

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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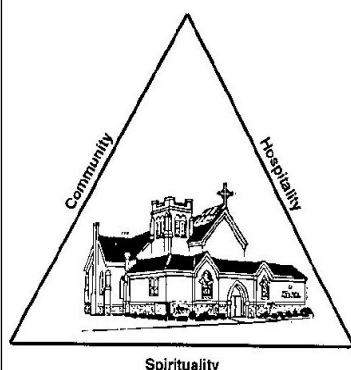
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April is one of my favorite months of the year. Spring will hit full stride in April, Easter usually lands in April, 5 people in our family have April birthdays, and I can get back in the garden and even plant a few cold-hardy plants. Of course, with all the good things I like about April, I have to live with the bad things, like snow almost every year, rain that turns everything muddy, the occasional severe weather, and adding another number to my age every year. Life is not always good, but it is not always bad. We have to accept that we live in a fallen creation and need to try our best to share God's love with everyone.

I am enjoying our series on Mark, and I hope you are reading along with me as we continue to see how Mark's gospel shows us the divinity of Jesus Christ. The stories all show us who Jesus is and how regular people are freed by God through Jesus from sin. I hope you will finish this journey through Mark with me and join us on the 17th as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus.

Kids are invited to church early on Easter morning for an Egg hunt at 9:30 AM, with the Easter service to follow at 10:00 AM. I hope to see you soon, and if you can't make it to church, you can join us for worship online live, on Facebook, or look up the sermons on YouTube.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Paul



Thought for the Month:

An effort made for the happiness of others lifts us above ourselves.

—Lydia M. Child

April 3

**Coins for Communion to benefit
5 Loaves Food Pantry at The Church at Allentown**

The food pantry is open the last 2 Saturday's of the month for people in the 45807 zip code. For more information you may contact Allentown church at 419-339-2558. Food donated at St. Paul's is taken to Allentown after the second Sunday of the month.

Food Pantry Sunday is April 17

Non-perishable food items and cleaning supplies, are being collected. Place items in the box just inside the East door, or in the box at the top of steps on the left when entering at the main entrance.

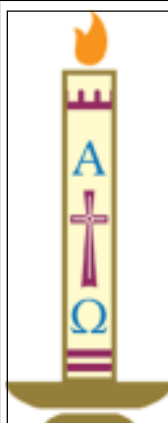


Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

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

Christian Symbol

PASCHAL CANDLE



This large, white candle is an ancient symbol for Christ, the light of the world. The candle contains a cross and/or an Alpha and Omega to symbolize that Jesus is eternal and always present with his people. Also called the Easter candle, it plays a prominent role during Easter vigils and celebrations. Some churches also use the candle during baptisms and funerals.

St. Paul's Epistle

is published by St. Paul's
United Methodist Church

Subscription Rate: NONE

Secretary	Gail Fessler
Organist	Linda Holman
Pianist	Lois Cook
Choir Director	Judy Chaffins
Custodian	Dave Decker

Why Friday Is Good

To participate in the sacrificial life and death of Jesus Christ is to live already in his kingdom. This is the essence of the Christian message, the heart of the Good News, and it is why the cross has become the chief Christian symbol.

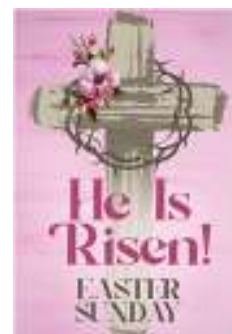
A cross of all things — a guillotine, a gallows — but the cross at the same time as the crossroads of eternity and time, as the place where such a mighty heart was broken that the healing power of God himself could flow through it into a sick and broken world. It was for this reason that of all the possible words they could have used to describe the day of his death, the word they settled on was “good.” *Good Friday.*

—Frederick Buechner



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

April 10
Palm Sunday



April 14
Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 PM



April 17
Easter Worship Service
10:00 AM

Prayer

Prayer Walking

By Corinne Piper

Keeping your mind focused while praying is sometimes easier when your body is doing something besides just sitting. The process of moving often gives release to your mind for thinking or praying.

Praying while walking is hardly a unique idea. While some people put in their earbuds or talk on their phones, a walk is also a good time to pray.

During Lent, some people do their walking around, "The Stations of the Cross" located in many churches and gardens throughout the world. The "stations of the cross" is a walking path that has stops to contemplate the walk of Christ on the way to His crucifixion. The Stations of the Cross are not as familiar to Protestants as to those in the Catholic faith, and other more traditional denominations, but there are always ways to share faith traditions.

The Roman Catholic Church has 14 stations based on Scripture and tradition. The Protestant version has 8 stops based on Scripture text. While the stops vary, the basic stations are:

- Station 1: Pilate Condemns Jesus to Die
- Station 2: Jesus Accepts His Cross
- Station 3: Simon Helps Carry the Cross
- Station 4: Jesus Speaks to the Women
- Station 5: Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments
- Station 6: Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross
- Station 7: Jesus Cares for His Mother
- Station 8: Jesus Dies on the Cross

As Lent closes and we look forward to Easter, consider taking a walk on "the traditional side" and meditate on Jesus' walk to His death for our salvation.



History of a Hymn

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

1868

For the message of the cross is... to us who are being saved...the power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NKJV)

The author of this hymn, Elizabeth Clephane, was born in Edinburgh, where her father was a sheriff of Fife. One of her siblings later wrote: "My sister was a very quite little girl, shrinking from notice and was always absorbed in books. The loss of both her parents at an early age taught her sorrow. As she grew up she was recognized as the cleverest one of our family. She was first in her class and a favorite at school. Her love for poetry was a passion. Among the sick and suffering she won the name, 'My Sunbeam.' " (Elizabeth's own comment on her nickname is written into a line of this hymn: "*I take, O Cross, thy shadow for my abiding place; / I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face.*")

At some point, Elizabeth's family moved to Melrose, southeast of Edinburgh, where she spent her remaining years. Though frail, she was a diligent Bible student, a sympathetic listener, and a worker among the poor. She and her sisters raised money for the unfortunate, on one occasion selling their horse and carriage for a needy family.

Elizabeth's poems were published in the Scottish magazine, *The Family Treasury*. This one, appearing after her death, was discovered by Ira Sankey and introduced in the great Moody/Sankey meetings in Britain. In his autobiography, Sankey stated: "The author of this hymn, Elizabeth Celphane, also wrote the widely known hymn, 'The Ninety and Nine,' and these two were her only hymns. The first time this hymn was sung is still fresh in my memory. The morning after I had composed the music, Rev. W. H. Aitkin was to speak at our mission in London... Before the sermon, I sang 'Beneath the Cross of Jesus' as a solo; and in the case of 'The Ninety and Nine,' much blessing came from it's use for the first time. With eyes filled with tears and deeply moved, the preacher said to the audience: 'Dear friends, I had intended to speak to you this morning upon work for the Master, but this new hymn has made such an impression on my heart, and evidently upon your own, that I will defer my proposed address and speak to you on "The Cross of Jesus."'"

Sankey's tune has since been replaced in popular usage by St. Christopher, music composed for this hymn by Fredrick C. Maker.



Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

February 27, 2022	57
March 2, 2022 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	33
March 6, 2022	59
March 13, 2022	54
March 20, 2022	63
March 27, 2022	52

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,879.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
February 27, 2022	\$3,486.00	\$382.00
March 6, 2022	\$4,273.00	\$2,311.31
March 13, 2022	\$3,053.00	\$1,780.00
March 20, 2022	\$2,553.00	\$98.00
March 27, 2022	\$6,833.00	\$1,088.00

Sunday School Attendance

February 27, 2022	4
March 6, 2022	8
March 13, 2022	3
March 20, 2022	8
March 27, 2022	8

The Greeter sign-up sheet is on the
bulletin board in the hallway.

Greeters

April 3, 2022	OPEN
April 10, 2022	OPEN
April 17, 2022	OPEN
April 24, 2022	OPEN

Flower Calendar

April 3, 2022	Pastor Paul & Marla Scannell
April 10, 2022	Virginia Hollar
April 17, 2022	Easter Lilies
April 24, 2022	Jon & Chelsey Cook



Daily Bible Readings

Friday 4/1

Psalm 102, 107:1-32
Exodus 2:1-22
1 Corinthians 12:27-13:3
Mark 9:2-13

Saturday 4/2

Psalm 33, 107:33-43, 108
Exodus 2:23-3:15
1 Corinthians 11:3-13

Sunday 4/3

Psalm 118, 145, Exodus 3:16-4:12
Romans 12:1-21, John 8:46-59

Monday 4/4

Psalm 31, 35, Exodus 4:10-31
1 Corinthians 14:1-19
Mark 9:30-41

Tuesday 4/5

Psalm 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, Exodus 5:1-6:1
1 Corinthians 14:20-40
Mark 9:42-50

Wednesday 4/6

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130
Exodus 7:8-24
2 Corinthians 2:14-3:6
Mark 10:1-16

Thursday 4/7

Psalm 131, 132, 140, 142
Exodus 7:25-8:19
2 Corinthians 3:7-18
Mark 10:1-16

Friday 4/8

Psalm 22, 141, 143
Exodus 9:13-35
2 Corinthians 4:1-12
Mark 10:32-45

Saturday 4/9

Psalm 42, 43, 137, 144
Exodus 10:21-11:8
2 Corinthians 4:13-18
Mark 10:46-52

Sunday 4/10 Palm Sunday

Psalm 24, 29, 103
Zechariah 9:9-12
1 Timothy 6:12-16
Luke 19:41-48

Monday 4/11

Psalm 51, 69:1-23
Lamentations 1:1-2, 6-12
2 Corinthians 1:1-7
Mark 11:12-25

Tuesday 4/12

Psalm 6, 12, 94
Lamentations 1:17-22
2 Corinthians 1:8-22
Mark 11:27-33

Wednesday 4/13

Psalm 55, 74
Lamentations 2:1-17
2 Corinthians 1:23-2:11
Mark 12:1-11

Thursday 4/14 Maundy Thursday

Psalm 102, 142, 143
Lamentations 2:10-18
1 Corinthians 10:14-11:32
Mark 14:12-25

Friday 4/15

Psalm 22, 40, 54
Lamentations 3:1-33
1 Peter 1:10-20, John 13:36-38

Saturday 4/16

Psalm 27, 88
Lamentations 3:37-58
Hebrews 4:1-16, Romans 8:1-11

Sunday 4/17 Easter Sunday

Psalm 113, 114, Exodus 12:1-14
Luke 24:13-35

Monday 4/18

Psalm 66, 93, 98
Exodus 12:14-27
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Mark 16:1-8

Tuesday 4/19

Psalm 103, 111, 114
Exodus 12:28-39
1 Corinthians 15:12-28
Mark 16:9-20

Wednesday 4/20

Psalm 97, 99, 115
Exodus 12:40-51
1 Corinthians 15:29-41
Matthew 28:1-16

Thursday 4/21

Psalm 146, 147, 148, 149
Exodus 13:3-10
1 Corinthians 15:41-50
Matthew 28:16-20

Friday 4/22

Psalm 118, 136, Exodus 13:1-16
1 Corinthians 15:51-58
Luke 24:1-12

Saturday 4/23

Psalm 104, 145
Exodus 13:17-14:4
2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10
Mark 12:18-27

Sunday 4/24

Psalm 111, 112, 113
Exodus 14:5-22
1 John 1:1-7, John 14:1-7

Monday 4/25

Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4, 7
Exodus 14:21-31
1 Peter 1:1-12, John 14:1-17

Tuesday 4/26

Psalm 5, 6, 10, 11
Exodus 15:1-21
1 Peter 1:13-25, John 14:18-31

Wednesday 4/27

Psalm 12, 13, 14
Exodus 15:22-16:10
1 Peter 2:1-10, John 15:1-11

Thursday 4/28

Psalm 18, Exodus 16:10-22
1 Peter 2:11-25, John 15:12-27

Friday 4/29

Psalm 134, 135, Exodus 16:23-36
1 Peter 3:13-4:6, John 16:1-15

Saturday 4/30

Psalm 20, 116, 117
Exodus 17:1-16
1 Peter 4:7-19, John 16:16-33



Easter

Lenten Bible Readings

Sixth Week of Lent (Begin 4/4/22)

Read Mark 11:1-14:72

Prayer of the Week: Lord Jesus, you've given me the gift of life and you ask me to lead that life in ways that bear fruit for your kingdom. Make me a faithful tenant farmer, one who respects and values your lordship. Amen.

Holy Week Begin (4/11/22)

Read Mark 15:1-16:20

Prayer of the Week: Jesus, the creator of life, thank you for emptying your tomb, a sign that you will one day empty all the tombs that signal sadness and loss for us. Amen



EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM

They are **\$10.00 each**

Please fill out this order form and place in the offering plate, drop off, or mail with payment, to the church office by April 10.

Name: _____

Number of lilies: _____

In Honor of (or) In Memory of: *(circle one)*

Phone: _____

Please pick up your Lilies following the Easter Service.



Easter Offering

Will be divided between 2 Missions:

1/2 to UMCOR—U. S Disaster Response

1/2 to Kamina Hospital—North Kantanga UMC, Democratic Republic of Congo

You may use the Easter offering envelope you received in your Easter letter or there are special Easter offering Envelopes in the pews.

If mailing in a check please note that it is designated for Easter offering,

Poem

Easter Blessings

Jesus came into the world
A precious baby boy
God gave us His only Son
This wondrous gift of joy
A great sacrifice was made
So we'd gain eternal life
Jesus suffered upon the cross
In anguish, grief, and strife!
But Jesus conquered the power of death
And all it's painful woes...
The tomb was empty, the stone rolled away
From the grave our Savior arose!
When we believe in Jesus Christ
And accept him in our heart
All things are made new again
We have a brand new start!
As we celebrate this Easter
In praise with joy and song
We have a blessed assurance
To the Savior we belong!



Ramp Missions

thank you

**Ramp built for Mike and Kay Frysinger
at 587 Waterview Circle, Lima.**

To all the good men who build ramps,

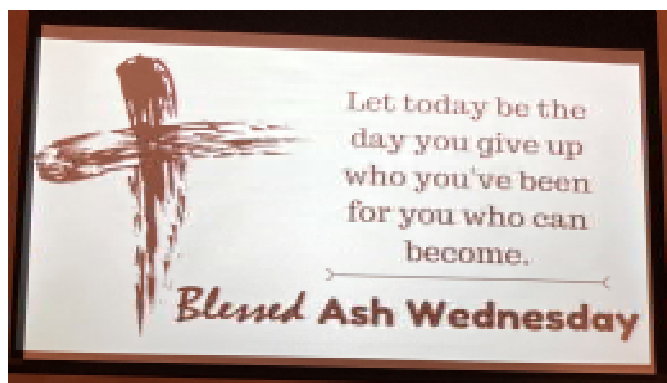
Words don't cover our gratitude for the extraordinary fine ramp you added to our home. With the state of affairs in our world today, I give heartfelt thanks to people like all of you who give of yourselves to help others.

Even when my broken leg heals, I will still be grateful not to need to drag groceries, and heavy bags of dog food, up the steps. The ramp is definitely, the gift that keeps on giving. Our 14 year-old dog is thrilled with it as well. So, thank you, thank you all, certainly we will never forget you!

In Christian love,
Kay Frysinger



Connecting With ...



March 2,
Ash Wednesday Service
The beginning of Lent.

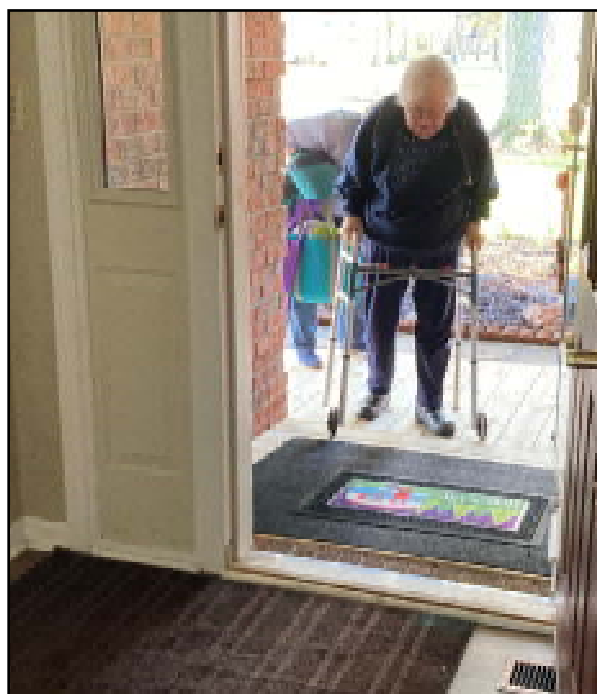
Acolyte, Lena Whetstone

March 6, Acolytes added back
in to the Sunday morning
worship service.



A ramp was built at Larry and Shirley Moser's home for better access for Lavonne Segovia to attend the Crafty Creatures small group, that meets there on Wednesday evenings.

Thank you, Larry and Shirley Moser for adjusting the entrance to their front door, and Thank you, Jamie Wyant, for helping Larry on this project.



The People of St. Paul's

Thank You



To my church family,
Thank you all for your thoughtfulness during this difficult time. First, the death of my brother and then the death of my precious Bill. The flowers, the chimes and the beautiful lunch you prepared for my family - all showed the love in our church, and is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Bev Nesbitt

Dear Pastor Paul and Church Family,

Thank you very much for the flowers I received during my hospitalization, they were beautiful. Although I am still recovering, I am feeling much better these days.

Your thoughts and prayers are much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Dillon Staas

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Carl Miller

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Kim Crates
Carl Miller
Dillon Staas

In the Military & Missions

Nathan Stewart

With Heartfelt Sympathy

Our sympathy to Cindy Swihart and the family on the passing of her husband, Jack Swihart on March 12. A memorial service was held at St. Paul's on March 19, with Pastor Paul Scannell and Jim Swihart, Jack and Cindy's son, officiating. Cards may be sent to Cindy at 2859 Hollyhock, Elida, OH 45807.

If you or a loved one is ill, in the hospital, or would like a contact from someone at church, I want to encourage you to contact the church office by phone (419) 339-3801 or email, officeespc@gmail.com, or contact me at (734) 660-1984 or email, 4pastorpaul@gmail.com. We are not contacted by the hospital on a regular basis even when you request they contact us. Please contact us so we know what your concerns and needs are.

Meetings

April 4, 2022
PPR...7:00 PM

April 5, 2022
Trustees...7:00 PM

April 6, 2022
Worship Mtg..10:00 AM

April 11, 2022
Ad Council /Finance
7:00 PM

April 21, 2022
Missions Mtg...7:00 PM

Sundays
Prayer...9:30 AM
Worship...10:00 AM

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir..
7:00 PM

APRIL 2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



1 Jim Michael	2
3 Demi DeRose David Scannell	4 Lynda Evans Madelyn Thomas
5 Peyton Przekora	6
7 Dan Best	8
9	10 Pam Lozano
11 Brittany Scannell	12
13	14 Anne White
15 Todd Chaffins	16 Denise Thomas
17 Doug Guess	18 Paul Scannell
19 Maedene Holmes Thaddeous Strauch	20 Kelly DeRose Lori Motzer Aaron Piper
21 Krista Slemmons	22 Chloe Nartker
23	24
25	26
27	28
29 Gerald Strayer	30

Happy Anniversary

Carl & Lois Rabley
April 4; 58 yrs.

John & Joy Fletcher
April 17; 40 yrs.

Tony & Pam Lozano
April 17

Brian & Angie Nartker
April 17

Bobby & Jacquie Bice
April 19

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

Country Egg Breakfast Casserole

By Mary Irvin

Ingredients		Instructions
4 1/2 cups	Hash brown potatoes	Preheat oven to 350 degrees. With wire whisk, mix eggs, milk, and margarine. Layer ham or sausage on bottom of greased 13x9 baking dish. Add hash browns on top of egg mixture. Sprinkle cheese over top. Bake 45 to 60 minutes until light brown and center is set.
1 lb.	Ham cut in small pieces, Or Sausage, browned & drained	
9	Eggs, lightly beaten	
3/4 cup	Milk	
1/4 cup	Margarine, melted	
8 oz.	Cheddar cheese, shredded	



Egg Breakfast

By Jone Lane

Ingredients		Instructions
1 lb.	Bacon, cooked and diced	Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease 9x13 inch baking dish Spread bread cubes, layer of cheese and layer of bacon. Mix eggs, dry mustard, salt and milk together. Pour over bacon layer. Cover with foil. Bake for 1 hour.
5 slices	Bread, lightly buttered & cubed	
3/4 lb.	Cheddar cheese, shredded	
5	Eggs, slightly beaten	
1/2 tsp.	Dry mustard	
1/2 tsp.	Salt	
2 cups	Milk	



KIDZ KORNER

HOLY WEEK i-spy

Create this craft to share the events of Holy Week with a younger sibling or friend.



What you need:

- Clear bottle or jar with lid
- White rice
- Small items that symbolize Holy Week events

What you do:

1. Pour rice into bottle or jar so it's about two-thirds full.
2. Add the small items. Ideas: leaf, donkey, cup, towel square, praying hands, coin, bird, nails, thorn, cross, dice, stick, lamb, stone, white fabric.
3. Fasten the lid. Then shake and turn the bottle to "spy" each item.

Puzzle!

Using the code, complete this passage based on Ezekiel 34.

CODE																									
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

"As a H S V K S V I W looks after his
H X Z G G V I V W U O L X P when S V is
O R G S them, so will I O L L P after my H S V V K.
 I will I V H X F V them and K Z H G F I V them.
 I will H V Z I X S for the O L H G and bring back
 the H G I Z B H. I will Y R M W up the R M Q F I V W
 and H G I V M T G S V M the D V Z P. You are my
H S V V K ... and I am your T L W."



Answer: shepherd, scattered, flock, he, with, look, sheep, rescue, pasture, search, lost, strays, bind, injured, strengthen, weak, sheep, God

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.
Elida, OH 45807

*Return Service Requested

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U.S. Postage
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45807
Permit No. 71

Our Web Address:
www.elidastpaulschurch.org

Our Facebook page
Elida St. Paul's Church

Twitter Account
@ESPCHURCH



Living Our Faith

A Love-filled Victory

It's tough to read about Jesus' agony on the cross, where he felt "forsaken" by God (see Matthew 27:46). But as Philip Yancey explains in *Where Is God When It Hurts?* the Father didn't desert Jesus — and doesn't desert us:

"God was not 'up there' watching the tragic events conspire 'down here.' God was *in Christ*, reconciling the world to himself," he writes. "If Jesus was a mere man, his death would prove God's cruelty; the fact that he was God's Son proves instead that God fully identifies with suffering humanity. On the cross, God himself absorbed the awful pain of this world.

"To some, the image of a pale body glimmering on a dark night whispers of defeat," Yancey continues. "But another sound can be heard: the shout of a God crying out to human beings, 'I LOVE YOU.' Love was compressed for all history in that lonely figure on the cross, who said that he could call down angels at any moment on a rescue mission, but chose not to — because of us."

He concludes: "Any discussion of how pain and suffering fit into God's scheme ultimately leads back to the cross."