

# St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 47 Issue 8

August, 2024

St. Paul's United  
Methodist Church

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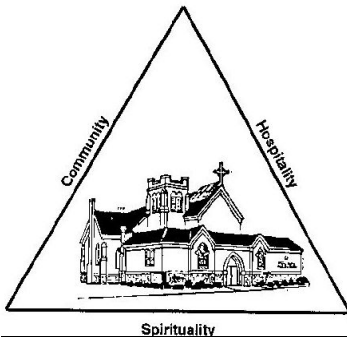
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August is here, and there is so much happening around the church. Kids are getting ready for school; the harvest is just around the corner; we are putting together kits for the Festival of Sharing; the Kindness Campaign is kicking off, and so much more. Also, a bit of savings for you. From July 30 to August 8, it is Ohio Tax-free days, and nearly everything you purchase will be tax-free, up to \$500 (no motorized vehicles, alcohol, tobacco, or marijuana). That means you can purchase everything for school, health, or menstruation kits tax-free until the 8<sup>th</sup>.

We are in need of expanding our education program this fall, splitting into two groups, Pre-school through Kindergarten and Elementary. We have the younger classroom covered, but we are looking for people to help share the Elementary class. The more volunteers we have, the easier the schedule will be on you all (yes, parents of children are eligible to help). Please contact me or the church office if you would like to help.

This election season we are "Campaigning for Kindness." When division feels all too common during election season, we can choose a better way. Choosing kindness isn't about avoiding our differences but navigating them with respect and compassion. Jesus said, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you". You are invited to be a part of the Kindness Campaign 2024. We will have a sermon series, bible studies, a Sunday school curriculum, and much more to come as we go through this campaign season, and I hope you will join me in "Campaigning for Kindness."

August 6<sup>th</sup> will officially kick off the "Kindness Campaign" at the National Night Out at the Field House in Elida. We have everything we need for the event, and I want to encourage you to come out and spread the word to our community. Even if you are not signed up to work at the bouncy house, please wear your "Do Unto Others" shirt (if you bought one), stop by our table, and pick up some stickers to hand out. I want you to hand out stickers to people you know, explain to them what the Kindness Campaign is (don't panic, it's on the flyer, with the sticker attached), and ask them to put the sticker up where others will see it. We also have yard signs available for \$9 each, which can be placed in your yard alongside your political signs. The more we get out there the better. Maybe you would like to sponsor some signs to be handed out in our community free of charge? Contact me, and we can talk about what that would look like. Also, think about buying a sign for a business you frequent and asking them to put the sign up in their place of business.

Like I said, there is a lot going on this Fall. Keep looking for where God is at work, and join God there. Until then, I will see you in the mission field.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Paul*





**KINDNESS CAMPAIGN**

Yard signs are available for purchase.  
**\$9.00 each.**

The 2 designs available are shown on the left.

I am excited to really get this "Kindness Campaign" rolling this fall, and I hope you will join me.

Thanks,  
**Pastor Paul**



**August 4**  
**Coins for Communion to benefit Meals 'til Monday**

Meals 'til Monday is an organization here in Allen County which feeds children in vulnerable situations during the school year. Children are quietly given food in their backpacks every Friday to keep them fed over the weekend.

*Because hunger doesn't take the weekend off!*

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



**Deadline: the 22nd**  
of each month

<b>St. Paul's Epistle</b>	
is published by St. Paul's United Methodist Church	
Subscription Rate: NONE	
Secretary	Gail Fessler
Pianist	Lois Cook
Choir Director	Judy Chaffins
Custodian	Dave Decker

**Christian Symbol**

**WEDDING RINGS**

The exchange of wedding rings isn't found in Scripture. It came into practice among Christians in the late ninth century. The unending circle profoundly symbolizes a couple's mutual promises of ongoing love and commitment, as well as God's promise of eternal love that surrounds all — including each couple and marriage.





**National Night Out**  
August 6  
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM



Elida Field House Parking lot

National Night Out is observed annually on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in August.  
It is a community first responders awareness-raising event.

St. Paul's, once again, will have a bouncy house,  
and information for the "Kindness Campaign".



**Men's Bible Study**  
Wednesday, August 7  
6:00 PM

"Prophets and Prophecy"

**Food Pantry Sunday**  
August 18  
Breakfast items need;  
Cereal. Oatmeal, shelf-stable bacon

Donations are taken to  
the Five Loaves Food Pantry at  
The Church at Allentown

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



**Blessing of the Backpacks**  
Sunday, August 25



To start off the new school year, all students, teachers,  
home schooling, and any school employee, bring your  
backpacks, or whatever you carry into work each day,  
to the worship service to be blessed.

**Sunnydale House 5K**  
Labor Day, September 2  
Between 8:00 AM and Noon

We have been asked to man the watering stations  
in front of the church, and at the Fieldhouse parking lot.  
We will need volunteers to help with this mission  
to give out cups of water.



## Poem

### Free To Garden

In dawn's soft light, freedom's found,  
On a sacred plot of gardened ground,  
Hands in soil, seeds in mound,  
Where life's simple truths abound.



Rows of hope in the open air,  
Freedom's canvas, plain and bare,  
Every planted dream a dare,  
Blossoms blooming from our care.

A tiny patch of earth's embrace,  
Becomes a dreamer's sacred space,  
Life unfolds at its own pace,  
In the garden's gentle grace.

Petals kissed by sunbeam's dance,  
in every bloom, freedoms glance,  
The right to grow, indeed the chance,  
this joy, a garden's vibrant romance.

Gardening, a soul's sweet song,  
A place where peace and purpose belong,  
In the silence, strong and long,  
we find a freedom, pure and strong.

We are free to garden.

### A Gardener's Prayer

Grant me, oh Lord,  
A plot of fertile ground;  
Rain as needed in gentle showers;  
Days of warming, nurturing sunshine;  
Everlasting patience as the seedlings sprout and grow;  
Natural generosity with the bounty of my labor;  
Endless gratitude for Your divine blessings, and  
Reverence for the miracle of life You show me each day in my garden.  
Amen.



# History of a Hymn

## God Be With You

“Then Sings My Soul”, By Robert J. Morgan

1880

***Grace, mercy, and peace be with you from God the father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, I truth and love. 2 John 3***

On September 19, 1945, missionary Darlene Deibler was liberated from the Japanese Prison Camp at Kampili, seventeen days after Japan had signed the Instrument of Surrender aboard the USS *Missouri*. She was in bad shape, having been subjected to years of physical suffering and mental torture.

Eight years before, Darlene and her husband, Russell, had landed as missionaries in New Guinea. Plunging into the work, they were making solid progress in building a growing church, aided by Darlene's dear friend and mentor, Dr. Robert Jaffray. Now both Russell and Dr. Jaffray were dead, and Darlene was leaving behind two lonely white crosses on the hillside. As a 28-year-old widow, she was returning home without a single possession. All her mementos and private keepsakes were gone, her loved ones were dead, and her body was debilitated by exhaustion, starvation, malaria, beriberi, and dysentery.

For over four years, she had witnessed atrocities that can scarcely be described. Prisoners all around her suffered horrible deaths, and she herself had seen the inside of death cells. During that time, not one letter or package had reached her.

As the boat carried her from her island prison, she prayed a bitter prayer: “Lord, I'll never come to these islands again. They've robbed me of everything that was dear to me.”

Suddenly she heard voices, Indonesian voices ringing from the distance. There on the shore were those who had come to know the Lord through her mission, raising their voices, singing: “God Be With You till we meet again. / By His counsels guide, uphold you, / With His Sheep securely fold you; / God be with you till we meet again.”

Darlene later wrote in her autobiography, *Evidence Not Seen*: “This song released the waters of bitterness that had flooded my soul, and the hurt began to drain from me as my tears flowed in a steady stream. The healing had begun. I knew then that some day, God only knew when, I would come back to these people and my island home.”

~

“God Be With You Till We Meet Again,” was written by Jeremiah Rankin, pastor of Washington's First Congressional Church and president of Howard University, the great African-American college in the nation's capital. He wrote it, he said, after discovering the term “good-bye” meant “God be with you.”



# Faith In Action

<b>Worship Attendance:</b>		
		<b>* RV</b>
June 23, 2024	56	X
June 30, 2024	55	51
July 7, 2024	41	45
July 14, 2024	67	46
July 21, 2024	45	54
July 28, 2024	65	x

**\*RV - Remote Viewing**  
(online viewing)

We are now recording the attendance for those watching online. This attendance is taken a week behind so we are sure to record those who have viewed the service throughout the week.

**Financial Giving**  
Weekly Need for  
Unified Ministry Budget  
\$4,187.00

<b>Sunday School Attendance</b>	
June 30, 2024	7
July 7, 2024	0
July 14, 2024	13
July 21, 2024	0
July 28, 2024	11

	<b>Unified Ministry Giving:</b>	<b>Other:</b>
June 30, 2024	\$3,152.24	\$320.00
July 7, 2024	\$4,401.13	\$228.32
July 14, 2024	\$2,736.10	\$558.00
July 21, 2024	\$1,656.40	\$244.00
July 28, 2024	\$2,506.12	\$195.00

<b>Altar Flowers</b>	
August 4, 2024	Steve & Tracy Sdao
August 11, 2024	Jamie & Jan Wyant
August 18, 2024	Dave & Susan Nartker
August 25, 2024	Jeannine May, Karla & family

<b>Hospitality Cart</b>	
August 4, 2024	OPEN
August 11, 2024	OPEN
August 18, 2024	OPEN
August 25, 2024	OPEN

# Daily Bible Readings

## Thursday 8/1

Psalm 59, 60, Joshua 9:3-21  
Romans 15:1-13  
Matthew 26:69-75

## Friday 8/2

Psalm 40, 51, 54  
Joshua 9:22-10:15  
Romans 15:14-24  
Matthew 27:1-10

## Saturday 8/3

Psalm 55, 138, 139  
Joshua 23:1-16  
Romans 15:25-33  
Matthew 27:11-23

## Sunday 8/4

Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84  
Joshua 24:1-15  
Acts 28:23-31, Mark 2:23-28

## Monday 8/5

Psalm 58, 64, 65, Joshua 24:16-33  
Romans 16:1-16  
Matthew 27:24-31

## Tuesday 8/6

Psalm 61, 62, 68, Judges 2:1-23  
Romans 16:17-27  
Matthew 27:32-44

## Wednesday 8/7

Psalm 72, 119:73-96  
Judges 3:12-30  
Acts 1:1-14, Matthew 27:45-54

## Thursday 8/8

Psalm 70, 74, Judges 4:4-23  
Acts 1:15-26  
Matthew 27:55-66

## Friday 8/9

Psalm 69, 73, Judges 5:1-18  
Acts 2:1-21, Matthew 28:1-10

## Saturday 8/10

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76  
Judges 5:19-31  
Acts 2:22-36,  
Matthew 28:11-20

## Sunday 8/11

Psalm 34, 93, 96, Judges 6:1-24  
2 Corinthians 9:6-15  
Mark 3:20-30

## Monday 8/12

Psalm 79, 80, Judges 6:25-40  
Acts 2:37-47, John 1:1-18

## Tuesday 8/13

Psalm 78, Judges 7:1-18  
Acts 3:1-11, John 1:19-28

## Wednesday 8/14

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120  
Judges 7:19-8:12  
Acts 3:12-26, John 1:29-42

## Thursday 8/15

Psalm 83, 85, 86, Judges 8:22-35  
Acts 4:1-12, John 1:43-51

## Friday 8/16

Psalm 88, 91, 92, Judges 9:1-21  
Acts 4:13-31, John 2:2-12

## Saturday 8/17

Psalm 87, 90, 136  
Judges 9:22-57  
Acts 4:32-5:11, John 2:13-25

## Sunday 8/18

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67  
Judges 11:1-40  
2 Corinthians 11:21-31  
Mark 4:35-41

## Monday 8/19

Psalm 89, Judges 12:1-7  
Acts 5:12-26, John 3:1-21

## Tuesday 8/20

Psalm 95, 100, Judges 13:1-15  
Acts 5:27-42, John 3:22-36

## Wednesday 8/21

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144  
Judges 23:15-24  
Acts 6:1-15, John 4:1-26

## Thursday 8/22

Psalm 105, 107:1-32  
Judges 14:20-15:20  
Acts 6:15-7:16, John 4:27-42

## Friday 8/23

Psalm 102, 107:1-32  
Judges 14:1-19  
Acts 7:17-29, John 4:43-54

## Saturday 8/24

Psalm 33, 107:33-43, 108  
Judges 16:1-14  
Acts 7:30-43, John 5:1-18

## Sunday 8/25

Psalm 118, 145, Judges 16:15-31  
2 Corinthians 13:1-11  
Mark 5:25-34

## Monday 8/26

Psalm 106, Judges 17:1-13  
Acts 7:44-8:1, John 5:19-29

## Tuesday 8/27

Psalm 120, 127, Judges 18:1-15  
Acts 8:1-13, John 5:30-47

## Wednesday 8/28

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130  
Judges 18:16-31  
Acts 8:14-25, John 6:1-15

## Thursday 8/29

Psalm 133, 134, 135, Job 1:1-22  
Acts 8:26-40, John 6:16-27

## Friday 8/30

Psalm 140, 141, 142, 143  
Job 2:1-13  
Acts 9:1-9, John 6:27-40

## Saturday 8/31

Psalm 104, 137, 144, Job 3:1-26  
Acts 9:10-19, John 6:41-51



# Kits Mission

## SCHOOL KITS

- One pair blunt scissors (**Round Tip**)
- Three **70 count** bound notebooks (**Wide Ruled**)
  - One ruler (**12" - metric**)
- One hand-held pencil sharpener
  - One large eraser (**no pencil cap erasers**)
  - Six new pencils with erasers (**unsharpened, remove from package, rubber band together**)
  - One box crayons (**24 ct.**)

**\$2.00** for processing and shipping kits.  
Pack kit in a **2 gallon size ziplock bag** and place at the altar.

## HEALTH KITS

- One hand towel (**@15"x28" to 16"x32",no micro-fiber**)
- One washcloth
- One **wide-tooth** comb (**Combs provided**)
- One finger nail or toe nail clipper (**remove from package**)
- One bar of soap (**bath size in wrapper**)
  - One adult size toothbrush (**in original package**)
  - **Ten** standard size Band-Aids

**\$2.00** for processing and shipping kits.  
Seal kit in a **gallon size ziplock bag** and place at the altar.



**Last Sunday to Collect is September 8**

Volunteers will be needed to assemble the kits.  
If interested let Janna Thompson or the office know.



## PERIOD PACK

### *Menstrual Hygiene Kit*

- Two - 2 oz. bottle hand sanitizer
- Three - 4-gallon bathroom trash bags
  - One - travel pack Wet Ones
  - Ten - unscented tampons (**5 regular, 5 super absorbency**)
- Ten - unscented sanitary napkins (**long super ultra thin**)
- One - bath-size bar of soap in the Original Package, 3oz bar or larger (**NO Ivory or Jergen's soap**)
  - One - pack flushable wipes (**unscented, 42 count**)
  - Six - Laundry detergent sheets (**Laundry sheets provided**)

**\$2.00** for processing and shipping kits  
Seal kit in a **gallon size ziplock bag** and place at the altar.



# Ramp Mission

## Ramp #1

We built a ramp on July 1 at 427 Elmwood Place for Catherine Tillman. The ramp was 70 feet long and took 5 1/2 hours to build. The construction crew was made up of Dave Decker, Roger Henderson, Gary Hurd, Tim Piper, Marla and Paul Scannell, Betty Wright and Jamie Wyant.



## Ramp #2

A ramp was built for Elisha Small at 2375 Baywood Dr. The construction was done by Dan Best, Dave Decker, Paul and Marla Scannell, Greg Schade, Tim Theodore, Betty Wright and Jamie Wyant who coordinates of the ramp projects.



# Thank You!

## YOU ARE AMAZING!!!!

The Elida St. Paul's family never ceases to amaze me! Many, if not all of us, watched the solar eclipse on April 8<sup>th</sup> and it certainly did not disappoint. We were able to see God's hand at work once again, as only He could have created the wonderful thing we witnessed. Following the eclipse, I saw on Facebook a place that was collecting used solar eclipse glasses that would then be sent to children in Chile and Argentina. What a great mission that we could participate in!!! So, I asked all of you to donate your eclipse glasses if you still had them. And you did!!! We collected 209 glasses!!! I thank you, and the children who will use them thank you, and God is smiling down as all of you once again served others so unselfishly.

God bless you all!

Deb Hurd



**Thank you!**

**To those who provided food for the evening meal for the families housed at Family Promise on Friday, July 26.**



## This Election Season we are campaigning for *Kindness*

When division feels all too common during election season, we can choose a better way. Choosing kindness isn't about avoiding our differences but navigating them with respect and compassion.

**Jesus** says: *"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you"*

*Kindness*

Do unto others as you would  
have them do unto you . *Jesus*

# Connecting With...



## Children's Sunday School class Special Music on July 14th

The congregation went aboard  
"The Happy Day Express"  
led by Sunday School Teacher, Shirley  
Moser (Miss Shirley), and assistant  
Marla Scannell. Casey Rife also assists  
in the classroom.



Pastor Paul used  
the Train Whistle  
as the topic for  
Children Moments



# The People of St. Paul's

Our Sympathy to Ron McAdams and to Brent and Vicki McAdams Family on the passing of Brents mother, Kay McAdams who passed away on July 23. Ron and Kay had been married almost 63 years. A service was held on July 30th, officiated by Pastor Paul Scannell. Cards may reach the McAdams family at 7300 Ridge Rd., Elida, OH 45807

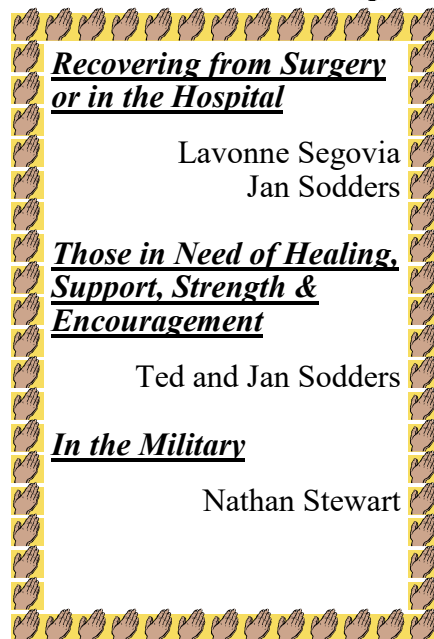


*Thank you for the prayers, flowers, and everyone's well wishes, during my hospital stay and healing.*

*Lavonne Segovia*



## Remember in Prayer



*Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital*  
 Lavonne Segovia  
 Jan Soddors

*Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement*  
 Ted and Jan Soddors

*In the Military*  
 Nathan Stewart

May the *love* of those around you *help* you through the days ahead.

Dear Crafty Creatures,  
 Thank you so very much for the beautiful prayer blanket! Deb & Gary brought it to me on Monday. When I put it over my legs, I will feel wrapped in love and prayers. I love the cheery yellow color.

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart,

Donna McCreight  
 (Deb Hurd's mother)



***Our Biblical Purpose Statement:  
 Elida St. Paul's United Methodist Church exists as God's people embracing His grace through humble service to all.***

***St. Paul's Vision Statement:  
 Is for the Elida community to be led to Christ through words and deeds enabling youth to have purpose, families to be nurtured and supported, and senior citizens to feel valued.***

**Meetings**

August 5, 2024  
PPR...7:00 PM

August 7, 2024  
Worship Mtg..1:00 PM

August 12, 2024  
Ad Council / Finance  
7:00 PM

August 13, 2024  
Trustees...7:00 PM

No Missions Mtg.

**Sundays**  
Hospitality...9:30 AM  
Worship...10:00 AM

# AUGUST 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1 Mary Grigsby Tim White	2	3
4 Joy Fletcher Cody Scannell	5	6 Anne Laman	7	8 Myrna Metzger	9 Sara Crawford Ruth Hardy	10 Kathy Furry
11 Nancy Kizer Michele Luhn Emma Scannell	12	13	14 Connie Mault Chris Przekora	15 Ginny Doseck	16 Beverly Nesbitt Ashton Rife	17
18 Tracy Sdao	19 Jacquie Bice	20 Austin Lewis Dennis Metzger	21	22	23 Nellie Cook Jean May Aric Thompson	24 Gail Fessler
25 Ira Slemmons	26	27	28 Julia White	29 Brad Selover Justin Wyant	30 Cole Lewis	31 Paisley Gerdeman
	Happy Birthday!					

*AUGUST*

Scott & Beth Warris  
August 1

AJ & Tara Strauch  
August 2

Jim & Christie Lewis  
August 3

Brandon & Jaime Chambers  
August 4

Brady & Tiffany Emmons  
August 4

Steve & Tracy Sdao  
August 4

Dennis & Kim Metzger  
August 5; 46 yrs.

Jamie & Jan Wyant  
August 6; 47 yrs.

Scott & Michelle Grapner  
August 11

David & Susan Nartker  
August 16; 49 yrs.

# Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

## Peach Crumb Bars

*By Susan Nartker*

Ingredients		Instructions
3 cups	All purpose flour	Preheat oven to 375 degrees  Whisk flour, 1 cup of sugar, baking powder, salt and cinnamon; cut in shortening until crumbly.  In separate bowl, whisk eggs and vanilla until blended; add flour mixture, stirring with fork until crumbly.  Reserve 2 1/2 cups crumb mixture for topping. Press remaining mixture onto bottom of greased 13x9 baking pan.  Toss peaches with almond extract.  In separate bowl, mix cornstarch and remaining sugar; add peaches and toss to coat. Spread over crust; sprinkle with reserved topping.  Bake 40 to 45 minutes or until lightly browned and filling is bubbly.  Cool completely, cut into bars.
1 1/2 cups	Sugar, divided	
1 tsp.	Baking powder	
1/2 tsp.	Salt	
dash	Ground Cinnamon	
1 cup	Shortening	
1 large	Egg	
1 tsp.	Vanilla extract	
9 medium	Peaches, pealed and chopped	
1 tsp.	Almond extract	
4 tsp.	Cornstarch	



**SEEKING RECIPES!!**

We would love to pass your special recipes on to others by featuring them on this page of our newsletter.

Recipes may be e-mailed, snail mailed, or brought into the church office.

# KIDZ KORNER



You don't have to visit the beach to make a sandcastle. Make fluffy "moon sand" to build fun structures.

**What you need:**

- Large bowl
- Wooden spoon
- 8 cups flour
- 1 cup baby oil



**What you do:**

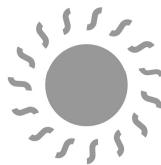
1. Measure flour into the large bowl. Add baby oil.
2. Mix thoroughly until all the oil is combined and the texture is consistent. If needed, use your hands to knead the mixture.
3. The sand is ready when it sticks together to form a ball when pressed in your hands.
4. Use sand toys and molds to create a sandcastle. Store sand in an airtight container for up to two weeks.



## BY THE SEASHORE

The sea and its creatures are evidence of God's intention and purpose in creation.

*Directions: Unscramble the words. Then copy the circled letters in order below to complete Psalm 104:24-25, NIV.*



DASN  
 LHSELS  
 USN  
 ESEDAIS  
 BHECA  
 LALUBMER  
 WRTEA  
 FRUS  
 VWSEA



\_\_□\_\_  
 \_\_\_□□\_\_  
 □\_\_  
 \_\_□□\_\_\_  
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 \_\_\_□□□\_\_  
 \_\_\_□\_\_  
 \_\_□□\_\_  
 \_\_\_□□\_\_



How many are your works, LORD!  
In wisdom you made them \_\_\_; the earth is full of your creatures.

There is the \_\_\_\_, vast and spacious, teeming with \_\_\_\_\_ beyond number — living things both large and small.

*Psalm 104:24-25, NIV*

Answers: sand, shells, sun, seaside, beach, umbrellas, waves, surf, waves, all sea creatures

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

105 E. Main St.  
Elida, OH 45807

\*Return Service Requested

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Elida, OH  
45807  
Permit No. 71

**Our Web Address:**  
**[www.elidastpaulschurch.org](http://www.elidastpaulschurch.org)**

**Our Facebook page**  
**Elida St. Paul's Church**

**Twitter Account**  
**@ESPCHURCH**



## Living Our Faith

### God's Gift Of Music

What helps you sort out what you're feeling, or experience an emotion more deeply? What allows you to let loose and cry, or fully celebrate when you're joyful? Nature helps some of us get in touch with our feelings, perhaps because it removes us from screens and other distractions.

But when getting out isn't possible — no mountain lake is nearby, or the weather isn't tranquil — consider the gift of music. Often instrumental or vocal music helps us access the depths of our soul like nothing else can. God may even speak to us through music — whether in song lyrics, our own inner thoughts or wordless stirrings of the heart.

Albert Schweitzer, a pastor, musicologist, physician and more, said, "Joy, sorrow, tears, lamentation, laughter — to all these music gives voice, but in such a way that we are transported from the world of unrest to a world of peace, and see reality in a new way, as if we were sitting by a mountain lake and contemplating hills and woods and clouds in the tranquil and fathomless water."

Make some playlists for various emotions: joy, grief, anxiety, hope. Then imagine yourself relaxing in nature, and experience God's love.