

# St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 34, Issue 9

September, 2011

St. Paul's United  
Methodist Church

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Dear Friends,

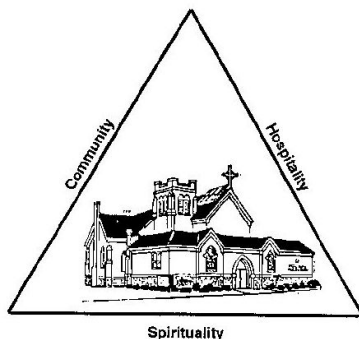
It seems we have many times to begin anew throughout the year. New Years Day, birthdays, anniversaries in general. Then there are the times in the Christian year that we have a chance to start over: Baptism, Advent, and Easter. The seasons are also times for new beginnings, and fall is a season when the culture and the church has opportunities for new beginnings. Children and youth, and teachers, go back to school for a new school year (and this year a new high school in the community!). Businesses get down to preparing for their busiest seasons of the year. And the church starts with new energy as Sunday school resumes, activities start up again, and people return from vacation and lazy days of summer. New beginnings are exciting.

In September, we have a chance for a new beginning at St. Paul's. We will have a new way of running our Administrative Council. And we will kick off our new strategic ministry initiatives that were developed from ReFocus. One initiative is for St. Paul's to take an active role in the development of a community center for Elida. The other is for St. Paul's to begin to offer opportunities for senior citizens in the community to come together for fellowship and support.

We will need people willing to help with these initiatives, so pray about what your call is to reach out to our Elida Community through these ministries. We will share more about the initiatives and where we are with each of them at our mission celebration Sunday on September 25, as we celebrate what we have done in missions and what we hope to do in the coming year.

It's a new year. Let's work together to make it a year that God is active through us in Elida.

See you in church.  
Peace,  
Pastor Ruth Solo



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## Thought for the Month:

Reconciliation begins not first with others but with ourselves: by allowing Jesus to clean us—to forgive us, to love us.

-Mother Teresa



**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.

# Congratulations

Congratulations to Megan Bible, who will become an art teacher at London Middle School in London, OH. Here's wishing Megan a terrific first year of teaching!



**Our Biblical Purpose Statement:**  
 Elida St. Paul's United Methodist Church exists as God's people embracing His grace through humble service to all.

## Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



### Labor Day

**LABOR DAY**  
 September 5  
 Office Closed

Worship time will continue at **10:00 am** through the fall. The Administrative Council will assess how this time is working at the end of this calendar year.

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Secretary:	Jone Lane
Choir Director:	Judy Chaffins
Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Youth Director:	Corinne Piper
Custodian:	Dave Decker

**Lima Area Methodist Men's Breakfast**  
 The next Men's breakfast will be held at **St Paul's** **Saturday, September 10th at 8:00 AM.**



**Coins for Communion**  
 Coins for Communion on September 4, 2011, will benefit the **Samaritan House** in Lima.

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



THE NEW  
ELIDA HIGH SCHOOL  
BUILDING DEDICATION

Sunday, September 25th  
at 2:00 PM.

The 2011-2012 school year will begin with classes in the new high school for the first time.

**HOSTS Volunteers Needed**

**HOSTS (Helping One Student to Succeed)** is a volunteer reading mentoring program at Elida Elementary. Volunteers are needed throughout each school day to help students with reading. Students work with a volunteer for 30 minutes every week. Training is provided and HOSTS teachers are available to answer questions during the lesson. These students benefit academically and socially from the time they spend with their mentors.

**Shirley Shoup** and **Missy Bennett** are the HOSTS teachers. If you are interested in becoming a mentor or have any questions please contact Shirley at (419)516-2258 or at school (419)331-7901. There will be training on **September 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.** or a different time can be arranged for you. We have some dedicated mentors from St. Paul's, including Pastor Ruth. We would love to have you join us!

First day of school for  
**Elida** students is  
**August 30, 2011.**

*Upcoming Events for St. Paul's*



calling All Singers!

September 11  
Choir and Music  
Dedication

**New Study to start in October**

*"Enough"*  
*"Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity"*  
by Adam Hamilton.

Beginning Sunday, **October 2**, Pastor Ruth will offer this study immediately after church for the month of October. We will meet, in general, 10 minutes after the worship services end for approximately one hour.

The study is the basis for our Stewardship Campaign this year, which will also be during the month of October. So if you would like to discuss and share your thoughts on what you hear in worship, come be a part of this five week study.

The Chancel Choir will begin practice on **Wednesday September 7, 2011, at 7:00 PM** in the choir room under new director **Judy Chaffins.**

All who wish to raise their voices and sing praises to God are welcome!

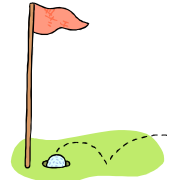
# Brad Joseph Golf Outing

## *4th Annual Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing a Success*

Thank you to those persons in our congregation who played golf and volunteered to help with the **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Bradley W. Joseph Memorial Golf Outing** July 23rd. **St. Paul UMC** sponsored a hole at the outing. Golfers from St. Paul were Larry and Shirley Moser, Don Chaffins and Gene Craft. Volunteers from St. Paul were Dan Best, Norm Grigsby and Tim Piper. Congrats to **Shirley Moser** for winning the Women's Longest Drive award! While it was hot, all who participated had fun. Proceeds go to the **Brad Joseph Memorial Scholarship** for medical missions to 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries. Previous scholarship winners went on medical missions to Uganda, Kenya, Haiti and The Dominican Republic. Thanks to all involved in the golf outing!



St. Paul's Foursome  
L-R:  
Larry Moser, Don Chaffins, Gene Craft, and Shirley Moser



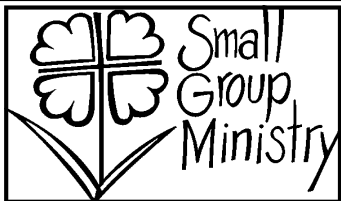
Golf Outing Volunteers  
L-R:  
Tim Piper, Norm Grigsby, Dan Best



Women's Longest Drive Award Winner  
Shirley Moser



# The Business of Church



## Crafty Creatures Small Group

The Crafty Creatures meet for two hours on Wednesday evenings. Each week we have a time of personal sharing, devotion, and fellowship. Some are knitting and crocheting hats mittens for our annual tree in December. Some are knitting prayer shawls. Others are making lap quilts for our shut-ins and people in nursing homes. Next we are decorating canvas bags for the school kits. Despite not taking the summer off, we are always anxious and excited for Wednesday evening to come around!

## Healthy Living Small Group Ministry

Do you like to diet? Do you feel pressured to live up to the world's standards of beauty? Do you feel like a failure when you don't have daily exercise or devotional time?

We in the Healthy Living Small Group Ministry don't like any of those things either. We think learning and living in a healthy manner emotionally, physically, mentally, and spiritually are goals to grow into not absolutes that you win or fail.

Meeting on Monday evenings, this group shares our lives from the week, a devotional, a little healthy information, and some exercise time—video walking, mall walking, outside walking. With prayer partners and with the group as a whole we support each other through tough times, celebrate our joys and work toward individual goals and start to find ways to be servants to our community.

After a summer of vacations, heat, mall walking, and down time, we'll be back at the church in September, continuing to find our way to God's definition of health and well-being, not the world's.

## Small Group Ministry

BIG IS BETTER!! That is the word on "the street". We should have the biggest and be part of the biggest whatever's. As the groups we belong to become bigger, we become smaller. We become lost. We become lonely for others to share.

Christianity is not really made for BIG. Christianity is made for SMALL. It has always grown through small groups, cell churches, women's circles, Sunday school classes. These small groups of people allow those in it to become friends, to share interests, joys, problems, ministry. They allow those not involved in Sunday morning worship time to get to know people so they can feel more comfortable going into a new setting on Sundays. Those "outside" the church begin to realize that people "inside" the church are just like them—trying to live life daily—but doing it with an added joy and knowledge of God as a Friend.

Last year we at St. Paul UMC started a ministry designed around small groups of people with similar interests. Five of those groups have continued to meet through the year: Crafty Creatures, Chancel Choir, Cars, Healthy Living, , and a Sunday Morning Class. The groups meet in homes, at church, at restaurants, at the track. Members have grown in friendships, interests, devotions, and mission. Those groups will continue to meet this fall.

We would like to start some new small groups for others in the church. These might be designed around a shared interest, a shared ministry/outreach, a shared age range of participants, a particular location. The Christian Education committee will be putting together some ideas for new small groups such as: Men's and Women's Bible studies in community centers, outdoor activities, The Artist's Way, sports get-togethers, card groups, and cooking groups. We encourage everyone in the congregation to let us know of your interest in joining. Please call the church office and give us some interests, some good times and places, or just your name and number and we'll be back in contact with you.

As Methodists, we are to continue to grow spiritually. That doesn't mean the lessons have to be boring! Join a small group and grow together!

# Faith In Action

<b>Worship Attendance:</b>	
July 31, 2011	74
August 7, 2011	75
August 14, 2011	78
August 20, 2011	39

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

<b>Unified Ministry Giving:</b>		<b>Other:</b>
July 31, 2011	\$1,997.00	\$310.00
August 7, 2011	\$3,215.00	\$1,808.31
August 14, 2011	\$2,782.00	\$404.00
August 20, 2011	\$1,357.00	\$287.88

<b>Greeters</b>	
September 4, 2011	Ruth Burgoon & Susan Nartker
September 11, 2011	Steve & Tracy Sdao
September 18, 2011	Scott & Gail Fessler
September 25, 2011	Tim & Corinne Piper



<b>Flowers:</b>	
September 4, 2011	Dwain & Myrna Metzger
September 11, 2011	Lynda Evans
September 18, 2011	Jerry Crates
September 25, 2011	Bill & Esther McKinney

**Visit The United  
 Methodist Website at:  
[www.umw.org](http://www.umw.org)**

# Consulting the Manual



**Bible Readings for  
Revised Common Lectionary  
Year A**

**Week of September 4**

Color : Green  
*Old Testament:*  
 Exodus 12:1-14  
 Psalm 149  
*New Testament:*  
 Romans 13:8-14  
 Matthew 18:15-20

**Week of September 11  
 Grandparents' Day**

Color: Green  
*Old Testament:*  
 Exodus 14:19-31  
 Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21  
*New Testament:*  
 Romans 14:1-12  
 Matthew 18:21-35



**Week of September 18**

Color: Green  
*Old Testament:*  
 Exodus 16:2-15  
 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45  
*New Testament:*  
 Philippians 1:21-30  
 Matthew 20:1-16

**Week of September 25  
 Christian Education Sunday**

Color: Green  
*Old Testament:*  
 Exodus 17:1-7  
 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16  
*New Testament:*  
 Philippians 2:1-13  
 Matthew 21:23-32

For more detailed information on the  
 Revised Common Lectionary,  
 please visit:  
[www.gbod.org](http://www.gbod.org)

# Missions

## 2011 Summer Mission Project

*Thank you to everyone who helped with and donated to our 2011 Summer Mission Project, on South Harrison Street in Lima. Donations totaled \$2,651.00. We are still accepting donations to avoid depleting our missions and ramps fund. Thank you to our friends at Elida Immanuel UMC and Rockport UMC for helping us on the project! A big 'Thank-You' to Bill Degen who donated and delivered a load of stone for the porch. Also, a big 'Thank-You' to St. Rita's Medical Center for a generous donation of \$500.00 to the mission project. And lastly, a big 'Thank-You' to Jerry Stemen for donating his time in constructing the concrete porch on the mission house.*





# Missions

## Another Summer Project Ramp Building

On August 3, 4, and 5, St. Paul's continued its summer mission work in this same 241 Harrison St. area (east Lima) with the construction of two handicap ramps. Work commenced about 5 p.m. each evening although Jamie Wyant purchased all building materials, performed some preliminary deckwork, and loaded the materials and preliminary decking into his work trailer for transport to the jobsites prior to 5 p.m. each evening.

Work on the first ramp didn't beat sundown and, despite some work August 3 under the lights, was completed August 4. The second ramp, which included three boardwalks, ended successfully after about five hours each evening on August 4 & 5.

Many thanks to **Steve Sdao, Jamie Wyant, Dennis & Shara Bowsher, Larry Moser, Jeff Gast & Lindsay Foust (I.U.M.), and Marty White** for their efforts with this particular project. Funding for this work was through St. Paul's and outside sources.



## MISSIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Your Missions Committee met June 21 and August 16, 2011. Items of interest:

**Denny & Carole Grapner, Larry & Shirley Moser, and Kathy White** represented St. Paul's during our 'Fifth Friday' commitment at **Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen** on S. Central Ave. in Lima on July 29;

**Larry & Shirley Moser, Don Chaffins, and Gene Craft** were the St. Paul's foursome in this year's **Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing** at Colonial Golfers Club near Allen East on July 23. **Dan Best, Norm Grigsby, and Tim Piper** assisted with Outing Operations as volunteer workers from St. Paul's. Brad's Uncle John Fleming made a presentation to our congregation prior to Sunday service June 5. St. Paul's also sponsored a hole for \$100. Coins for Communion July 3, 2011, netted \$139.38 for the outing, too.

July 11-15: **Annual Summer Missions Project** at 241 Harrison St., Lima as reported by *The Lima News* August 13, 2011. Two ramp projects in this same east Lima vicinity August 3, 4, and 5. St. Paul's congregation made a difference with time, talent, and financial giving – **thank you!**

St. Paul's continues to be an active sponsor and participant with the L.A.M.M. – **Lima Area Methodist Men's** group as well as the **5 Loaves Food Pantry** at Allentown U.M.C.;

**Annual school & health kits** initiative got an early start this year and donations are very strong;

St. Paul's donated the items for **five flood relief buckets** that Pastor Ruth delivered to Leipsic August 11. This effort was to replenish flood buckets that our NW Plains District provides to areas in need nationwide;

Our donations for '**coins for communion**' (Sunday) continue to be strong and steady: May, U.M.C.H. - \$107.63; June, Lima Chapter American Cancer Society - \$99.70; **and \$5 on the 5<sup>th</sup>** for May - \$114, and July - \$95;

Another missions project is in the works for Sept. 23-25 at **Camp Wesley**, Bellefontaine, OH;

Our Sunday School's collection for **Heifer International Hunger Relief** May-June, \$196.20, along with an April recognition certificate;

May 8 **Native American Sunday**, \$40.00; June 19 **Peace with Justice Sunday**, \$36.00.



# Remember When...



Medical Mission Trips  
to Nuevo Progreso,  
Mexico



2004 Trip included  
Shara and Kim  
Bowsher and  
Brad Joseph

2005 Trip with  
Brad Joseph



2006 Trip with  
Dennis and Shara Bowsher



# Connecting With ...

ReFocus Summit #3  
March, 2011



## Remember in Prayer

*Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital*  
Chris Bowsher  
Lavonne Segovia

*Homebound Members*  
Hazel Dunn  
Edna Osman  
Jean Redd  
Gladys Sherrick

*Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement*  
Joanna Hurd  
Rodney Lee  
Rick Scholfield

*In the Military & Missions*  
Jason Stanley



**Visit The United Methodist Communications website : [www.umcom.org](http://www.umcom.org)**

This website offers book reviews, music reviews, and web ministry information among other relevant and interesting links.

# The People of St. Paul's

# Thank You!

*Dear St. Paul's Family,  
Thank you so much for your prayers, concern, cards, and thoughtful expressions during and after my knee procedure. Thank you also, **Pastor Ruth**, for coming to pray with me before the surgery. **God bless each of you.***

**Jan Wyant**

*Thank you all for your thoughts, prayers and cards during the illness and death of my grandmother Marcelle Hefner. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.*

**Scott and Gail Fessler**

*Dear friends of St. Pauls,  
We want to thank you with all our hearts for the thoughts, prayers, cards, and gifts while Jo and then both of us were laid up. **Judy's** supper came at a perfect time, **Pastor Ruth's** visits were appreciated and just knowing you cared did much for Jo's morale. I miss my group and am looking forward to joining them full time soon, and I appreciated the throw that was blessed before all of you - that is such a special thing. Please keep the prayers and thoughts coming and hopefully things will get back to "normal" soon.*

**Love and blessings,  
Wilbur and Jo Hurd**



**In Sympathy**

We extend our sympathy to **Jim and Phyllis Hines**. Phyllis's sister-in-law, **Karen Piper**, passed away on July 23, 2011, at OSU Medical Center in Columbus. Karen was married to Phyllis's brother, Ron. Services were held in Celina on July 27th. Cards will reach Phyllis at **2601 Whippoorwill Avenue, Elida, OH 45807**.

Our sympathy goes to **Scott and Gail Fessler**. Scott's grandmother, **Marcelle Hefner**, passed away on August 2, 2011, at the age of 89. Services were held on Saturday, August 6th. Cards will reach Scott at **206 E. Main St., Elida, OH 45807**.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of **Katie Phillips**, who passed away August 5, 2011, after a courageous battle with cancer. Katie became a member of St. Paul's in 1989. **Pastor Ruth** officiated at her funeral on Tuesday, August 9th.



**NEW ADDRESS:**

Wilbur and Joanna Hurd  
3500 W. Elm St. Lima, 45807.  
Email is: [WHURD@roadrunner.com](mailto:WHURD@roadrunner.com).



**Prayer List Updates  
Please Contact  
Lavonne Segovia**

**Meetings**

TBA , 2011  
**PPR...7:15 PM**

September 6, 2011  
**Trustees...7:00 PM**

September 7, 2011  
**Worship Team..6 PM**

September 12, 2011  
**Finance...7:00 PM**

September 12, 2011  
**Ad Council...8:00 PM**

September 20, 2011  
**Missions...7:00 PM**

**Wednesday Evenings**  
**Chancel Choir...7:00 PM**

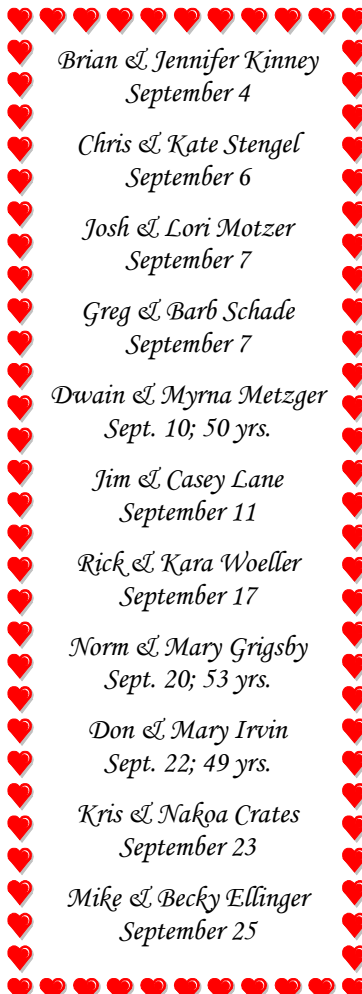
# September 2011

August 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Sundays</b> Prayer...9:30 AM Fellowship...9:30 AM Worship...10:00 AM				<b>1</b> Avery Chambers	<b>2</b> Kathy White	<b>3</b> Reggie McAdams
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Gene Craft  Stephen Kohli  Lindsey Reiff	<b>6</b> Dwain Metzger    <b>Trustees</b>	<b>7</b> Logan Smith    <b>Worship Team</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Janet Grigg	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Alex Ross    <b>Finance Ad Council</b>	<b>13</b> John Kuenzli	<b>14</b> Dorothy Banks	<b>15</b> Ashley Edwards	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> Bruce Segovia	<b>19</b> Evan Bowsher  Jackson Bowsher  Jordan Wyant	<b>20</b>    <b>Missions</b>	<b>21</b> Nathan Stewart	<b>22</b> Oliver Fessler	<b>23</b> Karlyn Mawhorr	<b>24</b> Troy Selover  Tyler Smith
<b>25</b> Val Kuenzli  Helen Staas	<b>26</b> Carl Rabley	<b>27</b> Dottie Foster  Alex McAdams  Ann Stewart	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Rob Craft  Bruce Kizer  Jim Lane	<b>30</b>	

*Anniversaries*


 Brian & Jennifer Kinney  
 September 4

Chris & Kate Stengel  
 September 6

Josh & Lori Motzer  
 September 7

Greg & Barb Schade  
 September 7

Dwain & Myrna Metzger  
 Sept. 10; 50 yrs.

Jim & Casey Lane  
 September 11

Rick & Kara Woeller  
 September 17

Norm & Mary Grigsby  
 Sept. 20; 53 yrs.

Don & Mary Irvin  
 Sept. 22; 49 yrs.

Kris & Nakoa Crates  
 September 23

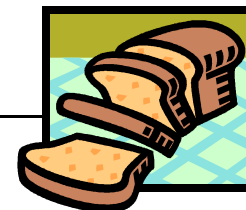
Mike & Becky Ellinger  
 September 25

# Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

## Apple Bread

*Traditional Amish Recipe*

Ingredients		Instructions
1 1/2 cup	flour	In medium bowl, mix together dry ingredients.  Stir in apples. Set aside.  In small bowl, combine milk, oil, and egg until blended.  Add to dry ingredients; stir just until moistened.  Pour into greased loaf pan.  Bake at 350 degrees for 45-50 minutes.
1/4 cup	sugar	
2 tsp.	baking powder	
1/2 tsp.	cinnamon	
1/4 tsp.	salt	
1/8 tsp.	nutmeg	
1 cup	apples, shredded	
1/2 cup	milk	
1/4 cup	vegetable oil	
1	egg, beaten	



## Taffy-Apple Salad

*Traditional Amish Recipe*

Ingredients		Instructions
3-4 cups	diced apples	Beat egg; add flour and vinegar to egg and mix well.  Drain pineapple and save juice. Add juice and sugar to egg mixture and mix well.  Heat over low heat until "gravy-like" thick.  Cool mixture. Then add Cool Whip, mixing it in well.  Add apples, pineapple, marshmallows, and peanuts. Mix well.  Refrigerate overnight.
3 cups	mini marshmallows	
1 1/2 cups	salted peanuts	
8 oz.	Cool Whip	
20 oz. can	crushed pineapple	
1 Tbl.	flour	
1/2 Tbl.	vinegar	
1/2 cup	sugar	
1	egg, beaten	



# KIDZ KORNER

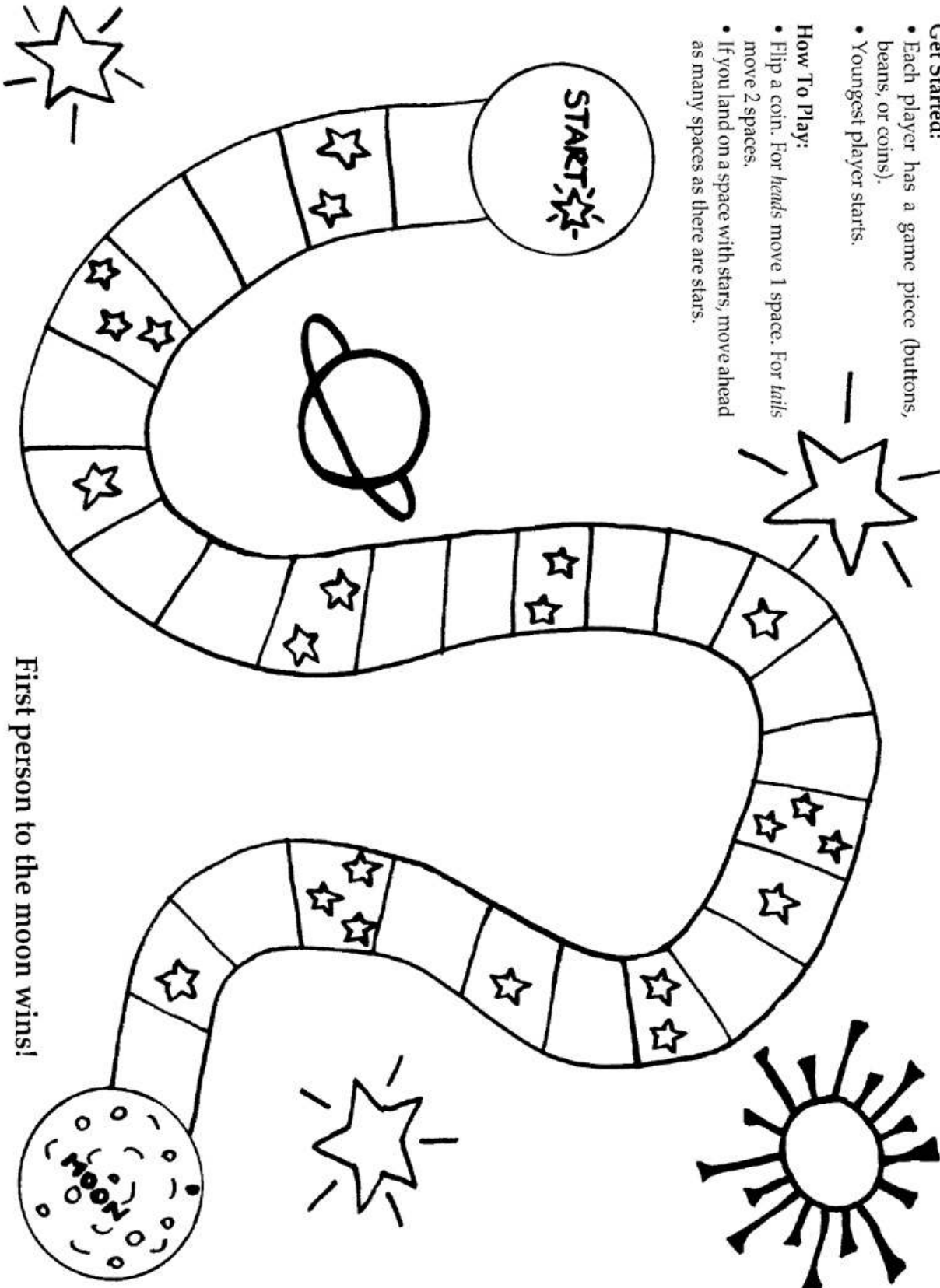
## Walk on the Moon Game

### Get Started:

- Each player has a game piece (buttons, beans, or coins).
- Youngest player starts.

### How To Play:

- Flip a coin. For *heads* move 1 space. For *tails* move 2 spaces.
- If you land on a space with stars, move ahead as many spaces as there are stars.



First person to the moon wins!

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

105 E. Main St.  
Elida, OH 45807

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**Our Web Address:**  
**[www.elidastpaulschurch.org](http://www.elidastpaulschurch.org)**

# September 2011



## Living Our Faith

### Exodus –

#### The Story of the Way Out

During August and September this year many churches read from the book of Exodus, which contains some of the Bible's oldest stories. We meet Moses. He was born as a Hebrew slave, but through a surprising twist of fate, he was raised by the Princess of Egypt! You can read about this in Exodus 1:8-2:10. What do you think it might have been like to be young Moses?

When Moses grew up, he was troubled by the way the

Egyptians oppressed the Hebrew people, and this got him into some trouble that forced him to run away. You can read what happened next in Exodus 3:1-15. If you were Moses, what do you think you might be feeling as you saw the burning bush and heard God speak to you?

God asked Moses to do something that was very difficult. God wanted Moses to go to Pharaoh, the most powerful person in the world, and demand the freedom of the Hebrew people. Moses didn't think he was the right person for the job,

but God let Moses know that he wasn't going alone. It was not through Moses' power and might that the people would be freed – but through God's power and might.

And so, in God's name, Moses and his brother Aaron went to Pharaoh. Read Exodus 7:14-10:29 to learn about the nine plagues experienced by Pharaoh and the people of Egypt. Which plague would have been the worst for you to experience? Which plague do you think was the most awesome, showing God's power?