

Volume 38 Issue I

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

January 2015



Happy New Year! Wow, another year gone. How time flies when you are having fun. First let me take a moment to say thank you to everyone who sent a card or gift to my family. We appreciate all that we receive and give thanks for our wonderful church family.

Have you packed it all away? Are you singing Christmas Carols? As you read this newsletter it is the first week of January and a new year has begun, but really we are in the midst of the 12 days of Christmas leading up to Epiphany. Christmas comes to the Mall a little sooner each year and disappears so quickly we often forget what we are in the midst of remembering. The 12 days of Christmas that we sing about all through December is really about the 12 days after Christmas leading up to the visit of the Wise Men.

I want to purpose to you that we keep the Advent Conspiracy going not only through Epiphany but on through to the Lenten Season. Imagine a world where loving all became the norm and not just a Christmas season oddity. Continue to give more of yourself to those around you even as Christ did for us. Someone talked to me about worshipping fully after church on the 21st and I have thought about what it all means.

Worship of course can happen anywhere but we talked about what church every Sunday means. How from week to week it changes as our hearts and needs change. We should fully worship God every time we step into worship but it also is a time of support (caring for each other), recharging our God battery (reconnect our spirit with God's Spirit), giving ourselves to others (using our gifts and talents for God) and many other things to each of you. So don't look at worship as only a flat piece of glass, but see it as a many faceted diamond giving light and life to all who see it.

I hope you will continue the conspiracy with me; you can pack up the ornaments, tree and lights but don't pack up the Spirit of Christmas this year. Keep the Spirit alive and well by Loving All, Giving More and Worshiping Fully.

Grace and Peace *Pastor Paul*



Thought for the Month:

The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled. – Plutarch

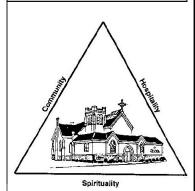
~ St. Paul's UMC ~ An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples ~

105 E. Main St. Elida, OH 45807 419-339-3801 <u>officeespc@gmail.com</u> Rev. Paul Scannell 419/909-9419 Cell Phone: 734/660-1984 <u>pastorespc@gmail.com</u>

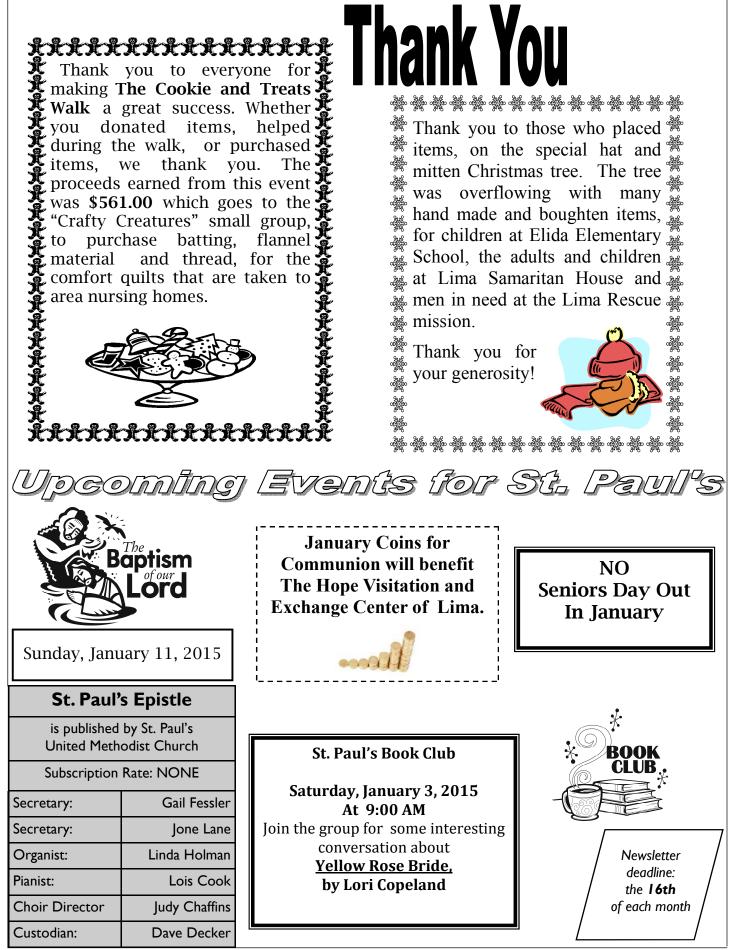
4pastorpaul@gmail.com

St. Paul's United

Methodist Church



Inside this issue:	
Upcoming Events	2-3
Personnel Report	4
Business of the Church	5
Faith in Action	6
Daily Bi b le Readings	7
Finance Report	8
Spotlight on Youth	9
December Activities	10
Connecting With	11
The People of St. Paul's	12
January Calendar	13
Recipes	14
Kidz Korner	15
Living Our Faith	16



 \sim St. Paul's UMC \sim An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples \sim

Page 2

LIMA AREA METHODIST MEN'S BREAKFAST

St. Paul's will host the <u>Lima Area Methodist</u> <u>Men's breakfast</u> on Saturday, January 10th at 8 AM. Corinne Piper will give an update on the E.A.S.Y. Program and Jamie Wyant will give a presentation on the 2015 Camp Wesley Mission. We will be passing around a sign-up sheet on Sunday, January 4th, for people to help with the breakfast by volunteering to bring food and drinks. We hope all of our St. Paul's men can make it to the breakfast.



ocoming Events for St. Pau

Five Loaves Food Pantry at The Church at Allentown

Food Pantry Sunday is January 11, 2015

Please place non-perishable food items or paper products in the bins at the church entrances.

Food collections continue to be strong and the number of needy families, who are blessed by receiving the food continues to grow.





Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen Volunteers (St. Paul's 5th Friday Mission)

Friday, January 30th

To help prepare and serve the noon meal.

Please let Tim Piper know if you can help.

Personnel Report for 2015 Lay Leadership and Personnel Report **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** All positions are effective beginning Chairperson Ron Steiner (15)**January 1, 2015** Vice-Chair of Trustees Larry Moser (16)Finance Chair (17)**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL** Travis Bok Mike Ellinger (15) (15)Chairperson Administrative Council Jaime Wyant Scott Fessler (16)(16)Art Holman (15)Margie Best (17)Church Conf./Church Council Secretary Janet Grigg (15)FINANCE COMMITTEE Chair of Finance (17)**Christian Education** (17)Chairperson (17)Jone Lane (16)**Church Historian** Chairperson Admin. Council Art Holman (15)**Financial Secretary** Carole Grapner (16) **Financial Secretary** Carole Grapner (16)Higher Education Jan Wyant (17)Lav Leader Dan Best (16)Lav Leader Dan Best (16)Lay Member of Annual Conf. Linda Craft (16)Lay Member to Annual Conf. Member-at-large Norm Grigsby (15)Linda Craft (16)PPRC Chair or Rep. Shirley Shoup (17)Members-at-large Norm Grigsby Pastor Paul Scannell Membership Lavonne Segovia (15) Permanent Endowment Rep. Dwain Metzger (14) Missions Tim Piper (17)Treasurer Margie Best (16)Nurture Linda Holman (16) Trustee Chair or Rep. **Ron Steiner** (15)Chairperson Pastor/Parish Relations Shirley Shoup (17)PERMANENT ENDOWMENT Small Group Leader Corinne Piper (17)COMMITTEE Chair of Trustees Ron Steiner (15)Margie Best Treasurer (16)Chairperson Dwain Metzger (15)Pastor Paul Scannell Trustee Rep. Ron Steiner (15)Finance Rep. (17)LAY LEADERSHIP Treasurer Margie Best (16)Pastor Paul Scannell Chairperson Paul Scannell Lay Leader Dan Best (16)**WORSHIP TEAM** Bill McKinney (15)Kathy White (15)Norm Grigsby Susan Nartker (16)(16)Pastor Paul Scannell Deb Hurd (17)Don Irvin (17)Altar Guild Kathy White **Communion Stewards** Steve & Tracy Sdao **PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS** Ushers Dwain Metzger **COMMITTEE** Musician Lois Cook Musician Linda Holman Chairperson Shirley Shoup (17)Liturgical Arts Myrna Metzger Lay Member Linda Craft (16)Tech Team/Choir Judy Chaffins Lav Leader Dan Best (17)Tech Team/Sound Scott Fessler Tech Team/Sound Tim Theodore John Fletcher (15) Norm Grigsby (15)Mary Irvin (16)Tech Team Tim Piper Tech Team **Tony Shoup** Tech Team Jamie Wyant

~ St. Paul's UMC ~ An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples ~

The Business of Church

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Chairperson Pastor

Linda Matlock Shirley Moser Paul Scannell Marla Scannell Shirley Shoup

MISSIONS

Chairperson		Tim Piper	(17)
Pastor		Paul Scannel	1
Maedene Holmes	(15)	Dennis Bowsher	(16)
Shara Bowsher	(16)	Cari Metzger	(16)
Dillon Staas	(16)	Martha Vazquez	(16)
Jamie Wyant	(17)		

St. Paul's Vision Statement: Is for the Elida community to be led to Christ through words and deeds enabling youth to have purpose, families to be nurtured and supported, and senior citizens to feel valued.

Committee Chairs	2015
PPR Chair	Shirley Shoup
Trustees Chair	Ron Steiner
Finance Chair	OPEN
Treasurer	Margie Best
Education Chair	OPEN
Administrative Council	Art Holman
Worship	Pastor Paul
Nurture	Linda Holman
Missions	Tim Piper

NURTURE

Chairperson Pastor

Becky Bean Becky Ellinger Shirley Moser Sue Theodore Linda Holman (15) Paul Scannell

h Linda Holman Iger Lynda Evans Ser Susan Nartker Ginny Doseck Janet Grigg Barb Schade

Our Biblical Purpose Statement:

Elida St. Paul's United Methodist Church exists as God's people embracing His grace through humble service to all.

A Well-Balanced Church

The owner of a new puppy got a good laugh when the little dog, out for a walk, had an itch. The trouble was that the itchy spot was accessible only to a hind leg. So, while still walking, the pup tried to scratch and tumbled over, rolling a couple of times before coming to rest.

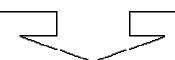
In several places throughout Scripture, the apostle Paul writes about the church as the body of Christ, and of the importance of each member. Just as the dog needed each leg to stay balanced while walking, so the church needs all the different God-given gifts of its members: preachers and teachers, friendly visitors, generous givers, musicians and singers, wise parents and imaginative children, people to produce and distribute meals, newsletters, lesson materials, and on and on.

When we start thinking that some part of Christ's body isn't necessary, we risk taking quite a tumble!

Faith In Action

Worship Atten	dance:
November 30, 2014	121
December 7, 2014	106
December 14, 2014	110
December 21, 2014	122
December 24, 2014 6:00 PM Service	42
December 24, 2014 Candlelight Service	134
December 28, 2014	77

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



Unified Mini	Other:	
November 30, 2014	\$2,111.32	\$333.15
December 7, 2014	\$5,590.48	\$662.70
December 14, 2014	\$2,373.00	\$1,130.60
December 21, 2014	\$5,492.03	\$845.75
December 28, 2014	\$1,522.00	\$500.70

Greeters			
January 4, 2015	Steve & Tracy Sdao & Tahler		
January 11, 2015	OPEN		
January 18, 2015	Susan Nartker		
January 25, 2015	OPEN		

Flower Calendar			
January 4, 2015	Tony & Shirley Shoup		
January 11, 2015	Rudy & Lavonne Segovia		
January 18, 2015	Tony & Linda Matlock		
January 25, 2015	Brent McAdams Family		

Sunday School Attendance				
November 30, 2014	13			
December 7, 2014	28			
December 14, 2014	17			
December 21, 2014	25			
December 28, 2014	N/A			

Communion Servers January 4		
Station #1	OPEN	
Station #2	OPEN	
Station #3	OPEN	

 \sim St. Paul's UMC \sim An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples \sim

Г

Daily Bible Readings

Thursday 1/1 Psalm 66, 67, 145 Colossians 3:12-17, John 6:41-47

Friday 1/2 Psalm 33, 34, 1 Kings 19:1-8 Ephesians 4:1-16, John 6:1-14

Saturday 1/3 Psalm 68, 72, 1 Kings 19:9-18 Ephesians 4:17-32, John 6:15-27

Sunday 1/4 Psalm 85, 87, 89:1-29 Joshua 3:14-4:7 Ephesians 5:1-20 John 9:1-12, 35-38

Monday 1/5 Psalm 29, 98, Isaiah 66:18-23 Romans 15:7-13

Tuesday 1/6 (*Epiphany*) Psalm 46, 96, 97, 100 Isaiah 49:1-7 Revelation 21:22-27 Matthew 12:14-21

Wednesday 1/7 Psalm 103, 114, 115 Deuteronomy 8:1-3 Colossians 1:1-14 John 6:30-33, 48-51

Thursday 1/8 Psalm 112, 113, 117, 118 Exodus 17:1-7 Colossians 1:15-23, John 7:37-52

Friday 1/9 Psalm 121, 122, 123, 131, 132 Isaiah 45:14-19 Colossians 1:24-2:7, John 8:12-19

Saturday 1/10 Psalm 138, 139, 147 Jeremiah 23:1-8 Colossians 2:8-23 John 10:7-17 **Sunday 1/11** Psalm 91, 92, 148, 150 Isaiah 55:3-9 Colossians 3:1-17, John 14:6-14

Monday 1/12 Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, Genesis 2:4-25 Hebrews 1:1-14, John 1:1-18

Tuesday 1/13 Psalm 5, 6, 10, 11, Genesis 3:1-24 Hebrews 2:1-10, John 1:19-28

Wednesday 1/14 Psalm 12, 13, 14, 119:1-24 Genesis 4:1-16 Hebrews 2:11-18 John 1:(29-34) 35-42

Thursday 1/15 Psalm 18, Genesis 4:17-26 Hebrews 3:1-11, John 1:43-51

Friday 1/16 Psalm 16, 17, 22, Genesis 6:1-8 Hebrews 3:12-19, John 2:1-12

Saturday 1/17 Psalm 20, 21, 110, 116, 117 Genesis 6:9-22 Hebrews 4:1-13, John 2:13-22

Sunday 1/18 Psalm 114, 115, 148, 149, 150 Genesis 7:1-23 Ephesians 4:1-16, Mark 3:7-19

Monday 1/19 Psalm 9, 15, 25 Genesis 8:6-22 Hebrews 4:14-5:6 John 2:23-3:15

Tuesday 1/20 Psalm 26, 28, 36, 39 Genesis 9:1-17 Hebrews 5:7-14 John 3:16-21 Wednesday 1/21 Psalm 38, 119:25-48 Genesis 9:18-29 Hebrews 6:1-12, John 3:22-36

Thursday 1/22 Psalm 37, Genesis 11:1-9 Hebrews 6:13-20, John 4:1-15

Friday 1/23 Psalm 31, 35, Genesis 11:27-12:8 Hebrews 7:1-17, John 4:16-26

Saturday 1/24 Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43 Genesis 12:9-13:1 Hebrews 7:18-28, John 4:27-42

Sunday 1/25 Psalm 63, 98, 103 Genesis 13:2-18 Galatians 2:1-10, Mark 7:31-37

Monday 1/26 Psalm 41, 44, 52 Genesis 14:(1-7)8-24 Hebrews 8:1-13, John 4:43-54

Tuesday 1/27 Psalm 45, 47, 48 Genesis 15:1-11, 17-21 Hebrews 9:1-14, John 5:1-18

Wednesday 1/28 Psalm 49, 53, 119:49-72 Genesis 16:1-14 Hebrews 9:15-28, John 5:19-29

Thursday 1/29 Psalm 118, Genesis 16:15-17:14 Hebrews 10:1-10, John 5:30-47

Friday 1/30 Psalm 40, 51, 54,Genesis 17:15-27 Hebrews 10:11-25, John 6:1-15

Saturday 1/31 Psalm 55, 138, 139 Genesis 18:1-16 Hebrews 10:26-39, John 6;16-27

~ St. Paul's UMC ~ An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples ~

Stewardship

Finance

From the fullness of His grace we have all received one blessing after another. John 1:16

During Commitment Sunday on November 23, Pastor Paul spoke about the need to take God's blessings upon us and make a difference in the lives of others and throughout our community. Stewardship season culminated with our individual designations for 2015 estimated giving to God's church and to the congregation of St. Paul's Elida.

Financially speaking, our congregation is well on-track to make a difference as Pastor Paul suggested in supporting our Biblical Purpose, Vison, and Mission Statements. As of December 14, 2014, the Finance/Stewardship Committee received 48 pledges to the General Operating Fund totaling \$144,708. This is two more pledges than received in 2014 and an increase of \$5,404 or 3.8% over last year's committed amount of \$139,304.

Building Fund 2, designed to supplement our general operating fund, to provide seed or emergency funds for buildings and grounds, and to provide short term/aesthetically-pleasing building improvements, continues to thrive. As of December 14, 2014, 36 building fund pledges were received – just one less than last year. Comparatively, the pledged amounts 2015 v. 2014 are nearly identical: \$ 23,010 for 2015, \$ 23,220 for 2014. Look or listen for a full status report on the goals and objectives for our building fund during January, 2015.

During its December 8, 2014, meeting, the Finance Committee completed its preliminary expense budget for 2015. Forecasted spending stands at \$ 181,108, 6.2% over 2014 or \$10,541. The seven paid staff members received a 3% salary increase (+\$1,783). Utilities (+\$2,000), maintenance (+\$1,500), liability & health insurances (+\$914), and apportionments (+\$666) are some areas of significant budget increases for 2015.

Our program and committee ministries, in particular Youth Ministries and a new Missions line item, will account for an additional \$4,000 of anticipated spending in 2015. In support of our Youth initiative, \$1,000 is being added for Camp Wesley scholarships. To assist in securing a grant for the E.A.S.Y. program as part of the Elida Area Community Center initiative, \$2,200 is being added to the expense budget for 2015.

At St. Paul's, we budget backwards: we start with the prior year's expense budget, modify it to meet current needs and opportunities, then fall upon faith that weekly cash flow will support it. At this juncture, 2015 Estimated Giving will cover 80% of our anticipated expenses next year. Hopefully, St. Paul's Vision Statement to support our youth, our families, our seniors, and ultimately our community will inspire significant generosity among friends and members of St. Paul's to fully fund our 2015 general expense budget.

Look for a final finance and budget report following the January 2015 meetings of the Finance Committee and Administrative Council. Thank you for your time and financial support of the ministries of St. Paul's Elida.

Spotlight on Youth

Meet **Adrianna Ellinger**, daughter of Mike and Becky. Adrianna will be 6 years old on her birthday, January 21st. She has a younger sister, Sherilyn.

When the weather is nice, Adrianna likes to go outside and swing on her swing set and play with the neighbor kids. She likes to play games and color when she is inside.

During quiet time, Adrianna likes to play with her dolls. She thinks she will like going to school because she will get to play on the playground. What fun!

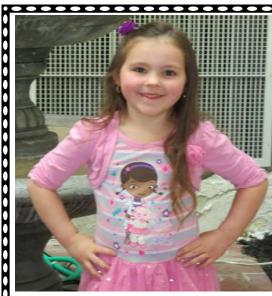
Adrianna likes to watch TV. Croods and Paw Patrol are her favorites. She would like to go see Uncle Willie, Aunt Tracee, and Westley on vacation. She loves her family and likes to give hugs and have campfires.

Her favorite foods are cookies, pancakes, waffles and potato soup. Yum! She does not like to eat strawberries, bananas and cabbage.

She likes <u>Frozen</u> books read to her. Her brown and white kitty from Uncle Willie and her Anna doll are her favorite toys. Adrianna likes animals. She wants to be a vet someday.







Meet **Anika Bok**, daughter of Travis and Julia. Anika was 5 years old on her birthday last July 1st. Her siblings are Makayla Rose, a 6th grader at Elida Middle School and Title Pickles, an exchange student at Elida High School from Thailand.

When she is outside, Anika likes playing with Bailey, swinging on the tree, playing with Goosey, and likes to play in the fields. When she's inside, she likes to play with her babies, work puzzles, and color.

Anika likes to sit down and read a book during quiet time inside. She thinks she will like going to school when she is older because she will feel like a new person.

Anika likes to watch TV, especially the Avengers,

Hulk, and Ninja Turtles. On vacation she would like to go see Grandma Chris and go to Disney World. She loves her family and loves playing with them.

Meatloaf, olives, peas, and baby tomatoes are her favorite foods. She does not like to eat pickles or hot sauce.

<u>Tangled</u>, and <u>Beauty and the Beast</u> are Anika's favorite books that she likes read to her. Hulk and Elsa are her favorite toys.

December Activities



Christmas Cookies and Treats Walk

Proceeds benefitted the "Crafty Creatures" Mission.











December Seniors Day Out: Dick Valentine sang Christmas Carols





(top) Seniors Day servers take a break to listen to music.

(Left) Seniors Enjoying the Christmas entertainment.

 \sim St. Paul's UMC \sim An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples \sim

Shara Bowsher

Mary Irvin

Lois Rabley

Karen Bible M

Hazel Dunn 💋

Jean Redd 💋

28262

in the Hospital

Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or

Homebound Members

Connecting With ...

- Congratulations

Congratulations to **Brian and Jennifer Kinney** on the birth of their daughter, **Piper Rose Corinne Kinney**, born on November 23, 2014. She weighed 7lbs. 9oz. and 20 in. long. Grandparents are **Tim and Corinne Piper.** She was welcomed home by her big brothers **Logan**, **Caleb and Sam.** Cards may reach them at 6683 County Rd. 191

Bellevue, OH 44811



Congratulations to **Brian and Lindsey (Reiff) Rutter** on the birth of their son **Brayden Allen Rutter**, born December 9, 2014, weighing 8 lbs. 10 oz. and 22 inches long. Proud Grandparents are Jeff and Shelly Reiff, Great-Grandparents are Dwain and Myrna Metzger and Great Great-Grandmother Mary LaRue. Cards may reach Brian and Lindsey at 1703 Sherry Lee Dr. Elida,

OH 45807.

It's a boy!

<u>Those in Need of Healing,</u> <u>Support, Strength &</u> <u>Encouragement</u> Joanna Hurd Rodney Lee In the Military & Missions

Dani Milke

Tara Gaghen (Grand Daughter of Larry and Shirley Moser) Admiring the manger scene in front of the fountain.

Congratulations to **Megan Wyant** who received her B.S. degree in Organizational Management on December 13, 2014 from Wright State University.



The People of St. Paul's

I want to thank everyone for all the prayers, flowers, cards and visits during my surgery to have my gall bladder removed. I love all my church family. I feel so much better.

> Thanks to all, Mary Steiner

Thanks so much to Pastor Paul for the visit before surgery. It helped pass the time and the prayer eased my nervousness. And thank you to the church for the beautiful flowers!

Shara Bowsher



Thank you for the wind chimes and gift card. Helping to teach for over 30 years was the most rewarding experiences of my life. The children were wonderful and I truly enjoyed each and every one of them.

Thank you again, to my church family, Linda Matlock Dear Church Family, Thank you so very much for the cards, prayers and bouquet of flowers that were sent during my recent little medical experience. As a church we may be small in numbers but so large in faith, friendship and love. I wouldn't trade this church for anything.

> Thank You, Vicki McAdams



Thank you for sharing in my surprise birthday party, and for all the card 's and gifts.

> Thank you, Lavonne Segovia

Dear St. Paul's Friends, Thank you for the lovely flowers, cards, prayers and Pastor Paul's phone call. All of those things help with healing following surgery.

Peace and Blessings to All, Lois Rabley Merry Christmas to Everyone! We think of you often.

Bill and Marlene Weaver



Our Sympathy to Jone Lane and her family on the death of her husband, John, who passed away Saturday, December 27th. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 3rd, at Chiles-Laman Funeral Home, Shawnee Chapel. Pastor Paul conducted the service. Cards of sympathy may reach Jone at 2540 Irvin Rd., Elida, OH 45807.

Meetings		J	AN	IU A	A R	Y	
NO PPR January 6, 2015 Trustees7:00 PM	2015						
January 7, 2015 Worship Com.6:00 PM	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
January 12, 2015 Finance7:00 PM							
January 12, 2015 Ad Council7:30 PM January 21, 2015	2		, (, , ,	6	1 Tim Piper	2	3 Becky
Missions7:00 PM Sundays Prayer8:45 AM	P		VEN V	e p			Ellinger
Sunday Sch9:00 AM Fellowship9:30 AM Worship10:00 AM	4	5 Lois Cook	6	7	8 Cynthia Guess	9 Jenessa Peters	10 Larkin Wyant
Wednesdays Chancel Choir.7:00		Shara Bowsher			Larry Moser Barry Smith	TETETS	
Anniversaries	11 Nate Craft	12 Jamie Chambers	13	14	15	16 Steve Sdao	17 Norm Grigsby
 Rudy L Lavonne Segovia 							
January 1; 58 yrs.	18	10		01	0.0	0.0	0.4
Paul L Marla Scannell January 8	10	19	20	21 Adrianna Ellinger	22	23 Joanne Bragg	24
Gerald & Wanda Strayer January 13; 60 yrs.				Shirley Shoup		Roger Matlock	
Bill L Beverly Nesbitt January 16	05	06	07	09	00	0.0	01
Don & Maedene Holmes January 25; 55 yrs.	25	26 Jeff Reiff	27	28	29	30 Wanda Strayer	31 Judy Strayer
ě i						Zachary White	



Chicken Casserole

by Margie Best

Ingredien	nts	Instructions
1 1/4 Cup	Raw spaghetti	Spread raw spaghetti in bottom of square baking dish.
2 Cup	Cut up chicken or turkey (all ready cooked)	Mix all ingredients together.
1/4 Cup	Green Peppers chopped	
1/4 cup	Pimentos (diced)	Save half of cheese to sprinkle over top.
1/2 cup or small	Onion	Bake at 350 degrees for 45 m
1 can	Mushroom soup (celery or cream of chicken)	
1 can	Chicken broth	
	Salt and pepper to taste	Charles Strip-
1/2 lb.	Grated sharp cheddar cheese (save half)	

Bellybuttons

by Sue Theodorer

Ingredi	ents	Instructions
1 pkg.	Seyfert's round pretzels	On waxed paper-lined baking sheet, place a Hershey's Hug in the center of a round pretzel (Seyfert's).
1 pkg.	Hershey's Hugs	Heat in a hot oven (450 degrees) just until the chocolate is soft, about 60 seconds.
1 pkg.	M & M's	Immediately press an M & M candy into the center.
		Place in the freezer for a few minuters to set.



 $[\]sim$ St. Paul's UMC \sim An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples \sim

*Return Service Requested

Our Web Address: www.elidastpaulschurch.org

Our Facebook page Elida St. Paul's Church

> Twitter Account @ESPCHURCH



Living Our Faith



The Legend of the Sand dollar

St. Paul's Epistle

There's a pretty little legend that I would like to tell of the birth and death of Jesus found in this lowly shell.

If you examine closely, you'll see that you find here four nail holes and a fifth hole, made by a Roman's spear.

On one side the Easter lily, its center is the star that appeared unto the shepherds and led them from afar.

The Christmas poinsettia etched on the other side reminds us of his birthday, our happy Christmastide.

Now break the center open, and here you will release the five white doves awaiting to spread good will and peace.

This simple little symbol, Christ left for you and me to help us spread his Gospel, through all eternity.

The Faith Journey

Faith is better understood as a verb than a noun, as a process than as a possession. It is on-again-off-again rather than once-and-for-all. Faith is not being sure where you're going, but going anyway. A journey without maps.

-Frederick Buechner

