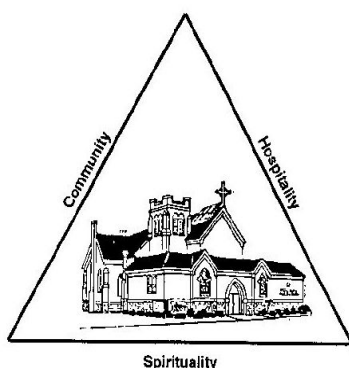


St. Paul's Epistle

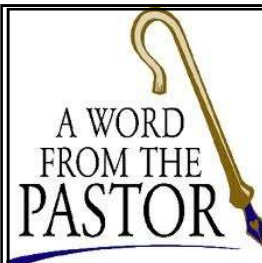
An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church
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Elida, OH 45807
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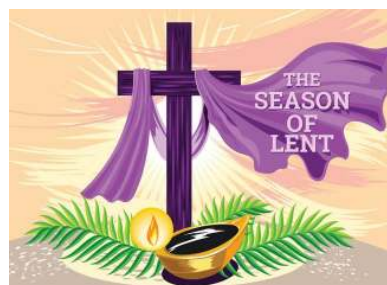
I am sitting at my dining room table writing to you in the midst of a lot of different things that are happening. Lent begins Wednesday, March 6, and you are all invited to the Ash Wednesday Service at 7pm. We will be ending our current sermon series the first week of Lent and starting our Lenten Sermon titled "The Wilderness" one week later on March 17th. I want to ask for your participation in this year's Lenten series in a unique way. Each week has a different theme which can be found in the Lenten Devotional here in the newsletter. I want you to share a photo to Elida St Paul's Church Facebook page which you think represents each week's theme. Please label it with that week's theme and if the tech team is willing, I would like to use some of your photos up on the screens during the service. Be creative or do what I did and just go through your albums and find a photo that fits. That's right. I have already posted a photo for the Wilderness theme on Facebook. Check it out.

In other news, you will find an article here in the newsletter about the Dish-It-Out Café that will be serving lunches one Tuesday a month at St Paul's and giving you a mission opportunity right here in Elida for people you may already know. Anyone who is available is invited to come eat and when you are done, Dish Out a meal to someone who may not be able to get to the church for lunch. If you know of someone who could use a meal but cannot get out like they used to, I encourage you to contact Linda Holman or the church office so they can be added to the list. You are the hands and feet of Christ. Will you Dish-It-Out?

Finally, on Tuesday, February 26, the General Conference of the United Methodist Church voted to adopt the Traditional Plan which affirmed the church's policies on homosexuality. Over the next few months what that means for the United Methodist Church will be explained through the conference and the bishops. I am hoping in the next few weeks a video explanation will come to us from Bishop Palmer and I think the plan is for him to have informational meetings throughout the state later this year. Be patient as we determine how this affects the church here in Elida, Ohio, and the world. I encourage you to continue praying for the church, our leaders, and all those who are affected by this decision.

I'll see you in the mission field,

Pastor Paul



Thought for the Month:

It's better to bite your tongue than to eat your words.

—Frank Sonnenberg

March 3
'Coins for Communion'
 to benefit
Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen



Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen Mission

Friday, March 29

**Volunteers needed
 to help prepare and serve
 the noon meal.**

**Please contact Tim Piper
 if you can help.**



REMINDER:

**Daylight Savings Time Begins
 March 10, 2019
 Set your clocks ahead 1 hour.**

Food Pantry March 17

**Items are taken to the
 5 Loaves Food Pantry at
 The Church at Allentown**

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

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



LADIES BIBLE STUDY:

Led by Kathy Waldick.

**Will begin Thursday, February 28,
 and continue every Thursday for 6 weeks,
 in the classroom beside the office.
 We will be studying the book of Hebrews.**

Fellowship time will begin between 6:00 and 6:15 PM.

The study will begin at 6:30 and end at 7:30 PM.

**There will be an additional prayer concerns/prayer
 time between 7:30 and 8:00 PM,
 for anyone who would like to stay.**

All women are welcome!!

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 Dish-It-Out Café
(Formerly, Seniors Day Out)

Tuesday, March 19
At noon
in the Fellowship Hall

All Retiree's
welcome!

See page 10 for further details

Book Club

Saturday, April 6 at 9:00 AM

"Before We Were Yours"
By Lisa Wingate

Save the date!

March 20



St. Paul's Chicken Barbeque
Saturday, April 27



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

March 6
Ash Wednesday
Worship Service at
7:00 PM



Lenten Worship
Schedule

March 24
Third Sunday in Lent



Lent Begins
Ash Wednesday

March 17
Second Sunday in Lent



Lent

March 10
First Sunday in Lent

March 31
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sharing Your Talents

LITURGIST:

Duties: Assist the pastor during the worship service by leading the congregation in the Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, and the Scripture Reading.

ALTAR FLOWERS:

Duties: Sign up on the flower chart in hallway to have the flowers on the altar. They can be in memory of, in honor of, or in celebration of a special occasion. Flowers are provided by The Flower Loft. You will be billed by the Flower Loft.

GREETER:

Duties: Welcoming those who enter our church on Sunday mornings. Smile, shake hands or give hugs.



HOSPITALITY:

Duties: To welcome worshipers by providing goodies and drinks prior to the Sunday morning worship service. Make a trip to the store for goodies or make homemade treats.



COMMITTEES:

Duties: Share your skills and hidden talents to the benefit of St. Paul's.

If you have a passion for an area, such as finance, nurture, worship planning, technology, children's ministry, adult ministry and more, you will do a great job on a committee.



I am the Church
You are the Church
We are the Church
Together

If you have any questions or are interested in serving in any of these capacities please let Pastor Paul or the office know.

Phone: 419-339-3801

Office e-mail: officeespc@gmail.com

Pastor e-mail: pastorespc@gmail.com

Lent

The Wilderness Lenten Study and Sermon Series

Below you will find day by day instructions for this Lenten devotional to be applied to each week's theme and scripture. Use the simple prayer provided or one of your own to end each day's devotion. My hope for you is a deeper understanding of Jesus through this study. Along with this study each week, I am asking you to post a picture to our church Facebook page that represents your understanding of the theme of the week. I have already posted a picture from my photo album on the Wilderness theme. I am hoping that we can use your pictures in our Sunday service during the sermon as inspiration for everyone attending church. Enjoy this Journey through Lent and may God inspire you.

Day 1 Read the scripture.

Day 2 Consider the theme of the week and how it relates to your personal life: is it essential, frightening, comforting, etc? There is no wrong answer. Allow God to speak to you through the scripture and theme.

Day 3 Which character do you relate to in the scripture and which characters remind you of people close to you? What does this scripture teach you about your relationship with others?

Day 4 Where is God in this scripture? What does this scripture teach you about your relationship with God?

Day 5 Reread the scripture: imagine you are there. What do you see, hear, smell, taste or feel (touch) and what does that teach you about this scripture?

Day 6 How does this scripture lead you to Easter? What did God reveal to you this week through studying this scripture?

Day 7 Rest.

Week 1 March 10-16 Theme: Wilderness Scripture: John 11:48-54
Prayer: *Lord, as we go through the wilderness, renew and protect us as we seek you. Amen.*

Week 2 March 17-23 Theme: Wind Scripture: John 3:5-8
Prayer: *Lord, let your Spirit flow over us like the wind blows through the trees refreshing us on a warm summer day. Amen.*

Week 3 March 24-30 Theme: Water Scripture: John 14:1-5 & 12-17
Prayer: *Lord, let your living water wash over us and refresh our spirit to be at one with you. Amen.*

Week 4 March 31-April 6 Theme: Darkness Scripture: John 12:27-36
Prayer: *Lord, when we find ourselves in the darkness let your light shine, leading us back to you. Amen.*

Week 5 April 7-13 Theme: Hope Scripture: Luke 19:29-40
Prayer: *Lord, lead us into the hope of Palm Sunday and Your coming as our Messiah. Amen.*

Week 6 April 14-20 Theme: Alive Scripture: Matthew 8:23-27
Prayer: *Lord, prepare us to be truly alive through your loving sacrifice that leads us to salvation and life eternal. Amen*

Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

February 3, 2019	88
February 10, 2019	70
February 17, 2019	81
February 24, 2019	78

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,466.00



Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
February 3, 2019	\$5,035.00	\$763.50
February 10, 2019	\$3,287.00	\$297.56
February 17, 2019	\$1,899.00	\$341.00
February 24, 2019	\$2,224.09	\$945.53

Sunday School Attendance

February 3, 2019	6
February 10, 2019	5
February 17, 2019	4
February 24, 2019	7

Greeters

March 3, 2019	Dennis & Shara Bowsher
March 10, 2019	OPEN
March 17, 2019	OPEN
March 24, 2019	Margie Best & Jone Lane
March 31, 2019	Tony & Shirley Shoup

Altar Flowers

March 3, 2019	Rudy & Lavonne Segovia
March 10, 2019	Linda Craft & Nancy Gesler
March 17, 2019	Denny & Carole Grapner
March 24, 2019	Lois Cook
March 31, 2019	Denny & Janna Thompson

Hospitality Cart

March 3, 2019	Book Club/Deb Hurd
March 10, 2019	OPEN
March 17, 2019	Crafty Creatures
March 24, 2019	Choir/Deb Hurd & Jan Wyant
March 31, 2019	Greg & Barb Schade & Brittany Scannell

Daily Bible Readings

Friday 3/1

Psalm 140, 141, 142, 143
Ruth 3:1-18
2 Corinthians 4:1-12
Matthew 5:38-48

Saturday 3/2

Psalm 137, 144, Ruth 4:1-17
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:10
Matthew 6:1-16

Sunday 3/3

Psalm 114, 115, 148, 149, 150
Deuteronomy 6:1-9
Hebrews 12:18-29, John 12:24-32

Monday 3/4

Psalm 9, 15, 25
Deuteronomy 6:10-15
Hebrews 1:1-14, John 1:1-18

Tuesday 3/5

Psalm 26, 28, 36, 39
Deuteronomy 6:16-25
Hebrews 2:1-10, John 1:19-28

Wednesday 3/6 *Ash Wednesday*

Psalm 32, 102, 130
Jonah 3:1-4:11
Hebrews 12:1-14, Luke 18:9-14

Thursday 3/7

Psalm 37, Deuteronomy 7:6-11
Titus 1:1-16, John 1:29-34

Friday 3/8

Psalm 31, 35
Deuteronomy 7:12-16
Titus 2:1-15, John 1:35-42

Saturday 3/9

Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43
Deuteronomy 7:17-26
Titus 3:1-15, John 1:43-51

Sunday 3/10

Psalm 63, 98, 103
Deuteronomy 8:1-10
1 Corinthians 1:17-31
Mark 2:18-22

Monday 3/11

Psalm 41, 44, 52
Deuteronomy 8:11-20
Hebrews 2:11-18, John 2:1-12

Tuesday 3/12

Psalm 45, 47, 48
Deuteronomy 9:4-12
Hebrews 3:1-11, John 2:13-22

Wednesday 3/13

Psalm 49, 119:49-72
Deuteronomy 9:13-21
Hebrews 3:12-19, John 2:23-3:15

Thursday 3/14

Psalm 19, 46, 50
Deuteronomy 9:23-10:5
Hebrews 4:1-10, John 3:16-21

Friday 3/15

Psalm 40, 51, 54
Deuteronomy 10:12-22
Hebrews 4:11-16, John 3:22-36

Saturday 3/16

Psalm 55, 138, 139
Deuteronomy 11:18-28
Hebrews 5:1-10, John 4:1-26

Sunday 3/17

Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84
Jeremiah 1:1-10
1 Corinthians 3:11-23
Mark 3:31-4:9

Monday 3/18

Psalm 56, 57, 64, 65
Jeremiah 1:11-19
Romans 1:1-15, John 4:27-42

Tuesday 3/19

Psalm 61, 62, 68
Jeremiah 2:1-13
Romans 1:16-25, John 4:43-54

Wednesday 3/20

Psalm 72, 119:73-96
Jeremiah 3:6-18
Romans 1:28-2:11, John 5:1-18

Thursday 3/21

Psalm 70, 71, 74
Jeremiah 4:9-10, 19-28
Romans 2:12-24, John 5:19-29

Friday 3/22

Psalm 69, 73, Jeremiah 5:1-9
Romans 2:25-3:18
John 5:30-47

Saturday 3/23

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76
Jeremiah 5:20-31
Romans 3:19-31, John 7:1-13

Sunday 3/24

Psalm 34, 93, 96
Jeremiah 6:9-15
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Mark 5:1-20

Monday 3/25

Psalm 77, 80, Jeremiah 7:1-15
Romans 4:1-12, John 7:14-36

Tuesday 3/26

Psalm 78, Jeremiah 7:21-34
Romans 4:13-25, John 7:37-52

Wednesday 3/27

Psalm 119:97-120, 81, 82
Jeremiah 8:18-9:6
Romans 5:1-11, John 8:12-20

Thursday 3/28

Psalm 83, Jeremiah 10:11-24
Romans 5:12-21, John 8:21-32

Friday 3/29

Psalm 88, 91, 92
Jeremiah 11:1-8, 14-20
Romans 6:1-11, John 8:33-47

Saturday 3/30

Psalm 87, 90, 136
Jeremiah 13:1-11
Romans 6:12-23, John 8:47-59

Sunday 3/31

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67
Jeremiah 14:1-9, 17-22
Galatians 4:21-5:1
Mark 8:11-21



Remember When...



Reception for Confirmation Students
March 30, 2008



Refocus Summit
March 23, 2011



Children's Moments
Easter Sunday
March 27, 2016



Church History

The Chancel Choir performed the cantata, "One Sacrifice" by Joel Raney, on Palm Sunday, April 1, 2012. Judy Chaffins directed the choir and Lois Cook played the piano accompaniment. Pastor Ruth and Marty White were the narrators.

Easter Sunday, April 8, began with the sunrise service followed by Easter breakfast served in the fellowship hall. The Chancel Choir anthem was "The Lord is Risen This Morning." Gary and Deb Hurd were taken in as new members that Sunday.

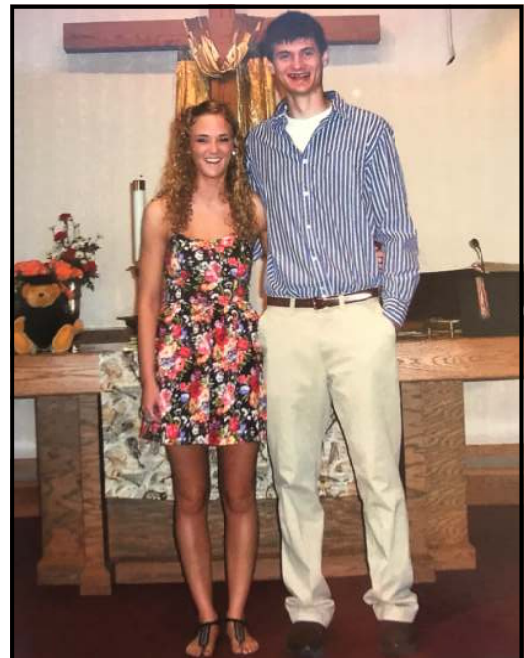
The Chancel Choir sang "Music of the Morning" by P. Chopin on May 6, 2012. Also in May a group built a ramp in Bluffton, Ohio, for a needy person.

May 20, 2012, was a busy Sunday for St. Paul's. Two high school graduates and one college graduate were recognized. A breakfast for the graduates was held in the fellowship hall before the worship service. The high school graduates were Reggie McAdams, son of Brent and Vicki McAdams and Kelsey Smith, daughter of Barry and Cyndi Smith. Tyler Smith graduated from Oakland University with a Master's Degree.

Choir Recognition Sunday was also on May 20. The choir anthem was "My Jesus I Love Thee," arranged by D. Forrest. The members present were Dan Best, Linda Craft, Jerry Crates, Nancy Gesler, Norm Grigsby, Ruth Hardy, Linda Holman, Maedene Holmes, Myrna Metzger, Corinne Piper, Jamie Wyant and Jan Wyant. Judy Chaffins is the director and Lois Cook the accompanist. Pastor Ruth presented the members with a flower and also recognized Nancy Gesler as Bell Choir Director.



Chancel Choir Cantata
"One Sacrifice" by Joel Raney
April 1, 2012



High School Graduates
Kelsey Smith and Reggie McAdams
May 20, 2012

Dish-It-Out Café

BREAKING NEWS!

Senior Day Out is expanding! And...it's getting a new name, ***Dish-It-Out Café***. Its purpose is the same, reaching out to seniors who are hungry for a homemade meal and would like a little conversation as well. Everything will continue as usual, but at the end of the meal those attending will have the opportunity to “dish out” a meal to someone who wasn't able to attend by delivering food to them. **All retired persons** regardless of age are invited to attend, so we have enough people to “dish out” the food. If you would like a delicious meal delivered to you on the third Tuesday of the month, make a reservation by calling the church or texting Linda Holman at 419-235-6526. We hope to continue this outreach to our members and the community, being Christ's hands and feet in service to others. We'll see everyone at the next ***Dish-It-Out Café***, March 19th, 12:00 p.m. in the St. Paul's Fellowship Hall.



**All Retired Persons:
Are Invited to attend
the *Dish-It-Out Café***



Seniors Day Out
Tuesday, February 19,
had a last minute change
of plans, so enjoyed lunch
and fellowship at Happy
Dayz.

Connecting With ...



St. Paul's Honor Roll Students:

Elida High School:

Honor Roll I

Grade 10: Makayla Bok

Grade 12: Megan Emmons

Elida Middle School:

Honor Roll I

Grade 7: Savannah Emmons

Honor Roll II

Grade 5: Cameron Emmons

Spencerville High School:

Honor Roll II

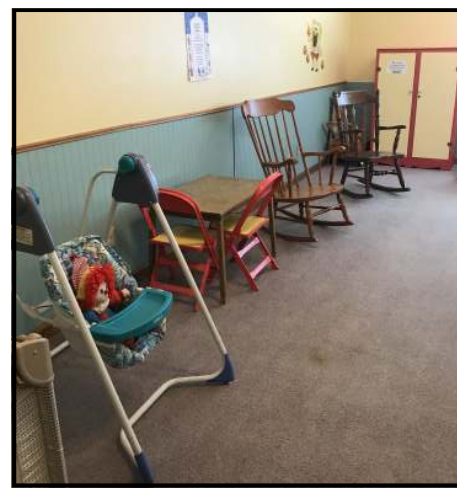
Grade 12: Jenson Nagy

Congratulations to Ginny Doseck on the birth of her Grandson, John William McDonough. They will call him Jack. He weighed 8 lbs. 2 ozs. and 21 1/2 inches long . The proud parents are Valerie and Ryan McDonough and big sister, Kate.



Thank You

Thank you to Margie Best, Larry Moser and Shirley Moser for sprucing up the nursery. They scrubbed the carpet, sorted cupboards, cleaned out toys and added some new toys.



The People of St. Paul's

Thank you to my St. Paul's family and to Pastor Paul for his hospital visit and phone call. Thank you for the beautiful flowers, phone calls and cards. I am truly blessed to have such a great church family.

Mary Irvin

Thank You

Dear Friends at St. Paul's, I would like to thank you for the use of the kitchen and basement fellowship room for our family baby shower. The space worked perfectly for us, and we very much appreciated being able to celebrate there!

I have enclosed a small gift to say "thanks". Perhaps the EASY program could use some funds? What a great ministry that is for the Elida Youth!

*Blessings,
Karen Irvin*

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and phone calls for Bill's recent stay in the hospital and the beautiful flowers from St. Paul's. It was greatly appreciated.

*Thank you,
Bill and Joyce Nichols*

Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Lois Cook
Carol Lee
Bill Nichols
Ron Steiner

Homebound Members

Hazel Dunn
Glenna Kohli

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Carol Lee
Jan Soddors

In the Military & Missions

Oliver Fessler
Nathan Stewart

Christian Symbol



CHALICE & CROSS

The chalice with a cross rising from it symbolizes Christ's obedient suffering, even unto death. The cross is called a "passion cross," with pointed ends that represent suffering. We remember that in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus begged his Father that the "cup" of suffering be taken from him. But ultimately, he prayed, "Not as I will, but as you will" (Matthew 26:39, NIV).

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

March 4, 2019
PPR..7:00 PM

March 5, 2019
Trustees..7:00 PM

March 6, 2019
Worship Mtg.. 10:30 AM

Finance...No Meeting

March 11, 2019
Ad Council...7:00 PM

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

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir...7:00 PM



MARCH 2019


Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					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	22 Nancy Gesler	23
24 Joyce Nichols	25	26	27 Julie Bok	28	29 Casey Lane	30 Tahler Sdao Julia Thomas
31 Tom Thomas						

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

Coconut Custard Macaroons

By Margie Best

Ingredients		Instructions
6 1/2 cups	Sweetened shredded coconut	<p>Heat oven to 375 degrees, with rack on upper shelf.</p> <p>Line 2 large cookie sheets with Parchment paper.</p> <p>Combine all ingredients in large bowl and stir until batter is evenly mixed. Spoon batter onto baking sheet 2 inches apart.</p> <p>Bake until edge and tops of cookies are golden brown, about 14 minutes.</p> <p>Rotate baking sheet halfway through baking.</p> <p>Let cookies cool on baking sheet for 5 minutes then transfer to rack to cool completely.</p>
3/4 cup	Sweetened condensed milk	
1/2 cup	Unsalted butter, melted & slightly cooled	
1 large	Egg	
1 tsp.	Pure vanilla extract	
1/2 tsp.	Salt	
		

Fruited Mousse

By Tracy Sdao

Ingredients		Instructions
2 1/2 cups	Cold water	<p>In saucepan, combine top 3 ingredients and stir.</p> <p>Cook to a full boil. It should thicken and become clear.</p> <p>Remove and chill for 1 hour.</p> <p>Stir in 12oz. cool whip.</p> <p>Garnish with fruit (optional). Can be served over angel food cake.</p>
1 small pkg.	Jello (any flavor)	
1 small pkg.	Sugar free vanilla pudding (cook style)	
12 oz.	Cool whip	

KIDZ KORNER

DAYS OF CREATION

Play this game to remember when God made each of his masterpieces.



What you need:

- Paper
- Rulers
- Pencils
- Markers or crayons
- Dice
- Bibles (open to Genesis 1:1–2:3 for reference)

What you do:





1. To make game boards, draw a grid with four rows and seven columns, totaling 28 squares.
2. Across the top row, write DAY 1 in the first square and continue through DAY 7.
3. Take turns rolling one die, or all players can roll at once. For the number rolled, draw something God created on that day (in the correct column).
4. When you fill an entire row, draw a smiley face in the DAY 7 square. The first player with two smileys wins.



Decode The days

At this time of year, God's creation "springs" to life.

Directions: After reading Genesis 1:1–2:3, write the correct Creation day number under each picture. Then add up each day's total and write it on the correct blank below.

 1	 3	 4	 5	 3	 5	 2
 4	 5	 2	 5	 5	 4	 3
 3	 6	 5	 4	 6	 5	 3
 6	 3	 6	 3	 6	 5	 6
 2	 6	 6	 1	 6	 1	 4
 6	 5	 3	 6	 5	 7	 6
 3	 6	 7	 4	 6	 6	 3

Day 1 (light) ____ Day 2 (waters) ____ Day 3 (land and plants) ____ Day 4 (heavenly bodies) ____

Day 5 (birds and water animals) ____ Day 6 (land animals and people) ____ Day 7 (God rested) ____

Answers: Day 1 = 3, Day 2 = 3, Day 3 = 10, Day 4 = 6, Day 5 = 10, Day 6 = 15, Day 7 = 2

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.
Elida, OH 45807

*Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
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45807
Permit No. 71

Our Web Address:
www.elidastpaulschurch.org

Our Facebook page
Elida St. Paul's Church

Twitter Account
@ESPCHURCH



Living Our Faith

Faith Journey

A family was heading on vacation: two little ones were nestled in car seats; the van was packed. As Dad locked the house and Mom secured the garage, an adult neighbor the kids knew walked up and spoke through an open window. "Where are you going?" The kids shrugged. "Well, what road are you taking?" the friend asked with a knowing smile. Of course, they had no idea. "Do you know where you'll eat today, or where you'll spend the night?" Blank stares. Then the friend asked, "Who are you traveling with?" The children broke into grins and shouted, "Mommy and Daddy!"

On the journey of life, we don't know precisely where we're headed or how all our needs will be met. But we know who we're traveling with: our loving God who is fully aware of the twists and turns ahead; the loving Parent who promises to care for us wherever we go.

The Comfort Of Our Middle-C God

During college, while living in a boarding house, author Lloyd Douglas befriended a retiree. The man, a homebound former music teacher, shared a morning ritual with Douglas, who would walk down to the man's floor, open his door and ask, "What's the good news?"

Every day the man responded by tapping a tuning fork against his wheelchair and saying, "That's middle C. It was middle C yesterday. It will be middle C tomorrow. It will be middle C a thousand years from now. The tenor upstairs sings flat, the piano across the hall is out of tune, but, my friend, that is middle C!"

If middle C's pitch value isn't exactly 261.63 Hz, then your piano needs to be tuned. How comforting that dependability is for musicians — and their listeners.

Like middle C, God is steadfast and reliable. In this fast-paced world, praise God for the good news he declares to us: "I the LORD do not change" (Malachi 3:6).

