrs. John & Val Kuenzli December 27 Denny & Janna Thompson	23 Kayla Stewart	24 Linda Craft	25 Denny Grapner	26	27 Deb Hurd	28 Adam Crates	29 Tammy Segovia
December 29 Ron L Karen Bible December 30 Mike L Kim Crates December 31	30 Tristan Gaghen	31		Me	rry Christ	mas	

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Copper Pennies Salad (served at Seniors Nov. Lunch)

1 tsp.Dry mustardsalt and pepper in a saucepan over medium heat and bring to a boil.1 tsp.Worcestershire sauceRemove from the heat and add the soup. Mix the carrots, onion and bell pepper together in a large glass dish; pour the sauce over the vegetables, stir gently to combine, and refrigerate overnight.1 (10 3/4 oz.) canTomato soupThis salad will keep for up to 6 weeks in the refrigerator. Serves 12-15 people.2 poundsCarrots, peeled, cook, and slicedCorinne's note: other recipes leave out the oil, so you can try that as well.)1Green bell pepper, coarselyGreen bell pepper, coarsely	Ingredient	S	Instructions
I cupWhite vinegarCombine the sugar, vinegar, oil, mustard, Worcestershire sauce, salt and pepper in a saucepan over medium heat and bring to a boil.I tsp.Dry mustardCombine the sugar, vinegar, oil, mustard, Worcestershire sauce, salt and pepper in a saucepan over medium heat and bring to a boil.I tsp.Worcestershire sauceRemove from the heat and add the soup. Mix the carrots, onion and bell pepper together in a large glass dish; pour the sauce over the vegetables, stir gently to combine, and refrigerate overnight.I (10 3/4 oz.)Tomato soupThis salad will keep for up to 6 weeks in the refrigerator. Serves 12-15 people.2 poundsCarrots, peeled, cook, and slicedCorinne's note: other recipes leave out the oil, so you can try that as well.)1Green bell pepper, coarselyGreen bell pepper, coarsely	1 cup	Sugar	
1 tsp.Dry mustardsalt and pepper in a saucepan over medium heat and bring to a boil.1 tsp.Worcestershire sauceRemove from the heat and add the soup. Mix the carrots, onion and bell pepper together in a large glass dish; pour the sauce over the vegetables, stir gently to combine, and refrigerate overnight.1 (10 3/4 oz.) canTomato soup canThis salad will keep for up to 6 weeks in the refrigerator. Serves 12-15 people.2 poundsCarrots, peeled, cook, and slicedCorinne's note: other recipes leave out the oil, so you can try that as well.)1Green bell pepper, coarselyGreen bell pepper, coarsely	1 cup	White vinegar	May use 5 cans slicea cannea carrois insieda of raw carrois.
1 tsp.Dry mustardboil.1 tsp.Worcestershire sauceBoil.1 tsp.SaltRemove from the heat and add the soup. Mix the carrots, onion and bell pepper together in a large glass dish; pour the sauce over the vegetables, stir gently to combine, and refrigerate overnight.1 (10 3/4 oz.) canTomato soup2 poundsCarrots, peeled, cook, and sliced1 mediumOnion, sliced into rings1Green bell pepper, coarsely	1 cup	Vegetable oil	Combine the sugar, vinegar, oil, mustard, Worcestershire sauce, salt and pepper in a saucenan over medium heat and bring to a
1Coarsely ground black pepperRemove from the heat and add the soup. Mix the carrots, onion and bell pepper together in a large glass dish; pour the sauce over the vegetables, stir gently to combine, and refrigerate overnight.1 (10 3/4 oz.) canTomato soupThis salad will keep for up to 6 weeks in the refrigerator. Serves 12-15 people.2 poundsCarrots, peeled, cook, and sliced 1 mediumOnion, sliced into rings1Green bell pepper, coarsely(Corinne's note: other recipes leave out the oil, so you can try that as well.)	1 tsp.	Dry mustard	
1 tsp.Saltand bell pepper together in a large glass dish; pour the sauce over the vegetables, stir gently to combine, and refrigerate overnight.1 (10 3/4 oz.) canTomato soupThis salad will keep for up to 6 weeks in the refrigerator. Serves 12-15 people.2 poundsCarrots, peeled, cook, and sliced 1 mediumOnion, sliced into rings1Green bell pepper, coarsely	1 tsp.	Worcestershire sauce	Remove from the heat and add the soup Mix the carrots onion
T tsp.Coarsery ground black pepper1 (10 3/4 oz.) canTomato soup2 poundsCarrots, peeled, cook, and sliced1 mediumOnion, sliced into rings1Green bell pepper, coarsely	1 tsp.	Salt	and bell pepper together in a large glass dish; pour the sauce over
can Serves 12-15 people. 2 pounds Carrots, peeled, cook, and sliced 1 medium Onion, sliced into rings 1 Green bell pepper, coarsely	1 tsp.	Coarsely ground black pepper	the vegetables, stir gently to combine, and refrigerate overnight.
1 medium Onion, sliced into rings 1 Green bell pepper, coarsely	· /	Tomato soup	1 1 0
1 Green bell pepper, coarsely	2 pounds	Carrots, peeled, cook, and sliced	
	1 medium	Onion, sliced into rings	that as well.)
	1	Green bell pepper, coarsely chopped	14655

Crock Pot Ravioli

Ingredien	ts	By Susan Nartker
2—(26 oz.)	Spaghetti sauce (Prego/Ragu)	Spray crock pot. Layer ingredients as follows:
2—(24 oz.)	Frozen ravioli, any kind	1 cup spaghetti sauce
1—(12 oz.)	Frozen meatballs, thawed	1 pkg. ravioli All the meatballs
2 1/2 cups	Mozzarella cheese	1 1/2 cups mozzarella cheese
1/2 cup	Parmesan cheese	Top with rest of 1st jar of spaghetti sauce Add 2nd bag of ravioli
		1 cup mozarella cheese and parmesan cheese
		Pour 2nd jar of spaghetti sauce
		Cover.
		Cook on low 4 1/2—5 hours.

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December 2012



Living Our Faith

The Christmas story is well known by many people. Even people who aren't Christian could probably make a list of details from the story. We see the story in seasonal cards and decorations. We play out the story through Christmas pageants and programs. We sing the story with the sound tracks playing in the stores and elevators.

Make a list of things you remember from the Christmas story; then read the beginning of the Gospel of Mark (1:1-13). How many of the things on your list are mentioned in the Gospel of Mark? Where does it say he was born? Did any special visitors attend his birth?

four Gospels The Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John - are not "eyewitness reports" of Jesus' life. No scribes or reporters were at Jesus' birth, writing down everything that happened. Instead, people heard stories about Jesus that were passed from person to person and faithfully told over and over. About 40 years after Jesus' resurrection, people began to write down the story of Jesus' life and ministry. Each Gospel tells that story from a certain point of view and each is addressed to a different community of readers - some who were mostly Jewish and knew the stories of the Hebrew Scriptures and others who did not. This is why details in the

four Gospels do not always match.

So how can we know Jesus Christ - really know him? Dr. Thomas G. Long writes: "As we read and think about the Bible's stories about Jesus we will come to understand that Jesus is not just a person who once lived and died. We will learn about his special relationship with God and with other people, and we will see that the risen Christ is with us still."

Read the beginning of the other three Gospels - the place where Jesus' birth story would likely be found.



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