

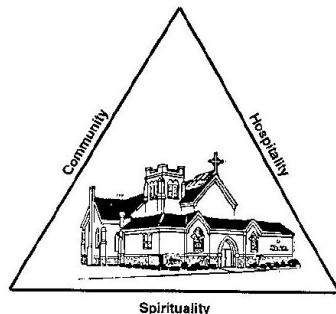
St. Paul's Epistle

~ An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples ~

Volume 32, Issue 7

July, 2009

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church
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www.elidastpaulschurch.org



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
Refocus Update	8
Celebrating...	9
A David Biography	10
Connecting With...	11
The People of St. Paul's	12
July Calendar	13
Recipes	14
Kidz Korner	15
Living Our Faith	16

Dear Friends,

What does it mean to be a missional church? I attend many meetings at the district and conference levels, and that term always seems to come up. So what does it mean?

As I reflect on Jesus' words when he ascended in Matthew's version of the gospel from *The Message*, he said, "God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."

When we're a missional church, we're living out this great commission from Christ, to go out to the world and train, or teach, everyone we meet about the way of life Jesus showed us. But, we know that when people are hungry and homeless and sick and rejected, and without the basic needs of life, it's hard to hear about a better way of life that calls them to sacrifice what they have. Mission is about completing the great commission, but we do that by living the great command, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength; and love your neighbor as yourself."

Loving our neighbor means we share God's love in Christ, as Jesus showed the disciples how to relate to those who were outside and on the fringes of accepted society. To love we cannot let others do without what they need for life—food, shelter, clothing, health care, and education and work that will allow them to provide for their families. Loving our neighbors means we want them to have the things in life that they need so they can reach their God-given potential. Loving our neighbors means we accept them where they are and for whom they are, just as Jesus accepted the beggar, the prostitute, the sinner, and each one of us.

As a missional church, we want to reach out with God's love to the hurting in our community and in our world. We do that through our mission week at UMCH, we do that through our mission giving, we do that through our acts of loving kindness. We act as a missional church whenever we see someone in need, and reach out in the name of Christ to provide and empower that person to a better life.

As we send the mission team off to UMCH this month, we are being missional. As we reach out to our local community, we are being missional. As we love our neighbors as ourselves, we are being missional.

See you in church.

*Peace,
Pastor Ruth*



Thought for the Month:

God said, "All you need is to have me by your side. I can turn your weakness into a source of strength."

— 2 Corinthians 12:9, John Henson



July Youth Calendar

July 5, 2009	No
July 12, 2009	Scheduled
July 19, 2009	Activities
July 26, 2009	Planned

Lakeside for Youth:

We sent five youth to Lakeside this year: Michele Theodore, Audrey Fox, Sylvia Hay, Molly Fessler, and Ashly Fox. Doug Guess went as a CIT (Counselor In Training) or 'gopher', and Corinne Piper went as the house mother for our group. They stayed with the Delphos Trinity UMC youth. Pastor Ruth went to stay one night with the group. The youth wish to thank everyone who participated in the fund raisers, beginning with the luncheon on the first Sunday in December, to the T-shirt sale and lollipop sale, as well as the special offering taken on Youth Sunday. All of these efforts offset the cost of Lakeside, and allowed us to give a donation toward our housing.

Youth Design Team

The newly formed Youth Design Team met in June to begin to design a youth ministry that will meet the needs of all of our youth in the church. We developed a first draft of a mission statement for youth ministry at St. Paul's: "Youth having fun while living and learning the Christian life together and in the world." We hope to use this mission statement to guide us in the rest of the work we have to do.

Our discussion centered around finding activities for our High School aged youth who will be juniors and seniors this coming year, introducing activities for our Middle School aged youth who will be 6th and 7th graders this year, and dreaming of developing a pre-youth group for 3rd through 5th graders as a feeder ministry to the youth groups. We also looked at Sunday school schedule and confirmation.

Our discussion led to who will lead them. While we struggled with this question, we believe that God is tapping the shoulder of someone in our congregation to take on this role. With the help of the design team, we hope to make that work easier. We will be meeting again July 16th to continue our work.

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



St. Paul's Epistle

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Subscription Rate: NONE

Editor:	Judy Chaffins
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Secretary:	Jone Lane
Choir Director:	Mary Kaye Pease
Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Youth Director:	Ruth Solo
Custodian:	Dave Decker

The ancient Romans called July "Quintilius" or "Fifth" because it was the fifth month in their calendar.

The Roman senate later changed the name to "July" to honor Julius Caesar, born on July 12.

The Anglo-Saxons called it "H e y m o n a t h " for "Hay-making month" or "Maed" for "flowering meadows." In the southern hemisphere, July marks mid-winter.

July 2009

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	



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

Missions within the Plains

Saturday, August 1, 2009 at
 Delphos Trinity United Methodist
 211 E. Third St, Delphos, OH 45833

Join the NW Plains Mission Team for a fun day on Missions

Guests speakers are as follows:

- * Anna Miller, West Ohio Food Bank, Lima, OH
- * Dorothy German, Vosh, Pandora, OH
- * Reuse, Recycle, Reduce, Rebecca Suvar, Haviland, OH
- * Vernon and Carol Sloan, Food Resource Bank, Stryker, OH
- * Rick McCoy, Emergency Mgmt Coordinator, Van Wert, OH
- * Rev. Paul Hamrick, M.O.M., Van Wert, OH
- R.S.V.P. by July 15, 2009 to Kathy Denny at:
 18990 CR 24, Grover Hill, OH 45849

Registration: 9:30 AM
 Lunch and Door Prizes
 Cost: \$9.00

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Mark your Calendars! You're invited to help us celebrate Christmas on Sunday, July 26, 2009 immediately following the morning worship service. Yes, you read that right – Christmas – Christmas in July to be exact.

Immediately following church on July 26, 2009 we're having a Christmas carry-in luncheon in the fellowship hall. Please plan to stay and bring a food item. Drinks will be provided.

Over lunch, we will be explaining the "A Night in Bethlehem" outreach event that St. Paul's UMC will be hosting in December. We hope that all of you are able to join us for this carry-in lunch!



July 26, 2009

The Heart of Church

Greeters

July 5	Ruth Burgoon & Susan Nartker
July 12	Marty & Kathy White
July 19	Evelyn Sarber
July 26	Gary & Janet Grigg

Nursery Volunteers

July 5	Open
July 12	Open
July 19	Open
July 26	Open

One day a young child asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?"

Polishing her halo the Grandmother asked, "No, how are we alike?"

The child replied: "You're both old."

— Source unknown



A man can no more diminish God's glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scribbling the word *darkness* on the walls of his cell.

— C.S. Lewis

God can do anything, you know – far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams!

— Ephesians 3:20, *The Message*



Children's Worship (Conducted During the Worship Hour)

1st Sunday of Each Month	Pastor Ruth—Story Shirley Moser—Children's Church
2nd Sunday of Each Month	Steve Moser—Story S lone Whetstone—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
5th Sunday of The Month	Pastor Ruth—Story Steve Moser—Children's Church

Table Grace

Gracious God,
some people have food and no friends.
Some people have friends and no food.
We thank you that on this day
we have both.
Amen.

The Business of Church

OHIO BENEFITS BANK UPDATE:

Last year, Shara Bowsher accepted the “call” to become an OBB counselor here at St. Paul’s, and spent most of her days off this past winter and early spring meeting with people to help them with taxes and enter them into the Ohio computer system so they would know if they were eligible for any other assistance offered by the state.

Because Shara is soon to become a grandmother of two at once, and because she will be spending those days off with her son and daughter-in-law and grandchildren, we are now looking for someone to step forward to be trained for this important work. We appreciate all that Shara has done for St. Paul’s link with OBB. Her stepping forward gave us an opportunity to reach out through her to people who were in need of assistance.

If you feel you would like to give some time for training, and would be interested in this partnership between St. Paul’s and the state of Ohio, please see Pastor Ruth for more information.

Faithfulness to Food Pantry a Blessing

The generosity of the people of St. Paul’s Church is overwhelming. Each month we, as a congregation of believers, buy an extra box of cereal or an extra can of soup and put it in the collection boxes for the Five Loaves Food Pantry. We are in the midst of hard economic times with many people losing their jobs and finding it hard to make ends meet. Your generosity has helped hundreds of people put food on their tables to feed their families. In June, we collected 10 boxes of macaroni and cheese, 9 boxes of cereal, 4 cans of tuna, 4 boxes of cake mix, 3 cans of Spaghetti-O’s, 3 cans of vegetables, 2 boxes of Kleenex, 2 boxes of Ritz crackers, 2 cans of fruit, 2 rice dinners, 2 boxes of prepared food, 1 bottle of ketchup, 1 bottle of dish detergent, 1 bottle of shampoo and 1 box of jello. You will truly be blessed by your faithfulness as you bless needy families with your donations.

~ Tim Piper

Book of Timothy



Committee Chairs

PPR Chair	Linda Craft
Trustees Chair	Jamie Wyant
Finance Chair	Art Holman
Physical Plant Chair	Ron Steiner
Treasurer	Gene Craft
Education Chair	Steve Moser
Administrative Council Chair	Scott Fessler
Worship	Ruth Solo
Nurture	Martha Vazquez
Stewardship	Bill McKinney
Missions	Maedene Holmes & Marty White

Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

May 31, 2009	97
June 7, 2009	98
June 14, 2009	80
June 21, 2009	79

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,466.00

Unified Ministry Giving:	Other:
May 31, 2009	\$2,086.55
June 7, 2009	\$3,502.00
June 14, 2009	\$3,175.47
June 21, 2009	\$2,571.00
	\$372.00
	\$741.47
	\$361.95
	\$2,005.00

A Simple Way to Deal with Worry

An anxious mind can be tamed simply by reading and re-reading short, inspirational quotes. Some of my favorites include:

- I've developed a new philosophy—I only dread one day at a time. (Charlie Brown by Charles Schultz)
- Worrying is like a rocking chair, it gives you something to do, but it gets you nowhere.—Glen Turner
- Somehow our devils are never quite what we expect when we meet them face to face.—Nelson DeMille
- You can't wring your hands and roll up your sleeves at the same time.—Pat Schroeder
- Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrow, it only saps today of its joy.—Leo Buscaglia



Flowers:

July 5, 2009	Judy Strayer
July 12, 2009	Dorothy Banks
July 19, 2009	Lois Cook
July 26, 2009	Tim and Corinne Piper

Sunday School Attendance

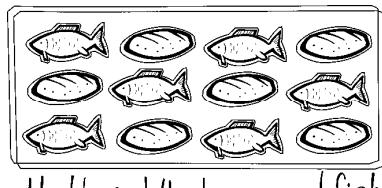
May 31, 2009	N/A
June 7, 2009	N/A
June 14, 2009	N/A
June 21, 2009	N/A

Visit The United
Methodist Website at:
www.umw.org

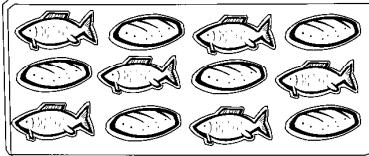
Consulting the Manual



“As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.”
~ Mark 6:34



He blessed the loaves and fish
Mark 6:41



Bible Readings for July

Revised Common Lectionary
Year B

Week of July 5

Color: Green

Old Testament:

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
Psalm 48

New Testament:

2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13

Week of July 19

Color: Green

Old Testament:

2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Psalm 89:20-37

New Testament:

Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Week of July 12

Color: Green

Old Testament:

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-9
Psalm 24

New Testament:

Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

Week of July 26

Color: Green

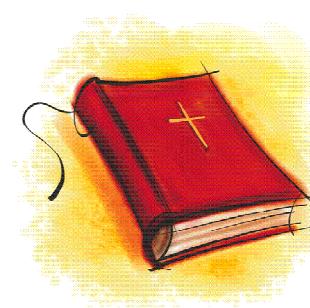
Old Testament:

2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalm 14

New Testament:

Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

For more detailed information on the Revised Common Lectionary, please visit:
www.gbow.org



REFOCUS UPDATE –July 2009

The ReFocus Network has finished the meetings for Phase 1 where the pastors have been going through the process to discover where God is calling. During Phase 1, a team from each church was trained to help facilitate tables when the members of the congregation will be invited to attend a Focused Living Retreat, and begin the process to discover what God has done in your life in the past, what core values have emerged as a result of what God has been doing, and where God is calling you for the purpose of the kingdom into the future. The team of leaders who will facilitate the Focused Living Retreats for St. Paul's have met in June to complete the final work to better enable them as leaders. We will be setting dates for our first Focused Living Retreat in the near future.

In October, the pastors will begin Phase II, and will start developing the plans to bring the congregation to Summits where we will begin the journey to ReFocus our Ministries as a church. Be watching for the Focused Living Retreat dates, and then for news of the leaders training

for Phase II later in the year. The Summits will begin after the first of next year.



Summer Saints

Many churches celebrate saints – a variety of Christians over the centuries who are seen to have lived especially good lives. Of course, you do not need “St.” in front of your name to be a saint. The New Testament refers to all Christians as saints. The word simply means “holy” or “set apart for God.”

However, there are many people who have been recognized as having shown extraordinary faith. Each month prayer books and calendars of Roman Catholic, Anglican (Episcopal), Lutheran, and other churches recognize these people.

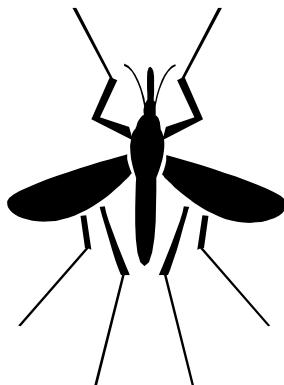
It might be fun spending time learning about saints. Perhaps your church, street, or community is named for a saint. Who is that person? What did they do? Your name may be the same as a saint. Try searching for “Saint [Your Name]” on the

internet and see what happens. You might also search for the saints listed below to learn more about them.

Here are some people that various churches recognize and celebrate in the month of July:

- **July 3 Thomas** – one of the twelve disciples of Jesus. John 20:24-29 tells of Thomas’ encounter with the risen Christ.
- **July 4 Elizabeth of Portugal** – Married to King Diniz before she was a teenager, Elizabeth did many great acts of charity. Upon the king’s death she gave away her property to the poor. She also

(Continued on page 11)



Mosquito is out,
it's the end of the day;
she's humming and hunting
her evening away.
Who knows why such hunger
arrives on such wings
at sundown? I guess
it's the nature of things.
— N. M. Boedecker

Celebrating...

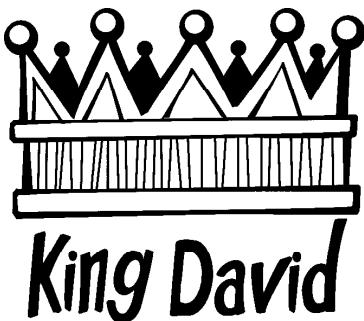


At Easter Sunrise Service on April 12th, we were privileged to hear the message "Celebrate" from our puppet ministry team, pictured above. L-R: Oliver Fessler, Steve Moser, Shirley Moser, Michele Theodore, Gene Craft, Tracy Sdao, Steve Sdao.



Pastor Ruth listens as Rev. Cean Wilson gives the congregation "Lessons from Susanna Wesley" on May 3, 2009, during the morning worship service.

A David Biography



Shepherd. Writer of psalms. Warrior. King. Such are some of the words used to describe the biblical David, ruler of Judah and Israel for some 40 years around 1010-970 BCE. His presence since then has become the stuff of legends: over the next century and even beyond, the Jews would long for a ruler like David. The semi-continuous stream of the Revised Common Lectionary assigns David's story during the Season after Pentecost. It's the story of a very human ruler as well as a "larger-than-life" king.

He was descended from Ruth, the Moabite who cared for her mother-in-law Naomi; thus, the great ruler of the Jewish people was himself not wholly Jewish – an important piece to note.

David, the youngest of several sons, was watching the sheep when the prophet Samuel arrived to anoint a

new king. Only when the other brothers were rejected by God's Spirit was David called in. He was chosen because "God looks on the heart" and so would David. However, we're also told that he was "ruddy, had beautiful eyes, and was good-looking" (1 Sam 16).

In his early days, David was a musician who could soothe the mood swings of King Saul. We are told that during the war against the Philistines David felled the giant Goliath with a single stone from his slingshot.

David went on to fight King Saul in a bitter war. At one point in the war David even sided with the Philistines and he twice spared Saul's life when he could have killed him. Eventually, as the war turned, Saul commits suicide and David becomes recognized as the new ruler.

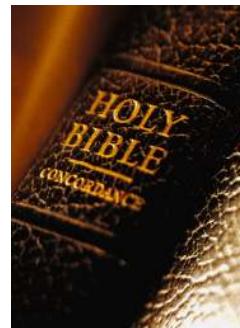
While seen as a hero, David also had his flaws. He took advantage of Bathsheba and she became pregnant. When efforts to have her husband Uriah sleep with her so he would believe himself the father proved ineffective, David arranged for Uriah's death. The prophet Nathan

challenged David on his behavior and, in what was seen as divine punishment, the child died.

The rape of David's daughter Tamar led eventually to his son Absalom rebelling in a bitter war. This, and other military outbursts, combined to prevent David from building a temple to God. It had been David's wish, but was left to his son and successor Solomon to undertake the task.

Throughout his life, David left a great mark on the two kingdoms he united. Almost half (73 out of 150) of the psalms are attributed to him. He conquered Jerusalem and brought the ark of God into the city.

Was he a good king? Was he a bad king? Ultimately, David was both. Beyond that, he shows us that God's chosen are not "perfect" but are human.



Connecting With ...

(Continued from page 8)

was known as a peacemaker in her family.

- **July 11 Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino** – Patron Saint of Europe, Benedict was the founder of modern monasteries. He urged his monks to “welcome every person as if you were welcoming Christ.”
- **July 15 Swithun, bishop of Winchester** – One legend about Swithun claims that he restored a woman’s basket of eggs when they had been broken. A song is sung about him each July, noting that if it rains on his day there will be 40 days of more rain; if it is sunny, there will be 40 days of sun.
- **July 15 Bonaventure** – Many places have been named for this medieval Franciscan, noted for combining the Greek and Latin branches of the church.
- **July 16 Henry Williams** – In the early 1800’s, Williams and his wife travelled from England to Australia, and then to New Zealand, where Williams worked to bring Christianity to the native Maori people. He translated the Treaty of Waitangi into Maori; however, many have questioned aspects of his

translation which made the treaty difficult to understand.

- **July 17 William White, Bishop of Pennsylvania** – In addition to being the 2nd bishop in the Episcopal Church (USA), White founded a school for the deaf, and was known for his work in reforming early prisons. He also aided many sick people during the yellow fever epidemic, and later served as presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church.
- **July 22 St. Mary Magdalene** – This courageous woman was the first person commissioned by the risen Christ to proclaim the good news of Easter to the world (Jn 20:11-18). More modern stories have tried to paint her as a prostitute to discredit her important ministry, but the scriptures do not support this.
- **July 25 James and John** – Jesus called these two brothers to ministry as one of his first acts (Mt 4:21-22; Mk 1:19-20; Lk 5:1-11). They were sometimes called the “sons of thunder,” presumably because of their temper, yet they were included in Jesus’ inner circle of disciples.
- **July 29 Mary, Martha, Lazarus** – These three were counted among Jesus’ closest friends. One story tells of Jesus

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Don Chaffins
Michael Craft
Lindsey Grapner
Norm Grigsby
Heather Rabley
Ray Waldron

Homebound Members

Hazel Dunn
Ruth Hurley
Marie Lee
Edna Osman
Jean Redd
Gladys Sherrick
Ray & Helen Waldron

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Sara House
June Metzger
Rick Scholfield

Those in the Military

Jason Stanley

Visit The United Methodist Communications website : 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

*Dear St. Paul's Family,
Thank you for the cards,
flowers, and prayers
following my surgery.*

*Also, a big thanks to
Pastor Ruth who drove to
Columbus and arrived by
6:30 AM to support me
and my family during
surgery. That is going
the extra mile. I
appreciate your
kindnesses and
thoughtfulness.
~ Don Chaffins*



**Hope Mathwig received the
Valiant Woman Award
this year from
Church Women United.
Congratulations, Hope!**

**Congratulations to Slone Nagy and Brad Whetstone,
who were married at St. Paul's on June 13, 2009.**

*Cards may reach them at
21577 Monticello-Spencerville Rd.
Spencerville, OH 45887*



(Continued from page 11)

visiting the sisters in their home (Lk 10:38-42). Mary sits as a disciple at Jesus' feet and Martha is at first concerned, but Jesus reassures her. John's Gospel tells the story of Jesus restoring Lazarus to life (Jn 11:1-44) and Jesus later visits at the home of the three shortly before his crucifixion.

- **July 30 William Wilberforce** – Wilberforce was a member of the British parliament. Among his accomplishments were the abolition of slavery in the British Empire and founding the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).
- **July 31 Ignatius of Loyola** – This Spanish man was the founder of the monastic order known as the Society of Jesus, or Jesuits. He also wrote a famous book known as the *Spiritual Exercises*.

**Prayer List Updates
Please Contact
Lavonne Segovia**

Meetings

July 6, 2009
PPR..7:15 PM

July 7, 2009
Trustees...7:00 PM

July 13, 2009
Finance...7:00 PM

July 13, 2009
Ad Council...8:00 PM

July 21, 2009
Missions...7:00 PM

July 28, 2009
Christian Ed...7:00 PM

Sundays
Prayer...9:00 AM

Anniversaries

- ♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥
Doug & Ginger Fox
July 6
- ♥♥♥♥♥♥
Tim & Corinne Piper
July 17
- ♥♥♥♥♥♥
Bill & Marlene Weaver
July 18
58 years
- ♥♥♥♥♥♥
Tim & Sue Theodore
July 20
- ♥♥♥♥♥♥
Denny & Carole Grapner
July 26
46 years
- ♥♥♥♥♥♥
Bill & Joyce Nichols
July 27
63 years

July 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1 Jenni Theodore	2	3	4 James Matlock 
5 Brian Kinney	6	7	8 Jean Redd 92 years	9	10 Don Holmes Hope Mathwig 90 years Tony Matlock	11
12	13	14 Gloria Brunk	15	16 Kim Crates	17	18 Zachary Loose
19 Macy Chambers	20 Frank VanHorn	21 Josh Grapner	22 Carole Grapner	23 Bryan Craft	24	25 Ian House
26	27 Gretchen Woeller	28	29 Jeff Holmes John Lane Sharla Murphy	30 Ethan Thomas Jan Wyant	31 Ruth Hurley 91 years Jan Wyant	

Favorite Recipes from St. Paul's Younger Generation

Cowboy Cavier

by Tonya Craft

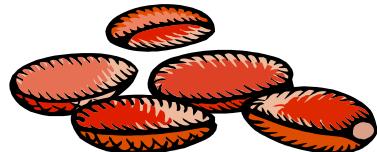
Ingredients		Instructions
1 can	black eyed peas	Can use any combination of beans you prefer. Toss first seven ingredients together in a bowl. For the dressing, mix last 3 ingredients in a pan and bring to a boil. Remove from heat and let cool. (For a fast cooling, place pan in sink with 1 inch ice water.) Sir in cool dressing over bean and veggies and let set overnight in the fridge. Mix occasionally. Spoon out the vegetables from the oil to serve. Serve with Tostitos scoops.
1 can	black beans	
1 can	pinto beans	
1 can	kidney beans (drained)	
1/2 cup or 3 cups	celery, finely chopped	
1 pkg.	frozen corn, thawed	
1 small	red onion, finely chopped	
3/4 cup	oil	
1 cup	apple cider vinegar	
1/2 cup	sugar	



Almond Delight

by Megan Wyant

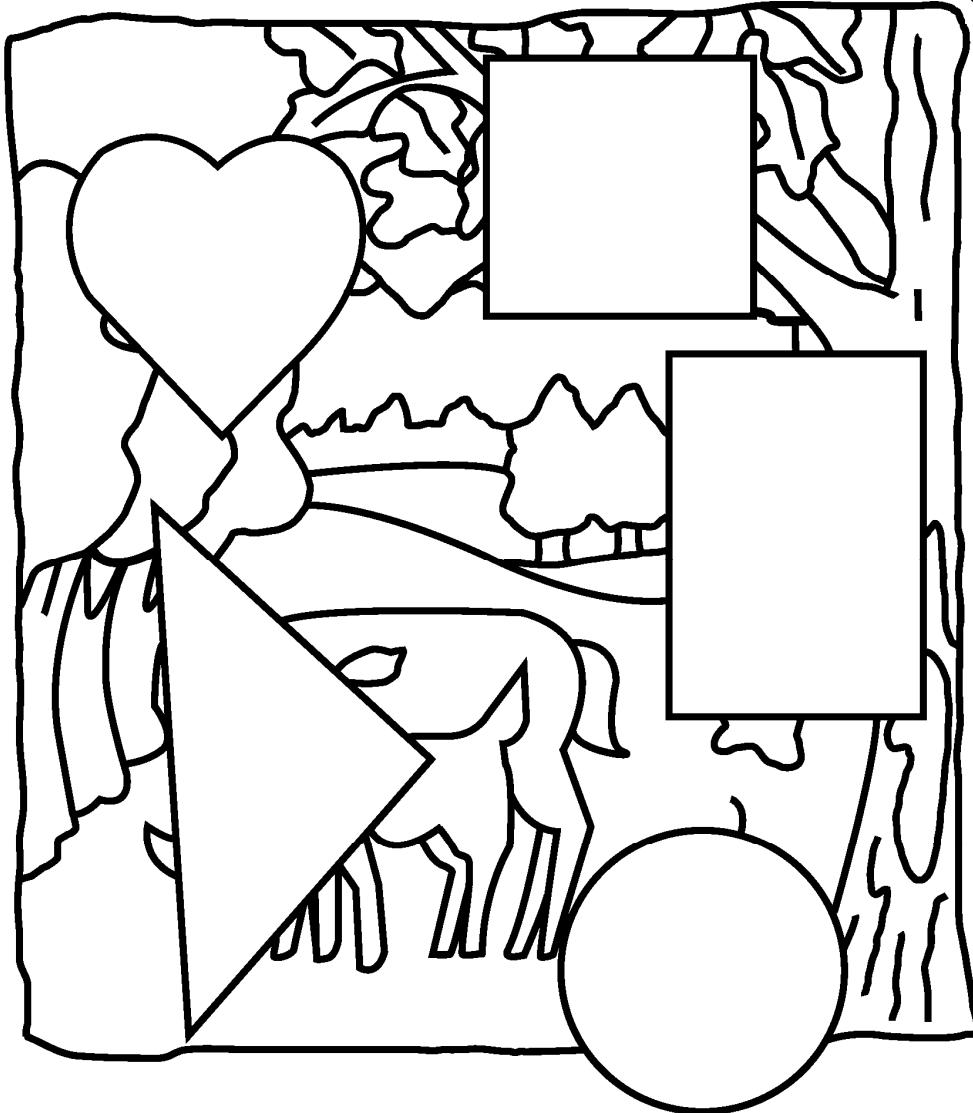
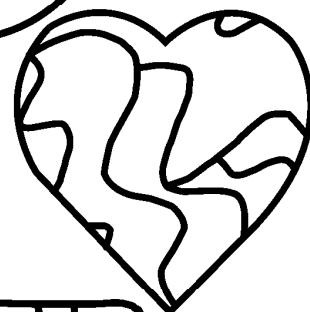
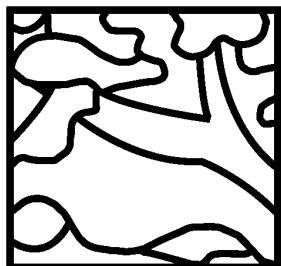
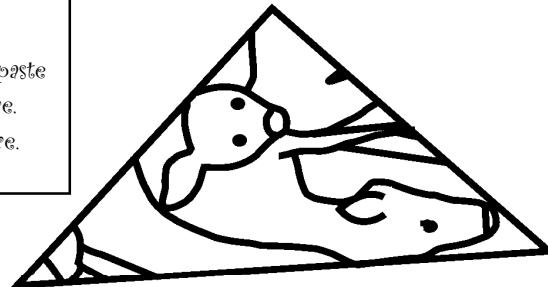
Ingredients		Instructions
1 stick	real butter	Mix first 5 ingredients and spread on a cookie sheet.
1 cup	all-purpose flour	Bake at 325 degrees for 30 minutes. Let cool.
1/4 cup	brown sugar	Mix together pudding and milk with beater until thick.
1 cup	sliced almonds	Fold in Cool Whip.
7 oz.	flaked coconut	Crumble almond mixture.
2 boxes	vanilla instant pudding	Layer pudding and almond mixture in truffle bowl. Serve.
1 1/3 cup	milk	Keep remainder in refrigerator.
12 oz. tub	Cool Whip	



KIDZ KORNER

Shapes

Cut out the shapes and paste them onto the picture. Then color the picture.



St. Paul's United Methodist Church
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July 2009

Living Our Faith

Lying on his deathbed a man asked to be joined by his pastor, bank manager, and lawyer.

"When I die," he said, "I wish to be buried with all of my money." He then gave each of them \$50,000 and asked them to throw the money on top of his coffin just before he was to be buried.

Shortly afterward the man died, and was buried within the week. At the wake the three men were talking, and the pastor made a confession.

"I have to tell you, friends,

that after prayer and consideration I felt I could not throw away such a large sum of money. I put half in the grave, but I kept the rest – for the church, mind you – not for myself."

In a similar spirit of confession, the bank manager said, "Well to be candid, I didn't throw all of my money in, either. With the current economic situation, I knew my bank needed money or we might go under, so I also threw in half and kept the rest back."

The lawyer gave both a very

indignant look. "I am absolutely appalled with your dishonesty. I want you to know that I threw in a check for the entire amount.

– Source Unknown

