

# 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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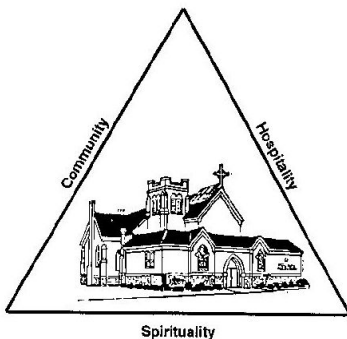
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## From the Pastor's Desk

November is a time of year when we, as Americans, traditionally give thanks for all we have and take the time to share with others. I thought I would share some of the things I am grateful for with you and maybe it will help you remember some of the things you are grateful for as well. I want to start by saying how surprised I was the Sunday Miss Ellinger "forced" me to open the box during children's moments. So many cards, notes and gifts, I was overwhelmed by the love you showed me and I want to say thank you for all you have done for me and my family. Thank you!

Next, I am grateful to be a part of a church which celebrated the life of two ladies who had milestone birthdays in October. Thank you. Evelyn and Hazel have an amazing story and I am grateful to have been a very small part of it. I am also grateful for a church full of musicians who grace us with the gifts that God has given them. Linda and Lois on the keyboards and Judy trying to keep order in the midst of chaos with the choir. Plus, horns, flutes, drums, organ and piano solos, violins, and so many wonderful voices make our worship of God so much more meaningful. I am also grateful for all the people in our church who help others in so many ways. People who donate food to the 5 loaves food pantry and the people who make sure it gets delivered. People who work on quilts and blankets to bring comfort to those who are hurting or lost. People who build ramps in the heat and cold, sunny or rainy, people who cook meals so retirees can share stories and deliver food to those who may feel alone. People who sit in a hot parking lot supporting our community on National Night Out and people who hand out hot chocolate to cold trick or treaters. Thank You!

Finally, I am grateful for everyone who shocked me by giving over \$5000 to Habitat for Humanity and all the people who continue to support soup kitchens, meals for kids on the weekend, battered women's shelters, homeless shelters, scholarship funds, ramps, camps, health and school kits, Christmas boxes and warm hands, just to name a few. Let's not forget the huge task of funding our budget for all these things and more with your pledge to our annual stewardship campaign. Thank You!

Being thankful is something we should focus on everyday as we pray to God. Thank you, Lord, for all you have done and we look forward with joy and excitement for all you have in store for us as your church in the future.

Gratefully yours,

*Pastor Paul*



## Thought for the Month

It is not happiness that makes us grateful. It's gratefulness that makes us happy.

—David Steindl-Rast

**All Saints Sunday  
November 3**

At this time in the church year we think about saints - people who are examples of God's love. We thank God for them and remember saints whose lives enrich our faith.

**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 3**

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



**November 3**

Coins for Communion to benefit  
The Lima Rescue Mission

**Food Pantry Sunday  
November 17**

Please continue to bring in non perishable food items for the food Pantry at The Church at Allentown

***Upcoming Events for St. Paul's***

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

**Christian Symbol**

**ALPHA & OMEGA**



Alpha and omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. As John of Patmos greets the seven churches in Asia, he writes: "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, 'who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty'" (Revelation 1:8, NIV). "The Alpha and the Omega" is a metaphor that points to God's eternal nature.

**St. Paul's Epistle**

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United Methodist Church

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|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Secretary      | Gail Fessler  |
| Newsletter     | Jone Lane     |
| Organist       | Linda Holman  |
| Pianist        | Lois Cook     |
| Choir Director | Judy Chaffins |
| Custodian      | Dave Decker   |

**November 11, 2019  
Veterans Day**



*Happy Thanksgiving*

**THANKSGIVING DAY  
November 28**

**Dish-It-Out Cafe  
Tuesday, November 19  
At noon in the Fellowship Hall**

**Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen Mission  
Friday, November 29  
Volunteers needed to help prepare  
and serve the noon meal.  
Please contact Tim Piper  
if you can help.**



## *Upcoming Events for St. Paul's*

**HOLIDAY HOME WALK**  
The bi-annual Holiday Home Walk will be held on **Tuesday, December 10**. We begin at 5:30pm with fellowship in the Social Hall, centered around a soup dinner. Following the dinner, participants travel to several homes to continue in fellowship as we anticipate the coming holiday season. The Nurture Committee needs volunteers to open their homes for this event. If you are willing to open your home for this event, please contact the church office or Sue Theodore at (419)979-8002.



**Coming in December**

**Cookie and Treats Walk  
Sunday, December 8**

Remember to start making or buying mittens, scarves, hats and gloves for our special tree.

# Missions

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

### 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](http://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 \$9.00 per box to cover international shipping and other costs, but not everyone can afford to send a gift. Your generosity beyond \$9.00 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.



**Samaritans Purse National Shoe Box Collection**  
week is November 18 to 24.



## ST. PAUL'S JOINS RENEWED FAMILY PROMISE MISSION

Jesus commanded his disciples to go out and proclaim the good news of the Gospel to all the earth and to "feed my sheep" both spiritually and physically. One way to do that is to help families who are struggling to get back on their feet. Family Promise of Lima does just that. Families are housed during the evenings in churches to help provide food and shelter to families in need while the parents seek work and housing. Once again, St. Paul's church will be involved with Family Promise. We will join six other churches: Allentown, Immanuel, Salem Mennonite, Pike Mennonite, Grace Community and Gomer Congregational to host a family at Immanuel UMC four times a year. Each church will be responsible to provide food and staffing at Immanuel UMC for 4 days out of the year. We will need volunteers to spend time with the families at Immanuel and to provide food from 5:30 PM to 6:30 AM. Immanuel will take care of the first day, a Sunday. The seven churches will meet in January, 2020, to have a planning meeting to organize this effort. Anyone wishing to join Pastor Paul and Tim Piper at this organizational meeting should contact Tim Piper. As we prepare for this important mission, we ask that our congregation pray for guidance and wisdom for the leaders of this mission so that we may extend Christ's love and helping hands to these families. Praise God that the people of St. Paul's are willing to join a new mission field to further God's Kingdom!

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Thank you to everyone who donated towards our goal of raising \$2,500 for the Habitat for Humanity Elida project! With the help of an anonymous donor(s) who matched donations during the last two weeks, St. Paul's was able to send a check for **\$5,136.05** to the Lima Area Habitat for Humanity! Many thanks to everyone who helped welcome a new family to Elida!



## A BENCH FOR CAPS!

Please help Elida Elementary with a recycle project to create new benches (and maybe even a picnic table) to be used at the new elementary school.

All kinds of plastic lids and caps will be collected, such as: snap-on's (butter tubs, coffee can lids, and yogurt lids), twist caps (medicine, drinks, milk, and detergent) spouts and flip tops.

May NOT use any metal lids or pumps with metal springs. No lids over 8 inches in diameter. This project will continue through the next school year! There are containers at the entrance into the sanctuary.



# St. Paul's College Students

## 2019/2020 COLLEGE STUDENTS

### **Joshua Guess**

*The Ohio State University - Sophomore*

Laurence Tower

Rm #0519

328 W. Lane Ave.

Columbus, OH 43201

### **Isaac McAdams**

*University of Northwestern Ohio - Freshman*

7300 Ridge Rd

Elida, OH 45807

### **Torie McAdams**

*Toledo University - Occupational Therapy*

2253 Cheltenham Rd.

Toledo, OH 43606

### **Jenson Nagy**

*Ohio University - Freshman*

104 W. Green Dr.

Rm #273

Athens, OH 45701

### **David Scannell**

*Eastern Michigan University*

24811 Pennie St.

Dearborn Heights, MI 48125

### **Emma Scannell**

*Dance*

55 Clark St.

Rm #357

Brooklyn, NY 11201




United Methodist Student Day  
Sunday, November 24

Please keep St. Paul's college students in your prayers.  
They all enjoy receiving cards and letters through out the year.

# Faith In Action

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



| <b>Worship Attendance:</b> |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| October 6, 2019            | 74 |
| October 13, 2019           | 86 |
| October 20, 2019           | 72 |
| October 27, 2019           | 77 |

| <b>Unified Ministry Giving:</b> |             | <b>Other:</b> |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| October 6, 2019                 | \$3,020.00  | \$2,294.70    |
| October 13, 2019                | \$13,133.84 | \$170.00      |
| October 20, 2019                | \$2,612.00  | \$238.86      |
| October 27, 2019                | \$1,845.00  | \$383.56      |

| <b>Sunday School Attendance</b> |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| October 6, 2019                 | 7 |
| October 13, 2019                | 3 |
| October 20, 2019                | 4 |
| October 27, 2019                | 5 |

| <b>Greeters</b>   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| November 3, 2019  | Steve & Tracy Sdao   |
| November 10, 2019 | Ellinger Family      |
| November 17, 2019 | Tony & Shirley Shoup |
| November 24, 2017 | OPEN                 |

| <b>Flower Calendar</b> |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| November 3, 2019       | Tim & Corinne Piper  |
| November 10, 2019      | Art & Linda Holman   |
| November 17, 2019      | Gary & Deb Hurd      |
| November 24, 2019      | Tony & Shirley Shoup |

| <b>Hospitality Cart</b> |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| November 3, 2019        | Book Club          |
| November 10, 2019       | Mary Irvin         |
| November 17, 2019       | Carole Grapner     |
| November 24, 2019       | Choir/Linda Holman |

## Daily Bible Readings

**Friday 11/1**

Psalm 102, 107:1-32  
2 Kings 19:1-20  
1 Corinthians 9:16-27  
Matthew 8:1-17

**Saturday 11/2**

Psalm 33, 107:33-43, 108  
2 Kings 19:21-36  
1 Corinthians 10:1-13  
Matthew 8:18-27

**Sunday 11/3**

Psalm 118, 145, 2 Kings 20:1-21  
Acts 12:1-17, Luke 7:11-17

**Monday 11/4**

Psalm 106, 2 Kings 21:1-18  
1 Corinthians 10:14-11:1  
Matthew 8:28-34

**Tuesday 11/5**

Psalm 120, 127, 2 Kings 22:1-13  
1 Corinthians 11:2, 17-22  
Matthew 9:1-8

**Wednesday 11/6**

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130  
2 Kings 22:14-23:3  
1 Corinthians 11:23-34  
Matthew 9:9-17

**Thursday 11/7**

Psalm 133, 134, 135  
2 Kings 23:4-25  
1 Corinthians 12:1-11  
Matthew 9:18-26

**Friday 11/8**

Psalm 140, 141, 142, 143  
2 Kings 23:36-24:17  
1 Corinthians 12:12-26  
Matthew 9:27-34

**Saturday 11/9**

Psalm 104, 137, 144  
Jeremiah 35:1-19  
1 Corinthians 12:27-13:3  
Matthew 9:35-10:4

**Sunday 11/10**

Psalm 111, 112, 113, 146, 147  
Jeremiah 36:1-10  
Acts 14:8-18, Luke 7:36-50

**Monday 11/11**

Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4, 7  
Jeremiah 36:11-26  
1 Corinthians 13:1-13  
Matthew 10:5-15

**Tuesday 11/12**

Psalm 5, 6, 10, 11  
Jeremiah 36:27-37:2  
1 Corinthians 14:1-12  
Matthew 10:16-23

**Wednesday 11/13**

Psalm 12, 13, 14, 119:1-24  
Jeremiah 37:3-21  
1 Corinthians 14:13-25  
Matthew 10:24-33

**Thursday 11/14**

Psalm 18, Jeremiah 38:1-13  
1 Corinthians 14:26-40  
Matthew 10:34-42

**Friday 11/15**

Psalm 16, 17, 22  
Jeremiah 38:14-28  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
Matthew 11:1-6

**Saturday 11/16**

Psalm 20, 21, 110, 116, 117  
2 Kings 25:8-26  
1 Corinthians 15:12-29  
Matthew 11:7-15

**Sunday 11/17**

Psalm 114, 115, 148, 149, 150  
Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14  
Acts 16:6-15, Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

**Monday 11/18**

Psalm 9, 15, 25  
Jeremiah 44:1-14  
1 Corinthians 15:30-41  
Matthew 11:16-24

**Tuesday 11/19**

Psalm 26, 28, 36, 39  
1 Corinthians 15:41-50  
Matthew 11:25-30

**Wednesday 11/20**

Psalm 38, 119:25-48  
1 Corinthians 15:51-58  
Matthew 12:1-14

**Thursday 11/21**

Psalm 37, Ezra 1:1-11  
1 Corinthians 16:1-9  
Matthew 12:15-21

**Friday 11/22**

Psalm 31, 35, Ezra 3:1-13  
1 Corinthians 16:10-24  
Matthew 12:22-32

**Saturday 11/23**

Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43  
Ezra 4:7, 11-24  
Philemon 1-25  
Matthew 12:33-42

**Sunday 11/24**

Psalm 63, 98, 103, Haggai 1:1-2:9  
Acts 18:24-19:7, Luke 10:25-37

**Monday 11/25**

Psalm 41, 44, 52  
Revelation 1:4-20  
Matthew 12:43-50

**Tuesday 11/26**

Psalm 45, 47, 48, Ezra 5:1-17  
Revelation 4:1-11  
Matthew 13:1-9

**Wednesday 11/27**

Psalm 53, 119:49-72, Ezra 6:1-22  
Revelation 5:1-10  
Matthew 13:10-17

**Thursday 11/28**

Psalm 59, 60, Nehemiah 1-1:11  
Revelation 5:11-6:11  
Matthew 13:18-23

**Friday 11/29**

Psalm 40, 51, 54  
Nehemiah 2:1-20  
Revelation 6:12-7:4  
Matthew 13:24-30

**Saturday 11/30**

Psalm 50, 138, 139  
Nehemiah 4:1-23  
Revelation 7:(4-8)9-17  
Matthew 13:31-35

When  
we put *God* first,  
all other things  
fall into their proper place.

# 100th Birthday Celebration



Sunday, October 13  
**Hazel Dunn and Evelyn Sarber** 100th Birthday Celebration with cake and ice cream following the worship service.





## Church History

Sunday, November 30, was a busy Sunday. Three students were confirmed on that day: Joshua Guess, Isaac McAdams, and Jenson Nagy. It was also United Methodist Student Day and five students were present to take part in the service: Stacy Alexander, Torie and Alex McAdams, David Scannell and Tahler Sdao. It was also the first Sunday in Advent. Dwain and Myrna Metzger and their helpers decorated the sanctuary beautifully for the Christmas season.

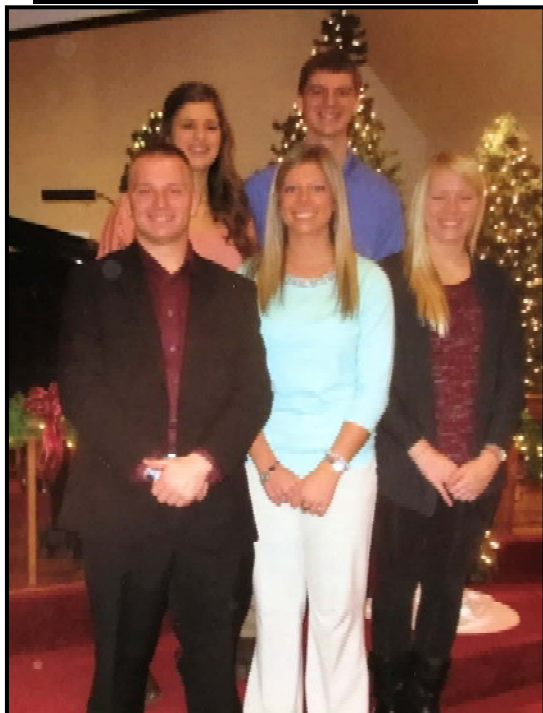
After Children's Moments, the children helped Pastor Paul bless the quilts on February 22, 2015. These 26 lap quilts were taken the next week to Lost Creek Care Center and Springview Manor. In March, Art Holman and Mike Klaus put a fresh coat of red paint on the front entrance door.

On Palm Sunday, March 29, thirteen children were present for Children's Moments. The Chancel Choir presented a cantata and Marty White was again the narrator. Pastor Paul hosted a Seder Meal in the fellowship hall on Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Present were Linda Craft, Lynda Evans, Janet Grigg, Deb and Gary Hurd, Don and Mary Irvin, Anne Laman, Bill and Esther McKinney, Cody Scannell, Barb and Greg Schade, Martha Vazquez, and Jamie and Jan Wyant.

The sanctuary was decorated with Easter lilies and banners on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2015. A delicious Easter breakfast was served by the Nurture Committee in the fellowship hall after the sunrise service. The Chancel Choir graced us with their beautiful music.

Three people transferred their membership to St. Paul's on April 19, 2015. Ginny Doseck transferred from Cartecley UMC in Ellijay, Georgia, and Roger and Jackie Henderson transferred from Trinity UMC in Plymouth, Indiana. Welcome to St. Paul's UMC!

November 30, 2014  
United Methodist Student Day



April 19, 2015  
Three people transfer membership



# Remember When...

November, 1986  
Sharing Collectibles  
Christie Steiner dolls

## COLLECTIBLES



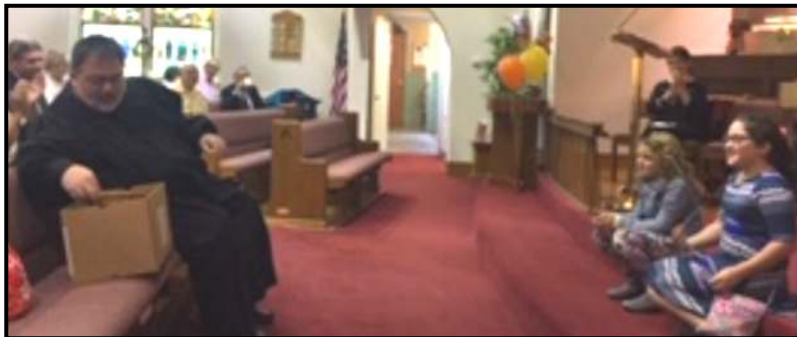
November, 1997  
Youth group playing twister



November 11, 2008  
Consecration Sunday



# Connecting With ...



Pastor Paul was surprised with Pastor Appreciation Day cards during children's moments on October 13.

Norm Grigsby was presented a plaque in recognition of dedication for over 40 years of Meritorious Service to the American Township.

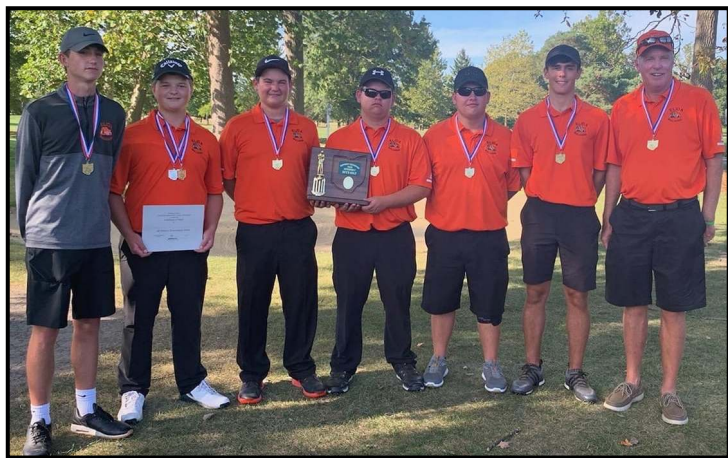


Ted Lennox, Marla Scannell's Father, handing out candy to trick or treaters at Primrose Assisted Living.



Congratulations to Art and Linda Holman on being chosen as Grand Marshals of the 2019 Elida Homecoming.

Congratulations to coach Denny Thompson and the Elida Golf team for placing 9th in the District I State Golf Championship.



# The People of St. Paul's

## Thank You

*Dear St. Paul's Friends,  
We deeply appreciate your  
kind expressions of sympathy  
after the death of Denny's  
mother, Mary Alice  
Thompson. We are blessed to  
have such a thoughtful and  
supporting church family.*

*With sincere thanks,  
Denny and Janna Thompson  
Family*

*Crafty Creatures,  
I'd like to thank you for the  
beautiful lap throw given to  
me at the "Honor Flight". It  
was a humble experience  
sharing this day with fellow  
Veterans and your special  
gift made it even more  
special.*

*Thanks Again!  
Neil Jettinghoff*



## Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital  
Norm Grigsby

Homebound Members  
Hazel Dunn  
Glenna Kohli

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement  
Janet & Gary Grigg

In the Military & Missions  
Oliver Fessler  
Nathan Stewart

## With Heartfelt Sympathy

Our Sympathy to Denny and Janna Thompson family on the passing of Denny's mother, Mary Alice Thompson on October 4. A memorial service was held on October 12 with pastor Paul Scannell officiating. Cards may be sent to Denny and Janna at 1050 Buckskin Trail, Elida, OH, 45807.

A group of St. Paul's travelers went to the Hot Air Balloon Festival in Albuquerque, New Mexico. While there they met up with Jenni Theodore Jankovsky , who now lives there and enjoyed an evening meal with her.



**Meetings**

November 4, 2019  
**PPR Meeting..6:30 PM**

November 5, 2019  
**Trustees...7:00 PM**

November 6, 2019  
**Worship Mtg.10:00 AM**

November 11, 2019  
**Finance Mtg..7:00 PM**

**No Ad Council**

**No Missions**

**Sundays**  
**Prayer...9:30 AM**  
**Fellowship...9:30 AM**  
**Worship...10:00 AM**

**Wednesdays**  
**Chancel Choir..7:00 PM**

# November 2019

**Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

|  |   |                          |  |           |  |   |
|--|---|--------------------------|--|-----------|--|---|
|  |   |                          |  |           | <b>1</b><br>Margie Best<br>Cody Warris                   | <b>2</b>                                |
|  |   |                          |  |           | <b>3</b><br>Holly Cook<br>Jacinda Perry<br>Dalton Poling | <b>4</b>                                |
| <b>10</b><br>Kylee Loose   | <b>11</b><br>Virginia Hollar<br>Jenson Nagy | <b>12</b><br>Logan House | <b>13</b><br>Dillon Staas  | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b><br>Amber Moorman              |
| <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b><br>Dennis Bowsher                 | <b>19</b><br>Gary Grigg  | <b>20</b><br>Brinley Edwards<br>Brody Edwards<br>Rudy Segovia<br>Marty White | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b><br>Jason Lane<br>Christie Lewis<br>Tony Lozano | <b>23</b><br>Piper Kinney<br>Tony Shoup |
| <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b>                                   | <b>26</b>                | <b>27</b><br>Terry Bok   | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>  | <b>30</b>                               |

**NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

Justin & Marisa Kruse  
November 4

Bruce & Tammy Segovia  
November 16; 40 yrs.



# Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

## Tandykake

*By Kathy White*

| Ingredients |                | Instructions   |
|-------------|----------------|--|
| 1 cup       | Milk , scalded | Preheat oven to 350 degrees.<br>Pour scalding milk over butter, let cool.<br>Add remaining ingredients together:<br>*Mixture will be on the dry, thick side.<br>Add the milk mixture. Pour into greased jelly roll pan.<br>Bake for 25 minutes. Top will be slightly brown.<br>Remove from oven. While hot, carefully spread peanut butter over the top. (Peanut butter will begin to melt and be easier to spread as it warms.) Use as much peanut butter as you wish.<br>Refrigerate until cold.<br>Melt a large Hershey bar, with rubber spatula spread over peanut butter layer. Spread quickly before chocolate begins to harden. |
| 2 Tbl.      | Butter         |  |
| 2 cups      | Flour          |  |
| 2 cups      | Sugar          |  |
| 2 tsp.      | Baking powder  |  |
| 1/2 tsp.    | Vanilla        |  |
| 4           | Eggs           |  |
|             | Peanut butter  |  |
| 7 oz.       | Hershey bar    |  |
|             |                |  |

## Turtle Cake

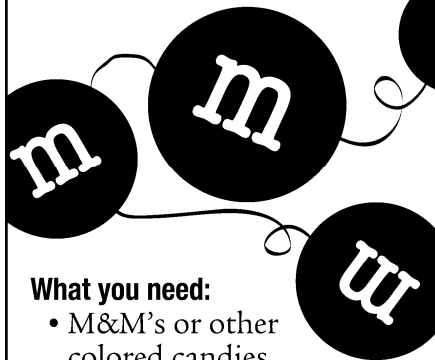
*By Tracy Sdao*

| Ingredients     |                           | Instructions  |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---|
| 1 pkg           | German Chocolate Cake Mix | Preheat oven to 350 degrees.<br>Mix German chocolate cake mix according to the directions on the box.<br>Pour 1/2 of batter into 9x13 baking dish.<br>Bake for 15 minutes.<br>Melt together caramels, milk, and butter.<br>Stir and pour over top of baked cake.<br>Top cake with remaining batter and sprinkle chocolate chips on top.<br>Bake for 25-30 minutes or until well done. |
| 1 (14 oz) pkg.  | Caramels                  |   |
| 1 can           | Eagle Brand milk          |   |
| 1 stick         | Butter                    |   |
| 1 (12 oz.) pkg. | Chocolate Chips           |   |
|                 |                           |   |
|                 |                           |   |

# KIDZ KORNER

## GRATITUDE game

Start a fun tradition by playing this game on Thanksgiving.



**What you need:**

- M&M's or other colored candies
- A bowl
- The list below (adapt the colors, as needed)

**Red:** a need God has provided for

**Orange:** a gift you've received

**Yellow:** something you've recently learned

**Green:** something in nature

**Blue:** a special memory

**Brown:** someone you love

**What you do:**

1. One at a time, people pick a candy and share what they're thankful for (according to the color).
2. Pass the bowl around and continue reflecting on God's goodness until all the candy is gone!



## A feast of praise

Throughout the Bible, God's people give thanks and praise for his goodness.



*Directions: Draw lines to match the scriptures (all NIV) with the correct speaker.*

"I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3

Hannah

"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." Luke 1:46-47

David

"He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him." Exodus 15:2

Mary

"My heart rejoices in the LORD." 1 Samuel 2:1

Paul

"I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30

Moses

Answers: Philippians 1:3, Paul; Luke 1:46-47, Mary; Exodus 15:2, Moses; 1 Samuel 2:1, Hannah; Psalm 69:30, David

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

105 E. Main St.  
Elida, OH 45807

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**Our Facebook page**  
**Elida St. Paul's Church**  
  
**Twitter Account**  
**@ESPCHURCH**



# Living Our Faith

## Thanks To God

Thanks for prayers that thou hast answered,  
Thanks for what thou dost deny.  
Thanks for storms that I have weathered,  
Thanks for all thou dost supply.  
Thanks for pain, and thanks for pleasure.  
Thanks for comfort in despair.  
Thanks for grace that none can measure,  
Thanks for love beyond compare.  
Thanks for roses by the wayside,  
Thanks for thorns their stems contain.  
Thanks for home and thanks for fireside,  
Thanks for hope, that sweet refrain.  
Thanks for joy and thanks for sorrow,  
Thanks for heav'nly peace with thee.  
Thanks for hope in the tomorrow,  
Thanks through all eternity!

—August Storm, 1891

## A Little Child Will Lead Them

Isaiah 11 prophesies hope for the world: wisdom, understanding, righteousness, justice, faithfulness, peace. In the words “a little child will lead them” (v. 6), Christians hear a foretelling of God’s coming to earth as the child Jesus. Today, children — Jesus’ examples of fitness for God’s kingdom (Mark 10:14) — often lead in showing love.

At age 11, avid baker Michael Platt opened a pastry shop in Maryland to benefit homeless people; for desserts sold, he gives an equal number to shelter residents. Eric Schubert, 18, of New Jersey, uses his genealogy research skills to help strangers — more than 1,000 so far — find long-lost family. In Pennsylvania, Neijae Graham-Henries became a certified barber at age 7 to give free haircuts to kids who couldn’t afford them. (Stories shared on GoodNewsNetwork.org.)

May these children inspire us to use our passions and skills for good, in the name of the Christ-child, who grew up and taught us to serve others in love.