

# St. Paul's Epistle

~ An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples ~

Volume 31, Issue 4

April, 2008

St. Paul's United  
Methodist Church

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Rev. Ruth Solo

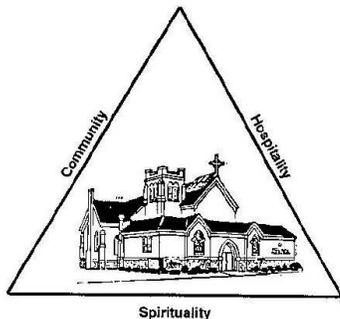
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Dear Friends at St. Paul's,

Have you noticed the words over the front door as you go out of church? It says, "You are now entering the mission field." As you leave the church through that front door, you step outside and you are where all the people who need the love of God live, work, and play.

Sometimes, you can see them. It may be a family who are new to the community moving into a house at the end of a street. It could be the man you see walking into Lima every day, his feet dragging as he makes his way back home to Elida every evening. It could be the kids walking in the alley with nothing to occupy their time except whatever mischief they can find in the moment.

More often, you don't see them. They're elderly who live behind closed curtains and locked doors out of fear. They are young single mothers who are too ashamed of their situation to ask neighbors for help. They are children who struggle to read and complete math problems. They are young adults wondering why they can't seem to find their way in life. They are God's children who are hurting, needing, crying, and feeling that nobody cares what happens to them.

As those who follow the way of Jesus, who have professed belief in the risen Lord, it's up to us to let others know that God loves them, wants the best for their lives, and through us, will give them the helping hand they need to become all that God meant them to be in this life. How do you hear God calling you to active faith? In what ways can St. Paul's Church be the heart, hands, head and feet of Christ in our community? Let me know what you think, or stop someone on our Administrative Council and share your ideas. God is calling us to active faith. Are we listening?

See you in church.  
*Pastor Ruth Solo*



Thought for the Month:  
Wisdom is oftentimes  
nearer when we stoop  
than when we soar.

~ William Wordsworth



## April Youth Calendar

April 6, 2008	No Youth
April 13, 2008	Pastor Todd
April 20, 2008	Youth 5-7 PM
April 27, 2008	Youth 5-7 PM

*Congratulations to **Aaron Thompson** and his **University of Washington at St. Louis** basketball team. Washington of Missouri claimed its first **NCAA Division III** title on Saturday, March 22, with a 90-68 victory over defending champion Amherst.*

*Aaron scored 19 points and was named to the all-tournament team. Aaron also scored 15 points in the semifinal victory over Hope. This was Washington's second straight appearance in the final four. They finished third last year.*

*Aaron is a sophomore at the University of Washington, St. Louis. He is the son of **Denny and Janna Thompson**.*

**Saturday April 5th at 12:00 PM.  
Youth set up room in Fellowship Hall.**

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



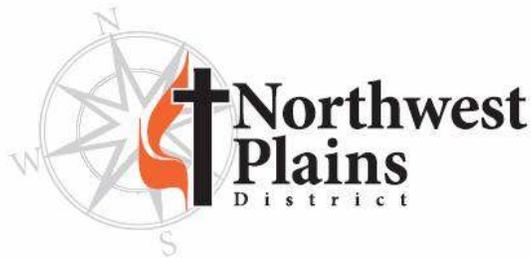
<b>St. Paul's Epistle</b>	
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Editor:	Judy Chaffins
Secretary:	Gail Fessler
Secretary:	Jone Lane
Music Director:	Mary Kay Pease
Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Youth Director:	Doug Fox
Custodian:	Sunny Day Maids

**Men's  
Breakfast  
April 5, 2008  
Allentown  
UMC**

**See  
Page 11  
for  
further  
details.**

April 2008						
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			

Newsletter  
deadline:  
the **20th**  
of each month



**Growing Disciple Makers**  
**910 E. Third St., Ottawa, OH 45875**  
**Telephone:**  
**419.523.9901/800.589.7828**  
**Fax: 419.523.3479**  
**Email [nwplains@wocumc.org](mailto:nwplains@wocumc.org)**

## Northwest Plains District Spring Conference

**"Growing World-Changing Disciples"**  
**Keynote Speakers: Dan Glover and**  
**Claudia Lavy**  
**Sunday, April 20, 2008**  
**3 PM at Trinity UMC, Delphos, Ohio**

As you probably already know by now, our District superintendent Tom Tumblin will be leaving us to accept a position at Asbury Seminary in Wilmore Kentucky. Tom has faithfully served the United Methodist Church in a variety of capacities and his new full time position at Asbury will enable him to influence our denomination at its very root – the seminary. Halleluiah!!

I am writing this letter to invite you to the upcoming Spring Conference where you can be a part of thanking Tom for this faithful service as District Superintendent

- particularly through this time of transition. We are asking anyone who would like to share a note of thanks/appreciation to send it to the Northwest Plains District Office, 910 E. Third St., Ottawa, Ohio 45875 – Attention Sandy. We will present these to Tom at the District Conference after which there will be a reception. No disrespect to Tom but Rev. David Howell – pastor at Delphos Trinity and host for the District Conference – has insured a good turnout based on the fact that there is going to be CREAMERY ICE CREAM served during the fellowship time.

Spring Conference will be held on Sunday, April 20, beginning at 3 p.m. at Delphos Trinity United Methodist Church located at 211 E. Third St., Delphos, Ohio. See you there!!

Randy Gardner  
 Chair – Superintendency Team

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



### St. Paul's Chicken Barbeque

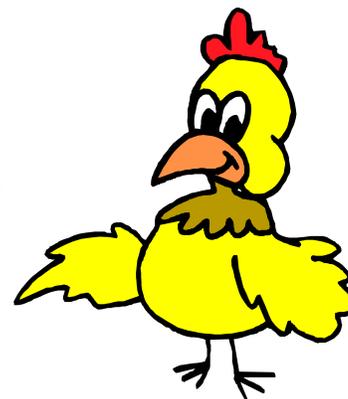
Saturday, April 19, 2008

5-7:00 PM

Tickets are \$7.00

Menu: 1/2 Harlan's  
 chicken, homemade  
 potato salad, dinner roll,  
 applesauce,  
 dessert, drink

Walk-in, Dine-in,  
 Carry-out  
 419-339-3801



# The Heart of Church

## Greeters

April 6	Eleanor Klingler & Carol Lee
April 13	Brian & Angie Nartker
April 20	Howard & Karen Foltz
April 27	Gary & Dee Johnson

## Nursery Volunteers

April 6	Tracy & Tahler Sdao
April 13	Open
April 20	Corinne Piper
April 27	Janna & Aric Thompson

At a vacation Bible school in Sacramento, California, the leaders were talking about the lives of various people in the early church. In telling the story of Stephen (Acts 7:54-60), one of the leaders did not want to shock or upset the young children by saying that Stephen was martyred, and so she simply said, "Sometimes, being a follower of Jesus is risky. One of the people in the Bible, Stephen, got hurt because of his faith." A young child interrupted and said, "He didn't get hurt. He got dead."

You really shouldn't say "I love you" unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget.

— Jessica, age 8



**Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.**

*A Reminder:  
Childcare is  
available during the  
Worship Service*

## Children's Worship (Conducted During the Worship Hour)

1st Sunday of Each Month	Pastor Ruth—Story
2nd Sunday of Each Month	Steve Moser—Story Slone Nagy—Children's Church
3rd Sunday of Each Month	Pastor Ruth—Story Angie & Brian Nartker— Children's Church
4th Sunday of Each Month	Corinne Piper—Story & Children's church



# The Business of Church

## Trustees Notes:

During March, the Trustees were continuing to prepare the renovated basement for use. New cupboards arrived and are waiting to be installed along with new counter tops. Problems with the lighting were repaired and all of the electrical work in the basement is complete. Doors were trimmed to allow clearance for the new flooring. New carpeting was installed in the East entry, elevette and Sacristry.

Normal maintenance around the church included; a new stove has been acquired for the parsonage, new ceiling tile was placed in the Narthex, a new understanding was reached with the cleaning service.

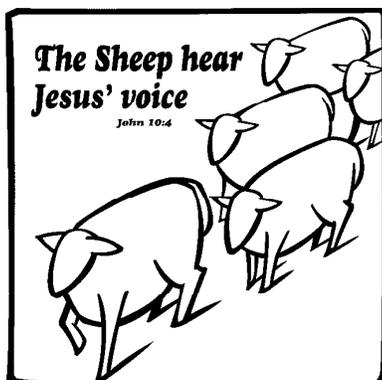
We continue to await the warm weather to see new roofing installed over the Narthex and bell tower to fix our leaking problems.

Respectfully submitted,  
~ Jamie Wyant, Chair

*“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”*

*John 14: 1-7*

**God grades  
on the cross,  
not the  
curve.**



<b>Committee Chairs</b>	
PPR Chair	Linda Craft
Trustees Chair	Jamie Wyant
Finance Chair	Art Holman
Physical Plant Chair	Ron Steiner
Treasurer	Gene Craft
Education Chair	Corinne Piper
Administrative Council Chair	Tim Piper
Worship	Ruth Solo
Nurture	Gail Fessler
Stewardship	Wilbur Hurd
Missions	Ruth Solo

# Faith In Action

## Worship Attendance:

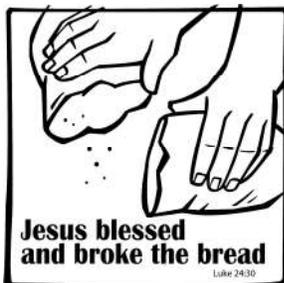
March 2, 2008	115
March 9, 2008	108
March 16, 2008	118
March 23, 2008	247

## Financial Giving

Weekly Need for  
Unified Ministry Budget  
\$2,991.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
Mar. 2, 2008	\$4,392.59	\$1,424.68
Mar. 9, 2008	\$3,284.00	\$842.40
Mar. 16, 2008	\$2,873.29	\$485.00
Mar. 23, 2008	\$2,479.75	\$1,709.15

Creator of the universe,  
you give us this gift of food  
to nourish us and  
give us life.  
Bless this food  
that you have made  
and that human hands  
have prepared.  
May it satisfy our hunger,  
and in sharing it together  
may we come closer  
to one another.  
Amen.



**many folks  
want to serve  
God, but only  
as advisors.**

## Sunday School Attendance

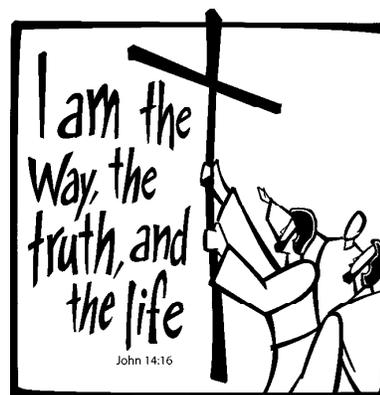
March 2, 2008	41
March 9, 2008	40
March 16, 2008	30
March 23, 2008	21

## Flowers:

April 6, 2008	Frank and Richard VanHorn
April 13, 2008	Denny and Carole Grapner
April 20, 2008	Susan Nartker
April 27, 2008	Virginia Hollar



# Consulting the Manual



## **Bible Readings for April**

Revised Common Lectionary  
Year B

### Week of April 6

**Third Sunday of Easter**  
**Native American Sunday**

Color: White  
*Old Testament:*  
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
*New Testament:*  
Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
1 Peter 1:17-23  
Luke 24:13-35

### Week of April 13

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Color: White  
*Old Testament:*  
Psalm 23  
*New Testament:*  
Acts 2:42-47  
1 Peter 2:19-25  
John 10:1-10



### Week of April 20 **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Color: White  
*Old Testament:*  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
*New Testament:*  
Acts 7:55-60  
1 Peter 2:2-10  
John 14:1-14

### Week of April 27 **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Color: White  
*Old Testament:*  
Psalm 66:8-20  
*New Testament:*  
Acts 17:22-31  
1 Peter 3:13-22  
John 14:15-21

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

## Connecting With ...

### Volunteers Needed

During the week of June 16-21, several United Methodist churches including St. Paul's UMC, will participate in a mission roofing project at the United Methodist Children's Home. Regardless of whether you participate as a worker or financial supporter, the UMCH mission will be a rewarding experience.

Volunteer projects at the Children's home have made a valuable contribution to the services and programs offered to the community by UMCH. The work, the enthusiasm, and love shared during the volunteer experience have also had a profound effect on the lives of the participants.

The goals of our mission week are threefold. First, the time spent working and sharing together will help our group to grow in Christian love and that each individual will use the time away from their normal environment and routine to reflect and pray about their own life and be spiritually enriched. Second, to help each individual understand what UMCH is and why it is important to this region and critical to the children served. Third, to make the daily work beneficial to UMCH while demonstrating a Christian witness to the surrounding community.

Representatives are available to visit and speak at your next organization meeting, worship service, or Sunday school class. To schedule a visit or discuss giving opportunities, contact: **Debbie Lewis**, Development Office Coordinator, at **614-885-5020 ext. 563**

**Contributions to:  
United Methodist Children's Home—Roof**



### TO EMMAUS AND BEYOND

The story of Jesus meeting two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35) appears in the lectionary for April 6. The story occurs on the afternoon of Easter Sunday. Jesus joins two disciples en route to the village of Emmaus, but they do not recognize who he is.

When the supposed stranger asks what the two are discussing, their jaws drop. "You've got to be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard the news! A great prophet names Jesus was crucified. Some of our friends claim to have seen him alive, which would be wonderful, but that doesn't seem very likely."

For the remainder of the journey, Jesus explains the scriptures to these two, assuring them that the Messiah is indeed risen, and present.

Arriving at their destination, the disciples urge their companion to stay for dinner and during the meal Jesus takes bread, blesses it, and breaks it. "Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight" (Luke 24:31, NRSV).

Many people take this story literally, seeing in it one of the many appearances of the risen Christ. Others look at it differently, seeing this story as a metaphor for Christ's presence in the church, then and now.

There are times when we feel helpless and hopeless, perhaps feeling abandoned by God, and unsure of our direction. At those times, in Christian community, we experience the presence of Christ with us, painstakingly helping us understand some truth that will move us beyond our present state.

In his book *Jesus: A Revolutionary Biography*, scholar John Dominic Crossan states: "Emmaus never happened; Emmaus always happens." Whatever our understanding, the story of Emmaus can remind us that we are not alone. Jesus Christ is with us. Always. To the end of the age.

# Celebrating...

## MEMBERSHIP

I would like to thank all of the congregation for your help by signing the pew pads each Sunday. My job in membership is to keep records so that numbers are available for forms for annual conference, such as average attendance, percentage of male and female attendance, and various other statistics. I also coordinate with outreach and stewardship if needed: for example, e-mail outreach so notes of welcome can be sent to visitors, if they have provided an address.

The pew pads are also a communication tool; for prayer requests, letting me know when prayers are answered and a person can be removed from the prayer list, updating me that continued prayers for a person are desired, and also for notes of intentions to participate in activities such as special classes being offered.

So continue to sign the pew pads, to help see that visitors sign the pew pads, to pass the pew pads to people who might come in after the pew pads were passed and without your help might not have opportunity to sign them. The pew pads also assist anyone who might substitute for me if I am absent.

If something comes up that you would like to communicate between Sundays, I can be reached at 419-339-3978 or by email at [rlsegovia@wcoil.com](mailto:rlsegovia@wcoil.com).

Anyone who would like to join the prayer time for persons on the prayer list and our church, for about 15 minutes before Sunday School at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings is most welcome.

~ *Lavonne Segovia*



Belief in God means trusting that a good Power is at work in our world and surrendering ourselves to It. So, in practice, belief in God is belief in life. It is to take things as they come and, always finding and furthering the good, to make the best of every situation. Thus, every person of goodwill, whether a believer or not, is actually involved in the same commitment.

– Daniel A. Helminiak,  
*The Transcended Christian: Spiritual Lessons  
for the Twenty-first Century*

**WANTED:**

LARGE VASES  
HANGINGS  
DECORATIONS  
POTTED FAKE  
PLANTS

TO CREATE A JERUSALEM HOME IN THE BASEMENT FOR CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

IF YOU HAVE ITEMS YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE OR LOAN, PLEASE CONTACT:  
CORINNE PIPER  
419-331-6796

# Something Great

He was 92 at that time and I wondered why the Church even bothered to ask the old gentleman to preach at that age. After a warm welcome, introduction of this speaker, and as the applause quieted down he rose from his high back chair and walked slowly, with great effort and a sliding gate to the podium. Without a note or written paper of any kind, he placed both hands on the pulpit to steady himself and then quietly and slowly he began to speak...

“When I was asked to come here today and talk to you, your pastor asked me to tell you what was the greatest lesson ever learned in my 50 odd years of preaching. I thought about it for a few days and boiled it down to just one thing that made the most difference in my life and sustained me through all my trials. The one thing that I could always rely on when tears and heart break and pain and fear and sorrow paralyzed me...the only thing that would comfort was this verse...

“Jesus loves me this I know.  
 For the Bible tells me so.  
 Little ones to him belong,  
 We are weak but he is strong...  
 Yes, Jesus loves me...  
 The Bible tells me so.”

When he finished, the church was quiet. You actually could hear his foot steps as he shuffled back to this chair. I don't believe I will ever forget it.

A pastor once stated, “I always noticed that it was the

adults who chose the children's hymn ‘Jesus Loves Me’ (for the children of course) during a hymn sing, and it was the adults who sang the loudest because I could see they knew it the best.”

Here is a new version of the song just for us who have white hair, or no hair at all. For us over middle age (or even those almost there) and all you others, check out this newest version of “Jesus Loves Me”. It is quite cute, so read, sing and enjoy:

### JESUS LOVE ME

Jesus loves me, this I know,  
 Though my hair is white  
 as snow.

Though my sight is  
 growing dim,  
 Still He bids me trust in Him.

YES, JESUS LOVES ME...  
 YES, JESUS LOVES ME...  
 YES, JESUS LOVES ME FOR  
 THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.

Though my steps are  
 oh, so slow,  
 With my hand in His I'll go  
 On through life, let come  
 what may,  
 He'll be there to lead the way.

YES, JESUS LOVES ME...  
 YES, JESUS LOVES ME...  
 YES, JESUS LOVES ME FOR  
 THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.

Though I am no longer young,  
 I have much which He's begun.  
 Let me serve Christ  
 with a smile,  
 Go with others the extra mile.

YES, JESUS LOVES ME...  
 YES, JESUS LOVES ME...  
 YES, JESUS LOVES ME FOR  
 THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.

When the nights are  
 dark and long,  
 In my heart He puts a song.  
 Telling me in words so clear,  
 “Have no fear, for I am near.”

YES, JESUS LOVES ME...  
 YES, JESUS LOVES ME...  
 YES, JESUS LOVES ME FOR  
 THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.

When my work on earth is done,  
 And life's victories  
 have been won.

He will take me home above,  
 Then I'll understand His love

YES, JESUS LOVES ME...  
 YES, JESUS LOVES ME...  
 YES, JESUS LOVES ME FOR  
 THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.

I love Jesus, does He know?  
 Have I ever told Him so?  
 Jesus loves to hear me say,  
 That I love Him every day.



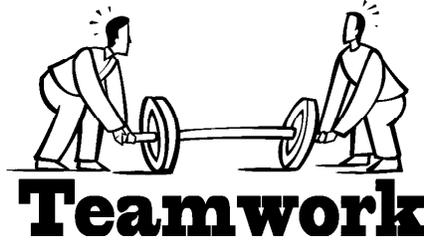
An elderly man's wife had recently died, and the man was sitting out in his yard crying. A four-year-old boy who lived next door went into his neighbor's yard, climbed into the man's lap, and sat there. Later, when the child came home, his mother asked what he had said to the man. “Nothing,” the boy answered. “I just helped him cry.”

# Praises and Prayers

Greetings in Christ from The Church @ Allentown,

I am writing this letter as an open invitation to all men from all Methodist Congregations in Allen County to come join the **Lima Area United Methodist Men's Ministry** for Breakfast on **Saturday April 5th at 8:00 am**. We will be meeting in our basement here at Allentown (4900 Allentown Rd) for food, fellowship, prayer and discussion on upcoming service opportunities in the Greater Lima Area and beyond. We are seeking to unite men from congregations in and around Lima, to better serve the needy in this area by combining our skills, resources, and hearts.

Aaron Griffith  
Delphos, OH



Jesus said: "Don't let this throw you. You trust God, don't you? Trust me. There is plenty of room for you in my Father's home. If that weren't so, would I have told you that I'm on my way to get a room ready for you? And if I'm on my way to get your room ready, I'll come back and get you so you can live where I live. And you already know the road I'm taking."

— John 14:1-4, *The Message*

**Book of Timothy**



*We extend sympathies to several at St. Paul's:*

*To the family of Denny and Carole Grapner. Denny's mother, Kate Grapner passed away on February 27, 2008.*

*To the family of Warren Flick, who passed away on March 7, 2008. Warren was 90 years old and had been a member of St. Paul's for 55 years. Pastor Ruth officiated at his funeral service on March 12, 2008.*

*To the family of Evelyn Broshes, who passed away on March 17, 2008. Evelyn was 91 years old and had been a member of St. Paul's since 1958. Pastor Ruth officiated at her funeral service on March 20, 2008.*

**Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital**

Jone Lane

**Homebound Members**

- Rebekah Baxter
- Don Bowsher
- Hazel Dunn
- John & Betty Holmes
- Ruth Hurley
- Marie Lee
- Harold Metzger
- Edna Osman
- Jean Redd
- Gladys Sherrick
- Ray & Helen Waldron

**Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement**

- Pam Gaghan
- Betty Holmes
- Sara House
- June Metzger
- Rick Scholfield
- Ron Strayer

**Those in the Military**

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

*To My St. Paul's Family,  
Thank you very much  
for the beautiful flowers,  
cards, calls, thoughts, and  
prayers following my knee  
surgery. I am progressing  
well, with the help of my  
wonderful nurse. In no time  
I'll be dancing in the  
street...well, maybe not!  
I am truly blessed to be  
part of such a caring  
church family.*

*God  
Bless You!  
Jone Lane*

*To St. Paul's UMC,  
Thank you so much for the  
beautiful cyclamen planter  
sent during this time of  
sadness for our family. We  
really appreciated your  
thoughtfulness.*

*Sincerely,  
The Roy Roby Family*

*Dear Friends,  
Thanks to each of you that  
helped us during a  
very difficult time and the loss  
of our Mother, through  
prayers, visits, cards, flowers,  
gifts of remembrance  
and caring friendship! We are  
truly blessed to be part  
of St. Paul's church "family"!*

*God Bless You All!  
Denny and Carole Grapner*

*To the People of St. Paul's,  
Life's path is more easily  
traveled in the company of  
friends like you. Thank you for  
your kindness.*

*The Family of  
Pauline Beerman*

*During a time like this we  
realize how much our friends  
and relatives mean to us. Your  
expression of sympathy will  
always be remembered.*

*The Flick Family*

*Thank you so much for the  
prayers, cards, and kind words  
given to our family during the  
passing of my mother, **Gay  
Foust**. Thank you to Pastor  
Ruth for your loving  
companionship, strength, and  
encouragement during my  
loneliest time.*

*Thank you also to those who  
prepared the wonderful meal  
for our family.  
May God bless  
each one of you!  
Jannette Crumrine*

*Thank you so much for your  
calls, gifts and cards, in the  
passing of Evelyn Broshes. The  
service was beautiful due to  
Pastor Ruth and Jone. We  
were all able to bond, and I  
thank God. Will be back as  
soon as I can.*

*Love, Ruthe  
and Family*



**Prayer List Updates  
Please Contact  
Lavonne Segovia**



# Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Cookbook

## Fruit Pizza

*by Pam Lozano*

Ingredients		Instructions
1 tube	sugar cookies	Slice cookies and place close together on pan. Bake and let cool.  Cream together cream cheese, sugar, and vanilla. Spread on cookies.  Drain oranges and pineapple and save juice.  Prepare dessert mix using juice.  Top cheese layer with fruits and dessert mix.  Refrigerate.
2 (8 oz.) pkg.	Philadelphia cream cheese	
1/2 cup	sugar	
1 tsp.	vanilla	
1 can	mandarin oranges	
1 can	chunk pineapple	
1 qt.	strawberries	
2	bananas, sliced	
1 pkg.	Salada dessert mix (strawberry)	



## Layered Pineapple Cake

*by Shirley Moser*

Ingredients		Instructions
1 box	Jiffy yellow cake mix	Make 1 box Jiffy cake mix according to directions, but put in 13x9x2 inch oblong pan.  Bake 15-20 minutes only.  After cake is cooled, make vanilla instant pudding according to directions, but add cream cheese.  Put pudding mixture on top of cake. Add pineapple to top of pudding, then add Cool Whip. May be topped with pecans if desired.
1 (3 3/4 oz.)	vanilla instant pudding	
1 (8oz.)	Philadelphia cream cheese (room temperature)	
1 can	crushed pineapple, drained	
1 (8oz.)	Cool Whip	
	chopped pecans (optional)	

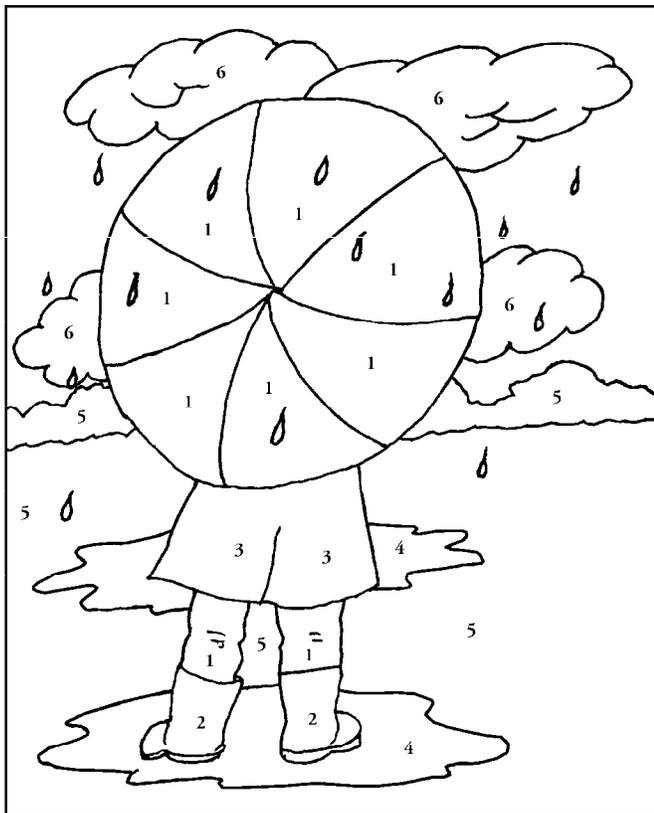


# KIDZ KORNER

## Color

Color by number.

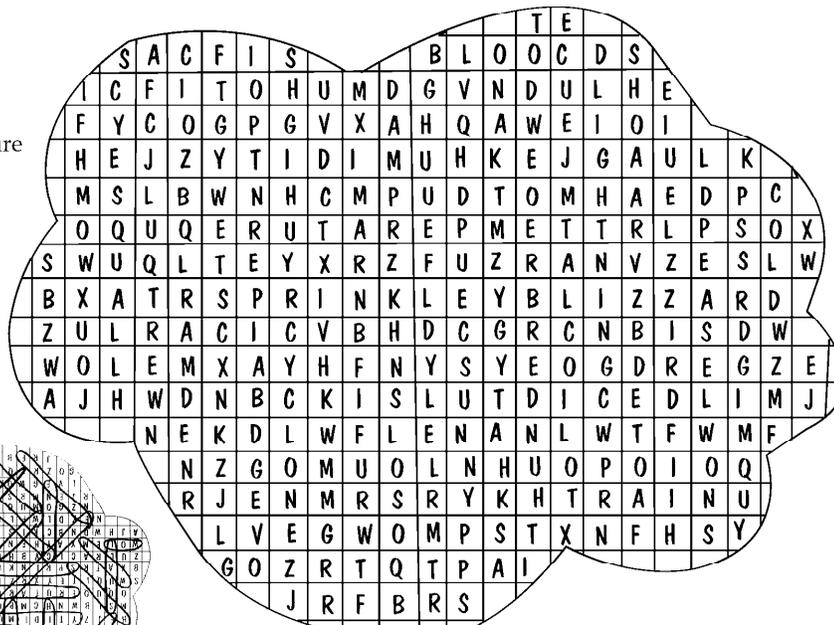
- 1 = yellow
- 2 = red
- 3 = purple
- 4 = blue
- 5 = green
- 6 = grey



## Word Find

Here are some words that describe weather. See if you can find them in the cloud.

- Blizzard
- Chilly
- Clouds
- Cold
- Cool
- Cyclone
- Damp
- Drizzle
- Fog
- Freeze
- Front
- Gale
- High
- Humidity
- Hurricane
- Ice
- Lighting
- Low
- Mild
- Rain
- Sleet
- Slush
- Sunny
- Temperature
- Thunder
- Tornado
- Showers
- Snow
- Sprinkle
- Squall
- Storm
- Warm
- Wind



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

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## April 2008



## Living Our Faith

This paraphrase of **Psalm 23** is written from the points of view of an older person, reflecting on a long, full life. The first line of verse 6 is adapted from "A New Creed" of the United Church of Canada.

<sup>1</sup>God has walked with me; I could ask nothing more.

<sup>2</sup>**God has given me green meadows to laugh in, clear streams to think beside, untrodden paths to explore.**

<sup>3</sup>When I thought the world rested on my shoulders, God put things into perspective. **When I lashed out at an unfair world, God calmed me down.**

When I drifted into harmful ways, God straightened me out.

**God was with me all the way.**

<sup>4</sup>I do not know what lies ahead, but I am not afraid.

**I know you will be with me.**

Even in death, I will not despair.

**You will comfort and support me.**

<sup>5</sup>Though my eye dims and my mind dulls, **you will continue to care about me.**

Your touch will soothe the tension in my temples; **my fears will fade away.**

I am content.

<sup>6</sup>**In life, in death, in life beyond**

**death, God is with me.**  
All through life, I have found goodness in people.  
**When life ends, I expect to be gathered into the ultimate goodness of God.**

From *Everyday Psalms* by James Taylor.  
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