

# St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 36 Issue 12

December, 2013

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Methodist Church  
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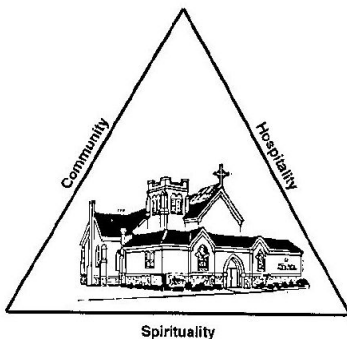
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Christmas will soon be upon us and at this time of the year it is easy to get lost in the hectic holiday season. I want to take this space to remind you that the best gift we can give and receive is the original Christmas gift. God's Grace made real through the life of Jesus Christ. For those of us who have accepted God's gift we have the responsibility to share that gift with those around us. Grace is the original gift given with nothing expected in return.

You, too, can give during this Christmas season. At church there is the hat and mitten tree, as well as our monthly collection of food for the food pantry. Outside the church the list of local ministries that could always use your help: Samaritan House, Meals til Monday, Our Daily Bread to name just a few. Ministries reaching around the world including Camp Sierra Linda, Imagine No Malaria or water pumps in Haiti. All these and many more give us the chance to express God's Grace during Christmas.

But what if you don't have the money to spend? Well how about changing the life of a child right here in Elida by volunteering in the new Elida Community program, giving children a great summer experience by volunteering at Camp Wesley or serving a meal on the 5<sup>th</sup> Friday at Our Daily Bread? With all of these choices I am having trouble this Christmas coming up with where we should use our Christmas offering. So if you have someplace you think it should go, let me know so I can have a better idea of what to do.

Things to look for at the beginning of the year include the new community after school program; we need to have a Confirmation Class; and I want to have several kids from St Paul's attending Summer Church Camp this year.

Have a very Merry Christmas everyone!

*Paul Pastor*



## Poem Excerpt

December embraces all creation  
With a peace beyond all ken;  
While the current year draws  
to completion,  
Cold and snow appear again.

*By Jennessa Fletcher Peters*

## Christmas Cookies and Treats Walk December 15th, following Worship Service, in the Fellowship Hall

All those yummy sweets you think of at Christmas time will be available for you to sample and purchase. If you would like to take some home, containers will be available for you to purchase. Walk around to the different tables, with your container, filling it with your favorite homemade cookies. Also available for purchase will be buckeyes, chocolate covered peanuts and pretzels. Buy 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 to St. Paul's missions.

Mark Sunday, December 15th, on your calendar and join us in the fellowship hall after worship to partake in a variety of Christmas goodies. If you would like to donate cookies for the walk, see Linda Holman. Any donations will be appreciated.

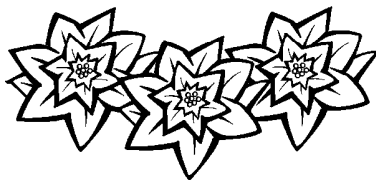
## St. Paul's Holiday Home Walk

The St. Paul's Holiday Home Walk is **Tuesday, December 3, 2013**. All ladies of the church and their friends and family are invited to join us in this holiday kick-off. We will begin with a light soup supper in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. with the home walk to follow.



# Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

## BLESSINGS from the staff



**December 1, 2013**

**Coins for Communion to benefit  
Lima Salvation Army**

**Seniors Day Out**

**Tuesday, December 17th**

### St. Paul's Epistle

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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

### St. Paul's Book Club

St. Paul's Book Club will meet on Saturday, January 4, 2014, in the room beside the church office. Mitch Albom's The Time Keeper will be discussed. Bring your own breakfast if you wish. Hope you join us for a good discussion.

## "Hat & Mitten Christmas Tree."

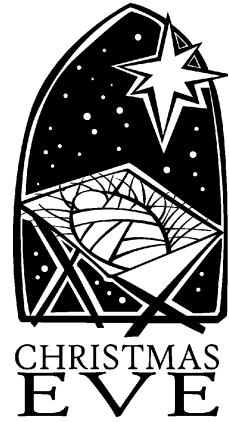
Donations will start in **December** for hats, mittens and scarves for our special tree. Items collected will be given to Elida Schools and to local missions serving the homeless and needy families in our area.



Newsletter  
deadline:  
the **16th**  
of each month



**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP**



**CHOIR CANTATA**  
**"What Sweeter Music"**  
*A Festival of Carols*  
*By Mark Hayes*

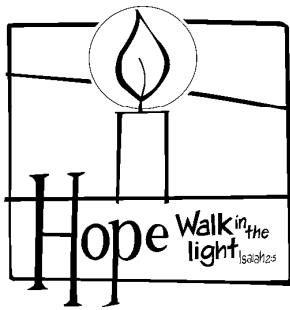
Sunday, December 22  
 10:00 AM Worship Service

Directed by Judy Chaffins  
 Piano accompaniment by Lois Cook

**Tuesday, December 24**  
**Family Service - 5:00 PM**

**Tuesday, December 24**  
**Candle Light Service - 10:00 PM**

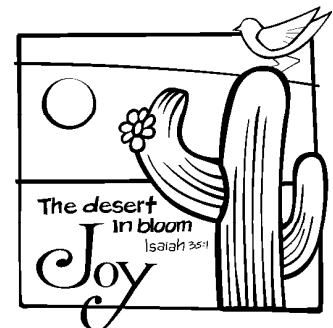
*Upcoming Events for St. Paul's*



**DECEMBER 1, 2013**



**Advent**

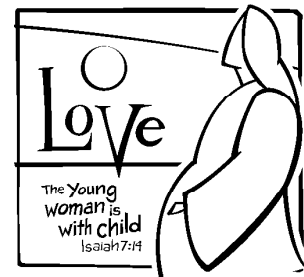


**DECEMBER 15, 2013**



**DECEMBER 8, 2013**

**DECEMBER 24, 2013**  
**CHRIST CANDLE**



**DECEMBER 22, 2013**

## Haiti Mission Trip

My recent mission trip to Haiti was an eye-opening experience. Even though I knew that Haiti was the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere before my trip, I still wasn't prepared for the abject poverty that I witnessed.

Other than following a natural disaster, like the recent storms in the Philippines, there are few other countries on Earth where the people must struggle daily for clean water to drink, food to eat, or a safe place to sleep. The situation is especially difficult to understand when one considers that the same island, Hispaniola, is shared with the much more affluent country of Dominican Republic.

So, why is Haiti so poor? The answers are varied, such as; the language barrier, ignorance and illiteracy, the poor education system, soil erosion, lack of exports, lack of infrastructure, unemployment, and the Haitian self-image. But the reasons are irrelevant. The fact is the people of Haiti are in great need. They need fresh water to drink, food to eat and safe places to live.

My trip to Haiti focused on their need for fresh water. More than one-half of all deaths in Haiti are attributed to the use of unsanitary water. There are many organizations that drill wells and install pumps in Haiti; however, the Haitian people don't know the importance of protecting and maintaining the pumps. Our mission was to replace and rebuild pumps that were non-functional. We were able to replace five pumps during the week as well as help install a water sanitation system.

We found the people friendly and generally helpful during our projects and very appreciative of our work. The children were respectful but naturally inquisitive at each site. (They especially liked the treats of suckers and M&Ms that we passed out.) At one site we had some down-time while we waited for the truck to come back to pick us up. There were old pipes we had removed from the well laying beside the road. As we waited, two of the boys who were hanging out picked up the pipes and started blowing into them making trumpeting sounds. They got the whole group laughing as they entertained us. When we were cleaning up we left the pipes for the boys to continue to enjoy.

As I previously mentioned, children gathered at each site where we worked. In each group of children there was always one or two that had orange tinted hair. This was a clear indication of malnutrition. The local missionaries told us that by the time their hair had this tint, they would only have weeks or months to live without some intervention. Other than giving them treats, which wouldn't help them, there wasn't anything we could do to help their nutritional needs. We knew that we were saving lives by giving them access to fresh water but our hearts were broken with the reality that we weren't doing enough to help the people of Haiti.

While we were in Haiti we stayed at the Living Hope Mission Ministries compound outside Cap Haitian. Living Hope Mission is operated by Wilbert and Meg Merzilus. Wilbert is a native of Haiti who was educated in the US. Meg is a native of Cincinnati who went to Haiti on an education mission. They founded and have operated Living Hope Mission for 20 years. I was very impressed with the work that Wilbert and Meg do founding churches and schools and supporting agricultural education. I plan to support Living Hope Mission in the future and would urge others to do the same. I also plan to return to Haiti on future mission trips and encourage those who feel called by God to join me.



Living Hope Mission Ministries  
P.O. Box 17322  
Plantation, FL 33318

By Jamie Wyant

# The Business of Church

## The Elida Community Center (ECC) programs are a go!

The first two missions through the ECC are planned and ready for people to join the teams! The **After-school program** will **begin January 13, 2014**. Fifth and Sixth Grade students will be invited to St. Paul's UMC on Monday and Wednesday afternoons to get a little help on homework and learn some fun daily living skills. The interest groups for the first four weeks will be a book club, pie making, and bicycle repair. There will also be ping pong, board games and maybe a chess club. We will continue to meet until early May with other interest groups of art, more books, pine wood derby, and some surprises.

In addition to the after-school program, **Judy Chaffins** would like to start a **music** ministry to introduce music skills to anyone—young or old. This is planned to be another cooperative program with the churches in the Elida area. It will take place on the Wednesday evening the choir is off, with practice times available during the after school program hours. We have hopes for a children's bell choir, maybe a performance of some kind and a developing interest in music.

Now, the hunt for team members has begun. We are planning an evening introduction on December 8 at 7:00 p.m. for members from any church and the community to come and find out more about the program and the needs. There will be other training days for those who can't come on December 8. We need people who can work with children; others who can help the lead adults in each of the groups; people to greet children and sign them in as well as release them to parents at the end of the day; someone to sit in the upstairs hallway to monitor those who are using the restrooms and those who might be in to practice; and people who will help clean up after the day is over.

We will also need donations of supplies, materials and cash to provide things that aren't donated. A more detailed list will be available.

The next few weeks will be busy and exciting as we move into a wonderful new mission field. There will be many opportunities to care for our children and provide them with new ideas, skills, and the knowledge that they are loved.

Now, if we could come up with a great name for it!

Book of Timothy



## Committee Chairs

2014

PPR Chair	Dwain Metzger
Trustees Chair	Ron Steiner
Finance Chair	Marty White
Treasurer	Margie Best
Education Chair	Jan Wyant
Administrative Council	Art Holman
Worship	Pastor Paul Scannell
Nurture	Linda Holman
Missions	Tim Piper

# Faith In Action

## Financial Giving

Weekly Need for  
Unified Ministry Budget  
\$3,466.00

### Worship Attendance:

October 27, 2013	93
November 3, 2013	101
November 10, 2013	94
November 17, 2013	97

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
October 27, 2013	\$1,740.11	\$1,811.00
November 3, 2013	\$5,761.00	\$905.75
November 10, 2013	\$3,490.00	\$852.25
November 17, 2013	\$2,403.61	\$956.00

### Sunday School Attendance

October 27, 2013	19
November 3, 2013	22
November 10, 2013	26
November 17, 2013	24

### Greeters

December 1, 2013	Jerry & Becky Bean
December 8, 2013	Brad & Slone Whetstone
December 15, 2013	Susan Nartker & Ruth Burgoon
December 22, 2013	Dillon & Helen Staas
December 24, 2013	OPEN
December 29, 2013	OPEN

### Flower Calendar

December 1, 2013	Dan & Margie Best
December 8, 2013	Mike & Kim Crates
December 15, 2013	Poinsettias
December 22, 2013	Poinsettias
December 29, 2013	Don & Mary Irvin

### Communion Servers

#### December 1

Station #1	Steve & Tracy Sdao
Station #2	Gary Adams & Tahler Sdao
Station #3	Scott & Gail Fessler

# December Bible Readings

## Sunday 12/1

Psalm 111, 112, 113, 146, 147  
Isaiah 1:1-9  
2 Peter 3:1-10, Matthew 25:1-13

## Monday 12/2

Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, Isaiah 1:10-20  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Luke 20:1-8

## Tuesday 12/3

Psalm 5, 6, 10, 11, Isaiah 1:21-31  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-12  
Luke 20:9-18

## Wednesday 12/4

Psalm 12, 13, 14, 119:1-24  
Isaiah 2:1-11  
1 Thessalonians 2:13-20  
Luke 20:19-26

## Thursday 12/5

Psalm 18, Isaiah 2:12-22  
1 Thessalonians 3:1-13  
Luke 20:27-40

## Friday 12/6

Psalm 16, 17, 22, Isaiah 3:8-15  
1 Thessalonians 4:1-12  
Luke 20:41-21:4

## Saturday 12/7

Psalm 20, 21, 110, 116, 117  
Isaiah 4:2-6  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Luke 21:5-19

## Sunday 12/8

Psalm 114, 115, 148, 149, 150  
Isaiah 5:1-7  
2 Peter 3:11-18, Luke 7:28-35

## Monday 12/9

Psalm 9, 15, 25, Isaiah 5:8-12, 18-23  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
Luke 21:20-28

## Tuesday 12/10

Psalm 26, 28, 36, 39  
Isaiah 5:13-17, 24-25  
1 Thessalonians 5:12-28  
Luke 21:29-38

## Wednesday 12/11

Psalm 38, 119:25-48, Isaiah 6:1-13  
2 Thessalonians 1:1-12  
John 7:53-8:11

## Thursday 12/12

Psalm 37, Isaiah 7:1-9  
2 Thessalonians 2:1-12  
Luke 22:1-13

## Friday 12/13

Psalm 31, 35, Isaiah 7:10-25  
2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5  
Luke 22:14-30

## Saturday 12/14

Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43, Isaiah 8:1-15  
2 Thessalonians 3:6-18  
Luke 22:31-38

## Sunday 12/15

Psalm 63, 98, 103, Isaiah 13:6-13  
Hebrews 12:18-29, John 3:22-30

## Monday 12/16

Psalm 41, 44, 52, Isaiah 8:16-9:1  
2 Peter 1:1-11, Luke 22:39-53

## Tuesday 12/17

Psalm 45, 47, 48, Isaiah 9:1-7  
2 Peter 1:12-21, Luke 22:54-69

## Wednesday 12/18

Psalm 49, 53, 119:49-72  
Isaiah 9:8-17  
2 Peter 2:1-10a, Mark 1:1-8

## Thursday 12/19

Psalm 33, Isaiah 9:18-10:4  
2 Peter 2:10b-16, Matthew 3:1-12

## Friday 12/20

Psalm 40, 51, 54, Isaiah 10:5-19  
2 Peter 2:17-22, Matthew 11:2-15

## Saturday 12/21

Psalm 55, 138, 139,  
Isaiah 10:20-27  
Jude 17-25, Luke 3:19

## Sunday 12/22

Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84, Isaiah 42:1-12  
Ephesians 6:10-20, John 3:16-21

## Monday 12/23

Psalm 61, 62, 112, 115  
Isaiah 11:1-9  
Revelation 20:1-10, John 5:30-47

## Tuesday 12/24

Psalm 45, 46, Isaiah 35:1-10  
Revelation 22:12-17  
Luke 1:67-80

## Wednesday 12/25

Psalm 2, 85, 132  
Zechariah 2:10-13  
1 John 4:7-16, John 3:31-26

## Thursday 12/26

Psalm 80, 146, 147  
Isaiah 29:13-24  
Revelation 21:22-22:5  
Luke 1:39-56

## Friday 12/27

Psalm 93, 96, 148, 150  
Isaiah 33:17-22  
Revelation 22:6-20, Luke 1:57-66

## Saturday 12/28

Psalm 72, 111, 113, Isaiah 28:9-22  
Revelation 21:9-21, Luke 1:26-38

## Sunday 12/29

Psalm 34, 93, 96, Isaiah 62:6-12  
Hebrews 2:10-18  
Matthew 1:18-25

## Monday 12/30

Psalm 20, 21, 23, 27, Isaiah 25:1-9  
Revelation 1:9-20  
John 7:53-8:11

## Tuesday 12/31

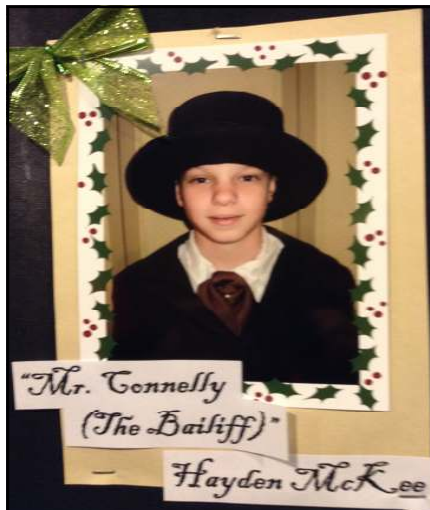
Psalm 46, 48, Isaiah 26:1-9  
2 Corinthians 5:16-6:2  
John 8:12-19



# St. Paul's Youth



*Left:* Hayden McKee was the Bailiff in "The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge" at Encore Theater. It was his first play.



*Top:* Congratulations to Torie McAdams and the Elida Volleyball Team for finishing 10-14 and as Sectional Runners-Up.

*Left:* Congratulations to Oliver Fessler and the Elida Boys Soccer Team for finishing 12-5-2 and as District Runners-Up. Elida coaches are Tom Thomas and Scott Warris.

Brittany and Cody Scannell with Joanna Hurd at the Primrose Trick or Treat. Jo was dressed as "The 'Life' of the Party". A Family Fall Fest was held earlier in October and Jo and her family won 2nd place on the family scavenger hunt and Deb Hurd won 2nd place in the pie making contest.





## Missions Fall Report

Thank-you letters were received in the last month for donations to **Camp Wesley (West Ohio Conference & Camp Wesley Director)**, **UMCH Family Services**, **Meals 'til Monday**, the **Hope V & E Center**, the **Samaritan House**, **Festival of Sharing director (school & health kits)** and the **Northwest Plains District** for supporting **Camp Sierra Linda**. **Neal Whitney** included Mexican children's 'thank-you' letters with translations, which may be found on the Missions bulletin board.

Collections for **health and school kits** began in August and went through **September 15<sup>th</sup>**. 74 school kits and 22 health kits were collected. Thank you to **Maedene Holmes** who organized the kit collections and her helpers, **Shara Bowsher, Lynda Evans, Ruth Hardy, Don Holmes, Wanda Strayer, Mary Williams** and **Jamie Wyant**. They checked out the kits during the week of September 15<sup>th</sup> so Pastor Paul could deliver the kits to the West Ohio Conference's **Festival of Sharing** held on **September 28<sup>th</sup>**.

The first four weekend mission trips to **Camp Wesley** have been completed with all four porches, steps and railings on the dining hall being replaced or repaired. New boardwalks were built and a dilapidated bridge replaced on the footpath around the lake during the workdays. In 2013, St. Paul's collected **\$2,246** for **Camp Wesley**. Work will continue at **Camp Wesley** in **2014**.

**Jamie Wyant** went on a mission trip to **Haiti** at the end of October with **Jeff Gast and Don Knepper of Shawnee Community Church**, to help repair wells. Their work was for **Living Hope Mission Ministries**. With 9.7 million people, Haiti has no centralized water system so thousands of wells supply clean, safe water to many people. Many wells fall in disrepair and need to be fixed. Jamie gave an informative **presentation** about his trip to Haiti on **November 17<sup>th</sup>** during our church service. Anyone wishing to donate may send a check to **Living Hope Mission Ministries, P O Box 17322, Plantation, FL 33318**.

October 31<sup>ST</sup> was **Trick-or-Treat night in Elida** and St. Paul's was ready to serve hot chocolate and coffee to parents and hand out pencils with our church name and time of service on each pencil. Except trick-or-treat was cancelled due to bad weather and rescheduled for **Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**. So on November 2<sup>nd</sup> our intrepid missionaries showed up again and started handing out cups of hot drinks and special pencils with St. Paul's info. They kept handing them out until they ran out of hot chocolate. So, instead of shutting down, they went to Dollar General and bought **8 boxes of chocolate mix and raided the Scannell's kitchen** for all of their chocolate (and marshmallows). In the end, around **360 cups of drinks were shared**, although a few were exchanged for hot dogs from **Elida Immanuel UMC**. Many thanks to those who shared in the work and the joy of this mission project: **Vicki and Torie McAdams, Deb and Gary Hurd, Mary Williams, Cari Metzger, Shirley Shoup and Marla Scannell**.

The **Lima Area Methodists Men's breakfast** was held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at **Shawnee Community Church**. **Judge Glenn Derryberry** gave an excellent presentation about **Allen County Juvenile Faith-Based and Community Summit**. He noted that the Elida Community churches are already involved with a similar program to provide a facility and programs for children after school. **Norm Grigsby, Don Irvin and Tim Piper** attended the breakfast from St. Paul's UMC.

Jesus said to "feed my sheep." Donations of food for the **Five Loaves Food Pantry** continues to be strong with St. Paul's individuals faithfully filling the food bins every month. The next **Food Pantry Sunday** is **December 15<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you to all who donated food in October and November to feed those families who are in need in our Elida community.

The collections for the **\$5 on the Fifth Sundays** to benefit the **United Methodist Children's Home Family Services** remained strong in 2013. St. Paul's church collected **\$345** on the first three "**\$5 on the Fifth**" Sundays as well as **\$87.41** in April from Coins-for-communion. The final **\$5 on the Fifth Sunday** will be **Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>**.

**Praise God for all persons who donated food, contributed funds and  
volunteered to work on missions this fall!**

# Remember When...



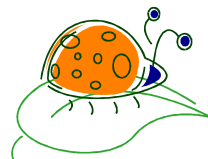
December, 1985  
Children's Musical  
"Angels, Lambs, Ladybugs & Fireflies"



December, 1995  
Children's Musical  
"Three Wise Men and a Baby"



December, 1997  
Children's Musical  
"Angels, Lambs, Ladybugs & Fireflies"



# Connecting With ...



New in our library is a notebook, "Poems by Parishioners". This contains poems written by Jenessa Fletcher Peters and Dillon Staas. You will find it on the coffee table and are invited to sit and read some of their poems. We have very talented people in our congregation. If any one else has written some poems they would like to share with the congregation, please give them to the office so we can add them to our collection. Thank you.

## The Gift of Christ

His gift to us that Christmas morn  
 Shall last our whole lives through.  
 And should we follow in his ways  
 We'll find his heart is true.

Then when at last our time has come  
 Our mortal days be few,  
 Believe in Him with all thy heart,  
 Then shall He come for you.

*By Dillon Staas*

**Brad Rabley**, son of Carl and Lois, won the Child Protection Supervisor of the Year award from the Public Children Services Association of Ohio on October 23. Brad was selected for making a positive difference in the lives of children through his work at Allen County Children Services and Allen Acres. Congratulations, Brad!



Gene Craft performed in the play, "Messiah on the Frigidaire" in Wapakoneta. Gene played the angel, pictured here with Lou Ann.

# CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to **Aaron Thompson**. Aaron was recently added to the men's basketball coaching staff for the junior varsity team along with assisting the varsity team at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Aaron is an alumni and also played basketball while there. He is 3rd on Washington's career-scoring list with 1,591 points and 2nd in career 3-pointers made. Aaron is the son of Denny and Janna Thompson.



# The People of St. Paul's



*Thanks for all your support at this time. Your kind words, prayers and cards you have sent me, mean so much.*

*Diane Eagy*

*Dear St. Paul's Friends, Thank you very much for the prayers, cards, and the beautiful flowers during my surgery and rehab stay. Thanks also to Pastor Paul and others for their visits.*

*Wanda Strayer*

*Thank you for the cards, planter and other expressions of sympathy on the death of Rudy's brother, Victor Segovia.*

*Rudy and Lavonne Segovia*

*My name is Heather Brake and I am the new director of Camp Wesley. I want to personally thank you for the work and financial support that you have given to Camp Wesley this year. I have posted several pictures of the project and a special thank you on the Camp Wesley Facebook page.*

*To Our Friends at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Thank you so much for your gift to Family Promise. Your gift will help homeless families with food, transportation, shelter and support to find housing and employment.*

*Chuck  
Family Promise*

*On behalf of the children who receive food through Meals 'til Monday, thank you for your recent donation (\$91.21).*

*The Meals 'til Monday  
Board of Directors*

*Thank you so much for your gift of \$80 for the 5th Sunday Collection. You are making a difference by bringing care, nurture, and treatment for hurting children.*

*UMCH*

## Remember in Prayer

### Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Larry Moser

### Homebound Members

Hazel Dunn  
Jean Redd

### Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Karen Bible  
Joanna Hurd  
Rodney Lee  
Wanda Strayer

### In the Military & Missions

Eddie Mault  
Jason Stanley



### Praying Together

Love came down at Christmas,  
Love all lovely, Love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas;  
Star and angels gave the sign.

- Christina Rossetti, 1830-1894

### Prayer List Updates

Please Contact

Lavonne Segovia

**Meetings**

December 2, 2013  
PPR...7:00 PM

December 3, 2013  
Trustees...7:00 PM

December 4, 2013  
Worship Team..6:00 PM

December 9, 2013  
Finance...7:00 PM

**No Ad Council**

December 17, 2013  
Missions...7:00 PM

**Sundays**  
Prayer...8:45 AM  
Sunday Sch...9:00 AM  
Fellowship...9:30 AM  
Worship...10:00 AM

**Wednesdays**  
Chancel Choir...7:00

# December 2013

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

*Anniversaries*

John & Bev Foster  
December 17

Ashley & Derrick  
Edwards  
December 18

Dennis & Shara Bowsher  
December 18

Larry & Gloria Brunk  
December 21

John & Val Kuenzli  
December 27

Denny & Janna  
Thompson  
December 29

Ron & Karen Bible  
December 30

Mike & Kim Crates  
December 31

1 Lena Whetstone A.J. White	2 Lavonne Segovia	3 Mary LaRue 94 years	4	5 Shirley Adams Todd Hanes David Segovia	6 Jerry Crates Teresa Grigsby Sue Theodore Lisa Wurster	7
8	9	10	11 Ron McAdams John Segovia Phyllis Trigg	12	13	14
15 Taryn Piper	16	17 Audrey Fox	18 Jim Doseck Pam Gahen Mary Holmes	19	20 Ruth Burgoon Mary Steiner	21
22 Kara Woeller	23 Kayla Stewart	24 Linda Craft	25 Denny Grapner	26	27 Deb Hurd	28 Adam Crates
29 Tammy Segovia	30 Tristan Gahgen	31	<i>Merry Christmas</i>			
			<i>HAPPY NEW YEAR</i>			

# Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

## Apple Cake

*By Shirley Moser*

Ingredients		Instructions
2 large	Eggs	Mix all ingredients well.
3/4 cup	Vegetable oil	Pour into 9 x 13 pan (sprayed with cooking spray). Bake at 350 degrees for 35-40 min. or until wooden toothpick comes out clean. This cake is moist and delicious.
2 cups	Sugar	Note: When cold you can sprinkle with powdered sugar or make Brown Sugar Frosting.
1 1/2 tsp.	Cinnamon	
3 tsp.	Baking powder	<u>Brown Sugar Frosting:</u> 1/2 cup Butter 1 cup Brown sugar (packed) 1/4 tsp. Salt 1/4 cup milk or coffee cream Powdered sugar (aprox. 2 cups)
1 tsp.	Salt	
3 cups	Apples (peeled & chopped small)	
2 1/2 cups	Flour	On stove, stir butter and sugar over low heat until melted. Add salt and milk and bring to boil. Boil for 1 min. Cool, (but not cold) then add powdered sugar to desired consistency.
1 tsp.	Vanilla	



## Christmas Ribbon Salad

*By Nancy Craig*

Ingredients		Instructions
1 box	Lime jello	Green Layer: lime jello, crushed pineapple, miniature marshmallows
1 small can	Pineapple, crushed	
1/2 package	Miniature marshmallows	Yellow Layer: lemon jello, cream cheese, Cool Whip
1 box	Lemon jello	
1/2 package	Philadelphia cream cheese	Red Layer: raspberry jello
1 medium	Cool Whip	Make green layer. Pour in pan bottom. Let set. Make yellow layer and pour over green layer. Let set. Make red layer last. Let set.
1 package	Raspberry jello	

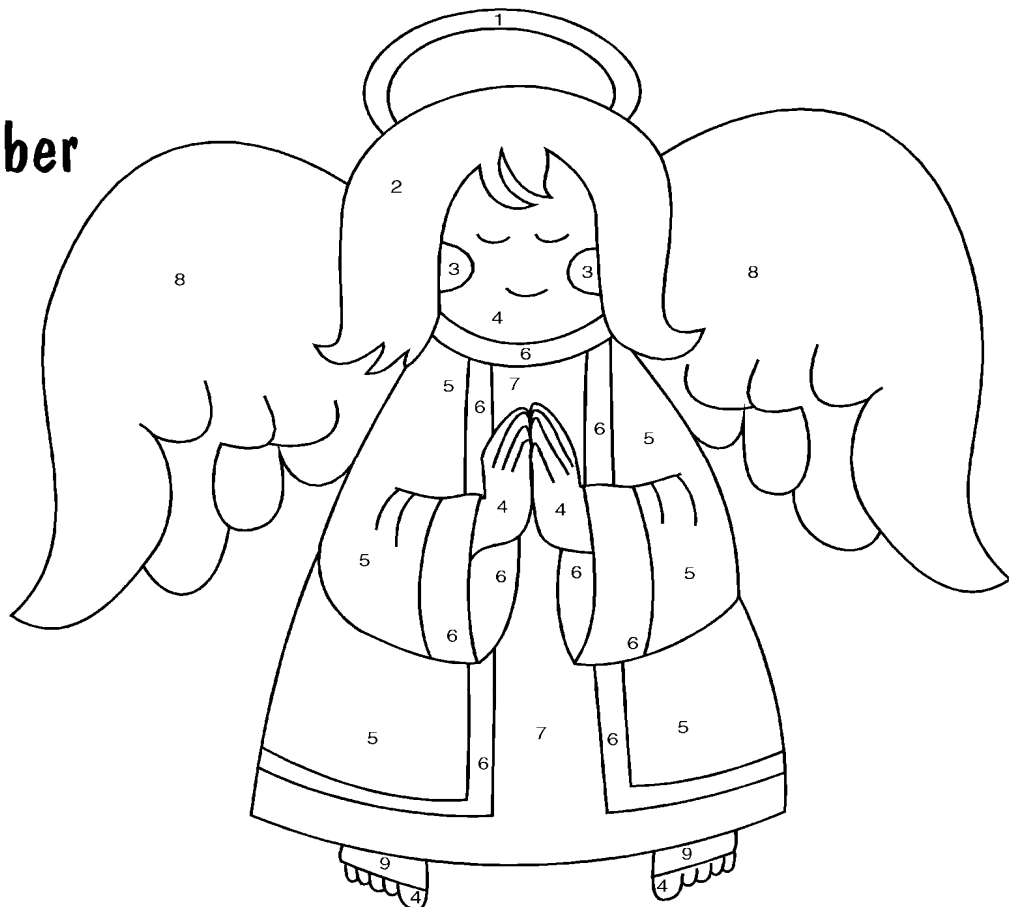


# KIDZ KORNER

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P	E	A	C	E	R	J	E
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R	G	C	H	R	I	S	T
T	E	V	O	L	N	N	N
H	R	H	P	E	S	O	J

## Christmas Color-by-number

- 1 = Gold
- 2 = Black
- 3 = Light Red
- 4 = Skin color
- 5 = Green
- 6 = Dark Blue
- 7 = Light Blue
- 8 = Grey
- 9 = Brown



**St. Paul's United Methodist Church**

105 E. Main St.  
Elida, OH 45807

\*Return Service Requested

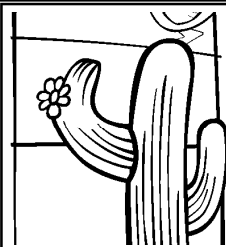
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**DECEMBER  
2013**



**Living Our Faith**



**A Season of Joyful Praise**

Advent is the start of a new year in the church, a season where we get our hearts ready to celebrate Christmas.

This is a season that is full of reasons for joy and praise. People celebrate. Nature celebrates. It can seem like the whole universe is full of praise. But we also know that for some people, this doesn't feel like a happy time of year. Whether we are joyful, or whether we are hoping for a time when we can rejoice, we can depend on one thing: God loves us and wants to be part of our lives.

The prophet Isaiah lived many years ago. He was very close to God. Isaiah tried to imagine how God wanted the world to be and spoke God's promises to the people. He imagined a time when God would lead all of the people to a wonderful place. Isaiah said, "Imagine a happy time. It's a time so happy that not just people will sing and dance; even the desert will want to sing for joy!"

Isaiah said, "People who have no hope will find that they can have hope again. They do not need to be afraid of anything, for they will know that God has come to take care of them. A day will come when God will lead us home. Sadness will be gone, and we will know that God is caring for us forever."

Often, when people felt sad and scared, they would remember Isaiah's words, and this filled them with joy. We can read Isaiah's words too and find reasons to rejoice!

Find the words of wonder and praise in the puzzle below: Angel, Christ, Dream, Earth, Emmanuel,

H	O	Y	O	J	A	H	N	Hope
O	D	R	E	A	M	F	O	Jesus
P	E	A	C	E	R	J	E	Joseph
E	M	M	A	N	U	E	L	Joy
E	A	T	R	A	T	S	A	Love
A	N	G	E	L	M	U	L	Manger
R	G	C	H	R	I	S	T	Mary
T	E	V	O	L	N	N	N	Noel
H	R	H	P	E	S	O	J	Peace
								Star