

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 41, Issue 8

August, 2018

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.

Elida, OH 45807

419-339-3801

officeespc@gmail.com

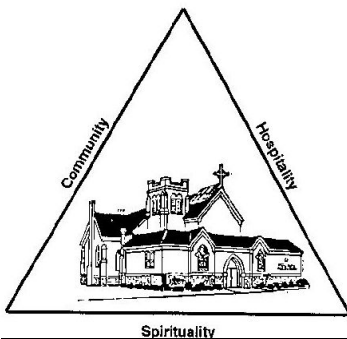
Rev. Paul Scannell

419/909-9419

Cell Phone: 734/660-1984

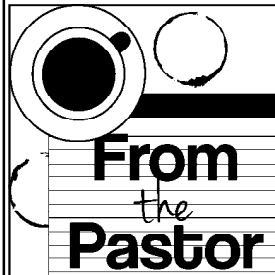
pastorespc@gmail.com

4pastorpaul@gmail.com



Inside this issue:

Upcoming Events	2-3
Brad Joseph Golf Outing	4
EACC	5
Faith in Action	6
Daily Bible Readings	7
The Armor of God	8
Our Church History	9
Remember When...	10
Connecting With...	11
The People of St. Paul's	12
August Calendar	13
Recipes	14
Kidz Korner	15
Living Our Faith	16



The summer is coming to a close and that means it time to get ready to go back to school. Shopping for school every year seemed to take the same pattern: school supplies, check; new shoes, check; new shirts, check; new pants, check; and of course a new lunch box, check. No, you can't wear your new stuff until school starts. They are called school clothes for a reason. Today you get a list of everything you are supposed to send to school with your kids and my kids are old enough they don't want mom and dad's help choosing clothes. This year we again have an opportunity to build school kits for kids here and around the world so they can have a chance to learn. You can also pack a health kit that is handed out to people after a natural disaster when you need those essential items just to get through the emergency. I hope you will join me in packing health kits or school kits for others this month.

While you are out and about I want to invite you to National Night Out August 7th at the Elida Field House. It will be an opportunity for us to share in a time of gathering with our friends and neighbors. It is also a time to show our appreciation for the men and women in our community who protect and serve us. I look forward to all the community businesses and organizations that will be present and to seeing you there.

Now before we get too far into the fall, let's enjoy what is left of summer. Enjoy time in the sun at the beach, a ball game or just playing in the backyard. No matter where you finish off the summer, stay safe and have fun. I'll see you in the mission field.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Paul



Thought for the Month:

Hope sees the invisible,
feels the intangible, and
achieves the impossible

-Unknown

St. Paul's Book Club

**Saturday, August 4
9:00AM**

In the Classroom beside the main office.

Bring your breakfast if you wish and
join the group for conversation about

"One Summer" By David Baldacci

All are welcome.



Seniors Day Out

**Tuesday, August 21
12:00 Noon**

In the Fellowship Hall

All seniors welcome!

Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen Mission

Friday, August 31

*Contact Tim Piper if available
to serve.*



August 5

**Coins for Communion
to benefit Meals 'till Monday**

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

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

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

Christian Symbol

Seven-Branded Candlestick

The seven-branded candlestick represents the Holy Spirit and its seven gifts in the listing from Isaiah 11:2-3: wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, fear of the Lord, and delight in the Lord. (By contrast, the Hanukkah menorah is a nine-branded candelabrum lit during the eight-day Jewish holiday.)



CHANCEL CHOIR:

Choir practice will begin
Wednesday, August 29
7:00 PM — 8:00 PM

All are welcome to join us for
singing praises to God and
sharing fun and fellowship.

**All voices are needed
and welcome!**



Blessing of the Back Packs

Sunday, August 26

To start off the new school year,
all students and teachers, bring
your back packs to worship
service to be blessed.



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

SCHOOL KITS

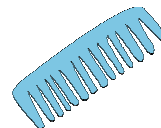
- One pair blunt scissors (**Round Tip**)
- Three **70 count** spiral notebooks (**Wide Ruled**)
 - One ruler (**12" – metric**)
- One hand-held pencil sharpener
 - One large eraser (**2 1/2"**)
- Six new #2 pencils with erasers (**unsharpened**)
- One box **Crayola** crayons (**24 ct.**)
 - **\$2.00** for Canvas Tote Bag
- **\$2.00** for processing and shipping kits

Pack kit in a **2 gallon size ziplock bag**
and place at the altar.



HEALTH KITS

- One hand towel (@15"x28" to 16"x32",
no micro-fiber)
 - One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb (**remove from package**)
 - One finger nail or toe nail clipper (**remove from package**)
- One bar of soap (**bath size in wrapper**)
- One adult size toothbrush (**in original packaging**)
 - **Ten** standard size Band-Aids
- **\$2.00** for processing and shipping kits



Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing



THE BRADLEY W. JOSEPH
MEMORIAL FUND

The 11th annual Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing was held on Saturday, July 14, at Colonial Golf Course. Thanks to golfers Dennis Bowsher, Larry and Shirley Moser, and Denny Thompson for representing St. Paul's UMC. The heat and humidity didn't keep Shirley from having the women's longest drive on two holes. Also, thanks to Norm Grigsby, Don Irvin, Pastor Paul, and Janna Thompson for helping with additional events at the outing.

The Brad Joseph Memorial Fund provides scholarships to students from Northwest Ohio and southern Michigan to go on medical mission trips. A special thanks goes to John Fleming for all the work he does to organize this event to provide the money that sustains these scholarships.

THANK YOU!!!

The proceeds from the Outing was \$4,009, which brings our eleven year Outing total to \$43,400, as a result of your generosity.

We will be contributing \$3,509 to the Memorial Fund which is held at the Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation, which will be used to fund future scholarships for Medical Mission Trips.

The other \$500 will be donated to the new Bradley Joseph Memorial Camp Scholarship Fund, which is a new fund that was established last year at the St Paul's UMC to support the camping program at the Church.

See you next year at the Twelfth Annual Bradley Joseph Memorial Golf Outing on Saturday, July 13, 2019 at the Colonial Golfers Club.

Thank You!!
John Fleming



Denny Thompson and Dennis Bowsher patiently waiting their turn.



EACC

IT'S BACK.....! NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The Elida Area Community Center (EACC) is again hosting the National Night Out at the Elida Field House parking lot on Tuesday, August 7, 2018, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM!

2017 was our first try at participating with the Village and Township fire and police forces as well as many of the local businesses and churches. During that first night out, Immanuel UMC gave away 500 hot dogs! There was face painting, prizes, trucks and lots of other fun activities.

We expect this year to be bigger and better! Immanuel UMC is planning on 1,000 free hot dogs! We will have two bouncy houses AND a DUNK TANK. More businesses are planning on being there with games and prizes. Rumor has it there will be a school bus for the kiddos to see and more peaches from Layman Brothers. Who knows what will be happening!

So mark your calendars! Join us at 6:00 PM, stay the evening to meet our first responders and have fun and plan on attending the glow stick walk at 9:00. There will be plenty of hot dogs!



Pictures from 2017 National Night Out!



Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

July 1, 2018	78
July 8, 2018	94
July 15, 2018	84
July 22, 2018	71

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
July, 1, 2018	\$2,816.00	\$649.00
July 8, 2018	\$3,101.00	\$1,029.05
July 15, 2018	\$2,688.00	\$443.62
July 22, 2018	\$2,900.00	\$532.00

Sunday School Attendance

July 1, 2018	10
July 8, 2018	4
July 15, 2018	11
July 22, 2018	4

Greeters

August 5, 2018	Don & Mary Irvin
August 12, 2018	Lynda Evans & Martha Vazquez
August 19, 2018	Dillon & Helen Staas
August 26, 2018	OPEN



If you are interested in filling an opening for either Greeter, Hospitality Cart hostess, or Altar flowers, please let the office know or sign-up on the sheets on the church bulletin board.

Flower Calendar

August 5, 2018	Jamie & Jan Wyant
August 12, 2018	OPEN
August 19, 2018	OPEN
August 26, 2018	Marty, Kathy & A. J. White

Hospitality Cart

August 5, 2018	OPEN
August 12, 2018	OPEN
August 19, 2018	OPEN
August 26, 2018	Choir

Daily Bible Readings

Wednesday 8/1

Psalm 53, 119:49-72
Joshua 8:30-35
Romans 14:13-23
Matthew 26:57-68

Thursday 8/2

Psalm 59, 60, Joshua 9:3-21
Romans 15:1-13
Matthew 26:69-75

Friday 8/3

Psalm 40, 51, 54
Joshua 9:22-10:15
Romans 15:14-24
Matthew 27:1-10

Saturday 8/4

Psalm 55, 138, 139
Joshua 23:1-16
Romans 15:25-33
Matthew 27:11-23

Sunday 8/5

Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84
Joshua 24:1-15
Acts 28:23-31, Mark 2:23-28

Monday 8/6

Psalm 56, 57, 58, 64, 65
Joshua 24:16-33
Romans 16:1-16
Matthew 27:24-31

Tuesday 8/7

Psalm 61, 62, 68
Judges 2:1-5, 11-23
Romans 16:17-27
Matthew 27:32-44

Wednesday 8/8

Psalm 72, 119:73-96
Judges 3:12-30
Acts 1:1-14, Matthew 27:45-54

Thursday 8/9

Psalm 70, 71, Judges 4:4-23
Acts 1:15-26, Matthew 27:55-66

Friday 8/10

Psalm 69, 73, Judges 5:1-18
Acts 2:1-21, Matthew 28:1-10

Saturday 8/11

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76
Judges 5:19-31
Acts 2:22-36, Matthew 28:11-20

Sunday 8/12

Psalm 34, 93, 96, Judges 6:1-24
2 Corinthians 9:6-15
Mark 3:20-30

Monday 8/13

Psalm 79, 80, Judges 6:25-40
Acts 2:37-47, John 1:1-18

Tuesday 8/14

Psalm 78, Judges 7:1-18
Acts 3:1-11, John 1:19-28

Wednesday 8/15

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120
Judges 7:19-8:12
Acts 3:12-26, John 1:29-42

Thursday 8/16

Psalm 83, 85, 86
Judges 8:22-35
Acts 4:1-12, John 1:43-51

Friday 8/17

Psalm 88, 91, 92
Judges 9:1-16, 19-21
Acts 4:13-31, John 2:2-12

Saturday 8/18

Psalm 87, 90, 136
Judges 9:22-25, 50-57
Acts 4:32-5:11, John 2:13-25

Sunday 8/19

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67
Judges 11:1-11, 29-40
2 Corinthians 11:21b-31
Mark 4:35-41

Monday 8/20

Psalm 89, Judges 12:1-7
Acts 5:12-26, John 3:1-21

Tuesday 8/21

Psalm 95, 100, Judges 13:1-15
Acts 5:27-42, John 3:22-36

Wednesday 8/22

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144
Judges 13:15-24
Acts 6:1-15, John 4:1-26

Thursday 8/23

Psalm 105, Judges 14:1-19
Acts 6:15-7:16, John 4:27-42

Friday 8/24

Psalm 102, 107:1-32
Judges 14:20-15:20
Acts 7:17-29, John 4:43-54

Saturday 8/25

Psalm 33, 107:33-43, 108
Judges 16:1-14
Acts 7:30-43, John 5:1-18

Sunday 8/26

Psalm 118, 145, Judges 16:15-31
2 Corinthians 13:1-11
Mark 5:25-34

Monday 8/27

Psalm 106, Judges 17:1-13
Acts 7:44-8:1a, John 5:19-29

Tuesday 8/28

Psalm 120, 127, Judges 18:1-15
Acts 8:1-13, John 5:30-47

Wednesday 8/29

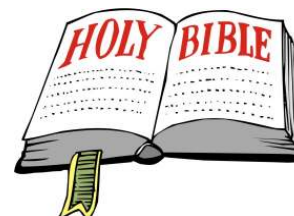
Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130
Judges 18:16-31
Acts 8:14-25, John 6:1-15

Thursday 8/30

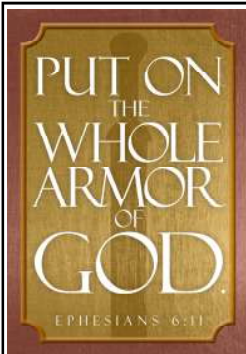
Psalm 133, 134, 135
Job 1:1-22
Acts 8:26-40
John 6:16-27

Friday 8/31

Psalm 140, 141, 142, 143
Job 2:1-13
Acts 9:1-9, John 6:27-40



The Armor of God



In Ephesians 6:10-20 the author writes about being strong in our faith. We are told to “put on the whole armor of God” (v. 11) in order to defend ourselves from enemies.

Instead of being military hardware, we are invited to wear some clothing that at first might have seemed to the Ephesians as a joke. Tie the truth around your waist? Wear the gospel of peace as shoes? These things seem strange.

Maybe the author of the letter (we're not sure who it really was) wanted to make a different kind of point. Perhaps they were trying to say something like “you know, there is a lot of fighting in our world, and there are a lot of dangerous and difficult forces out there. The way to tackle them all is not to try to fight them the way we've fought for years, but in a different way – Jesus' way.”

In verses 14-17 the author lists some kinds of “armor” we can put on. What might that look like?

Using a marker, draw a huge outline of a person – make it as big as you can. One option is to take a piece of butcher paper, or tape several small sheets together. Then, lie down on the paper, with your legs slightly apart and hands away from your body. Invite someone to draw a rough outline of your shape with a marker.

Illustrate some of the things in the Bible passage – you can write down words that describe the actions, or draw pictures, or cut out pictures from magazines and glue them on.

- A **belt** of truth. We use a belt to hold up our pants or skirt and for holding things together. Think about truth. When we are honest in what we think and say and believe, it holds together. Use your imagination to think of ways to express holding the world together.
- A **breastplate** of righteousness. This armor protects our heart and other organs from being pierced by arrows. Instead of hardening our heart out of fear the author suggests something else. How can we defend ourselves from other's hurts?
- **Shoes** of peace. How can you share God's peace in our world? What images might you use? How can we counter the world's hurt by telling others about God's unconditional love and grace?
- A **shield** of faith. What do we carry out in front? What do others see first about us? Draw a large shield and add words or pictures that speak of our faith in God.
- A **helmet** of salvation. Salvation is that sense of knowing that God loves us, no matter what. What kind of hat would tell others that we know and love God? Draw it.
- A **sword** of God's word. Instead of a sword that we can poke, stab, and hurt people with, we are invited to tell the message of God's love. Draw some wonderful words of love and reassurance in a big balloon (like a cartoon) coming out of the mouth.

Our Church History

On December 30, 2007, Jone Lane retired as St. Paul's organist after 14 years. Marty White, PPR Chair, presented Jone with a Penn State shirt (really, Marty?), which he quickly exchanged, after much laughter from the congregation, for an Ohio State shirt. The Bell Choir played "O Little Town of Bethlehem" during the worship service and a cake and punch reception was held in the Narthex after the service. The cake was made by Pastor Ruth's daughter. Linda Holman will become the organist.

At the end of this year, St. Paul United Methodist Church again received a "One Hundred Percent Achiever Church" certificate for meeting in full its apportionments which support United Methodism's Ministries across the West Ohio Conference and throughout the world.

The basement renovation continued into 2008. In March that year, the renovation was complete. On March 30, a reception was held in the newly renovated fellowship hall to celebrate the second confirmation of the following students: Molly Fessler, Audrey Fox, Doug Guess, Tahler Sdao, Michele Theodore, and A.J. White. Punch and cookies were served and banners made by the students were on display.

In May, St. Paul's two high school graduates were honored with a breakfast for them and their parents, prepared and served by Gail Fessler and Sue Theodore. Doug Guess and John Segovia were the graduates.

On June 1, 2008, a dedication for the new fellowship hall was held. The Garmann and Miller families, the architects for this major project, were our guests. A large fern was a gift from them. The Song of Praise that morning was "Standing on the Promises," highlighting the theme for our renovation, Standing on the Promises, Building on the Premises. Rev. Solo and Rev. David Chivington, Assistant Lima District Superintendent, conducted the service. Judy Chaffins was the special music and sang "Beautiful" by Paris. Steve Moser conducted the Children's Moments and Tim Piper and Norm Grigsby also spoke during the service. The congregation then moved to the new fellowship hall, where communion was served to everyone. After communion, Ron Steiner, Jamie Wyant, and Tim Piper spoke to the congregation. A beautiful flower arrangement was a gift from Heyne Construction, Inc. Everyone enjoyed a delicious carry-in meal, the first one served in our new fellowship hall.

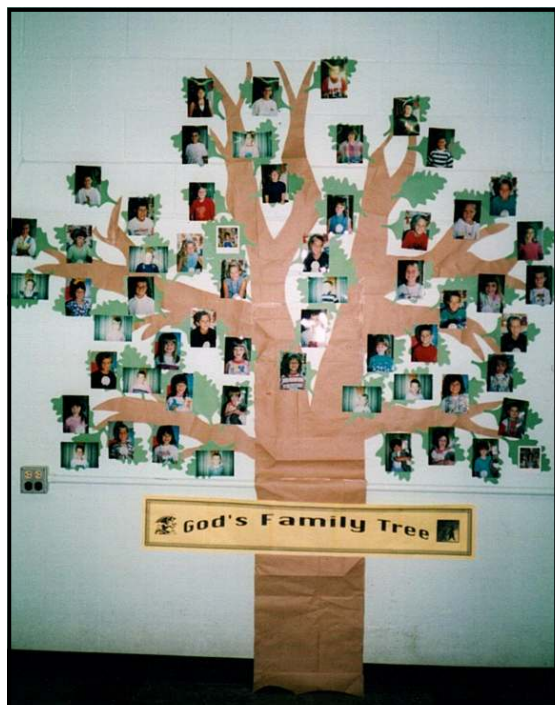


First Meal in New Fellowship Hall



Graduation Sunday

Remember When...



August, 1994
Vacation Bible School.



August 19, 2006
Muddy day setting up fair chairs
at the Allen County Fair.



August 15, 2013
Crafty Creatures taking
quilts to Van Crest nursing
home in Delphos.



Connecting With ...

Thank you, Brittany Scannell for providing the Special Music on Sunday, July 1. Brittany played "Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho", by Nancy and Randall Faber.



Seniors Day Out, July 17. The speaker was from Allen County Council on Aging.



Thank You

Jamie Wyant and Ramp Crew,

The ramp you built at Arcadia Ave. is wonderful. My son (Joe) can maneuver it with ease, and the landing allows him to sit to the side of door and "star gaze," which he always enjoys.

Thank you from both of us for your time, hard work, and donating the free labor.

Thank you so very much!
Sincerely, Barb and Joe Vance



Children listening intently during Children's moments, Sunday, July 22. Guest Speaker, Dave Thomas, teaching the children about building a strong foundation.

The People of St. Paul's

*Dear St. Paul's family,
Thank you so much for your
support as I heal from my
second knee replacement
surgery.*

*The flowers the church sent are
beautiful and many thanks to
the Seniors Day Out gals that
shared their center piece and
meals with us.
I really appreciate the cards,
calls, and prayers,*

*God Bless You,
Jan Wyant*

THANK YOU

*St. Paul's U. M. Church,
Thank you, for the beautiful
flowers, purple, my favorite.*

*I am now on the road to
recovery after 2 surgeries.
The people of St. Paul's are
so friendly and welcoming.*

Jeannine May

Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery
or in the Hospital

Homebound Members

Hazel Dunn
Glenna Kohli

Those in Need of Healing,
Support, Strength &
Encouragement

Jan Soddors

In the Military

Oliver Fessler
Nathan Stewart



Congratulations to Martha (and the late Ivan Vazquez) on the birth of their granddaughter, Amaia Mia Vazquez, born on July 17, 2018. Parents are Omar and Noelia Vazquez.



Congratulations to Samantha Whetstone and Nathan Alexander on the birth of their daughter, Alaina Lynette Alexander, born on June 30. She weighed 8 lbs. 20 oz. Proud grandparents are Brad and Slone Whetstone, and aunts, Jenson Nagy and Lena Whetstone and Uncle, Michael Whetstone.

Meetings

No PPR

No Trustees

August 8, 2018
Worship Mtg..6:00 PM

August 13, 2018
Finance ...7:00 PM

No Ad Council

No Missions Mtg.

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

AUGUST 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



Scott & Beth Warris August 1
AJ & Tara Strauch August 2
Ron & Mary Steiner August 3; 49 yrs.
Jim & Christie Lewis August 3
Brandon & Jaime Chambers August 4
Brady & Tiffany Emmons August 4
Steve & Tracy Sdao August 4
Jamie & Jan Wyant August 6; 41 yrs.
Scott & Michelle Grapner August 11
David & Susan Nartker August 16; 43 yrs.

			1 Mary Grigsby Tim White	2	3	4 Joy Fletcher Cody Scannell
5	6 Anne Laman	7	8 Myrna Metzger	9 Sara Crawford Ruth Hardy	10	11 Nancy Kizer Michele Luhn Emma Scannell
12	13	14 Chris Przekora	15 Ginny Doseck Ella Tweddle	16 Bev Nesbitt	17	18 Tracy Sdao
19 Jacquie Bice	20 Austin Lewis Dennis Metzger	21	22	23 Aric Thompson	24 Gail Fessler	25 Ira Slemmons
26	27	28 Julia White	29 Brad Selover Justin Wyant	30 Cole Lewis Esther McKinney	31	

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

Chocolate Crunch Bars

By Mary Holmes

Ingredients		Instructions
6 cups	Cocoa crisp rice cereal	<p>Place rice cereal in large bowl; set aside.</p> <p>Combine margarine, peanut butter and marshmallows in a medium saucepan; cook, stirring constantly, over low heat, until marshmallows are melted and mixture is smooth.</p> <p>Pour marshmallow mixture over cereal, stirring until cereal is well coated.</p> <p>Stir in chocolate chips.</p> <p>Press mixture in sprayed 13x9x2 inch baking pan.</p> <p>Let cool completely. Cut into bars.</p>
1 1/2 Tbl.	Margarine	
1 1/2 Tbl.	Peanut butter	
1/2 (16 oz.) bag	Large marshmallows	
1/2 cup	Chocolate chips, semi sweet	



Fudge Sundae Pie

By Ginger Fox

Ingredients		Instructions
1/4 cup	Corn syrup	<p>Combine corn syrup, brown sugar, and butter in medium sauce pan. Cook over low heat stirring occasionally, until it begins to boil. Remove from heat and add cereal. Stir until well coated. Press evenly into 9 inch pie pan.</p>
2 Tbl.	Brown sugar, packed	
3 Tbl.	Margarine or butter	
2 1/2 cups	Rice Krispies	<p>Stir peanut butter, fudge sauce and corn syrup together. Spread half of mixture over crust. Freeze until firm</p>
1/4 cup	Fudge ice cream sauce	
1/4 cup	Peanut butter	<p>Allow ice cream to soften slightly. Spoon into frozen crust. Freeze until firm.</p> <p>Let pie stand at room temperature about 10 minutes before cutting. Warm remaining peanut butter mixture and drizzle over top.</p>
3 Tbl.	Corn syrup	
1 qt.	Vanilla ice cream	

KIDZ KORNER

BUMBLE BEE BALLS

Make these yummy treats as a summer snack.

What you need:

- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1½ oz. instant oats
- ¼ cup honey
- ½ cup instant milk powder
- ½ cup dark chocolate chips
- 40 mini chocolate chips
- 20 slivered almonds
- 40 sliced almonds
- Adult help

What you do:

1. In a bowl, mix peanut butter, oats, honey and instant milk powder into dough. If too dry, add more peanut butter or honey.
2. Roll dough into 20 long balls. Place them on a cookie sheet and refrigerate.
3. Melt the dark chocolate chips and place them in a zippered baggie. Cut a tiny bit off one corner.
4. Remove dough from refrigerator. Squeeze thin lines of chocolate as stripes onto the bee bodies.
5. Use two mini chocolate chips for eyes, a slivered almond for a stinger and two sliced almonds as wings. Enjoy!

PUZZLE

GOD'S amazzzing BEES

God created bees to pollinate flowers and make honey. Psalm 119:103 says God gives us something that's even sweeter than honey.

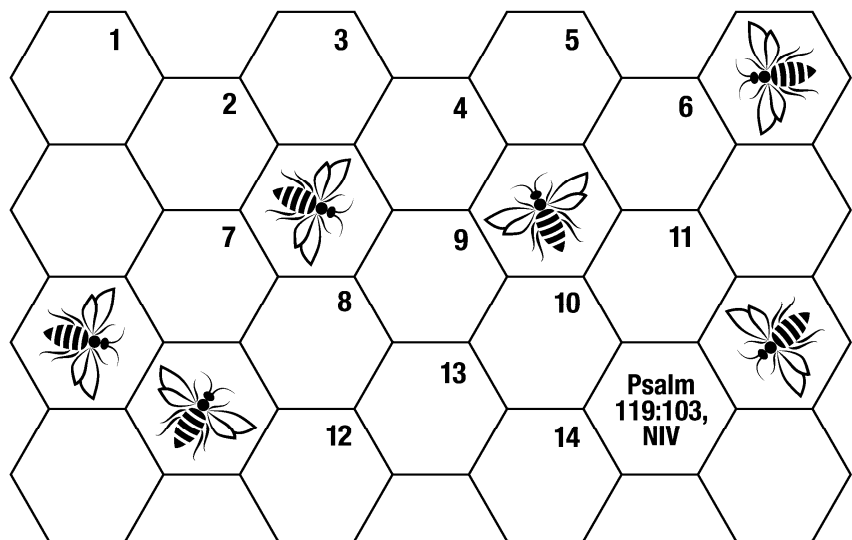
Directions: Find the word that fits each clue. Then write the answers in the correct numbered honeycomb shape to complete Psalm 119:103, NIV.

CLUES

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. rhymes with cow | 8. the tongue's job |
| 2. opposite of sour | 9. more sweet |
| 3. pronounced "R" | 10. rhymes with pan |
| 4. rhymes with four | 11. golden liquid |
| 5. Letters create _____ | 12. Pleased __ meet you. |
| 6. not too or two | 13. rhymes with fly |
| 7. rhymes with by | 14. body part |

WORD BANK

than your to are
sweet sweeter How
my honey mouth
words to taste, my



Answer: How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Psalm 119:103, 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

What Spills Out?

Rev. Henry Wingblade once compared the Christian personality to the unseen soup in a bowl carried high over a waiter's head. No one knows what's inside — unless the waiter is bumped or trips. If Jesus is truly living inside us, Wingblade said, what spills out should be the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

When you falter, what do people see? How can your "spillage" better reflect the Holy Spirit, who lives in you?



Prayer From The Heart

John Bunyan said, "In prayer it is better to have a heart without words than words without a heart." A story told by a 19th-century Jewish rabbi shares the same idea:

A disheveled old man entered a synagogue for the first time. Not realizing he was holding the prayer book upside down, he tried to follow the congregation's singing, but his words were incorrect. Finally, he simply looked toward heaven, repeating one Hebrew word over and over.

After worship, some people complained to the rabbi, "Why didn't you ask him to leave?" He replied, "That man said more to God with his one word than some of us will ever say in our whole lives. God hears the words of the heart."