

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.

Elida, OH 45807

419-339-3801

officeespc@gmail.com

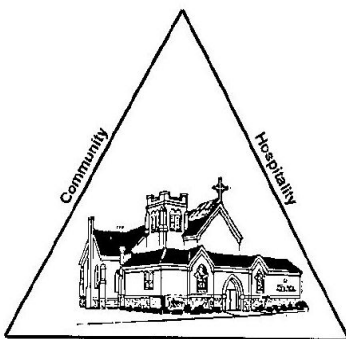
Rev. Paul Scannell

419/909-9419

Cell Phone: 734/660-1984

pastorespc@gmail.com

4pastorpaul@gmail.com



If you were allowed only one more sentence to communicate everything you want to say, could you? We are continuing the series of Jesus' final words and how we can use them to direct our lives. I have learned so much from this series and I hope some of that has come from the pulpit. Our desire is to make a difference, to be noticed, to find love and through these last words of Christ we find all those things and more. Lent is a time for reflection and growth, I hope this series helps you with both.

This is the last newsletter you will get before Easter, so remember Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday services. Be looking ahead to the chicken dinner and all the work that comes with it. The EASY program continues on Mondays and Wednesdays working with local youth and you are always welcome to volunteer. The weather is beginning to show signs of springtime and that will mean getting back to work at Camp Wesley, so be looking for information on how you can help.

Thanks for all you do around the church and in our community. I look forward to seeing you in the mission field.

Pastor Paul



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Thought for the Month:
 Nothing is so strong as gentleness, and nothing is so gentle as true strength.
 —St. Francis de Sales



World day of Prayer
March 2, 2018

Seniors Day Out
Tuesday, March 20
12 Noon
in the Fellowship Hall
All seniors welcome!

REMINDER:
Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 11
Set your clocks ahead 1 hour.



Happy St. Patrick's Day
March 17

Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen Mission
Friday, March 30
Volunteers needed to help serve



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

March 4
'Coins for Communion'
to benefit
Our Daily Bread
Soup Kitchen



Third Sunday in Lent
March 4

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

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 11



Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 18



Christian Symbol

Torch



The torch primarily represents the Passion of Christ, perhaps because he was arrested and tried during the night, when the Temple guard would have used torches for light. The torch also can symbolize spiritual enlightenment, or martyrdom for the sake of the gospel.

St. Paul's Chicken Barbeque

Saturday, April 21

Watch for more details in the April newsletter.



* **March 20** *
* **SPRING BEGINS!!** *

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

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday
March 25



EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Early Service
8:00 AM



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday
March 29
Service at 7:00PM



The Easter offering will be divided between the UMC Miracle offering and Camp Sierra Linda Campers Sponsorship

Easter breakfast
served following the
Early Service

Easter Worship Service
10:00 AM

Poem

God's Mysterious Ways

"God moves in a mysterious way, his wonders to perform." These oft-quoted words, from a hymn by English poet William Cowper, come with an unsubstantiated yet powerful back story.

Cowper, who struggled with depression, decided to commit suicide one night. He called a cab to go to the Thames River, planning to drown himself. Such dense fog arose that the driver got lost and finally stopped to let his passenger out. To Cowper's surprise, he was at his own door! He concluded that God had sent the fog to spare his life. The hymn he wrote in response continues:

*Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
the clouds ye so much dread
are big with mercy and shall break
in blessings on your head. ...*

*His purposes will ripen fast,
unfolding every hour.
The bud may have a bitter taste,
but sweet will be the flower.*



Wind of God

*Tiny breeze or mighty wind,
swirling round as God commands.
Hats go flying. Branches bend.
Little seeds spread through the lands.*

*God Almighty makes the wind;
great big gusts can shape the sands.
Awesome is the power of God,
when even wind obeys his plans.*

—MaryAnn Sundby



Trustees Report

Heating Project Update

All three furnaces are working really great thru this winter. The air conditioning is not hooked up yet, but will be when it warms up some. We have paid for the equipment but Grothouse has not billed us for their labor to install them.

The three rooms have been built around the furnaces and a room was built for the church decorations. All four rooms and the basement were painted. We had the walls insulated under the back room.

All the boiler pipes are out as well as the old boiler. We will have a new outside door installed soon. We painted the bride's room and new carpet will be installed soon.

The gas bill for January was around \$700.00. Last year at this same time it was \$1,300.00. Our hope is the savings will pay for the air conditioning in the summer.

When we get this project done, then we will decide what needs to be done next. The following is a list of things that we are looking at:

*These are in **No** order of importance.*

1. Tuck point the east bell tower.
2. Remodel both old bathrooms.
3. Redo the north parking lot.
4. New flooring in the hallway on the second floor.
5. Air conditioning in the basement.
6. New steps on the north side of the church.
7. New windows in the education wing.
8. New sign out front.
9. Take the radiator cover down and fix the walls in the sanctuary.
10. Paint the steps in the education wing.


Trustees chairman,
Ron Steiner



Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:	
February 4, 2018	85
February 11, 2018	70
February 14, 2018 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	37
February 18, 2018	86
February 25, 2018	92

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



Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
February 4, 2018	\$3,951.00	\$865.31
February 11, 2018	\$3,011.00	\$341.26
February 18, 2018	\$2,423.00	\$583.07
February 25, 2018	\$2,911.00	\$1,478.74

Sunday School Attendance	
February 4, 2018	9
February 11, 2018	4
February 18, 2018	8
February 25, 2018	8

Greeters	
March 4, 2018	Steve & Tracy Sdao
March 11, 2018	Tony & Shirley Shoup
March 18, 2018	Tim & Sue Theodore
March 25, 2018	Evelyn Sarber

Flower Calendar	
March 4, 2018	Denny & Janna Thompson
March 11, 2018	Brent & Vicki McAdams
March 18, 2018	Tony & Shirley Shoup
March 25, 2018	Lois Cook

Hospitality Cart	
March 4, 2018	Margie Best & Jone Lane
March 11, 2018	OPEN
March 18, 2018	Crafty Creatures
March 25, 2018	Choir

Daily Bible Readings

Thursday 3/1

Psalm 131, 132, 134, 135
Proverbs 7:1-27
1 John 5:13-21, John 11:55-12:8

Friday 3/2

Psalm 140, 141, 142, 143
Proverbs 8:1-21
Philemon 1-25, John 12:9-19

Saturday 3/3

Psalm 104, 137, 144
Proverbs 8:22-36
2 Timothy 1:1-14, John 12:20-26

Sunday 3/4

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

Monday 3/5

Psalm 79, 80, Genesis 44:18-34
1 Corinthians 7:25-31
Mark 5:21-43

Tuesday 3/6

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

Wednesday 3/7

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120
Genesis 45:16-28
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 6:13-29

Thursday 3/8

Psalm 83, 85, 86
Genesis 46:1-7, 28-34
1 Corinthians 9:1-15
Mark 6:30-46

Friday 3/9

Psalm 88, 91, 92, Genesis 47:1-26
1 Corinthians 9:16-27
Mark 6:47-56

Saturday 3/10

Psalm 87, 90, 136
Genesis 47:27-48:7
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Mark 7:1-23

Sunday 3/11

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67
Genesis 48:8-22
Romans 8:11-25
John 6:27-40

Monday 3/12

Psalm 89, Genesis 49:1-28
1 Corinthians 10:14-11:1
Mark 7:24-37

Tuesday 3/13

Psalm 94, 97, 99
Genesis 49:29-50:14
1 Corinthians 11:17-34
Mark 8:1-10

Wednesday 3/14

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144
Genesis 50:15-26
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
Mark 8:11-26

Thursday 3/15

Psalm 69, 73, Exodus 1:6-22
1 Corinthians 12:12-26
Mark 8:27-9:1

Friday 3/16

Psalm 102, 107:1-32
Exodus 2:1-22
1 Corinthians 12:27-13:3
Mark 9:2-13

Saturday 3/17

Psalm 107:33-43, 108
Exodus 2:23-3:15
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Mark 9:14-29

Sunday 3/18

Psalm 118, 145
Exodus 3:16-4:12
Romans 12:1-21
John 8:46-59

Monday 3/19

Psalm 31, 35
Exodus 4:10-20(21-26)27-31
1 Corinthians 14:1-19
Mark 9:30-41

Tuesday 3/20

Psalm 120, 127, Exodus 5:1-6:1
1 Corinthians 14:20-33a, 39-40
Mark 9:42-50

Wednesday 3/21

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130
Exodus 7:8-24
2 Corinthians 2:14-3:6
Mark 10:1-16

Thursday 3/22

Psalm 131, 132, 140, 142
Exodus 7:25-8:19
2 Corinthians 3:7-18
Mark 10:17-31

Friday 3/23

Psalm 22, 141, 143
Exodus 9:13-35
2 Corinthians 4:1-12
Mark 10:32-45

Saturday 3/24

Psalm 42, 43, 137, 144
Exodus 10:21-11:8
2 Corinthians 4:13-18
Mark 10:46-52

Sunday 3/25 Palm Sunday

Psalm 24, 29, 103
1 Timothy 6:12-16, Luke 19:41-48

Monday 3/26

Psalm 51, 69:1-23
Lamentations 1:1-2, 6-12
2 Corinthians 1:1-7
Mark 11:12-25

Tuesday 3/27

Psalm 6, 12, 94
Lamentations 1:17-22
2 Corinthians 1:8-22
Mark 11:27-33

Wednesday 3/28

Psalm 55, 74
Lamentations 2:1-17
2 Corinthians 1:23-2:11
Mark 12:1-11

Thursday 3/29

Maundy Thursday
Psalm 102 142, 143
Lamentations 2:10-18
1 Corinthians 10:14-17, 11:27-32
Mark 14:12-25

Friday 3/30 Good Friday

Psalm 95
Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-33
1 Peter 1:10-20, John 13:36-38
John 19:38-42

Saturday 3/31

Psalm 27, 88
Lamentations 3:37-58
Hebrews 4:1-16, Romans 8:1-11

Easter Memories



1

1. April 16, 2006
2. April 8, 2012
3. March 31, 2013
4. April 20, 2014
5. March 27, 2016

Happy Easter

2



3



4



5



Our Church History

In the summer the tile floor was removed in the basement. Also in the summer the Trustees meeting was held in the church parsonage. Pastor John also hosted the Keenager's Sunday School in the parsonage.

On September 18, a carry-in dinner was held in the fellowship hall after church. After dinner, Pastor John conducted the scanning for the Vision Committee.

The Medical Mission Trip to Nuevo Progreso, Mexico, in October included Brad Joseph. This is Brad's favorite mission trip. He never misses it.

Voting on Dot Sunday was held for all the people present on October 30, 2005. It will be very interesting to see the results. It will tell us what projects the people of St Paul's wish to accomplish and in which order.

Brad Joseph did a presentation for the congregation about his mission trip to Mexico on November 13. Also on that Sunday a Relay for Life fundraiser dinner was held in the fellowship hall.

The Sunday School Singers, Oliver Fessler, Joshua Guess, Isaac McAdams, Tori McAdams, Jenson Nagy, and Aric Thompson sang for the church service on Nov. 20.

December 4 was a busy day for the youth. Janna Thompson and Gail Fessler's Sunday School Class made gifts for the shut-ins. Those taking part were Oliver Fessler, Torie McAdams and Aric Thompson. Young and older youth practiced a skit that will be presented. They included Molly Fessler, Oliver Fessler, Doug Guess, Alex McAdams, Torie McAdams, Michele Theodore and Aric Thompson.

For 2005, St. Paul UMC was again a "One Hundred Percent Achiever Church" for paying in full its apportionments which support United Methodism's Ministries across the West Ohio Conference and throughout the world. We are proud of our parishioners!

The Ad Hoc Planning Committee met to discuss the results of "Dot Sunday" on January 14, 2006. Twenty-two parishioners plus Pastor John listened as Corinne Piper explained how the voting ended.

St. Paul celebrated Pastor John's 40th birthday on January 2, 2006. Tony Lozano was the special music and the Bell Choir played. After the service there was a punch, cake and card reception held in the narthex. Pastor John's parents, Mike and Connie Tsironis came, as well as his brother's family, Nick and wife, Colleen and sons, Michael and Will.

The Sunday School Singers practice for their November 20 performance.



Trustees meeting held in the parsonage.



Remember When...



March, 1996
 Nick White and Mandy Broshes
 decorate Middle School
 Sunday School Room



March, 2000
 St. Paul's UMC Celebrate
 Rev. Terry Heck's
 Birthday



March, 2008
 Steve Moser, Mindy Schulz,
 Angie and Brian Nartker
 provide the music for
 Mission Saturation Sunday

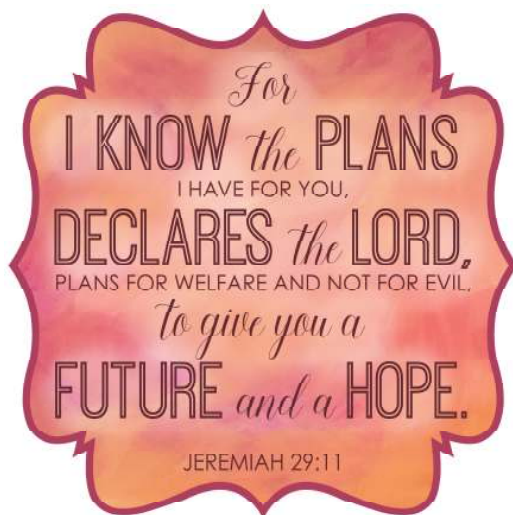


Connecting With ...

Congratulations to Isaac McAdams who signed his letter of intent to attend Concordia University in Ann Arbor, Michigan, next year to play football. His parents, Brent and Vicki McAdams, were by his side with grandparents, Ron and Kay McAdams and Dwain and Myrna Metzger.



Congratulations



MAKING THE GRADE

ELIDA HIGH SCHOOL

HONOR ROLL I:

- Grade 9: Makayla Bok
- Grade 11: Megan Emmons
- Grade 12: Isaac McAdams

SPENCERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

REGULAR HONOR ROLL:

- Grade 11: Jenson Nagy

The People of St. Paul's

I would like to thank everyone for their concerns, prayers, flowers and visits while I was in the hospital. New hip is pain free, just need to get my strength and confidence back.

Mary Steiner

Thank You!

St. Paul's Church, Thanks for all the prayers and well-wishes for the healing of my knee. Thanks to Pastor Paul for coming to the hospital on day of surgery and keeping Deb company, also thanks for pre-surgery prayer to calm my nerves.

*You are all special to us!!
Gary Hurd*

We deeply appreciate your thoughtful expression of sympathy which was the greatest comfort to us in our sorrow.

John Holmes Family



Remember in Prayer



Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

- Jim Hines
- Gary Hurd
- Jack Swihart
- Jean Thomas

Homebound Members

- Hazel Dunn
- Glenna Kohli

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

- Karen Bible
- Jim Hines
- Mary Steiner
- Ray and Phyllis Trigg

In the Military & Missions

- Oliver Fessler
- Nathan Stewart



Our condolences to the Ray and Phyllis Trigg family, on the death of Phyllis's brother, Ray King. Cards may reach them at 2854 Whippoorwill Ave., Elida, OH 45807



The Prayer group, led by Lavonne Segovia, meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM in the Brides Room. The group spends this time in prayer for those with concerns on our prayer list. All are welcome!

Meetings

No PPR

March 6, 2018
Trustees..7:00 PM

March 7, 2018
Worship mtg.. 6:00 PM

No Finance

March 12, 2018
Ad Council...7:30 PM

TBA
Missions... 7:00 PM

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

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir....7:00 PM

MARCH 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



March
BIRTHDAYS

1
Scott
Grapner

2

3
Chelsey Cook

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



- Jim & Carolyn Michael*
March 12
- Jeff & Shelly Reiff*
March 12
- Tony & Shirley Shoup*
March 20
- Brent & Vicki McAdams*
March 21
- Bruce & Nancy Kizer*
March 23; 50 years
- Jordan & Amy Wyant*
March 28

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

Skillet Cornbread Taco Pizza

By Judy Chaffins

Ingredients		Instructions
1 pkg.	Cornbread mix	Pre-heat oven to 375 degrees. Cook and season taco meat. Warm a cast iron skillet on stove over medium-low Heat. Prepare cornbread mix per box instructions. Melt butter in skillet. Pour cornbread mix into skillet and spread into a thin, even layer. Bake 12-15 minutes, or until center of the cornbread is firm. Carefully spread an even layer of sour cream over the cornbread. Spread meat over sour cream, then salsa over meat. Cover with cheese and place in oven until cheese melts. Add your other favorite toppings, slice and serve. Serves 6 to 8.
1 Tbl.	Butter	
3/4 lb.	Favorite taco meat	
1 pkg	Taco meat seasoning	
Toppings:		
1 jar	Salsa	
1 pkg	Shredded cheddar cheese	
	Sour cream	
other	Favorite taco toppings	



If you have a favorite recipe you would like to share, please email it to the office at officeesp@gmail.com or drop it off at the office.

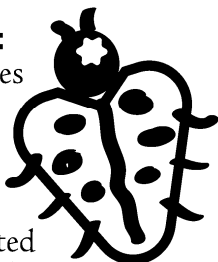
KIDZ KORNER

FRUIT LADYBUGS

Get creative in the kitchen with this sweet springtime snack.

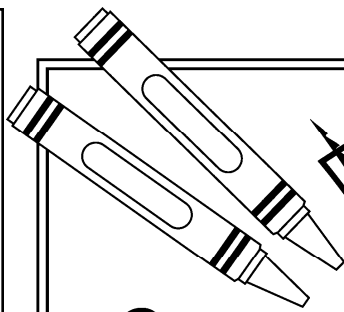
What you need:

- Strawberries (washed)
- Knife
- Plate or wax paper
- ½ cup melted chocolate chips
- Zippered baggie
- Scissors
- Blueberries (washed)
- Adult help



What you do:

1. De-stem the strawberries. Cut in half and then cut a small V atop each half to make the ladybug body. Set them on a plate or wax paper.
2. Place the melted chocolate in a baggie and cut off the tip of a bottom corner.
3. Pipe a dividing line and "spots" on each strawberry. Also use the chocolate to attach a blueberry "head" by the V shape.
4. Pipe chocolate antennas and legs onto ladybugs.
5. Let harden. Enjoy!



PUZZLE

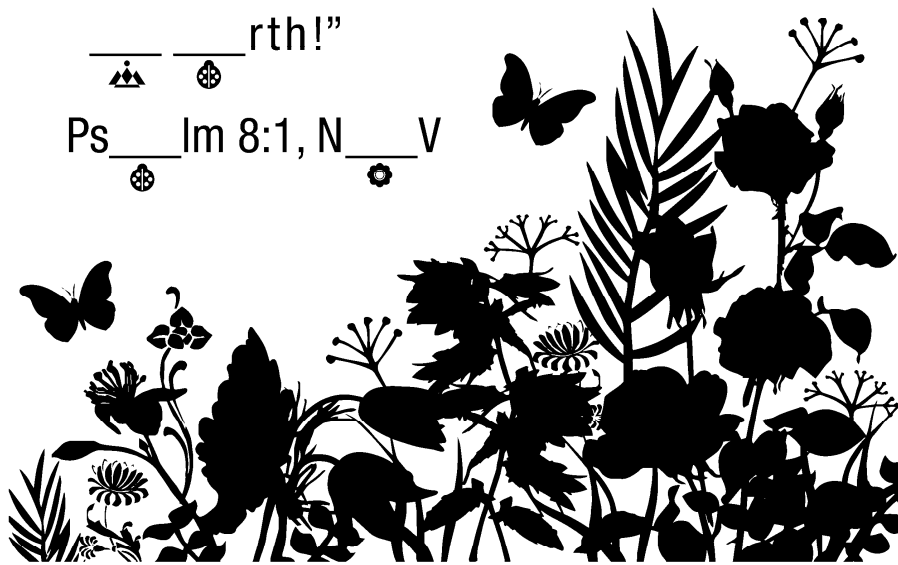
Spring's Beauty

During springtime, the beauty of God's creation emerges in many ways.

Directions: Use the vowel code below to complete Psalm 8:1, NIV.

A = E = I = O = U =

"L__RD, __r L__rd, h__w
 m__j__st__c __s y__r
 n__m__n__ll th__
 __rth!"
 Ps__lm 8:1, N__v



Answer: "LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"
 Psalm 8:1, NIV

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

*Return Service Requested

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Our Web Address:
www.elidastpaulschurch.org

Our Facebook page
Elida St. Paul's Church

Twitter Account
@ESPCHURCH



Living Our Faith

Dispelling the Darkness

On Good Friday, many churches hold a Tenebrae worship service. Tenebrae (Latin for “darkness” or “shadows”) is an ancient Christian tradition that re-creates the emotions of Jesus’ Passion and death. The sanctuary gradually grows darker. A strepitus (Latin for “loud noise”) may signify the closing of Jesus’ tomb. As the service concludes, a Christ candle stands alone on the altar, reminding worshipers that victory is coming on Easter morning.

When Scottish missionary Peter Milne died in 1924, the thankful people he’d served in the South Pacific inscribed this message on his headstone: “When he came, there was no light; when he died, there was no darkness.”

Death’s darkness couldn’t conquer Jesus, the light of the world, so it does not conquer us. “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it” (John 1:5, ESV).

Day by Day

Let every dawn of morning be to you as the beginning of life, and every setting sun be to you as its close. Then let every one of these short lives leave its sure record of some kindly thing done for others, some goodly strength or knowledge gained for yourself.

—John Ruskin

