

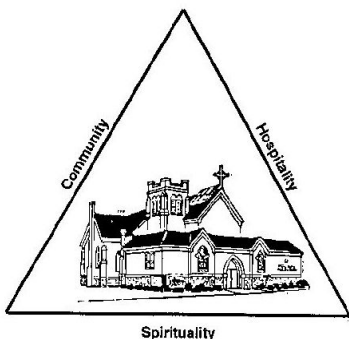
St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 38, Issue 2

February, 2015

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February is one of the hardest months of the year even though it is only 28 days long. Christmas is behind us and Easter is still weeks away. It's cold and snowy outside, and it is hard to be cooped up inside. Things at church are moving along well as we continue to work closely with the EACC on the after school program. Nominations continues to meet to fill positions for the coming year and the budget has been completed and approved by the Ad. Board. I want to thank everyone who has worked on committees for the past year and everything they have accomplished for the church.

As we prepare for Lent this year and the Joy of Easter, put Palm Sunday, March 29th, on your calendar as the choir will be performing a Cantata. The Lenten series is still not on paper which makes me a little nervous but I am going to trust God to give me direction. That is sort of how all of us are supposed to live. Trusting God will bring spring each year gets us through the long month of February. This article is going to be short like the month because there is so much good information inside the newsletter and I have not been inspired with anything good to write. I am off to shovel more snow in the cold, cold winter. Stay warm and trust spring is coming.

Pastor Paul



Thought for the Month:
The success of love is in the loving; it is not in the result of loving.
—Mother Teresa



Cantata

The St. Paul's Chancel Choir will perform an Easter cantata titled: *The Passion and the Promise* by Lloyd Larson and Mark Hayes on **Palm Sunday** during the regular worship service. The story includes the journey Jesus makes, His death on the cross and His triumphant resurrection.

"In the words of Jesus himself, 'You will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. For if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.' This is the promise and the passion and suffering of the Lord. It is the hope of our salvation in Him."

Rehearsals for the cantata are every **Wednesday from 8:00 until 8:30 pm**. Anyone who would like to join the choir is invited to attend. CDs are available which have all the musical parts to help learn the music. We would welcome all who would like to take this journey with us this Lenten and Easter season.

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

February
'Coins for Communion'
to benefit
Heartbeat of Lima

Save Your Coins



Seniors Day Out
Tuesday,
February 17, 2015
12:00 Noon
All seniors welcome!



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



Christian Symbol

SCROLL

A scroll may symbolize the writings of Scripture, particularly the Old Testament. In Luke 4, Jesus reads from the scroll of Isaiah in his home synagogue at Nazareth. A scroll may also symbolize the Day of Judgment, with the names of the elect, or saved, written on it. In Revelation 5, the creatures and elders around God's throne sing to Christ the Lamb: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation" (v. 9, NIV).

MISSIONS THANK YOU!

Dear Friends,
 Thank you for your gift of \$55 from your 5th Sunday offering to **UMCH Family Services** received on December 18th. We are deeply grateful for your support. May you be blessed for the kindness, generosity and love you have given to the children of UMCH Family Services.

Sean Reilly, Executive Director UMCH Family Services

Thank you to everyone who prepared food for and helped with the **Lima Area Methodist Men's (LAMM)** breakfast. Thanks to Corinne Piper and Barbara Schade for helping serve. 25 people attended and enjoyed the delicious food prepared by our parishioners. Corinne Piper gave an update on the EASY program and Jamie Wyant gave a power point presentation on the upcoming 2015 Camp Wesley mission. Thank you to all who made the breakfast a success.

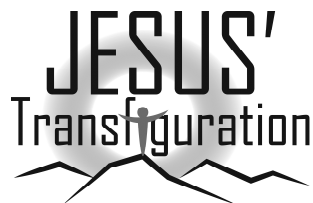
Dear Elida St. Paul UMC:
 The Council on Development of the **W. O. C. of The United Methodist Church** would like to extend to you our sincere expression of gratitude for your gift of \$30 in support of **Camp Wesley**. Your contribution makes it possible for us to continue to reach out to children, youth and families with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Again, thank you for your bounteous gift.

Rev. George D. Cooper, Executive Director, W. O. C.

Dear St. Pauls UMC,
 Thank you for your recent donation of \$53.04. It is encouraging to see such great support from donors like yourself who know that **The Salvation Army** is truly "Doing the Most Good". Without your help, it would be impossible to continue our services.

Majors Jeff & Deb Stacy

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



Transfiguration Sunday
February 15, 2015



Ash Wednesday
February 18, 2015
Service at 7:00 PM

LENTEN LIVING

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18, this year. Christians have observed this season of the church year since the fourth century. It's traditionally a time of reflection, penitence and spiritual renewal before Easter.

During Lent, some Christians give up something that hinders their relationship with God. Others do something extra for their spiritual growth or make a special sacrifice. The key is to make Lent a memorable season of sincere spiritual growth — a time that can set the tone for the rest of the year.



1st Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2015



2nd Sunday in Lent
March 1, 2015

Missions Year-End Report

ST. PAUL'S CONGREGATION AND MISSIONS COMMITTEE EFFORTS DURING 2014:

* St. Paul's and other UMC churches hosted quarterly meetings of the **Lima Area Methodist Men's group** (L.A.M.M.), to listen to presentations on local mission work. Over \$500 was donated by LAMM to mission projects, both local and in the Ohio Conference;

* Jesus said to "feed my sheep." Donations of food for the Allentown UMC **Five Loaves Food Pantry** continued to be strong in 2014 with St. Paul's individuals faithfully filling the food bins every month. Thank you to all who donate food to feed those families who are in need in our Elida community;

* St. Paul's has monetarily supported the **Meals 'til Monday** mission which provides weekend meals to children from various elementary schools in and around Allen County;

* St. Paul's continued to serve the needy at the Central Ave., Lima **Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen** on every fifth Friday that occurred during the year. Numerous individuals represented St. Paul's as volunteers at the soup kitchen during the four 2014 dates, serving 100 to 200 persons at each gathering;

* Maedene Holmes, and her band of workers assembled **school kits (78) and health kits (25)** donated by numerous members of our congregation as part of this annual November mission effort. Pastor Paul delivered the kits to the local collection point for the West Ohio Conference **Festival of Sharing**;

* The small group, **Crafty Creatures** continues to bless our congregation and our community with their work of **prayer shawls, blankets, and quilts**. They also made significant contributions to our annual mission **Christmas Tree of hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves** which were donated to Our Daily Bread;

* St. Paul's donated \$100 to the annual **Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing** in July. St. Paul's had a golf foursome with their golf fees going to the memorial fund. Also, four of our members assisted with tournament-day administrative duties. The BJ Memorial Fund has given out scholarships for Medical Mission trips to Kenya, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico & Uganda in the past six years;

* Check out our **Missions Committee bulletin board** located on the wall of the education wing hallway outside the Pastor's office on which are posted **'thank-you' letters and upcoming mission opportunities**;

* Jamie Wyant led a team from St. Paul's (and other local churches) on several weekends on a "summer mission project" to **the U.M.C. Camp Wesley** near Bellefontaine during June, July and August. Volunteers completed work on building a new boat dock, building a new storage building for paddle boards and finished the boardwalks on the path leading around the lake; A 2015 Camp Wesley mission is planned;

* On Thursday, October 30th Gary Hurd, Cari Metzger, Corinne Piper and Tim Piper handed out coffee, hot chocolate and pencils to parents and their children at the church for our **Trick-or-Treat Night Mission**. Over 350 cups of hot beverages were distributed along with pencils with St. Paul's name and website on them. Parents were very appreciative of the hot beverages and the break from trick-or-treating;

* St. Paul designates a special offering every year to the **Camp Sierra Linda U. M. Church Camp** in Monterrey, Mexico. This year we contributed \$441.50 to the camp to sponsor intercity youth to attend the camp and learn the Gospel of Jesus Christ;

* St. Paul designated a special offering for the **Miracle Offering**, which went to **No More Malaria**. Our donation of \$441.50 will go towards the worthy effort to eradicate Malaria worldwide in our lifetime;

* At Christmas time a new mission for St. Paul's was the **Operation Christmas Child**. Jamie Wyant headed up the collection of 104 shoeboxes filled with gifts, donated by our congregation and given to **Samaritan's Purse** to distribute to children worldwide. Thank-you to all who donated to this mission;

* The people of St. Paul's United Methodist Church **donated over \$14,500** to special missions, coins for communion, United Methodist Special Sundays, special designated Sundays and other missions and ministries of our church. See "2014 ST. PAUL'S SPECIAL MISSIONS GIVING SUMMARY", Thank you to all who donated to these missions.

Many thanks to the members of the Mission Committee for 2014: Jamie Wyant, Norm Grigby, Maedene Holmes, Carrie Metzger, Dillon Staas, Martha Vazquez, Dennis & Shara Bowsher, Tim Piper and Pastor Paul Scannell. Also, many thanks to members of our congregation who faithfully volunteered at Our Daily Bread soup kitchen, worked on quilts, hats & mittens, assembled health and school kits, filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, worked or played golf at the Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing, helped with LAMM breakfasts, donated food faithfully to 5 Loaves Food Pantry, worked on ramps, volunteered at Camp Wesley church camp and donated to special missions, projects and funds. You are truly a blessing to the many people who have been served by the sweat and generosity of our congregation at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Praise God for his blessing upon our efforts!

2014 Missions Giving Summary

COINS AT COMMUNION GIVING:

		<u>2014 AMOUNT GIVEN</u>
Hope Visitation Center	(January)	\$ 34.73
Heartbeat of Lima	(February)	\$ 59.37
Our Daily Bread	(March)	\$ 179.62
5 Loaves Food Pantry - Allentown	(April)	\$ 132.21
WOC United Methodist Church Camps	(May)	\$ 94.54
United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR)	(June)	\$ 66.95
Brad Joseph Memorial Fund	(July)	\$ 137.35
Meals 'til Monday	(August)	\$ 126.27
Samaritan House	(September)	\$ 103.74
Family Promise	(October)	\$ 57.94
Lima Rescue Mission	(November)	\$ 96.37
Salvation Army	(December)	\$ 53.04

TOTAL: \$ 1,142.13

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SPECIAL SUNDAYS GIVINGS:

Human Relations Day	(January)	\$ 23.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	(March)	\$ 41.00
Native Amer. Awareness Day	(April)	\$ 11.52
Peace with Justice Day	(June)	\$ 10.00
Health & School Kits (\$2 in ea. Kit)	(September)	\$208.00
World Communion Sunday	(October)	\$ 31.00
Student Day	(November)	\$ 45.00

OTHER SPECIAL OFFERINGS/GIVINGS:

Heifer International (\$'s left on cow)	\$ 424.52
UMCH \$5 on the 5th (4 Sundays)	<u>\$ 373.77</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 1,167.81

SPECIAL SERVICES GIVING (Designated Use of \$'s):

Ash Wednesday (Special Needs Fund)	\$ 96.00
Easter (Miracle Offering-No More Malaria)	\$ 441.50
Easter- (Camp Sierra Linda)	\$ 441.50
Christmas Offering-Elida Community Ctr/Elida After School Youth Prog.	\$ 677.00
Christmas Offering-Samaritan's Purse-Operation Christmas Child	<u>\$ 677.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 2,333.00

SPECIAL MISSIONS/DESIGNATED GIVING:

Camp Wesley (includes flow-thru by participants of other local churches)	\$ 2,270.00
Brad Joseph Golf Outing donations	\$ 100.00
Elida Community Center/Elida after-school youth program	\$ 600.00
Health & School Kits (25 Health Kits x \$11; 78 School Kits x \$12)	\$ 1,211.00
Donations to Ramps Fund	\$ 874.96
Donations to General Missions Fund	\$ 933.66
Donations to Crafty Creatures (Cookie Walk)	\$ 561.00
Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes (104 boxes x \$32 per box)	<u>\$ 3,328.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 9,878.62

(Separate giving not shown here: FORO, UM double-giving Monday, Meals'til Monday Christmas Cards.)
(Food pantry items, mittens, hats, scarves - not quantified)

\$ 14,521.56

GRAND TOTAL MISSIONS GIVING - 2014:

2014 Mission Giving as a % of 2014 Church Budget (\$170,567) = 8.5%

The St. Paul's Missions Committee holds as its Mission Statement:

‘We are called to be of service to others in the name of Christ Jesus and,
therefore, we shall offer our time, talent, and offerings as our commitment
to mission at St. Paul's Church’

Faith In Action

Financial Giving
Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,466.00



Worship Attendance:	
January 4, 2015	87
January 11, 2015	91
January 18, 2015	93
January 25, 2015	95

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
January 4, 2015	\$4,534.00	\$661.33
January 11, 2015	\$2,305.25	\$5,337.04
January 18, 2015	\$2,098.50	\$304.50
January 25, 2015	\$3,566.60	\$482.42

Sunday School Attendance	
January 4, 2015	6
January 11, 2015	23
January 18, 2015	24
January 25, 2015	24

Greeters	
February 1, 2015	Ron & Mary Steiner
February 8, 2015	Tony & Shirley Shoup
February 15, 2015	Dillon & Helen Staas
February 22, 2015	Marty & Kathy White

Flower Calendar	
February 1, 2015	Paul & Marla Scannell
February 8, 2015	Dillon & Helen Staas
February 15, 2015	Jamie & Jan Wyant
February 22, 2015	Ruth Hardy

Communion Servers	
February 1	
Station #1	Gary & Janet Grigg
Station #2	OPEN
Station #3	OPEN

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday 2/1

Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84
Genesis 18:16-33
Galatians 5:13-25, Mark 8:22-30

Monday 2/2

Psalm 56, 57, 64, 65
Genesis 19:1-29
Hebrews 11:1-12, John 6:27-40

Tuesday 2/3

Psalm 61, 62, 68, Genesis 21:1-21
Hebrews 11:13-22, John 6:41-51

Wednesday 2/4

Psalm 72, 119:73-96
Genesis 22:1-18
Hebrews 11:23-31, John 6:52-59

Thursday 2/5

Psalm 71, 74, Genesis 23:1-20
Hebrews 11:32-12:2
John 6:60-71

Friday 2/6

Psalm 69, 73, Genesis 24:1-27
Hebrews 12:3-11, John 7:1-13

Saturday 2/7

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76
Genesis 24:28-51
Hebrews 12:12-29, John 7:14-36

Sunday 2/8

Psalm 34, 93, 96
Genesis 24:50-67
2 Timothy 2:14-21
Mark 10:13-22

Monday 2/9

Psalm 77, 79, 80
Genesis 25:19-34
Hebrews 13:1-16, John 7:37-52

Tuesday 2/10

Psalm 78:1-72
Genesis 26:1-6, 12-33
Hebrews 13:17-25
John 7:53-8:11

Wednesday 2/11

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120
Genesis 27:1-29
Romans 12:1-8, John 8:12-20

Thursday 2/12

Psalm 85, 86, 146, 147
Genesis 27:30-45
Romans 12:9-21, John 8:21-32

Friday 2/13

Psalm 88, 91, 92
Genesis 27:46-28:22
Romans 13:1-14, John 8:33-47

Saturday 2/14

Psalm 87, 90, 136
Genesis 29:1-20
Romans 14:1-23, John 8:47-59

Sunday 2/15

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67
Genesis 29:20-35
1 Timothy 3:14-4:10
Mark 10:23-31

Monday 2/16

Psalm 89:1-52, Genesis 30:1-24
1 John 1:1-10, John 9:1-17

Tuesday 2/17

Psalm 94, 95, 97, 99, 100
Genesis 31:1-24
1 John 2:1-11, John 9:18-41

Wednesday 2/18

Psalm 101, 109:1-30, 119:121-144
Genesis 31:25-50
1 John 2:12-17, John 10:1-18

Thursday 2/19

Psalm 105:1-45, Genesis 32:3-21
1 John 2:18-29, John 10:19-30

Friday 2/20

Psalm 102, 107:1-32
Genesis 32:22-33:17
1 John 3:1-10, John 10:31-42

Saturday 2/21

Psalm 107:33-43, 108:1-13
Genesis 35:1-20
1 John 3:11-18, John 11:1-16

Sunday 2/22

Psalm 118, 145, Proverbs 1:20-33
2 Corinthians 5:11-21
Mark 10:35-45

Monday 2/23

Psalm 106:1-48, Proverbs 3:11-20
1 John 3:18-4:6
John 11:17-29

Tuesday 2/24

Psalm 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126
Proverbs 4:1-27
1 John 4:7-21, John 11:30-44

Wednesday 2/25

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130
Proverbs 6:1-19
1 John 5:1-12, John 11:45-54

Thursday 2/26

Psalm 131, 132, 134, 135
Proverbs 7:1-27
1 John 5:13-21, John 11:55-12:8

Friday 2/27

Psalm 140, 141, 142, 143
Proverbs 8:1-21
Philemon 1-25, John 12:9-19

Saturday 2/28

Psalm 104, 137, 144
Proverbs 8:22-36
2 Timothy 1:1-14
John 12:20-26



Ronnie's Ramblings

On the Sunday that I announced that I was going to retire in a few weeks, Pastor Paul had a sermon on the gift that the Lord gave us on Christmas: The presence of Jesus in our lives.

As I look back from the time Mary and I were married, how the presence of Jesus and the goodness of the Lord has been in our lives.

We bought the house we live in now on the north side of Elida. A neighbor man came over and introduced himself as Bill McKinney. He was a great help to us getting moved in after we were married in August, 1969.

A few years after we were married I had a chance to go to work at Ford. After a long week of trying to decide what to do we decided it was best if I stayed at Elida Machine and Tool.

As time went along we had a boy, Brian, and a girl, Christie. I was helping my dad farm. A Mr. Basinger offered to give us 3 acres of land across from the Bluffton Bowling Alley to build a new house and move across the section from dad. We had a house designed but decided we could not leave this area because of Bill and Esther, the school, and friends at St. Paul's.

I started to farm on a farm that my grandfather owned 4 miles north of the home farm. This was a great 80 acres of great dirt. Nine years later the farm was sold to close the estate. Mary and I decided not to buy it after a long 6 days of trying to decide what to do. We called it the 80 acre mistake for not buying it.

Then in the spring of 1986, Mary had a major brain bleed. She was in St. Rita's for 90 days. Some people say that in time of trials there was one set of tracks that carried them, tracks of the good Lord. Well, for the Steiners, there was a herd of tracks that carried us that summer. Tracks from the neighbors, the members of St. Paul's, family, friends, and my boss at work. It was then that I began to understand why we made some of the decisions that we made early in our life. The good Lord knew what laid ahead for the Steiners. He guided us when we did not realize it. The best blessing that we had was my job at Elida Machine and Tool, and my boss, Terry Slane, and his wife, Carol. When Mary was sick he told me to come to work when I could, late and leave early, still paying me for 40 hrs. He gave me guidance and advice on what to do that summer.

Until 4 years ago he paid for all our health insurance and made all the payments to our profit sharing account. We were one family all 48yrs., 6 mo., and 11 days that I worked there. I loved working at the shop. We worked for plastic, stamping, guardrail, and food industries, seeing different jobs every day. I got to design new dies and see some of the newest and biggest machinery in this part of the state.

When we remodeled the church basement, I would take off work to attend meetings or to solve a problem. This was ok for me to do. Only at Elida Machine and Tool could this happen.

Thank goodness for the guidance of the good Lord through our life's decisions. Just to think if we had moved, work somewhere else and bought a farm, we could not have paid for our medical bills.

Mary and I thank the Lord for giving us the presence of Jesus in our life and all the people that let the Lord work through them to help us in times of need.

Retirement will be a big change for us, but I think we can handle it.

Ron Steiner



Finance Report

2014 STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Stewardship or Commitment Sunday was November 23, 2014. Here's how 2014's 'estimate of giving' compares with 2013 and 2012:

	<u>For Yr.</u>	<u>Giving Units</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>Giving Units</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
2012	('13)	54	\$144,724	91	50	\$32,770
2013	('14)	46	\$139,304	82	37	\$23,220
2014	('15)	48	\$146,268	81	36	\$23,010

For 2015, 22 pledges increased, 21 remained the same, 5 resumed pledging; no new pledges or decreased pledges; four 2013 (for 2014 business) pledges dropped out for 2015 business

2015 EXPENSE BUDGET REPORT

M. White, Jan. 12, 2015

2015 Expense Budget: +\$10,541 or 6.2% increase in projected spending in 2015 v. 2014

- Seven staff members (six positions) received 3% salary increase
Pastor, +\$1,035; Secretaries +\$358; Choir Director +\$75; Organist +\$85; Pianist +\$64;
Custodian +\$166, Total +\$1,783;
- Pastor's Health Insurance +\$731; Pension Funding +\$70
- Social Security/Medicare +\$58
- Building, Maintenance, Equipment +\$1,000
- Church utilities +\$1,500; Parsonage utilities +500
- Liability insurance +\$183
- Property tax +\$50
- ReFocus Senior Initiative Program +\$300
- PPR +\$500
- Youth Ministries +\$1,000
- E.A.S.Y. Grant Support +\$2,200
- District apportionments -\$14; Conference apportionments +\$680

2014 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Per 2013 Commitment Sunday, we anticipated minimum cash receipts of \$139,304 +\$23,220 (above). At Year-end 2014, we realized \$182,602 in cash receipts into the General Operating Fund and \$26,734 into the Building Fund. From the General Operating Fund, we spent \$164,097 and \$13,900 in building fund/capital expenditure items. Despite the record cold in early 2014, our church utilities (electric, gas, cable, water/sewer) were only over budget by \$1,425 (\$14,425 v. \$13,000). We paid our district and conference apportionments in full (again), \$18,783. Program ministries expenses were under budget thanks, in part, to those participating in the Senior ReFocus who donated food or materials to the program.

2015 Budget

	2006	2015 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Change
Pastor Salary	34,608	34,608	36,000	37,080	38,192	39,000	39,000	33,000	34,500	35,535	1,035
Account Reimbsmt.	4,944	4,944	3,500	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	3,500	3,500	3,500	
Parsonage Utilities	4,800	5,000	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	
Health Insurance	6,300	7,000	14,400	14,940	15,534	15,984	15,017	17,559	20,835	21,566	731
Pension Funding	7,224	6,756	6,900	7,200	7,488	7,488	7,488	6,200	7,000	7,070	70
Pulpit Supply	500	500	500	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	
Moving Accrual	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	1,200	1,200	1,200	
Total Pastoral Supp.	58,976	59,408	68,100	70,320	72,314	73,572	72,605	67,959	73,535	75,371	1,836
Secretary Salary	10,400	10,700	11,021	11,021	11,241	11,241	11,241	11,578	11,925	12,283	358
Choir Director	4,410	4,542	4,678	2,000	2,020	2,020	2,020	0	2,500	2,575	75
Organist	1,916	1,973	2,032	2,300	2,632	2,632	2,632	2,736	2,818	2,903	85
Custodian	8,160	8,160	0	4,004	5,200	5,200	5,200	5,356	5,517	5,683	166
Pianist	1,011	1,041	1,072	1,576	1,960	1,960	1,960	2,064	2,126	2,190	64
Youth Expense Acct.	750	750	750	1,200	1,200	600	400	400	400	400	
SS/Medicare	4,995	5,144	1,741	1,621	1,763	1,763	2,263	1,665	1,903	1,961	58
Workers' Comp	350	360	120	150	150	150	150	250	260	260	
Asst. Organist	1,011	1,041	1,072	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Youth Director	3,780	3,893	4,010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Staff Support Total	36,783	37,604	26,496	24,172	26,166	25,566	25,866	24,049	27,449	28,255	806
Off Supply, Postage,	8,000	8,000	8,500	8,000	8,000	7,000	7,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	
Flowers	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,000	1,200	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	
Janitorial Supplies	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	500	500	500	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Bldg Equip., Maint.	3,000	3,500	3,500		4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	5,000	1,000
Church Utilities	14,000	14,500	17,500	17,500	17,500	14,000	14,000	12,000	13,000	14,500	1,500
Insurance	3,750	3,750	4,000	3,500	3,500	3,500	4,000	5,164	6,100	6,283	183
Property Taxes	1,600	1,600	2,000	4,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,900	1,950	50
Parsonage Maint.	1,000	1,000	1,200	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,500	500
Administ. Total	33,750	34,750	39,134	37,000	38,700	34,100	34,600	33,264	35,100	38,333	3,233
Education	4,000	4,000	4,000	3,000	2,500	2,500	2,000	2,000	1,500	1,500	
Nurture/Inreach	1,500	1,500	2,250	2,300	1,000	3,000	1,500	1,000	1,000	1,000	
ReFocus Elderly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,200	1,200	1,500	300
Stewardship	1,500	1,600	0	0	1,500	1,500	1,000	1,000	500	500	
Worship	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Music	2,000	2,100	2,200	2,200	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	
PPR	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	500	1,000	500
Youth Ministries	3,500	3,500	4,000	3,800	3,000	500	500	500	500	1,500	1,000
Missions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,000	2,000	
Matching Grant (E.A.C.C.)										2,200	2,200
Program Ministries Total	13,500	13,700	13,950	12,800	10,500	10,500	8,000	9,200	9,700	13,700	4,000
Dist Apportionments	2,303	2,711	2,717	2,891	2,768	2,516	2,639	2,495	2,458	2,444	-14
Conf Apportionments	16,464	17,000	19,560	20,316	19,492	17,504	18,219	16,634	16,325	17,005	680
Benevolence Total	18,767	19,500	22,277	23,207	22,260	20,020	20,858	19,129	18,783	19,449	666
Capital Expenditure	7,000	7,000		10,000	10,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	
Total Expense Budget	168,776	171,962	179,957	177,499	179,940	169,058	167,929	159,601	170,567	181,108	10,541

Spotlight on Youth



Meet **Sherilyn Ellinger**, daughter of Mike and Becky. Sherilyn will be 4 years old on her birthday this month, February 18. She has one older sister, Adrianna.

Sherilyn likes to play outside and she likes to swing, especially when Daddy pushes her. Hang on tight if he pushes you high! Inside, she likes to play with her ball.

During quiet time Sherilyn likes to roll her ball quietly! She thinks she will like going to school when she is older because she will like to see her friends a little bit.

Sherilyn likes to watch TV. Paw Patrol, Diego and Team Umizoomi are her favorite shows. She likes to go out to eat and then go home. She loves her family and likes to play with "O-gee-anna" (her

sister, Adrianna) and she likes to watch movies with them.

Her favorite foods are macaroni and cheese, broccoli, and salads with ranch dressing are "dee-wishous"! She does not like to eat corn or watermelon.

She likes Princess books read to her. Her Elsa doll and her ball are her favorite toys. Sherilyn would like to be a teacher when she grows up.

Meet **Lena Whetstone**, daughter of Brad and Slone. Lena turned 3 years old on December 1, 2014. She has 2 sisters, Jenson and Samantha, and a brother, Michael, who is a college student.

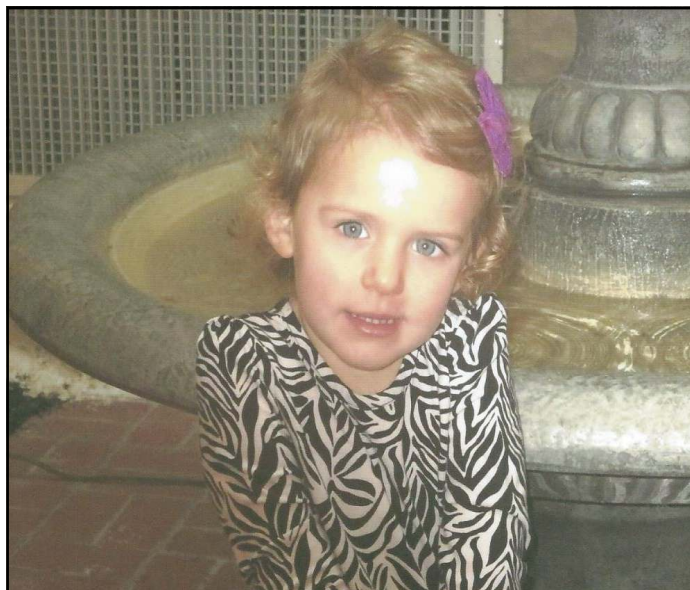
Outside Lena likes to play on swing sets and slides, have a picnic, go swimming, and go fishing. When she is inside, she likes to play with her toys, watch TV, play with her family, and watch movies, like "Frozen." I think that might be her favorite movie.

Lena likes to cuddle and have books read to her during quiet time. She thinks she will like going to school when she is older. She is smart and likes playing with friends.

Lena is a real Disney fan, especially anything connected to "Frozen." When watching TV she likes Mickey Mouse, Sofia the Princess, and anything on Disney, Jr. She even wants to go to Anna's castle someday.

Going to visit grandparents in Florida, boating, camping, and going to the Disney Castle are some of the places Lena would like to go on vacation. She likes camping with her family, swimming, being tickled and riding tractors and combines with her daddy. Lena's favorite food is mac and cheese, applesauce, and yogurt. She does not like meat.

Franklin the Turtle, I Love You Forever, and Hiccapotamus are Lena's favorite books that she likes read to her. Stuffed animals and anything from "Frozen" are Lena's favorite toys. She is a real Disney fan!



The People of St. Paul's

Thank You

*To my St. Paul's Family,
Thank you so much for all the loving thoughts, prayers, kindness, cards and support I received during my husband's recent illness and death. I have always known St. Paul's was an extraordinary group of people and you certainly proved that to be true. Thank you for the beautiful wind chimes you sent. I am looking forward to warmer weather when I can hang them outside. Thanks to Pastor Paul for the wonderful service and for braving the frigid temperature on Monday for the burial service. Many thanks also to the ladies who prepared lunch on Saturday. You received rave reviews from everyone! I am so blessed to have been a part of the St. Paul's family for over 30 years and hoping for many more years. You truly are a special family!*

*All my love,
Jone*

Remember in Prayer

- Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital
Ray Trigg
- Homebound Members
Hazel Dunn
Jean Redd
- Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement
Karen Bible
Joanna Hurd
Rodney Lee
- In the Military & Missions
Dani Milke



Those who **hope** in the **LORD**
will **renew** their **strength**.
They will soar on wings like eagles.

ISAIAH 40:31, NIV

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



Congratulations to Caleb and Krista Slemmons on the birth of their daughter, little **Adia Willow Slemmons**, who arrived at 5:41 am Tuesday, January 6th, a day early. She was 21 inches and 7 pounds 12 ounces. She was welcomed home by her brothers, Oren and Ira. Her proud grandparents are Art and Linda Holman. Cards may reach them at 11882 Co. Rd. W Presque Isle, Wisconsin 54557.

Meetings

February 2, 2015
PPR...7:00 PM

February 3, 2015
Trustees...7:00 PM

February 4, 2015
Worship...6:00 PM

February 9, 2015
Finance ...7:00 PM

Ad Council...No Mtg.

Missions...No Mtg.

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

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir...7:00 PM

February 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2 Megan Bible Barb Schade	3	4 Cyndi Smith	5 Don Irvin	6	7 Gary Hurd
8 Cari Metzger	9 Michelle Grapner	10 Channing Poling Marla Scannell Caroline Stengel	11	12	13	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i>
15 Tara Gaghen Bill Weaver	16	17 Doug Fox	18 Sherilyn Ellinger Sydney Lane	19	20 Fran Hall Ron Steiner	21 Mary Kay Pease Eleanor Klingler
22 Andrew Piper	23	24	25 John Foster	26 Addison Chaffins	27	28 Makayla Bok Kate Stengel
						

Anniversaries



 Jerry & Becky Bean
February 14
56 years

Gary & Janet Grigg
February 18
49 years

Jim & Phyllis Hines
February 23
58 years

Gene & Linda Craft
February 25
48 years

Larry & Shirley Moser
February 28
44 years

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Cooks

Cherry Salad By Joy Fletcher

Ingredients		Instructions
1 large pkg.	Cherry jello	Add cherry jello to boiling water. Add pie filling. Let cool slightly. Add crushed pineapple. Refrigerate.
2 cups	Boiling water	
1 (20 oz.)	Cherry pie filling	
1 small can	Crushed pineapple	



Out-Of-This-World-Pie By Mary LaRue

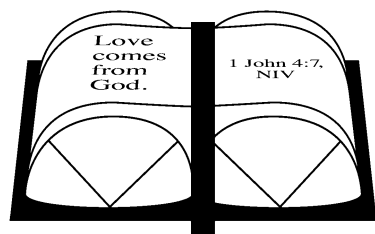
Ingredients		Instructions
1 can	Cherry pie filling	In saucepan, combine cherry pie filling, sugar, pineapple, cornstarch and food coloring. Cook until thick. Remove from heat and add dry jello. Allow to cool. Add bananas and pecans. Pour into 2 baked pie shells. Top with cool whip.
3/4 cup	Sugar	
1 large can	Crushed pineapple (do not drain)	
1 Tbl.	Cornstarch	
1 tsp.	Red food coloring	
1 (3oz.) pkg.	Cherry jello	
4	Bananas, diced	
1 cup	Pecans, chopped	
2	Baked pie shells	
1 tub	Cool whip	



KIDZ KORNER

GOD'S SWEET WORD

Share this Bible treat — and God's love — with a special valentine.

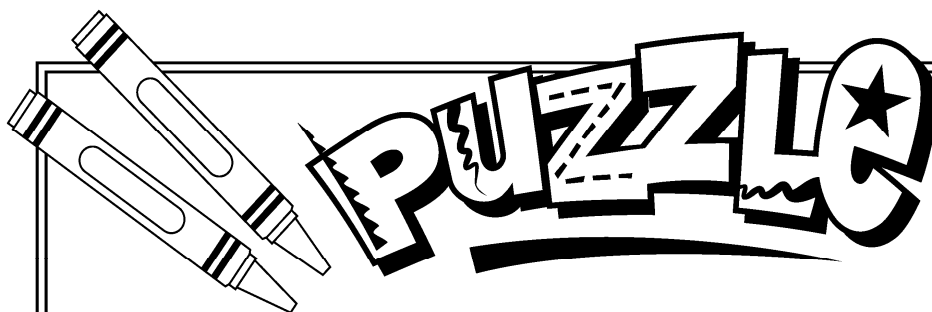


What you need:

- Black card stock or construction paper (2" x 1.5")
- Double-sided tape
- 2 wrapped Hershey's Nuggets candy bars (silver or gold)
- Pen or marker
- White paper (2.75" x 1")
- Thin sliver of red paper or ribbon
- Scissors

What you do:

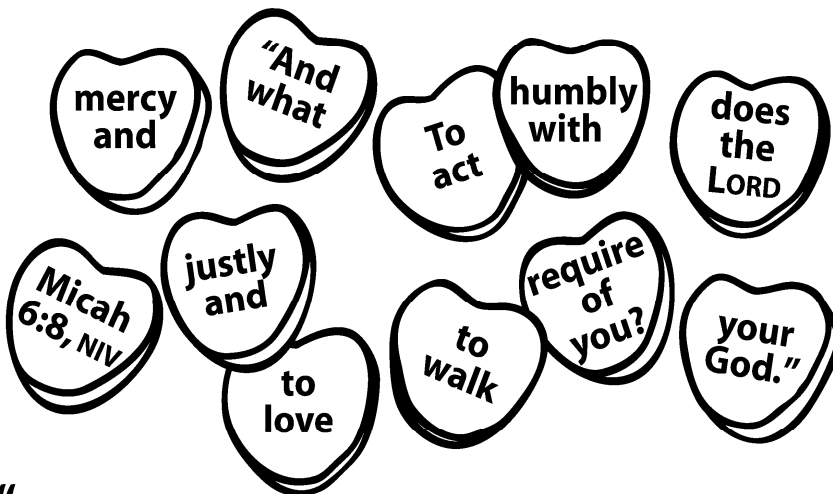
1. In the center of the black paper, tape down the candy bars side by side.
2. On the white paper, write a short Bible verse about love. Then wrap it around the candy bars horizontally and tape it down.
3. Place the red paper or ribbon between the two candy bars, and tape the top of this "bookmark" to the Bible.
4. Give away this fun, sweet message of God's love!



Conversation hearts

The world encourages people to look out for themselves and seek success, but in Micah 6:8, God tells us to live differently.

Directions: Put the conversation hearts in the correct order by writing the words on the lines below. Hint: Capitalization and quotation marks are included.



"

_____ ? _____

_____ " _____ 6:8 _____

Answer: "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8, NIV

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.
Elida, OH 45807

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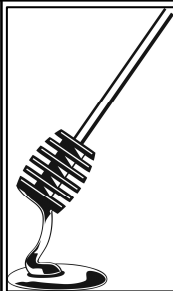
Our Web Address:
www.elidastpaulschurch.org

Our Facebook page
Elida St. Paul's Church

Twitter Account
@ESPCHURCH



Living Our Faith



Staying Fed

“How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!” (Psalm 119:103, NRSV).

Recently I was confronted with this question: If you fed yourself with food the way you feed yourself with God's Word, would you still be alive? It gave me pause.

Do I eat enough spiritually? — feast regularly enough on Scripture to keep up my energy and the health of my soul? Do I eat nutritiously? — take in a balanced meal of law and gospel, comfort and commandments, prophecy and promise? Do I pass up spiritual junk food? — set aside empty calories that lead to disease, in order to hunger for what truly gives life? Do I drink enough Living Water to avoid faith dehydration? And once in a while, do I splurge on dessert? — savor the sweetness and joy of belonging at God's table?

What abundance God sets before us. May we never skip a “meal”!

Pure Love For Jesus

Jesus has many who love his heavenly kingdom, but few who bear his cross. He has many who desire consolation, but few who care for trial. He finds many to share his table, but few to take part in his fasting. All desire to be happy with him; few wish to suffer anything for him. Many follow him to the breaking of bread, but few to the drinking of the chalice of his passion. Many revere his miracles; few approach the shame of the cross. Many love him as long as they encounter no hardship; many praise and bless him as long as they receive some comfort from him.

Those, on the contrary, who love Jesus for his own sake and not for any comfort of their own, bless him in all trial and anguish of heart as well as in the bliss of consolation. What power there is in pure love for Jesus — love that is free from all self-interest and self-love!

—Thomas à Kempis, *The Imitation of Christ*