

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 40, Issue 2

February, 2017

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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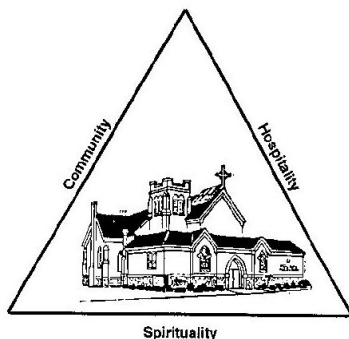
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Terror is a reoccurring theme in our society. Scary movies used to be limited to Halloween but today there seems to be a new one released every week. The news tells us of all the bad things happening all over the world and even in our own neighborhood. Extremists try to bully us with fear and hatred, both religious and political. Our children pick up on this fear and we see it in their reactions. Some adults and children even have to seek professional help because they live in constant fear.

Anyone who has visited me at my office knows how easily I startle when you knock on my door, not because I am afraid, but because I usually am concentrating on something. My children think it is a wonderful game to scare dad by sneaking up on me and I must admit it is funny to see my own reaction at times. Some people even ask me if I am afraid being in the church at night while I am working on something that is due the next day. The answer is no. It does make some very strange noises at times, and it does get very dark in the hallways when I forget to turn on the lights when I come in, but no, I am not afraid. I fear the things I see more than the things I don't see and I really believe the message in the Bible: Do Not Be Afraid.

I know that no matter what happens to me or anyone in my family that God will take care of us. I also know where I am going when I die; that I will find myself in heaven worshipping with all of heaven before the throne of God for eternity. Not by anything I have accomplished or built, but solely by the Grace of God and Jesus' forgiveness. That is what this whole series is about. I invite you to work on putting fear, despair, anxiety and worry aside and take the advice of many a great angel and Do Not Be Afraid for God sees you, God knows you and God loves you.

See you at Church,

Pastor Paul

Thought for the Month:

The function of prayer is not to influence God, but rather to change the nature of the one who prays.

- Soren Kierkegaard

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God's Conversation Hearts

Those familiar conversation hearts that show up every February can be more than just trite romantic or friendly sayings. Use them to remind you — or to teach a child — of the greatest love of all: God's love for us, which empowers our love for others. For example:

- ♥ **TRUE LOVE:** What love is truer than giving up one's only Son so people might have everlasting life? (John 3:16).
- ♥ **BE MINE:** Jesus knows us intimately, as a shepherd knows his sheep. No one can snatch us from him (John 10:27-29).
- ♥ **FOREVER:** God loves us with an "everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3).
- ♥ **LOVE ME:** The greatest commandment is to love God with our whole being (Luke 10:27).
- ♥ **TRUST ME:** "Let not your hearts be troubled." We can count on Jesus, now and for eternal life (John 14:1-3).
- ♥ **SWEET TALK:** God's words are sweeter than honey (Psalm 119:103).
- ♥ **BE GOOD:** We show our love for Christ by keeping his commands (John 14:15).
- ♥ **CALL ME:** God longs to be in fellowship with us. We can talk to him anytime in prayer (Jeremiah 33:3).
- ♥ **FRIENDS:** The greatest love involves laying down your life for your friends (John 15:13) — precisely what Jesus did.
- ♥ **#1:** "We love because [God] first loved us" (1 John 4:19).



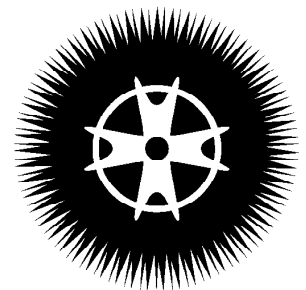
Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

February 5
 'Coins for Communion'
 to benefit
 Elida Community Center/
 EASY Program

Christian Symbol

Aureole

From the Latin for "gold," an aureole is a golden image symbolizing divinity and supreme power. It's used sometimes in medieval art to surround Mary and the Christ Child, or Jesus alone. The elongated or almond-shaped form of an aureole is called a mandorla.



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

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

**MISSIONS
THANK YOU!**

Many thanks to the members of the Mission Committee for 2016: **Jamie Wyant, Norm Grigsby, Maedene Holmes, Cari Metzger, Dillon Staas, Martha Vazquez, Dennis Bowsher, Shara Bowsher, Tim Piper and Pastor Paul Scannell.** Also, many thanks to members of our congregation who faithfully volunteered at Our Daily Bread soup kitchen, worked on quilts, hats & mittens, assembled health and school kits, filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, worked or played golf at the Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing, helped hand out hot chocolate and pencils on Trick-or-Treat night, helped with LAMM breakfasts, donated food faithfully to 5 Loaves Food Pantry, worked on ramps, and donated to special missions, projects and funds. You are truly a blessing to the many people who have been served by the generosity of our congregation at St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

Praise God for his blessings upon our efforts to further His Kingdom!

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



Scouts Sunday
February 12, 2017
Both Boy and Girl Scouts
will be recognized

Happy Valentine's Day
February 14




Presidents Day
February 20



Seniors Day Out
Tuesday, February 21
12:00 Noon, at Apollo Career Center Garden Café
Meet at church at 11:30 to carpool
or meet at Apollo
All seniors welcome!

JESUS'
Transfiguration



Transfiguration Sunday
February 26

Missions Year-End Report

ST. PAUL'S CONGREGATION AND MISSIONS COMMITTEE EFFORTS DURING 2016:

St. Paul's and other local United Methodist churches hosted quarterly meetings of the Lima Area Methodist Men's group (L.A.M.M.), to listen to presentations on local mission work. Thank-you to everyone at St. Paul's who donated food, helped serve breakfast and attended these breakfasts;

Jesus said to "feed my sheep." Donations of food for the Allentown UMC Five Loaves Food Pantry continued to be strong in 2016 with St. Paul's individuals faithfully filling the food bins every month. An estimated \$1,500 worth of food was donated to the food pantry by St. Paul's in 2016! Thank you to all who donated food to feed those families who are in need in our Elida community;

St. Paul's has monetarily supported the Meals 'til Monday mission which provides weekend meals to children from various elementary schools in and around Allen County, including Elida Elementary;

St. Paul's continued to serve the needy at the Central Avenue, Lima, Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen on every fifth Friday that occurred during the year. Numerous individuals represented St. Paul's as volunteers at the soup kitchen during the four 2016 dates, serving 100 to 150 persons at each gathering. Thank-you for your service in this important mission;

Maedene Holmes, and her band of faithful workers processed 96 school kits and 40 health kits donated by numerous members of our congregation as part of this annual November mission effort. This exceeded St. Paul's effort in 2015. Pastor Paul delivered the kits to the local collection point for the West Ohio Conference Festival of Sharing;

The small group, Crafty Creatures continues to bless our congregation and our community with their mission of prayer shawls, blankets, and quilts. They also made significant contributions to our annual mission, Christmas Tree of hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves which were donated to Our Daily Bread, Samaritan House and Elida Elementary;

St. Paul's donated \$181 to the 9th Annual Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing in July. St. Paul's had a golf foursome with their golf fees going to the memorial fund. Also, five of our members assisted with running the outing. The Brad Joseph Memorial Fund has given out scholarships for medical mission trips to Kenya, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico & Uganda in the past eight years;

Jamie Wyant led an effort to raise funds for the U.M.C. Camp Wesley Lake Cabin Project. \$2,616 was donated by the congregation at St. Paul's in 2016 towards the construction of a new double-cabin. Work should begin in 2017;

On Thursday, October 27th members of St. Paul's Church handed out coffee, hot chocolate and pencils to parents and their children at the church for our Trick-or-Treat Night Mission. Over 230 cups of hot beverages were distributed along with pencils with St. Paul's name and website on them. Parents and children were very appreciative of the hot beverages and the break from trick-or-treating;

St. Paul designates a special offering every year to the Camp Sierra Linda U. M. Church Camp in Monterrey, Mexico. This year we contributed \$430 to the camp to sponsor intercity youth from Monterrey, Mexico to attend the camp and learn the Gospel of Jesus Christ;

St. Paul designated a special offering for the Miracle Offering, which went to No More Malaria. Our donation of \$430 will go towards the worthy effort to eradicate Malaria worldwide in our lifetime. Also, \$25 went to the West Ohio Conference to aide in efforts to retain marginal churches and to start new churches;

Our youth and a few adults left over \$219 on "the cow" in the hallway to send to Heifer International to purchase items for families around the world. Thank-you to our youth for their generous donations;

Money was given to UMCOR for West Virginia Flood Relief, & Hurricane Matthew Relief in the U.S. and in Haiti;

St. Paul Church again participated in a worldwide mission by Samaritan's Purse called Operation Christmas Child. Jamie Wyant headed up the collection of 161 shoeboxes, nearly matching last year's collection of 163 boxes. The shoeboxes were filled with gifts for boys or girls, and given to Samaritan's Purse to distribute to children worldwide. Thank-you to all who filled boxes for these children;

The people of St. Paul's United Methodist Church donated over \$17,840 to missions. See "2016

ST. PAUL'S MISSIONS GIVING SUMMARY", found on page 5, for a complete listing.

Thank-you to all who donated to these missions.

2016 Missions Giving Summary

<u>COINS AT COMMUNION GIVING:</u>		<u>2016 AMOUNT GIVEN</u>
Heartbeat of Lima	(January)	\$ 85.84
Elida Area Community Center/EASY	(February)	\$ 78.90
Our Daily Bread	(March)	\$ 105.40
5 Loaves Food Pantry - Allentown	(April)	\$ 130.61
WOC United Methodist Church Camps	(May)	\$ 87.99
UMCOR—West Virginia Flood Relief	(June)	\$ 62.68
Brad Joseph Memorial Fund	(July)	\$ 81.98
Meals 'til Monday	(August)	\$ 113.52
Samaritan House	(September)	\$ 128.89
Family Promise	(October)	\$ 61.47
Lima Rescue Mission	(November)	\$ 78.70
Salvation Army	(December)	\$ 95.28
TOTAL:		\$ 1,111.26

<u>UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SPECIAL SUNDAY GIVINGS:</u>		
Human Relations Day	(January)	\$ -
One Great Hour of Sharing	(March)	\$ 124.00
Native American Awareness Day	(April)	\$ 15.00
Peace with Justice Day	(June)	\$ 70.00
Health & School Kits monetary donations	(September)	\$ 334.50
World Communion Sunday	(October)	\$ 45.00
Student Day	(November)	\$ 50.00

<u>OTHER SPECIAL OFFERING/GIVINGS:</u>		
Heifer International (\$'s left on cow)		\$ 219.88
UMCH		\$ 5.00
TOTAL:		\$ 863.38

<u>SPECIAL SERVICES GIVING (Designated Use of \$'s):</u>		
Ash Wednesday (Special Needs Fund)		\$ -
Easter (Miracle Offering-No More Malaria)		\$ 430.00
Easter- (Camp Sierra Linda, Monterey, Mexico)		\$ 430.00
West Ohio Conference-Annual Conference Special Offering		\$ 25.00
Christmas Offering-Elida Community Ctr/EASY Program—1/2		\$ 552.50
Christmas Offering- UMCOR—Hurricane Matthew Relief—U.S. -1/4		\$ 276.25
Christmas Offering- UMCOR—Hurricane Matthew Relief—Haiti- 1/4		\$ 276.25
TOTAL:		\$ 1,990.00

<u>SPECIAL MISSIONS/DESIGNATED GIVING:</u>		
Camp Wesley Lake Cabin Project		\$ 2,616.97
Brad Joseph Golf Outing hole sponsorship		\$ 100.00
Health & School Kits (contents value=40 Health Kits x \$11; 96 School Kits x \$12)		\$ 1,592.00
Donations to General Missions Fund including \$2,000 Gen. Fund Budget Item		\$ 2,984.34
Donations to Crafty Creatures (Cookie Walk)		\$ 651.00
Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes (161 boxes x \$32 per box average)		\$ 5,152.00
Hats, Gloves, Scarves (130 items x \$6 per item average)		\$ 780.00
TOTAL:		\$ 13,876.31

(Food pantry items - not quantified)

GRAND TOTAL MISSIONS GIVING - 2016: **\$ 17,840.95**

2016 Mission Giving as a % of 2016 Church Budget (\$188,159) = 9.5%

The St. Paul's Missions Committee holds as its Mission Statement:

‘We are called to be of service to others in the name of Christ Jesus and, therefore,
we shall offer our time, talent, and offerings as our commitment
to mission at St. Paul's Church’

Faith In Action

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

Worship Attendance:	
January 1, 2017	89
January 8, 2017	96
January 15, 2017	71
January 22, 2017	107

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
January 1, 2017	\$2,893.00	\$391.38
January 8, 2017	\$4,178.00	\$1,133.00
January 15, 2017	\$2,718.00	\$336.00
January 22, 2017	\$2,864.00	\$1,125.25

Sunday School Attendance	
January 1, 2017	N/A
January 8, 2017	13
January 15, 2017	2
January 22, 2017	15

Greeters	
February 5, 2017	Dillon & Helen Staas
February 12, 2017	Scouts
February 19, 2017	Jon & Chelsey Cook
February 26, 2017	Marty & Kathy White

Flower Calendar	
February 5, 2017	Gary & Janet Grigg
February 12, 2017	Jamie & Jan Wyant
February 19, 2017	Steve & Tracy Sdao
February 26, 2017	Scott & Gail Fessler

Hospitality Cart	
February 5, 2017	OPEN
February 12, 2017	Girl Scouts
February 19, 2017	OPEN
February 26, 2017	Choir

Daily Bible Readings

Wednesday 2/1

Psalm 53, 119:49-72
Isaiah 49:1-12
Galatians 2:11-21
Mark 6:13-29

Thursday 2/2

Psalm 50, 118, Isaiah 49:13-23
Galatians 3:1-14
Mark 6:30-46

Friday 2/3

Psalm 40, 51, 54, Isaiah 50:1-11
Galatians 3:15-22
Mark 6:47-56

Saturday 2/4

Psalm 55, 138, 139
Isaiah 51:1-8
Galatians 3:23-29, Mark 7:1-23

Sunday 2/5

Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84
Isaiah 51:9-16
Hebrews 11:8-16, John 7:14-31

Monday 2/6

Psalm 56, 57, 58, 64, 65
Isaiah 51:17-23
Galatians 4:1-11, Mark 7:24-37

Tuesday 2/7

Psalm 61, 62, 68, Isaiah 52:1-12
Galatians 4:12-20, Mark 8:1-10

Wednesday 2/8

Psalm 72, 119:73-96
Isaiah 54:1-17
Galatians 4:21-31, Mark 8:11-26

Thursday 2/9

Psalm 70, 71, 74, Isaiah 55:1-13
Galatians 5:1-15, Mark 8:27-9:1

Friday 2/10

Psalm 69, 73, Isaiah 56:1-8
Galatians 5:16-24, Mark 9:2-13

Saturday 2/11

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76
Isaiah 57:3-13
Galatians 5:25-6:10
Mark 9:14-29

Sunday 2/12

Psalm 34, 93, 96, Isaiah 57:14-21
Hebrews 12:1-6, John 7:37-46

Monday 2/13

Psalm 80, 79, Isaiah 58:1-12
Galatians 6:11-18, Mark 9:30-41

Tuesday 2/14

Psalm 78, Isaiah 59:1-15a
2 Timothy 1:1-14, Mark 9:42-50

Wednesday 2/15

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120
Isaiah 59:15b-21
2 Timothy 1:15-2:13
Mark 10:1-16

Thursday 2/16

Psalm 83, 85, 86, Isaiah 60:1-17
2 Timothy 2:14-26
Mark 10:17-31

Friday 2/17

Psalm 88, 91, 92, Isaiah 61:1-9
2 Timothy 3:1-17
Mark 10:32-45

Saturday 2/18

Psalm 87, 90, 136
Isaiah 61:10-62:5
2 Timothy 4:1-8, Mark 10:46-52

Sunday 2/19

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67
Isaiah 62:6-12
1 John 2:3-11, John 8:12-19

Monday 2/20

Psalm 89, Isaiah 63:1-6
1 Timothy 1:1-17, Mark 11:1-11

Tuesday 2/21

Psalm 94, 95, 100
Isaiah 63:7-14
1 Timothy 1:18-2:8
Mark 11:12-26

Wednesday 2/22

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144
Isaiah 63:15-64:9
1 Timothy 3:1-16
Mark 11:27-12:12

Thursday 2/23

Psalm 105, Isaiah 65:1-12
1 Timothy 4:1-16
Mark 12:13-27

Friday 2/24

Psalm 102, 107:1-32
Isaiah 65:17-25
1 Timothy 5:17-25
Mark 12:28-34

Saturday 2/25

Psalm 107:33-43, 108
Isaiah 66:1-6
1 Timothy 6:6-21
Mark 12:35-44

Sunday 2/26

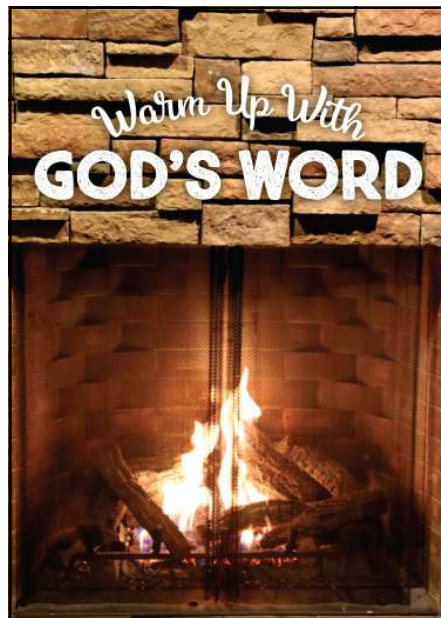
Psalm 118, 145
Isaiah 66:7-14
1 John 3:4-10, John 10:7-16

Monday 2/27

Psalm 106, Ruth 1:1-14
2 Corinthians 1:1-11
Matthew 5:1-12

Tuesday 2/28

Psalm 120, 127
Ruth 1:15-22
2 Corinthians 1:12-22
Matthew 5:13-20



Finance Report

On behalf of the finance committee, I would like to thank you for your continued financial support at St. Pauls. Also, I would like to update the congregation about our recent pledge drive. During the last 3 months the finance committee has completed two undertakings:

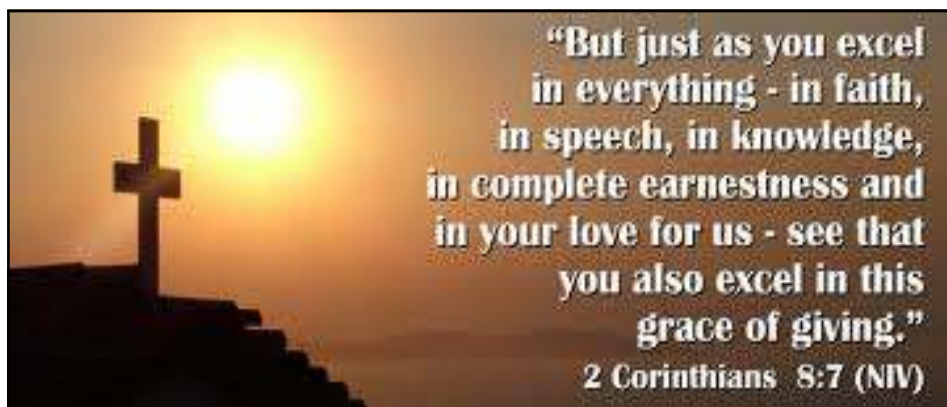
- 1) Established a **budget** for 2017.
- 2) Conducted a **pledge drive** to underwrite the budget.

First, the budget. It is broken down into 6 major categories:

- 1) Pastoral Support (\$82,459) or 43% of the budget. This item includes salary, utilities, Health Insurance and pension.
- 2) Staff Support (\$30,136) or 16% of the budget. This item includes salaries of all employees.
- 3) Administration (\$40,655) or 21% of the budget. Items in this line are office supplies, church utilities, insurance and property tax.
- 4) Program Ministries (\$11,250) or 6% of the budget. This funds all of our committees.
- 5) Benevolence (\$20,991) or 11% of the budget. Our Conference and District Apportionments are paid from this item. We have paid both of these in full for many years.
- 6) Capital Expenditures (\$6,500) or 3% of the budget.

Overall, the total budget is \$191,991. The increase over last year is \$3,832 or a 2.2% .

Second, the pledge drive. We had 39 giving units who pledged \$111,000 to the general fund and \$20,500 toward the building fund. As you may note the amount of pledged money does not underwrite our budget. We have about an \$81,000 short fall. The obvious question is can we pay our bills and our salaries. I think that we can but it would ease the minds of the people on the finance committee if the amount of the shortfall were diminished. If you have not pledged or wish to increase your pledge, please contact the office for a pledge card and we will send you one. Thank you for your prayers and concern in this matter.



Connecting With ...



Tahler Sdao graduated from Franklin University on January 8th with a dual Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Management and Leadership. After working at Superior Credit Union for 4 years, she has changed roles and accepted a position as an Implementation Coordinator at Paychex, Inc. in early November. Paychex is a recognized leader in the payroll, human resource, and benefits outsourcing industry. Paychex has been named to Training magazine's Top 125 list of outstanding international training organizations for the 14th year in a row (Paychex, 2015). Tahler is ready for new challenges within the workplace and Paychex has a lot to offer their employees. She is excited for this new journey and plans to continue moving up within the organization. Cards may reach Tahler at 1657 Robinhood Dr., Lima OH, 45805.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Joshua Guess on being selected to perform at the Ohio Music Education Association District 3 Honors Jazz Band concert held at the Van Wert Niswonger Performing Arts Center on Sunday, January 15. Joshua plays the trumpet in the Elida High School Band.



Congratulations to Barry and Cyndi Smith on the birth of their 1st grandchild. Xaydon Shane Smith, son of Tyler and Stacy Smith. He was born on December 27, 2016, at 6:09 AM, weighing in at 7lb. 4oz. great grandparents are Dwain and Myrna Metzger.

Congratulations to Dominic and Kelly DeRose on the birth of their son, Dakota Michael DeRose. Born January 3, 2017, he weighed 6 lbs. 3 oz. Big sister is Demi and grandparents are Scott and Beth Warris and great grandma is Dottie Jennell. Cards may reach the DeRose family at 3418 Musser Dr., Elida, OH 45807

Congratulations to Barry and Cyndi Smith on the birth of their 2nd grandchild. Maddox Scott Smith, son of Logan and Jenna Smith. He was born on January 11, 2017, weighing in at 5lb. 8 oz. great grandparents are Dwain and Myrna Metzger.

Remember When...



February, 1988
Joy Singers singing for the service held in the basement during remodeling.



February, 1988
Joy Singers go bowling with Judy Chaffins.



February, 1990
Cherub Choir
L-R: Ashley Reiff, Todd Chaffins, Sara Matlock, Jordan Wyant, Tara Thompson



Church History (1986-1987)

In 1986, Rev. Gail Rohrbacher was appointed District Superintendent of the Lima District.

On August 10, 1986, the church held a tribute to Ruth Crites, age 91, for her 50 years of membership and 40 years directing the choir. Her father had been the minister during her childhood. Three former ministers, Rev. James Spears, Rev. Wayne Morgan, and Rev. James Kuhn attended. A proclamation was given by the mayor, and congratulations from Gov. Celeste and greetings from Pres. and Mrs. Reagan were read.

In 1987, the youth gave a dinner theater presentation, "The Villain of Glitter Gulch". It was a great success. St. Paul's reached out in preparing loads of clothing, household items, books, toys, etc. for Red Bird Mission in Beverly, Kentucky. St. Paul's began to take part in the West Ohio Conference Festival of Sharing. A group of youth and adults went to the Colorado High Adventure Camp. 100% of apporportionments were paid in addition to our current expenses.

By May, 1987, the Church Conference voted to do the major phase of the renovation project. This included expanding the chancel, creating a sacristy, new exterior entrance, west wing for a bride's room, east wing to be a ramp, restrooms, narthex, and atrium. Lima Contracting Company was given the contract. The church borrowed \$277,000. The people of St. Paul's could take the old pews. A church in South Bend received the old altar rail, pulpit, and pulpit chairs. A sound system was purchased from Music Man Sound Co. of Dayton. An Allen Digital Computer Organ was purchased from Fitzsimmons Music Co. of Dayton. Pews, choir seating, communion rail and chancel furniture were purchased from Sauder Manufacturing Co. of Archbold.

On June 7, 1987, a service to close the use of the sanctuary was held. The choir anthem was "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place." It was the last time Lenore Strayer played the pipe organ. Worship was held in the basement fellowship hall during the remodeling process. After the service, the congregation proceeded outside for the ground breaking service, "Moving Out of the Upper Room."

At Christmas, a new idea for making money and giving service was the Holly Grams combined with caroling.

Rev. Puffenberger had developed a book, Words for the Weary, which came out of a 1985 Bible study group. This came from the printers with acknowledgement of the group's contributions.



August 10, 1986
L-R: Harold Metzger, Ruth Crites,
Jeannette Crites

June 7, 1987
Ground Breaking Ceremony



The People of St. Paul's

Thank you to everyone for your kind words and prayers for our loss of Jim Thomas, my step-dad, last week. The beautiful wind-chimes from St. Paul's which my mom received is a very nice remembrance for her. Thank you to everyone who expressed messages on Facebook, sent cards and personal messages to Jean, Corinne and I. Special thanks to Marla for visiting the funeral home and Pastor Paul for staying for the funeral. Bless all of you for your thoughtfulness during this time.

Jean Thomas, Tim & Corinne Piper



Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital
 Gary Grigg
 Evelyn Sarber

Homebound Members
 Hazel Dunn
 Ruth Hardy
 John Holmes
 Mary LaRue

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement
 Glenna Kohli

In the Military & Missions
 Oliver Fessler
 Nathan Stewart

Our sympathy to Jan Neely Bourelle and family, on the death of her husband, Jim Bourelle, who passed away on Sunday, January 8, 2017. Condolences may be sent to Jan at 1125 W. Bank Rd. Apt. 107, Celina, OH 45822-2485



Our sympathy to Jean Thomas and the Thomas family for the loss of her husband, James Thomas, who passed away on January 17th. He was 89. Jean and James were married on October 27, 2007. James is also the step-father of Tim (Corinne) Piper. Condolences may be sent to Jean at, 1640 Allentown Road, Apt. 221, Lima, OH 45805.

You Are Cherished

We must understand that God does not “love” us without liking us — through gritted teeth — as “Christian” love is sometimes thought to do. Rather, out of the eternal freshness of his perpetually self-renewed being, the heavenly Father cherishes the earth and each human being upon it. The fondness, the endearment, the unstintingly affectionate regard of God toward all his creatures is the natural outflow of what he is to the core — which we vainly try to capture with our tired but indispensable old word “love.”

—Dallas Willard,
 The Divine Conspiracy

Prayer List Updates
 Please Contact
 Lavonne Segovia



Meetings

February 1, 2017
Worship...6:00 PM

February 6, 2017
PPR...7:00 PM

To Be Announced
Trustees...7:00 PM

February 13, 2017
Finance ...7:00 PM

No Ad Council

February 16, 2017
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 PM

February

2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

 FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS		1	2 Barb Schade	3	4 Cyndi Smith	
		5 Don Irvin	6	7 Gary Hurd	8 Cari Metzger	9 Michelle Grapner
12	13	14	15 Tara Gaghen Bill Weaver	16	17	18 Sherilyn Ellinger Sydney Lane
19	20 Fran Hall Ron Steiner	21	22	23	24	25
26 Addison Chaffins	27	28 Makayla Bok Kate Stengel				

 **FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

- Jerry & Becky Bean*
February 14
58 years
- Gary & Janet Grigg*
February 18
51 years
- Jim & Phyllis Hines*
February 23
60 years
- Gene & Linda Craft*
February 25
50 years
- Larry & Shirley Moser*
February 28
46 years

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Cooks

Nacho Cheese Dip

By Sue Theodore

Ingredients		Instructions
2 lb.	Light Velveeta cheese, cubed	Stir together until cheese is melted. Serve with tortilla chips.
2 lb.	Ground beef or sausage	
1	Jalapeno pepper, chopped	
1 tsp.	Chili powder	
1 (16oz.) jar	Salsa (mild)	



Chewy Butterscotch Brownies

By Mary Irvin

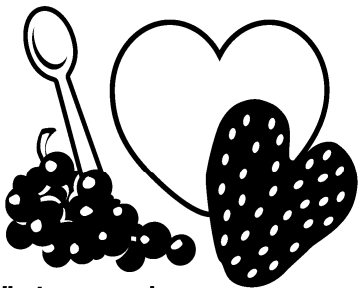
Ingredients		Instructions
2 1/2 cups	All-purpose flour	Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine flour, baking powder and salt in a medium bowl. Beat butter, sugar and vanilla extract in a large mixing bowl until creamy. Beat in eggs. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in 1 cup morsals. Spread into ungreased 13x9 inch baking pan. Sprinkle with remaining morsals. Bake for 30 to 40 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center, comes out clean. Let cool. Butterscotch Icing: Beat icing ingredients together until creamy. Frost Butterscotch brownies when cooled.
1 tsp.	Baking powder	
1/2 tsp.	Salt	
1 cup (2 sticks)	Butter, softened	
1 3/4 cup	Brown sugar, packed	
1 Tbl.	Vanilla extract	
2 lg.	Eggs	
1 2/3 cup (11oz. pkg.)	Toll House Butterscotch Morsals	
Butterscotch Icing:		
1 1/2 cups	Confectioners sugar	
1/3 cup	Brown sugar, firmly packed	
1/2 tsp	Vanilla extract	
1/4 cup	Butter	
1/4 cup	Heavy Cream	



KIDZ KORNER

Heart FRUIT SALAD

Make this cute, healthy snack for your loved ones on Valentine's Day.



What you need:

- Adult help
- Washed fruit (watermelon, cantaloupe, strawberries, grapes)
- Knife and cutting board
- Small heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Bowl and spoon
- Mint leaves (optional)

What you do:

1. Slice the watermelon and use the cookie cutter to make heart shapes.
2. Slice the cantaloupe and cut chunks into heart shapes.
3. Remove strawberry stems and cut berries in half. Cut a small V atop each half to form a heart.
4. Cut grapes in half.
5. Place fruit in bowl and stir.
6. Wash and cut the mint. Sprinkle strips on the salad. Enjoy!



Love your neighbor as yourself

Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to live out God's love. How does Jesus say we should treat other people?

Directions: Find a hidden word in each sentence. For example, "the" is hidden here: (12) "It's Harry's hat he stole." The (12) means the hidden word starts on the 12th letter (ignore punctuation). Use the answers to complete Matthew 19:19, NIV.

(1) You really like ice cream! _____

(16) Carly has a really fat hermit crab. _____

(21) My favorite animals are moth, ermine and eels. _____

(4) "Hello, Vera!" called Joseph. _____

(11) When horses neigh, boredom reigns. _____

(17) Their daughter, Kara, sat patiently. _____

(6) "That's yours, elf!" the fairy yelled. _____



"Honor _____ and



_____, and _____ your

_____."

Matthew 19:19, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19, NIV

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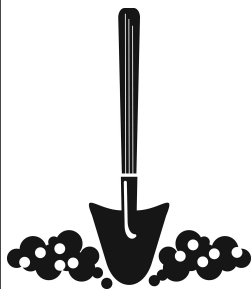
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Living Our Faith

Start Digging!



Scripture promises that God has a plan for our lives but also reveals that he wants us to play an active role in that plan. In 2 Kings 3, three kings band together to defeat Moab but end up in an 80-mile desert. Amid this dire situation, God commands the people, "Make this valley full of ditches" (verse 16, KJV) and promises to fill them with water — even though it won't rain.

Before the people's need was supplied, they had to trust God and act. The next morning, water filled every ditch they had dug. Plus, they were victorious in battle.

The takeaway? God will bring the blessing, but we may have to dig first!

The Cost of Hiding our Light

A Los Angeles restaurant owner recently discovered that a neon light had been covered — without being disconnected first — during a construction project 77 years prior. The calculated electricity cost to run the hidden light all that time was \$17,000!

People don't intentionally hide light; that would be counterproductive, not to mention wasteful. Yet when we shrink back from sharing Jesus' good news, we do indeed hide "the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14) that is in us. When we're too modest to use God-given talents such as singing, playing piano or reading to bring others joy, we hide our light. When we put our own wants ahead of meeting someone else's needs through giving and serving, we hide the light of God's love. And at what cost?

"Let your light shine before others," Jesus says, "that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (verse 16).