

# St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 35, Issue 3

March, 2012

St. Paul's United  
Methodist Church  
105 E. Main St.  
Elida, OH 45807  
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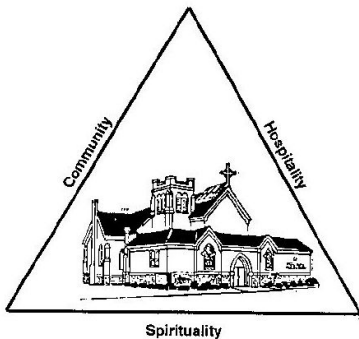
[espcoffice@embarqmail.com](mailto:espcoffice@embarqmail.com)

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419/909-9102

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[espcpastor@embarqmail.com](mailto:espcpastor@embarqmail.com)



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Dear Friends,

Lent has begun as we celebrated Ash Wednesday on February 22, and acknowledged the first Sunday in Lent on February 26. As we enter Lent, we will continue our series on the Seven Deadly Sins and the Seven Lively Virtues. Lent is a time to meditate on the things we have done and failed to do as followers of Christ, and to discipline ourselves to follow Jesus more closely.



Through our United Methodist Spiritual Disciplines of Bible study, prayer, reflection, fasting, worship, sacraments, and generous giving, we draw closer to God and put away the old way of living. As we continue this journey of recognizing where we have fallen short, and disciplining ourselves for life giving virtues, I invite you to a time of Spiritual Discipline.

One way to make room for some time to involve yourself in Spiritual Disciplines is to look at what you are doing now, and consider what you can "give up" for Lent, **fasting** from some more trivial activity, like watching television or idle shopping or playing computer games. These are the things that take our minds away from God and the things of God. Fast from such activity, for a half hour a day, and fill that time with **reading a Bible verse**, **reflecting** on what that verse means, and **praying** for God to change you into the person that God wants you to become.

Practice the Discipline of **worship** by making a commitment to be in worship wherever you find yourself throughout this Lenten season, whether here in Elida, or traveling for work or vacation, be in worship somewhere, and participate in **communion** whenever it is offered.

Finally, you can **practice generosity** by taking the money you would usually spend on one meal out each week and give it to one of the feeding programs in the area, or purchase food for the Five Loaves Pantry. Other ways of being **generous with your time** or yourself would be to help with packing food for Meals 'Til Monday at the West Ohio Food Bank (call 419-991-4806); volunteer to help serve food at Lima Rescue Mission (call 419-224-6961), or at Our Daily Bread (call 419-224-2086).

-continued on Page 4



## Thought for the Month:

A good laugh and a long sleep are the best cures in the doctor's book.

- Irish Proverb



### St. Paul's Book Club

St. Paul's Book Club is currently reading **Embrace the Grim Reaper** by Judy Clemens.

We will meet for breakfast on **Saturday, March 10, at 9:00 AM** at Jone Lane's house, **2540 Irvin Road.**, to discuss the book. Judy Clemens will be joining us that morning and will be happy to answer any questions you have about the book or her writing. Bring your book and Judy will autograph it for you.

### Hospitality Cart:

1st Sunday: OPEN

2nd Sunday: "Healthy Living" small group

3rd Sunday: "Crafty Creatures" small group

4th Sunday: Choir

5th Sunday: OPEN

Thank you to these groups for volunteering to help with the Hospitality Cart before worship on Sunday mornings.

If you or your group are interested in helping out please contact Corinne Piper.



**March**  
**'Coins for Communion'**  
**to benefit**  
**Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen.**

## Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



### Five Loaves Food Pantry Food Pantry Sunday, March 18th

People at St. Paul's continue to give generously. Numerous families in the Elida area are showing up at Allentown every month. Your generous giving is a blessing to those in need.

### St. Paul's Epistle

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United Methodist Church

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Editor:	Judy Chaffins
Secretary:	Gail Fessler
Secretary:	Jone Lane
Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Youth Director:	Corinne Piper
Custodian:	Dave Decker



### Volunteers Needed:

Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen  
Friday, March 30th  
for noon meal

This is an ongoing mission of  
St. Paul UMC

If interested contact Tim Piper  
or Pastor Ruth

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



## ELDERBERRIES

*A Christian Ladies venue*

Thursday , March 8, 2012 at noon

Old Barn Out Back

(3175 W. Elm - ball room in back)

Speaker: *Amy Mauk*

Entertainment: *Natalie Patrick - gospel singer*

Special Presentation: *Ben Swartz*

Theme: *What's our mission?*

Cost: \$12.00

*For questions see pastor Ruth or  
see flyer in church hallway.*

Please RSVP: *Carla or Pam 419-224-1200*

*(brought to you by Primrose Retirement communities)*

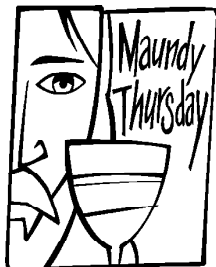
## Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

### PALM SUNDAY CANTATA

April 1, 2012

"One Sacrifice" by Joel Raney

Directed by: Judy Chaffins



### MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 5, 2012  
at 7:00 PM

"Sacrificial Service"

### COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

April 6, 2012

at Pike Mennonite Church 7:00 PM  
Pastor Ruth will be preaching

### EASTER SUNDAY

April 8, 2012

Sunrise Service 8:00 AM

"Go and Tell"

Breakfast served in Fellowship Hall



Worship 10:00 AM

"Dancing with  
the Lord of the Dance"

# The Heart of Church

- continued from Page 1

The Spiritual Disciplines were developed to help faithful Christians grow closer to God as they strive to become more Christ-like. As you practice these Disciplines, you will find that those 'deadly sins' that threaten your soul become smaller, and the virtues begin to grow within you. Join me on this Lenten journey to Christ-likeness through practicing the Spiritual Disciplines and the Lively Virtues.

See you in Church,  
Pastor Ruth Solo



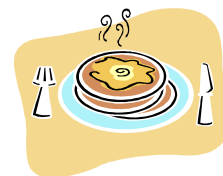
## Book of Timothy



## Lima Are Methodist Men's Breakfast

The **Lima Area Methodist Men's (LAMM) breakfast** will be held on Saturday, **March 3rd at 8:00 AM at Immanuel United Methodist Church**. There will be a presentation at the breakfast by Pastor Ruth Solo and Pastor Neal Whitney who will give us an update on the progress of the Elida Community Center including the anticipated financial needs for the project and how churches and individuals may help with this vital community project. A free-will offering will be taken at the breakfast to benefit local mission work. Guests are welcome.

Hope to see you there.



## Family Promise Mission

The next **Family Promise Week at Immanuel UMC** is March 4th – 11th. St. Paul's people have been helping with this mission by providing meals one or two nights a week and/or staying the same evening to interact with the families. If you would like to provide a meal or stay 4 hours on an evening with the families that are being helped, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the

Mission's bulletin board in the hallway or talk to Tim Piper or Pastor Ruth.

## Committee Chairs

<b>PPR Chair</b>	Dwain Metzger
<b>Trustees Chair</b>	Ron Steiner
<b>Finance Chair</b>	Marty White
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jenessa Fletcher
<b>Education Chair</b>	Jan Wyant
<b>Administrative Council Chair</b>	Scott Fessler
<b>Worship</b>	Ruth Solo
<b>Nurture</b>	Linda Holman
<b>Missions</b>	Tim Piper

# The Grain of Wheat

## Did You Know?

\* A packet of 20 corn seeds can grow into dozens of tasty ears of corn or thousands of new corn seeds to plant next year.

\* Seeds grow in many different ways. Sunflower seeds grow in the center of the flower. Sesame seeds grow on a plant. Pumpkin seeds come from inside a pumpkin.

\* Seeds are a good source of protein. They also have iron.



In the Bible we hear a lot about following Jesus, but what does that really mean? In John 12:20-33, the first thing we learn is that *anyone* may follow Jesus. Jesus is a friend to everyone.

Jesus explained what it meant to be one of his followers. He talked about a grain of wheat. A grain of wheat is a kind of seed. If you are going to grow wheat, or corn, or beans, or any other kinds of vegetables or grains, you must start with seeds. But you can't just hold on to the seeds. If you do, no plants will ever grow. You have to let go of the seeds and plant them in the ground. As soon as you do that, the seeds you've planted will begin to die. But, in their place, a new plant begins to grow. And that plant will grow and bear fruit and produce many more seeds for the next planting.

By using the story of the seed, Jesus was telling his followers that it is important to serve one another, to give in order to receive. Being selfish is certainly not part of following Jesus. If we love someone, we don't keep that love to ourselves, but we tell them about it and share it with them by being nice and doing helpful things for them. We also know how special it makes us feel when the people who love us do kind and helpful things for us. Both giving and receiving love are very wonderful. Of course, it's also very important to remember that Jesus wants us to love and serve our neighbors even if they aren't our friends.

Jesus' story about the seed was also his way of talking with his friends and followers about his own death. Jesus knew that he was going to die and that his followers would be sad when that happened. They might wish they could hold on to Jesus and keep him with them forever. But Jesus understood that his death would be the beginning of new life for him and for all people. Jesus is like the seed that grows into many new ears of corn.

As you prepare for Easter, think about Jesus' lesson of the seed and try sprouting some seeds or bulbs that you can share with people in your community. Maybe you want to prepare a flowerpot for each of your neighbors, whether you know them or not; or for people who don't have yards of their own.

If you plan ahead, you can have flowering bulbs by Easter time. Use smaller bulbs, such as snowdrops and crocus, or larger bulbs like daffodils, tulips, and hyacinth. Check online under "forced bulbs" for more information.

- Pat Handlson, reprinted with permission from  
*Children's Sermon Series*





# Faith In Action

## Worship Attendance:

January 29, 2012	72
February 5, 2012	83
February 12, 2012	89
February 19, 2012	82
Ash Wednesday February 22, 2012	42
February 26, 2012	74

## Financial Giving

Weekly Need for  
Unified Ministry Budget  
\$3,466.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
January 29, 2012	\$1,978.00	\$375.00
February 5, 2012	\$4,185.00	\$552.00
February 12, 2012	\$3,509.00	\$1,377.88
February 19, 2012	\$3,401.00	\$592.00
February 26, 2012	\$1,702.00	\$201.00



## Greeters

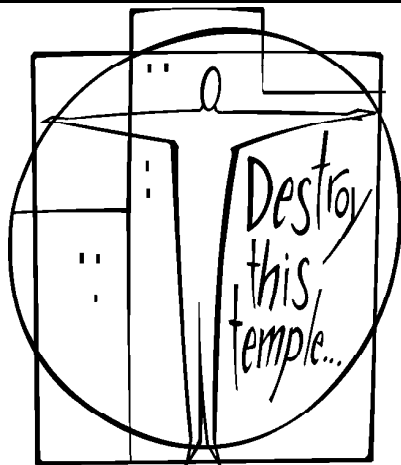
March 4, 2012	Tony & Shirley Shoup
March 11, 2012	Brad & Slone Whetstone
March 18, 2012	Marty & Kathy White
March 25, 2012	Susan Nartker & Ruth Burgoon

## Flowers:

March 4, 2012	Larry & Shirley Moser
March 11, 2012	Gary & Janet Grigg
March 18, 2012	OPEN
March 25, 2012	Fran Hall

Visit The United  
Methodist Website at:  
[www.umw.org](http://www.umw.org)

# Consulting the Manual



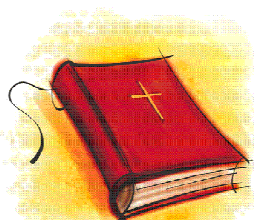
## **Bible Readings for** Revised Common Lectionary Year B

### **Week of March 4** **Second Sunday in Lent**

Color: Purple  
*Old Testament:*  
 Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
 Psalm 22:23-31  
*New Testament:*  
 Romans 4:13-25  
 Mark 8:31-38

### **Week of March 11** **Third Sunday in Lent**

Color: Purple  
*Old Testament:*  
 Exodus 20:1-17  
 Psalm 19  
*New Testament:*  
 1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
 John 2:13-22

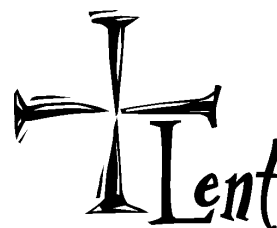


### **Week of March 18** **Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Color: Purple  
*Old Testament:*  
 Numbers 21:4-9  
 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22  
*New Testament:*  
 Ephesians 2:1-10  
 John 3:14-21

### **Week of March 25** **Fifth Sunday in Lent**

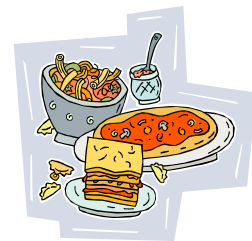
Color: Purple  
*Old Testament:*  
 Jeremiah 31:31-34  
 Psalm 51:1-12  
*New Testament:*  
 Hebrews 5:5-10  
 John 12:20-33



For more detailed information on the  
 Revised Common Lectionary,  
 please visit:  
[www.gbod.org](http://www.gbod.org)

# Seniors Day Out

Seniors Day Out  
February 14, 2012





## More Seniors Day Out



Below:  
Gene Craft, resident magician,  
entertained the guests on Seniors  
Day Out. Shown with John  
Holmes, his able assistant for this  
“trick”.



**Visit The United Methodist  
Communications website :  
[www.umcom.org](http://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 Our Church Family,

Just want you to know the flowers were greatly appreciated during Ivan's stay in the hospital. Thank you for thinking of us with your thoughts and prayers, the visits, and well wishing cards. May God's blessings be yours as you faithfully serve Him.

Love,  
Ivan and Martha Vazquez

# Thank You!

## To friends at St. Paul's,

Thank you for the birthday cards! At my age I don't like to remember it, but it's nice when other people do.

Virginia Yarger

Thank you so much for your donation to **Hope Visitation & Exchange Center**. It will be very useful to us and we greatly appreciate you thinking of us.

Times are tough but we are able to continue our services to families thanks to the kindness and generosity shown by people like you!

Sincerely,  
Linda Parish and  
Hope V&EC



## In Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to **Jerry and Becky Bean** on the death of Becky's sister, **Eunice Benton** who passed away Sunday, February 19. Her funeral service was held Thursday, February 23rd in Jackson, Tennessee. Cards may reach Becky and Jerry at 5075 Daisy Ln. Elida, OH 45807

Congratulations to **Ruth Shaw** on the birth of her great-grandson, **Ryan Lee Williams**, born February 6, 2012. He weighed 6 lbs. 1 oz. and was 20" long. Proud parents are **Cory Williams** and **Tabitha Dickman**.

## Prayer List Updates

Please Contact  
Lavonne Segovia



## Remember in Prayer

### Homebound Members

Hazel Dunn  
Edna Osman  
Jean Redd  
Gladys Sherrick

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

Joanna Hurd  
Rodney Lee  
Rick Scholfield  
Ivan Vazquez

### In the Military

Jason Stanley

## Meetings

TBA

PPR...7:00 PM

March 6, 2012

Trustees...7:00 PM

March 7, 2012

Worship Team..6 PM

March 12, 2012

Finance...7:00 PM

March 12, 2012

Ad Council...7:30 PM

March 20, 2012

Missions...7:00 PM

March 28, 2012

Worship Team...6PM

Sundays

Prayer...9:30 AM

Fellowship...9:30AM

Worship...10:00 AM

Wednesdays

Chancel Choir...7:00

PM

# March 2012



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
					Joanna Hurd	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rich Solo Janna Thompson	Scott Fessler		Tim Theodore Worship Team			Jim Phillips
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Ethan Lewis Linda Holman Finance Ad Council	Carol Lee	Cody Smith			Lesley Parker 
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Tara Strauch Missions	Amber Fox	Nancy Gesler		Joyce Nichols
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Cory Williams		Julia Bok	Derek Bible Worship Team		Tahler Sdao	

## Anniversaries

Jim & Carolyn Michael  
March 12

Jeff & Shelly Reiff  
March 12

Tony & Shirley Shoup  
March 20

Brent & Vicki McAdams  
March 21

Ivan & Martha Vazquez  
March 26

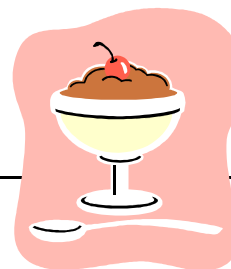
Jordan & Amy Wyant  
March 28

# Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Cookbook

## Orange Sherbet Dessert

*by Linda Matlock*

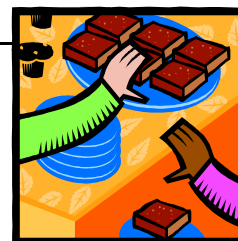
Ingredients		Instructions
2 small pkg.	Orange jello	Combine jello and hot water. Stir until dissolved. Add orange sherbet When starting to set, add oranges, then fold in Cool whip. Refrigerate.
1 pint	Orange sherbet	
1 cup	Hot water	
1 (11oz.) can	Mandarin oranges	
1 (8oz.) tub	Cool Whip	



## Caramel Layer Squares

*by Shirley Moser*

Ingredients		Instructions
1 (14 oz.) pkg.	Light Kraft caramels	Melt together caramels and 1/2 cup evaporated milk.  In large mixing bowl combine 1 pkg. German chocolate cake mix with 1 1/2 sticks margarine, 1/2 cup evaporated milk and nuts if desired. Stir by hand until mixture holds together. Press half of mixture in bottom of greased and floured 9 x13 pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 6 min.  Remove from oven and sprinkle package of chocolate chips over top. Spread caramel mixture on top. Next, drop remaining cake mixture on this.  Bake 15 min. at 350 degrees. Cool and cut into squares.
1 pkg. (optional)	German chocolate cake mix	
	Chopped nuts	
1 cup	Evaporated milk	
1 1/2 sticks	Margarine	
1 (6 oz.) pkg.	Chocolate chips	





# KIDZ KORNER

## Word Find

Write the words from Mark 10:14b in the blanks and then find as many of these words as you can in the Word Find.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_;

\_\_\_\_\_;

\_\_\_\_\_

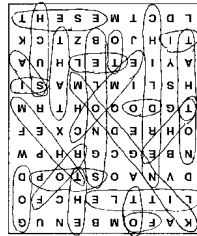
\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_.

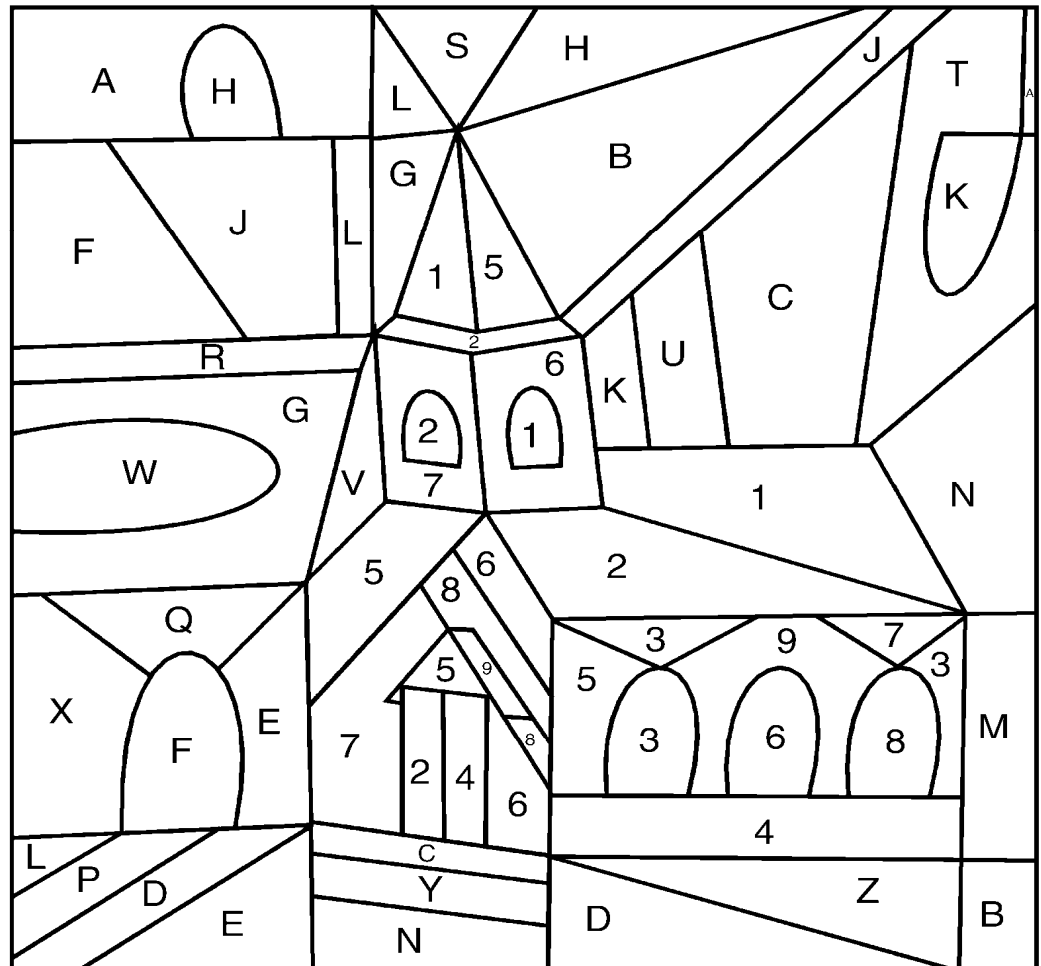


K	A	F	O	M	B	E	N	U	G
L	I	T	T	L	E	H	C	F	O
D	V	N	A	O	S	T	O	P	D
N	B	E	G	C	G	R	H	P	W
O	H	R	E	D	N	C	X	E	F
T	G	D	O	Q	O	H	T	R	M
H	S	L	I	M	L	M	A	S	I
A	Y	I	E	T	E	L	H	U	A
T	I	H	J	O	B	Z	T	C	K
L	D	C	T	M	E	S	E	H	T

## Mystery Picture

Use a blue crayon to color all the spaces that have a letter in them. What do you see?

Here's a hint: in Hebrews 3:6, it says, "Christ, however, was faithful over God's house as a son, and we are his house if we hold firm the confidence and the pride that belong to hope."



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

105 E. Main St.  
Elida, OH 45807

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**Our Web Address:**  
**[www.elidastpaulschurch.org](http://www.elidastpaulschurch.org)**

# March 2012

Happy   
St. Patrick's Day

## Living Our Faith

### Did you know?

A number of verses in the King James Version of the Bible contain all but one letter of the alphabet:

\*Ezra 7:21

**contains all letters but j.**

\*Galatians 1:14

**contains all but k.**

\*Joshua 7:24; 1 Kings 1:9;

1 Chronicles 12:40;

2 Chronicles 36:10;

Ezekiel 28:13; Daniel 4:37; and

Haggai 1:1

**contain all but q.**

\*2 Kings 16:15 and

1 Chronicles 4:10

**contain all but z.**

- [www.cofcnet.org](http://www.cofcnet.org)

The ultimate challenge of Jesus' ministry was to go to the city, the city of Jerusalem. This city, which was the center of education, religion, and politics, was also the place where corruption and crimes abounded. Yet, Jesus went there anyway. Following Jesus to the city was a risky business. Many would-be followers dropped out when they saw this ultimate danger. What will it require of us to move to the city? I ask this question whenever I find myself wanting to settle down in the comfort of material well-being. God may not ask us to physically move to the city, but God does require that we reach out to hurting people with the gospel, wherever they might be. -*Kyungsig S. Lee*

### Biblical Longs and Shorts

#### Shortest verse:

John 11:35 ("Jesus wept").

#### Shortest chapter:

(by number of words): Psalm 117

#### Longest book:

Psalms (150 chapters)

#### Longest biblical name:

Mahershalalhashbaz (Isaiah 8:1)

#### Longest verse:

Esther 8:9 (78 words)

#### Shortest book:

(by number of words): 3 John

#### Longest chapter:

Psalm 119 (176 verses)

- [www.cofcnet.org](http://www.cofcnet.org)

