

St. Paul's Epistle

~ An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples ~

Volume 32, Issue 6

June, 2009

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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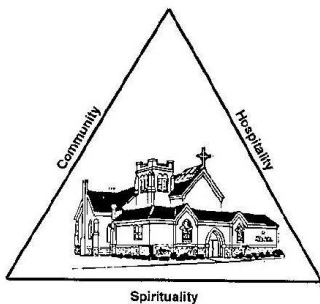
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Dear Friends,

With June comes summer, and the "lazy, crazy, hazy days" according to the old pop song. When the weather turns insufferably hot, we like to kick back and not do so much, lest we sweat. Summer is also the time to get away for a vacation (or two), and the time when many extended families come together for reunions. Picnics, days at the beach, and amusement parks provide special entertainment for many of us.

In the midst of summer are also the reminders of those whom Christ has called us to be especially aware of. Inner cities teem with people whose apartments are so hot, they sit on the streets trying to catch shade in doorways, moving along the sidewalks with the shade of the buildings. Several years ago, in my first year in Findlay, OH, I was amazed at the young families with little children who sat on the sidewalks to escape the heat of their apartments over the downtown stores. We bought an extra fan for the local charity that offered relief to folks in such places.

We also see more homeless people sleep in the open during summer. When Rich and I went to San Antonio several years ago, as the weather got warmer, the homeless slept in the doorways, on the sidewalks, and along the riverwalk. We took our leftovers from the restaurants and gave them away to the folks in the doorways. I remember thinking of them later in that season as rains came and the Weather Channel reported flooding on the riverwalk.

As a member of the board for Samaritan House, I am reminded regularly that people here in Allen County struggle with the same issues of poverty as those in other communities where I've lived and visited. As we go about our easy days of summer, let us remember that Christ has called us to ministry with the poor at all times. Please don't forget the least of these in the midst of your summer days. Random acts of kindness go a long way to show God's love in Christ.

Peace.
Pastor Ruth



Thought for the Month:

God doesn't look at
how much we do, but
with how much
love we do it.

– Mother Theresa



June Youth Calendar	
June 7, 2009	No Youth
June 14, 2009	No Youth
June 21, 2009	Lakeside Week
June 28, 2009	No Youth

IN THE NEWS

Cody Warris—Graduate, Elida High School

Honor Roll

Elida Middle School:	Torie McAdams, Aric Thompson
Elida High School:	Reggie McAdams, Kelsey Smith
	Audrey Fox, Alex McAdams
	Tahler Sdao, Michele Theodore
	Derek Bible, Jacinda Fletcher
	Ashly Fox, Cory Stewart
Shawnee High School:	Cody Smith
University of Findlay:	Lindsey Reiff
Ohio Northern University:	Tim White
Univ. of Northwest Ohio:	Jenessa Fletcher, Doug Guess

Students of the Month

March: **Tahler Sdao**, 10th Grade, Elida High School
 April: **Alex McAdams**, 10th Grade, Elida High School

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

June 2009						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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				

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Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Youth Director:	Ruth Solo
Custodian:	Dave Decker

Do You Know?

In the early 1980s, the children at Vacation Bible School made quilt pieces. Shirley Moser sewed the pieces together and Hope Mathwig quilted it. Does anyone know where the quilt is now? Please let the office know if you have it or know where it is. We would like to have it cleaned and hang it in the children's Sunday School rooms. Thank you!

**Youth at Lakeside
 June 21-27, 2009
 St. Paul's youth will be
 sharing a house with the youth
 from Delphos Trinity UMC.**

Newsletter
 deadline:
 the **20th**
 of each month



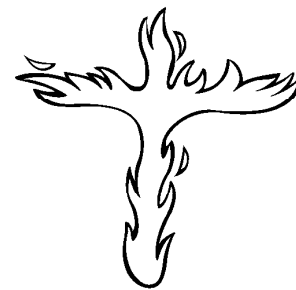
Growing Disciple Makers

910 E. Third St., Ottawa, OH 45875
 Telephone: 419.523.9901 / 800.589.7828
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 Email nwplains@wocumc.org



Love First Miracle Offering

Each year at Annual Conference a Miracle Offering is given from each congregation through the lay member or pastor. In this celebration of our connection, amazing things have been done in the name of Jesus Christ. The goal this year is to receive **\$325,000** through the Love First Miracle Offering to support leadership development efforts in the West Ohio Conference and in the world. **\$75,000** will go to support clergy and lay leadership training in our four mission partnerships: South-east Asia, the North Katanga Conference in the Congo, the Oriental Conference in Mexico and the Volga District in Russia. **\$100,000** will go to support West Ohio Conference's Next Generation leadership development efforts. And finally, **10,000** school kits (valued at \$150,000) are to be assembled and delivered for children in the United States and across the globe.



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Reminder:
Summer Worship Hours
 Begin June 7, 2009
 9:30 AM

Relay For Life
 June 12—13, 2009
 Allen County Airport
 6 PM Friday-6 PM Saturday

Mission Week to
United Methodist Children's Home
 Worthington, OH
 July 13-17, 2009
Sign-up if you wish to participate!

West Ohio Annual Conference
 at Lakeside
 June 7-11, 2009
 Pastor Ruth and our delegate,
 Lavonne Segovia will attend.
 Linda Craft will attend as a Board of
 Ministries member, and Linda Holman will
 attend as an at-large delegate.

*The Elida Historical Committee is having a
 chicken barbecue on Saturday, June 20th
 from 4-6PM. \$7.00 a dinner will get you half a
 chicken, baked potato, green beans, roll and
 butter, prepared by Sweet Caroline's. Carry-out
 only at the Elida Town Hall, 200 W. Main St.
 Celebrate Dad with barbecued food without all
 the mess and cleanup of doing it yourself!
 Tickets are available through Brian Nartker, and
 at First Federal and Citizen's banks in Elida.*

The Heart of Church

Greeters

June 7	Gene & Linda Craft
June 14	Norm & Mary Grigsby
June 21	Gary & Janet Grigg
June 28	Jamie & Jan Wyant

Nursery Volunteers

June 7	Slone Nagy
June 14	Open
June 21	Open
June 28	Tracy & Tahler Sdao

What Makes a Dad

God took the strength of a mountain,
 the majesty of a tree,
 the warmth of a summer sun,
 the calm of a quiet sea,
 the generous soul of nature,
 the comforting arm of night,
 the wisdom of the ages,
 the power of the eagle's flight,
 the joy of a morning in spring,
 the faith of a mustard seed,
 the patience of eternity,
 the depth of a family need.
 Then God combined these qualities –
 when there was nothing more to add,
 he knew his masterpiece was complete,
 and so, he called it . . . Dad.

Sometimes I lie awake at night, and I ask,
 "Where have I gone wrong?"
 Then a voice says to me,
 "This is going to take
 more than one night."

– Charlie Brown

Beginning **June, 2009**, **Children's Church** will be offered **every Sunday** including throughout the summer.



Children's Worship

(Conducted During the Worship Hour)

1st Sunday of Each Month	Pastor Ruth—Story Shirley Moser—Children's Church
2nd Sunday of Each Month	Steve Moser—Story Slone Nagy—Children's Church
3rd Sunday of Each Month	Pastor Ruth—Story Angie & Brian Nartker—Children's Church
4th Sunday of Each Month	Corinne Piper—Story & Children's church
5th Sunday of Each Month	Pastor Ruth—Story Steve Moser—Children's Church

Children's Church participants have planted a garden in the church's backyard. We invite you to stop by the garden to watch the kids' work throughout the summer. All vegetables raised in the garden will be donated to food pantries. We offer thanks to **Walmart on Cable Rd.** for donating all the plants and top soil needed for the garden. **Check it out!**



The Business of Church

Community Survey



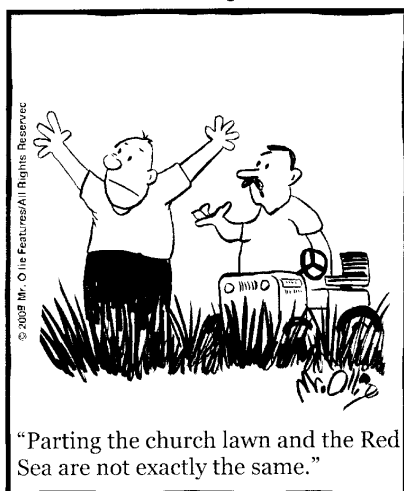
Over a year ago, a special ad-hoc committee was appointed by Ad Council to conduct a community survey that will help us to determine who our neighbors are and what are their needs. The survey was planned over a year ago, but the amazing (God thing?) is that as we begin to move into the second phase of ReFocus, a community survey is a part of the work that needs to be accomplished in order to develop a strategic plan.

The committee has determined the questions we will use, a brochure is being developed by Judy Chaffins, and a trial survey is scheduled for the first part of June. What we need now are people who will help conduct the survey. Tim Piper has divided the village north of the railroad tracks into thirty sections. We are asking for thirty volunteers to partner with each other and canvass two sections each. One volunteer will be the speaker, the other will be the recorder. So, if you would like to help, but don't feel comfortable talking to people door to door, but can record answers, we can still use your help.

We will be asking volunteers to sign up the first two Sundays in June, and a training for all volunteers will be held Thursday, June 18th at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We then ask that the surveys be completed by July 19th so that the data can be compiled by the time it's needed for our ReFocus meetings the first of next year.

If you would like more information about the survey, you may talk with Pastor Ruth, Linda Craft, Tim Piper, or Norm Grigsby.

Book of Timothy



Committee Chairs

PPR Chair	Linda Craft
Trustees Chair	Jamie Wyant
Finance Chair	Art Holman
Physical Plant Chair	Ron Steiner
Treasurer	Gene Craft
Education Chair	Steve Moser
Administrative Council Chair	Scott Fessler
Worship Setting	Ruth Solo
Nurture	Martha Vazquez
Stewardship	Open for Nominations
Missions	Maedene Holmes & Marty White

RELAY FOR LIFE NEWS

The St. Paul's Relay for Life Team is gearing up for the Relay Walk 2009. Again this year our team will be participating in the Allen County Relay for Life Walk, June 12-13, at the Allen County Airport on Hanthorn Road. The festivities begin Friday, June 12, at 6:00 PM and continue through the night to 6:00 PM Saturday. At 7:00 PM Friday evening, survivors and caregivers are invited to participate in a Survivors' Walk, after which a reception is held in the large hanger. If you are a survivor and would like to walk in this special walk and would like a T-shirt that says "survivor" on it, please contact Linda Holman by May 6th. All of those who have had cancer are invited to participate in the walk to honor survivors, even if you are not on the Relay Team.

Later that evening, at dusk, a luminary ceremony is held. Luminaries are purchased by those who want to light the path of hope in honor or in memory of a loved one and are placed around the track. These luminaries remain on the track the remainder of the evening, lighting the path for walkers. Luminary forms may be purchased for \$10 each after the worship service the first three Sundays in May. For an additional \$1, a photo of that person will be projected on an outdoor screen during the ceremony.

Throughout the evening, activities such as an auction, BINGO, contests, line dancing, and children's activities are available. Entertainment for the entire 24-hour period keeps participants involved and awake! While all of these activities are going on, someone from each team is walking the track. This could be you! A few weeks before the event, an opportunity will be given for you to sign up to walk some of that 24-hour period. You may walk for our team even if you are not an actual team member. Our team will also be selling drinks for the 24-hour period and a non-walker will be needed to stay at the tent to sell these items.

During the month of May, moons and stars can be purchased for \$1. These stay in the church hallway for the entire summer and are a reminder to us of those who have gone before us and those who have beaten this disease. They offer hope to those newly diagnosed. The moons and stars will be sold after worship during the month of May.

The Relay for Life Team would like to thank St. Paul's UMC for continued support for this mission project, both financially and through participation. See you at the Allen County Airport June 12-13!



THE SAFEST PLACE

How to stay safe in the world today.

1. Avoid riding in automobiles because they are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.
2. Do not stay home because 17% of all accidents occur in the home.
3. Avoid walking on streets or sidewalks because 14% of all accidents occur to pedestrians.
4. Avoid traveling by air, rail, or water because 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.
5. Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in hospitals. So, above all else, avoid hospitals.

BUT...You will be pleased to learn that only .001% of all deaths occur in worship services in church, and these are usually related to previous physical disorders.

THEREFORE, logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any given point in time is a church!

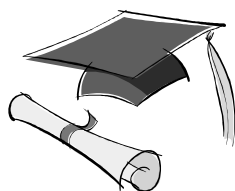
AND...Bible study is safe too. The percentage of deaths during Bible study is even less.

So, go to church and read your Bible. **IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!**

GOD BLESS YOU

Celebrating...

Congratulations to **Dr. Valerie Cook Kuenzli** on the completion of her medical residency program from the **Mt. Carmel Hospital System** in Columbus, OH. She will graduate June 12, 2009, and will be licensed to practice family medicine. Valerie is the daughter of **Lois Cook and the late Gary Cook**. Cards may reach Valerie at **1541 W. 7th Ave., Columbus, OH 43212-2445**.



At **Ohio Northern University's College of Business Administration's** May 9, 2009, Honors Day, **Tim White** was awarded the Continuous Achievement Scholarship. From the day's program: "The Continuous Achievement Scholarship recognizes an individual from each of the four undergraduate colleges of Ohio Northern University for their academic efforts and their extracurricular involvement. The scholarship awards students who have shown great improvement in their academic performance from high school into college and have additionally demonstrated a commitment to active involvement in the ONU community." This award landed Tim \$2,500. Two activities that Tim listed on his college resume were mission trips to Mexico and Mississippi during spring breaks in his freshman and senior years. At commencement exercises May 24, 2009, Tim was awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree with a concentration in Finance and Management. Tim is the son of **Marty and Kathy White, 5756 Clover Ridge Dr., Elida, OH 45807**. Congratulations, Tim!

Some children's answers to church school questions – from the Church of England:

- Noah's wife was called Joan of Arc.
- Henry VIII thought so much of Wolsley that he made him a cardigan.
- The fifth commandment is "humor thy father and mother."
- Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day and a ball of fire by night.
- Holy acrimony is another name for matrimony.
- The pope lives in a vacuum.
- The patron saint of travelers is St. Francis of the sea sick.
- Abraham begat Isaac and Isaac begat Jacob and Jacob begat 12 partridges.
- The natives of Macedonia did not believe, so Paul got stoned.
- The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.
- It is sometimes difficult to hear what is being said in church because the agnostics are so terrible.

– Source unknown

Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

May 3, 2009	102
May 10, 2009	106
May 17, 2009	110
May 24, 2009	94

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,466.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
May 3, 2009	\$5,452.00	\$755.51
May 10, 2009	\$2,749.00	\$7,698.63
May 17, 2009	\$3,294.60	\$1,534.44
May 24, 2009	\$1,678.00	\$1,010.00

Happiness cannot be
traveled to, owned, earned,
worn, or consumed.
Happiness is the spiritual
experience of living every
minute with love,
grace, and gratitude.

– Denis Waitley



Table Grace

God of goodness, bless our food,
Keep us in a cheerful mood.

Bless the cook and all who serve us.
From indigestion, God, preserve us.

Amen.

(From an Anglican monastery kitchen at Brisbane, Australia.)

Sunday School Attendance

May 3, 2009	36
May 10, 2009	28
May 17, 2009	24
May 24, 2009	N/A

Flowers:

June 7, 2009	Marty and Kathy White
June 14, 2009	Art and Linda Holman
June 21, 2009	Don and Judy Chaffins
June 28, 2009	Ruth Burgoon and Susan Nartker

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

Consulting the Manual

For God So
Loved the World,
He gave his only
Son

He woke up and
rebuked the wind,
and said to the sea,
"Peace! Be still!"

Mark 4:39



Bible Readings for June

Revised Common Lectionary
Year B

Week of June 7

Trinity Sunday

Color: White

Old Testament:

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

New Testament:

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

Week of June 14

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Color: Green

Old Testament:

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Exekiel 17:22-24

Psalm 20

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

New Testament:

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

Mark 4:26-34

Week of June 21

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Color: Green

Old Testament:

1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49

Psalm 9:9-20

New Testament:

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Mark 4:35-41

Week of June 28

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Color: Green

Old Testament:

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27

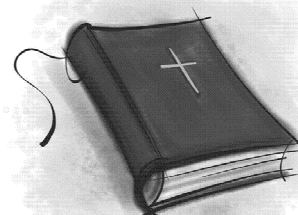
Psalm 130

New Testament:

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43

For more detailed information on the
Revised Common Lectionary,
please visit:



REFOCUS

The ReFocus Network, Phase I, is winding down. We will have had our last official meeting by the time you read this. During the summer, however, the pastors and churches of the ReFocus Network will be busy. The leadership team which was trained in a Focused Living Retreat in March will be meeting in June for some follow-up work. As we end those meetings, we will begin to schedule the first Focused Living Retreat for members of the congregation. The Focused Living Retreat will take you on a journey into your personal history, where you will discover how God has been at work during your whole life to prepare you for what God is calling you to in the future as a member of St. Paul's UMC.

You are invited to come to one of the two or three Focused Living Retreats to be held in the coming months, and discover how God has prepared you, called you, and given you a vision for your life in Christ. In the coming year, we will then take the church on this journey as we prepare for the Summits that will allow us to discover what God is calling St. Paul's to become in the future, and how we are to share in God's great harvest in making disciples.

Pastor Ruth Solo



Trinity
Sunday

The Trinity

Like Muslims and Jews, Christians are monotheistic. We believe in one God, supreme over all creation, and yet there is the trinity – the Father, the Son, and the Spirit. The Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. The Source, Word, and Holy Spirit.

The key thing that all three seem to have in common is that they are somehow ways of saying that one God has three forms, or personalities, or nuances, or substances. In other words, more than anything, the trinity seems to be our way of putting words to a vast and divine mystery that is, when you think about it, well beyond our comprehension.

God is – that's the piece that seems easiest. It's only when we try to explain or understand what that means that we run into trouble.

Certainly the Hebrew Scriptures clarify that God is creator. But

how? A big voice in Genesis 1, and someone playing in the mud in Genesis 2, and someone beyond approach in Psalm 8, and someone who has a child or a helper working close by from before the beginning. So is this one being, or different forms of the same?

Jesus is clearly the son, present from the beginning, too. Yet John says that Jesus is the Word of God.

And what about the Spirit of God: creating (Genesis 1:1), blowing invisibly like the wind (John 3), or coming like flames of fire (Acts 2). Words for *Holy Spirit* are always feminine in Hebrew, always neuter in Greek, yet generally thought of as male in English. So, how do we best understand the work of the Spirit?

Perhaps the best thing to say is that God is God, beyond our understanding and our speaking, yet close as the next breath. Comforting as a parent and friend, vast as the farthest universe, and everything in between. Praise the Triune God, the eternal one in three; the eternal three in one.

Forgiveness is the fragrance that the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it.

– Mark Twain

Connecting With ...

Our condolences to **John and Beverly Foster.** Beverly's sister, **Carol Crane,** passed away on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at the Otterbein Home in Lebanon, Ohio.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of **Rebekah Baxter,** who passed away April 29, 2009. Rebekah and her husband, James Everett, became members of St. Paul's UMC in 1953. Pastor Ruth officiated at Rebekah's funeral on May 2, 2009.

All my life I have tried to pluck a thistle and plant a flower wherever the flower would grow in thought and mind.

— Abraham Lincoln

Dear St. Paul's Family, Words cannot begin to express our gratitude for the prayers and cards concerning the recent death of my dear Uncle Bob (Robert Greenbaum). This was such a shock to our family that only prayer and time will get us through. As if this wasn't stressful enough, my Uncle Frank (Frank Frederick) was rushed to the hospital the day of Uncle Bob's funeral. He was in the hospital in critical condition with an e-coli bacterial infection for several weeks. After many prayers, including those at St. Paul's he was finally released to go home this past week. He still has an uphill battle - mostly short term memory issues and will continue to need our prayers. Again THANKS! To our St. Paul's family for the many prayers on our family's behalf.

Marty and Kathy White and Family

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Don Chaffins
Lindsey Grapner
Heather Rabley
Curt Roberts
Ray Waldron

Homebound Members

Hazel Dunn
Ruth Hurley
Marie Lee
Edna Osman
Jean Redd
Gladys Sherrick
Ray & Helen Waldron

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Sara House
June Metzger
Rick Scholfield

Those 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 would like to thank the women of the church who donated the food for the lovely luncheon. It was so appreciated. To Pastor Ruth for her heart-felt sermon that truly touched our hearts; also for visiting **Rebekah** in the convalescent home.*

*Family of
Rebekah Baxter*

I want to thank my church family for the flowers, cards, visits, and prayers. They were all appreciated. Thanks again,

Phyllis Trigg

Thank you all for your thoughts, prayers, and cards in the recent death of my brother, Jim Prince. I am truly grateful for all your kindness, and also that of Pastor Ruth and her kind support. It means a lot to me and my family.

Dorothy Banks

Thank you for the balloons, your thoughts, concerns and prayers during my hospital stay.

Reggie McAdams

*We would like to thank everyone for their cards, prayers, and expressions of sympathy to us in the loss of our granddaughter, **Stacy Moor**. Thank you so much.*

*In love and friendship,
Bill and Joyce Nichols*

Christ is Ours!



Prayer List Updates
Please Contact
Lavonne Segovia

Pray without ceasing.

Favorite Recipes from St. Paul's Younger Generation

Black Bean Soup

by Krista (Holman) Slemmons

Ingredients		Instructions
1 can (14-15 oz.)	black beans (not drained)	Throw all ingredients into a pot. Heat to boil. Lower heat, simmer for approximately 20 minutes. Salt and pepper to taste. Serve with shredded cheese, sour cream, and tortilla chips. Also serve with cornbread (add in cheese, red pepper flakes and salsa for more flavor). Add hot sauce for more kick.
1 can (14-15 oz.)	kidney beans (or any other type)	
1 can (4 oz.)	olives (optional)	
1 can (15 oz.)	corn, drained	
4	basil leaves	
2	cloves garlic	
1/2	red onion	
1/2	white onion	
4	baby Bella mushrooms, sliced	
1/2 -12 oz. can	diced tomatoes	
1 can (4 oz.)	green chilies	
1/2 cup	salsa	
1	chopped jalapeno	
1 1/2 tsp.	cumin	
1 Tbsp.	brown sugar	
1 section	chocolate bar (optional)	
1/2	red pepper, chopped or flakes	
	salt and pepper	



Granola

by Kate (Holman) Stengel

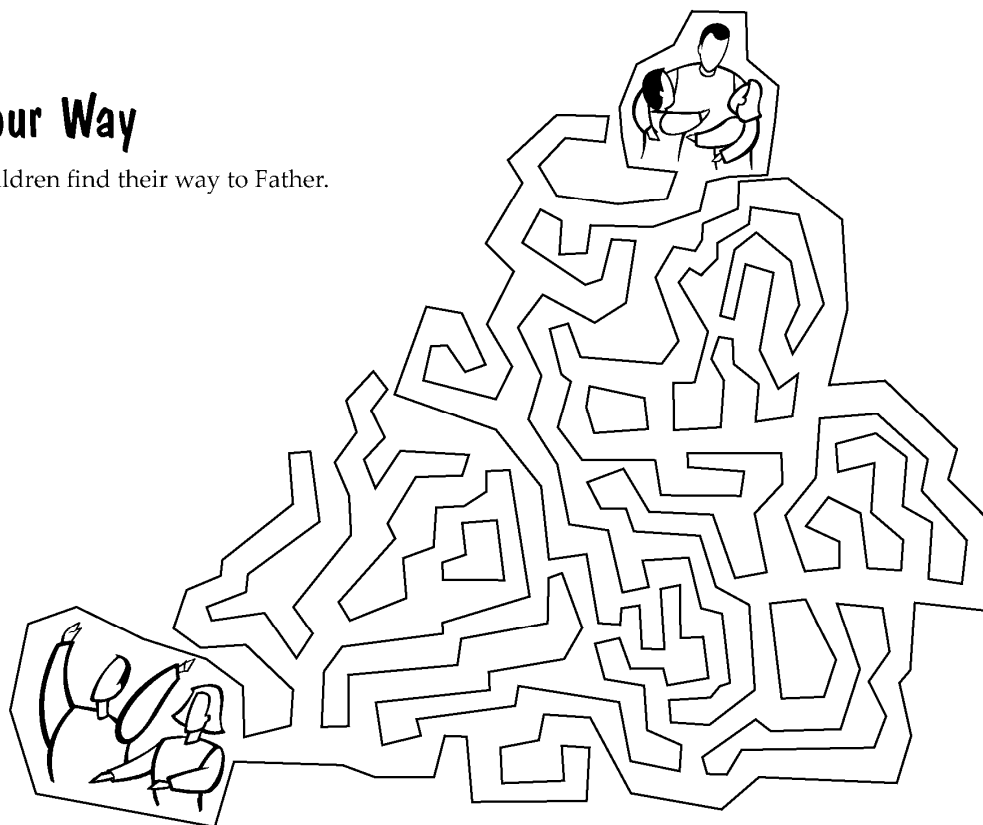
Ingredients		Instructions
7 cups	granola	Mix the first 4 ingredients and spread on large cookie sheet (with sides). In a saucepan, heat the oil, brown sugar, and water until sugar dissolves. Stir in vanilla and peanut butter. Once blended, pour over the dry ingredients and stir to coat. Bake at 275 degrees for about 1 1/2 hours. Stir periodically. Leave in oven to cool to make bigger clumps of granola.
1 cup	coconut	
3/4 cup	wheat germ	
3/4 cup	pecans or other type of nut	
1/2 cup	oil	
1 cup	brown sugar	
1/4 cup	water	
1 tsp.	vanilla	
1 1/2 cups	peanut butter	



KIDZ KORNER

Find Your Way

Help the children find their way to Father.



Recipe Box

Here's something you can make for your dad, or someone special, on Father's Day. Each box has words from the recipe. Find the boxes with 1s and write the words in the order given on another sheet of paper. Do the same for 2s, 3s, and so forth.

3 When bottom	2 Heat small skillet	1 Beat well	4 Loosen egg mix	3 of mixture
1 2-3 eggs	4 on the	2 on low.	3 is firm	1 in bowl,
4 unjellied	2 Melt 1 Tbsp butter	4 front half.	1 add small amount	2 and pour in eggs.
3 and top is soft	4 Tip pan	3 (not runny),	4 away	4 from you
4 and flip	1 of salt and pepper.	4 front half	3 spoon 2 Tbsp jam	4 over back.
3 evenly over	5 Serve on	3 back half of egg.	5 buttered toast.	

Answer:
 1. Beat well 2-3 eggs in bowl, add small amount of salt and pepper. 2. Heat small skillet on low. Melt 1 Tbsp butter and pour in eggs. 3. When bottom of mixture is firm and top is soft (not runny), spoon 2 Tbsp jam evenly over back half of egg. 4. Loosen egg mix on the unjellied front half. Tip pan away from you and flip front half over back. 5. Serve on buttered toast.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
105 E. Main St.
Elida, OH 45807



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espcoffice@embarqmail.com

June 2009



Living Our Faith

Happy Father's Day!

Father's Day is celebrated in June in the vast number of the world's countries. The idea for the day began in Spokane, Washington. While listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909, Sonora Smart Dodd thought how much she would like to honor her father. The month of June was chosen for the simple fact that that was the month of her father's birth.

June 19, 1910, was the first Father's Day. While Dodd primarily wanted to honor this

selfless man who had raised her and five others after their mother died in childbirth, the popularity of the day soon spread. The date was firmly planted in many people's minds before President Richard Nixon established the permanent national observance of Father's Day to be held on the third Sunday of June.

Unlike Mother's Day – which began as a day for mothers to work for peace – this day has always been one simply for recognizing the good gifts of fathers. This of course is not always the case, as there are

fathers who do not care for children. Yet for each of us, there are those men who have provided – and continue to provide – wisdom beyond measure, wise counsel, and will toss a ball at a moment's notice.

