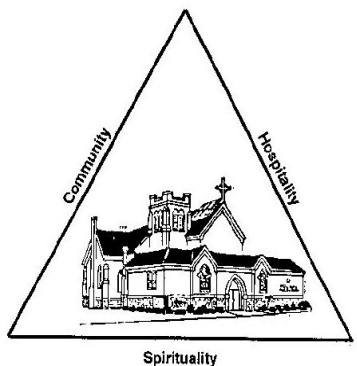


# St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

St. Paul's United  
Methodist Church  
105 E. Main St.  
Elida, OH 45807  
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Lent is in full swing and we are enjoying the rich tradition of Lent as we march faithfully to Easter Sunday. We are working on improving our devotional life by being honest with God during these 40 days, building a relationship with God, believing God will forgive us, and living life to the fullest with God instead of in spite of God's presence. There are a couple of special events on the calendar for Lent: Palm Sunday Cantata and a Seder meal on Maunday Thursday. Not a full meal but a service that includes a ritual that may have been something like what Christ shared with his disciples. I hope you will take the time to build a devotional life with God during Lent this year and carry it with you into the future.

Trustees have been hard at work all over the church: cabinets in the basement, heating in the library, dry wall and painting in the near future. All these projects without worry of where the money is coming from because of your faithfulness to God's church. All the trustees have been working hard and I want to thank them for their work and I think you should give them your thanks as well. So thank a trustee and excuse our dust.

As I write this tonight's low has a minus sign in front of it. I hope by the time you read this that will be behind us for another 10 months. If we are talking about Easter, then Spring can't be far behind. I hope this finds you well and I'll see you out there in the mission field.

*Pastor Paul*



**Thought for the Month:**  
Faith is not believing that God can, but that God will.  
—Abraham Lincoln

# COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP



Gomer Congregational Church  
 St. David's Day Program  
 March 7, 2015  
 7:30 PM

The St. Paul's choir, along with a few other choirs, will be participating. Mark your calendars for an evening of music and community fellowship.

Gomer Congregational Church  
 St. David's Day Dinner  
 March 7, 2015  
 Serving 4:30 to 6:30 PM  
 baked steak or chicken  
 mashed potatoes/gravy  
 green beans, salads  
 homemade noodles, bread  
 homemade pie and cake,  
 drink.

Advance tickets \$8.00  
 At the door \$8.50

For tickets call Gomer Church  
 office: 419-642-2681

## Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

March  
 'Coins for Communion'  
 to benefit  
 Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen

Seniors Day Out  
 Tuesday,  
 March 17, 2015  
 Magic by Gene Craft  
 All seniors welcome!



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

St. Paul's Book Club  
 March 7, 2015  
 9:00 AM  
 We will meet at Jone Lane's house to watch the video of "The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak. Discussion will follow. Breakfast will be provided.



Newsletter deadline: the 16th of each month

**DIRECTORY PHOTOS**

**Coming in April:**

Tuesday April 21, 2015  
&  
Wednesday, April 22, 2015

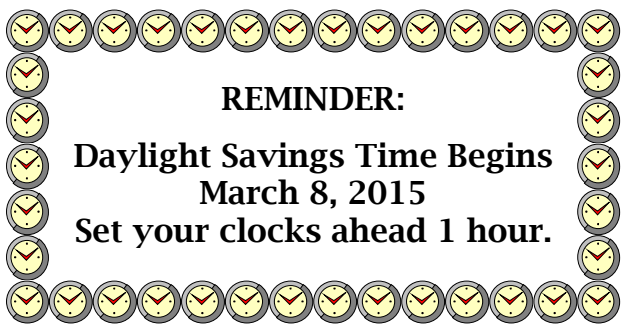
Watch for further information in  
the bulletin and April newsletter

**St. Paul's Chicken Barbeque**

**Saturday April 18, 2015**

Tickets will be \$8.00

Watch for more  
details in the  
April newsletter



**REMINDER:**

Daylight Savings Time Begins  
March 8, 2015  
Set your clocks ahead 1 hour.



**March 20  
SPRING BEGINS!!**



*Upcoming Events for St. Paul's*



*March 1, 2015  
Second Sunday in Lent*



Lenten Worship  
Schedule



*March 15, 2015  
Fourth Sunday in Lent*



Cantata

*March 29, 2015  
Palm Sunday*

*"The Passion and the  
Promise"*  
by Lloyd Larson and  
Mark Hayes



*March 8, 2015  
Third Sunday in Lent*



*March 22, 2015  
Fifth Sunday in Lent*



# EASY Update

## EASY (Elida After School Youth) Program

I think everyone, adults and kids alike, are getting stir-crazy with the weather. School has been on and off; EASY has been on and off. With the weather issues comes the study issue of schools getting students ready for testing in March. This is a time of fear, stress and frustration for teachers, students, and parents. At EASY we sometimes get the end of the day responses such as extra energy, tears, anger, and the need for reassurance from the adults. The volunteers are wonderful at listening, hugging, redirecting, praising and letting our kids and their parents know we love them. We try to tell parents of positive things their children have done and progress we see through the year. Everyone likes to know others see their children's beauty as they do.

So the need for the month of March is prayers of love and support for those in our schools. Some warm weather prayers wouldn't go amiss either!



# Thank You

To the members of St. Paul's,  
 Thank you for making us the recipient of the Christmas offering! This mission would not exist if you as a congregation had not taken a chance on us, given us space and funding, stepped out in faith as volunteers and pray for us always. We look forward to more growth next year as an afterschool program and as a closer Elida Community of faith!

Secretary EACC,  
 Corinne Piper

*For we are*  
 ✨  
**GOD'S HANDIWORK,**  
 ———— *created in* ————  
**CHRIST JESUS**  
 ———— *to do* ————  
**GOOD WORKS.**

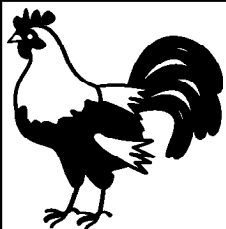
EPHESIANS 2:10, NIV



# The Business of Church

## Church Cancellation Notification List

The church cancellation notification list has been used a couple of times over the past month. If you did not receive this information, please contact the church office with how you wish to be notified, either by cell phone text message, email or a phone call. If there is a **level 2 snow emergency** we will be canceling services automatically. Where do you look for snow emergency levels? [www.allen-ema.com](http://www.allen-ema.com) is the official site for Allen County Ohio Emergency Management Agency where you can see what snow level we are currently under or listen to local radio or TV stations. The Lima TV station and WLIO and WBCL radio stations are also notified. Church may be cancelled due to other unforeseen circumstances, for example, heating issues or flooding. We may also be using this notification system to send out an all church reminder or other necessary information. It is important that you keep your information up to date with the church office.



### Christian Symbol

#### ROOSTER


The rooster is reminiscent of Peter's threefold denial of Jesus on the night of Jesus' trial (Matthew 26:34, NIV); thus, it may represent faithlessness in general, especially in the face of danger. Because of the rooster's early-morning call, it's also symbolic of watchfulness: "There-fore keep watch," said Jesus, illustrating the return of the Son of Man, "because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back — whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn" (Mark 13:35, NIV).

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 Scannell
Nurture	Linda Holman
Missions	Tim Piper

# Faith In Action

<b>Worship Attendance:</b>	
February 1, 2015	59
February 8, 2015	91
February 15, 2015	Church Cancelled
February 18, 2015 (Ash Wednesday)	31
February 22, 2015	81

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



	<b>Unified Ministry Giving:</b>	<b>Other:</b>
February 1, 2015	\$2,773.00	\$565.28
February 8, 2015	\$4,983.00	\$314.06
February 15, 2015	N/A	N/A
February 18, 2015	Ash Wednesday	\$406.01
February 22, 2015	\$4,096.50	\$526.75

<b>Sunday School Attendance</b>	
February 1, 2015	3
February 8, 2015	24
February 15, 2015	N/A
February 22, 2015	12

<b>Greeters</b>	
March 1, 2015	Kathy White
March 8, 2015	Ray & Phyllis Trigg
March 15, 2015	Phyllis Hines & Dee Johnson
March 22, 2015	Don & Mary Irvin
March 29, 2015	Jerry & Becky Bean

<b>Flower Calendar</b>	
March 1, 2015	Gerald & Wanda Strayer
March 8, 2015	Denny & Carole Grapner
March 15, 2015	Scott & Beth Warris
March 22, 2015	Chris Bowsher
March 29, 2015	Fran Hall

<b>Communion Servers</b>	
<b>March 1</b>	
<b>Station #1</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Station #2</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Station #3</b>	<b>OPEN</b>

# Daily Bible Readings

## Sunday 3/1

Psalm 111, 112, 113, 146, 147  
Proverbs 9:1-12  
2 Corinthians 9:6-15  
Mark 10:46-52

## Monday 3/2

Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4, 7  
Proverbs 10:1-12  
2 Timothy 1:15-2:13  
John 12:27-36a

## Tuesday 3/3

Psalm 5, 6, 10, 11  
Proverbs 15:16-33  
2 Timothy 2:14-26  
John 12:36b-50

## Wednesday 3/4

Psalm 12, 13, 14, 119:1-24  
Proverbs 17:1-20  
2 Timothy 3:1-17, John 13:1-20

## Thursday 3/5

Psalm 18, Proverbs 21:30-22:6  
2 Timothy 4:1-8, John 13:21-30

## Friday 3/6

Psalm 16, 17, 22  
Proverbs 23:19-21, 29-24:2  
2 Timothy 4:9-22, John 13:31-38

## Saturday 3/7

Psalm 20, 21, 110, 116, 117  
Proverbs 25:15-28  
Philippians 1:1-11, John 18:1-14

## Sunday 3/8

Psalm 114, 115, 148, 149, 150  
2 Corinthians 3:7-18  
Luke 9:18-27

## Monday 3/9

Psalm 9, 15, 25  
Proverbs 27:1-6, 10-12  
Philippians 2:1-13  
John 18:15-18, 25-27

## Tuesday 3/10

Psalm 26, 28, 36, 39  
Proverbs 30:1-4, 24-33  
Philippians 3:1-11, John 18:28-38

## Wednesday 3/11

Psalm 32, 102, 143, Amos 5:6-15  
Hebrews 12:1-14, Luke 18:9-14

## Thursday 3/12

Psalm 37, Habakkuk 3  
Philippians 3:12-21, John 17:1-8

## Friday 3/13

Psalm 31, 35, Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32  
Philippians 4:1-9, John 17:9-19

## Saturday 3/14

Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43  
Ezekiel 39:21-29  
Philippians 4:10-20, John 17:20-26

## Sunday 3/15

Psalm 63, 98, 103, Daniel 9:3-10  
Hebrews 2:10-18, John 12:44-50

## Monday 3/16

Psalm 41, 44, 52, Genesis 37:1-11  
1 Corinthians 1:1-19, Mark 1:1-13

## Tuesday 3/17

Psalm 45, 47, 48  
Genesis 37:12-24  
1 Corinthians 1:20-31  
Mark 1:14-28

## Wednesday 3/18

Psalm 49, 119:49-72  
Genesis 37:25-36  
1 Corinthians 2:1-13  
Mark 1:29-45

## Thursday 3/19

Psalm 19, 46, 50, Genesis 39:1-23  
1 Corinthians 2:14-3:15  
Mark 2:1-12

## Friday 3/20

Psalm 40, 51, 54, Genesis 40:1-23  
1 Corinthians 3:16-23  
Mark 2:13-22

## Saturday 3/21

Psalm 55, 138, 139  
Genesis 41:1-13  
1 Corinthians 4:1-7  
Mark 2:23-3:6

## Sunday 3/22

Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84  
Genesis 41:14-45  
Romans 6:3-14, John 5:19-24

## Monday 3/23

Psalm 56, 57, 64, 65  
Genesis 41:46-57  
1 Corinthians 4:8-21, Mark 3:7-19

## Tuesday 3/24

Psalm 61, 62, 68, Genesis 42:1-17  
1 Corinthians 5:1-8  
Mark 3:20-35

## Wednesday 3/25

Psalm 72, 119:73-96  
Genesis 42:18-28  
1 Corinthians 5:9-6:8  
Mark 4:1-20

## Thursday 3/26

Psalm 71, 74, Genesis 42:29-38  
1 Corinthians 6:12-30  
Mark 4:21-34

## Friday 3/27

Psalm 69, 73, Genesis 43:1-15  
1 Corinthians 7:1-9  
Mark 4:35-41

## Saturday 3/28

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76  
Genesis 43:16-34  
1 Corinthians 7:10-24  
Mark 5:1-20

## Sunday 3/29

Psalm 34, 93, 96, Genesis 44:1-17  
Romans 8:1-10, John 5:25-29

## Monday 3/30

Psalm 77, 80, Genesis 44:18-34  
1 Corinthians 7:25-31  
Mark 5:21-43

## Tuesday 3/31

Psalm 78, Genesis 45:1-15  
1 Corinthians 7:32-40  
Mark 6:1-13



# Spotlight On Youth



Meet **Pattaporn Nooprasit (Title)**, an exchange student from Bangkok, Thailand, who is spending the year in America as an exchange student. She is living with Travis, Julia, Makayla, and Anika Bok while attending Elida High School as a junior. At home in Bangkok, Title leaves her parents and two brothers: 14 year old Lotte and 5 year old Artie. We are very happy to have her visiting our country and attending St. Paul UMC so we have the chance to meet her and get to know her.

While living in Thailand, Title's school and home activities include basketball, soccer, cooking singing, and swimming. Clubs and groups in Thailand include singing, biology, and photography. She is a busy girl in Thailand. In Elida she participates in singing.

Title's favorite subjects in school are biology and chemistry. This may explain why one of her goals for the future is to become a doctor. The teachers and friends she has made here are what she likes best about school in Elida. Her friends are number one with her in Thailand, also.

In her spare time Title enjoys singing, playing games, and taking pictures. Another goal she has for the future is to become a photographer.

Title sees language and the culture as the biggest differences about living in Thailand as opposed to living in Elida. In Thailand she says they eat pizza with tomato sauce and they put ice in all of their drinks, including milk and coffee.

Her favorite sports are football and soccer. I wonder if she watched the Super Bowl with the other 100+ million people in the world last month?

Title would like us to know about her country. She says they have many things that are different than we have here. She would be pleased to talk to you and explain some of these differences if you just ask her.

She especially likes to play board games and card games. On TV she likes to watch cartoons. The Avengers are one of her favorites. Title dislikes tomato and the color pink.

Welcome to Elida and St. Paul's, Title. We are pleased to have you here this year!





# Winter Activities



Congratulations to **Reggie McAdams** for being featured on the cover of the Akron Zips Basketball program and for scoring an Akron career high of 31 points in Akron's win over Central Michigan on January 17th.



Congratulations to **Isaac McAdams** for scoring 19 points and playing good defense to help the Elida Junior Varsity basketball team defeat Bellefontaine on February 17th.



Congratulations to **Emma Scannell** for participating in the 200 yard medley relay, 200 yard freestyle relay and 400 yard freestyle relay for the Elida High School women's swim team in the 2015 WBL Championships. Way to go Emma!



# Remember When...



Cherub Choir—1992

Front: Kayla Stewart, Caitlin McGlade, Lindsey Reiff, Kayla Evans, Julie Adams, Aaron Thompson, Logan Smith

Back: David Segovia, Luke Howe, Amanda Crates, Angie Gossard, Ashley Reiff, Cari Metzger, Tyler Smith

1999  
St. Paul's Youth Bowl-A-Thon  
Brad Joseph, Youth Director



Puppet Ministry—2010

L-R: Steve Moser, Steve Sdao, Gene Craft, Oliver Fessler, Tracy Sdao, Joshua Guess, Shirley Moser, Corinne Piper



# Connecting With ...

*Our condolences to the family and friends of Jeff Holmes, who passed away unexpectedly on Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. Jeff was 49 years old. Jeff is survived by his wife, Kim, and his children, Victoria and Jason Holmes. Jeff had worked for the Allen County Engineers office. Jeff is the nephew of Don and Maedene Holmes and great-nephew of John Holmes.*



*Our condolences to Gary and Shirley Adams on the death of their daughter, Cheryl (Sue) Moeller, who passed away Thursday, February 12th, she was 57. She is the sister of Tracy Sdao and Doug Adams. Our sympathy to her husband, Rick, and their children.*

*Our condolences to Art and Linda Holman and the extended Holman family on the death of Art's mother, Maxine Holman, who passed away Monday, February 23rd., she was 97 years old. Maxine was very active in her Lafayette community. At the age of 85 she traveled many places with her family, but her favorite place was Bear Lake, in Michigan.*



## Remember in Prayer

*Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital*  
 Karen Bible  
 Tony Matlock

*Homebound Members*  
 Hazel Dunn  
 Jean Redd

*Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement*  
 Karen Bible  
 Joanna Hurd  
 Rodney Lee

*In the Military & Missions*  
 Dani Milke



### Comforting Those Who Mourn

Words aren't always necessary — or even beneficial — when people are hurting. In Killing Giants, Pulling Thorns (Zondervan), Charles Swindoll tells of a girl who went to comfort the mother of a deceased playmate.

“What did you say?” the girl’s parents later asked.

“Nothing,” she replied. “I just climbed up on her lap and cried with her.”

Joseph Bayly, who experienced the deaths of three children, shares a similar experience in The View From a Hearse (David C. Cook): “I was sitting, torn by grief. Someone came and talked to me of God’s dealings, of why it happened, of hope beyond the grave. He talked constantly. He said things I knew were true. I was unmoved, except to wish he’d go away. He finally did.

“Another came and sat beside me. He didn’t talk. He didn’t ask me leading questions. He just sat beside me for an hour or more, listened when I said something, answered briefly, prayed simply, left. I was moved. I was comforted. I hated to see him go.”

# The People of St. Paul's

**Thank you!**



*To my Church Family,  
Once again, thank-you so  
much for your prayers, cards,  
and well wishes. I now have an  
antibiotic spacer in my right  
hip -- yeeeow! Next step is  
another new hip (I'm hoping  
that'll be a piece of cake).*

*You are always in my  
prayers,  
Karen Bible*

*St. Paul's Church,  
Thank you so much for the  
prayers and flowers during  
my brief hospital visit.*

**Tony Matlock**

*Dear Elida St. Paul's UMC  
Church and Staff,  
I want to thank you for  
kindness while I was in the  
hospital and recuperating in  
Elida. Your concerns, your  
prayers and caring friendship  
were greatly appreciated.  
My family and I have been  
blessed with wonderful  
christian churches and  
friends. Thank you for  
reaching out to me during my  
hard times. You surely  
showed God's love and the  
face of Christ.*

*God Bless you always,  
Dian Peters*

*To the Good People of  
St Paul's,  
It is time I thank you for all  
you do. For all the wonderful  
things you do for me, even if I  
don't see them as much. Just  
want you to know how valued  
you are to me.*

*I Miss You All,  
Love,  
Jo Hurd*



**Prayer List Updates  
Please Contact  
Lavonne Segovia**



Happy birthday to Joanna Hurd.  
Joanna will be 85 yrs. young on  
Monday, March 2nd.

## CONGRATULATIONS...

to Makayla Bok, Jenson Nagy,  
Joshua Guess, Oliver Fessler,  
and Pattraporn Nooprasit for  
**"Making the Grade"**  
at their respective schools!

**We are proud  
of you!**





**Meetings**

PPR...No Meeting

March 3, 2015  
Trustees..7:00 PM

March 4, 2015  
Worship mtg.. 6:00 PM

Finance...No Meeting

March 9, 2015  
Ad Council...7:30 PM


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

Wednesdays  
Chancel Choir...7:00 PM

# MARCH

# 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 Scott Grapner	2 Joanna Hurd 85 years	3	4 Janna Thompson	5 Scott Fessler	6	7 Tim Theodore 
8	9	10	11	12 Linda Holman	13 Carol Lee 93 years	14 Cody Smith
15	16	17	18	19	20 Tara Strauch	21
22 Nancy Gesler	23	24 Joyce Nichols 89 years	25	26	27 Julia Bok	28
29 Casey Lane	30 Tahler Sdao Julia Thomas	31 Tom Thomas				

*Anniversaries*

Jeff & Shelly Reiff  
March 12

Tony & Shirley Shoup  
March 20

Brent & Vicki McAdams  
March 21

Jordan & Amy Wyant  
March 28

*Anniversary*  
*Wife*  
  
www.bsmcc.org



# Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

## Marshmallow Krispie Bars

*By Carole Grapner*

Ingredients		Instructions
1 pkg. (19.8 oz.)	Chewy fudge brownie mix	<p>Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease bottom of 13x9 inch pan.</p> <p>Prepare and bake brownies following package directions for basic recipe. Remove from oven. Sprinkle marshmallows on hot brownies. Return to oven. Bake for 3 minutes longer.</p> <p>Place chocolate chips, peanut butter and butter in saucepan. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly, until chips are melted. Add rice cereal; mix well. Spread mixture over marshmallow layer. Refrigerate until chilled. Cut into bars.</p>
1 pkg. (10.5 oz.)	Miniature marshmallows	
1 1/2 cups	Semi-sweet chocolate chips	
1 cup	Creamy peanut butter	
1 Tbl.	Butter or margarine	
1 1/2 cups	Crisp rice cereal	



## Vegetable Pizza

*By Kathy White*

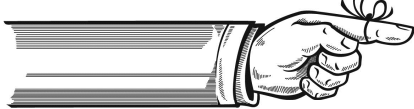
Ingredients		Instructions
2 cans	Crescent rolls	<p>Preheat oven to 375 degrees.</p> <p>Open can of crescent rolls and press into bottom of jelly roll pan or cookie sheet with sides. No need to tear apart the crescent rolls.</p> <p>Bake for 10-12 minutes. Let Cool.</p> <p>Mix rest of ingredients (except cheese and veggies) and spread over baked crescent rolls. Sprinkle shredded cheese over top and garnish with your favorite chopped up veggies. I like to use broccoli, cauliflower, and carrots.</p>
2 (8 oz.)	Cream cheese	
2 Tbl.	Mayonnaise	
1 pkg.	Hidden Valley Ranch dressing mix	
2 cups	Shredded cheddar cheese	
	Veggies	





# KIDZ KORNER

## PRAYER REMINDER



Use this fun family activity to remember to pray for other people.

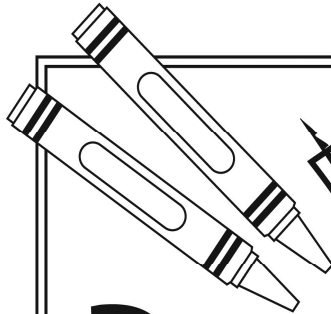
### What you need:

- White index cards (at least six)
- Markers or colored pencils (red, orange, yellow, green, blue and brown)
- M&M's candies



### What you do:

1. On each card, write a group of people to pray for (family members, friends, teachers, sick people, etc.). Use a different color of writing utensil for each card.
2. While sitting at a table, divide the M&M's among family members.
3. Spread out the cards and explain that each color represents a group of people to pray for. Have each family member choose one candy and consider who they'll pray for.
4. Designate one person to start praying aloud. Go around the circle, and have the last person close.
5. At the end of that round, eat those M&M's.
6. Continue until you've prayed for all the cards. (Make more, if you'd like!)



# PUZZLE

## POWER OF PRAYER

When life gets crazy, worry creeps in. But God tells us exactly what to do – any time and anywhere.

**Directions:** Circle the word in each group that doesn't belong. Then write those words on the numbered lines below.

1  
apple  
anxious  
artichoke

2  
every  
eagle  
emu

3  
purple  
pink  
prayer

4  
Paul  
petition  
Peter

5  
taste  
touch  
thanksgiving

6  
rest  
requests  
relax

7  
God  
George  
Greg

8  
puddle  
peace  
pond

9  
transcends  
train  
truck

10  
unusual  
unique  
understanding

11  
guard  
giraffe  
gorilla

12  
hearts  
hold  
held

13  
many  
minds  
more

14  
Philadelphia  
Pennsylvania  
Philippians

“Do not be \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> about anything, but in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> situation, by \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup>, with \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>, present your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>. And the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> of God, which \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> all \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup>, will \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> and your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> in Christ Jesus.” \_\_\_\_\_<sup>14</sup> 4:6-7, NIV

Answers: 1. anxious, 2. every, 3. prayer, 4. petition, 5. thanksgiving, 6. requests, 7. God, 8. peace, 9. transcends, 10. understanding, 11. guard, 12. hearts, 13. minds, 14. Philippians

**St. Paul's United Methodist Church**

105 E. Main St.  
Elida, OH 45807

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## Living Our Faith

### Luke's Passion Story

There's always a little awkwardness when reading Luke's account of the entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday (Luke 19:28-40). The key reason is that Luke does not mention any palms!

All the other Gospels mention branches, but not Luke. Is this intentional or is it merely a writer's omission? Did he think they were not important? We may never know. But Luke does give another wonderful detail unique to this Gospel. The religious leaders tell Jesus to order his disciples to stop shouting words of praise. Jesus replies, "I could - but it wouldn't do any good, because if they were silent, the very stones themselves would shout." In other words, not only do all the people recognize Jesus as God's chosen one, but also all of creation.

Luke is confusing, to be sure, in that its details differ from the other Gospels and 1 Corinthians 11:24-25. But does it matter?

The point is still the same as the others: just before dying Jesus shared a meal with his closest friends. In that meal Jesus invited them and us to

remember him in the eating of every meal.

**Remembering Jesus - it's not so much about what we do as it is about simply doing it.**

### St. Patrick's Day Trivia

You may know that St. Patrick used shamrocks to teach about the Trinity, but did you know these other facts about him?

- St. Patrick wasn't Irish. (His parents were Roman citizens living in either Scotland or Wales.)
- He was kidnapped and sold as a slave at age 16. After escaping six years later, he joined a monastery in England.
- March 17 is the date of St. Patrick's death, not his birth. He died in 461 A.D.
- The color originally associated with St. Patrick is blue, not green.
- The harp, not the shamrock, is the national symbol of Ireland.