

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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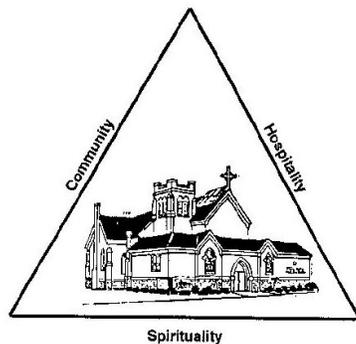
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July is here, and I am already looking ahead to August. Beginning August 6, at the National Night Out, and running through Elections in November, I would like your help in running a 'Kindness' Campaign called *Do Unto Others* or *DUO* for short. We see division and polarization in our country, communities, and even inside the walls of our own churches. It's easy to wonder if we will ever go back to agreeing to disagree, yet Jesus shows us a better way. Jesus taught us that we should treat others as we want to be treated, commonly known as 'The Golden Rule', taken from Matthew 7:12, and holds the power to bring people together again. We will join this campaign of kindness, being offered to United Methodist Churches across the United States, and make it our own.

I would like to invite you to participate in several ways. We will have available in the upcoming weeks, t-shirts (\$10 ea.), yard signs, and stickers to advertise the campaign. I have available Bible Studies, Children's Sunday School curriculum, and a 4-week sermon series, which I will be doing just before the election. With the purchase of t-shirts (\$10 if we order at least 24) and yard signs, we can begin to blanket our community with an attitude of kindness, respect, love, humility, and compassion, instead of the polarization we see in our country during elections.

This means I will need volunteers for National Night Out. I hope we can once again sponsor a bouncy house, and hand out information on the *DUO* campaign to our community. It is a great place to get the word out to our neighbors and the Elida school district about this campaign. But to get involved we will need everything in place in the next 5 weeks, which is a little frightening. Please be in prayer about how you can help, and what it is you want your neighbors to know about you and your church. This campaign will never tell someone how or who to vote for, but it helps us to show a better way to treat our neighbors. I hope you will join me in the weeks and months to come as we *Do Unto Others as We Would Have Them Do Unto Us*. They will see us in the mission field.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Paul





July 7
 'Coins for Communion'
 to Benefit the Crossroads Crisis Center

BOOK Club
 Saturday, July 13
 at 9:00 AM

The book for discussion is
"The Sweetness of Forgetting"
 By Kristen Harmel

All Are Welcome!

CHILDREN'S SPECIAL MUSIC:

The children are singing Sunday, July 14, and hope everyone will come aboard and joins them on the "Happy Day Express".

Food Pantry Sunday
 July 14

Items needed are:
 Drink mixes and shelf-stable milk
 or dry milk

Five Loaves Food Pantry
 at The Church at Allentown

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



Deadline: the 22nd
 of each month

St. Paul's Epistle	
is published by St. Paul's United Methodist Church	
Subscription Rate: NONE	
Secretary	Gail Fessler
Pianist	Lois Cook
Choir Director	Judy Chaffins
Custodian	Dave Decker

Christian Symbol

CATHEDRAL FLOOR PLAN

Traditionally, a cathedral is laid out in the shape of a cross. The lower section or nave (from Latin for *ship*), along with the transepts (the arms of the cross), is where the congregation sits. The choir sits on either side of the chancel. Despite our common terminology, the sanctuary (from Latin for *holy*) isn't the full worship space but the area right before the altar. The location of the lectern, from which Scripture is read, and pulpit, used for preaching, may vary.

Thought for the Month:
 You can always give without loving,
 but you can never love without giving.
 —attributed to various sources

Family Promise Mission
Friday, July 26
 Help by providing food for families
 staying at Family Promise site
 on Gloria Avenue
 A signup sheet and information
 Will be available at the media desk.



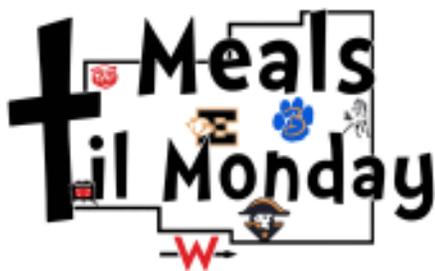

National Night Out
August 6 2024
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM
 Elida Field House Parking lot



National Night Out is observed annually on the 1st Tuesday in August.
 It is a community first responders awareness-raising event
 throughout the United States.

St. Paul's, once again, will have a booth. Volunteers are needed.

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



Meals 'Til Monday

Meals 'til Monday is an organization here in Allen County which feeds children in vulnerable situations during the school year from Friday until Monday when they return to school. Children are quietly given food in their backpacks every Friday to keep them fed over the weekend. They have been operating in the red for 2 years and are looking for new benefactors if you can give above your normal church giving. I want to encourage you to do so, directly to Meals 'Til Monday or through the church. Thanks for your concern for local children.

Because hunger doesn't take the weekend off!

Annual Conference Summary

West Ohio Annual Conference Report



The 55th session of the West Ohio Annual Conference was held May 28-June 1 at Capital University in Bexley. Bishop Gregory Palmer presided over the conference under the theme, "God is Able," gathering insight from Ephesians 3:20-21. As always, worship was powerful with messages from the Bishop as well as other ministers and musical groups.

Celebrations that occurred were:

- Ordination of 5 elders and 2 deacons.
- Retirement of 31 pastors.
- Bishop Gregory Palmer's retirement and Mrs. Cynthia Palmer's ministry to clergy spouses.
- The establishment of The Bishop Gregory and Mrs. Cynthia Palmer Africa University Scholarship with about \$30,000 collected. Four years tuition is \$26,000.

Legislation that was adopted:

1. Recommendation to amend the conference rules, structure and procedures to be more concise.
2. The budget. Apportions of \$12,049,000 from 600 churches is reduced due to disaffiliation. An apportionment fund will move from three to one. Monies will be distributed proportionally to the conference, district and all general church funds.
3. The Board of Pension and Health Benefits. Retired clergy and their spouses will be eligible for retiree health at age 62.
4. Commission of Equitable Compensation. Guidelines for minimum salaries for 2025 were presented and reflect a 3% increase.
5. Regionalization which means providing a variety of educational opportunities to As sure that we are fully informed and prepared to vote on the constitutional amendments at the 2025 annual conference.
6. Responding to Palestinian Christians. The committee recommends steps to respond to Kairos Palestine for the United Methodist Church to oppose the Israeli government's occupation of the Holy Land.

Continued on page 5

Annual Conference Summary Cont. from pg. 4

Other Conference Business:

- The Conference supported the approval of US Senate Bill 3910, the "Yes in God's Backyard Act" (YIGBY) concerning affordable housing.
- Reports about regionalization, removal of restrictive language and the adoption of new social principles.
- Bishop Palmer will serve as the Executive Secretary to the Council of Bishops beginning September 1.
- A bishop will be assigned to West Ohio at the North Central Jurisdictional Conference in July. This bishop will serve both the East and West Ohio Conferences.

All though Annual Conference is mostly about inspiring worship and business, it is also a time to greet former pastors and friends. I visited with Reverend Ruth Solo during dinner at Bexley UMC. She and Rich are well but she is recovering from knee surgery. After leaving the church, our day was over so we stopped to see Erik Puffenberger. Gene and I had a wonderful visit with Erik and Stacy. They are doing very well and Erik sends greetings to all of you. I also had a very nice discussion with Elizabeth (Liz) Trigg. She has completed two years at Methesco (Methodist Theological School) Seminary and is serving at Amlin UMC in Dublin, Ohio. One last bit of information as a reminder to you that last year the West Ohio Conference became six districts. Our name is Western Lakes and James Wilson is our District Superintendent.

Linda Craft, Lay delegate



Praise For God's Handiwork

How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of your hands!

The heavens declare your glory,
the arch of sky displays your handiwork.

In your love you have given us the power
to behold the beauty of your world
robed in all its splendor.

The sun and the stars, the valleys and hills,
the rivers and lakes all disclose your presence.

The roaring breakers of the sea tell of your awesome might;
the beasts of the field and the birds of the air
bespeak your wondrous will.

In your goodness you have made us able to hear
the music of the world. The voices of loved ones
reveal to us that you are in our midst.

A divine voice sings through all creation.

Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:		
		* RV
June 2, 2024	71	49
June 9, 2024	63	44
June 16, 2024	41	X
June 23, 2024	56	X

***RV - Remote Viewing**
(online viewing)

We are now recording the attendance for those watching online. This attendance is taken a week behind so we are sure to record those who have viewed the service throughout the week.

Financial Giving
Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$4,187.00

Sunday School Attendance	
June 2, 2024	13
June 9, 2024	8
June 16, 2024	4
June 23, 2024	10

	Unified Ministry Giving:	Other:
June 2, 2024	\$2,275.00	\$99.74
June 9, 2024	\$3,026.85	\$160.00
June 16, 2024	\$3,225.00	\$295.00
June 23, 2024	\$1,516.40	\$145.00

<h2>Flower Calendar</h2>	
July 7, 2024	Don & Mary Irvin
July 14, 2024	Tim & Corinne Piper
July 21, 2024	Lois Cook
July 28, 2024	Blake Selover

<h2>Hospitality Cart</h2>	
July 7, 2024	OPEN
July 14, 2024	OPEN
July 21, 2024	OPEN
July 28, 2024	OPEN

Daily Bible Readings

Monday 7/1

Psalm 89, Numbers 16:1-19
Romans 3:21-31
Matthew 19:13-22

Tuesday 7/2

Psalm 95, 100
Numbers 16:20-35
Romans 4:1-12, Matthew 19:23-30

Wednesday 7/3

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144
Numbers 16:36-50
Romans 4:13-25, Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday 7/4

Psalm 105, Numbers 17:1-11
Romans 5:1-11, Matthew 20:17-28

Friday 7/5

Psalm 102, 107:1-32
Numbers 20:1-13
Romans 5:12-21
Matthew 20:29-34

Saturday 7/6

Psalm 33, 107:33-43, 108
Numbers 20:14-29
Romans 6:1-11, Matthew 21:1-11

Sunday 7/7

Psalm 118, 145
Numbers 21:4-9, 21-35
Acts 17:12-34, Luke 13:10-17

Monday 7/8

Psalm 106, Numbers 22:1-21
Romans 6:12-23
Matthew 21:12-22

Tuesday 7/9

Psalm 120, 127
Numbers 22:21-38
Romans 7:1-12, Matthew 21:23-32

Wednesday 7/10

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130
Numbers 22:41-23:12
Romans 7:13-25
Matthew 21:33-46

Thursday 7/11

Psalm 133, 134, 135
Numbers 23:11-26
Romans 22:1-14, Matthew 22:1-14

Friday 7/12

Psalm 140, 141, 142, 143
Numbers 24:1-13
Romans 8:12-17
Matthew 22:15-22

Saturday 7/13

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

Sunday 7/14

Psalm 111, 112, 113, 146, 147
Numbers 27:12-23
Acts 19:11-20, Mark 1:14-20

Monday 7/15

Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4, 7
Numbers 32:1-27
Romans 8:26-30
Matthew 23:1-12

Tuesday 7/16

Psalm 5, 6, 10, 11
Numbers 35:1-3, 9-15, 30-34
Romans 8:31-39
Matthew 23:13-26

Wednesday 7/17

Psalm 12, 13, 14, 119:1-24
Deuteronomy 1:1-18
Romans 9:1-18, Matthew 23:27-39

Thursday 7/18

Psalm 18, Deuteronomy 3:18-28
Roman 9:19-33, Matthew 24:1-14

Friday 7/19

Psalm 16, 17, 22
Deuteronomy 31:7-13, 24-32:4
Romans 10:1-13
Matthew 24:15-31

Saturday 7/20

Psalm 20, 21, 110, 116, 117
Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Romans 10:14-21
Matthew 24:32-51

Sunday 7/21

Psalm 114, 115, 148, 149, 150
Joshua 1:1-18
Acts 21:3-15, Mark 1:21-17

Monday 7/22

Psalm 9, 15, 25, Joshua 2:1-14
Romans 11:1-12
Matthew 25:1-13

Tuesday 7/23

Psalm 26, 28, 36, 39
Joshua 2:15-24
Romans 11:13-24
Matthew 25:14-30

Wednesday 7/24

Psalm 38, 119:25-48
Joshua 3:1-13
Romans 11:25-36
Matthew 25:31-46

Thursday 7/25

Psalm 37, Joshua 3:14-4:7
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 26:1-16

Friday 7/26

Psalm 31, 35, Joshua 4:19-5:15
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 26:17-25

Saturday 7/27

Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43
Joshua 6:1-14
Romans 13:1-7
Matthew 26:26-35

Sunday 7/28

Psalm 63, 98, 103
Joshua 6:15-27
Acts 22:30-23:11, Mark 2:1-12

Monday 7/29

Psalm 41, 44, 52
Joshua 7:1-13
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 26:36-46

Tuesday 7/30

Psalm 45, 47, 48
Joshua 8:1-22
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 26:47-56

Wednesday 7/31

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

Spring Tea

A Ladies and Girls Spring Tea was held on Saturday, June 8 in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to Judy Chaffins and Jan Wyant for organizing this event. Guest speaker was Luann Everett, sharing her knowledge and examples of 1800's Ladies unmentionables. There were also several wedding dresses and Wedding pictures on display. Thank you to all who volunteered and helped to make this event a success!



Spring Tea



Kits Mission

SCHOOL KITS

- One pair blunt scissors (**Round Tip**)
- Three **70 count** bound notebooks (**Wide Ruled**)
 - One ruler (**12" - metric**)
- One hand-held pencil sharpener
 - One large eraser (**no pencil cap erasers**)
 - Six new pencils with erasers (**unsharpened, remove from package**)
 - One box crayons (**24 ct.**)

\$2.00 for processing and shipping kits.
Pack kit in a **2 gallon size ziplock bag** and place at the altar.

HEALTH KITS

- One hand towel (@15"x28" to 16"x32",**no micro-fiber**)
- One washcloth
- One **wide-tooth** comb (**Combs provided include \$1.00 in your kit**)
- One finger nail or toe nail clipper (**remove from package**)
- One bar of soap (**bath size in wrapper**)
 - One adult size toothbrush (**in original package**)
 - **Ten** standard size Band-Aids

\$2.00 for processing and shipping kits.
Seal kit in a **gallon size ziplock bag** and place at the altar.



PERIOD PACK

Menstrual Hygiene Kit

- Two - 2 oz. bottle hand sanitizer
- Three - 4-gallon bathroom trash bags
 - One - travel pack Wet Ones
 - Ten - unscented tampons (**5 regular, 5 super absorbency**)
- Ten - unscented sanitary napkins (**long super ultra thin**)
- One - bath-size bar of soap in the Original Package (**30z bar or larger, NO Ivory or Jergen's soap**)
 - One - pack flushable wipes (**unscented, 42 count**)
 - Six - Laundry detergent sheets (**place sheets in small ziploc bag**)

\$2.00 for processing and shipping kits
Seal kit in a **gallon size ziplock bag** and place at the altar.

The Period Pack kit has been added to the Festival of Sharing kits mission.

Many of our neighbors live in period poverty, lacking access to necessary feminine care supplies. These period packs give women and girls the essentials they need to feel clean, be healthy, and live with dignity.



Connecting With ...

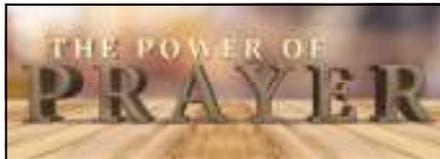
VETERANS DONATION DRIVE For Dayton Veteran VA Nursing Homes

Items Collecting:
Playing cards, Checkers, Chess,
Backgammon, Dominos,
or other board games,
Puzzles of 500 to 1000 pieces.

All Items MUST Be NEW

There is a collection box under the coat rack in the hallway
Items collected will be taken to the collection site at
Forest Park United Methodist Church in Lima.

Collection deadline is November 3

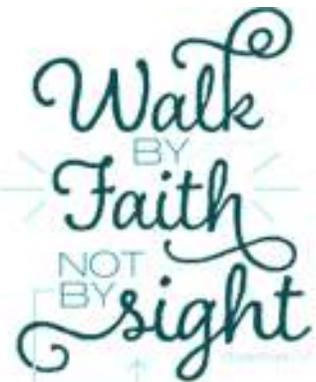


*Thank
you!*

*To the Crafty Creatures Bunch,
Thank you for the lovely quilt
our Mother received. It is beauti-
ful and warm. Your creativity
and generosity are much appre-
ciated.*

The Family of Nancy Wieging

Thank you to Corinne Piper
for serving as guest speaker
on July 23, while Pastor
Paul enjoyed some time off.
Corinne continued with the
'Prayer Series' with her own
thoughts on prayer.



The People of St. Paul's

Congratulations



Happy 75th Anniversary!

Congratulations to Theodore "Ted" and Janice "Jan" Sodders on celebrating their 75th Wedding anniversary on June 26. Jan also celebrated her 95th Birthday on this date. They have 2 sons, Douglas and Michael Sodders, 7 Grandchildren, and 6 Great-grandchildren, with #7 due in July. Cards may reach them at 205 N. Greenlawn Ave., Elida, Oh 45807.

The Power Of Warmth

In one of Aesop's fables, the North Wind and the Sun debated who was stronger. When they saw a traveler approaching, the Sun sensed an opportunity.

He said whoever could make the man remove his coat would win — and even let the Wind go first.

So the Sun ducked behind a cloud as the Wind began blowing mighty blasts of air at the traveler. But the harder the Wind blew, the closer the man pulled his coat around himself. Finally, the Wind gave up in despair.

Then the Sun emerged and smiled down on the traveler. Feeling the gentle rays, the man soon found it too hot to walk with his coat on. He felt so warm he removed one garment after another and bathed in a nearby stream.

The Sun knew that warmth, friendliness and a gentle touch are always stronger than fury and force.



Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital
Barb Schade

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement
Ted and Jan Sodders

In the Military & Missions
Nathan Stewart

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

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.

Meetings

No PPR
 July 2, 2024
Trustees...7:00 PM
No Worship Mtg
No Ad Council/Finance
 TBA
Missions Mtg.
Sundays
Hospitality..9:30 AM
Worship...10:00 AM

JULY

2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



Doug & Ginger Fox
 July 6; 42 yrs.

Mitchell & Kathy Furry
 July 8; 46 yrs.

Travis & Julia Bok
 July 17

Tim & Corinne Piper
 July 17; 48yrs.

Bill & Marlene Weaver
 July 18; 73yrs.

Tim & Sue Theodore
 July 20

Denny & Carole Grapner
 July 26; 61 yrs.

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



St. Paul's Featured Recipes

Fresh Vegetable Dip

By Miriam Reynolds

Ingredients		Instructions
2/3 cup	Miracle Whip	Mix all ingredients well. Serve with fresh vegetables. 
2/3 cup	Sour Cream	
1 Tbl.	Onion, minced	
1 tsp.	Lawry's seasoning salt	
1 Tbl.	Parsley flakes	
1 tsp.	Dill weed	
1 tsp.	Accent	
1 1/2 tsp.	Worcestershire sauce	

Yummy Pecan Dessert

By Jone Lane

Ingredients		Instructions
1 bag	Pecan Sandies, crushed	Mix cookie crumbs with butter. Press in bottom of 9x13 inch pan. Cool. Set out ice cream for 10 minutes. Mix pudding and milk. Add ice cream. Mix well. Pour over crumbs. Spread Cool Whip over top. Sprinkle crushed Hershey Bar or Heath Bar over Cool Whip topping. May also sprinkle Pecans if desired. 
1/2 cup	Melted butter	
1/2 gal	Vanilla ice cream	
2 pkgs.	Butter Pecan instant pudding	
1 cup	Milk	
1 (9 oz.) tub	Cool Whip	
1	Hersey bar or Heath bar, crushed	
optional	Pecans, chopped.	

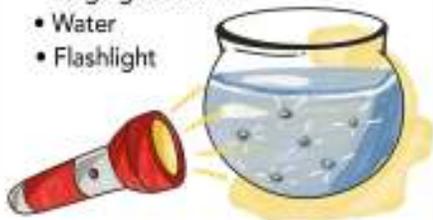
KIDZ KORNER



Why do stars appear to twinkle? Try this experiment to find out!

What you need:

- Aluminum foil
- Large glass bowl
- Water
- Flashlight



What you do:

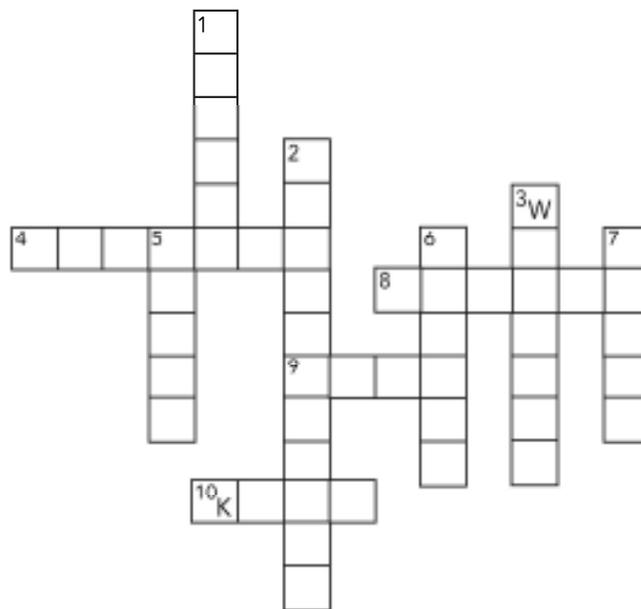
1. Crumple the foil into a ball. Carefully unfold it and lay it flat on the ground.
2. Fill the bowl with water and place it on the foil.
3. Turn off the lights and make the room as dark as possible. Shine the flashlight about 1 foot from the water's undisturbed surface. Light will reflect onto the foil.
4. Then tap your finger on the water's surface. As the water moves, what happens to the light on the foil?
5. This flickering simulates scintillation, which happens when starlight enters Earth's atmosphere. As light passes through layers of gas and water, it refracts and appears to twinkle.



THE WONDER OF STARS

The heavens display evidence of God's great power.
What else does the Bible say about the sky?

Directions: Use the clues and Bible references (all NIV) to complete the crossword.



DOWN

1. The sun, moon and stars do this to God. (Psalm 148:3)
2. God made these as numerous as the stars. (Genesis 26:4)
3. Don't do this to the stars and sky. (Deuteronomy 4:19)
5. What do the heavens declare? (Psalm 19:1)
6. The moon and the stars do this at night. (Psalm 136:9)
7. When we're pure, we do this like the stars. (Philippians 2:15)

ACROSS

4. The heavens are the work of these. (Psalm 8:3)
8. On what day did God create the stars? (Genesis 1:14-19)
9. God calls each star by this. (Isaiah 40:26)
10. A star announced the arrival of him. (Matthew 2:2)

Answers: DOWN: 1. praise, 2. descendants, 3. worship, 5. glory, 6. govern, 7. shine, 8. fingers, 9. name, 10. king

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

Redeeming 'Wasted' Time

In *Just Like Jesus*, Max Lucado writes that the average American spends a total of six months waiting at stoplights, eight months opening junk mail, 18 months looking for items we've lost and five years standing in line. All the while, many of us grumble: "What a waste of time! I could be doing something much more important! *Where* are my keys?"

But Lucado suggests that we give these moments to God. Rather than whispering to ourselves, we can speak to God in prayer. "Simple phrases such as 'Thank you, Father,' 'Be sovereign in this hour, O Lord,' 'You are my resting place, Jesus' can turn a commute into a pilgrimage," he writes. "You needn't leave your office or kneel in your kitchen. Just pray where you are. Let the kitchen become a cathedral or the classroom a chapel. Give God your whispering thoughts."

When we do this, "the common becomes uncommon," Lucado adds. What's more, "wasted" time becomes valuable; boring waits become meditative; the lost — your time, if not also your keys — is redeemed