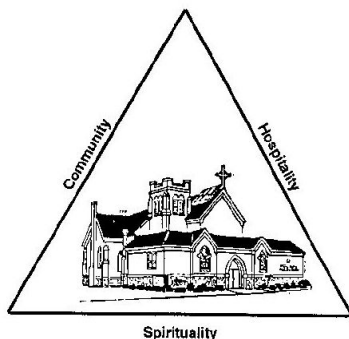


St. Paul's Epistle

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January? Oh, then Happy New Year! 2019 is here, ready or not. We will finish up the Christmas season on the 6th when we celebrate Epiphany, the day we celebrate the wisemen's arrival in Bethlehem to see the Christ Child. They sought the Light of the World. The question I have is, now that the decorations are put away, have you packed up the call God has given to us all to be disciples? If you are still looking for a resolution for the New Year, maybe keeping the Spirit of Christmas alive throughout 2019 is a good place to start.

On a personal note, Marla and I would like to thank everyone who gave us cards, gifts and food this Christmas season. Your love is felt by everyone in the Scannell household and the kids look forward every year to the wonderful treats we receive through the month of December. We also want to thank everyone who has asked about, prayed for, and helped out as it relates to Marla's dad, Ted, who is finally back in his room at Primrose. The love and friendliness you have shown Ted has blessed us over the last six months, but especially over the last few weeks since he has returned from rehab.

Continue to hold each other up in prayer and deed, find a way to keep Christmas alive through out the year, and share your story of what God has done for you!

I'll see you in the mission field.

Pastor Paul

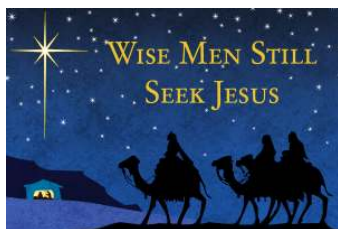


Thought for the Month:
 Learn to light a candle in the darkest moments of someone's life. Be the light that helps others see.
 —Roy T. Bennett

A Prayer For New Beginnings

In his book *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth* (Fortress Press), Walter Brueggemann writes in an Epiphany poem:

*... this is a time to be born.
 So we turn to you, God of our life
 God of all our years,
 God of our beginning....
 We dare pray that you will do for us
 and among us and through us
 what is needful for our newness.
 Give us the power to be receptive,
 to take the newness you give
 There is a time to be born, and it is now.
 We sense the pangs and groans of your newness.
 Come here now in the name of Jesus. Amen.*



Epiphany January 6, 2019

How fitting that the Epiphany season and the new year coincide! Epiphany reveals a new King, the beginning of his ministry, his new disciples, his first healings, his “new teaching — with authority” (Mark 1:27). We, too, experience newness, now and year-round. But newness can be tough. So we trust that God, who “[makes] all things new” while banishing “mourning and crying and pain” (Revelation 21:4-5), walks with us in this new year — and always.

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

January 1, 2019
Happy New Year's



EASY Program

The Elida After School Youth (EASY) program is in GREAT need of volunteers! Our staff has been hard hit with personal and family illnesses this year. If you have time on Monday or Wednesdays from 3:00-5:00 p.m. to sit with students while home work is being done, play a board game, help in the kitchen, or be an extra set of hands during interest groups please contact Corinne Piper at piper@woh.rr.com. We will not be meeting from December 13 through January 6.



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

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Subscription Rate: NONE	
Secretary:	Gail Fessler
Newsletter:	Jone Lane
Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Choir Director	Judy Chaffins
Custodian:	Dave Decker

January 6
Coins for Communion
will benefit Heartbeat of Lima

Five Loaves Food Pantry
at The Church at Allentown
Food Pantry Sunday
January 13
Item needed is Cereal



NO
Seniors Day Out
In January

January 13, 2019
Baptism of the Lord Sunday




Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
January 18 to January 25

Christian Symbol

Praying For Unity




Every January, the Christian church worldwide marks the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This ecumenical "octave," or eight-day observance, lasts from January 18 (the Feast of St. Peter) to January 25 (the Feast of St. Paul).

The week is based on Jesus' prayer to his heavenly Father in John 17:21 that his followers "may all be one ... so that the world may believe that you have sent me" (ESV). Jesus knew that if Christians were fiercely divided, people outside the faith wouldn't want to learn more about him.

The theme for the 2019 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is from Deuteronomy 16:20 (NRSV): "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue."

DESCENDING DOVE

A dove is a prominent symbol of the Holy Spirit. When the dove is shown flying downward, it reminds us of Jesus' baptism, when, the gospel writers tell us, the Spirit descended on him in the form of a dove. Doves also symbolize baptism in general, because many Christian denominations teach that the Holy Spirit and its gifts are bestowed at baptism. Sometimes a dove is depicted with a three-ray nimbus around its head, indicating that it is a member of the Trinity. Doves are also commonly used as a sign of peace.



Christingle

Christingle services are held in churches, usually between Advent and Candlemas. It is an excellent opportunity for people of all ages to join in, using oranges to create visible symbols of the Christian message.

The Christingle has its origins in a Moravian children's service held in a castle in Germany on Christmas Eve in 1747. The bishop conducting the informal service gave each child a lighted candle tied with a red ribbon in memory of the Saviour's coming which he said has kindled a flame in each heart which keeps burning "to His joy and our happiness".

Much later, this simple candle was placed by a more elaborate Christingle which is rich in symbolism. Our modern Christingle consists of:

1. An orange representing the world.
2. A red ribbon, tied around the orange representing the blood of Jesus.
3. Fruits and sweets, skewered on 4 cocktail sticks which are pushed into the orange representing God's gifts— the fruits of the earth are the four seasons.
4. A lighted candle, pushed into the center of the orange representing Christ, the light of the world.

For many years churches all over the world have made Christingles to remind them that Christ is the light who came into the world at Christmas.

The Christingle orange represents the world. John reminds us that "Jesus was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him. He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him. (John 1:10-11). The red ribbon of the Christingle represents the blood of Jesus which was shed for us so that our sins may be forgiven: "but if we walk in the light, as He is in the light." We have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from every sin". (1 John 1:7. The fruits and sweet on the four skewers represents God's gifts to us, the fruits of the earth and the four seasons. "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, will never cease. (Genesis 8:22).

The lighted candle, pushed into the center of the orange, represents Christ, the light of the world. "He (Jesus) said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life". (John 8:12).

This Christingle service was done for Children's time during a worship service and for Seniors Day Out this December. Pastor Paul and Jamie Wyant worked together to make Christingles.



Missions



Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen
Mission Friday, November 30.



Camp Wesley, door and ramp project,
Saturday, December 1.



Thank You

Thank you to everyone for making **The Cookie and Treats Walk** a great success. Whether you donated items, helped during the walk, or purchased items, we thank you. The proceeds earned from this event was \$536.00 which goes to the "Crafty Creatures" small group for quilt supplies. Quilts and shawls are given to St. Paul's parishioners and distributed throughout the community to those in need of extra prayer and comfort.



 Thank you to those who placed items on the special hat and mitten Christmas tree. The tree was overflowing with many hand made and purchased items for those in need.

Thank you for your generosity!



Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

December 2, 2018	96
December 9, 2018	78
December 16, 2018	97
December 23, 2018	98
December 24, 2018 6:00 PM	58
December 24, 2018 10:00 PM	76

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,466.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
December 2, 2018	\$4,012.00	\$2,144.49
December 9, 2018	\$4,990.00	\$465.00
December 16, 2018	\$2,725.00	\$338.07
December 23, 2018	\$3,183.00	\$2,643.48

Sunday School Attendance

December 2, 2018	9
December 9, 2018	7
December 16, 2018	5
December 23, 2018	0

Greeters

January 6, 2019	Steve & Tracy Sdao
January 13, 2019	Denny & Carole Grapner
January 20, 2019	Slone Whetstone
January 27, 2019	Margie Best & Jone Lane

Altar Flowers

January 6, 2019	Dottie Jennell
January 13, 2019	Larry & Shirley Moser
January 20, 2019	Don & Maedene Holmes
January 27, 2019	OPEN

Hospitality Cart

January 6, 2019	Book Club/Janet Grigg
January 13, 2019	Corinne Piper
January 20, 2019	Marty & Kathy White
January 27, 2019	Choir/ Maedene Holmes & Judy Chaffins

Daily Bible Readings

Tuesday 1/1

Psalm 103, 148
Genesis 17:1-12a, 15-16
Colossians 2:6-12
John 16:23b-30

Wednesday 1/2

Psalm 33, 34, Genesis 12:1-7
Hebrews 11:1-12
John 6:35-42, 48-51

Thursday 1/3

Psalm 68, 72, Genesis 28:10-22
Hebrews 11:13-22
John 10:7-17

Friday 1/4

Psalm 85, 87, 89:1-29
Exodus 3:1-12
Hebrews 11:23-31, John 14:6-14

Saturday 1/5

Psalm 2, 110, Joshua 1:1-9
Hebrews 11:32-12:2
John 15:1-16

Sunday 1/6 *Epiphany*

Psalm 46, 96, 97, 100
Isaiah 52:7-10
Revelation 21:22-27
Matthew 12:14-21

Monday 1/7

Psalm 103, 114, 115
Isaiah 52:3-6
Revelation 2:1-7, John 2:1-11

Tuesday 1/8

Psalm 112, 113, 117, 118
Isaiah 59:15-21
Revelation 2:8-17, John 4:46-54

Wednesday 1/9

Psalm 121, 122, 123, 131, 132
Isaiah 63:1-5
Revelation 2:18-29
John 5:1-15

Thursday 1/10

Psalm 138, 139, 147
Isaiah 65:1-9
Revelation 3:1-6
John 6:1-14

Friday 1/11

Psalm 91, 92, 148, 150
Isaiah 65:13-16
Revelation 3:7-13, John 6:15-27

Saturday 1/12

Psalm 98, 99, 100
Isaiah 66:14-22
John 9:1-12, 35-38

Sunday 1/13

Psalm 111, 112, 113, 146, 147
Isaiah 40:1-11
Hebrews 1:1-12
John 1:1-7, 19-20, 29-34

Monday 1/14

Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4, 7
Isaiah 40:12-23
Ephesians 1:1-14, Mark 1:1-13

Tuesday 1/15

Psalm 5, 6, 10, 11
Isaiah 40:25-31
Ephesians 1:15-23, Mark 1:14-28

Wednesday 1/16

Psalm 12, 13, 14, 119:1-24
Isaiah 41:1-16
Ephesians 2:1-10, Mark 1:29-45

Thursday 1/17

Psalm 18, Isaiah 41:17-29
Ephesians 2:11-22, Mark 2:1-12

Friday 1/18

Psalm 16, 17, 22, Isaiah 42:1-17
Ephesians 3:1-13, Mark 2:13-22

Saturday 1/19

Psalm 20, 21, 110, 116, 117
Isaiah 43:1-13
Ephesians 3:14-21, Mark 2:23-3:6

Sunday 1/20

Psalm 114, 115, 148, 149, 150
Isaiah 43:14-44:5
Hebrews 6:17-7:10, John 4:27-42

Monday 1/21

Psalm 9, 15, 25
Isaiah 44:6-8, 21-23
Ephesians 4:1-16
Mark 3:7-19a

Tuesday 1/22

Psalm 26, 28, 36, 39
Isaiah 44:9-20
Ephesians 4:17-32
Mark 3:19b-35

Wednesday 1/23

Psalm 38, 119:25-48
Isaiah 44:24-45:7
Ephesians 5:1-14, Mark 4:1-20

Thursday 1/24

Psalm 37, Isaiah 45:5-17
Ephesians 5:15-33, Mark 4:21-34

Friday 1/25

Psalm 31, 35, Isaiah 45:18-25
Ephesians 6:1-9, Mark 4:35-41

Saturday 1/26

Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43
Isaiah 46:1-13
Ephesians 6:10-24, Mark 5:1-20

Sunday 1/27

Psalm 63, 98, 103
Isaiah 47:1-15
Hebrews 10:19-31, John 5:2-18

Monday 1/28

Psalm 41, 44, 52, Isaiah 48:1-11
Galatians 1:1-17, Mark 5:21-43

Tuesday 1/29

Psalm 45, 47, 48, Isaiah 48:12-21
Galatians 1:18-2:10
Mark 6:1-13

Wednesday 1/30

Psalm 53, 119:49-72
Isaiah 49:1-12
Galatians 2:11-21, Mark 6:13-29

Thursday 1/31

Psalm 59, 60, 118, Isaiah 49:13-23
Galatians 3:1-14, Mark 6:30-46



Remember When...



January, 2005
Youth Fundraising
Spaghetti Lunch

January, 2010
Puppet Ministry
"Love"



Presenting lap quilts to St. Paul
member and Lima Manor
resident, Hazel Dunn

Church History

Four 2011 Elida High School graduates were honored in May. They are Audrey Fox, daughter of Doug and Ginger, Alex McAdams, son of Brent and Vicki, Tahler Sdao, daughter of Steve and Tracy, and Michele Theodore, daughter of Tim and Sue.

Judy Chaffins and Jerry Crates were the special music that summer on June 26, 2011. On July 10, 2011, Alsbrooks Smith, Jr. played the piano as our special music.

Some of St. Paul's members participated in the Mission House Project at 241 Harrison St., Lima, July 11-15. Immanuel UMC and Rockport UMC also participated in this project. Labor and materials were donated by Jerry Stemen and donations were given by St. Rita's Medical Center. St. Paul's members participating were Maedene Holmes, Tim and Corinne Piper, Tony Shoup and Jamie Wyant.

The Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing was held on July 23, 2011. Don Chaffins, Gene Craft, and Larry and Shirley Moser made up St. Paul's foursome. Dan Best, Norm Grigsby and Tim Piper were volunteers. Shirley Moser was an award winner for Women's Longest Drive. This event is organized in Brad's memory by his uncle, John Fleming.

Crafty Creatures is a group of ladies from St. Paul's UMC who, since September of 2010, meet every week on Wednesday evening for fellowship, fun, food and creating. They are made up of knitters, crocheters and quilters. They keep their hands busy making prayer shawls, mittens, gloves, scarves and lap quilts for their church family. They present a prayer shawl to members of the congregation who need a special healing. At Christmas time the mittens, gloves and scarves are placed on the mitten tree in the sanctuary. Throughout the year the lap quilts are taken to area nursing homes to be given to residents who need a warm quilt. They love doing for others!

2011 Graduates



Crafty Creatures Quilt Group
September 2011



December Events

The sanctuary is beautifully decorated for the Christmas season by Dwain and Myrna Metzger and their helpers, Alex and Stacy McAdams, Vicki McAdams, Isaac McAdams, and Larry Moser.
THANK YOU!!



Choir and Girl Scouts Christmas Caroling at Elmcroft and the Springs of Lima. The Carolers are visiting with Bill and Esther McKinney.



Choir Christmas fun!!



December Events

The Bok Family lighting the 1st Advent Candle.



Children's Moments 1st Sunday of Advent.



Avery Chambers playing the violin for Special Music, December 23.



Top: Children's bells at 6 PM Christmas Eve Service.

Left: Candlelight at 10 PM Christmas Eve Service.



The People of St. Paul's

Thank You

I want to thank you for the beautiful flower arrangement you sent me upon the passing of my sister and the adorable reindeer gift for Christmas. Thanks also to the Seniors Day Out Committee for sending us a meal each month.

*Have a blessed New Year,
Jan Soddors*

*St. Paul's United Methodist Family,
The Hines family would like to thank you for opening up your church to support mom's life celebration and for the wind chimes in memory of our mother.*

*Love,
Jim and Sarah Hines*

*To My St. Paul's Family,
Thank you for the flower arrangement during my recent hospital stay, also, my thanks to the Nurture Committee for remembering me with the Christmas bag.*

Ruth Burgoon

Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital
 Jim Hines
 Deb Hurd
 Rudy Segovia

Homebound Members
 Hazel Dunn

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement
 Glenna Kohli

In the Military & Missions
 Oliver Fessler
 Nathan Stewart



Congratulations to Pam Moser on graduating Cum Laude with her bachelor of science in nursing from Lourdes University. Pam has been taking part time classes since the fall of 2015 while working full time. She plans to pursue a job in pediatric nursing after sitting for her RN licensure exam. Pam's children are Tristin and Tara Gaghen, her parents are Larry and Shirley Moser.



Our deepest Sympathy to the Family of Mike Matlock who passed away suddenly on Monday, December 24. Mike is the son of Tony and son of the late Linda Matlock, brother to Sara and Brent Crawford, and special uncle to Ian and Logan House. Cards may reach Tony at 831 N. Union St. Lima, OH 45801. Cards may reach Sara and Brent Crawford Family at 2145 N. Dixie Hwy, Lima, OH 45801.

Meetings

NO PPR

January 8, 2019
Trustees...7:00 PM

January 9, 2019
Worship Com.6:00 PM

January 12, 2017
Ad Council..7:00 PM

NO Finance

Missions ...TBA

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

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir.7:00 PM

JANUARY

2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1 Tim Piper	2	3 Dakota DeRose Becky Ellinger	4	5 Shara Bowsher Lois Cook
6 Adia Slemmons	7	8 Cynthia Guess Larry Moser Barry Smith	9 Larkin Wyant	10	11 Nate Craft	12 Jaime Chambers
13 Carolyn Michael	14 Roger Henderson	15	16 Steve Sdao	17 Norm Grigsby	18	19
20	21 Adrianna Ellinger Shirley Shoup	22	23	24	25	26
27 Jacalyn Henderson	28	29	30 Wanda Strayer Zack White	31 Linda Kristoff		

Anniversaries

- Rudy & Lavonne Segovia*
January 1; 63yrs.
- Paul & Marla Scannell*
January 8
- Gerald & Wanda Strayer*
January 13; 65yrs.
- Andrew & Michele Luhn*
January 16
- Bill & Beverly Nesbitt*
January 16
- Don & Maedene Holmes*
January 25; 60yrs.

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Cooks

Hamburger Soup

By Marybeth Corbett

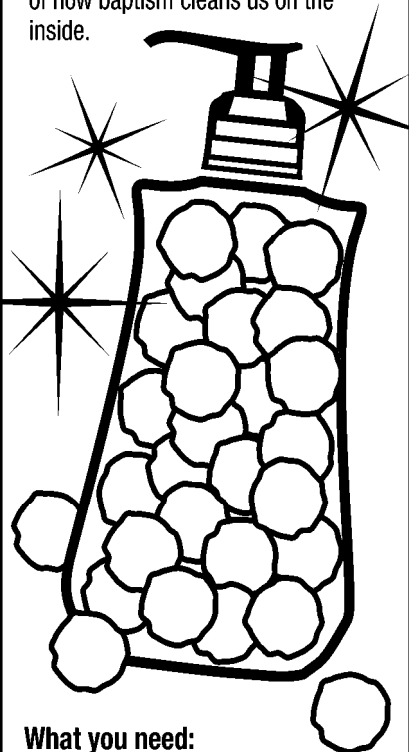
Ingredients		Instructions
2 lb.	ground chuck	Brown meat and drain well. Combine all ingredients. Add beef. Simmer 2 hours, stirring occasionally.
5 3/4 cup	V8 juice (largest can)	
1	Bay leaf	
1 can	Stewed tomatoes	
1 tsp.	Garlic powder	
2 cups	Celery, sliced	
1 cup	Carrots, sliced	
2 tsp.	Basil	
2 tsp.	Oregano	
2 tsp.	Onion flakes	
1 cup	Mushrooms, fresh (if canned; drain)	
1 Tbl.	Worcestershire sauce	
2 cup	Green beans, cut in pieces	
2 cups	Cabbage, sliced or shredded	



KIDZ KORNER

Washed Clean

Decorate a soap bottle as a reminder of how baptism cleans us on the inside.



What you need:

- Bottle of clear liquid hand soap
- Small craft pompoms (different colors)
- Wooden skewer

What you do:

1. Remove the bottle label and unscrew the lid.
2. Using the skewer, push pompoms down into the soap one at a time.
3. Replace the lid and put the dispenser in a bathroom or kitchen.



A fresh start

Baptism is a blessing because it changes us and gives us hope.

Directions: Write the boxed letters in the squares below. Then unscramble those letters to form two words that complete the Bible verse and represent the gift of baptism.



We were therefore buried with him
 through baptism into death in order that,
 just as Christ was raised from the dead
 through the glory of the Father,
 we too may live a _____.

Romans 6:4, NIV

□	□	□	□	□	□	□
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Answer: f i e l e w n y new life

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www.elidastpaulschurch.org

Our Facebook page
Elida St. Paul's Church

Twitter Account
@ESPCHURCH



Living Our Faith

Enter In



Tired of making small talk at church about the weather or sports? Then follow Edward Welch's advice to "enter in" to the lives of your fellow worshippers.

A churchgoer once asked Welch, author of *Caring for One Another* (Crossway), two simple yet profound questions: "What was the best thing about your week, and what was the worst thing about your week?" About a month later, when some issues were weighing heavily on Welch's heart, he wondered who'd be willing to pray for him. Immediately, the person who'd asked him those two questions came to mind.

When worshippers are willing to enjoy one another's blessings and be burdened by one another's difficulties, Welch says, the body of Christ gets built up.

Reading Resolutions

Every January, many Christians resolve to read the entire Bible in one year. That's a worthy goal, but God doesn't require us to read a certain number of verses or chapters per day. Instead, he tells us to simply be in his Word — and thus be with him — so he can grow our faith, light our path and assure us of his love and forgiveness. God's Word is a precious gift, but we need to "unwrap" it!

F.B. Meyer offers this helpful advice for a new year of discovering (and rediscovering!) Scripture: "Read the Bible, not as a newspaper, but as a home letter. If a cluster of heavenly fruit hangs within reach, gather it. If a promise lies upon the page as a blank check, cash it. If a prayer is recorded, appropriate it and launch it as a feathered arrow from the bow of your desire. If an example of holiness gleams before you, ask God to do as much for you. If the truth is revealed ... entreat that its brilliance may ever irradiate ... your life."