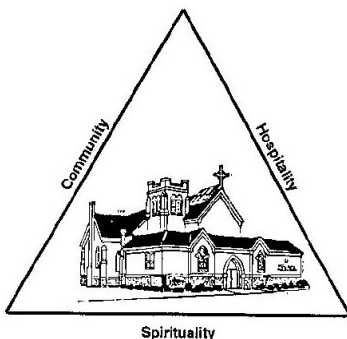


St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church
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June has gone like the Sun every day. For some it raced by and for others it dragged out, but it sets into the past. There are moments in time when we just remember it forever; it becomes part of our collective memory. July 4, 1776, Independence Day; December 7, 1941, the bombing of Pearl Harbor; November 22, 1963, JFK assassination; July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong steps on the moon; September 11, 2001, the towers fell; and the Spring of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic changed our world. If you experienced these dates, you remember where you were and how that event affected you. I believe we will remember this Spring like that as well ten years from now, just like the people in Nazareth remembered the night the Christ child was born. So, we will remember this time in a negative light or will we think of this time as a moment when we came together to cover the problems we are facing?

God sent Christ to rescue us from ourselves, but there has never been a promise that life would be easy. Together we can overcome the problems we face and the promise of eternity that Christ opened to us guarantees we have a place in heaven so we can face the difficulty without fear. I know some of you are fearful of returning to worship and that is ok; some of us are at a higher risk than others as we face the possibility of catching COVID-19. We will support one another in Love, as we travel this new road together.

I hope to see those who feel safe returning to worship on the 28th and for those who chose not to come, we will continue to live stream worship on Facebook live. Please continue to pray for one another as we learn how to safely worship together with these new rules. Continue to lift the leadership of the church up in prayer as they continue updating the guidelines and reevaluating where we make changes each week.

Thanks for your prayers and I'll be praying for you,

Pastor Paul



Thought for the Month:

Kindness is like a
Garden of blessings.

- Sirach 40:17

How Will We Use Our Freedom?

In 2000, Cornealious Anderson was sentenced to 13 years for robbery. The 23-year-old was released on bail and told to await orders to show up to prison. But due to a clerical error, those orders never came. Some people might have taken advantage of such freedom and committed more crimes. But Anderson started a business, coached youth football and volunteered at church, earning respect in his community.

Thirteen years later, when Missouri officials discovered the error and put Anderson behind bars, an online petition called for his release. A judge agreed that Anderson was a changed man and, again, he was freed.

What would *you* do with such undeserved freedom? What *do* we do with the unmerited freedom God grants us despite our sin, and with the freedoms we celebrate on July 4? May we follow Anderson's example and use our freedoms — social *and* spiritual — to serve others.

—adapted from *Homiletics*

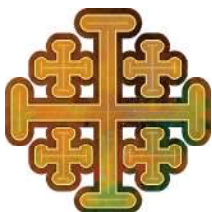


Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

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

Christian Symbol

JERUSALEM CROSS



This complex cross, also called the Crusader's Cross or Fivefold Cross, has several interpretations. The main cross is composed of four tau (T) crosses representing the Old Testament law. The four small Greek crosses symbolize the fulfillment of the law in the gospel. The five crosses together represent the church's mission: to spread the gospel to the four corners of the earth. They're also said to symbolize Christ's five wounds (hands, feet and side).

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



THE BRADLEY W. JOSEPH
MEMORIAL FUND



MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

After much thought I have decided to cancel this year's Outing due to the Pandemic.

If you would like to make a donation to the Brad Joseph Memorial Fund, you may do so by sending a check made out to the Brad Joseph Memorial Fund, PO Box 819, Garden City, MI 48136.

We do expect to continue this wonderful event in 2021, and that date will be Saturday, July 10, 2021. I will keep you posted.

Thank you for your understanding and support,
John Fleming

July 5, 2020
'Coins for Communion'
to benefit the
Brad Joseph Memorial Fund



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Five Loaves Food Pantry
at The Church at Allentown

Food Pantry Sunday is
July 12



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

Our Daily Bread
Soup Kitchen Mission

Friday, July 31

Tim Piper will have updates if cancelled due to Social Distancing .

No Dish-it-Out Café
In July

Family Promise Mission
at Immanuel UMC

Friday, July 31



Returning to Worship

Return to Worship Guidelines

Elida St Paul's United Methodist Church will reopen on June 28th for 10am worship. Our leadership has put together the policy below to help keep us safe as we gather for worship. These guidelines will evolve as our response to the pandemic changes.

- If you feel ill or have a fever, please do not come to church.
- Masks are encouraged but NOT required.
- Hand sanitizer and masks will be available at each entrance.
- Please use social distancing in the sanctuary. We are not closing rows, but are asking that you maintain a 6 feet distance between families.
- There will be no greeters, ushers or hospitality cart.
- Offering plates will be available at each entrance. Please place your offering in the plate.
- The nursery will be open for your use, but will not have an attendant.
- There will be no Sunday School (for now).
- We will have a Hymn Leader singing, but the congregation will not sing.
- There will be no responsive reading or opening prayer by the congregation.
- We will have communion with prepackaged single serve wafer and juice the first Sunday of each month.
- Disinfectant wipes will be available in the north bathrooms.
- Bulletins will not be used, but a weekly prayer list will be available in the pews.
- We will not have Children's Moments.
- We are asking that all socializing before and after church occur outside, and that you maintain a safe social distance.



History of a Hymn

The Star-Spangled Banner

"Then Sings My Soul", By Robert J. Morgan

1814

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Philippians 3:20

It was a deadly September attack on America. Casualties on our own shores. The nation's capitol targeted. The White House in danger. Terror. Heroes.

One hero was Francis, a Georgetown attorney heavily involved in national politics. An evangelical Christian, Francis taught Bible classes and witnessed boldly, once telling a friend in Congress, "Christ alone can save you from the sentence of Condemnation."

He also wrote hymns like this one:

*Lord, with glowing heart I'd praise thee, / For the bliss Thy love bestows, /
For the pardoning grace that saves me, / And the peace that from it flows; /
Help, O God, my weak endeavor; / This dull soul to rapture raise;
Thou must light the flame, or never
Can my love be warmed to praise.*

But nothing prepared Francis for the hostage-recovery mission he undertook at the request of the President of the United States. He was seeking the release of a prominent physician, Dr. Beanes, who had been taken captive. During that assignment he was detained by enemy troops and forced to watch a brutal assault on the eastern seaboard.

Toward the morning of September 14, 1814, when it became clear that American forces had withstood the 25-hour bombardment, Francis Scott Key penned another hymn, scribbling it on the back of an envelope. The first stanza we all know, but have you ever sung the last stanza of "The Star-Spangled Banner"?

*Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved as a nation!
Then conquer we must when our cause it is just.
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

After sunrise, the British released Francis, and back in Baltimore he wrote out this hymn in fuller form and showed it to his brother-in-law who promptly gave it to a printer who ran off handbills for distribution on the streets. One copy landed in the hands of an unknown musician who adapted it to the tune "To Anacreon in Heaven." So was born the patriotic hymn that was to become our national anthem.



Faith In Action

The church is opening up to Sunday worship services on **June 28** at 10:00 AM. You may also continue to view Pastor Paul's sermons on our St. Paul's Facebook page and You Tube.

Our Facebook Page:
Elida St. Paul's Church

Please see the guidelines to reopening the church on Page 4.

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,879.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
May 24, 2020	\$4,121.00	\$199.00
June 7, 2020	\$5,808.00	\$510.00
June 14 & 21 combined	\$2,851.00	\$1,330.75

Thank You

Thank you to all who have continued to submit your offering during this time of social distancing.

Altar Flowers

Dates available:

August 16, 23, 30

November 1, 8, 22, 29

Please let the office know or sign up on the chart in the hallway. if you would like altar flowers.

Flower Calendar

July 5, 2020	Scott & Gail Fessler
July 12, 2020	Dottie Jennell
July 19, 2020	Lois Cook
July 26, 2020	Bill & Joyce Nichols

There will be **NO Greeters** and **NO Hospitality Cart**. We will reevaluate once we start back and figure out a new normal.

Keep up to date with our weekly status e-mail, or for those without e-mail, snail mail.

If you are not receiving this information contact the office
419-339-3801

Daily Bible Readings

Wednesday 7/1

Psalm 72, 119:73-96
Ecclesiastes 9:11-18
Galatians 5:1-15, Matthew 16:1-12

Thursday 7/2

Psalm 70, 71, 74
Ecclesiastes 11:1-8
Galatians 5:16-24
Matthew 16:13-20

Friday 7/3

Psalm 69, 73
Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:14
Galatians 5:25-6:10
Matthew 16:21-28

Saturday 7/4

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76
Numbers 3:1-13
Galatians 6:11-18
Matthew 17:1-13

Sunday 7/5

Psalm 34, 93, 96
Numbers 6:22-27
Acts 13:1-12, Luke 12:41-48

Monday 7/6

Psalm 77, 80
Numbers 9:15-23, 10:29-36
Romans 1:1-15, Matthew 17:14-21

Tuesday 7/7

Psalm 78, Numbers 11:1-23
Romans 1:16-25
Matthew 17:22-27

Wednesday 7/8

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120
Numbers 11:24-35
Romans 1:28-2:11
Matthew 18:1-9

Thursday 7/9

Psalm 83, 85, 86
Numbers 12:1-16
Romans 2:12-2, Matthew 18:10-20

Friday 7/10

Psalm 88, 91, 92
Numbers 13:1-30
Romans 2:25-3:8
Matthew 18:21-35

Saturday 7/11

Psalm 87, 90, 136
Numbers 13:31-14:25
Romans 3:9-20, Matthew 19:1-12

Sunday 7/12

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67
1 Samuel 4:12-22
James 1:1-18, Matthew 19:23-30

Monday 7/13

Psalm 89, 1 Samuel 5:1-12
Acts 5:12-26, Luke 21:29-36

Tuesday 7/14

Psalm 95, 97, 99, 1 Samuel 6:1-16
Acts 5:27-42, Luke 21:37-22:13

Wednesday 7/15

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144
1 Samuel 7:2-17
Acts 6:1-15, Luke 22:14-23

Thursday 7/16

Psalm 105, 1 Samuel 8:1-22
Acts 6:15-7:16, Luke 22:24-30

Friday 7/17

Psalm 102, 107:1-32
1 Samuel 9:1-14
Acts 7:17-29, Luke 22:31-38

Saturday 7/18

Psalm 33, 107:33-43, 108
1 Samuel 9:15-10:1
Acts 7:30-43, Luke 22:39-51

Sunday 7/19

Psalm 118, 145, 1 Samuel 10:1-16
Romans 4:13-25
Matthew 21:23-32

Monday 7/20

Psalm 106, 1 Samuel 10:17-27
Acts 7:44-8:1a, Luke 22:52-62

Tuesday 7/21

Psalm 120, 127, 1 Samuel 11:1-15
Acts 8:1-13, Luke 22:63-71

Wednesday 7/22

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130
1 Samuel 12:1-25
Acts 8:14-25, Luke 23:1-12

Thursday 7/23

Psalm 133, 134, 135
1 Samuel 13:5-18
Acts 8:26-40, Luke 23:13-25

Friday 7/24

Psalm 140, 141, 142, 143
1 Samuel 13:19-14:15
Acts 9:1-9, Luke 23:26-31

Saturday 7/25

Psalm 104, 137, 144
Numbers 24:12-25
Romans 8:18-25
Matthew 22:23-40

Sunday 7/26

Psalm 111, 112, 113, 146, 147
1 Samuel 14:36-45
Romans 5:1-11, Matthew 22:1-14

Monday 7/27

Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4, 7
1 Samuel 15:1-23
Acts 9:19b-31, Luke 23:44-56a

Tuesday 7/28

Psalm 5, 6, 10, 11
1 Samuel 15:24-35
Acts 9:32-43, Luke 23:56b-24:11

Wednesday 7/29

Psalm 12, 13, 14, 119:1-24
1 Samuel 16:1-13
Acts 10:1-16, Luke 24:12-35

Thursday 7/30

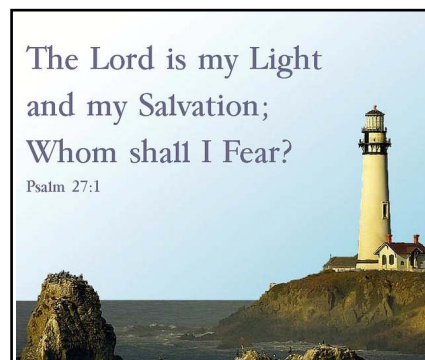
Psalm 18, 1 Samuel 16:14-17:11
Acts 10:17-33, Luke 24:36-53

Friday 7/31

Psalm 16, 17, 22
1 Samuel 17:17-30
Acts 10:34-48, Mark 1:1-13

The Lord is my Light
and my Salvation;
Whom shall I Fear?

Psalm 27:1



Remember When...



July, 1998
Red Bird Mission



July, 2001
Medical Missions Trip
With Brad Joseph



July, 2003
Habitat for Humanity Mission



Our Church History

Seniors Day Out was August 16, 2016. The servers were Margie Best, Ginny Doseck, Bev Nesbitt and Corinne Piper. Doug and Mary Lu Anthony spoke about their mission work to third world countries to help local Christians record songs in local dialects, with Bible themes and words for local leaders to use to spread the Gospel.

The Allen Co. Fair Chair Set-Up took place on August 26. Many church members, in addition to several Elida High School students, worked hard to get all of the chairs needed for the grandstand evening concert put in place and also taken down after the concert ended.

The Blessing of the Bookbags and Backpacks was held on August 28, 2016. Also on that day, Logan and Ian House were baptized by immersion by Pastor Paul in the pool at the home of Dan and Margie Best.

Larry and Shirley Moser and Ron Steiner removed the old kitchen cabinets in the fellowship hall to get the kitchen prepared for new cabinets, a new island, and a new dishwasher.

Maedene Holmes and her group of faithful workers prepared the school kits and health kits donated by the members of the congregation for delivery to the West Ohio Conference Festival of Sharing. Ninety-six school kits and forty health kits were delivered. This exceeded the amount for 2015. Maedene's helpers included Shara Bowsher, Anne Laman, Shirley Moser, Bev Nesbitt, Tim Piper, Lavonne Segovia, Jean Thomas, Martha Vazquez and Jamie Wyant.

Seniors Day Out
Guest Speakers:
Doug and Mary Lu Anthony

Removing old cabinets to
prepare for new cabinets



Ramp Mission

A ramp was built for Steve Smith, a neighbor to Travis and Julie Bok, on June 11. Steve suffers from infectious arthritis and is wheelchair bound. He is a lifelong resident of Elida. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped build this ramp.



Connecting With ...



DEB HURD RETIRED!!!!

I entered Lima Technical College in September, 1976 and graduated with my Associates of Applied Science in Dental Hygiene in June, 1979. Dr. Dale Stefanek, D.D.S. (now retired) was one of my clinical instructors my last quarter of college. He opened his practice in Kalida in May, 1979. I had interviewed at various places in Columbus since my family is all down in that area, but everyone wanted five years' experience. So, I decided to convince Dr. Stefanek that he needed me and I succeeded. He said he didn't need a hygienist yet as he was just getting started in the area. I told him that I hadn't passed my Boards yet either so I felt we could work together. And so, on June 20, 1979 (just one week after I graduated), I started with his practice and helped first with assisting, then on to the front desk, and then into hygiene. I watched the practice grow from two operatories, to three, and to four. In 2001, he built a new office in Ottawa and we moved there in October, 2001. Now we had seven operatories and he took on another doctor as well - Dr. Anthony Nigro. Dr. Stefanek retired in 2015 and Dr. Nigro changed the name to OG Family & General Dentistry. In 2018, Dr. Jared Ellinger came aboard. Seeing people smile has always made me happy so it is not a wonder that I went into this profession. I have been at it for 41 years and have loved every minute of it. And to think that I have been with the same practice all those years too! My patients are like family to me. I listen to them, laugh with them, cry with them, and pray with them. I will miss each and every one of them. So, my career came to an end on June 26, 2020 (yes, I 'hung up the floss').

During retirement, I plan to continue volunteering at Primrose Retirement Community and Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen when we are allowed to return. I also am looking forward to reading more, getting back into my cross stitching again which I love, and I would like to get into some genealogy. Other than that, I just want to enjoy life. But I will always love peoples' smiles and I hope you do too. Our world needs more smiles to keep us going. And for my closing words - remember to brush and floss!



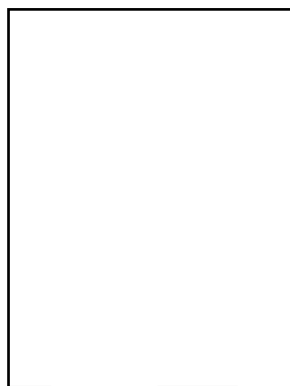
What the Dental Hygienist of today wears to stay safe!



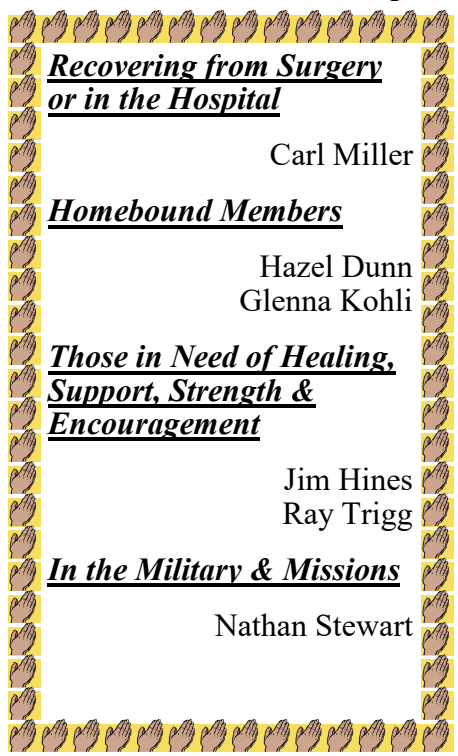
The People of St. Paul's

Congratulations to Corporal Oliver Fessler on completing his 4 year enlistment in the Marine Corps. As of July 5th he will be a Marine Corps Veteran. Oliver was an advanced 81mm Mortarman in Weapons Company with 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines, stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He served in 2 deployments; one with the Black Sea Rotational Force, Romania, while there he also did training in Greece and Israel. The second was a unit deployment program, Okinawa, Japan, which included training in the Philippines and South Korea. Oliver will be going to school at Upper Valley Career Center in Piqua to become a Power Line Mechanic. He is currently working at The Amish Merchant, until his classes begin in October.

Thank you for your service!




Remember in Prayer



Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital
Carl Miller

Homebound Members
Hazel Dunn
Glenna Kohli

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement
Jim Hines
Ray Trigg

In the Military & Missions
Nathan Stewart



THANK YOU




Our sympathy to Don and Maedene Holmes on the passing of Maedene's sister, Barbara Young, on June 24. Cards may reach Don and Maedene at 167 Brookview Ct., Lima, Ohio 45801

*St. Paul UMC Church,
Thank you for sending me the monthly newsletter. I follow the daily scripture readings and enjoy reading all you do in the community.*

*In Christ's Love,
Norene Parish*

Meetings

JULY 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

July 1, 2020
Worship Mtg...10:00 AM
 No PPR

July 7, 2020
Trustees...7:00 PM
 TBA
Finance..

TBA
Ad Council...

TBA
Missions Mtg.

Sundays
Worship...10:00 AM

			1 Anika Bok Lucy Chaffins Jenni Jankovsky Jean Thomas	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Don Holmes	11 Emma White
12	13	14 Gloria Brunk Brady Emmons Jackson Lane Drew White	15	16 Kim Crates	17	18 Madeline Kuenzli Zachary Loose
19 Macy Chambers	20	21 Savannah Emmons	22 Travis Bok Carole Grapner	23	24	25 Ian House
26	27 Ella Motzer Gretchen Woeller	28 Katie White	29	30 Ethan Thomas Jonathan Perry	31 Jan Wyant	



Doug & Ginger Fox
July 6

Travis & Julia Bok
July 17

Tim & Corinne Piper
July 17; 44 yrs.

Bill & Marlene Weaver
July 18; 69 yrs.

Tim & Sue Theodore
July 20

Denny & Carole Grapner
July 26; 57 yrs.

Bill & Joyce Nichols
July 27; 74yrs.



Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

Lemon-Blueberry Trifle

By Deb Hurd

Ingredients		Instructions
8 oz.	Cream cheese, softened	Beat cream cheese, pudding, and milk until smooth. Fold in 2 cups cool whip. In trifle dish, layer in 1/3 cake (torn into pieces), 1/3 pudding mixture, 1/3 Blueberries and repeat 2 more times. Garnish with remaining cool whip and lemons. Chill.
2-3.4 oz	Lemon pudding, instant	
3 cups	Milk	
8 oz.	Cool Whip	
1	Angel Food cake	
2 pints	Blueberries, fresh	
1	Lemon, sliced	



Berry Crumble

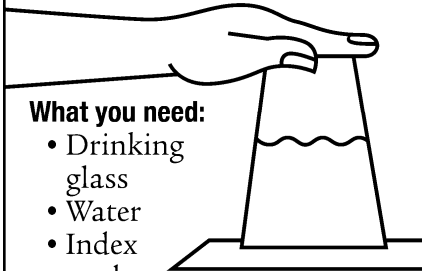
By Judy Chaffins

Ingredients		Instructions
1/2 cup	Sugar, granulated	Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine granulated sugar and flour in a 2 quart bowl. Gently fold in blueberries, raspberries and lemon juice. Spoon into a baking dish. Combine oats and brown sugar in same bowl. Using a pastry blender, cut butter into oat mixture until butter pieces are size of peas. Sprinkle topping over berries. Bake 40 to 45 minutes or until filling is bubbling around the edges and topping is nicely browned. Serve warm in bowls with scoops of vanilla ice cream on top.
2 Tbl.	Flour, all purpose	
2 cups	Blueberries, fresh	
2 cups	Raspberries, fresh	
2 Tbl.	Lemon juice	
1 cup	Oats, uncooked quick or old fashioned	
1/4 cup	Brown sugar, firmly packed	
1/2 cup	Butter or margarine, Cut into small pieces	

KIDZ KORNER

UNSEEN BUT *active*

This experiment illustrates that although God is invisible, we can see his work all around us.



What you need:

- Drinking glass
- Water
- Index card

What you do:


1. Practicing over a sink, fill the glass halfway with water. Then press the index card snugly atop the glass with one hand.
2. With the other hand, hold the base of the glass and carefully flip it over.
3. Remove your hand from the card. It should stay on the glass, without spilling the water! The invisible air in the glass creates a suction with the card, preventing the water from spilling out. Research air pressure to learn more.
4. After perfecting the trick, amaze others with it. Then talk about how God, like the air in the glass, is unseen but active.




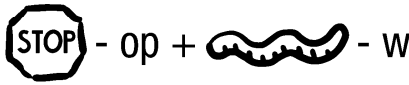
WATER WORKS!


The gospels record Jesus' miracles, many of which involve water.


Directions: Using the illustrated equations, fill in the blanks to describe each miracle. Use the Bible references for help.

 + e _____ **JOHN 2:1-11**

 - k + d _____ **JOHN 9**

 - op + _____ - w _____ **MATTHEW 8:23-27**

f +  - d _____ **LUKE 5:1-11**

 - ch + er _____ **MATTHEW 14:22-33**

Answer: wine, blind, storm, fish, water

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
 105 E. Main St.
 Elida, OH 45807

*Return Service Requested

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 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

The “Wow!” Factor

After the final notes concluded at a recent symphony performance in Boston, the conductor hadn't yet lowered his baton when a child exclaimed, “Wow!” The break in protocol, magnified by excellent acoustics, didn't upset the participants or audience, however. Instead, several later said it brought them great joy. One even called the moment life-changing.

The incident was especially meaningful because the child, a 9-year-old named Ronan, has autism and is generally nonverbal. Music, his family says, tends to attract his interest and make him happy. When symphony officials learned Ronan's identity, they arranged a private performance so he could meet some musicians.

How often do you shout “Wow!” — in a good way — at what you see and hear? You may tend to do so on vacation or while observing God's natural wonders, but what about during your day-to-day life? Think about the people you encounter and their talents — and your own. When have these sparked a “Wow!” of thanks to God?

Every blessing, large or small, is a wow-moment — a gift from God that warrants our praise.

—adapted from HomeTouch Ministry

Taking Measure of Prayer

Fluency [in prayer] is a questionable endowment, especially when it is not accompanied with the weight of thought and depth of feeling. Some [people] pray by the yard, but true prayer is measured by weight, not by length. A single groan before God may have more fullness of prayer in it than a fine oration of great length.

—Charles Spurgeon

