

# St. Paul's Epistle

~ An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples ~

Volume 31, Issue 2

February, 2008

St. Paul's United  
Methodist Church

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Dear Friends,

This month, we will enter into the church season of Lent. It is a time for reflecting on our faith, a time of looking at our own relationship with Christ, and a time of repenting (turning around) from our broken relationships and moving into life giving, love filled relationships.

We will begin Lent with Ash Wednesday, a day when we remember our Sin, that which is in our human condition that is always in conflict with God. We will enter into the spiritual disciplines of reading scripture, reflecting through journal or Christian conversation, involving ourselves in works of mercy through giving of our time and/or resources, and continuing to worship and pray to come closer in our relationship to God.

I invite each of you to enter this Lenten season with me. Come to the Ash Wednesday service on February 6, at 7 PM. Receive the ashes as a reminder that we began as mere dust, and our mortal bodies will return as dust. Then come to the Lord's table as we remember that through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, we have life everlasting.

Each Sunday in Lent, we will hear the great stories from the gospel of John about Jesus' life-giving gift to the most unlikely people. Hear their response and the difference an encounter with Jesus made in their lives.

In this month of winter and cold, plan to come on this journey into spring and new life.

See you in church.

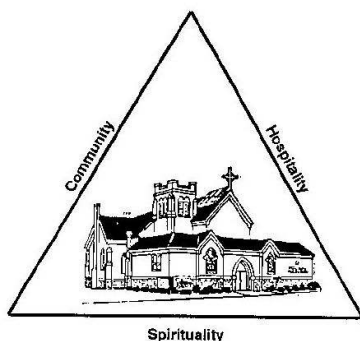
*God bless you all.*  
*Pastor Ruth Solo*



Thought for the Month:

**The first duty of  
love is to listen.**

~ Paul Tillich



## Inside this issue:

Youth News	2
Upcoming Events	2-3
Northwest Plains News	3
The Heart of Church	4
The Business of Church	5
Faith In Action	6
Consulting the Manual	7
Ash Wednesday	8
Connecting With...	9-13
The People of St. Paul's	14
February Calendar	15
Recipes	16
Kidz Korner	17
Living Our Faith	18



## February Youth Calendar

February 3, 2008	Meet with Pastor Ruth, 5-7 PM
February 10, 2008	Meet with Pastor Ruth, 5-7 PM
February 17, 2008	Meet with Pastor Ruth, 5-7 PM
February 24, 2008	Meet with Pastor Ruth, 5-7 PM

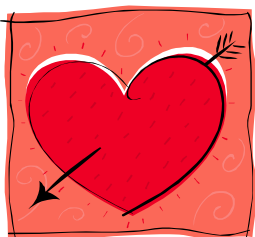
### ATTENTION YOUTH!

Beginning Sunday, January 27, we began a new class of confirmation and membership. All youth are involved as we work together to learn more about God, more about the church, and more about what it means to be a United Methodist Christian. If you have not come yet, there's still time. Here's what you do:

- ◆ let Pastor Ruth or Doug Fox know that you still want to come
- ◆ find your student book from last year, or if you don't have one from last year, let Pastor Ruth know so that one can be ordered
- ◆ ask one of the wonderful people in the church to be your mentor
- ◆ come to the next class on Sunday from 5pm-7pm

We will celebrate our journey together by renewing our vows of baptism and confirmation, and then taking the vows of membership in the UMC.

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



Love is a power, like money, or steam, or electricity.  
It is valueless unless you can give something else  
by means of it.

– Anne Morrow Lindbergh

### St. Paul's Epistle

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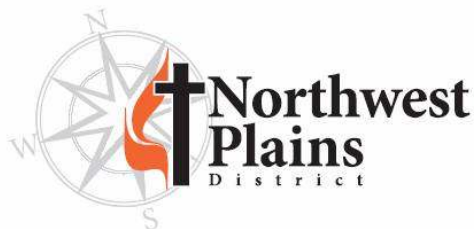
Subscription Rate: NONE

Editor:	Judy Chaffins
Secretary:	Gail Fessler
Secretary:	Jone Lane
Music Director:	Mary Kaye Pease
Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Youth Director:	Doug Fox
Custodian:	Sunny Day Maids

### February 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	

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



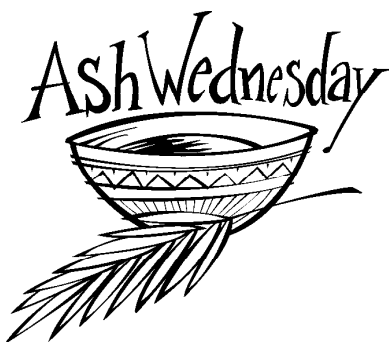
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**Northwest Plains Clergy & Laity Spiritual Retreat**  
 Monday, March 3 - Tuesday, March 4, 2008

*"Prayer in the Wesley Tradition" led by Rev. Tom Albin*

Rev. Albin is currently Dean of the Upper Room Chapel and Team Leader for the Program Unit of The Upper Room Ministries in Nashville, Tennessee. His academic interests lie in the areas of spiritual formation, Wesley studies, historical theology, and evangelism. Recent publications containing his work include: *"Inwardly Persuaded": Religion of the Heart in Early British Methodism* in the volume *Heart Religion in the Methodist Tradition*, edited by Richard B. Steele; *Teach Me to Pray*; a chapter in *Wesleyan Theology Today*, edited by T. Runyan; the 1985, 1988, 1994, 1996, and 1999 *Disciplines*; *Charles Wesley's Earliest Evangelical Sermons*; *Charles Wesley: Poet and Theologian*; and articles related to Methodism and spiritual formation for the *New Dictionary of Christian Theology*, *Dictionary of Christianity in America*, and the *Dictionary of Ethics and Pastoral Theology*. Fee for retreat is \$60 per person within NW Plains District (\$100 per married couple). Registration is due February 11, 2008, and is limited to 50 attendees. If you are interested in attending, please get a registration form from the office.

*Upcoming Events for St. Paul's*



**Ash Wednesday Service**  
**February 6, 2008**  
**7:00 PM**

# The Heart of Church

## Greeters

February 3	Denny & Carole Grapner
February 10	Brian & Angie Nartker
February 17	Susan Nartker & Ruth Burgoon
February 24	Norm & Mary Grigsby

## Nursery Volunteers

February 3	Margie Best & Molly Fessler
February 10	Susan Nartker & Ruth Burgoon
February 17	Tracy & Tahler Sdao
February 24	Cindy & Curt Roberts

Love, though, transcends the clamor. Love is quiet and, in its quietness, solid, steady, and strong.

~ Ray Ashford, *The Quiet Life*

## NURTURE COMMITTEE

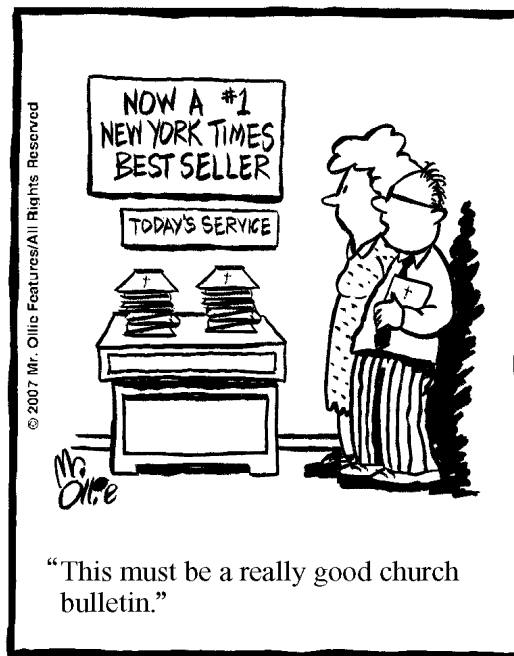
The Nurture Committee has had the first meeting of the new year and members have accepted responsibilities for the various activities required to fulfill it's mission: *to provide connections to the community of St. Paul's.*

~ Gail Fessler

### Table grace

Creator God:  
for earth and farmer,  
kitchen and cook;  
for those who serve  
and those who are served,  
we give you thanks.  
Amen.

## Book of Timothy



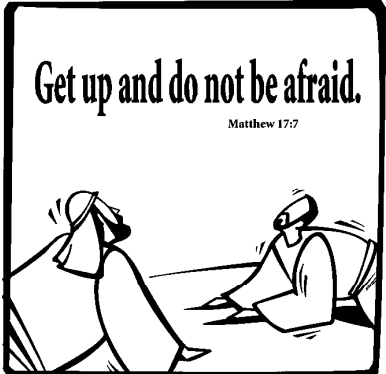
## Children's Worship (Conducted During the Worship Hour)

1st Sunday of Each Month	Pastor Ruth—Story
2nd Sunday of Each Month	Corinne Piper—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

<b>FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>				
<b>St. Paul's Reconciliation Statement</b>				
Date: December 31, 2007	Beginning Balance	Income	Disbursements	Ending Balance
<b>Ministerial Fund</b>	\$15,130.78	\$23,843.94	\$17,107.17	<b>\$21,867.55</b>
<b>Capital Improvement Fund</b>	\$6,727.61	\$583.00		<b>\$7,310.61</b>
<b>Youth Fund</b>	\$1,733.81		\$221.85	<b>\$1,511.96</b>
<b>Total Checking</b>	\$23,592.20	\$24,426.94	\$17,329.02	<b>\$30,690.12</b>
<b>Pastoral Moving Fund</b>	\$116.47	\$50.37		<b>\$166.84</b>
<b>Memorial Fund</b>	\$4,453.06	\$9.92		<b>\$4,462.98</b>
<b>Special Needs Fund</b>	\$770.38	\$1.71		<b>\$772.09</b>
<b>Total Savings</b>	\$5,339.91	\$62.00	\$0.00	<b>\$5,401.91</b>
<b>Loan Money added to BF</b>		\$90,500.00		<b>\$90,500.00</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>	\$30,187.73	\$4,787.36	\$106,435.58	<b>\$19,039.51</b>
<b>Permanent Endowment Fund</b>	\$12,547.68			<b>\$12,547.68</b>
<b>Total All Funds</b>	\$71,667.52	\$29,276.30	\$123,764.60	<b>-\$22,820.78</b>
<b>Net Worth</b>	\$71,667.52			<b>-\$22,820.78</b>
<b>Lima District Apportionments</b>	\$2,708.00			<b>\$2,708.00</b>
<b>Conference Apportionments</b>	\$18,319.00			<b>\$18,319.00</b>
<b>Total Apportionments</b>				<b>\$21,027.00</b>
<b>Building Fund Loan Balance</b>	\$90,500.00			<b>\$90,500.00</b>

If toast always lands butter-side down, and cats always land on their feet, what happens if you strap toast on the back of a cat and drop it?



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

# Faith In Action

## Worship Attendance:

January 6, 2008	102
January 13, 2008	91
January 20, 2008	104
January 27, 2008	107

## Financial Giving

Weekly Need for  
Unified Ministry Budget  
\$2,991.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
Jan. 6, 2008	\$5,118.00	\$3,291.32
Jan. 13, 2008	\$3,960.00	\$456.50
Jan. 20, 2008	\$3,824.25	\$1,024.85
Jan. 27, 2008	\$2,293.00	\$1,074.00

**ST. PAUL'S RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM** is off to a great start for 2008! From the "Cookies and Bars in Jar" campaign we received \$351. Thanks to many of you, we're on our way to reaching our goal of \$2,500 for 2008.

Throughout the month of February, team members will be selling Home and Garden Candles. These candles are a top quality product with such interesting scents as Hot Cinnamon Rolls, Mom's Apple Pie, and Lavender Fields. They will sell for \$7.50 each, with \$3.50 of that amount going to the Relay Team. So whether you're working, relaxing, or entertaining, create a warm soothing atmosphere around the house or at the office by purchasing a candle or two. Team members to contact are Margie Best, Linda Craft, Carole Grapner, Virginia Hollar, Linda Holman, Shirley Moser, and Corinne Piper. See them after church on Sunday or give them a call. We appreciate all the support you continue to give to our St. Paul's Relay Team.



## Flowers:

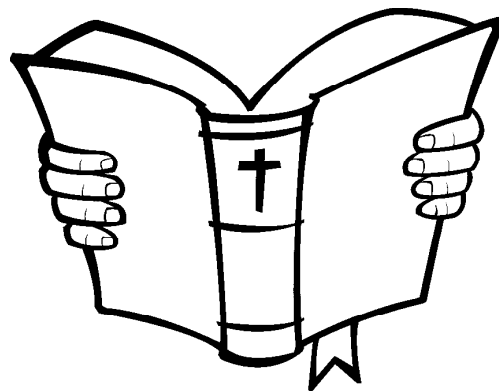
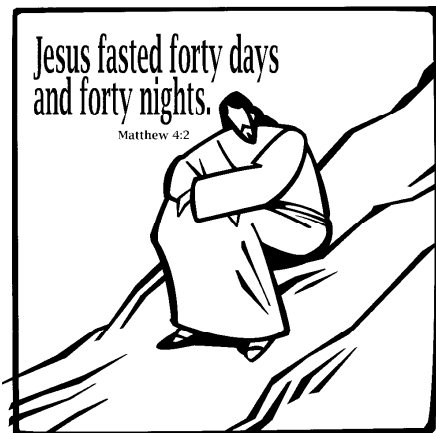
February 3, 2008	Open
February 10, 2008	Hope Mathwig
February 17, 2008	Ron & Mary Steiner
February 24, 2008	Open

## Sunday School Attendance

January 6, 2008	46
January 13, 2008	41
January 20, 2008	39
January 27, 2008	36

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

## Consulting the Manual



### **Bible Readings for February**

Revised Common Lectionary  
Year B

#### **Week of February 3**

Color: White  
*Old Testament:*  
Exodus 24:12-18  
Psalm 99  
*New Testament:*  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

#### **Week of February 10**

##### **First Sunday in Lent**

Color: Purple  
*Old Testament:*  
Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Psalm 32  
*New Testament:*  
Roman 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

*“And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.”*

*Matthew 17:2*

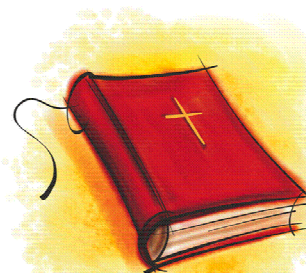
#### **Week of February 17**

Color: Purple  
*Old Testament:*  
Genesis 12:1-4a  
Psalm 121  
*New Testament:*  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17

#### **Week of February 24**

Color: Purple  
*Old Testament:*  
Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 95  
*New Testament:*  
Romans 5:1-11  
John 4:5-42

For more detailed information on the Revised Common Lectionary, please visit:



# Ash Wednesday

## Ash Wednesday

The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, 46 days before Easter. (The six Sundays that fall during the 40 days of Lent stretch the season out a little.) The date of Ash Wednesday is always determined by the date of Easter. This year, because Easter is so very early (March 23), Ash Wednesday falls on February 6.

An ancient tradition for this day is to burn palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday and to use these ashes to make the sign of the cross on the forehead or the back of the hand. This is a symbolic way of saying "I'm sorry," a tradition that began long ago. When people had done something wrong, they would cover themselves with ashes to show that they were sorry and wanted to change.

Sometimes the ashes are mixed with oil, which is a sign of healing and blessing. This reminds us that when we ask God for forgiveness, God helps us turn our lives around and start again.



## *One Hour: What's It Worth?*

There's a saying that goes, "You can give without loving, but you can't love without giving."

During the seasons of Lent and Easter as we think about Jesus dying on the cross and rising from the tomb, we give thanks to God for the gift of new life that we receive through Jesus Christ. Many churches take special offerings or provide opportunities for people to "give something back" to God by sharing with others during Lent. When we give to others it is a way of saying thank you to God.

In 1946, Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill of the Episcopal Church in the United States put out an appeal on the radio for people to raise a million dollars in one hour, and they were successful. Over the next few years this idea spread, and the result was a Lenten offering program in which several denominations participate called One Great Hour of Sharing. While the practice varies from church to church, in most cases the money goes to help in places experiencing natural disasters, both in the US and overseas.

It gives one reason to reflect: what is an hour worth? What can we do with one hour? As you prepare for the spiritual journey of Lent, think about "one hour" and explore what it can mean. Here are some suggestions; use your imagination to come up with others.

- ◆ If you work for pay, can you donate one hour's wages or salary to the church or another cause?
- ◆ If you do not work for pay, calculate what an hour of your time might be worth and consider donating that.
- ◆ Give an hour of your time to someone else, each day or week of Lent.
- ◆ Spend less time at work and more time with a loved one.
- ◆ Do more things as a couple or a family or with friends.

*(Continued on page 9)*

**If at first you  
don't succeed . . .  
So much for  
skydiving.  
- Henry Youngman**



## Connecting With ...

(Continued from page 8)

- ◆ Spend an hour helping a neighbor or someone who is homebound.
- ◆ Volunteer somewhere for an hour.
- ◆ Spend an hour in silence. Pray, meditate, wonder. Go outside, whether in the country or the city, and listen to the sounds around you. What do you hear that you have not heard before? Pray for the people and situations that come to mind as you listen.
- ◆ Turn off the television, computer, video games, or whatever your favorite pastime is. Do something different for an hour each day. Read. Sing. Play a game. Have a conversation. Exercise.
- ◆ Spend an hour a day making something, or working on a project – something that can be shared with someone else.



### ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL REPORT

As we begin the year 2008 we strive for new beginnings, new ways to serve our Lord. At our Administrative Council meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup>, we began the New Year by restructuring our meetings. The council meetings will now focus on forward-looking activities as well as revisiting where we have been. The first half of the meeting will be used to set goals for our church and to develop leadership techniques. Our committees will be asked to focus on goals based upon the overall vision of St. Paul's Church. The second half of the meeting will be used by committee chairpersons to summarize their committee's activities in the previous month.

Pastor Ruth will be presiding over a 10- part leadership training study entitled "Leadership From the Heart". This study will take place over three Sunday afternoons in late February and March. The study will focus on servant-leadership based upon utilizing our spiritual gifts. All committee members and leaders within our church are encouraged to sign up for this leadership study.

Corinne Piper handed out summaries of our Dot-Sunday results from a few years ago to our committee chairpersons. Our chairpersons are asked to review the summaries within their committees and focus on which goals have been accomplished and which goals still need to be implemented, according to the overall vision of our church.

Norm Grigsby reported that the contractor working on our fellowship hall is nearing completion and was given a punch-list of unfinished items to complete. In January and February, the fellowship hall will be painted and prepared for installation of the floor, ceiling and lighting. Ron Steiner is organizing workers from our congregation to do the prep work. A **Fellowship Hall Utilization Committee** will meet at 7PM on January 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss how our new, renovated fellowship hall will be used and to discuss what equipment and appurtenances may be needed for its intended uses. Anyone wishing to attend the meeting is welcome.

It was noted in council that there will be a Northwest Plains  
(Continued on page 13)

## Connecting With ...



### LEADERSHIP FROM THE HEART

The Administrative Council will be holding a training for current and future leaders in the church. You are invited to join the Administrative Council for "Leadership From the Heart: Learning to Lead with Love and Skill", by Carol Cartmill and Yvonne Gentile, from the Church of the Resurrection, in Leawood, KS.

This is a study designed for lay people in servant leadership. It is biblically based, spiritually focused, and service oriented. The study will be held on three Sunday afternoons: February 3, February 17, and March 2, from 1:00 to 4:30 PM.

The Administrative Council members are expected to attend; members of committees are encouraged to attend; and anyone else interested is invited to attend.

We are asking that anyone who will be attending these sessions call the church office to let us know that you will be there, and whether you wish to purchase the book at \$11 each. A sack lunch is recommended, and snacks will be provided.

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

There have been many great opportunities at St. Paul's Church for increasing your knowledge of God's Word and living a life to reflect that over the last few months. Shirley Moser has been sharing her love of God with preschoolers, Janna Thompson and Gail Fessler have been working with the elementary children and a team of teachers (Steve and Tracey Sdao, Vicki McAdams and Jan Wyant) have been guiding the middle school and high school students during the Education hour every Sunday.

Another team of workers have been caring for the younger worshippers during the Worship service. Various volunteers have staffed the nursery and Slone Nagy, Angie and Brian Nartker, and Corinne Piper have alternated weeks of the Children's Worship program. Currently the children's worship group is learning about the seasons of the church.

The adults have been learning also with various topics in two different Adult Classes, open to anyone in the church. They have grown through studies of other denominations, living our faith at our workplaces and learning about the calling from God to marriage and understanding and celebrating the differences between men and women.

We invited all members to join us in one of the classes and to invite friends to come with them. Groups like these help entice people into the doors of our church home without the formality of worship services. Share the fun!

~Corinne Piper

### TRUSTEE MEETING

The Board of Trustees met for the first time in 2008 on January 8 with Jamie Wyant as the new Chairman. The first order of business was to meet with Ron Steiner to discuss some of the needs of the basement renovation. During our discussion it was decided to place new table and chair racks in the old basement to conserve space and yet still have easy access. The committee considered this a good location since we now use plastic tables that are more easily moved.

The Trustees also discussed repairs to the roof over the Narthex and the bell tower. Those have both been temporarily repaired and will have more permanent repairs in the Spring. Due to the difficulty in locating bricks to match the Parsonage, temporary steps were installed for the front porch. We hope to find matching bricks in the Spring and have them laid so the concrete steps can be poured.

(Continued on page 11)

## Connecting With ...

### IHS

"Pastor," the woman said, "isn't it time to put the 'I Have Suffered' on the altar?"

The minister looked at the woman with a puzzled look, not quite sure at all what she was referring to.

"You know, the green cloth with the letters IHS on it – the 'I Have Suffered.'"

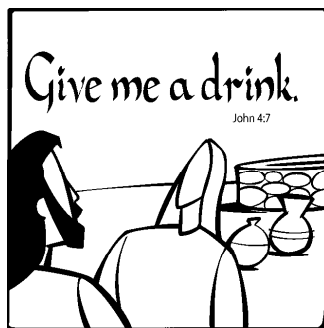
A light bulb went off for the minister, who wanted immediately to correct the devoted church member, but then thought better of it, and simply nodded.

The letters IHS sometimes appear on altar cloths, stained glass windows, clergy vestments, and numerous other places associated with Christians. What do they stand for?

There are a couple of "official" answers. The most commonly accepted is that they represent the Greek letters *iota*, *eta*, and *sigma*, the first three letters of the name Jesus in Greek.

Another explanation, which makes sense in those instances where the letters are separated by periods, is that they are the first letters of the Latin words *Iesu Hominum Salvator*, meaning "Jesus, Savior of Humankind."

There are several other understandings, including "In His Service." Most important of all, the letters are a symbol, and symbols by their very nature can have many meanings, just as God is experienced and understood in many ways.



(Continued from page 10)

The Trustees have removed all of the cabinets from the kitchen in order to have the walls painted to match the Fellowship Hall. New flooring, cabinets and counter tops will be installed, to be paid with insurance money from the latest flood.

We have set April 26, 2008, as Spring Cleaning Day. Please mark your calendar and plan to come participate in the all church cleaning day.

Respectfully submitted by  
~ Jamie Wyant,  
Trustee Chairman.

### MISSION COMMITTEE

The Mission Committee will be meeting Wednesday, January 23. The committee will be planning fundraising projects to raise money for the upcoming work at the United Methodist Children's Home. Our commitment to support the UMCH is an ongoing commitment. We will be spending a week of intense work in June, but we are also committing to continue our support and work at the UMCH all through the year. We are counting on the full support of the church as a whole and hope that every member will be able to participate in some way.

Rev. Steve Putka will be preaching at our Sunday service on February 24 to give us background on the Children's Home and its mission to the children in the Columbus area. We will be providing more information as the plans continue to develop.

Respectfully Submitted,  
~ Jamie Wyant,  
Mission Committee  
Co-Chairman

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.

## Connecting With ...

### OUR CORPORATE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

by Pastor Ruth Solo

### Joys and Concerns vs. Bidding Prayers

Some have asked me why we have 'bidding' prayers instead of 'joys and concerns' in our worship time. There have also been questions about when to lift up particular types of concerns in the bidding prayer format. So, this article will hopefully clarify some of these concerns.

In the past, I freely and openly accepted joys and concerns in worship. I felt it was a way that we as a congregation could share our burdens and celebrate our successes with one another. However, experience has taught me that this isn't necessarily the best vehicle for expressing prayers.

I value every person's privacy and, having come from a professional discipline where confidentiality was a very high ethic, I continue to function with that ethic. That ethic continues to guide how I order what I do in the church and in the life of the church. I also believe that there is a theology of prayer that says God will work even when we don't know the details. Our work is just to lift the needs up and give it over to God.

### Joys and Concerns

I've had good, well meaning members of the congregations I've served share details of surgeries, details of marital problems of friends or relatives, personal struggles of addictions of people they knew, and other things in the Joys and Concerns format. On two occasions, I did follow up visits in these situations, and was told in no uncertain terms that the persons did not appreciate that the information was shared. In other instances, I have found out that the information was incorrect.

Now, we can set parameters around what we lift up in a 'joys and concerns' format in worship, and people would try to adhere to the rules. However, experience has also taught me that sometimes, we will have a visitor who doesn't know the rules, or someone will feel a need to give details anyway.

While hearing corporate joys and concerns can be healing for members of the congregation, there are times when it can be damaging if information is shared, as well meaning as it is, when permission hasn't been given, and when people value their privacy.

One final concern about joys and concerns. I've also experienced where the occasional concern was lifted up that was of a personal

nature, and it ended up being the topic of gossip. Prayer is not about passing along the latest news. Intercessory prayer is about lifting up persons to God for healing, for care, for comfort, and for support. Our response is never to be one of passing along information, but of responding in love and outreach to the person affected. Too often, though, these joys and concerns end up being a vehicle of sharing gossip. While that may not have happened in this congregation, the danger of it happening outweighs the desire of this pastor to have such corporate joys and concerns prayers.

For those who like this type of prayer, I would suggest you make joys and concerns a part of your gatherings in your smaller groups or in your family, where your group can then plan the needed outreach to individuals named. If you are interested in praying for people in the church, use the prayer list in the bulletin each week. You don't have to know all the details, or even relationships. God knows, and God will know your heart as you pray over this list.

*"To Be Continued Next Month"*



## Connecting With ...

(Continued from page 9)

Clergy & Spiritual Retreat on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Pastor Ruth.

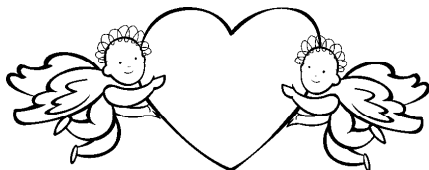
I would like to close with a scripture reading that I hope defines our goals in 2008:

*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving”*

*(Colossians 3:23-24)*

I wish to thank all committee chairpersons and members that served our church in 2007 and look forward to serving with those on council in 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,  
~ Tim Piper, Chairman



**Gracious God,  
shape my trust of  
you with integrity  
of word and deed.  
And when my  
words fail, or I  
fail them: speak to  
me, restore me,  
renew me in word  
and deed. In Jesus  
Christ. Amen.**

**- John Indermark,  
*Parables and  
Passion: Jesus’  
Stories for the Days***

**Elida St. Paul's Emmaus Community** has pledged \$250 to WBCL Radio Network for the year 2008.

We are asking the congregation to help us raise the money to fulfill our commitment to WBCL this year. There will be coffee cans located at the church entrances for your donation.

Many things – such as loving, going to sleep, or behaving unaffectedly – are done worst when we try hardest to do them.

– C.S. Lewis, *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Literature*

# The People of St. Paul's

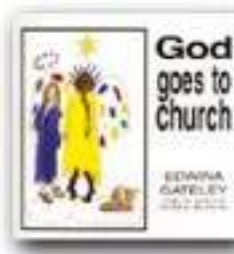
## To My Amazing Church Family,

I was very surprised with the recognition on December 30. So much for slipping quietly into the congregation! Thank you for the OSU shirt and restaurant gift card. I appreciate them both very much. Thank you, **Marty White**, for your kind (and humorous) comments. You do have a way with words! Thanks to **Gail Fessler, Maedene Holmes, Mary Irvin, Martha Vazquez, and Pastor Ruth** for the lovely reception after the service. Most of all, thanks to all of you for your support and encouragement since Rev. Eric McGlade urged me to begin organ lessons and enroll in Methesco's Organ Training Workshop in 1993. It has been a wonderful 14 years! I am very blessed to be a part of this loving and caring congregation.

In Christ's Love,  
**Jone Lane**

## Thank you, People of St. Paul's,

We had a special offering on **Human Relations Sunday, January 20.** Pastor Ruth's goal was to collect one dollar for every person in attendance that day. We collected **\$170.50.** Great job!



On Sunday, during the Time, Pastor

January 20, Children's Ruth read the

book, **God Goes to Church** by Edwina Gateley. Several people have been interested in getting this book. The book may be purchased from the publisher for \$4.00 each. Go to the website <http://www.paxchristiusa.org> and click on the link for children's books.

Seth Gaghen, age 10, son of Pat and Pam Gaghen and grandson of Larry and Shirley Moser, represented Ohio in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the National Wrestling Matches.

On January 17-19, 2008, Seth wrestled his way to earn the honor of becoming the National Champion for his age and weight category!!!



**Prayer List Updates**  
**Please Contact**  
**Lavonne Segovia**

**Meetings**

# February 2008

February 4, 2008  
PPR...7:00 PM

February 5, 2008  
Trustees...7:00 PM

February 11, 2008  
Finance...7:00 PM

February 11, 2008  
Ad Council...8:00 PM

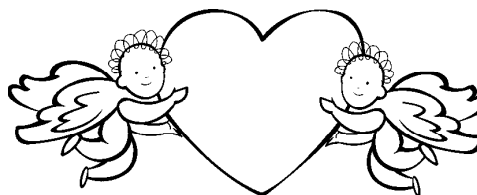
February 12, 2008  
Worship...5:00-7:00 PM

February 19, 2008  
Missions...7:00 PM

February 26, 2008  
Christian Ed...7:00 PM

**Sundays**  
Prayer...9:00 AM

**Thursdays**  
Bell Choir...6:15 PM  
Chancel Choir...7:30 PM



**Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

					<b>1</b> Cheryl Craig	<b>2</b> Megan Bible David Crates Barb Schade
<b>3</b> Braylon Kimmet	<b>4</b> Cyndi Smith	<b>5</b> Don Irvin	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Joshua Murphy	<b>8</b> Cari Metzger	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Gary Broshes	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Bill Weaver	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> Doug Fox  Gladys Sherrick 82 years	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Fran Hall 82 years  Ron Steiner	<b>21</b> Jason Holmes  Tori Holmes  Mary Kay Pease	<b>22</b> Andrew Piper	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Bob Thomas	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Kate Stengel	<b>29</b>	

*Anniversaries*

*Jerry & Becky Bean*  
 February 14  
 49 years

*Gary & Janet Grigg*  
 February 18  
 42 Years

*Jim & Phyllis Hines*  
 February 23  
 51 years

*Gene & Linda Craft*  
 February 25  
 41 years

*Larry & Shirley Moser*  
 February 28

# Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Cookbook

## Broccoli Salad

*By Ruth Shaw*

Ingredients		Instructions
4 cups	chopped broccoli	Put first 5 ingredients in large salad bowl.  For dressing, use last 3 ingredients.  Mix all together.  Let set several hours or overnight.
1 can	sliced water chestnuts	
1 small	onion	
8 slices	bacon, fried crisp	
1 cup	raisins	
1 cup	real mayonnaise	
3 Tbl.	vinegar	
2 Tbl.	sugar	



## Cherry Topped Cheesecake

*By Evelyn Broshes*

Ingredients		Instructions
1 pkg.	yellow cake mix	Heat oven to 300 degrees.  Measure out 1 cup dry cake mix and set aside.  In large mixing bowl, sitr together dry cake mix, 1 egg, and oil. Press crust mixture evenly in bottom and 3/4 way up sides of greased 9x13 inch pan.  In same bowl, blend cream cheese and sugar together. Add 3 eggs and reserved cake mix.  Beat 1 minute. Add gradually the milk,, lemon juice, and vanilla. Mix until smooth. Pour on crumb crust.  Bake at 300 degrees for 45-55 minutes or until center is firm.  Cool and spoon on pie filling.
4	eggs	
2 Tbl.	oil	
2 pkg.	cream cheese	
1/2 cup	sugar	
1 1/2 cup	milk	
3 Tbl.	lemon juice	
1 Tbl.	vanilla	
1 can	cherry pie filling	





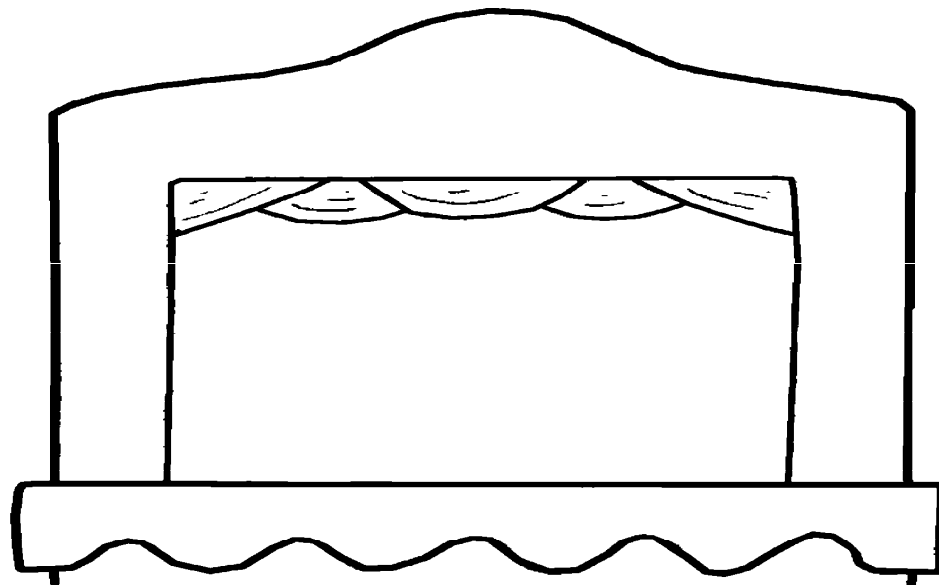
# KIDZ KORNER

## Unscramble the words to find things to do to have an abundant life.

1. keam a itgf \_\_\_\_\_
2. ktea a wlka \_\_\_\_\_
3. gnis a nsgo \_\_\_\_\_
4. od a ikdn eded \_\_\_\_\_
5. mreimzoe citreuprs \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. phle eeonsom \_\_\_\_\_
7. lcla a sloomnee nroesp \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. arde hte bBeil \_\_\_\_\_
9. rpya orf osoemen \_\_\_\_\_
10. iertw a epmo \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: Make a gift, take a walk, sing a song, do a kind deed, memorize scripture, help someone, call a lonesome person, read the Bible, pray for someone, write a poem

## God's Love Draw a picture of someone on the stage doing something to show God's love.



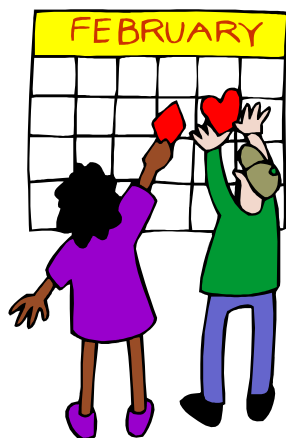
**St. Paul's United Methodist Church**

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## Living Our Faith

### Lent: What to Do, What Not to Do...

In times gone by, people would ask the question, "What are you giving up for Lent?" The practice – and thus the question – is not so commonplace any more.

The idea of giving something up for Lent had to do with Christians sharing in the suffering of Christ during this season, as we prepared for Good Friday and Easter. In some ways the Season of Lent replicates Jesus' journey into the desert where he fasted for 40 days, and so going without in this season was a sort of parallel activity. However, as character Rev. Clare Fergusson points out in the novel Out of the Deep I Cry, "When you have an abundance of something, giving up a little bit of

it isn't meaningful."

Some people go without sweets or eat simpler meals and, in so doing, experience an important spiritual discipline. But many Christians have looked to the roots of the ancient practice of fasting – which was to bring one closer to God – and sought out other ways to try to achieve this in this holy season.

How might you "step out of the ordinary" and journey a little more closely with God during Lent? Perhaps by taking a little more time in prayer and meditation each day. Maybe by reaching out in service to others, by volunteering some time on a regular basis, or reading to children at the local library, serving meals at a shelter, or cleaning up the roadside.

Perhaps someone who lives a

stressful life might choose to take on a fun activity each day of Lent. This is hardly a traditional way to experience the season, but it is something that could help them to grow spiritually.

It doesn't matter what we do, so much as the fact that we do something that might help us find ourselves changed, even just a little, when we arrive on the doorstep of Holy Week. Be ready to be transformed again by this most amazing story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

