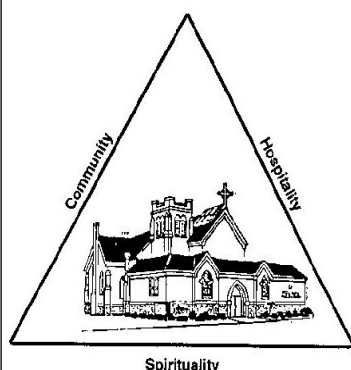


St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church
105 E. Main St.
Elida, OH 45807
419-339-3801
officeespc@gmail.com

Rev. Paul Scannell
419/909-9419
Cell Phone: 734/660-1984
pastorespc@gmail.com
4pastorpaul@gmail.com



Inside this issue:

Upcoming Events	2-3
Mexico Mission	4
April Showers	5
Faith in Action	6
Daily Bible Readings	7
Seniors Day Out	8
Our Church History	9
Remember When...	10
Connecting With...	11
The People of St. Paul's	12
April Calendar	13
Recipes	14
Kidz Korner	15
Living Our Faith	16



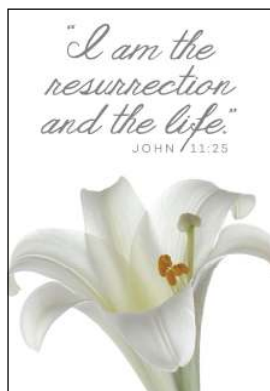
April showers bring May flowers which means rebirth and new life. Easter may already be behind us but like the early Christians we look forward with a new Hope; Hope that is found in the marvelous message of the empty tomb. We are going to be spending some time looking at the life of one of the first people to deliver the message of everlasting life. Like our own lives, Peter was not a perfect life, but he was inspired by the Holy Spirit to complete the work of the church. We will, through his story, look at how God used him and maybe by comparison we will see how God has and will use our gifts and talents. I look forward to seeing how God can work through us to do great things in our world the way he used Peter to change his world.

April is also the month when people begin to emerge from inside and look for things to do outside of the house. I am sure we will begin to hear about work being done at Camp Wesley, cleanup around the church, meals served at seniors day out, helping someone do homework; no matter your talents there is a place for you to help others. The Chicken BBQ is happening and you are invited to help or eat where ever your talents take you.

I also want to take a personal moment. In less than two months my oldest, David, is getting married up in Michigan. I want to invite all of you to a celebration of that event we are going to hold in the Fellowship Hall in June. Marla and I want to make sure you come and celebrate with us here in Elida as we welcome David's soon to be wife, Samantha, into the family. We hope you will join us in sharing the joy and excitement of their marriage. More information will follow in the weeks to come.

Enjoy the Spring,

Pastor Paul



Thought for the Month:

Easter is the soul's first taste of spring.

—Richelle Goodrich



April 1
Coins for Communion
to benefit
5 Loaves Food Pantry at
The Church at Allentown

Easter Early Service
8:00 AM

Easter Worship Service
10:00 AM

Easter Breakfast
served following the
Early Service

The Easter offering will be
divided between the UMC
Miracle Offering and Camp
Sierra Linda Campers
Sponsorship



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

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

Christian Symbol

Phoenix

According to ancient legend, the phoenix lived for 500 to 1,400 years (depending on the version of the myth), at which time it would set its nest ablaze and be consumed in the flames. After three days the bird would be reborn and was said to repeat this cycle, "rising from the ashes" again and again. Early Christians saw in the phoenix a symbol of Jesus' resurrection and of eternal life.



St. Paul's Epistle

is published by St. Paul's
United Methodist Church

Subscription Rate: NONE

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

St. Paul's Book Club
will meet Saturday, April 7
at 9:00 AM.

We will discuss *Left Neglected*
by Lisa Genova

Bring your own breakfast.



Seniors Day Out

**April 17
12:00 Noon**

All seniors welcome!

Koinonia Chicken Barbeque

Saturday, April 21

5:00 to 7:00 PM

\$8.00

Menu:

**1/2 Chicken (Harlan's),
homemade potato salad, applesauce,
roll and homemade dessert**

Walk-in, dine-in, or carry-out

**Tickets available from Koinonia
members or from the church office.**



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Hail the Spring!

By Dillon Staas

We greet the changing seasons with an optimistic eye
The hours of darkness shorten and we hear the robins cry.
Our hearts are looking forward to the heat of summer sun.
A smile adorns our countenance, and winter's on the run.

The fruit trees are in blossom and the grass is emerald green
The earth gives birth to flowers where the winter's frost has been.
The birds sing out for sunrise as they greet the dawning day.
To tell the whole world at last that spring is on it's way.



Mexico Mission

Mexico Eyeglass Mission Trip

By Tim Piper

Tim and Corinne Piper went on an eyeglasses mission's trip to Guadalajara, Mexico, from February 15th through the 27th. The annual mission is sponsored by the Lions Clubs in Mexico and is run by the Alabama Lions Clubs. They go to different regions of Mexico each year and this year's mission was in Guadalajara, a city of 4.6 million people located in the central highlands of Mexico. Local Lions Clubs provided meals, transportation and lodging during the week of the mission. Many of the local Lions members and students from the local university acted as interpreters. About 25 volunteers from Louisiana, Alabama, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Florida participated in the clinic. Over 1,450 persons had their eyes tested to determine their prescriptions. Glasses for each individual were located from a bank of 25,000 pairs of glasses and fitted. Those individuals with more serious conditions were seen by an ophthalmologist and referred to local doctors for further treatment which was paid for by the local Lions Clubs. Everyone visiting the clinic also received sunglasses, a necessity due to the direct sunlight in Mexico. This is the twentieth year of the Alabama Lions Mexico Eyeglass Mission. Next year's mission will be in Salamanca, Guanajuto, Mexico, so keep saving those eyeglasses and sunglasses!



April Showers Bring May Flowers

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Milton Johnson, Garrison Chaplain's Office , April 12, 2012

The Easter weekend celebration reminded me of a popular phrase that I memorized as a teenager that encourages me to look forward to the month of May with excitement and enthusiasm, in spite of the depression that looms from the hard long winter of the past several months-- that phrase is, April Showers, bring May flowers.

Following the commemoration of the life, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus over the weekend, I kept thinking about phrases like: weeping endures for a night, but joy comes in the morning; there is a silver lining after each dark cloud; and this too shall pass.

The reality of Jesus' death producing new life parallels with the thought of sunshine following a season of gloom and sadness. Like April showers, bring May flowers.

Perhaps everybody has heard this rhyme at some point, generally having been taught it at an early age by parents or teachers. It's a popular thing to say and hear around springtime, but one thing you might not know is where the rhyme originated from. It reaches back to the mid 1500's, although earlier use of "April Showers, bring May flowers" probably existed.

In 1557, a man by the name of Thomas Tusser compiled a collection of writings he called "A Hundred Good Points of Husbandry." In the April husbandry section, he wrote: Sweet April showers, Do spring May flowers. As you can see, the rhyme was originally a short poem. However, there is meaning behind the words, as well.

"April showers bring May flowers" is a reminder that even the most unpleasant of things, in this case the heavy rains of April, can bring about very enjoyable things indeed --even an abundance of flowers in May. "April showers bring May flowers" is also a lesson in patience, and one that remains valid to this day.

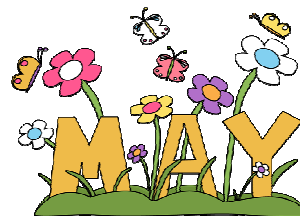
Many of life's greatest things come only to those who wait, and by patiently and happily enduring the clouds and damp of April, you can find yourself more easily able to take in the sights and smells of May. After all, it's easier to love something if you begin with an optimistic outlook.

Listen to an amazing story I read several months ago about a couple who experienced showers of blessings after the rain of repeated disaster in their life: After his parents were brutally murdered in North Vietnam, Ri moved to South Vietnam. While there he went to school and eventually became a building contractor. He prospered greatly until he was arrested on a trip heading north. After being imprisoned in North Vietnam for three years, he finally escaped and made his way south, only to be charged as a spy for the north.

When he learned that the U. S. was pulling out of South Vietnam, he gave all his worldly possessions in exchange for a passage on a small overcrowded fishing boat. He was later picked up on the high seas by an American ship and taken to the Philippines. Once there he lived in a refugee camp for 2 years until he was allowed to come to the United States.

Once he arrived in the United States, Ri's cousin offered both him and his wife jobs in his tailor shop. Even though their net pay was only \$300 per week, they were determined to succeed. For two years, they lived in the back room of the tailor shop and took sponge baths so they could save every penny possible. Within two years they had saved \$30,000 and bought out the cousin's business. It was only then that they rented an apartment. Today Ri is a millionaire. Hard work and frugal living can bring a dream into reality! What a success story!

Have you had a season of setbacks, disappointments or hindrances? Do not be dismayed. Remember these things: there has never been a wind that did not change directions, clouds do not hang forever and April Showers bring May flowers.



Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

March 4, 2018	107
March 11, 2018	89
March 18, 2018	83
March 25, 2018 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	92

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,466.00



Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
March 4, 2018	\$6449.00	\$962.81
March 11, 2018	\$2,151.00	\$1,942.46
March 18, 2018	\$2,658.00	\$698.90
March 25, 2018	\$3,042.00	\$493.00

Sunday School Attendance

March 4, 2018	8
March 11, 2018	5
March 18, 2018	5
March 25, 2018	11

Greeters

April 1, 2018	Scannell Family
April 8, 2018	Janet Grigg
April 15, 2018	OPEN
April 22, 2018	OPEN
April 29, 2018	Dillon & Helen Staas

Flower Calendar

April 1, 2018	Easter lilies
April 8, 2018	Virginia Hollar
April 15, 2018	Carl & Lois Rabley
April 22, 2018	Jerry Crates
April 29, 2018	OPEN

Hospitality Cart

April 1, 2018	Scannell Family
April 8, 2018	OPEN
April 15, 2018	OPEN
April 22, 2018	Choir/ Lois Cook & Linda Holman
April 29, 2018	Alex & Stacy McAdams

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday 4/1 *Easter*

Psalms 113, 114, 148, 149, 150
Exodus 12:1-14
John 1:1-18, Isaiah 51:9-11

Monday 4/2

Psalms 66, 93, 98, Exodus 12:14-27
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Mark 16:1-8

Tuesday 4/3

Psalms 103, 111, 114
Exodus 12:28-39
1 Corinthians 15:12-28
Mark 16:9-20

Wednesday 4/4

Psalms 97, 99, 115
Exodus 12:40-51
1 Corinthians 15:(29)30-41
Matthew 28:1-16

Thursday 4/5

Psalms 146, 147, 148, 149
Exodus 13:3-10
1 Corinthians 15:41-50
Matthew 28:16-20

Friday 4/6

Psalms 118, 136
Exodus 13:1-2, 11-16
1 Corinthians 15:51-58
Luke 24:1-12

Saturday 4/7

Psalms 104, 145
Exodus 13:17-14:4
2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10
Mark 12:18-27

Sunday 4/8

Psalms 111, 112, 113, 146, 147
Exodus 14:5-22
1 John 1:1-7, John 14:1-7

Monday 4/9

Psalms 1, 2, 3, 4, 7
Exodus 14:21-31
1 Peter 1:1-12, John 14:1-17

Tuesday 4/10

Psalms 5, 6, 10, 11
Exodus 15:1-21
1 Peter 1:13-25, John 14:18-31

Wednesday 4/11

Psalms 12, 13, 14, 119:1-24
Exodus 15:22-16:10
1 Peter 2:1-10, John 15:1-11

Thursday 4/12

Psalms 18:1-50, Exodus 16:10-22
1 Peter 2:11-25, John 15:12-27

Friday 4/13

Psalms 16, 17, 134, 135
Exodus 16:23-36
1 Peter 3:13-4:6, John 16:1-15

Saturday 4/14

Psalms 20, 21, 110, 116, 117
Exodus 17:1-16
1 Peter 4:7-19, John 16:16-33

Sunday 4/15

Psalms 114, 115, 148, 149, 150
Exodus 18:1-12
1 John 2:7-17, Mark 16:9-20

Monday 4/16

Psalms 9, 15, 25, Exodus 18:13-27
1 Peter 5:1-14, Matthew 3:1-6

Tuesday 4/17

Psalms 26, 28, 36, 39
Exodus 19:1-16
Colossians 1:1-14
Matthew 3:7-12

Wednesday 4/18

Psalms 38, 119:25-48
Exodus 19:16-25
Colossians 1:15-23
Matthew 3:13-17

Thursday 4/19

Psalms 37:1-42, Exodus 20:1-21
Colossians 1:24-2:7
Matthew 4:1-11

Friday 4/20

Psalms 105:1-45, Exodus 24:1-18
Colossians 2:8-23
Matthew 4:12-17

Saturday 4/21

Psalms 30, 32, 42, 43
Exodus 25:1-22
Colossians 3:1-17
Matthew 4:18-25

Sunday 4/22

Psalms 63, 98, 103
Exodus 28:1-4, 30-38
1 John 2:18-29, Mark 6:10-44

Monday 4/23

Psalms 41, 44, 52, Exodus 32:1-20
Colossians 3:1-20
Matthew 5:1-10

Tuesday 4/24

Psalms 45, 47, 48, Exodus 32:21-34
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 5:11-16

Wednesday 4/25

Psalms 53, 119:49-72
Exodus 33:1-23
1 Thessalonians 2:1-12
Matthew 5:17-20

Thursday 4/26

Psalms 59, 60, 114, 115
Exodus 34:1-17
1 Thessalonians 2:13-20
Matthew 5:21-26

Friday 4/27

Psalms 40, 51, 54, Exodus 34:18-35
1 Thessalonians 3:1-13
Matthew 5:27-37

Saturday 4/28

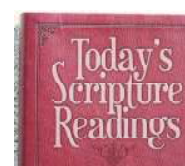
Psalms 55, 138, 139
Exodus 40:18-38
1 Thessalonians 4:1-12
Matthew 5:38-48

Sunday 4/29

Psalms 8, 24, 29, 84
Leviticus 8:1-13, 30-36
Hebrews 12:1-14, Luke 4:16-30

Monday 4/30

Psalms 56, 57, 58, 64, 65
Leviticus 16:1-19
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 6:1-18



Seniors Day Out

Thank You

Thank you to those who decorate, prepare and serve the meals for Seniors Day Out.



The next Seniors Day Out will be Tuesday, April 17, at noon in the Fellowship Hall.



Our Church History

Friend Sunday was celebrated on February 12th. Molly Fessler played a clarinet solo and Jacinda Fletcher sang a solo. Punch and cookies were served in the narthex after the service and red heart balloons were the decorations.

The Youth Group had a scavenger hunt on February 19. Four groups of youth with at least one adult went "hunting." The groups were: Jessie Adkins, Audrey Fox, Alex McAdams with Scott and Gail Fessler; Doug Guess Reggie McAdams, Andrew Piper with Doug Fox; Molly Fessler, Michele Theodore, Oliver Fessler, Jenni Theodore with John Fletcher; Jacinda Fletcher, Sylvia Hay, Tahler Sdao with Tim and Sue Theodore.

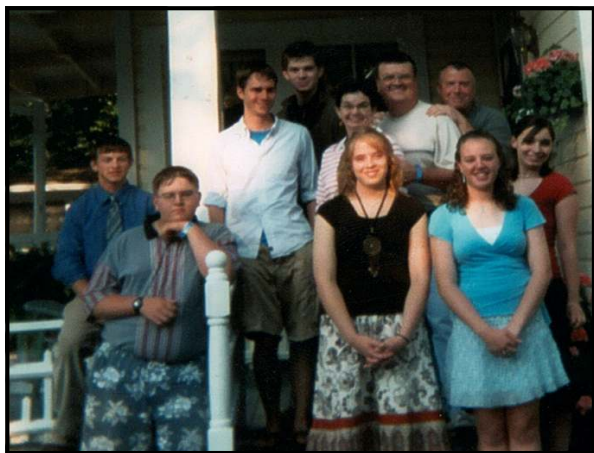
Easter Sunday was celebrated on April 16, 2006. The Puppet Ministry performed at the Sunrise Service. The performers were Molly Fessler, Jacinda Fletcher, Audrey Fox, Sylvia Hay, Tahler Sdao, and Michele Theodore. Following the Sunrise Service, breakfast was prepared and served by the Nurture Committee in the fellowship hall. The Bell Choir performed the Call to Worship and the Chancel Choir sang with the Youth Singers. The Chancel Choir also sang the cantata, "Amazing Love." It was a joyous Easter service.

The Class of 2016 graduates were honored on May 21st with a breakfast for them and their parents, provided by the Nurture Committee. Five graduates were from Elida High School: Megan Bible, Jon Blewitt, Jenessa Fletcher, Andrew Piper and Aaron Thompson. Logan Smith is a graduate of Shawnee High School. Each graduate received a special cookie decorated with their school colors. The Nurture Committee serving the breakfast were Gail Fessler, Joy Fletcher, Maedene Holmes, Mary Irvin and Mike Matlock.

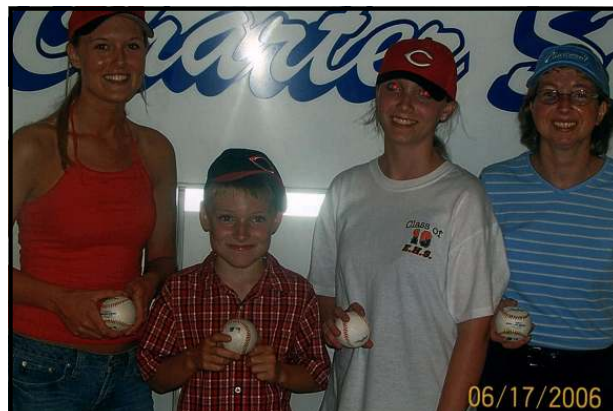
Several parishioners went on a bus trip to a Cincinnati Reds game on June 17. Four lucky people in the group caught a ball: Kim Bowsher, Gail Fessler, Oliver Fessler and Jacinda Fletcher. Well, maybe Gail wasn't so lucky. The ball she caught hit her in the face!

Seven youth, Jon Blewitt, Erin Brady, Kyle Brenneman, Sarah Dyke, Doug Guess, Andrew Piper and Jenni Theodore, went to camp at Lakeside from June 24 to July 1st. Doug Fox, and Tim and Corinne Piper went as chaperones.

The Koinonia Class had a muddy day to set up the chairs at the Allen Co. Fairgrounds on August 19, 2006. Many people still came out to help with this fundraiser



Seven youth and three Chaperones attended Lakeside in the summer.



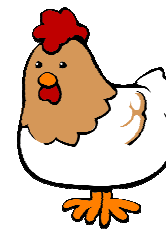
Four lucky people caught a ball at the Cincinnati Reds game.

Remember When...



April, 1997
Chicken Barbeque

L-R: Dan Best, Tim Theodore, Gene Craft, Linda Craft, Art Holman



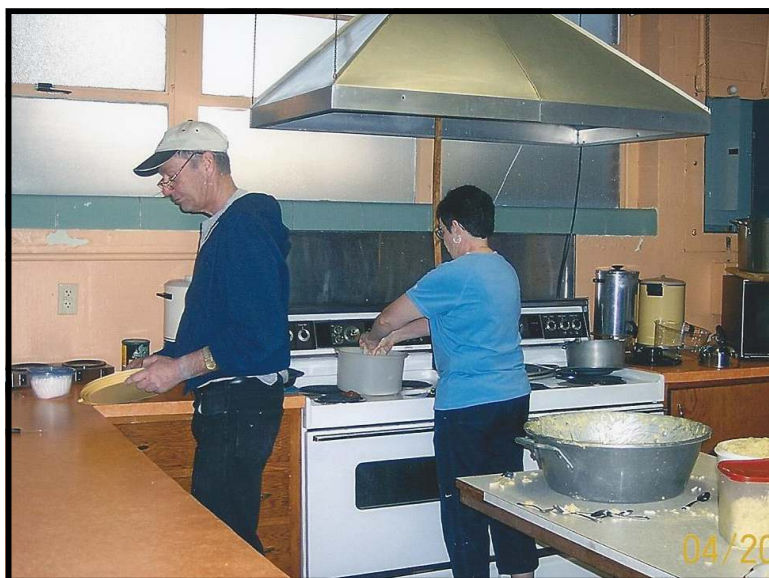
April, 1997
Chicken Barbeque

Gene Craft

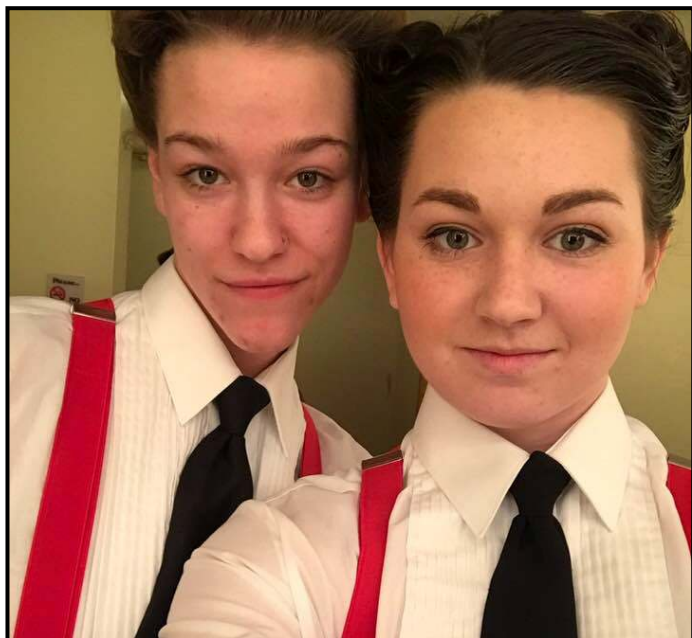


April, 2007
Chicken Barbeque

Art Holman, Corinne Piper



Connecting With ...



Congratulation to Emma Scannell on her continued dance career at Hope College. Emma was in Dance 44, which is a program choreographed by her dance professors and dance majors auditions to be in the various dance pieces. Emma is currently gearing up for the ballet club production of "Willy Wonka" on April 7. Emma is a sophomore choreographer for the club, her roommate, Emma will star as Willy Wonka.



I can do
ALL THINGS
through
Christ
who strengthens me.
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

Congratulations to Brittany Scannell on her dance performances. Brittany has been dancing with Lynn's Academy of Dance and dances with a group of middle through high school Hip-Hop. The group has won 2 awards and have 2 more competitions to go this year.



The People of St. Paul's



Our Condolences to Marty and Kathy White family on the death of Marty's mother, Minnie White. Minnie passed away March 23. She would have turned 89 on Monday, March 26. Cards may be sent to 5756 Clover Ridge Dr., Elida, OH 45807.

Anika and Terry Bok have their hands on a quilt being blessed. The quilts will go to children needing help through the Child Advocacy Center.



Blessing the of the Scouts on Scout Sunday, March 4.

Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Jerry Bean
Shara Bowsher
Don Chaffins
Brent Crawford
Jim Hines
Greg Schade
Steve Sdao
Gerald Strayer

Homebound Members

Hazel Dunn
Glenna Kohli

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Karen Bible
Jim Hines
Mary Steiner
Ray and Phyllis Trigg

In the Military & Missions

Oliver Fessler
Nathan Stewart



Meetings

April 2, 2018
PPR...7:00 PM

April 3, 2018
Trustees...7:00 PM

April 4, 2018
Worship Mtg..6:00 PM

April 9, 2018
Finance...7:00 PM

No Ad Council Mtg.

TBA
Missions Mtg.

Sundays
Sunday sch...9:00 AM
Prayer...9:30 AM
Fellowship...9:30 AM
Worship...10:00 AM

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir...7:00 PM

APRIL 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2 Michael Crates	3 Demi DeRose David Scannell	4 Lynda Evans Madelyn Thomas	5 Peyton Prezkora	6	7 Dan Best
8	9	10 Pam Lozano	11 Brittany Scannell	12	13	14
15 Todd Chaffins	16 Denise Thomas	17 Doug Guess	18 Paul Scannell	19 Maedene Holmes Thaddeous Strauch	20 Kelly DeRose Lori Motzer Aaron Piper	21 Krista Slemmons
22	23	24	25	26 Kim Selover	27	28
29 Gerald Strayer	30					

Anniversaries

Carl & Lois Rabley
April 14; 54y rs.

Brent & Sara Crawford
April 8

Ray & Phyllis Trigg
April 15; 58 yrs.

John & Joy Fletcher
April 17

Tony & Pam Lozano
April 17

Bobby & Jacquie Bice
April 19

Brad & Kim Selover
April 28; 39 yrs.

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

Monster Cookies

By Shirley Moser

Ingredients		Instructions
1 cup	Butter or margarine	Mix together and drop on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 8-10 minutes.
2 1/4 cups	Peanut butter	
2 cups	Sugar	
2 1/4 cups	Brown Sugar	
6	Eggs	
1 1/2 tsp.	Light corn syrup (optional)	
1 1/2 tsp.	Vanilla	
3 tsp	Baking soda	
1 tsp.	Salt	
9 cups	Oatmeal (quick)	
2 cups	Chocolate chips	
2 cups	M & M's	



Caramelized Graham Crackers

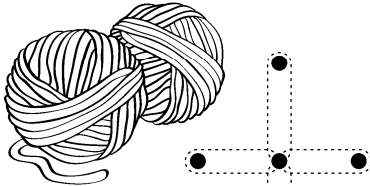
By Esther McKinney

Ingredients		Instructions
1 stick	Butter	Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Bring to boil: Butter, oleo, and sugar; boil 1 minute. Put 48 graham crackers on a buttered cookie sheet. Pour mixture over graham crackers, cover with nuts and bake for 8 minutes. Remove from cookie sheet before they stick
1 stick	Oleo	
1/2 cup	Sugar	
48	Graham Crackers	
ground	Pecans and nuts of choice	

KIDZ KORNER

CROSS CRAFT

Make this special cross as a reminder of Jesus' death and resurrection.



What you need:

- Adult help
- Piece of wood
- 5 nails
- Hammer
- 2 balls of yarn (blue and yellow)

What you do:

1. Hammer the nails into the wood to form a cross shape (see example).
2. Tie the blue yarn to the bottom nail. Wrap it up and around the top nail and back down to the bottom nail. Then wrap it around the middle nail and around the side nails. Repeat until the yarn is wrapped about halfway up the exposed nails.
3. Repeat step two with the yellow yarn. Wrap it around the nails until only the heads are visible.



RESURRECTION HOPE



Romans 6:5 reveals the hope we have because Jesus rose from the dead on Easter.



Directions: First solve the math problems. Then put the corresponding words in the blanks; for example, the word next to the answer "1" goes in the first blank, the word next to the answer "2" goes in the second blank, and so on.

$2+2 =$ ____	united	$2 \times 3 =$ ____	death	$7+6 =$ ____	resurrection
$3 \times 3 =$ ____	certainly	$18-16 =$ ____	have	$4-1 =$ ____	been
$0+1 =$ ____	if	$2 \times 4 =$ ____	we	$13-1 =$ ____	him
$2+3 =$ ____	in	$20-6 =$ ____	like	$2+5 =$ ____	his
$2 \times 5 =$ ____	be	$8+3 =$ ____	with		

"For 1 we 2 3 4
 with him 5 a 6 like 7 ,
8 will 9 also 10 united
11 12 in a 13
14 his." Romans 6:5, NIV

Answer: For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. Romans 6:5, NIV

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.
Elida, OH 45807

*Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Elida, OH
45807
Permit No. 71

Our Web Address:
www.elidastpaulschurch.org

Our Facebook page
Elida St. Paul's Church

Twitter Account
@ESPCHURCH



Living Our Faith

Why We Need Easter

No one is exempt from tragedy or disappointment — even God was not exempt. Jesus offered no immunity, no way *out* of the unfairness, but rather a way *through* it to the other side. Just as Good Friday demolished the instinctive belief that this life is supposed to be fair, Easter Sunday followed with its startling clue to the riddle of the universe. Out of the darkness, a bright light shone. ...

The cross of Christ may have overcome evil, but it did not overcome unfairness. For that, Easter is required, a bright clue that someday God will restore all physical reality to its proper place.

—Philip Yancey,
Disappointment With God

Our True Power Source

The story is told of someone who plugged a power strip into itself and then couldn't understand why the system wouldn't turn on! We get a kick out of such tales, yet how often do we try to "power" our own lives? We frequently think we need to be the source of our own strength, joy, peace, energy and wisdom.

Jesus doesn't teach us to find life within ourselves — or in any human being or earthly circumstance, object or philosophy. Rather, calling himself the good shepherd, Jesus says, "I have come that [my sheep] may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

We don't access that abundant life by "plugging into" ourselves. Instead, Jesus invites us to plug into his power — and joy, peace, hope, truth — through prayer and Scripture, worship and service, fellowship with other Christians and the beauty of God's world.