

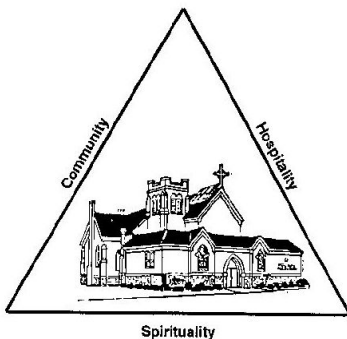
St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 39 Issue 11

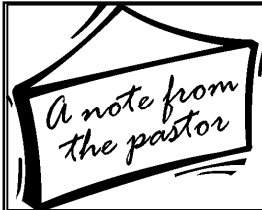
November, 2016

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



Inside this issue:

Upcoming Events Northwest District News	2-3
College Students	4
Missions	5
Faith in Action	6
Daily Bible Readings	7
Honoring Veterans	8
Our Church History	9
Remember When...	10
Connecting With...	11
The People of St. Paul's	12
November Calendar	13
Recipes	14
Kidz Korner	15
Living Our Faith	16



The air is crisp and cool, farmers are out harvesting the bounty of the earth, and the leaves are beginning to pile up in the yard. November is upon us and that turns our hearts and minds to remembering and giving thanks. We remember those Saints who have gone before us, acknowledging their life's importance and their victory over death through Christ Jesus. We celebrate their lives November 6th on All Saints Sunday and you may bring a candle to place on the altar to remember your loved ones who have gone onto glory.

November is also a time when we give thanks for the bounty God has given us. Thanksgiving has become a time to celebrate with family, to partake in all types of food, to watch football and to prepare to shop all the good specials on Black Friday. The original Thanksgiving was about giving thanks to God for all the blessing bestowed on the settlers after their first harvest and for their survival in the new land. I want to carry that theme forward through November as we look at stewardship. We have been blessed by God and I want to invite you to look at how we can celebrate that blessing as a church.

I want to thank you all for the wonderful feedback from the "Building Bridges" sermon series. I had great apprehension as I prepared most of that sermon series. You have shown a willingness to listen and honestly discuss the issues raised without hatred or malice which makes me proud to call you a part of my family. I am pleased to say that Bishop Palmer has been appointed to the commission that will be finding a way for us to move forward as United Methodists. I asked you to be in prayer for the commission and now I want you to pray for Bishop Palmer and the commission as they seek God's will for the church.

Finally, get busy out there in the mission field: invite a friend to Senior Day Out, help a kid with homework at EASY, serve a meal at Our Daily Bread, visit a sick or worried friend, talk about your crazy pastor and the sermons he preached last month. Remember "in essentials Unity, in non-essentials Liberty, and in all things Charity" as Wesley would say. It is our diversity that makes us strong and able to reach the whole world to make disciples for Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Paul

Thought for the Month:

Fall into church;
God will
pick you up!

Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child

A small shoe box can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Be a part of changing children's lives all over the world in Jesus' name through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child.

**Samaritans Purse National
Shoe Box Collection is
November 14 to 21.**



Pack a Gift and Pray

A shoe box filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies tangibly demonstrates God's love to a child in need. Guides for how to pack a shoebox may be picked up in the church office or online at samaritanspurse.org. Remember to pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives a shoebox gift, and that many children and families will come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Give

We ask for a donation of \$7.00 per box to cover international shipping and other costs, but not everyone can afford to send a gift. Your generosity beyond \$7.00 per shoebox gift will help us to reach even more children with the true meaning of Christmas and a tangible expression of God's amazing love.

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Special dates

- All Saints' Day, November 1
- Daylight-Saving Time ends, November 6
- Election Day, November 8
- Veterans Day, November 11
- Christ the King Sunday, November 20
- Thanksgiving, November 24
- First Sunday of Advent, November 27

Seniors Day Out

**Tuesday,
November 15
12 Noon
Everyone 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



Celebrate
WITH ALL THE BOUNTY
THAT THE LORD YOUR GOD
HAS GIVEN TO YOU.

DEUTERONOMY 26:11, NRSV

THANKSGIVING DAY

Office Closed
November 24

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

**All Saints Sunday
November 6, 2016**

Bring a white candle in a holder to place on the altar in memory of loved ones who have passed.



**Daylight Savings
Time Ends
November 6**

**Remember to turn
your clocks back
one hour, and
change the batteries
in your smoke
detectors.**

I HAVE HEARD OF ... *your love*
TOWARD *all the saints.*
EPHESIANS 1:15, ESV



November 6

Coins for Communion to benefit
The Lima Rescue Mission

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

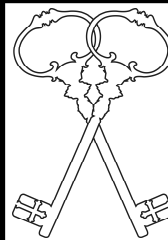


**Anyone interested in
doing the reading
and lighting of the
Advent candle,
please notify Pastor
Paul or the
church office.**



Christian Symbol

Keys



A key symbolizes the church's authority to forgive sins in Jesus' name. In Matthew 16:19 (ESV), Jesus says to Peter, who would come to represent the Christian church, "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

2016/2017 College Students

Reggie McAdams

University of Akron - Senior
393 Sumner St.
University Edge Apartment
Akron, OH 44304

Torie McAdams

Toledo University - Occupational Therapy - Junior
2645 Greenway St.
Toledo, OH 43607

Samantha Myers

Henry Ford College - Pharmacy Tech. (3yr. 2019)
25003 Penne St.
Dearborn Heights, MI 48125

David Scannell

Eastern Michigan University - Senior
Bachelor of Science in Psychology
25003 Penne St.
Dearborn Heights, MI 48125

Emma Scannell

Hope College - Dance - Freshman
Dykstra Hall 323
141 E. 12th St.
P. O. Box 9022
Holland, MI 49422-9022

Tahler Sdao

Franklin University - Marketing/Business
1657 Robinhood Dr.
Lima, OH 45805

Aric Thompson - Senior

The Ohio State University - Economics Major/ Business Minor
121 W. Oakland Ave.
Columbus, OH 43201

United Methodist Student Day November 27, 2016.

Any college Students available to assist with the worship service in any capacity, Please contact the church office or Jan Wyant.



Missions

Recent St. Paul's Missions

Jamie Wyant built a small ramp for a handicapped person in Lima. Since it was small, he did not enlist any help to build it. June 11th was Work Day at Camp Wesley. A small group of St. Paul's and Immanuel people from Elida worked on the pavilion roof and cleared trees to prepare for the new cabin to be built. Jamie is waiting to see if they need our group to go back in the fall to finish the roof, which is about 70% complete.

Maedene Holmes headed up an effort by the St. Paul's congregation to collect Health and School Kits. We collected 96 school kits and 40 health kits! Additionally, \$334.50 was donated to be sent with the kits and to pay for bags for the school kits. Thanks also to Maedene Holmes for again heading up this annual mission at St. Paul's. On September 7th Maedene, Anne Lehman, Shirley Moser, Martha Vazquez, Bev Nesbitt, Jean Thomas, Lavonne Segovia, Shara Bowsher, Jamie Wyant and Tim Piper helped to go through the school and health kits to check for completeness. Pastor Paul delivered the kits to the collection point where they were taken to the West Ohio Conference Festival of Sharing at Otterbein University on September 17th.

Jamie is again heading up the effort to collect 200 or more Operation Christmas Child boxes from our congregation. The boxes will be collected at St. Paul's church during the week of November 14th through November 21st. They will then be delivered to a collection point by Jamie.

St. Paul's volunteers, Martha Vazquez, Jean Thomas, Helen and Dillon Staas, Deb Hurd, Lavonne Segovia, and Tim Piper served at Our Daily Bread soup kitchen on September 30th. We served 101 persons food prepared by ODB. Our next day to serve will be December 30th.

Donations to Coins-for-Communion and to the Five Loaves Food pantry remains strong by our congregation. Thank you to everyone who faithfully supports these missions.

We are looking for about seven volunteers to help with Trick-or-Treat night to serve hot chocolate and coffee and hand out pencils to Trick-or-Treaters on Thursday, October 27th. This mission is an exciting outreach for our church as we have direct contact with families in our immediate vicinity. If you can help that night, contact the office.

During the August Missions Committee meeting, a motion was passed to designate the June Coins-for-Communion collection to UMCOR, West Virginia flood relief. Our church Treasurer has mailed the check. At the October Missions meeting, the Mission Committee will determine the recipient(s) of the Christmas Offering for this year.

Recently, 'thank-you' letters have been received from Meals-til-Monday, Church World Service, and Samaritan House for donations sent by St. Paul's UMC.

Thank you to everyone in our congregation who participate in our missions.
The Missions Committee

Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:	
September 25, 2016	102
October 2, 2016	84
October 9, 2016	111
October 16, 2016	92
October 23, 2016	91

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

	Unified Ministry Giving:	Other:
September 25, 2016	\$2,220.00	\$605.23
October 2, 2016	\$5,143.42	\$509.79
October 9, 2016	\$3,719.00	\$293.00
October 16, 2016	\$2,271.00	\$156.00
October 23, 2016	\$3,125.00	\$941.00

Sunday School Attendance	
September 25, 2016	15
October 2, 2016	18
October 9, 2016	22
October 16, 2016	19
October 23, 2016	17

Greeters	
November 6, 2016	Marty & Kathy White
November 13, 2016	Dillon & Helen Staas
November 20, 2016	Jerry & Becky Bean
November 27, 2016	Open

Flower Calendar	
November 6, 2016	Art & Linda Holman
November 13, 2016	Tony & Shirley Shoup
November 20, 2016	Gary & Deb Hurd
November 27, 2016	Dennis & Shara Bowsher

Hospitality Cart	
November 6, 2016	OPEN
November 13, 2016	Greg & Barb Schade & Brittany Scannell
November 20, 2016	OPEN
November 27, 2016	Choir

Daily Bible Readings

Tuesday 11/1

Psalm 45, 47, 48
Revelation 11:14-19
Luke 11:27-36

Wednesday 11/2

Psalm 49, 53, 119:49-72
Revelation 12:1-6
Luke 11:37-52

Thursday 11/3

Psalm 33
Revelation 12:7-17
Luke 11:53-12:12

Friday 11/4

Psalm 40, 51, 54
Revelation 13:1-10
Luke 12:13-31

Saturday 11/5

Psalm 55, 138, 139
Revelation 13:11-18
Luke 12:32-48

Sunday 11/6

Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84
1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13
Matthew 18:21-35

Monday 11/7

Psalm 56, 57, 58, 64, 65
Revelation 14:1-13
Luke 12:49-59

Tuesday 11/8

Psalm 61, 62, 68
Revelation 14:14-15:8
Luke 13:1-9

Wednesday 11/9

Psalm 72, 119:73-96
Revelation 16:1-11
Luke 13:10-17

Thursday 11/10

Psalm 70, 71, 74
Revelation 16:12-21
Luke 14:18-30

Friday 11/11

Psalm 69, 73
Revelation 17:1-18
Luke 13:31-35

Saturday 11/12

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76
Revelation 18:1-14
Luke 14:1-11

Sunday 11/13

Psalm 34, 93, 96
1 Corinthians 14:1-12
Matthew 20:1-16

Monday 11/14

Psalm 77, 79, 80, Joel 1:1-13
Revelation 18:15-24
Luke 14:12-24

Tuesday 11/15

Psalm 78, Joel 1:15-2:2(3-11)
Revelation 19:1-10
Luke 14:25-35

Wednesday 11/16

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120
Joel 2:12-19
Revelation 19:11-21
Luke 15:1-10

Thursday 11/17

Psalm 23, 27, 85, 86
Joel 2:21-27
James 1:1-15, Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

Friday 11/18

Psalm 88, 91, 92, Joel 2:28-3:8
James 1:16-27, Luke 16:1-9

Saturday 11/19

Psalm 87, 90, 136, Joel 3:9-17
James 2:1-13, Luke 16:10-17(18)

Sunday 11/20

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67
Habakkuk 1:1-4(5-11) 12-2:1
Philippians 3:13-4:1
Matthew 23:13-24

Monday 11/21

Psalm 89, Habakkuk 2:1-4, 9-20
James 2:14-26, Luke 16:19-31

Tuesday 11/22

Psalm 94, 95, 97, 99, 100
Habakkuk 3:1-10(11-15) 16-18
James 3:1-12, Luke 17:1-10

Wednesday 11/23

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144
Malachi 1:1,6-14
James 3:13-4:12, Luke 17:11-19

Thursday 11/24

Psalm 105, Malachi 2:1-16
James 4:13-5:6, Luke 17:20-37

Friday 11/25

Psalm 102, 107:1-32
Malachi 3:1-12
James 5:7-12, Luke 18:1-8

Saturday 11/26

Psalm 33, 107:33-43, 108
Malachi 3:13-4:6
James 5:13-20, Luke 18:9-14

Sunday 11/27

Psalm 118, 145, Zechariah 9:9-16
1 Peter 3:13-22
Matthew 21:1-13

Monday 11/28

Psalm 106, Zechariah 10:1-12
Galatians 6:1-10, Luke 18:15-30

Tuesday 11/29

Psalm 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126
Zechariah 11:4-17
1 Corinthians 3:10-23
Luke 18:31-43

Wednesday 11/30

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130
Zechariah 12:1-10
Ephesians 1:3-14, Luke 19:1-10



Honoring Veterans

The Veteran

Have you ever watched a veteran as the flag goes by?
 With his hand on his heart and a tear in his eye.
 Now bent by the years, still he's handsome and proud,
 With his wife by his side; they stand out in the crowd.

Have you ever watched a veteran as the men march on?
 He remains at attention 'till the last one's gone.
 With great admiration and respect he'll stand
 While the troops keep cadence with the high school band.

So at the next parade you may happen to see
 Take a look around the crowd and there well may be
 Some gray haired veterans with hearts so true
 And give a little thought to what they've done for you.

For somewhere in their past, many, many years ago
 Our country was in need and they were called to go
 To a land filled with terror where death lurked so near;
 Where thoughts turned to home and life seemed so dear.

Now try to imagine how they face that past;
 How they long for the time those thoughts are gone at last.
 Then say a little prayer that soon these men may find
 A place where those memories are all left behind.

-By Dillon Staas



PFC Oliver Fessler is in the United States Marine Corps. Oliver graduated September 30 from the Recruit Depot at Parris Island, South Carolina. He is currently stationed at Camp Geiger, North Carolina, School of Infantry-East. He will graduate from this training December 22. Oliver is the son of Scott and Gail Fessler.

In the Military



Staff Sgt Dani Milke is in the United States Army Reserves and currently stationed in Romania. Her job is logistics. Dani has served in the Middle East doing heavy equipment repair, and has also had a deployment in the states doing logistics. Dani is the niece and God Child of Greg and Barb Schade.

PV2 Nathan Stewart is in the United States Army. Nathan graduated from A Troop 5th Squadron 15th Cavalry Regiment 194th Armored Brigade on October 20, 2016 in Ft. Benning, Georgia. He is currently stationed at Ft. Hood, Texas, as a part of the 1st Cavalry Division. Nathan is the son of Ron and Ann Stewart and grandson of Ruth Hardy.

Our Church History (1980-1983)

One of Rev. Puffenberger's special emphases was to have more concern for each other. He instituted a custom of having a single chrysanthemum delivered to a person in the hospital, usually carried by him.

At funerals, he met with the family a day or two before the funeral and had them talk freely about the deceased, exploring their life from early youth. Matters that had been discussed became part of the sermon and a printed summary for those attending, in which there were responsive readings, hymn words, and a unison prayer commending the person became a souvenir.

The matter of doing something about the church structure was initiated. The choices for future development were discussed in neighborhood groups, then tabulated and presented to the Ad. Council. It was decided that renovation of the existing building was the right way to go. The Trustees broke the remodeling into steps, the first being to replace the slate roof.

During this time of planning for renovation, the spiritual life was not neglected. One instrument used was an evaluation of the personal devotional life, the concern for others, the sustaining of others in times of crises, personal ethics, self-improvement, and the interpretation of faith, in teaching, participation in cultural, economic, and political systems, work and witness within and without the church, and taking part in responsibilities in the church and district and conference.

In September, 1980, recognition was given to Mrs. Evelyn Broshes for her memorial to St. Paul's Church. Attendance folders were presented in memory of her husband, Robert.

One event, coming directly from Rev. Puffenberger near the end of this first year at St. Paul's, was a service and dinner recognizing the volunteers in the Elida Fire and Rescue Squad on May 3, 1981. They were special guests at the worship service, followed by a bountiful dinner, contributed by the congregation and enjoyed by all. A plaque was presented to the department and a certificate was given to each member.

As plans were made for remodeling the church building, people were asked to make a 3-year pledge for finances. The trustees engaged an architectural firm to develop plans, including easier access for the handicapped.

During Allen's second year an outreach was introduced which was named Someone Cares. Sue Holmes was the leader and the first year after seeing the needs, especially in Lima's south side, clothing was collected and 135 bags of food packed. A classified ad telling of free food and clothing was put in The Lima News. Before the doors were opened, a line four wide had formed and stretched through the north parking lot over into the schoolyard. Rev. Puffenberger, with a bull horn, announced that people would be admitted a few at a time. The Elida Police and Allen County Sheriff's Deputies helped hold the lines. In an hour all the food was gone; in two hours all the clothing. The disappointed waiting in line had to be dispersed.

Someone cares was later modified so that food and children's Christmas gifts were delivered to homes of those who had applied earlier. Later, for safety, particularly for the young people who helped, the home deliveries were changed to disbursing the donations at Southside Center. St. Paul's developed a caring ministry with Southside and with Cheryl Allen, who headed the center. She spoke at a morning worship service, not long before her fatal illness.



Someone Cares Food Collection
1983



Remember When...



November, 2004
 Roof Loan Mortgage Burning
 L-R: Rev. John Tsironis, Todd Hanes, Art Holman



shutterstock · 136180754

November, 2009
 Consecration Sunday
 Church Dinner



shutterstock · 127307942



November, 2012
 Stewardship Sunday
 Chancel Choir Anthem:
 "Great is Thy Thankfulness"



Connecting With ...



Brogan Wyant, (front center), is the grandson of Jamie and Jan Wyant, and son of Justin and Megan Wyant. Brogan has been chosen as a youth ambassador for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation of southwest Ohio.



Seniors Day Out
September 20



Hayden McKee, grandson of Nancy Gesler, is a sophomore at Lima Central Catholic High School. This is his 2nd year on the H.S. Cross Country Team.



Seniors Day Out
October 18



The People of St. Paul's



Our sympathy to the family of Joanna Hurd, who passed away, October 25. Pastor Paul officiated her memorial service. Jo had been involved in the Crafty Creatures small group, and initiated the personalized baptism towels. Joanna is the mother of Gary and Deb Hurd. Cards may reach them at 2242 Reinell Ave., Lima, OH 45805



Congratulations to Alex McAdams and Stacy Alexander who exchanged wedding vows on Saturday, October 15, 2016. Alex is the son of Brent and Vicki McAdams and grandson of Dwain and Myrna Metzger. Cards may be sent to 13939 State Rd., Delphos, OH 45833



Remember in Prayer



Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Gary Grigg
Jim Hines
Linda Holman

Homebound Members

Ruth Hardy
Jan Sadders

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Hazel Dunn
Glenna Kohli
Mary LaRue

In the Military

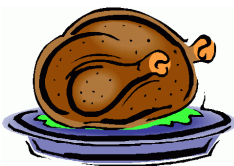
Oliver Fessler
Dani Milke
Nathan Stewart



Happy Thanksgiving!

Well Grandma's in the kitchen and Grandpa's in his den.
Company will be coming; it's Thanksgiving day again.
There's turkey filled with dressing and there's pumpkin pie to eat
The grand kids will be ready to dig into Grandma's treats.

The TV will be humming with parades and football too
Grandma's nearly crazy with so many things to do
The house will fill with laughter, and with song and so much more
Reminding us of all the many things we're thankful for.



- By Dillon Staas

Meetings

November 1, 2016
Trustees...7:00 PM

November 2, 2016
Worship Team..6:00 PM

November 6, 2016
PPR Mtg..
After worship service

November 14, 2016
Ad Council...7:30 PM

No Finance Mtg.

No Missions

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

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir..7:00 PM

NOVEMBER

2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1 Margie Best Cody Warris	2	3 Jacinda Perry Dalton Poling	4	5
6	7 Jone Lane	8	9 Jon Cook Joshua Guess	10 Kylee Loose	11 Virginia Hollar Jenson Nagy	12 Logan House
13 Dillon Staas	14	15 John Holmes 96 yrs.	16 Amber Moorman	17	18 Dennis Bowsher	19 Gary Grigg
20 Rudy Segovia Marty White	21	22 Jason Lane Tony Lozano Samantha Whetstone	23 Piper Kinney Tony Shoup	24	25	26
27 Terry Bok	28	29	30			





Justin & Marisa Kruse
November 4

Bruce & Tammy Segovia
November 16



November 11


Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Cookbook

Marinated Turkey Breasts By Mary Holmes

Ingredients		Instructions
2 cups	Dry white wine (Meier's Sautern wine)	Slice breasts. Mix all ingredients and marinate slices overnight. Grill. You can boil the marinade and pour over grilled turkey if desired.
1 lemon	Lemon, but in quarters	
1 clove	Garlic	
2 cups	Peanut oil	
1 cup	Soy sauced	
2	Turkey breasts, sliced	



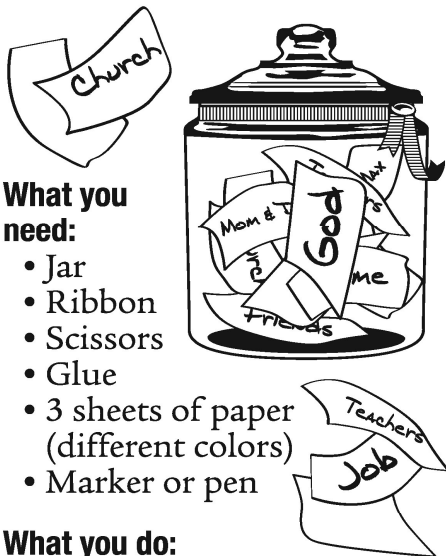
Pumpkin Cake Dessert By Sue Theodore

Ingredients		Instructions
Crust:		Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Prepare crust; reserve 1 cup cake mix. Spread in 9x13 pan.
1 box	Yellow cake mix	
1 stick	Margarine, melted	
1	Egg, beaten	
Filling:		Mix together filling and pour over crust. Add reserved cake mix to topping ingredients. Crumble over filling. Bake for 10 minutes; turn oven down to 350 degrees. Bake 35 minutes. Cool. Serve with whipped cream. Store leftovers in the refrigerator.
1 large can	Pumpkin	
1 tsp.	Cinnamon	
3/4 cup	Sugar	
2/3 cup	Evaporated milk	
3	Eggs, beaten	
Topping:		
1 tsp.	Cinnamon	
2 Tbl.	Margarine, softened	
1/2 cup	Chopped nuts, such as pecans	

KIDZ KORNER

BLESSINGS JAR

Thanksgiving reminds us of our many gifts from God. Count your blessings all month long with this craft.



What you need:

- Jar
- Ribbon
- Scissors
- Glue
- 3 sheets of paper (different colors)
- Marker or pen

What you do:

1. Measure and cut enough ribbon to wrap around the jar's neck, below the lid. Glue in place and let dry.
2. Fold each piece of paper in half three times, resulting in eight rectangles per sheet. Cut along the fold lines, and you'll have 24 rectangles.
3. Each day in November until Thanksgiving, write down one blessing from God. Then place that blessing in the jar.
4. On Thanksgiving, open the jar and read all your blessings to your family and friends.



Blessings from the Lord

Throughout the Bible, God blesses his chosen people. How can we receive these gifts?

Directions: In the word search, find all the words in the box. Then write the words in the correct order on the blanks below to complete the verse.

come you these LORD if blessings you the accompany
Deuteronomy All on your obey will God you and

I	J	T	Z	Z	L	M	X	N	W	C	I	Z	Y	H
X	V	U	B	M	O	O	O	V	I	O	L	T	R	T
N	L	V	L	I	R	A	D	S	L	M	R	H	A	T
B	F	C	E	Z	D	T	X	O	L	E	D	E	L	D
O	S	K	S	L	O	D	A	B	V	G	W	S	L	E
H	G	Y	S	L	R	A	W	E	Y	J	E	E	U	U
I	O	R	I	W	F	I	C	Y	O	U	R	L	R	T
Z	D	B	N	I	A	B	Y	C	V	M	R	X	C	E
G	K	D	G	Y	D	M	A	O	O	T	U	F	M	R
C	T	I	S	Z	O	M	T	E	Q	M	P	N	T	O
C	X	C	I	D	U	U	O	L	R	D	P	T	C	N
F	S	X	F	R	T	L	P	M	F	B	L	A	A	O
Y	Y	Y	O	U	H	T	U	A	P	A	I	U	N	M
E	O	K	N	U	E	A	Z	U	F	E	F	B	D	Y
T	Q	U	Y	N	I	N	O	O	V	E	O	T	Z	I

“ All _____ ”

28:2, NIV

Answer: "All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God." Deuteronomy 28:2, NIV

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.
Elida, OH 45807

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Elida, OH
45807
Permit No. 71

*Return Service Requested

Our Web Address:
www.elidastpaulschurch.org



Living Our Faith

Fueled by Thankfulness

Thankfulness is not a minor virtue. It is not one of the elementary virtues that may be left behind as we become more mature. I believe that thankfulness is essential to the strength of every virtue, and that without it every other branch is starved and lean.

Life without thankfulness is devoid of love and passion. Hope without thankfulness is lacking in fine perception. Faith without thankfulness lacks strength and fortitude. Every virtue divorced from thankfulness is maimed and limps along the spiritual road.



Always Thankful

Martin Rinkart, a German Lutheran minister, wrote the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" in 1636. At the time, the Thirty Years' War was ravaging central Europe, claiming millions of lives. Rinkart served as pastor in Eilenburg, a walled town that became a crowded refuge for starving fugitives. Although Rinkart was struggling to provide for his own family, he opened his own home to people in need.

After the plague entered Eilenburg, Rinkart conducted up to 50 funerals a day — including services for his wife and the only other two pastors in town. Amid the despair, he wrote many hymns, including "Now Thank We All Our God." Originally intended as a table prayer, it's now sung at Thanksgiving to remember God's "countless gifts of love" — even during hardships.



Now Thank We All Our God