

St. Paul's Epistle

~ An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples ~

Volume 33, Issue 2

February, 2010

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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Dear Friends,

Why ReFocus? You have heard me talking about ReFocus for the last year and a half. There were Focused Living Retreats offered to everyone to begin a personal transformation process to prepare you to participate in refocusing the ministries of the church. Participation in the retreats was small. Yet, most of those who participated felt they were worthwhile and beneficial to their personal walk with God as well as their preparation for the next phase of ReFocus.

The urgency to refocus the ministries of St. Paul's is clear. We have experienced a steady decrease in the average number of worshipers on Sunday mornings over the past several years. As I prepared the 2009 year end report, the average number of people in worship dropped from 105 to 99. That doesn't mean that people quit coming to church. But those of you who do attend worship are attending less often. You are traveling, visiting, working, studying, and supporting youth in outside of church activities and even confirmation activities.

What it does mean is that we have not been bringing new people to church and have not intentionally gone out to meet people who are in need of a church family. In the mean time, just 50% of persons surveyed by the Barna Group self identified as Christian. 23% of people are unattached to a church, and 15 % are what the Barna Group identifies as "intermittents"—those who have been to church in the last year, but have not been to church in the last month. The urgency for St. Paul's is clear.

And the urgency is clear for the community and the world. While over 70% of people say they believe in God, many of those do not believe they need to be connected to a church to have faith. They are right...all they need to do is believe (John 3:16). But, to have the fullness of life that Jesus promised, to be in relationship with God and live in the already of Eternal Life, one must have a relationship with the church which is the living body of Christ in the here and now.

How we as a congregation decide to be intentional in our outreach ministry as we enter into intentional missions with our community will be determined through our ReFocus process. I urge you to participate in this process, beginning with prayer (see related article on page 5, "A Month of Prayer for the Church").

I'll see you in church.

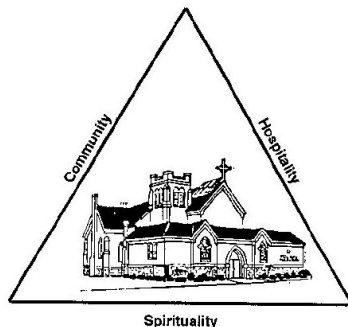
Peace,
Pastor Ruth Solo



Thought for the Month:

The purpose of life is not to arrive at the grave in a well-preserved body, but to skid in sideways, screaming, "What a ride!"

— John Batt



Inside this issue:

Youth News	2
Upcoming Events	3
Lima District News	3
The Heart of Church	4
The Business of Church	5
Faith In Action	6
Consulting the Manual	7
News from Trustees	8
Celebrating...	9
Remember When...	10
Connecting With...	11
The People of St. Paul's	12
February Calendar	13
Recipes	14
Kidz Komer	15
Living Our Faith	16

Youth News

Michele Theodore was named **Student of the Month** for November at Elida High School. Michele is a junior this year. **Congratulations!**



February Youth Calendar

February 7, 2010	TBA
February 14, 2010	TBA
February 21, 2010	TBA
February 28, 2010	TBA

February 17
Ash Wednesday Service
7:00 PM
Join us for our communion service.



St. Paul's Epistle	
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Editor:	Judy Chaffins
Secretary:	Gail Fessler
Secretary:	Jone Lane
Choir Director:	Mary Kaye Pease
Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Youth Director:	Corinne Piper
Custodian:	Dave Decker

A.S.A.P.

Ever wonder about the abbreviation A.S.A.P.? Generally we think of it in terms of even more HURRY and STRESS in our lives. Maybe if we think of this abbreviation in a different manner we will begin to find a new way to deal with those rough days along the way.

There's work to do, deadlines to meet:
 You've got no time to spare
 But as you hurry and scurry -
ASAP—ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

In the midst of family chaos,
 "Quality time" is rare.
 Do your best; let God do the rest -
ASAP—ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

It may seem like your worries
 Are more than you can bear.
 Slow down and take a breather -
ASAP—ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

God know how stressful life is;
 He wants to ease our cares,
 And He'll respond to all your needs.
ASAP—ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

GOD BLESS AND HAVE A WONDERFUL DAY!



February 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Newsletter deadline: the 20th of each month



Growing Disciple Makers

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 Telephone: 419.523.9901 / 800.589.7828
 Fax: 419.523.3479
 Email nwplains@wocumc.org

Please continue to visit
www.umc.org/haiti
 for updates.

*The psalmist says, "
 The Lord is near to the
 broken hearted and
 saves the crushed in spirit."
 Psalms 34:18*

Haiti

What can YOU do?

Pray

Pray with each other, for each other and for all those who are suffering. Consider holding prayer vigils in your community. Visit the UMC Facebook Prayer Wall, Prayers for Haiti.

Donate

Cash is desperately needed to speed up the delivery of relief supplies. Continue to encourage church offerings designated for Haiti. Direct your family and friends to UMCOR at www.umcorhaiti.org where 100% of their donations will go directly to relief, thanks to the people of the United Methodist Church who pay for UMCOR's administrative costs through apportionments and One Great Hour of Sharing.



Remembering the lives of Sam Dixon and Clint Rabb

Sam Dixon and Clint Rabb, Christian ministers with The United Methodist Church's mission and humanitarian organization, the General Board of Global Ministries, died of injuries received in the January 12 earthquake in Haiti. They were in Haiti in an effort to improve health services in the very poor country.

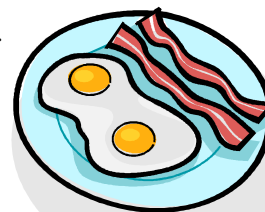
Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

St. Paul's Men to Host Lima Area Methodist Men's Breakfast

On **Saturday, February 6th**, the St. Paul's men will host the Lima Area Methodist Men's (LAMM) breakfast. We invite all men of our congregation to come for the breakfast. Festivities will begin at **8:00 AM** in the fellowship hall. We ask volunteers come early at **7:30** to help arrange tables, make coffee, and set place settings. We will also need a volunteer to read a devotional and offer a prayer.

We also put out a plea for help with the food. We are planning on serving about 25-30 men, so if any of the men or women of our congregation can help prepare food, we would be greatly appreciative. Any breakfast food or drink item is appreciated. Contact Tim Piper for details.

All St. Paul's men, their friends, and relatives are invited to join with the community for this time of fellowship in God's name.



The Heart of Church

Greeters

February 7	Jeff & Shelly Reiff
February 14	Gene Craft
February 21	Jerry & Becky Bean
February 28	Ron & Mary Steiner

Nursery Volunteers

February 7	Slone Whetstone & Molly Fessler
February 14	Dorothy Banks
February 21	Volunteer Needed
February 28	Volunteer Needed

UPDATE ON RELAY FOR LIFE MISSION

The St. Paul's Lima Allen County Cancer Society Relay for Life Team held fund raisers for the June, 2010, relay event during November and December, 2009. The team hosted a Tastefully Simple gourmet foods party and prepared various candy and snack items for holiday gift-giving. As a result, the Team generated \$765 toward its 2010 Relay goal of \$2,500. Thank you to all who supported these Team fund raising events.

On Sunday, February 7, 2010, the Team will host its annual 'Souper Bowl Sunday' lunch in the fellowship hall immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. "The Game" doesn't kick-off until 6:25 p.m. so you have plenty of time to enjoy an exquisite menu of homemade chicken and noodle soup, vegetable beef soup, chili, chips, relishes, and dessert. Please make sure your lunch plans include St. Paul's on February 7 and join us for a time of fellowship and fund raising to benefit the St. Paul's Cancer Society Relay for Life Team.



Children's Worship

(Conducted During the Worship Hour)

1st Sunday of Each Month	Pastor Ruth—Story No Children's Church
2nd Sunday of Each Month	Steve Moser—Story Slone Whetstone—Children's Church
3rd Sunday of Each Month	Pastor Ruth—Story Shirley Moser—Children's Church
4th Sunday of Each Month	Corinne Piper—Story & Children's Church
5th Sunday of the Month	Pastor Ruth—Story Steve Moser—Children's Church

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

If you are interested in becoming a member of St. Paul's Church, please contact the office or Pastor Ruth. A membership class will be held during the Sunday School hour from 9:30-10:15 am from March 7-28, and reception into membership on Easter Sunday, April 4, during the 10:30 am worship service.



The Business of Church

A MONTH OF PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

We are well on our way into 2010, and have begun to make progress in beginning Phase II of ReFocus. The ReFocus Team (RFT) has been chosen, and they will be approved at a meeting of Administrative Council in February and we will commission them to the work of ReFocusing the church's ministry. They will then attend a training session in March or April with other RFTs from the Network of which I am a part. At that time, they will learn the details of what will happen at the Summits.

In the mean time, we will be in prayer as a congregation. In a recent leadership training, one of the presenters talked about beginning a similar process for his congregation with a month of prayer. I realized as he spoke that there was no intentional prayer focus organized for St. Paul's as I began to introduce ReFocus. So, in a meeting with Lavonne, who has agreed to be the Prayer Coordinator for ReFocus, we decided that we would encourage prayer for St. Paul's UMC in the ReFocus process in the month of February.

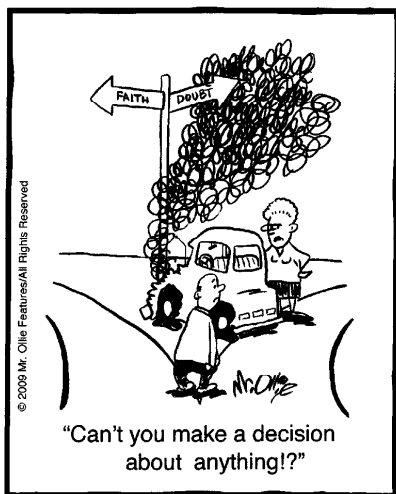
We have developed a daily sign-up poster which we have asked everyone to sign up as a visual for the congregation that we are, indeed, praying for St. Paul's church. We ask that your prayers be centered around the following:

1. Asking God's forgiveness for not coming to God sooner.
2. Seeking God's guidance for our ministry.
3. That God would reveal to us who/what our intentional ministry will be.
4. That God will be with the RFT and Administrative Council in discernment and decision making.
5. That God will guide the congregation in participating in the decisions and changes that will come as a result of prayer, the ReFocus process, and God's will for the church and our community.

By God's grace, and with God's help, St. Paul's UMC will become "a healthy, growing, spiritually vital, risk-taking center for making and equipping disciples of Jesus Christ for the purpose of transforming the world." (from the mission statement of The West Ohio Conference of the UMC)

If you have questions about the ReFocus process, you may see me, Pastor Ruth.

Book of Timothy



Committee Chairs	
PPR Chair	Linda Craft
Trustees Chair	Larry Moser
Finance Chair	Art Holman
Physical Plant Chair	Ron Steiner
Treasurer	Gene Craft
Education Chairs	Steve Moser
Administrative Council Chair	Scott Fessler
Worship	Ruth Solo
Nurture	Martha Vazquez
Stewardship	Tim Piper
Missions	Maedene Holmes & Marty White

Faith In Action

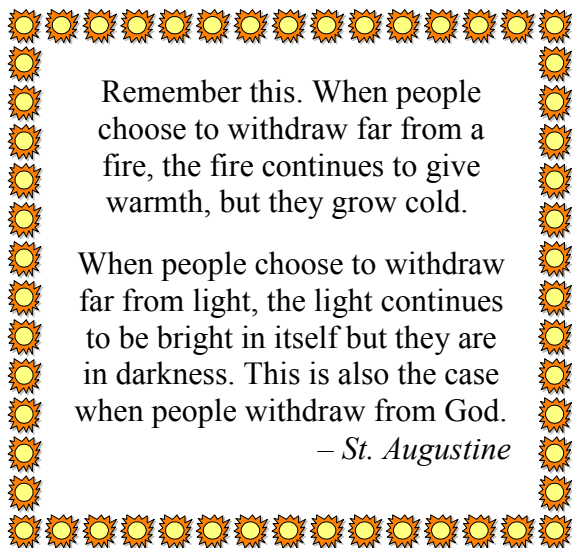
Worship Attendance:

January 3, 2010	82
January 10, 2010	88
January 17, 2010	82
January 24, 2010	92

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,466.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
January 3, 2010	\$4,247.00	\$2,649.54
January 10, 2010	\$2,997.00	\$1,462.00
January 17, 2010	\$3,143.00	\$1,782.00
January 24, 2010	\$3,143.00	\$1,782.00



Remember this. When people choose to withdraw far from a fire, the fire continues to give warmth, but they grow cold.

When people choose to withdraw far from light, the light continues to be bright in itself but they are in darkness. This is also the case when people withdraw from God.

— St. Augustine

I don't understand why Cupid was chosen to represent Valentine's Day. When I think about romance, the last thing on my mind is a short, chubby toddler coming at me with a weapon.

— unknown

Flowers:

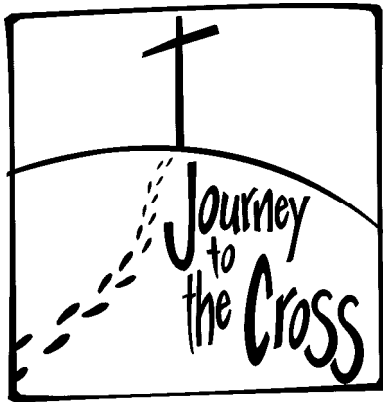
February 7	Open
February 14	Open
February 21	Jim and Phyllis Hines
February 28	Ron and Mary Steiner

Sunday School Attendance

January 3, 2010	31
January 10, 2010	31
January 17, 2010	28
January 24, 2010	33

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

Consulting the Manual



Those who love, I will deliver;
I will protect those
who know my name.
When they call to me,
I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honor them.
With long life I will satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.

Psalm 91: 14-16



Bible Readings for February

Revised Common Lectionary
Year C

Week of February 7

Color: Green

Old Testament:

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 138

New Testament:

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

Week of February 14 **Transfiguration Sunday**

Color: White

Old Testament:

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm 99

New Testament:

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36



Week of February 21

First Sunday in Lent

Color: Purple

Old Testament:

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm 91

New Testament:

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

Mark 16:1-8

Week of February 28 **Second Sunday in Lent**

Color: Purple

Old Testament:

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalm 27

New Testament:

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

For more detailed information on the
Revised Common Lectionary,
please visit:
www.gbod.org

News from the Board of Trustees

Projects that the Trustees are looking at for 2010

The trustees had their January meeting for this year. We had a long discussion on what we wanted to get done for this year. As usual there are a lot of projects to do around the buildings.

The end of last year we had Barry Electronics give us a quote to install an audio-visual system in the sanctuary. The system included two screens in the front and one screen on the back wall. We would have to buy some special software and a computer to run the system. They gave us three different options to look at. The cost was from \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00 for the different systems. We have a person that has offered her help to run a small financial campaign. We have \$4500.00 in Memorial Fund money that could be used and some money has been given to the project already. This would be a great addition to our worship service.

We were given some insurance money to replace the damaged cabinets in the kitchen. This is a project that needs to happen. We want to set the base cabinets 4" off the floor, so the next time we have water in the basement it will not damage the cabinets.

The sanctuary walls need painted, as you can see the wall studs through the paint.

There is some work to do on two rooms to finish the remodeling.

This is the outside work that needs to be addressed this summer:

1. Our parking lot needs to at least have the cracks filled this summer.
2. This December we picked up a couple of bricks that came out of the big chimney. There is a section that has bulged out and we have lost a lot of the mortar. This is a big concern for us. It could be a large expense.
3. The bell tower needs a lot of tuck pointing and the bricks need to be sealed.
4. The front of the church needs painted this year for sure.
5. The front trees need to be trimmed.

As you can see, the Trustees have a lot of work to do. We will see how much money the finance board can give us this year and prioritize the jobs in the order that we can do them. Just like at home, some of the work will carry over to next year. **We, as trustees, welcome any suggestions and a lot of help from you all.**

Ron Steiner



If being loved is your goal, you will fail to achieve it. The only way to be assured of being loved is to be a person worthy of love, and you cannot be a person worthy of love when your primary goal in life is to passively be loved.

— M. Scott Peck

Celebrating...

UPCOMING EMMAUS WALKS IN SIDNEY AND FINDLAY

The next upcoming women's Emmaus walks will be the Greater Findlay Area Women's Emmaus Walk on February 11th through 14th in Findlay and the Greater Sidney Area Women's Emmaus Walk on February 25th – 28th in Sidney. The next upcoming men's Emmaus walks will be the Greater Findlay Area Men's Emmaus Walk on March 11th through 14th in Findlay and the Greater Sidney Area Men's Emmaus Walk on March 18th – 21th in Sidney.

The Walk to Emmaus is a 72-hour experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation. You enjoy three busy days singing, learning, laughing, praying, worshipping and participating in small groups. Discussions center around fifteen talks given by laity and clergy. The theme of each talk is God's grace, how that grace comes alive in the Christian community, and how it expresses itself in the world. You'll also discover how grace is real in your life, how you live a life of grace, and bring grace to others. You will have the opportunity to participate in the daily celebration of Holy Communion and to understand more fully the body of Christ. You will experience God's grace through the prayers and acts of anonymous service offered by the Emmaus community. You will leave with an experience of Christian love in action that will equip you for new levels of grace-filled service and leadership.

For more information about the Walk to Emmaus, please contact any of our 18 church members that have attended an Emmaus Walk. They will be glad to discuss the Emmaus experience and to sponsor any individual wishing to attend a walk.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE

The St. Paul's Missions Committee has designated the month of February as our congregation's formal period of financial contribution to the Haiti disaster relief effort. Special envelopes will be located in the pew racks for your use with this mission offering. The Committee designated \$500 be sent immediately to the UMCOR (United Methodist Council on Relief) team that is assisting with this Haiti situation.

During December, 2009, meetings, the Committee and the Administrative Council designated \$50 be sent to the Northwest Plains District office for use with a children's summer camp in Mexico. We received a District-wide solicitation for this particular effort.

The Committee designated the 2010 'Coins for Communion' offerings as follows: Jan. – Hope Center, Lima; Feb. – July – United Methodist Children's Home; Aug. – Heartbeat of Lima; Sept. – Five Loaves Food Pantry, Allentown U.M.C.; Oct. – Samaritan House, Lima; Nov. – Our Daily Bread, Lima; Dec. – Salvation Army, Lima.

During December, 2009, the Committee heard an Acts 434 missions presentation. Persons from Allentown U.M.C. and The Future Church in Lima are trying to create a non-profit agency to assist the Lima Allen County residents in areas of meals/food pantry; education assistance; utilities assistance; and construction. The St. Paul's Missions Committee will add this opportunity for ministry into the general discussion of missions concentration during the upcoming 'Re-Focus' program.

Our 2009 Christmas offerings totaled \$1,899. This amount will be divided between St. Paul's benevolent fund administrated by Pastor Ruth and the ministry outreach of the Elida-Gomer-Allentown Ministerial group. Also, the annual hat/glove/scarf Christmas tree received significant donations, too. Martha Vazquez and Marty White delivered large bundles of winter wear to Our Daily Bread soup kitchen on Central Ave. in Lima and to the Samaritan House adjacent to St. Rose Catholic Church, Lima. These were wonderful displays of mission outreach by the members of St. Paul's – **thank you!**

Remember When...



New Members, 1988
 L-R:
 Don Chaffins, Karen Morrissey,
 Margie and Dan Best



Youth Group, 2005
 L-R:
 Jenn Britt, Doug Fox,
 Erin Brady, Andrew Piper,
 Doug Guess, Molly Fessler



Bell Choir, 2006
 L-R:
 Sue and Michele Theodore,
 Jacinda Fletcher, Lavonne
 Segovia, Lynda Evans,
 Shara Bowsher, Kathy
 White, Phyllis Hines,
 Carolsue Warris, Linda
 Craft, Nancy Gesler
 Director: Mary Kaye Pease

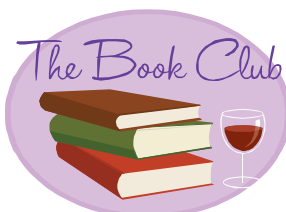
Connecting With ...

The Christian Alphabet

Although things are not perfect
Because of trial or pain
Continue in thanksgiving
Do not begin to blame
Even when the times are hard
Fierce winds are bound to blow
God is forever able
Hold on to what you know
Imagine life without His love
Joye would cease to be
Keept thanking Him for all the things
Love imparts to thee
Move out of "Camp Complaining"
No weapon that is known
On earth can yield the power
Praise can do alone
Quit looking at the future
Redeem the time at hand
Start every day with worship
To "thank" is a command
Until we see Him coming
Victorious in the sky
We'll run the race with gratitude
Xalting God most high
Yes, there'll be good times and yes
 some will be bad, but...
Zion waits in glory.....where none are
 ever sad!

Our perception that we have "no time" is one of
 the distinctive marks of modern Western culture.
 - Margaret Visser

Pray for the homebound



St. Paul's Book Club
 will meet on
Saturday, Feb. 6th,
at 9:00 AM
in the elementary
classroom next to the
office.

The Color of Water
by James McBride
will be discussed.

Please bring your
own breakfast.

RSVP to
Linda Craft
(419-339-2933)
or
ecraft@woh.rr.com

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Jim Hines
 Wilbur Hurd
 Caroline Smith

Homebound Members

Hazel Dunn
 Ruth Hurley
 Marie Lee
 Hope Mathwig
 Edna Osman
 Jean Redd
 Gladys Sherrick
 Helen Waldron

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Sara House
 June Metzger
 Rick Scholfield

In the Military

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

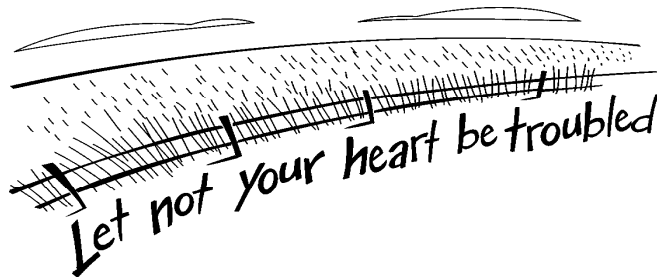
We appreciated so much the prayers, cards and expressions of sympathy for the passing of our beloved aunt, Thelma Fenstermaker.
Jerry and Becky Bean

We have a dog named Scooby. Scooby sleeps on a bed beside our main bed until approximately 4 AM, and then he climbs into the bed with us. On Dec. 30 at 2 AM, he climbed into the bed with me and started shoving me until I woke up. At that time I knew I was having a heart attack (chest pains) and I got up and had my wife call 911.

Did Scooby know I was having a problem? Do you believe in that possibility or was it wishful thinking?
 Whatever, I love that dog!

Wilbur Hurd

*Dear Rev. Ruth and Congregation, As the parents of **Lesley Parker** we wanted to send you all a short note to express our thanks to all of you for keeping Lesley in your prayers. We want you to be aware of the great impact you have on helping maintain Lesley's spirits while she works in Ecuador with your newsletters, cards, and packages. We are able to talk with her weekly and she frequently mentions your support during our conversations. We are proud of her and continue to laud her dedication to the children of El Retiro. Thank you for all that you do to support her. She needs all of our prayers!*
Janet and John Parker



Our sympathy is extended to the families of **Rev. Sam Dixon, Rev. Clint Rabb, and Jean Arnwine**. Rev. Dixon, top executive of UMCOR, died of injuries received after being buried in the rubble of a collapsed hotel following the earthquake in Haiti. Rev. Rabb, who organized mission volunteers for the UMC, died on the morning of Jan. 17 in a Florida hospital, from injuries he received after being trapped for 55 hours. Jean Arnwine, a member of a Dallas UMC mission team providing eye care to Haitians, died of injuries suffered in the same earthquake.

Prayer List Updates
Please Contact
Lavonne Segovia

Meetings

February 1, 2010
PPR...7:15 PM

February 2, 2010
Trustees...7:00 PM

February 8, 2010
Finance...7:00 PM

February 8, 2010
Ad Council...8:00 PM

February 16, 2010
Missions...7:00 PM

February 23, 2010
Stewardship...7:00 PM

Sundays
Prayer...9:00 AM

Thursdays
Bell Choir...6:15 PM
Chancel Choir...7:30 PM

January 2010						
S	M	T	W	TH	FR	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2010

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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	PPR	Megan Bible Barb Schade Trustees	Braylon Kimmet	Cyndi Smith	Don Irvin	UM Men's Breakfast St. Paul's Book Club																																																	
7 Joshua Murphy	8 Finance Ad Council	9 Michelle Grapner	10	11	12 Ken Strayer 81 yrs.	13 Gary Broshes																																																	
14 Valentine's Day	15 Bill Weaver	16	17 Doug Fox Gladys Sherrick 84 yrs. Ash Wed.	18 Sydney Lane	19	20 Fran Hall 84 yrs. Ron Steiner																																																	
21 Tori & Jason Holmes Eleanor Klingler Mary Kaye	22 Andrew Piper	23 Stewardship	24	25 John Foster	26	27																																																	
28 Makayla Adkins Kate Stengel	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">March 2010</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Sun</th> <th>Mon</th> <th>Tue</th> <th>Wed</th> <th>Thu</th> <th>Fri</th> <th>Sat</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						March 2010							Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
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Anniversaries


- 

Jerry & Becky Bean
February 14
51 yrs.
- Gary & Janet Grigg*
February 18
44 yrs.
- Jim & Phyllis Hines*
February 23
53 yrs.
- Gene & Linda Craft*
February 25
43 yrs.
- Larry & Shirley Moser*
February 28

Great Recipes from St. Paul's Cooks


Mini Kisses Praline Bars

by Carole Grapner

Ingredients		Instructions
2 cups	all-purpose flour	Heat oven to 350 degrees. In large bowl, stir together flour and only 1 cup brown sugar; cut in 3/4 cup butter with pastry blender until fine crumbs form. Press mixture into 13x9x2 inch baking pan; sprinkle with pecans.
1 1/3 cups	packed light brown sugar (divided)	
3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks)	plus 2/3 cup butter (divided)	
1 cup	coarsely chopped pecans	In small saucepan, place remaining 2/3 cup butter and remaining 1/3 cup brown sugar; cook over medium heat, stirring constantly until mixture boils. Continue boiling, stirring constantly for another 30 seconds, until the sugar dissolves; drizzle evenly over pecans and crust.
1 3/4 cups (10 oz. pkg.)	Nestle's Toll House milk chocolate morsels	
		Bake 18-22 minutes until topping is bubbly all over and turns golden; remove from oven. Immediately sprinkle the milk chocolate morsels evenly over the top. Cool completely in pan on wire rack. When cool, cut into bars. Makes 24-36 bars.
		If chocolate remains too soft to cut, place in refrigerator to set.

Chocolate Chip Cheesecake Pie

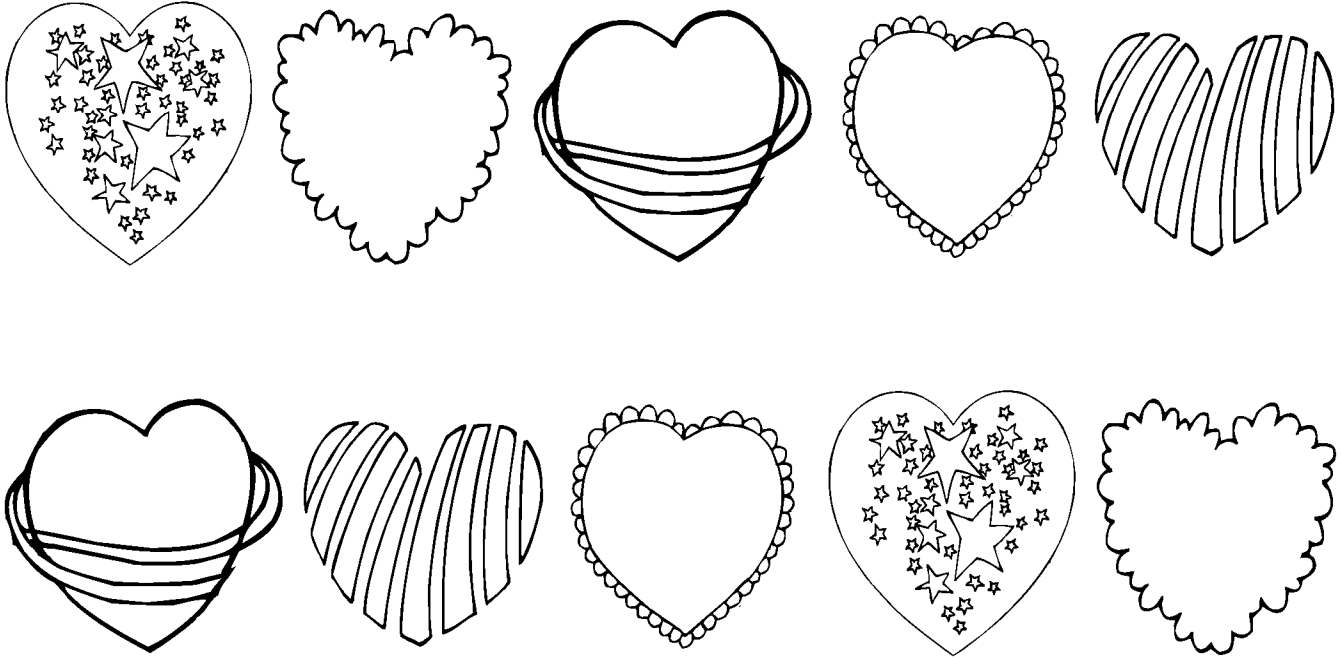
by Susan Nartker

Ingredients		Instructions
2 (3 oz.) pkg.	cream cheese	Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Beat cheese until fluffy. Gradually beat in Eagle Brand until smooth. Add egg and vanilla.
1 (14 oz.) can	Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed Milk	
1	egg	Toss chips with flour. Add to mixture. Pour into pie crust.
1 tsp.	vanilla extract	
1 cup	mini chocolate chips	Bake 35 minutes or until center springs back when touched.
1 tsp.	flour	
1 (6 oz.)	Keebler Ready Crust Chocolate Pie Crust	Cool and top with chocolate glaze. (See below.) Serve chilled. Refrigerate leftovers.
		

KIDZ KORNER

Matching Hearts

Draw a line from the heart in the top row to its match in the bottom row.



Proverbs Puzzle

Fill in the blanks below to find out what it says in Proverbs 13:1. Using the chart at right, go across from the symbol and down from the number to find the correct letter.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
+	F	U	R	D	B	S	H
⊗	L	I	W	N	O	A	-
★	K	C	E	T	P	V	-

⊗6 ⊗3 ⊗2 ⊕6 ★3 ★2 ⊕7 ⊗2 ⊗1 ⊕4 ⊗1 ⊗5 ★6 ★3 ⊕6
 ⊕4 ⊗2 ⊕6 ★2 ⊗2 ★5 ⊗1 ⊗2 ⊗4 ★3 ⊕5 ⊕2 ★4 ⊗6
 ⊕6 ★2 ⊗5 ⊕1 ⊕1 ★3 ⊕3 ⊕4 ⊗5 ★3 ⊕6 ⊗4 ⊗5 ★4
 ⊗1 ⊗2 ⊕6 ★4 ★3 ⊗4 ★4 ⊗5 ⊕3 ★3 ⊕5 ⊕2 ★1 ★3

Proverbs 13:1

Answer: A wise child loves discipline, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.

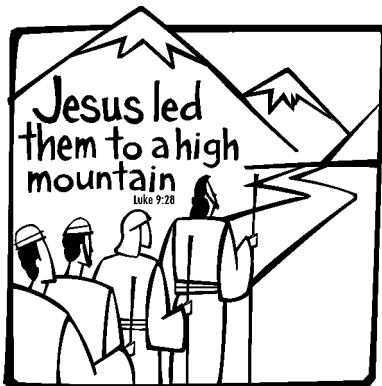
St. Paul's United Methodist Church

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Living Our Faith



The Call

The telephone rings and it seems that no matter what is going on in our lives we answer it. With cell phones becoming a major appendage (or so it seems) of people around the world, we have a tendency to drop everything in response to a ringing phone.

We even get dependent on them: if we are not able to

answer a call, or perhaps shift out of range and lose contact, we panic. Who was it? What did they want? Will they call back? Can I reach them?

We have become obsessed with answering "calls." But what about the call? You know, the kind that God makes.

Isaiah was pretty nervous. "Oh no, God," Isaiah answered when called. "I'm a man of unclean lips, and I come from a people of unclean lips." Some have suggested he means, "I'm not the best person, and I come from a community that is

not so hot, either."

Jeremiah claimed to be too young. Amos said later in life, "Hey, this wasn't my idea." Even Moses was uncertain.

Yet God continues to call. God does not give up on us.

Do you dare to listen for God's call to you? And do you ponder not if you should answer but how you can do what God asks? Remember, you never have to go it alone – God is always there working with you.

February 2010