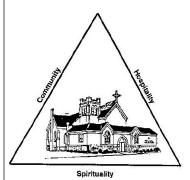
# St. Paul's Epistle An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 36, Issue 5 May, 2013

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church
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**Inside this issue:** Upcoming Events 2-3 Youth News 4 Our Graduates 5 The Business of Church Faith in Action 6 7 Daily Bible Readings Images of Easter 8 The Spirit of Truth 9 10 Remember When... Connecting With... 11 The People of St. Paul's 12 May Calendar 13 14 Recipes Kidz Korner 15 Living Our Faith 16

May is upon one thing. Spring The Scannells and making room phrase "Oh by see the see

May is upon us; where has the year gone? It can mean only one thing. Spring has sprung and summer is close at hand. The Scannells are cleaning things out, getting rid of the old and making room for new stuff. It always starts with a simple phrase, "Oh by the way I was thinking about..." That means

that we will be cleaning, building, painting, putting away, getting out, planting, or anything else that we come up with. It would be easy to blame all this on Marla but the reality is everyone does it. Oh by the way I was thinking about going to my girlfriend's. Oh by the way I was thinking about joining the ball team. Oh by the way I was thinking about working on the car. Oh by the way I was thinking about changing my room around. Oh by the way I was thinking about adding another flower bed. Oh by the way I was thinking about taking out some bushes. You see what I mean, we all have this desire in the spring time to make changes.

Oh by the way I was thinking about God and what I can do for the church. I have heard this several times and I am always impressed at the outcome of these conversations. From rooms painted to parking blocks replaced to large gifts for the building loan to kids thinking about how to stump the pastor. More and more of you are looking and listening for what God is calling you to do. May will see us celebrate Missions, Graduations and Mothers. It will also be a time to start cleaning up and cleaning out some things around the church; look for a date coming soon. It will also be a time of planning events for the next 12 months. Mission trips, Senior Day Out, Choir Cantata, Special music, Tutoring for the fall and much more will be discussed and planned out. I am having fun watching all the things that are happening around the church and I look forward to where God will lead us in the year to come.

I also want to take the time to thank some people as my first year at St Paul's begins to come to a close. Thanks to those who are faithfully serving on committees doing the busy work of the church. Without you, everything would come to a grinding halt. Thanks to those who add so much to worship every Sunday, choirs and musicians for the music they provide, liturgists helping to lead worship, acolytes and bell ringers for starting worship each Sunday. Nurture for providing times of food and fellowship as well as remembering those who can no longer get to church. Crafty Creatures for providing comfort to those in need and hurting. And last but not least those who help and work in the office who keep me on track and organized: thanks.

For any I have forgotten, I beg your forgiveness. St Paul's, good job and keep up the good work!!

Pastor Paul

#### Thought for the Month:

When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

# Congratulations

To our 2013 Graduates:

David Scannell Zachary Shoup Aric Thompson Michael Whetstone

They will be honored at a breakfast on Sunday, May 19, 2013.



#### **Congratulations to** Aric Thompson **Academic All-Ohio**

Aric was on the Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association Academic All-Ohio Team with a 3.8 grade point average.



# vents for St. Pau

**Seniors Day Out** May 21, 2013

All seniors welcome!



**Pentecost Sunday May 19** 

Wear **RED!** 

St. Paul's Epistle

is published by St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Subscription Rate: NONE

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

St. Paul's Book Club May 4, 2013 9:00 AM

The book discussion will be about Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks.

Please bring your own breakfast.

Mother's Day **May 12** 

Honor your mother that day!



Newsletter deadline: the 16th of each month

# Thank You

#### ........................

A very BIG thank you to **Judy** Chaffins, the Chancel Choir, and all who participated in the Easter Trilogy Cantata "A Cantata in Three Suites" by Benjamin Harlan. We appreciate all of your hard work in presenting the Easter message in song.



The Choir's last Sunday for the Summer is May 19, 2013

Thank you Choir, Lois Cook. and director. Judy Chaffins!

A big Thank You to Janet Grigg and others on the Nurture Committee and to those who donated food for the wonderful Easter breakfast.





MEMORIAL DAY MAY 27, 2013 Office Closed

# rents for St. Paul





We are in need of liturgists for June, July, and August

Prayerfully consider this service for our church.

Let the office know if you are willing to help out.

#### Men's Spiritual Retreat

at Camp Wesley

Friday, May 31st and Saturday, June 1st. cost will be \$45 (payable to Allentown UMC) includes meals and lodging.

Any men interested in the retreat please contact Neal Whitney (419-231-0226) or Dan Kirby (419-305-9740) by May 15th.



## **Congratulations Graduates**

# GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL...... CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

Elida High School and Spencerville High School Graduations are Sunday, May 26, 2013

**DAVID W. SCANNELL** has been a home-schooled student and will be receiving his diploma through Elida High School. David is planning to attend Miami University this fall with a major in Bio Chemistry and a minor in Zoology. He will be participating in the Navy ROTC with plans to go on to the Marines Corp when he has finished his bachelor's degree. David is the son of Rev. Paul and Marla Scannell and cards can reach him at 113 East Main Street, Elida, OH 45807.

**ZACHARY A. SHOUP** will be graduating from Elida High School. Zack is currently employed by the Pepsi Bottling Company but also plans to attend The Ohio State University at the Lima campus beginning with the autumn semester. Zack will be pursuing a degree in Psychology. Zack's parents are Tony and Shirley Shoup and congrats to him can be sent to 2052 Morning Glory, Elida, OH 45807.

**ARIC L. THOMPSON** is graduating from Elida High School and is planning to move to Columbus in the fall to attend The Ohio State University. Aric's major will be either engineering or physics. Aric is graduating fourth in his class at Elida and has received some great scholarships including a Provost Scholarship from The Ohio State University as well as being the recipient of the OHSAA Hall of Fame Scholarship for scholar/athletes. Aric is the son of Dennis and Janna Thompson and congratulations can be sent to him at 1050 Buckskin Trail, Elida, OH 45807.

**MICHAEL WHETSTONE** is graduating from Spencerville High School. Michael tried out for the Music Conservatory at Baldwin Wallace University this spring and has been accepted. He was rewarded with a very nice partial scholarship and plans to major in Music Therapy this fall on the Baldwin Wallace campus. Following graduation from Spencerville HS, Michael will be leaving to work at Cedar Point for the summer. Michael's parents are Brad and Slone Whetstone and Michael and Dion Helmick. Cards can be sent to him at 21577 Monticello-Spencerville Road, Spencerville, OH 45887.

# GRADUATING WITH A HIGHER EDUCATION DEGREE.....CONGRATULATIONS!

**LINDSEY REIFF** will graduate from Findlay College with a Doctorate in Pharmacy on May 4, 2013. In July, Lindsey will begin a residency in Pharmacy at the Blanchard Valley Hospital in Findlay. This April, Lindsey was afforded the honor of presenting a Cancer Research Project on behalf of Findlay College at the Experimental Biology Conference in Boston. In addition, Lindsey will become the wife of Brian Rutter on September 21. Lindsey is the daughter of Jeff and Shelly Reiff, 2470 Irvin Road, Elida, OH 45807.

**TARA (THOMPSON) STRAUCH** will receive her Doctorate in American History from the University of South Carolina on May 11, 2013. Tara will continue teaching in a post doctorate position in the history department at the University of South Carolina for the coming school year. Tara and husband, A.J. and their one-year-old son, Thad, are currently residing at 141 Wincay Road, Columbia, SC 29223-1937. Tara is the daughter of Dennis and Janna Thompson, 1050 Buckskin Trail, Elida, OH 45807.

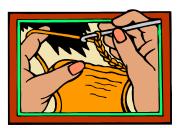
#### The Business of Church

Crafty Creatures is a group of ladies from St. Paul's UMC who, since September, 2010, meet every week on Wednesday evening for fellowship, fun, food, and creating. We are made up of knitters, crocheters, and quilters. We keep our hands busy making prayer shawls, mittens, gloves, scarves, and lap quilts for our church family, our community, and beyond.

We present a prayer shawl to members of our congregation who need special healing. To date, we have given a prayer shawl to 22 deserving people. At Christmas time the mittens, gloves, and scarves are placed on the mitten tree in the sanctuary. Throughout the year the lap quilts we make are taken to area nursing homes to be given to residents who need a warm quilt. To date we have delivered 98 quilts to 7 area nursing homes and one deserving person in Pennsylvania.

Our group consists of 15 dedicated ladies who love doing for others!







# Book of Timothy WOOLE WOOLE

<b>Committee Chairs</b>	2013
PPR Chair	Dwain Metzger
<b>Trustees Chair</b>	Ron Steiner
Finance Chair	Marty White
Treasurer	Margie Best
<b>Education Chair</b>	Jan Wyant
<b>Administrative Council</b>	Art Holman
Worship	Pastor Paul Scannell
Nurture	Linda Holman
Missions	Tim Piper

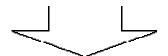
## **Faith In Action**



Worship Attendance:	
March 28, 2013 Maundy Thursday	43
March 31, 2013 Easter Sunrise	74
March 31, 2013 Easter 10:00 AM	145
April 7, 2013	90
April 14, 2013	89
April 21, 2013	109

#### **Financial Giving**

Weekly Need for Unified Ministry Budget \$3,466.00



Unified Mini	Other:	
March 31, 2013 Easter	\$3,092.00	\$11,668.63
April 7, 2013	\$3,905.00	\$837.05
April 14, 2013	\$3,627.44	\$1,313.95
April 21, 2013	\$2,989.50	\$764.00

Sunday School Attendance		
March 31, 2013	N/A	
April 7, 2013	25	
April 14, 2013	26	
April 21, 2013	33	

Greeters		
May 5, 2013	Gary & Janet Grigg	
May 12, 2013	Dillon & Helen Staas	
May 19, 2013	OPEN	
May 26, 2013	Norm & Mary Grigsby	





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

# **Daily Bible Reading for May**

#### Wednesday 5/1

Psalm 72 & 119:73-96 Leviticus 19:1-18 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 Matthew 6:19-24

#### Thursday 5/2

Psalm 70, 71, 74 Leviticus 19:26-37 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12 Matthew 6:25-34

#### Friday 5/3

Psalm 106, Leviticus 23:1-22 2 Thessalonians 2:1-17 Matthew 7:1-12

#### Saturday 5/4

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76 Leviticus 23:23-44 2 Thessalonians 3:1-18 Matthew 7:13-21

#### Sunday 5/5

Psalm 93 & 96, Leviticus 25:1-17 James 1:1-18, Luke 12:13-21

#### Monday 5/6

Psalm 77, 79, 80 Leviticus 25:35-55 Colossians 1:9-14 Matthew 13:1-16

#### Tuesday 5/7

Psalm 78, Leviticus 26:1-20 1 Timothy 2:1-6 Matthew 13:18-23

#### Wednesday 5/8

Psalm 119:97-120 Leviticus 26:27-42 Ephesians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:41-46

#### Thursday 5/9

Psalm 68:1-20, 2 Kings 2:1-15 Revelation 5:1-14

#### Friday 5/10

Psalm 85, 86, 91, 92 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Ephesians 2:1-10 Matthew 7:22-27

#### Saturday 5/11

Psalm 87, 90, 136, Numbers 11:16-29 Ephesians 2:11-22, Matthew 7:28-8:4

#### **Sunday 5/12**

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67, Exodus 3:1-12 Hebrew 12:18-29, Luke 10:17-24

#### Monday 5/13

Psalm 89, Joshua 1:1-9 Ephesians 3:1-13, Matthew 8:5-17

#### Tuesday 5/14

Psalm 97, 99, 100 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Ephesians 3:14-21 Matthew 8:18-27

#### Wednesday 5/15

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144 Isaiah 4:2-6 Ephesians 4:1-16, Matthew 8:28-34

#### Thursday 5/16

Psalm 105, Zechariah 4:1-14 Ephesians 4:17-32, Matthew 9:1-8

#### Friday 5/17

Psalm 102, 107:1-32 Jeremiah 31:27-34 Ephesians 5:1-20, Matthew 9:9-17

#### Saturday 5/18

Psalm 107:33-43, 108:1-13 Ezekiel 36:22-27 Ephesians 6:10-24, Matthew 9:18-26

#### **Sunday 5/19**

Psalm 111, 112, 113 Job 38:1-11, 42:1-5 Revelation 19:4-16, John 1:29-34

#### Monday 5/20

Psalm 106, Ezekiel 33:1-11 1 John 1:1-10, Matthew 9:27-34

#### Tuesday 5/21

Psalm 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126 Ezekiel 33:21-33 1 John 2:1-11, Matthew 9:35-10:4

#### Wednesday 5/22

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130 Ezekiel 34:1-16 1 John 2:12-17, Matthew 10:5-15

#### Thursday 5/23

Psalm 131, 132, 133, 134, 135 Ezekiel 37:21b-28, 1 John 2:18-29 Matthew 10:16-23

#### Friday 5/24

Psalm 140, 141, 142 Ezekiel 39:21-29 1 John 3:1-10, Matthew 10:24-33

#### Saturday 5/25

Psalm 137:1-9, 144, Ezekiel 47:1-12 1 John 3:11-18, Matthew 10:34-42

#### Sunday 5/26

Psalm 8, 24, 96
Daniel 7:9-14
Hebrews 2:5-18, Matthew 28:16-20

#### Monday 5/27

Psalm 33, Exodus 19:3-20 1 Peter 2:4-10

#### Tuesday 5/28

Psalm 118, 145 Deuteronomy 16:9-12 Acts 4:18-21, 23-33, John 4:19-26

#### Wednesday 5/29

Psalm 104 Ephesians 3:14-21

#### Thursday 5/30

Psalm 37, Proverbs 21:30-22:6 1 Timothy 4:1-16 Matthew 13:24-30

#### Friday 5/31

Psalm 31, 35, Proverbs 23:19-21 1 Timothy 5:17-22(23-25) Matthew13:31-35



# **Images of Easter**







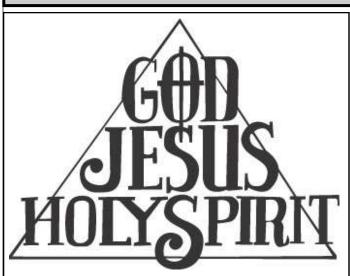






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## The Spirit of Truth



**Trinity Sunday** is the only Sunday of the church year dedicated to a doctrine rather than to an event. This year it is on **May 26**. Central as this doctrine is to the Christian church, it is confusing to most of the church's members. Sometimes it is helpful to remember that, as New Testament scholar Reginald Fuller says, "The doctrine of the Trinity is not the result of abstract speculation but interprets the very structure of Christian experience."

The doctrine of the Trinity speaks to us of the relationship between Father, Son, and Spirit and how they continue to impinge upon the lives of Christians today.

Of the three persons of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit is the one that seems to cause many difficulties for the Christian. The role of the Spirit is the core of the Gospel lesson for Trinity Sunday, John 16:12-15. Here, in speaking to his disciples before his death and resurrection, Jesus gives a job description for the Holy Spirit: "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come" (John 16:13).

The unity of the Trinity is seen in the fact that Jesus possesses everything from God. And what he has received he transmits to the Spirit, who proclaims it to the church.

Jesus speaks of the Holy Spirit as the "Spirit of truth," for the work of the Spirit is to bring the truth

of God to the church that it might be proclaimed to the world. Often, when we think of the Holy Spirit, we think of a kind of "freelance" entity flitting around hither and yon, or perhaps settling on this or that individual. We are reminded that the Spirit "blows where it will," and that is most certainly the case, for it can never be domesticated.

However, it is clear, too, that the Spirit comes to the gathered community, to the church which is the body of Christ, to make clear the things of Christ and reveal what they mean to us. This we call revelation.

The preamble to the Constitution of the United Church of Christ (the denomination in which I serve) says:

The role of the Spirit of truth, the Holy Spirit, is to help us in this task of making the faith our own; a faith which is not new revelation, but rather the old, old story of Jesus and his love expressed in new and exciting ways. The work of the Spirit of truth did not end in AD 120, when the last book of the New Testament was written. The Spirit is always active, as God constantly reveals Godself to us. The supreme revelation came in Jesus Christ and Jesus is alive today in and through the Spirit of truth and that revelation goes on.

This ongoing revelation doesn't contradict God's word. We need to remember that, as Pastor John Robinson has said, there was still more light and truth to break forth from God's word. The light and truth that the Holy Spirit brings is an expansion, a deepening of what God has spoken to us through God's word; both the written word but even more so, through the word made flesh, the one we call Jesus the Christ.

So, on Trinity Sunday, let us celebrate the ongoing work of the Holy Trinity through the work of the Spirit of truth, the one who brings to our remembrance all that our Lord has spoken.

- by John N. Cedarleaf, excerpted with permission from The Clergy Journal, © Logos Productions

## Remember When...



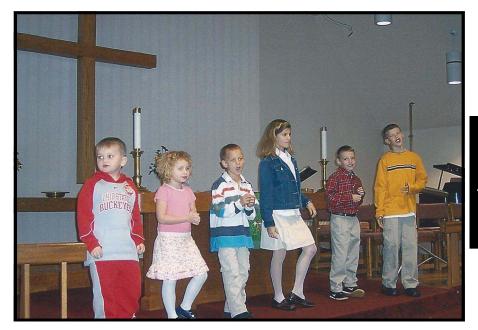
#### 1992 Cherub Choir

Front: Caitlin McGlade, Amanda Crates, Lindsey Reiff, Aaron Thompson, David Segovia Back: Angie Gossard, Cari Metzger, Ashley Reiff, Tara Thompson, Chelsea Bowsher, Jon Cook

1992

Easter Egg hunt with Rev. Eric McGlade





2005 Sunday School Singers

Joshua Guess, Jenson Nagy, Isaac McAdams, Torie McAdams, Oliver Fessler, Aric Thompson

## Connecting With ...

# YOU'RE INVITED: GRADUATION PARTIES

Paul and Marla Scannell are proud to announce the graduation of their son **David Scannell,** from Elida High School. They ask that you join them in a celebration open house, **Sunday, May 26th,** at their home. 113 E. Main St., Elida From 2:00 to 4:00 PM.



Tony and Shirley Shoup would like to invite you to a graduation party for Zack Shoup

Saturday, June 1st, from 12:30 to 3:30 PM. at the Westgate Entertainment Center 721 N. Cable Rd., Lima



Macovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Jone Lane

#### **Homebound Members**

Hazel Dunn Jean Redd Helen Scholfield

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Becky Bean Karen Bible Joanna Hurd Rodney Lee

#### In the Military & Missions

- Lity cally cally

Eddie Mault Zason Stanley

Denny and Janna Thompson invite you to a graduation open house to honor their son **Aric** and his friend **Bryan Romey**. **Sunday, June 2,** at their home.

1050 E. Buckskin Trl., Elida.

From 4:00 PM to ?.

The light of God before me. The light of God behind me. The light of God above me. The light of God beside me. The light of God within me.



- From the Prayer of St. Patrick

## The People of St. Paul's

#### Dear St. Paul's Church and The Crafty Creatures,

Thank –you so much for your prayers and concerns during a difficult time.

The Prayer Shawl is beautiful and warm, and blessed. It means a lot to me. Hope to see you all soon.

Miss You, and Love You, Ruthe Shaw



#### To My Church Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, and beautiful flowers I received following my surgery. I am very blessed to be part of such a loving and caring church family.

God's Blessings on You,
Jone

#### To the Nurture Committee,

I can't begin to tell you all how much I appreciated the beautiful box of goodies I received recently.

It is always good to be remembered, and St. Paul's church members certainly have been good to me through prayer and cards.

Again thank you for your lovely box of goodies.

**Dorothy Banks** 

#### You Need A Little Sunshine

A little bit of sunshine, turns darkness into light
A tiny little sunbeam, can make the world seem bright
Just turn your eyes to Jesus, and pray with all your might
And you'll find He's put your troubles out of sight.

You need a little sunshine, when skies above are gray
The Lord above will bless you, and send you on your way
Just put your faith in Jesus – Get on your knees and pray
And He'll fill your heart with sunshine every day-ay
Yes, He'll fill your heart with sunshine every day.



By Dillon Staas



Prayer List Updates
Please Contact
Lavonne Segovia

# Meetings

May 1, 2013 **Worship...6:00 PM** 

TBA **PPR...7:00 PM** 

May 7, 2013 **Trustees...7:00 PM** 

May 13, 2013 **Finance...7:00 PM** 

May 13, 2013 **Ad Council...7:30 PM** 

May 21, 2013 **Missions...7:00 PM** 

Sundays Prayer...8:45 AM Fellowship...9:30 AM Worship...10:00 AM

Wednesdays Chancel Choir...7:00 PM

Sundays Bell Choir...6:30 PM

Anniversaries

Gary & Deb Hurd May19

Rod & Nancy Gesler May 27

Dan & Margie Best May 28

# May 2013

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1

3

4

			Lily Bice	Bill Nichols		
5 Shelly Reiff	6 Zack Shoup	7	8	9 Michael Whetstone	10 Larry Brunk	11
12	13 Glenna Kohli	14	15 Logan Kinney	16 Mary Irvin Jennifer Kinney	17 Martha Vazquez	18
19 Korbin Crates Aaron Thompson Marlene Weaver	20 Karen Bible	21	22	23	24 Isaac McAdams	25 Carter Kuenzli
26 Torie McAdams	27 Scott Warris	28	29	30	31	

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# Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

# Cheesecake Brownies

Ingredic	ents	Instructions
1 box	Brownie mix	Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
1 (8 oz.)	Cream cheese, softened	Prepare brownies as directed on package. Spread brownie mixture in a
1/3 cup	Sugar	9x13 pan.
1	Egg	Beat cream cheese and sugar. Add vanilla and egg. Spread cream
1 tsp.	Vanilla	cheese mixture over brownies. Cut knife through several times for marbled effect.
		Bake 35-40 minutes.

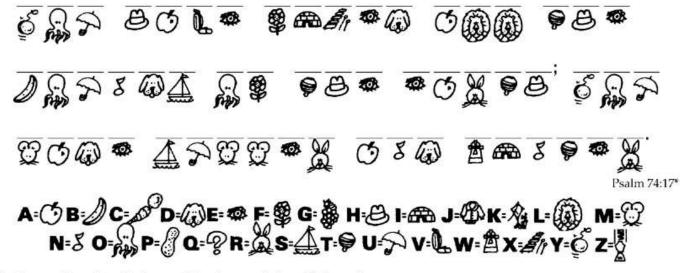
# Chicken or Pork Parmigiana

#### By Myrna Metzger

Ingredien	ts	Instructions
4	Cubed pork steak or boneless chicken breasts	Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2	Eggs	In a pie plate, beat egg and water. In a second plate, combine bread crumbs and Parmesan cheese. Dip pork tenderloins or
4 Tbl.	Water	chicken in egg mixture and then in bread crumb mixture.
2/3 cup	Bread crumbs	Fry in hot oil over moderate heat, turning once. Arrange in a
4 Tbl.	Grated Parmesan cheese	baking dish. Top with more spaghetti sauce and bake covered in oven until done, about 30 minutes.
1 cup	Italian cooking sauce or spaghetti sauce	During last 5 minutes, remove foil and top with Mozarella
1 cup	Shredded Mozarella cheese	cheese.
		Serve with spaghetti and more spaghetti sauce.

# KIDZ KORNER

What's the Word? In the spaces provided, fill in the first letter of each picture clue.



\*In the northern hemisphere winter has ended and it is spring.

In the southern hemisphere it is fall and winter will be coming soon.

Answer: You have fixed all the bounds of the earth; you made summer and winter.

#### Word Find PDRIZLE OKEQTHEFFLS In this word MINTXTTHRFBM find, circle MCNFCLIRDWBMUEL the words NBFJMEAAEKOFGMOL from the CPOUHUTHEOTUHOESO Bible verse above (from PZBOOICICLENJLBIUN Psalm 74:17). MFSYNWENKLHDIELSTL BULGLDTMLSASCWNJFI KGEPKEVAHISUONOKV TDTEXPNHRFMEEZEM JVLQIJMADEMWRSI Answer: ISTFQKNNGEEPTC OEUPUDKIRRSI UNRSRVOX

~~~~~

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

105 E. Main St. Elida. OH 45807

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Our Web Address: www.elidastpaulschurch.org

# **May 2013**



# **Living Our Faith**



#### A Day of Wind and Fire

Have you ever wondered how the Christian church got started? It hasn't always existed! It all began on an ordinary day when something very unexpected happened: God sent the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The disciples of Jesus were gathered together in Jerusalem. Jesus had told them to go there after he ascended to heaven. It was a big religious holiday in the Jewish faith called **Pentecost**.

and people were gathered from many different nations. If you had been in Jerusalem that day, it would have sounded like a meeting of the United Nations as you walked up and down the streets.

Suddenly came the sound of a mighty rushing wind and it filled the house where the disciples were sitting. Had you heard it, you might have thought a freight train was passing by.

Next, it began to look like little flames of fire were resting on each one of them. This was the presence of the Holy Spirit that Jesus had promised to them. Since that day, Pentecost has been called the birthday, or perhaps the anniversary of the Christian church. This year we celebrate it on **May 19**.

Read Acts 2:1-3 to study the details; then gather as many candles as you can. Imagine that each candle is a person. When they are lit, each candle carries a little bit of light. This is sort of what it's like to be a Christian. From the time we are baptized, we have God's light inside us. When we let our lights shine, then people can see the goodness and love of God at work in the world.

