

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 36, Issue 2

February, 2013

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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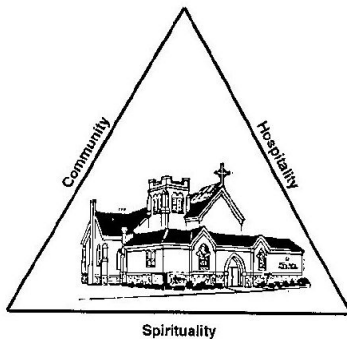
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February and an early start to the Lenten Season has me thinking about our first journey through Lent together. Most of you know of the death of Rev. Allen Puffenberger and through conversations with many different people I have learned about his impact on this congregation. Norm Grigsby handed me a book (Words for the Weary) that Allen created with the help of this congregation in 1987 and told me I should read it. I have begun to read and feel that during this Season of Lent we should revisit the work of Allen and St Paul's. The series had 16 sermons over 13 weeks but I am going to focus on the sermons from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday as a tribute to all the hard work Allen did here at St. Paul's during his tenure. If you have your old book, now would be a good time to pull it out and as I write this I did a quick search on Amazon and found 3 copies for sale for anyone who might want to read it.

Sunday School is under way and things are going very well. I love seeing kids and teachers in that last minute scramble to get class started on time. We are also meeting in an adult Sunday School that for now is looking at the text that will be covered that morning in worship service. I wonder sometimes if it is a little too much of me talking during these types of classes and I can see some people maybe even being stretched a little as we continue studying what God is saying to each of us. Many of you will begin to see how difficult and individual theology really is. Theology, which in its simplest definition is the Study of God, has for me over the years changed from something that was ridged and well defined into something that is very individual and ever changing. My theology will never be exactly the same as anyone else's because we can never have the same experiences with God that shape our thinking. That is what I enjoy the most about this class so far is that you get to tell me where you are as you think about God. So I can help you and you can help me as we go on this journey of experiencing God together. You don't need to study for hours to come to this class. Every week there is a sheet available with the scripture and 3 questions, but even if you don't have that you can come to class and feel comfortable. So please come join us this Sunday at 9am for Sunday School.

Finally, this month I am sad to inform you that Jenessa Fletcher is resigning as our church treasurer. She has taken a full time job and will be getting married in September. I want to thank Jenessa for all her hard work for the past couple of years and take this space to wish her God's Blessings as she embarks on this new chapter in her life. Jenessa, we will miss you and you are always welcome here at St Paul's. Hopefully by the time you read this the Nominations Committee will be very close to having the position of treasurer finalized.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Paul

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS BACK!

Set your Sunday alarms a little earlier. Sunday School is in business at St. Paul's.
We currently have four classes. Each class
begins at 9:00 a.m. and finishes around 9:45 a.m.

- ◆ **Two year olds through first graders** meet with Shirley Moser and Linda Matlock in their kid-friendly room past the pastor's office on the left.
- ◆ **Second graders through fifth graders** have class with Shirley Shoup and Marla Scannell in the bright classroom adjoining the office.
- ◆ **Middle and High school kids** gather in the Fellowship Hall on the couches with leaders, Corinne Piper and Jan Wyant.
- ◆ **The adults meet** in the blue room across from the choir room, with **Pastor Paul** leading the class. If you've been inspired by his sermons, try this small group learning experience with the pastor.

If you have a child under the age of two and would like to attend Pastor Paul's class, contact Shirley Moser or Jan Wyant to discuss possible options.
Add Sunday School to your Sunday morning routine and spend a little more time getting to know God.



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



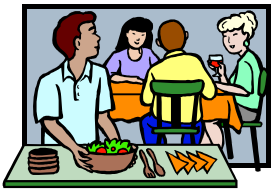
February 3rd
**Coins for Communion
to benefit
Heartbeat of Lima**



Koinonia Group
will meet at the Holman's on
Saturday, February 23rd.
At 7:00 PM

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

Seniors Day Out
**Tuesday, February 19th, at noon
in the Fellowship Hall**
Bring a favorite "THING" to share
**Lunch will be prepared by
Chef Rudy**



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

Congratulations

to Emma Scannell, who set the Elida High School record for the butterfly in a recent swim meet. Emma's time was 1:13:23. Beating the previous school record is quite a feat for a freshman. Way to go, Emma! We're proud of you!



Congratulations to Tim Piper

Tim Piper, Allen County Engineer, has been elected president of the County Engineers Association of Ohio for 2013.

County engineers are responsible for the maintenance, repair and capital improvements of county highways, roads and bridges in Ohio. Since 1940, the County Engineers Association of Ohio has worked to unify its members in their goal to provide the highest quality transportation, drainage, surveying and land record keeping services.

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



Ash Wednesday
February 13, 2013
Service at 7:00 PM

Special offering to be divided between the AEGMA special needs fund and St. Paul's special needs fund.

Easter Cantata
will be presented
by the St. Paul's Choir
March 31, 2013
"Easter Trilogy—
A Cantata in Three Suites"
By Benjamin Harlan



There is always room for more voices if you would like to join the choir and raise your voice in praise to God.

2013 Budget

2013	2012	2013	Change	% Change
Pastor Salary	39,000	33,000	-6,000	
Acct. Reimbursement	4,000	3,500	-500	
Parsonage Utilities	6,200	6,200	0	
Health Insurance	15,017	17,559	2,542	
Pension Funding	7,488	6,200	-1,288	
Pulpit Supply	300	300	0	
Moving Accrual	600	1,200	600	
Total Pastoral Support	72,605	67,959	-4,646	-6.4
Secretary Salary	11,241	11,578	337	
Choir Director	2,020	0	-2,020	
Organist	2,632	2,736	104	
Custodian	5,200	5,356	156	
Pianist	1,960	2,064	104	
Youth Exp. Acct.	400	400	0	
SS/Medicare	2,263	1,665	-598	
Workers' Comp	150	250	100	
Total Staff Support	25,866	24,049	-1,817	-7.02
O.S., Postage, Equip	7,000	6,000	-1,000	
Flowers	1,100	1,100	0	
Janitorial Supplies	500	1,000	500	
Bldg., Equip., Maint.	4,000	4,000	0	
Church Utilities	14,000	12,000	-2,000	
Insurance	4,000	5,164	1,164	
Property Taxes	2,000	2,000	0	
Parsonage Maint.	2,000	2,000	0	
Total Administration	34,600	33,264	-1,336	-3.86
Education	2,000	2,000	0	
Nurture	1,500	1,000	-500	
ReFocus Caring for Elderly	0	1,200	1,200	
Stewardship	1,000	1,000	0	
Worship	1,000	1,000	0	
Music	1,000	1,500	500	
PPR	1,000	1,000	0	
Youth Ministries	500	500	0	
Total Program Ministries	8,000	9,200	1,200	15

The Business of Church

	2013	2012	2013	Change	% Change
Dist. Apportionments		2,639	2,495	-144	
Conf. Apportionments		18,219	16,634	-1,585	
Total Benevolence		20,858	19,129	-1,729	-8.29
Capital Expenditures		6,000	6,000	0	
Grand Total		167,929	159,601	-8,328	-4.96

	2013	Change
Pledges	144,724	12,016
Budget	159,601	-8,328
Deficit	14,877	
2012		
Pledges	132,708	
Budget	167,929	
Deficit	35,221	

The Finance Committee was pleased to present their 2013 budget recommendations to the Administrative Counsel recently. The Administrative Council adopted this budget recommendation during its January 14, 2013, meeting. In general, this budget is less than the 2012 budget. Apportionments were reduced by both the District and Conference offices. We decided to represent some operating expenses more accurately and in-line with historical trends. Our Programs expense rose slightly due to the addition of the ReFocus initiative. The PPR Committee recommended and the Finance Committee accepted salary increases for staff.

Most remarkably was the increase in pledged dollars for 2013 which closed the gap significantly between our anticipated expenses and what truly is funded through the budget. Many thanks to the diligent work of the Finance Committee in preparing St. Paul's 2013 Operating Budget.

Book of Timothy



Committee Chairs

2013

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

Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

December 23, 2012	138
December 24, 2012 (Christmas Eve)	5:00 - 65 10:00 - 104
December 30, 2012	104
January 6, 2013	108
January 13, 2013	114
January 20, 2013	108
January 27, 2013	95

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,466.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
December 23, 2012	\$3,240.00	\$1,189.00
December 25, 2012	Christmas Offering	\$1,472.00
December 30, 2012	\$2,395.00	\$702.00
January 6, 2013	\$7,284.00	\$2,807.69
January 13, 2013	\$2,801.75	\$451.00
January 20, 2013	\$2,830.50	\$585.00
January 27, 2013	\$2,106.50	\$531.00

Sunday School Attendance

January 13, 2013	44
January 20, 2013	48
January 27, 2013	41

Flower Calendar

February 3, 2013	Ruth Hardy
February 10, 2013	Jim & Phyllis Hines
February 17, 2013	Gary & Janet Grigg
February 24, 2013	Gene & Linda Craft

Greeters

February 3, 2013	Bill & Esther McKinney
February 10, 2013	Marty & Kathy White
February 17, 2013	Scott & Gail Fessler
February 24, 2013	Norm & Mary Grigsby

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

Daily Bible Readings for February

Friday 2/1

Psalm 40, Genesis 17:15-27
Hebrews 10:11-25
John 6:1-15

Saturday 2/2

Psalm 55, 138 & 139
Genesis 18:1-16
Hebrews 10:26-39, John 6:16-27

Sunday 2/3

Psalm 24 & 29
Genesis 18:16-33
Galatians 5:13-25
Mark 8:22-30

Monday 2/4

Psalm 56, 57 & 58
Genesis 19:1-29
Hebrews 11:1-12, John 6:27-40

Tuesday 2/5

Psalm 61 & 62
Genesis 21:1-21
Hebrews 11:13-22, John 6:41-51

Wednesday 2/6

Psalm 72, Genesis 22:1-18
Hebrews 11:23-31
John 6:52-59

Thursday 2/7

Psalm 70, 71 & 74
Genesis 23:1-20
Hebrews 11:32-12:2
John 6:60-71

Friday 2/8

Psalm 69 & 73
Genesis 24:1-27
Hebrews 12:3-11, John 7:1-13

Saturday 2/9

Psalm 75, 76, 23 & 27
Genesis 24:28-38, 49-51
Hebrews 12:12-29, John 7:14-36

Sunday 2/10

Psalm 93, 96 & 34
Genesis 24:50-67
2 Timothy 2:14-21
Mark 10:13-22

Monday 2/11

Psalm 77, 79 & 80
Genesis 25:19-34
Hebrews 13:1-16, John 7:37-52

Tuesday 2/12

Psalm 78, Genesis 26:1-33
Hebrews 13:17-25
John 7:53-8:11

Wednesday 2/13

Psalm 119:97-120, 81 & 82
Genesis 27:1-29
Romans 12:1-8, John 8:12-20

Thursday 2/14

Psalm 83, 85 & 86
Genesis 27:30-45
Romans 12:9-21, John 8:21-32

Friday 2/15

Psalm 88, 91 & 92
Genesis 27:46-28:22
Romans 13:1-14, John 8:33-47

Saturday 2/16

Psalm 87, 90 & 136
Genesis 29:1-20
Romans 14:1-23, John 8:47-59

Sunday 2/17

Psalm 19, 46, 66 & 67
Genesis 29:20-35
1 Timothy 3:14-4:10
Mark 10:23-31

Monday 2/18

Psalm 89, Genesis 30:1-24
1 John 1:1-10
John 9:1-17

Tuesday 2/19

Psalm, 94, 95, 97, 99 & 100
Genesis 31:1-24
1 John 2:1-11
John 9:18-41

Wednesday 2/20

Psalm 101, 109:1-30,
Psalm 119:121-144
Genesis 31:25-50
1 John 2:12-17
John 10:1-18

Thursday 2/21

Psalm 105, Genesis 32:3-21
1 John 2:18-29
John 10:19-30

Friday 2/22

Psalm 102 & 107:1-32
Genesis 32:22-33:17
1 John 3:1-10, John 10:31-42

Saturday 2/23

Psalm 107:33-43, 108:1-13 & 33
Genesis 35:1-20
1 John 3:11-18
John 11:1-16

Sunday 2/24

Psalm 118 & 145
Proverbs 1:20-33
2 Corinthians 5:11-21
Mark 10:35-45

Monday 2/25

Psalm 106, Proverbs 3:11-20
1 John 3:18-4:6
John 11:17-29

Tuesday 2/26

Psalm 120, 121, 122, 123, 124,
Psalm 125 & 126
Proverbs 4:1-27
1 John 4:7-21, John 11:30-44

Wednesday 2/27

Psalm 119:145-176, 128,
Psalm 129 & 130
Proverbs 6:1-19
1 John 5:1-12, John 11:45-54

Thursday 2/28

Psalm 131, 132, 133, 134 & 135
Proverbs 7:1-27
1 John 5:13-21, John 11:55-12:8

Thought for the Month:

Some days, I am not sure if
my faith is riddled with
doubt or whether, graciously,
my doubt is riddled with
faith.

Special Offerings for 2013

Missions Committee Designation of 2013 'Coins for Communion':

- January — Hope Visitation & Exchange Center
- February — Heartbeat of Lima
- March — Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen
- April — 5 Loaves Food Pantry-Allentown U.M.C.
- May — U.M.C.H., (United Methodist Children's Home)
- June — U.M.C.O.R. - Designated for Hurricane Sandy Relief
- July — Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing
- August — Meals 'til Monday
- September — Samaritan House
- October — Family Promise
- November — Lima Rescue Mission
- December — Lima Salvation Army



Special Offering Designations for 2013:

- Ash Wednesday** — 1/2 AEGMA (*Allentown, Elida, Gomer Ministerial Association*) & 1/2 St. Paul's Special Needs Fund
- Easter** — 1/2 Miracle Offering & 1/2 Camp Sierra Linda Campers Sponsorship
- Thanksgiving** — AEGMA (St. Paul's will not be hosting in 2013)
- Christmas (2013)** — 1/2 AEGMA & 1/2 General Missions Fund



FEBRUARY MISSIONS CALENDAR

- February 3rd — Coins For Communion
- February 10th — Food Pantry Sunday
- February 13th — Ash Wednesday,
Special Offering
- February 19th - 7 PM - *Mission Committee Meeting at St. Paul's*

Emmaus/Chrysalis Walks in February and March:

- Upcoming Sidney Emmaus Walk Dates:
 Women's Walk #59: February 21-24, 2013
 Men's Walk #55: March 7-10, 2013
- Upcoming Findlay Chrysalis Flights:
 Boys Flight #39: February 22-24, 2013

If you would like more information on attending an Emmaus Walk or a Chrysalis Flight (for teens), talk to Pastor Paul or to someone at St. Paul's who has been on a walk.

Christmas at St. Paul's



December 18, 2012
Seniors Day Out



Children's Play
Christmas Eve, 2012



Remember When...



1984
 All Church Birthday Party
 Lenore Strayer, Christie Steiner,
 Mark Puffenberger, Ron Steiner



1990s
 Meeting with Rev. Eric McGlade



2000
 Blake Selover, Todd Hanes,
 and Jim Thomas



Connecting With ...

Thank You

Thank you to Myrna Metzger and all of her "elves" who helped decorate the sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas season. We appreciate your hard work to make each worship service so beautiful and meaningful.

Thank you to Judy Chaffins, Lois Cook and all who worked behind the scenes and who participated in the Children's Play at the early Christmas Eve service. The play was enjoyed by all!



We are saddened to announce to you the departure of **Jenessa Fletcher** as our Church Treasurer. We thank God for her hard work and dedication to the office she faithfully fulfilled. As she moves forward in her new roles in life (fulltime work and soon to be new wife) we wish her all the blessings God can give her.

Thank you Jenessa and God Bless You.



Remember in Prayer

- Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital*
 - Becky Bean
 - Karen Bible
 - Dorothy Banks
 - Derrick Edwards
 - Joanna Hurd
- Homebound Members*
 - Hazel Dunn
 - Jean Redd
 - Helen Scholfield
- Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement*
 - Karen Bible
 - Joanna Hurd
 - Rodney Lee
 - Rick Scholfield
- In the Military*
 - Eddie Mault
 - 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

*To St. Paul's Crafty
Creatures,
With special thanks, God's
spirit shines through in
people like you. Thanks for
caring so much!
Love,
Deb Geary*



*To St. Paul's UMC,
Thank you all for giving to
Meals 'Til Monday during the
Christmas season. We're
blessed by your continued
partnership and grateful for
your support. Your gift will
help feed the over 300
children who now receive
weekend food from MTM.
We hope God blesses and
encourages you in 2013!*

*Sincerely,
Joe & Jenny Earl
Meals 'Til Monday*



Congratulations to Justin and Megan Wyant on the birth of their daughter, Larkin Alena. She was born on Wednesday, January 9, 2013, was welcomed home by big brother, Brogan. Her proud Grandparents are Jamie and Jan Wyant. Cards will reach Justin and Megan at 3519 Waterbury Drive, Kettering, OH 45439.



We extend our sympathy to the family and many friends of Rev. Allen Puffenberger. Rev. Puffenberger passed away on January 3rd, 2013, in Reynoldsburg, OH. A memorial service was held on January 13, 2013, at Shepherd Church of the Nazarene in Gahana, Ohio. Rev. Puffenberger served at St. Paul's from 1980 to 1990 and retired from ministry in 2003. Messages of sympathy may be sent to Martha and the family at 8231 Priestley Dr. Reynoldsburg, OH 43068.

Praying Together
Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.
- Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879



**Prayer List Updates
Please Contact
Lavonne Segovia**

Meetings

February 2013

February 4, 2013
PPR...7:00 PM

February 5, 2013
Trustees...7:00 PM

February 6, 2013
Worship ...6:00 PM

February 11, 2013
Finance ...7:00 PM

February 19, 2013
Missions...7:00 PM

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

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir...7:00 PM

Sundays
Bell Choir...7:00 PM

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2 Megan Bible Barb Schade
3 Braylon Kimmet	4 Cyndi Smith	5 Don Irvin	6	7 Gary Hurd	8 Cari Metzger	9 Michelle Grapner
	PPR	Trustees	Worship Comm.			
10 Marla Scannell	11	12 Ken Strayer	13	14	15 Bill Weaver	16
Food Pantry Sunday	Finance		Ash Wednesday	Valentine's Day		
17 Doug Fox	18 Sherilyn Ellinger Sydney Lane	19 Seniors Day Out	20 Fran Hall Ron Steiner	21	22 Andrew Piper	23
First Sunday in Lent		Missions				
24	25 John Foster	26 Addison Chaffins	27	28 Makayla Bok Kate Stengel		

Anniversaries

- Jerry & Becky Bean*
February 14; 54 yrs.
- Gary & Janet Grigg*
February 18; 47 yrs.
- Jim & Phyllis Hines*
February 23; 56 yrs.
- Gene & Linda Craft*
February 25; 46 yrs.
- Larry & Shirley Moser*
February 28; 41 yrs.

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's & Friends Cooks

Cherry Delight by Ruthilene Wilson

		Instructions
2 cups	Graham crackers, crushed	Mix and pat into bottom of baking dish first 3 ingredients.
1 stick	Butter, melted	
1 cup	Sugar	
1 (8 oz.)	Philadelphia cream cheese	Mix next 3 ingredients until smooth. Add Cool Whip. Spread over graham cracker mixture.
1 cup	Confectioner's sugar	
1 tsp.	Vanilla	
1 large	Cool Whip	
2 small cans	Thank You Cheery pie filling	
		Top with 2 small cans or 1 large can of Thank You Cherry pie filling. (Blueberry pie filling is also very good.)



Instant Oatmeal Packets by Corinne Piper

		Instructions
1/4 cup	Powdered oats (regular oats lightly powdered in blender)	Mix in snack or sandwich baggies to make individual oatmeal packets. Add a little hot water and let it sit for a minute, but you can microwave it too, if you want.
1 Tbl.	Powdered milk	
1 Tbl.	Brown sugar	
Pinch of	Salt (optional)	
		Can add 1 Tbl. Of non-dairy creamer to each packet. It makes the oatmeal even creamier.!

VARIATIONS:

Apple-Cinnamon: To each packet add 1 Tbl. sugar, 1/4 tsp. cinnamon, and 2 Tbl. chopped dried apples.

Brown Sugar/Cinnamon: To each packet add 1 Tbl. brown sugar and 1/4 tsp. cinnamon.

Health Nut: To each packet add 1/2 Tbl. each wheat germ, ground flax seed, and chopped almonds.

Honey Nut: To each packet add 1 Tbl. honey powder and 1 Tbl. chopped pecans or almonds.

Raisins & Brown Sugar: To each packet add 1/2 Tbl. packed brown sugar and 1 Tbl. raisins.

Maple & Brown Sugar: To each packet add powdered maple flavoring and extra brown sugar.

Confetti: To each packet add 1 tsp. decorative cake/cookie sprinkles.

S'Mores: To each packet add 6 miniature marshmallows and 1 Tbl. milk chocolate chips.

Cookies 'n Cream: To each packet add 1 crushed Oreo and 1 Tbl. non-dairy creamer.



KIDZ KORNER

Word Scramble

Unscramble the names of the animals and write them on the lines below the words.

H R E S O

I N C C K H E

O C W

W O S

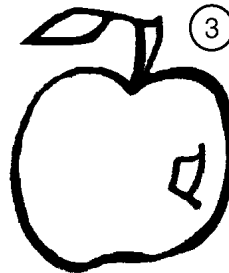
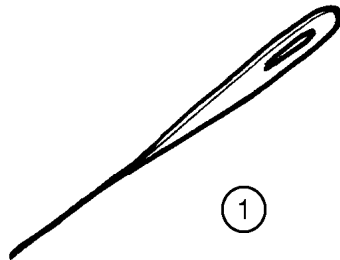
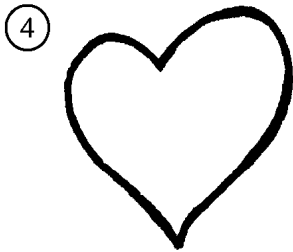
A O T G

E E S H P

Answer:

HORSE, COW, GOAT, CHICKEN, SOW, SHEEP

Decode the Message



Who was the man whom God asked to build an ark for the animals? To find out, write the first letter of each picture above in the correct space below.

①	②	③	④

Answer:
Noah

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

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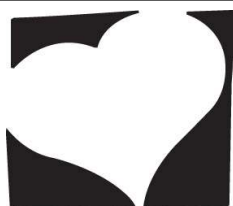
*Return Service Requested

Our Web Address:
www.elidastpaulschurch.org

February 2013



Living Our Faith



February is a time of year we often associate with hearts. The main reason is that Valentine's Day is on February 14, so many people are busy making and giving cards and candy to their friends and family. Many heart health organizations also choose February as Heart Health Month, encouraging people to exercise and eat smart. Learn more about your heart and find fun ways to share God's love with the people around you.

Play and Stay Healthy!

Heart experts tell us that it's important to be physically active for 60 minutes each day. Do whatever you choose; just keep moving until you breathe hard or break a sweat.



Healthy Heart

These edible valentines look like a heart with an arrow through them. You will need watermelon slices, Mandarin orange slices, and bamboo kitchen skewers.

Cut heart-shaped pieces of watermelon using a cookie cutter. Poke a bamboo kitchen skewer through each heart; then complete the arrow by using an orange slice for the arrow's tip and tail.

Lacey Valentines

This is an "old style" valentine. Here's what you'll need: paper doilies (look in the paper aisle at the grocery store), glue, red and pink construction paper, glitter, and markers.

Coat the back of a doily with a few dots of glue and place the doily onto the construction paper. If the doily is quite small you might want to use more than one, or you could overlap them. After the glue has dried, fold the construction paper in half or thirds and write a message on the card; then finish decorating with glitter and other embellishments.