

St. Paul's Epistle

~ An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples ~

Volume 31, Issue 5

May, 2008

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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www.elidastpaulschurch.org



Dear Friends,

Isn't it wonderful to wake up to warmer days and sunshine? It reminds us of the new life that we've received in Christ as we see the earth coming to life after the dead of winter. For this congregation, that is even more meaningful because of the death of so many we knew and loved in the last several weeks. But, the earth is renewed, and we know that God has given us life once again.

Spring is a time to begin again. Did you fall short of your New Year's resolutions? Begin again. Did you stop reading your devotions every day? Begin again. Did you quit exercising? Begin again. Did you cheat on your weight loss plan? Begin again. Did you miss church? Begin again.

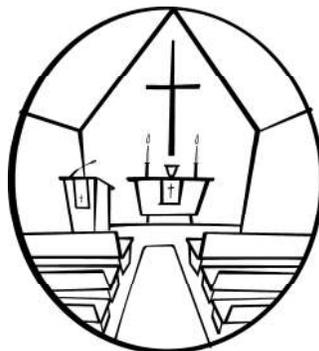
When people disappointed God, and the great flood was sent, God began again with Noah. When Israel turned from God and were taken into captivity, God began again with a remnant. When the faith that shaped God's people became inwardly focused, God began again with Jesus. When the church became too powerful and politically influenced, God began again with Martin Luther. When the Church of England became the law, God began again with John Wesley.

Just as we need to begin again when we fall short or disappoint ourselves, God needs to begin again when the people of God become misdirected from their purpose. As St. Paul's looks into our future, in what ways do we need to begin again? How are we to carry the faith forward in new ways? In what ways can we influence our community and the world to begin again with God through Christ?

Just some thoughts in a spring morning, a time of beginning again.

See you in church.

Pastor Ruth



Thought for the Month:

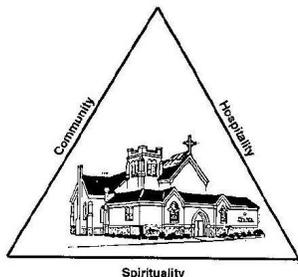
"There is not a day when I will not be with you to the end of time."

Matthew 28:20b,

William Barclay, *The New Testament: A New Translation*

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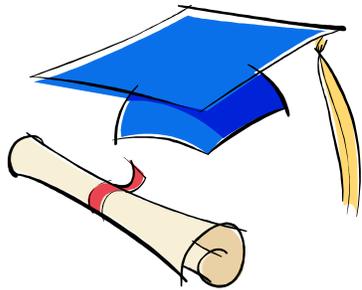




May Youth Calendar

May 4, 2008	5—7 PM
May 11, 2008	Pastor Todd In Findlay
May 18, 2008	5—7 PM
May 25, 2008	5—7 PM



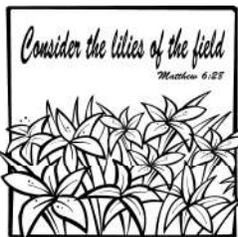



Doug Guess 2008 Graduates

John Segovia



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



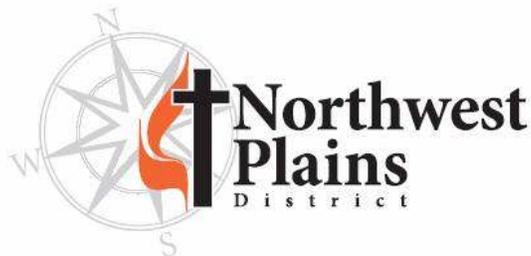
Our little ones need your smiling faces!!! We are currently looking for people who are willing to be in a pool of nursery volunteers. You could help on Sundays that are convenient for you on a regular rotation. You can sign up with a friend or have us assign a helper for you. The more people in our pool, the less often each person is scheduled. Please contact Slone Nagy at 419-204-2585 for additional details.

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Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Youth Director:	Doug Fox
Custodian:	Sunny Day Maids




Newsletter articles due

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

Spencerville Trinity Jubilee
 Sunday, May 4, 10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Free food, music, games & more!
 Trinity UMC is located at the corner of Fourth & Main Streets, Spencerville, Ohio

Internet Safety Program "Make A Difference"
 Sunday, May 4, 2008 ~ 6-8 PM
 Trinity UMC, Lima
 Presentation by: Juergen A. Waldick, Allen County Prosecutor
 Pizza Dinner included - donations accepted.
 Please RSVP to Rachel Burns - 419.227.0800 or rburns@limatrinityumc.org.
 Trinity Church is located at 301 W. Market St., Lima.

Conference Happenings & Beyond
 West Ohio NewsNET General Conference Edition is posted on the West Ohio Conference Website. Check it out at www.westohioumc.org.

2008 School of Christian Mission ~ July 25-31, 2008
 "Living the Sacred" is the theme for this year's school to be held at Ohio Northern University. One, three, and four-day programs are available with tracks for adults, young adults, youth, children and Korean language. Registration is due by July 1. To download the brochure, visit: http://woconsole.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/SOCM08_Final_Brochure_PVA4XQDC.pdf.

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Book Club News



*St. Paul's Book Club will meet Saturday, May 3, 2008, in the church library at 9:00 AM. Please bring your own breakfast. We will discuss the book **Snow Flower and the Secret Fan** by Lisa See.*

May 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	31



ST. PAULS CHURCH TO HOST U.M. MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men of St. Paul's Church, would you like to join other United Methodist men in food and fellowship? On Saturday, May 3rd, St. Paul's Church will host a breakfast for the Lima Area United Methodist men, in our fellowship hall. We will gather at 8 A.M. for a hearty breakfast and will have fellowship with men from other United Methodist churches in the Lima area. Then we will discuss how we, as men of faith, can team with other churches to serve our community and our God in local mission work.

Past breakfasts held at Trinity UMC and The Church at Allentown indicate that we will

(Continued on page 9)

The Heart of Church

Greeters

May 4	Ruth Burgoon & Susan Nartker
May 11	Gerald & Wanda Strayer
May 18	Jerry & Becky Bean
May 25	Open

Nursery Volunteers

May 4	Slone Nagy
May 11	Open
May 18	Corinne Piper
May 25	Open



Pastor Ruth will have a membership orientation class Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM. The class will be held for 4 weeks, May 18-June 8, 2008. Those participating will be received into membership on June 8 during the worship service. Please contact Pastor Ruth if you wish to join.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS BUSY TIMES FOR ST. PAUL'S

It's been said that a church that is not doing mission work is nothing more than a "club". We at St. Paul's U. M. Church may praise God that we are involved in many mission and outreach activities.

- ✓ ROOF PROJECT FOR THE UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME
- ✓ FIVE LOAVES FOOD PANTRY AT ALLENTOWN UMC
- ✓ RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM
- ✓ SAMARITAN HOUSE
- ✓ F.O.R.O.
- ✓ RAMP/ROOFING PROJECTS AND OTHER LOCAL MISSIONS
- ✓ LIMA AREA UNITED METHODISTS MEN'S BREAKFAST
- ✓ RENOVATION OF OUR FELLOWSHIP HALL
- ✓ OUR ELEVETTE LIFT
- ✓ CHICKEN BBQ
- ✓ CHURCH CLEANING—INSIDE & OUT

A new feature of our Administrative Council meetings is to identify church events in the past month for which we can celebrate and truly

- Continued on Page 10

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

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

The Missions committee has been busy the last few months preparing for the upcoming United Methodist Children's Home project scheduled for June. We have 14 persons signed up to go, and will join several other churches from West Ohio for a week of roof repair, landscaping, and general maintenance. If you have questions about this project, see Jamie Wyant.

The Committee has been working to get organized, and we've identified several local missions that we will be supporting through the Coins for Communion. They are as follows:

- June: Five Loaves Food Pantry
- July-August: Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen
- September: Samaritan House
- October: The Crop Walk
- November: Heartbeat
- December: Grampie's House

As we send our Coins for Communion to these agencies and ministries, we will also be asking that you give 'hands on' support, by supplying other tangible goods needed to care for the people they serve. Some of the thoughts of the committee are that we would have one day per month that St. Paul's would serve the meal at Our Daily Bread, and teams of 5-7 people would go each month to serve and meet the people. We would also look at collecting items for the babies and moms served by Heartbeat in November, and possibly collect children's books for Grampie's House in December.

The hope of the Missions Outreach Committee is that we as a church would provide some financial resources through Coins for Communion, and tangible assistance through other donations, but also begin to develop relationships with some of the people served through these ministries.

In September, we are planning a Missions Saturation Sunday on September 28, where you will see displays of missions we've been supporting, ideas for new missions to support, and will have the opportunity to direct where we spend our missions time and resources through a 'dot' process.

Jesus reached out to the poor and needy. In Matthew 25, he said, "In as much as you have do this to the least of these, you have done it to me."

Compassion clothes the soul
with the robe of God and
divinely adorns it.

- Meister Eckhart



Committee Chairs	
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 30, 2008	106
April 6, 2008	104
April 13, 2008	98
April 20, 2008	112
April 27, 2008	106

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$2,991.00

	Unified Ministry Giving:	Other:
March 30, 2008	\$1,997.68	\$819.00
April 6, 2008	\$4,115.00	\$974.50
April 13, 2008	\$2,848.00	\$2,245.00
April 20, 2008	\$2,430.50	\$2,370.16
April 27, 2008	\$2,246.00	\$1,323.69



Table grace

Dear God,
bless this humble bunch
while upon this food
we munch. Amen.

Sunday School Attendance

March 30 , 2008	40
April 6, 2008	38
April 13, 2008	53
April 20, 2008	49
April 27, 2008	32

Flowers:

May 4, 2008	Bill & Esther McKinney
May 11, 2008	Dorothy Banks
May 18, 2008	Jerry Crates
May 25, 2008	Dan & Margie Best

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

Consulting the Manual

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!" While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again! As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...But please don't shove me either!"



Bible Readings for May Revised Common Lectionary Year B

Week of May 4

Ascension Sunday

Color: White or Gold

Old Testament:

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

New Testament:

Acts 1:6-14

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

Week of May 11

Pentecost

Color: Red

Old Testament:

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

New Testament:

Acts 2:1-21

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

John 20:19-23 or

John 7:37-39



Week of May 18

Trinity Sunday

Color: White

Old Testament:

Genesis 1:1-2;4a

Psalm 8

New Testament:

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

Week of May 25

Memorial Sunday

Old Testament:

Isaiah 49:8-16a

Psalm 131 or 62:5-12

New Testament:

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Matthew 6:24-34

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



WE WALK/RUN FOR A CURE:



A.C.S. RELAY FOR LIFE, 2008



Again this year, St. Paul's U.M.C., in an outreach mission with the Lima Allen County Regional Transit Authority ('RTA'), has formed a team and entered the Allen County Chapter of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Team members are: **St. Paul's** – Linda Holman, Team Lead, Carole Grapner, Corinne Piper, Margie Best, Virginia Hollar, Ron Steiner, Linda Craft, Shirley Moser, and Marty White; **RTA** – Lynn Cary, Kay Prine, Dianna Drexler, and Shelley Gould.

These people are the core of the RTA/St. Paul's team – others will be asked to join with them for the annual Relay event **June 13-14, 2008**, at the Allen County Fairgrounds beginning **Friday at 6:00 p.m.** through **Saturday 6:00 p.m.** In exchange for pledge donations, walkers/runners maneuver the track in one hour or more increments before handing off or relaying to the next Team participant. The intent is to occupy the track (maintain the relay) for the full 24-hour event in an effort to attain the Team's financial goal of \$2,500.

For many years now, St. Paul's has participated in this event with the RTA. Initial financial goals were modest - \$1,000 range. Through spirit and enthusiasm, the Team has stretched its fundraising goal to \$2,500 as an A.C.S. Silver-designated team. This is a remarkable effort of which St. Paul's should be proud; however, the true focus is supporting cancer education and research in the persistent battle to minimize and eliminate this dreaded disease that has had some effect upon all of us either yesterday or today.

You can be an 'honorary' Team member through your support of: the Team's **Sunday, May 4, 2008, luncheon and bake sale**. If you enjoyed the fellowship during the recent Koinonia Chicken Barbeque in our beautifully renovated fellowship hall, you'll enjoy equally this May 4 fund raising event; Walker/runners' pledge solicitations. We have raised \$905 toward our goal thus far. Your pledge contribution will place us even closer.

Finally, THANK YOU! In the true spirit of Christian contribution, St. Paul's Elida has demonstrated a willingness to support its community through this event and many others on its Outreach/Missions calendar. Deeds speak louder than words.

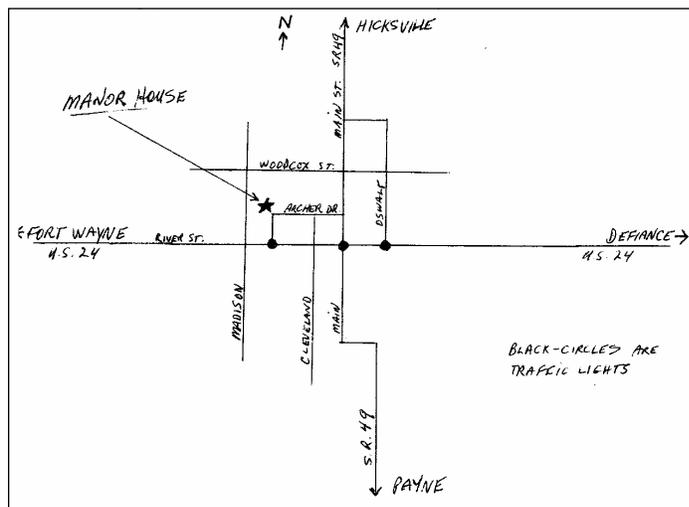
Dear Friends/Relatives of Ruth Hurley,

Ruth is moving from her apartment at Gatehouse Condominiums to Manor House Assisted Living in Antwerp, OH. With her 90th birthday just months away, it was time to move closer to her daughters, grandchildren & their families. Her new home is in downtown Antwerp. A map is below.



*Ruth Hurley has a new address:
204 Archer Dr.
P. O. Box 759 Apt. 111
Antwerp, OH 45813
Phone: 419-258-2798*

*Ruth would like to hear
from her friends at St. Paul's!*



Celebrating...

ST. PAULS KICKS OFF 5 LOAVES FOOD PANTRY PARTNERSHIP

On Sunday, April 6th, St. Paul U.M. Church kicked off its partnership with Immanuel UMC and The Church at Allentown UMC to provide food to local families in need. Allentown started the Five Loaves Food Pantry in their basement a few months ago in partnership with the Lima Area Food Bank, to try to serve those needy families in the Elida-west Lima area. The need is so great that they need help with stocking the pantry. A partnership was announced at St. Paul's Church on April 6th. During that week, we collected **20 boxes of cereal, 18 boxes of tissues, 11 tubes of toothpaste, 6 boxes of rice, 2 toothbrushes and 3 bars of soap.** Thank you to everyone that donated these items! We will make the **second Sunday of each month** "Food Pantry Sunday". Food will be disbursed at Allentown on the third and fourth Saturdays from 9-12 A.M. Anyone who is in need of food is welcome to come to the pantry. Needed in May, will be canned fruit and vegetables, shampoo and boxed dinners such as pasta, noodles, macaroni, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce. Jesus commands us to "*feed my sheep*" both spiritually and physically. Thank you to all who answer His call.

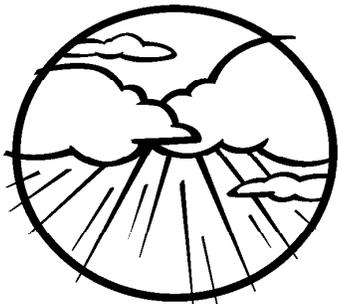
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have a good turnout on May 3rd.

All of the men of St. Paul's Church are invited to attend. David Chivington, the Assistant Superintendent of the Northwest Plains District will be our guest for the breakfast.

Donations from the breakfast will go in a fund to be used for local mission work. If you would like more information on the breakfast or if you can provide food for the breakfast, please contact Tim Piper, Jamie Wyant or Norm and Mary Grigsby.

Ascension Day



Exercising Dominion

Sometimes words can get us into trouble, especially when we understand them in ways that are different from their original intention. Consider the word *dominion* in Genesis 1:28. God tells the first humans (and through them, us) to have dominion over every living thing. The word *dominion* comes from the Latin *dominus* meaning "Lord" and is also the root for "dominate." It usually implies exerting power and, in short, lording it over others.

Maybe it's time to re-examine the word. What might it mean to exercise dominion in a godly way? The Bible shows us that God tends to exercise "lordship" through compassion and gentleness, promoting harmony and balance. Jesus demonstrates lordship by being a servant.

God's instruction to have dominion is less about dominating and more about coexisting in harmony; caring for the world as much as God does. Created in the image of God, we are called to exercise dominion the way God would do it – with gentleness, compassion, and concern for the creation of which we are an integral part.



Did you ever wonder...

What is another word for thesaurus?

Why there is an "s" in the word lisp?

What the best thing was *before* sliced bread?

Connecting With ...

UM Social Principles



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Council on Ministries



OHIO BISHOPS OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

To: The United Methodist People of Ohio
 From: Bishop Bruce R. Ough, West Ohio Conference
 Bishop John L. Hopkins, East Ohio Conference
 Date: April 7, 2008
 RE: A Pastoral Letter on the Expansion of Gambling in Ohio

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Grace and peace to you from God, our gracious creator and provider, and the Lord Jesus Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

As the episcopal leaders of the United Methodist people in Ohio, we write to you with a grave concern for the repeated, relentless and reckless efforts to expand gambling in Ohio. With blatant disregard for the citizens of Ohio who have repeatedly and resoundingly said "No" to the expansion of gambling, the gambling industry is once again mounting a well-funded campaign to introduce casino gambling to our state.

An organization called "My Ohio Now" intends to introduce a ballot initiative this fall that would change the state's Constitution to create a \$600,000,000 single site casino and resort destination in Clinton County, centrally located between Columbus, Cincinnati and Dayton. The "My Ohio Now" website claims this destination casino gambling site will be the most amazing entertainment complex in the Midwest, calling it "a beautiful mansion that reflects our Midwestern sensibilities."

United Methodists in Ohio, like United Methodists around the world, embrace a core set of values handed down to us from John Wesley, the founder of our great evangelical and spiritual movement. These core values are:

- > Do no harm
- > Do good
- > Stay in Love with God

This way of living is the foundation of our "sensibilities." We know that these core values are incompatible with a casino gambling "mansion" designed to exploit God's people.

We do not want the citizens of Ohio to be deceived by the glamour of this proposal, the appeal of "My Ohio Now's" television advertisements or the promise that a destination casino gambling site will be an economic engine for Ohio.

32 Wesley Blvd., Worthington, Ohio 43085-3585
 (614) 844-6200 • Fax (614) 781-2642 • 1-800-437-0028

Perhaps, more disturbing is the fact that the "My Ohio Now" initiative, if approved, would use the state's Constitution to create a casino gambling monopoly for the two business persons developing the proposal. No one else would be able to compete with them. Our state's Constitution gives no other business a monopoly. Apart from the devastating impact of casino gambling, granting two developers a monopoly guaranteed by our Constitution is an assault on our Midwestern and American sensibilities.

This ballot initiative will also change Ohio's gambling status to a Class III Gambling State. This will open the door to Tribal gambling. The Eastern Shawnee already have agreements with several communities within Ohio to develop casinos should the door be opened. Tribal gambling operations cannot be regulated by the state. Recent decisions to expand Ohio's current lottery to include the highly addictive game of Keno have already signaled to the gambling interests that the door is opening to casino gambling. It is time, once again, for the citizens of Ohio to say, "No!" The United Methodist people of Ohio can and will lead the way.

We write to remind you of what you already know and have faithfully expressed at the ballot box. The United Methodist Church stands firmly against gambling. This is an historical and unwavering conviction, deeply rooted in our Wesleyan tradition of personal and social holiness. The United Methodist Church believes that "gambling is a menace to society, deadly to the best interests of moral, social, economic and spiritual life, and destructive to good government." [Social Principles of The United Methodist Church, paragraph 163.G of The Book Of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2004)]

Gambling is addictive. Gambling thrives on tricking people into believing that they can get something for nothing. This is not a Midwestern sensibility. Gambling is far more than recreation; it is far more than a moral issue; it is far more than an escape from responsible daily living. Gambling is bad economics and irresponsible government.

We remind you that churches and other 501-c-3 organizations are allowed by law to take positions on issues and to advocate for their defeat or passage. It is the Church's right and holy responsibility to impact the social, spiritual and moral fabric of our society and to seek the welfare of all God's people. Opposing the expansion of gambling in Ohio is justice work. Justice work changes systems that are unjust and prevents destructive systems from being established.

We urge you to become fully informed and engaged in this issue. A joint East and West Ohio Conference Anti-Gambling Task Force has been organized to lead our efforts to stop the expansion of gambling. They have our strong endorsement and support. You will be receiving more information from them over the next several months about this ballot issue and our related efforts to stop the introduction of Keno. We need persons to volunteer as county coordinators. You can contact Dee Stickley-Miner (dstickley@wocumc.org) in West Ohio Conference or Paul White (paul.white@ecumc.com) in East Ohio for more information or to volunteer.

Begin even now to educate yourself, your church members and neighbors. Begin even now to pray for God's guidance, strength, courage and wisdom. Begin even now to offer your time and talent as an advocate or a county coordinator. Begin even now to practice the Methodist Way of living regarding this and many similarly complex issues facing our state and nation by doing no harm, by doing good and by staying in love with God.

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ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

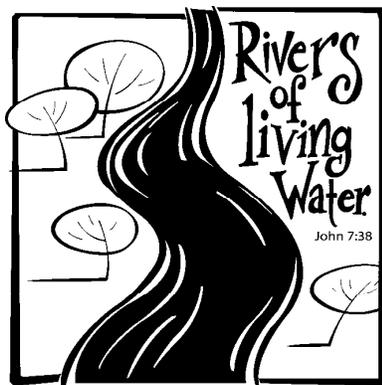
praise God. This past month of March we celebrated taking in youth members, a baptism, providing food and comfort for funeral dinners, a birthday party, readers for Easter, the sign above the entrance/exit to the sanctuary, lilies at Easter, youth activities and volunteer work on and in the fellowship hall to make it beautiful.

~ Tim Piper

Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50."

The second boy says, "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him \$100."

The third boy says, "I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!"



Honoring Mothers



On May 11, millions of people in many countries will remember and honor their mothers, perhaps by sending cards, flowers, and chocolates, or by making visits and taking them out to dinner. Others may cook a meal, give a gift, or do other things to make the day special, while others will visit a grave or other place to remember mothers and grandmothers who have died.

In more recent years, some churches and groups have expanded the observance of the second Sunday of May to "Festival of the Christian Home" or "Christian Family Sunday."

The modern celebration of Mother's Day on the second Sunday of May goes back to the late 1800s and, while it was a day to honor mothers, its beginnings lie not in the greeting card industry, but in politics. We owe the celebration of Mother's Day to the diligent work of three women: Anna Jarvis Sr., Anna Jarvis Jr., and Julia Ward Howe.

In addition to honoring your mother with your regular traditions, consider celebrating mothers and families in other ways as you learn about and reflect upon the legacies of the women who gave us this special day.

Anna Jarvis Sr.

This young homemaker from the Appalachian region of the United States tried in 1858 to get women's work as mothers and homemakers recognized as "genuine labor" equal to that of men. She tried to organize an annual Mother's Work Day that would give mothers a day off in recognition of the fact that they actually worked

even if they did not get paid for all they did. She also lobbied for better sanitation conditions and clean water, and after the Civil War worked for reconciliation of north and south. You could honor her by:

- sharing tasks around the home, appreciating the work that each person does
- making a donation in your mother's name to an organization that brings clean drinking water to those without it
- participating in a neighborhood cleanup activity

Julia Ward Howe

She is perhaps best known for writing the hymn "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" (although she did not give it that title, and she preferred to call it "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory"). Ms. Howe worked tirelessly in the cause of peace. She was devastated by the effects of the U.S. Civil War: the huge death toll, the horrendous injuries of so many young men, and the terrible economic effects on both sides.

She was convinced that the two most important causes in the world were peace and equal rights for all people. She called for all women to rise up and work against war in all its forms, and tried to establish a "Mother's Day for Peace." In 1870 she issued a Mother's Day Declaration, part of which reads:

Arise then . . . women of this day!

Arise, all women who have hearts!

Whether your baptism be of water or of tears!

Say firmly: "We will not have questions answered by irrelevant agencies. Our husbands will not come to us, reeking with carnage, for caresses and applause. Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn all that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy and patience. We,

the women of one country, will be too tender of those of another country to allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs."

You could honor her by:

- praying for peace
- writing letters to government leaders urging them to work for peace

Anna Jarvis Jr.

Deeply moved by the work of Julia Ward Howe, the daughter of Anna Jarvis Sr. wanted to make Mother's Day a national holiday and encourage all mothers to work for peace and recognition of homemakers' work and dignity. She also wanted to honor all mothers who had died. She began each year to distribute white carnations (her mother's favorite flower) to all of the women in her mother's church on the second Sunday in May. She lobbied the government to make this day a holiday and Congress did so in 1914; other countries followed suit.

However, much to her dismay the day moved away from its emphasis on justice and peace and became more commercial. Anna Jarvis regretted her efforts, and actually asked Congress to revoke their action. You could honor her by:

- making a homemade card or gift for your mother that commends her efforts to be a peacemaker
- honoring mothers in your church and community who have died
- supporting a program such as a women's shelter or agency that helps single mothers



Pentecost—The “Other” Story

Every year on Pentecost Sunday (May 11, 2008) the lectionary offers the Acts 2:1-21 as the key reading for the day. This familiar story tells of the believers gathered together in Jerusalem and experiencing an unusual wind and something like tongues of fire appeared on each head. They believed these things to be signs of God's Spirit.

Everyone began to speak at once, and they realized that they could understand one another. Bystanders assumed that the disciples were drunk, but Peter pointed out that they were only under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

The lectionary also provides another reading for Pentecost Sunday which often gets, understandably, overshadowed by the Acts text. This year, it is Numbers 11:24-30. The people of Israel have been journeying in the wilderness for some time, and they are getting tired and cranky. “Why did we ever leave Egypt?” they wail, pining for what they seem to recall as the “good old days.” (Apparently they have had a momentary memory lapse, because their days in Egypt had been spent in slavery!)

Moses is at the point of burnout and begs God for help. God in turn responds, taking some of the spirit that rests upon Moses and parcels it out to 70 elders who are then commissioned to help provide community leadership. But a curious thing happens.

Two other men, Eldad and Medad, also receive God's Spirit. They begin to prophesy, even

though they are not in the “official group.” Someone immediately tried to stop them and ran to Moses with great concern. Moses, however, was not worried.

“I wish that all the Lord's people were prophets,” Moses said, “and that the Lord would put his Spirit on them” (Numbers 11:29b, TNIV).

Something similar happens at Pentecost – God's Spirit comes to all people: men and women, boys and girls, slaves and free, young and old. May we recognize and celebrate the Spirit of God moving and working in our midst today.



At Sunday School they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs.

Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and she said, "Johnny, what is the matter?" Little Johnny responded, "I have pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."

If you try to eat with one chopstick you will starve.

– Chinese proverb

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Don Irvin
Mary Steiner

Homebound Members

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

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Sara House
June Metzger
Rick Scholfield
Ron Strayer

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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

St. Paul's UMC High School "Graduate Recognition Sunday" will be May 18, 2008

Elida High School will hold commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 31, 2008

DOUG GUESS, son of Cindy Guess and the late Doug Guess, 207 West North Street, Elida, OH 45807, is graduating from Elida High School. Doug is planning to attend the University of Northwestern Ohio in the fall to study Computer Networking Technology.

JOHN SEGOVIA, son of Bruce and Tammy Segovia, 1450 Ivy Drive, Elida, OH 45807, is graduating from Elida High School. John will be attending The Ohio State University this fall to pursue a degree in Psychology.



From the smallest sugar spoon to the largest cooking pot, the dishes in our church kitchen have been washed, dried, and put away.

Everything had been placed in the old basement following the flood and during the Fellowship Hall remodeling. It shortened the large cleaning task to have so many willing helpers. Many thanks to Margie and Dan Best, Shara and Dennis Bowsher, Ruth Hardy, Linda and Art Holman, Joanna Hurd, Myrna Metzger, Corinne Piper, Tracy, Steve, and Tahler Sdao, Sue Theodore, Janna Thompson, Martha Vazquez, and Jan and Jamie Wyant.

OUR HIGHER EDUCATION GRADUATES

MALLORY RENTZ will graduate from Ohio Northern University on May 18, 2008, with a degree in School Psychology. She will be continuing her education at a graduate school in the fall to become a school psychologist and is waiting to hear from all her applications before deciding on a school. Mallory is the daughter of Marty and Maureen Rentz, 2245 Baty Road, Elida, OH 45807.

ZACK WHITE will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Athletic Training from the College of Health and Human Services of the University of Toledo on May 3, 2008. Zack will be moving to Florida to look for employment as that is also where he plans to live after marriage to **Katie Foltz**, on October 10, 2008. Zack is the son of Marty and Kathy White, 5756 Clover Ridge Drive, Elida, OH 45807.

There is a good reason they call these ceremonies 'commencement exercises'. Graduation is not the end, it's the beginning."

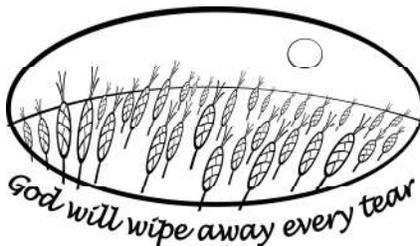
- Orrin Hatch

Thanks!

The People of St. Paul's

*To Our Friends
at St. Paul's,
We wish to thank all of
you for the flowers, cards,
and support by your
presence. A special
thanks to Pastor Ruth for
her personal support and
the moving service. One
more special thanks to
the ladies who served us
a fine meal. We love you
all, and again, thanks to
all of you!*

**The Family of
Betty Holmes**



How often do we hear someone say “I can’t draw” or “I cannot dance” (perhaps you’ve said it yourself)? And yet we can, every one of us, for we are created in the image of God, the Creator. And whether we have the gifts of da Vinci or not, the tools of an art school or not, even whether we have hands or not, we can draw – on a canvas or in our minds. And we can dance, with our feet, our hands, our torsos, our hearts.

– Donald Schmidt, *In the Beginning*

*To My Church Family,
Your comforting
remembrance and
kindly thoughts
are deeply appreciated.
Thanks for the cards,
prayers, donations,
planter and nice dinner.*

The Bowsher Family

Love is stronger than death even though it can't stop death from happening, but no matter how hard death tries, it can't separate people from love. It can't take away our memories either. In the end, life is stronger than death.

We extend sympathies to the following at St. Paul's:

To Jim and Carolyn Michael.
Carolyn's father, Paul Loyer, passed away on March 27, 2008. His funeral service was held on March 31, 2008.

To the family of Betty Holmes.
Betty passed away on March 30, 2008. Pastor Ruth officiated at her funeral on April 2, 2008.

John and Betty became members of St. Paul's in 1942.

To the family of Don Bowsher.
Don passed away on April 4, 2008. Pastor Ruth officiated at his funeral on April 7, 2008.



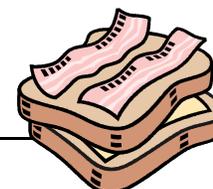
**Prayer List Updates
Please Contact
Lavonne Segovia**

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Cookbook

Kentucky Hot Browns

by Eileen Slade

Ingredients		Instructions
1/4 cup	margarine	Melt margarine in saucepan over low heat. Saute celery, onion, and green peppers. Blend in flour. Gradually add milk. Cook, stirring constantly until thickened. Add Cheez Whiz; stir until melted. Add remaining ingredients, except tomatoes and bacon. Heat, stirring frequently. Place slice of toast on heatproof plate. Place slice of tomato and 2 slices of bacon on top. Pour preceding mixture over all. Brown in oven until light brown. Serves 6.
1/2 cup	celery slices	
1/4 cup	chopped onion	
1/4 cup	chopped green pepper	
3 Tbl.	flour	
3/4 cup	milk	
8 oz. jar	Cheez Whiz	
2 1/2 oz. jar	sliced mushrooms, drained	
2 cups	chopped cooked chicken	
6 slices	tomatoes	
12 slices	bacon	



Deep Dish Apple Pie

by Shirley Adams

Ingredients		Instructions
1 1/2 cups	sugar	<p><u>Make crust with the following:</u></p> 2 cups flour 1 cup shortening 1/2 cups cold water 1/2 tsp. sugar 1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp.	cinnamon	
1/2 tsp.	salt	
2 cups	milk	
6 Tbl.	flour	
6 to 8	apples	
Crumb Topping		
1 cup	butter	
1 cup	brown sugar	
2 cups	flour	
		<p>Roll it out to line a 9x13 inch dish. Leave excess to fold back over apples after topping is spread on apples. Fill crust with apples.</p> <p>Mix first 5 ingredients at left. Pour over apples.</p> <p><u>Crumb Topping:</u> Use last 3 ingredients at left. Cream butter and brown sugar. Cut in flour and spread over apples.</p> <p>Bake in 400 degree oven for about an hour or until apples are done.</p>



KIDZ KORNER

Water Lily

Color by number.

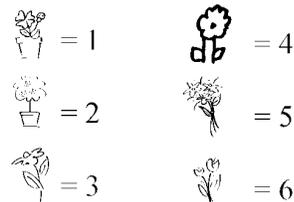
- 1 = yellow
- 2 = orange
- 3 = green
- 4 = blue



Flowerduko

Place one type of flower in each blank box. No row, column or 6-block grid can repeat a flower. You can draw the flower or write the number.

		3 	2 		5 
1 	2 		4 		
5 				2 	
	1 		5 		6 
		1 		5 	4 
6 				3 	



2	3	1	1	5	6
4	5	6	1	3	2
6	1	5	2	1	3
1	2	3	6	4	5
3	6	4	5	2	1
5	1	2	3	1	6

Answer

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

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May 2008



Living Our Faith

*I go to nature to be soothed
and healed, and to have my
senses put in order.*

– John Burroughs

Book of Timothy



A journalist heard about a very old Jewish man who had been going to the Western Wall to pray, twice a day, every day, for a long time, so she went to check it out. She went to the Western Wall – also known as the Wailing Wall – and there he was, walking slowly up to the holy site.

She watched him pray for about 45 minutes. When he turned to leave she approached him for an interview.

“Pardon me, sir, but I noticed you praying quite fervently. How long have you

been coming here and praying?”

“For about 60 years,” the man replied.

“Sixty years! That’s amazing! What do you pray for?”

“I pray for peace between the Christians, Jews, and Muslims. I pray for all the wars and hatred to stop. I pray for all our children to grow up safely as responsible adults, and to love their brothers and sister.”

“How do you feel after doing this for 60 years?”

“Like I’m talking to a wall.”