

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 34, Issue 3

March, 2011

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.
Elida, OH 45807

419-339-3801

espcoffice@embarqmail.com

Rev. Ruth Solo

419/909-9102

Cell Phone: 419/812-3032

espcpastor@embarqmail.com



Dear Friends,

This is a landmark year for your pastor. This year, Rich and I will have been married **40 years**. This year, I will also turn **60 years old** (although that isn't until near the end of the year!) This year marks the **15th anniversary** of my being in appointed ministry, and the **10th anniversary** of my ordination. It's an important year in my life. This year also marks the beginning of a new chapter in the life of St. Paul's UMC. As we move through the Refocus process, we are looking at the good that has happened in the past, as well as acknowledging some of the challenges that the people of St. Paul's have faced together (and a few times not so together).

What stands out for me as I consider the current reality is the comfort which we all enjoy in this place among these people. Comfort is good when we know that we can count on people to support and encourage us, to celebrate with us and to share our lives in meaningful ways with us. At the same time, comfort can become what stops us and keeps us from growing closer to Christ and from becoming who God would have us become as Christ's church. In the midst of our journey through the Refocus Process, I am drawn to a prayer by Sir Francis Drake written in 1577. It reminds me that I am afflicted with comfort, too, and that I need to be disturbed from this comfort. I commend this prayer to you as a church who is refocusing our ministry toward the future with our community:

"Disturb us Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves, when our dreams have come true because we have dreamed too little, when we arrive safely because we have sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when with the abundance of things we possess, we have lost our thirst for the waters of life; having fallen in love with life, we have ceased to dream of eternity; and in our efforts to build a new earth, we have allowed our vision of the new heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly, to venture on wider seas where storms will show your mastery; where losing sight of land, we shall find the stars. We ask you to push back the horizons of our hopes and to push us into the future in strength, courage, hope, and love." Amen.

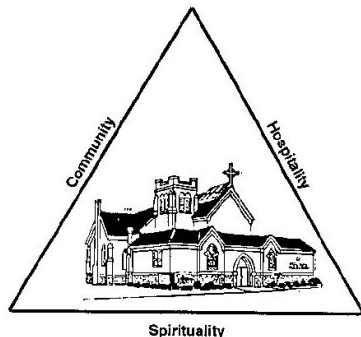
*See you in church,
Pastor Ruth Solo*

ReFocus

Thought for the Month:

Doubts are the ants in the pants of faith. They keep it awake and moving.

- Frederick Buechner



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COMMUNITY YOUTH MINISTRY

What is Community Youth Ministry?

Did you know that we are a part of a community youth ministry? Pastor Ruth gathered with four other churches of the Allentown, Elida, Gomer Ministerial Association last year and began a discussion about how we can provide youth ministry for the young people in our churches and reach out to young people who are not currently in church. The Community Youth ministry includes youth and leaders from St. Paul's, Salem Mennonite, Gomer UCC, Allentown UMC, and New Creation Lutheran. Not all of the churches involved currently have youth in Middle or High School. But all have some young people who will be involved in the next couple of years.

We decided to come together because there was a need to gather more of the youth at a time for activities and fellowship, which none of us could do well alone. Some of our activities were canceled this year because of weather, but we have some things lined up through April. Some activities are open to anyone who would wish to participate. We hope you will support this Youth Ministry with your prayers and presence.

Schedule of activities and events:

February 27 — 3-5 pm - Bowling at Westgate Lanes for youth and young adults. Let Corinne Piper know if you wish to participate. Includes pizza and pop.

March 12 — 6-8 pm – 3 Band concert at Salem Mennonite. Open to all. Free will offering. See flyer on bulletin board.

April 16 — 1 pm – Red's Game in Cincinnati followed by Jeremy Camp concert. About \$22 each. Provide own transportation. All are welcome. Must know by March 12 how many want to attend this to get discount tickets.

May — No youth activities because of Mother's Day, Prom, and preparations for graduation.

Watch for summer activities for youth with the Community Youth Ministry in coming months.

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Ash Wednesday Service March 9

at
7:00 PM



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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 |

St. Paul's Book Club

will meet **Saturday, March 5** at
9 a.m. in the Elementary
Classroom beside the main
office. The book, Three Cups of
Tea, will be discussed. Bring
your breakfast if you wish and
join the group for some
interesting conversation.

All are welcome.



Daylight Savings
Time Begins
March 13
Remember to Spring
Forward!

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

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE:

Your pastor is required to have 40 face-to-face hours of continuing education each year. It is necessary that she take the time to have the continuing education to meet these requirements by the West Ohio Conference Office of Ministry. She is also allowed 30 days of vacation, including four Sundays, each year between July 1 and June 30. This time does not carry over, and there are some years when your pastors have not gotten all of their allotted time.

All pastors in the West Ohio Conference and the Northwest Plains District are encouraged to take one day of spiritual retreat each month and a week of spiritual retreat each year. That has not always happened. But, imagine what it would be like to have a pastor that wasn't connected on a regular basis with the power of God.

In an effort to keep you better informed about the pastor's time off, here are the upcoming dates in March that Pastor Ruth will be gone for continuing education, vacation days, or spiritual retreat/renewal. Of course, there are emergencies that can take us all away at times, so be aware that no planned schedule is fixed.

February 28 - March 4 — Continuing Education: Sing a New Song—introduction of *Worship and Song*, the new UM worship song book with worship helps.

March 14 — Personal Spiritual/Renewal day

When the pastor is out, the office will have the name of a pastor to contact in case of emergency hospitalizations and deaths.

Prayerful Thinking

Praying Together

Now, before I run to play, let me not forget to pray to God who kept me through the night and waked me with the morning light.

Help me, God, to love you more than I ever loved before. In my work and in my play be with me through the day.

Amen



The great mystery of God's love is that we are not asked to live as if we are not hurting, as if we are not broken. In fact, we are invited to recognize our brokenness as a brokenness in which we can come in touch with the unique way that God loves us. The great invitation is to live your brokenness under the blessing. I cannot take people's brokenness away and people cannot take my brokenness away.

But how do you live in your brokenness? Do you live your brokenness under the blessing or under the curse? The great call of Jesus is to put your brokenness under the blessing.

— Henri J.M. Nouwen,



Book of Timothy



The Heart of Church

Greeters

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| February 27, 2011 | Lynda Evans |
| March 6, 2011 | Ruth Burgoon & Susan Nartker |
| March 13, 2011 | Marty & Kathy White |
| March 20, 2011 | Gary & Janet Grigg |
| March 27, 2011 | OPEN |

We are in great need of nursery volunteers. Please prayerfully consider serving in this way



 * A little boy opened the big family *
 * Bible. He was fascinated as he *
 * fingered through the old pages. *
 * Suddenly, something fell out of *
 * the Bible. He picked up the *
 * object and looked at it.. What he *
 * saw was an old leaf that had been *
 * pressed in between the pages. *
 * 'Mama, look what I found,' *
 * the boy called out... *
 * 'What have you got there, dear? *
 * 'With astonishment in the young *
 * boy's voice, he answered, 'I think *
 * it's Adam's underwear!' *
 * *****

Our passionate concern for the masses must find incarnate experience in helping our neighbors, and we need not have to ask who they are.

— Robert F. Morneau from *Ashes to Easter*



ST. PAUL'S SMALL GROUPS

| Group | Facilitator | Meeting time |
|--|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Bible Study | Art Holman | Sunday morning, 9:25 to 10:05 AM |
| Pastor's Bible Study 3-4 short term studies per yr. | Pastor Ruth | Wednesday evening, 7:30 to 9:00 PM |
| Women's Bible study | Corinne Piper | Sunday morning, 9:15 to 10:00 AM |
| Cars | Jamie Wyant | Wednesday evening, at 6:30 PM |
| Healthy Living | Corinne Piper | Monday evening, 5:00 to 6:00 PM |
| Quilting/Crocheting "Creative Creatures" | Carole Grapner | Wednesday evening, 6:30 PM |

The Business of Church

LEARNING TO ReFOCUS AT ST. PAUL'S

Personal growth and motivational expert Stephen R. Covey states, "Perhaps, in utilizing our human capacity to build on the foundation of generations before us, we have inadvertently become so focused on our own building that we have forgotten the foundation that holds it up."

The mission statement of St. Paul's is 'To be an inviting community of Christ's disciples.' The ReFocus Team developed a biblical purpose statement: 'St. Paul's U.M.C. exists as God's people embracing His grace through humble service to all.' How shall the congregation of St. Paul's serve the Elida community with Christian hospitality and discipleship? What are our values and priorities as we live, grow, and minister throughout Elida, Allen County, Ohio, and the world?

ReFocus Summit meetings February 26, and March 26, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the church's fellowship hall will assess our past, define the present, and clarify the future as we seek God's purpose for St. Paul's and the ways he has equipped us to shape our destiny by living out our biblical purpose statement.

On Saturday, January 29, 2011, we began St. Paul's formal ReFocus process. The first segment was to examine where we have been – our church's history. Nineteen members including Rev. Solo developed a Journey Wall. You can view it in the Fellowship Hall. Yellow stickies represent pleasurable or rewarding experiences throughout the decades beginning with 1950; pink stickies represent not so rewarding experiences during our church's history; blue stickies represent 'lessons learned' and were affixed chronologically as discerned by meeting participants; and green stickies represent values the meeting participants discerned from the experiences of our historical church – good or bad – highlighted on the Journey Wall.

The ReFocus Team intends to develop and finalize one or two values based upon the survey (Journey Wall) of our church's history. In this manner, the Team hopes to improve the effectiveness of our congregation as Christ's disciples in and for our Elida community. Thus far we have determined that listening and communication skills are essential values; nurturing of our family units; minimizing control while conquering fear in all our interactions are values we need to emphasize and implement.

Everyone has a voice in defining our intentions and commitments for the future. Join your fellow parishioners in this exciting journey as we re-build the life and ministry at St. Paul's U.M.C., Elida for today and for future generations. Contact the church office with notice of your attendance for the next two Summit sessions February 26 and March 26, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

For many of us the march from
Selma to Montgomery was both
protest and prayer. Legs are not
lips, and walking is not
kneeling. And yet our legs
uttered songs. Even without
words, our march was worship.
I felt my legs were praying.

– Abraham Joshua Heschel, American
rabbi, theologian, and philosopher on U.S.
Civil Rights marches on March 7, 9
and 21-25, 1965

Committee Chairs

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| PPR Chair | Linda Craft |
| Trustees Chair | Tim Theodore |
| Finance Chair | Art Holman |
| Physical Plant Chair | Ron Steiner |
| Treasurer | Gene Craft |
| Assistant Treasurer | Jenessa Fletcher |
| Education Chair | TBA |
| Administrative Council Chair | Scott Fessler |
| Worship | Ruth Solo |
| Nurture | Martha Vazquez |
| Stewardship | Tim Piper |
| Missions | Marty White, Maedene Holmes |

Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| January 30, 2011 | 85 |
| February 6, 2011 | 71 |
| February 13, 2011 | 82 |
| February 20, 2011 | 83 |

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,466.00

| Unified Ministry Giving: | | Other: |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| January 30, 2011 | \$1,685.00 | \$479.00 |
| February 6, 2011 | \$4,226.00 | \$498.08 |
| February 13, 2011 | \$3,357.00 | \$512.00 |
| February 20, 2011 | \$2,142.88 | \$5,831.50 |

Nursery Volunteers

| | |
|-------------|------|
| February 27 | Open |
| March 6 | Open |
| March 13 | Open |
| March 20 | Open |
| March 27 | Open |



Children and Youth Ministry Attendance

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| January 30, 2011 | 6 |
| February 6, 2011 | 6 |
| February 13, 2011 | 7 |
| February 20, 2011 | 7 |

Flowers:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| February 27, 2011 | Steve Moser |
| March 6, 2011 | Rich & Ruth Solo |
| March 13, 2011 | Dan & Margie Best |
| March 20, 2011 | Dorothy Banks |
| March 27, 2011 | Fran Hall |

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

Consulting the Manual



Bible Readings for Revised Common Lectionary Year A

Week of March 6 **Transfiguration Sunday**

Color: White

Old Testament:
Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 99

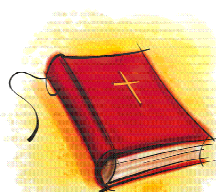
New Testament:
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

Week of March 13 **First Sunday in Lent**

Color: Purple

Old Testament:
Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32

New Testament:
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11



Week of March 20 **Second Sunday in Lent**

Color: Purple

Old Testament:
Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121

New Testament:
Romans 4:1-5; 13-17
John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

Week of March 27 **Third Sunday in Lent**

Color: Purple

Old Testament:
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95

New Testament:
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

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

Missions

ST. PAUL'S MISSIONS ACTIVITIES/COMMITTEE WORK YEAR-END 2010 AND KICK-OFF YEAR 2011

- ♦ Committee's most recent meetings – Sept. 21 and Dec. 21, 2010;
- ♦ The Committee distributed evenly to the Samaritan House & to The Lima Salvation Army on Dec. 22 the 2010 donations to our annual hat/mitten tree of 22 pairs of gloves, 17 scarves, and 14 hats;
- ♦ The committee set the 2011 'coins for communion' designations & submitted them to Treasurer Gene Craft;
- ♦ Led by Tim and Corinne Piper and assisted by many, we continue to support Lima Area Methodist Men's group; Family Promise; 5 Loaves Food Pantry;
- ♦ Slone Whetstone is our liaison to the community's Meals 'til Monday mission;
- ♦ Jamie Wyant announced during a recent Sunday service that we've committed to the construction of two handicap ramps in east and south Lima; however, to date, the necessary third-party funding hasn't provided for purchase of materials and such work is currently on-hold;
- ♦ The United Methodist Children's Home mission work week for 2011 is on hold pending their operational and financial statuses. Recent reports from the Home indicate financial hardships and the termination of its residency program. They are continuing their counseling and foster parent programs. Jamie and Marty have been in contact with Todd Hanes to assess matters from our perspective. The Home expects to make some decisions regarding its future operational and financial positions during Jan. 2011 and we will respond accordingly. Tim Piper is exploring other work week options for our consideration;
- ♦ 2010 highlights: our congregation was able to make significant contributions to the Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing and welcomed his Uncle to a June worship service; the Committee did a better job with our annual health/school kits project; Relay for Life Team ended a very successful and impressive 10-year run; donations to UMCOR's Haiti relief effort totaled \$720 during Jan. '10; 2009 Christmas offering was \$1,900 for Elida-Gomer-Allentown Ministerial Assn. & St. Paul's Special Needs Fund; Easter offering was \$705 for Miracle offering at Annual Conference; UMCH missions work week received over \$3,000 in cash contributions to make St. Paul's the leading congregation for the July work week; F.O.R.O. and Linda Craft's Russia mission trip received over \$1,500 in financial support from St. Paul's last year; weekly pledge donations designated 'Missions' have generated a reasonable working fund for the Committee....which is something new; our congregation donated approx. 8% of our total working budget to outside mission efforts as reported to the congregation on Missions Sunday in Sept.;
- ♦ December 31 was a '5th Friday' and Elida St. Paul's mission day at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen in Lima. Carole & Denny Grapner, Linda Holman, Linda Craft, Phyllis Hines, Michele & Sue Theodore, & Corinne Piper represented our church this date;
- ♦ We contributed \$80 in October and \$148 in December to the United Methodist Children's Home in response to its \$5 on the 5th campaign;
- ♦ 'Coins for Communion': Aug. - \$78 Hope Visitation & Exchange; Sept. - \$67 Heartbeat of Lima; Oct. - \$87.87 Samaritan House; Nov. - \$87.52 Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, Lima; Dec. - \$101.67 Salvation Army, Lima; Jan. 2011 - \$89.26 Hope Visitation & Exchange Center, Lima;
- ♦ 2010 Christmas offering, \$1,057.91, split between Meals 'til Monday and the St. Paul's Special Needs Fund;
- ♦ Our congregation hosted the February 5, 2011, quarterly breakfast meeting of the Lima Area Methodist Men (L.A.M.M.) The men heard a presentation concerning the ACTS 434 mission effort in our community;
- ♦ Tim Piper is willing to pass his Family Promise liaison role to someone else – if interested please contact Tim, Pastor Ruth, or Marty White;

Learning about Forgiveness

Many thanks to our congregation for their spirit of mission giving and to the Committee for being the hands and feet of Christ in the work of mission in our community and the world!

Marty White, Co-Chair

Maedene Holmes, Co-Chair



March 9, 2011 is Ash Wednesday, the first day of the Season of Lent. Each year on this day we read from Psalm 51, a song that talks about what it feels like to ask for and receive forgiveness. This is an important theme of the Season of Lent. It is a time when we practice prayer, generosity, and when some people decide to give up something for a time, or take on a new project.

Many people think that Psalm 51 was written by King David. David was Israel's most powerful king. He helped to unite the kingdom of Israel and gave the people a sense of peace and security. But David made mistakes too. In 2 Samuel 11:1—12:24 we find David, strolling on the roof of his palace. He happened to see a beautiful woman bathing and David sent someone to find out more about her. He learned that her name was Bathsheba, and she was the wife of Uriah.

The king could ask anyone to do anything, so David sent messengers to Bathsheba and they brought her to the king. Even though he knew it was wrong, King David couldn't resist. He wanted to sleep with her, and she couldn't say no.

After Bathsheba returned home she learned she was pregnant with the king's baby. When David learned this, he decided to try to cover up his sins. He ordered that Uriah be brought home from battle. That way, perhaps Uriah would go home to be with his wife, sleep with her, and come to believe the baby was his own.

But when Uriah returned he did not go home. Instead, Uriah told King David, "Until all the other soldiers are out of danger, I will not enjoy the comforts of my own house." It was an honorable decision, but now Uriah would know that Bathsheba's baby was not his child. And so David made a deadly decision. He knew it was wrong, but he sent Uriah into the worst of the fighting and then ordered the troops to abandon him so that he would be killed in battle.

Later, David received news from the battlefield that Uriah had been killed – along with many other men. He sent for Bathsheba, she became his wife, and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased God. David had forgotten about God.

Nathan the prophet came for a visit and told a parable about how a greedy, rich man took the only beloved lamb of a poor man. David said that the rich man deserved to die. Nathan simply said, "You are the man."

Right then and there, David understood that the story was about him, and that God was angry with him. David was truly sorry for his sin and repented. Though he did not die, the child that Bathsheba had unfortunately died.

Many bad things come out of David's sin, as is often the case with

sinful choices. The most important message of the story has to do with the grace of God.

God calls us saints, names us as holy people in our baptisms, and claims us as part of God's own family. At the same time, we tend to follow our own impulses – disobeying God, ignoring the laws meant to guide our lives, and mistreating ourselves, our neighbors, and our world. We are disobedient, yet loved by God. We are, at once, saints and sinners.

The words of Psalm 51 speak powerfully about what it means to ask for and receive forgiveness. Read Psalm 51:1-17 two times. The first time through, think about the story of King David. The second time through, think about yourself. When have you wanted to ask for forgiveness? When have you been asked to forgive someone else? Which was harder for you?

To get a picture of what forgiveness looks like try this activity. Write down something you feel badly about and want to be forgiven for, or draw a picture to represent it. Then use things like paint, erasers, and correction fluid to either "blot out" or "cleanse" what has been written. How does it feel to see something transformed in this way? How does it remind you of times when you have received forgiveness from someone?

– By Peter Samuelsson,
reprinted with permission from Grade 4
Crossings for Kids © Logos Productions.

Remember When...



1989
Harold Daugherty makes
dogs using golf balls.

1991
Valerie Cook, Lori Chaffins,
and Steve Moser



March, 2000
St. Paul's celebrates
Rev. Terry Hack's 50th birthday

Prayer List Updates
Please Contact
Lavonne Segovia



Connecting With ...

How Many Loaves Have You?

World Day of Prayer is an international movement of Christian women from many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year. In many countries it is celebrated the first Friday of March. This movement has been initiated and carried out by women in more than 170 countries and regions.

Through World Day of Prayer, women around the world affirm their faith in Jesus Christ and share their hopes and fears, their joys and sorrows, and also their opportunities and needs. Women are encouraged to:

- become aware of the whole world and no longer live in isolation
- be enriched by the faith experience of Christians from other countries and cultures
- take up the burdens of other people and pray for and with them
- become aware of their talents and use them in the service of society
- affirm that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world

This year, the women of Chile are organizing the worldwide theme, "How Many Loaves Have You?" The Bible study comes from 1 Kings 17:8-16 and Mark 6:30-44. The story of the widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17) is about a woman's courageous choice to share the tiny bit of oil and flour she had left. This story has special meaning for the history of Chile after it was scarred by times of extreme exploitation.

The story from the Gospel of Mark (Mark 6:30-44) describes a time when Jesus preached to hungry crowds. The disciples advised Jesus to send them away so that they could buy food, but Jesus had a very different idea. He told the disciples: "You give them something to eat." He sent them out to discover how many loaves they had. Like the story of the widow, the five loaves of bread and two fish they discovered were meager among so many; yet Jesus shows how even a little bit can be enough for all.

After enduring a devastating earthquake in February 2010, the women of Chile encourage us to enter a process that draws us into the Bible, into the context of Chile, and into the real situations of our lives and communities by asking ourselves, how many loaves do you have? What are your gifts? What can you share?

Friday March 4, 2011 is the official day of observance for World Day of Prayer. Consider how you might join them in prayer and celebration. They will begin their observance with a procession carrying a *panera*. This is the name that Chileans give to their everyday bread basket. Bread is central to their daily life, and sharing bread is a universal sign of hospitality.

During the month of March, take the opportunity to enter into prayerful solidarity with the women of Chile and with people around the world. They invite us to reflect on the mystery of the widow's oil and the flour that did not run out, as well as the mystery of the feeding of the 5000.

Take this opportunity to ask yourself: How many loaves have I? What are my gifts? What can I share? For more information about a World Day of Prayer service near you, please contact your National Committee.



Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Wilbur Hurd
Jone Lane
Evelyn Sarber

Homebound Members

Hazel Dunn
Edna Osman
Jean Redd
Gladys Sherrick
Mary Steiner

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Joanna Hurd
Rodney Lee

In the Military & Missions

Lesley Parker
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

I wish to thank my church family, for the flowers, cards and prayers while I was sick. They really meant a lot to me.

*Thanks again,
Phyllis Trigg*

Dear St. Paul's friends, Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers, cards, and visits during my recent stay in the hospital. All were greatly appreciated and certainly helped brighten my day! I feel very blessed to be part of such a warm, caring group of friends.

*Love and Blessings,
Jone*

Congratulations to Chris and Kate Stengel on the birth of their daughter, **Caroline Grace Stengel** born Thursday, February 10th at 9:28 PM weighing in at 6lb 15 oz. And 19 1/4in. Long. She was brought home to brother and sister Cameron and Cora.

The Proud Grandparents are Art and Linda Holman.

Cards may be sent to:
430 Colonial Ave.
Columbus, OH 43085



To the Congregation of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, On behalf of the children who received food through Meals 'Till Monday, thank you very much for your generous donation. This gift will be used to purchase food that local children are in need of. We are grateful that you have chosen to partner with this organization in the fight against hunger. Your church has been a source of help and encouragement more than once, and we are so thankful!!

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

Congratulations to Amanda Crates on the birth of her son, **Nathan Alexander**, born February 7th.who weighed in at 7 lbs. 1 oz. and was 19 1/2 inches long. Mother and baby are doing fine. **The proud Father is Thomas Reekers and Proud Grandparents - Mike & Kim Crates, Proud Great-Grandfather- Jerry Crates.**

Congratulations to Pat and Pam Gaghen on the birth of their daughter **Tara Jane Gaghen**, born February 15th at 4:47 PM. She weighed 6lb. 5oz and 19 1/2 in. long. Big brother Tristan and Uncle Steve are excited about her arrival. **Proud Grandparents are Larry and Shirley Moser.** Cards and well wishes can be sent to:

4406 Suder Ave.
Toledo, OH 43611

Meetings

March 1, 2011
Trustees...7:00 PM

March 7, 2011
PPR...7:15 PM

March 10, 2011
Worship team.6:00 PM

March 14, 2011
Finance...7:00 PM

March 14, 2011
Ad Council...8:00 PM

March 24, 2011
Nurture...6:30 PM

Sundays
Prayer...10:00 AM
Fellowship...10:00 AM
Worship...10:30 AM

Thursdays
Chancel Choir...
7:30 PM

March 2011

| February 2011 | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 | | | | | |

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| | | 1 Scott Grapner | 2 Joanna Hurd | 3 | 4 Rich Solo Janna Thompson | 5 Scott Fessler |
| | | Trustees | | | | |
| 6 Carol Lee | 7 Tim Theodore | 8 | 9 | 10 Lesley Parker | 11 | 12 Ethan Lewis Linda Holman |
| 13 | 14 Cody Smith | 15 | 16 Ash Wednesday | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| | Finance Ad Council | | | | | |
| 20 Tara Strauch | 21 Amber Fox | 22 Nancy Gesler | 23 | 24 Joyce Nichols | 25 | 26 |
| | | | | Nurture | | |
| 27 Julia Bok Mindy Schulz | 28 Derek Bible | 29 Casey Lane | 30 Tahler Sdao | 31 |  | |

Anniversaries

Wilbur & Joanna Hurd
March 8
53 yrs.

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

Sea Foam Salad

by Gail Fessler


| Ingredients | | Instructions |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 2 pkg. | Lime Jello | Dissolve Jello in 3 cups boiling water. Let set (not hard but jelled good). Add cream cheese, stir with mixer. Add drained pineapple and marshmallows. Fold in dream whip. |
| 1- 8 oz pkg. | Cream Cheese | |
| 1 cup | Miniature Marshmallows | |
| 1 pkg. | Dream Whip | |
| 1 can | Crushed pineapple (drained) | |



Pistachio Cake

by Jone Lane

| Ingredients | | Instructions |
|-------------|---------------------------|--|
| 1 box | White cake mix | Mix all ingredients together. Place in heavily greased and floured bundt pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 50-55 minutes. Let cool in pan until pan is cool to touch. |
| 1 box | Pistachio Instant Pudding | |
| 1 cup | oil | |
| 1 cup | Seven Up | |
| 3 | eggs | |
| 1/2 cup | nuts | <u>Filling:</u> Mix until thick, about 5 minutes. Cut cake into 2 layers. Spread filling on each layer and place cake on top of each layer. Fill the center of the cake with remaining pudding mix and sprinkle nuts on top. |
| Filling: | | |
| 1 pkg. | Dream Whip | |
| 1 1/2 cups | milk | |
| 1 box | Pistachio Instant Pudding | |

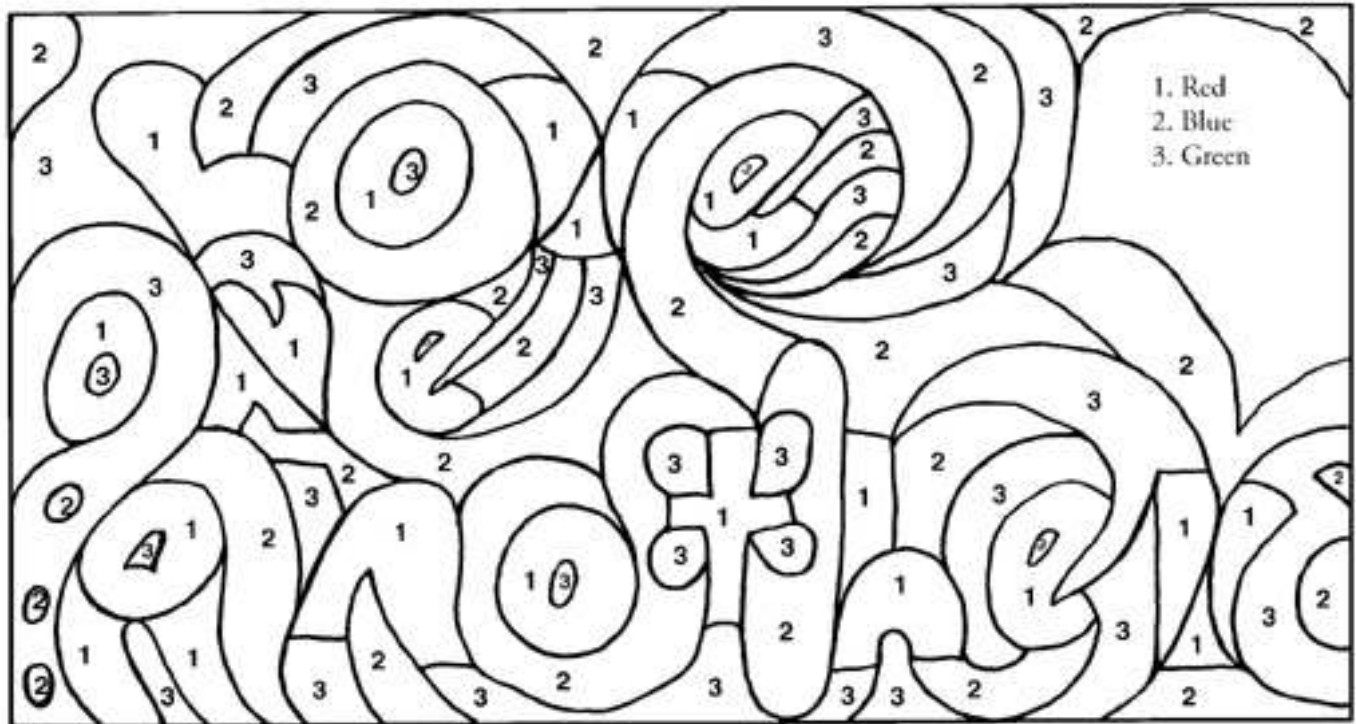




KIDZ KORNER

The 10 Commandments

Color the numbered spaces to reveal one of Jesus' commandments (John 15:17).



Answer:
Love One Another

Mystery Message

Paul's letters give lots of good advice. Unscramble each word to understand his message. (Read 2 Corinthians 13:11 if you need a hint.)

"

r a e g e h t i w n e o n t e r h o a ,

l e v i n i e c e a p ; n a d

h e t o g d f o v l e o

d n a a p c e e i l l w

e b i h t w o u y ."



Answer:
"Agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you."

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.
Elida, OH 45807

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The fewer the words,
the better the prayer.

— Martin Luther



Living Our Faith

March 2011

Biblical Longs and Shorts

Longest biblical name:

Mahershalalhashbaz

(Isaiah 8:1)

Longest verse:

Esther 8:9 (78 words)

Shortest verse:

John 11:35

(2 words: "Jesus wept").

Shortest chapter

(by number of words): Psalm 117

Longest book:

Psalms (150 chapters)

Shortest book

(by number of words): 3 John

Longest chapter:

Psalm 119 (176 verses)

— www.cofcnet.org



The art of praying, as we grow, is really the art of learning to waste time gracefully – to be simply the clay in the hands of the potter. This may sound easy – too easy to be true – but it is really the most difficult thing we ever learn to do . . . This is the real reason why so few of us ever come, in this life, to the full experience of God's love for us.

— Thomas H. Green
from *When the Well Runs Dry*

When you love people, you see all the good in them, all the Christ in them. God sees Christ, His Son, in us and loves us. And so we should see Christ in others, and nothing else, and love them. There can never be enough of it. There can never be enough thinking about it.

— Dorothy Day

