

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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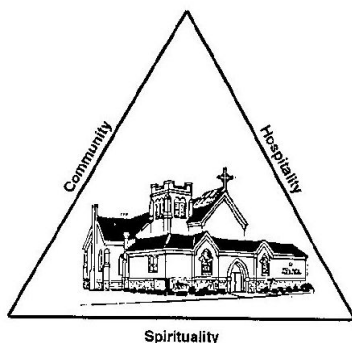
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February means the middle of winter and what seems a long wait for Springtime. I looked back at what I talked about in last February's newsletter, and the whole article was about Covid and the hope it would be gone soon. So much for that hope. It seems we are going through an even more difficult time with it. So many people have had their lives changed by this disease, either by contracting it, losing friends and family to it, or having to deal with the mental struggle that comes from worrying about it. How can we get back to normal, or is there going to be a whole new normal?

We have to continue with the work of the church, even during times of difficulty, and that means figuring out our new normal. Along the way, we will continue to be about the work you have already started. This month the coins for communion will help Samaritan's Purse, which is the group responsible for Operation Christmas Child. We all know the bills we have to pay, they are not fun, but if we want lights, we pay the electric bill. A little under 17% of all the money Samaritan's Purse goes to advertising and administration, and over 83% goes to ministry. This gift is our way of helping with that 17%, not glamorous, but it keeps everything working.

I have enjoyed the Women of Faith series from January, and in February, we will look at how we can be an influencer for Christ. Social media is full of people who are influencers, in the space they find themselves. Where are you today, and who can you influence, is the question we will answer together in February.

Until then, I'll see you in the mission field.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Paul



Thought for the Month:

The Journey of a Thousand Miles, begins with one step.

- Lao Tzu

February 6
'Coins for Communion'
to benefit Samaritan's Purse



February 14



February 13
Food Pantry Sunday

Items are taken to the
 Five Loaves food Pantry
 At The Church at Allentown



February 21
Presidents Day

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

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

Christian Symbol

VALLEY

Valleys symbolize life's dark or low points; for example, Psalm 23:4 refers to "the valley of the shadow of death" (ESV). But valleys also symbolize people who find God's favor because they're lowly and meek. As a result, valleys can be places of blessing. God lifts his people out of despair and rewards their faithfulness. He also promises to "level" conditions by raising up valleys and bringing down mountains (see Isaiah 40:4).



St. Paul's Epistle

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 United Methodist Church

Subscription Rate: NONE

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

February 27

*Transfiguration
of Our Lord Sunday*



**Ash Wednesday Service
March 2 at 7:00 PM.**



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Coins for Communion - February Samaritan's Purse

St. Paul's UMC donates all loose change and bills in the Collection Plates during the first Sunday of each month to a specified mission. These "Coins for Communion" in February will go to Samaritan's Purse. If you are not at this service but would like to contribute, please send a check to the church office designating your donation or drop off your donation to the church office.

The Mission Statement of Samaritan's Purse follows:

"Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world."

Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ. The organization serves the Church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. We work in more than 100 countries, addressing critical needs such as food, clean water, shelter, and medicine. We also help hurting people in the United States, including wounded U.S. soldiers and their spouses and homeowners devastated by natural disasters.

Charity Navigator, an organization that evaluates a nonprofit organization's financial health including measures of stability, efficiency and sustainability, accountability and transparency policies to ensure the good gives Samaritan's Purse a four-star rating—their highest. Samaritan's Purse is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity.

Prayer Ministry

St. Paul's Prayer Ministry Team

The St. Paul's Prayer Ministry Team meets every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the Prayer Room at the back of the Sanctuary. During our prayer time, we lift the names of those on the prayer list to God as we "stand in the gap" between them and God.

This is not an ideal time for many people. Those conducting the service are busy. Other families are trying to just get to church on time, let alone early. Some can't get to Sunday morning services at all.

I have an option for anyone who can't join us on Sunday morning: pray at home or work. Our small groups could pray during their time together. Lift the names of those listed in the Sunday bulletin or pray by the categories of needs listed below, imaging God's light shining down on each person. Add the names of those known personally who need prayer.

We would love to have you join us on Sunday mornings. If you can't be there in person, please remember that wherever or whenever you have time to pray for those on our hearts, you become a member of St. Paul's Prayer Ministry.

Categories to Pray For:

Cancer

Church Family: Pick the name of a church family weekly and pray for that family throughout the week.

Community and the World:

World

United States

Ohio

Allen County

Elida, Lima

COVID

Grief

Health Concerns, Long-term

Health Concerns, Short-term

Joys

Mental Health Issues

Military and First Responders

Missions

Personal needs

Shut-ins

Small Groups

Those who work at St. Paul's and those conducting Services

United Methodist Church

Workers, Bosses



Prayer

CSSTP Prayer: Technology Assisted Prayer

By: Corinne Piper

"Every time of prayer should probably start with a time of silence." Peter Greig as quoted by Jared Brock in [A Year of Living Prayerfully](#)

If you just groaned when you read that, you might be a CSSTP (a person who can't sit still to pray). Prayer might seem boring, torturous or impossible because you feel like you CAN'T turn your brain off long enough to focus so how can you have a conversation with God.

Here's an idea: try plugging in! One reason people with ADHD like technology is because what they are looking at is going as fast as their brains. Maybe, using prayer sites will help you stay focused.

Here are some ideas to pray using your device:

1. Start with a time of centering.
2. Go directly to the site you wish to use (don't start surfing on the way)
3. Follow the site through your prayer time.
4. Come out of your time slowly and thoughtfully

Places to find inspiration or guidance:

1. Any church website or YouTube with services
2. Sacred music sites with music that reaches you.
3. Prayer apps that will lead you in guided prayer, help with meditation, journaling, information and access to Bibles and commentaries.

Take a few minutes to center yourself, then open your computer and use it to have a conversation between you and God.

A Sampling of Prayer APPS:

Biblegateway.com

Hallow (a Catholic site that has guided meditation and prayer)

Guideposts Magazine

Reimaging the Examen (a site to guide you through evaluating your day by focusing on different themes)

Insight Time (a site that has a timer to keep you on track while you meditate.

There are classes and guided thoughts that I haven't explored because as a friend has said "I don't need people I don't know inside my head.")

Prayer Room Information:

The heat is on in the Prayer Room at all times. Please do not adjust the controls.

If you are still cool, there is a throw blanket you may use to stay comfortable.

The information to access WiFi while in the Prayer Room will be posted to allow you to use whatever technology methods you find helpful.

Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

January 2, 2022	54
January 9, 2022	44
January 16, 2022	47
January 23, 2022	42

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,879.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
January 2, 2022	\$5,948.00	\$903.82
January 9, 2022	\$8,518.35	\$1,011.00
January, 16, 2022	\$1,313.00	\$1,296.00
January 23, 2022	\$2,073.00	\$377.00

Ways you can SERVE

Sunday School Attendance

January 2, 2022	7
January 9, 2022	0
January 16, 2022	4
January 23, 2022	4

Flower Calendar

February 6, 2022	OPEN
February 13, 2022	Jamie & Jan Wyant
February 20, 2022	OPEN
February 27, 2022	Scott & Gail Fessler

Ways You Can Serve on Sunday Mornings:

- * Be a Greeter
- * Altar Flowers
- * Liturgist
(Sign-up sheets are on the hallway bulletin board or call the office)
- * Sing in the Choir
(Contact Judy Chaffins)
- * Help serve communion
(Contact Pastor Paul)
- * Work at the media desk
 - Preparing and running visuals
 - Running the sound
 - running the computer for Facebook live
(Contact Pastor Paul)

Daily Bible Readings

Tuesday 2/1

Psalm 61, 62, 68
Genesis 21:1-21
Hebrews 11:13-22, John 6:41-51

Wednesday 2/2

Psalm 72, 119:73-96
Genesis 22:1-18
Hebrews 11:23-31, John 6:52-59

Thursday 2/3

Psalm 71, 74, Genesis 23:1-20
Hebrews 11:32-12:2
John 6:60-71

Friday 2/4

Psalm 69, 73, Genesis 24:1-27
Hebrews 12:3-11, John 7:1-13

Saturday 2/5

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76
Genesis 24:28-51
Hebrews 12:12-29, John 7:14-36

Sunday 2/6

Psalm 34, 93, 96
Genesis 24:50-67
2 Timothy 2:14-21
Mark 10:13-22

Monday 2/7

Psalm 77, 80, Genesis 25:19-34
Hebrews 13:1-16, John 7:37-52

Tuesday 2/8

Psalm 78, Genesis 26:1-33
Hebrews 13:17-25
John 7:53-8:11

Wednesday 2/9

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120
Genesis 27:1-29
Romans 12:1-8, John 8:12-20

Thursday 2/10

Psalm 85, 86, 146, 147
Genesis 27:30-45
Romans 12:9-21, John 8:21-32

Friday 2/11

Psalm 88, 91, 92
Genesis 27:46-28:22
Romans 13:1-24, John 8:33-47

Saturday 2/12

Psalm 87, 90, 136
Genesis 29:1-20
Romans 14:1-23, John 8:47-59

Sunday 2/13

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67
Genesis 29:20-35
1 Timothy 3:14-4:10
Mark 10:23-31

Monday 2/14

Psalm 89, Genesis 30:1-24
1 John 1:1-10, John 9:1-17

Tuesday 2/15

Psalm 94, 97, 99, Genesis 31:1-24
1 John 2:1-11, John 9:18-41

Wednesday 2/16

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144
Genesis 31:25-50
1 John 2:1-11, John 10:1-18

Thursday 2/17

Psalm 105, Genesis 32:3-21
1 John 2:18-29, John 10:19-30

Friday 2/18

Psalm 102, 107:1-32
Genesis 32:22-33:17
1 John 3:1-10, John 10:31-42

Saturday 2/19

Psalm 33, 107:33-43, 108
Genesis 35:1-20
1 John 3:11-18, John 11:1-16

Sunday 2/20

Psalm 118, 145, Proverbs 1:20-33
2 Corinthians 5:11-21
Mark 10:35-45

Monday 2/21

Psalm 106, Proverbs 3:11-20
1 John 3:18-4:6, John 11:17-29

Tuesday 2/22

Psalm 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126
Proverbs 4:1-27
1 John 4:7-21, John 11:30-44

Wednesday 2/23

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130
Proverbs 6:1-19
1 John 5:1-12, John 11:45-54

Thursday 2/24

Psalm 133, 132, 134, 135
Proverbs 7:1-27
1 John 5:13-21, John 11:55-12:8

Friday 2/25

Psalm 140, 141, 142, 143
Proverbs 8:1-21
Philemon 1-25, John 12:9-19

Saturday 2/26

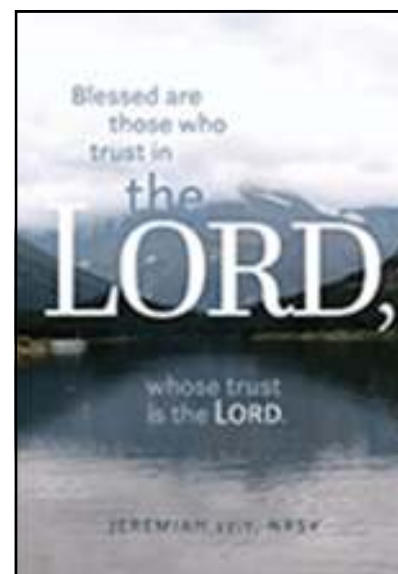
Psalm 104, 137, 144
Proverbs 8:22-36
2 Timothy 1:1-14
John 12:20-26

Sunday 2/27

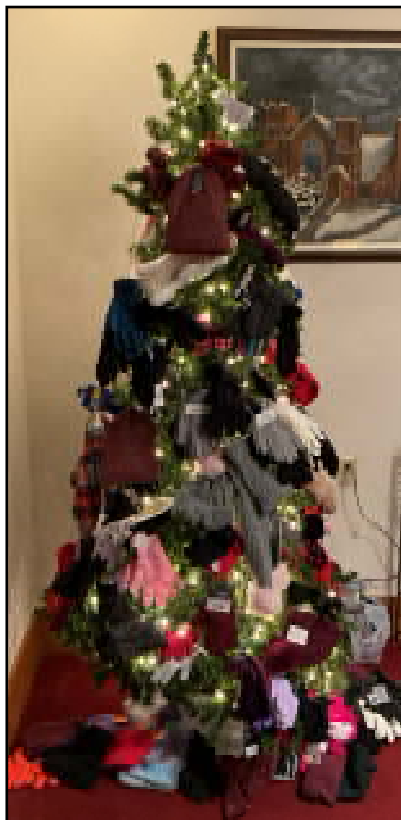
Psalm 111, 112, 113, 146, 147
Proverbs 9:1-12
2 Corinthians 9:6-15
Mark 10:46-52

Monday 2/28

Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4, 7
Proverbs 10:1-12
2 Timothy 1:15-2:13
John 12:27-36a



Missions



Mitten Tree Report:

Thank you to everyone who made or bought gloves, mittens, hats, headbands, shawls and scarves to donate to our Christmas Hat Tree this year! Thanks to you, someone in our community will have warm apparel to wear during the winter. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! Here are the totals of donated items: Hats: 48, Pairs of Gloves: 74, Scarves: 8, Shawls: 3 and Headbands: 5.



Thank
You



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift to help reach others in a time of need. I appreciate your care for the poor and homeless in our community. Individuals facing a time of crisis are able to receive care for physical and spiritual needs because of your generous support. Thank you for your part in this ministry!

*God Bless,
Lima Rescue Mission
Chuck Ferguson, Exec. Dir.*

*Thank you to Jamie Wyant,
and all those who helped
build a ramp for me.
Thank you for this very
important Mission of the
church.*

*Thank You!
Lavonne Segovia*



Hymn History

Since Jesus Came Into My Heart

Then Sings My Soul" Book 2, By Robert J. Morgan

1914

Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. John 14:1 (NKJV)

Rufus McDaniel, born in rural Ohio in 1850, was licensed to preach when he was only nineteen. He was soon afterward ordained into the Christian Church and married. His blessings were tripled by the births of Clarence, Minnie, and Herschel. Clarence, the first born, followed in his fathers footsteps and became a minister in the Christian denomination. The daughter, Minnie, married an Ohio boy and lived nearby in Dayton. It was Herschel who broke his heart by his untimely death in 1913.

After Rufus had buried his son, he realized anew that joy and contentment cannot be based on human affection or external gift. They flow from an endless relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. Out of that experience, he wrote, "Since Jesus came Into My Heart."

Rufus went on to pastor churches in Southern Ohio for many years before retiring to Dayton to be near his daughter. He wrote over a hundred hymns, but this is the only one that endured. It, too, would have been lost to us but for the great evangelist Billy Sunday, who counted it among his favorites.

This notice appeared among the obituaries in the *Dayton Daily News* on February 13, 1940:

REV. MCDANIEL, NOTED WRITER OF HYMNS, DIES.

The Rev. Rufus H. McDaniel, 90, retired Congregational Christian minister, Died at 9 a.m. Tuesday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Frank R. Liesenhoff...

He had been ailing for sometime, but had been seriously ill about one week.

The Rev. McDaniel, who celebrated his ninetieth birthday on January 29, composed and published more than one hundred hymns that have been used by all denominations, yet he received nothing in the way of cash remuneration.

He was the guest on Ken Randolph's program over WHIO the day after he had celebrated his eighty-ninth birthday, and sang "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart,"

A hymn he wrote many years ago and which is now one of the best known of its type in evangelistic circles.



Poem

THE TRINITY SNOWMAN

*When you see a snowman
Three snowballs round,
He is reminding you
That in God, three in one are found.*

*The bottom reminds us of God the Father,
Our strong rock and foundation,
The Creator of all living thing's,
People, tribes and nations.*

*The middle shows us God the Son
With His arms spread open wide.
Who died on the cross for each of us
Our sins Jesus' blood did hide.*

*The head reminds of God the Holy spirit
Who is our counselor and friend,
He speaks to our hearts and minds
Transforming us into the likeness of Him.*

*So when you see a snowman
in the mist of all the wintertime fun,
Listen carefully and he'll tell you,
"Remember God is Three in One"*



Crafty Creatures

JOIN US!

Looking for something fun to do? Come and see what is happening at our Craft Creatures group.

If you love to crochet or knit, then consider spending one evening each week for laughs and fun, plus doing your own thing or you can help complete quilts. All you need to know is how to tie a knot; everything else is provided.

We meet on Wednesday evenings at Shirley Moser's home at 703 Sunnydale St. We begin at 6:30 PM and end at 8:30 PM. While working on our quilts and prayer blankets we share our joys and concerns, we take a little break to enjoy some goodies, and sometimes we have a short devotional time and end the evening with a prayer.

The mission of our group is to offer comfort, care, and love to those in need, both within our church and outside of our own church family. It's a way of showing God's love when someone feels lonely, loses hope, or just needs a little boost to their day.

We get as much blessing in giving out the quilts and prayer blankets as the person receiving them. Our group is amazing, and we have so much fun. We laugh together, sometimes we cry together, but we always support and love one another. We strive to do God's work through our mission to others and each other.

We welcome (young and old) to come and see for yourself how amazing this small group is, and how much fun we have. Remember, Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM. For more information call Gail at the church at 419-339-3801 or Carole Grapner at 419-204-8806.



The People of St. Paul's



Allison Grace was born January 18, 2022, to Zack and Katie White. She weighed in at 7 lbs., 7 ozs., everyone doing well in Towson, MD. Grandparents are Marty & Kathy White; Howard & Karen Foltz. Nieces and nephews - Nick, Tim, & AJ White; Brian and Adam Foltz and Denise Thomas. Zack & Katie reside at 543 Brook Rd., Towson, MD 21286

Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or
in the Hospital

Carl Miller
Joyce Nichols

Those in Need of Healing,
Support, Strength &
Encouragement

Jack & Cindy Swihart

In the Military & Missions

Nathan Stewart

To our friends at St. Paul's,
We want to thank you for your
prayers, cards, visitation and kind
words in the loss of our son, Edward.
When Ed was young, he enjoyed
being part of the church.

Thank you again,
Connie and Denny Mault, and Family

Thank You

Thank you for your generous
support (\$211.23).

Meals 'til Monday, Inc.

Thank you for all the cards, and
well wishes, also thank you to
the quilt girls for my blanket. It
definitely will be put to good use.

Mike and Kim Crates

Thank you for your generous
support (\$2,630) of the Sunnydale
House and Lifewise Elida.

Acts Sunnydale House

Meetings

February 1, 2022
Trustees ..7:00 PM

February 2, 2022
Worship Mtg..
10:00 AM

February 7, 2022
PPR...7:00 PM

February 10, 2022
Missions...7:00 PM

February 14, 2022
Ad Council/
Finance ...7:00 PM

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

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir...7:00 PM

FEBRUARY

2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat


		1	2 Barb Schade	3	4 Cyndi Smith	5 Don Irvin
6	7 Gary Hurd	8 Cari Metzger	9 Michelle Grapner	10 Marla Scannell Caroline Stengel	11	12
13	14	15 Tara Gaghen Bill Weaver	16	17 Doug Fox	18 Sherilyn Ellinger Sydney Lane	19
20 Ron Steiner	21	22 Andrew Piper	23	24 Heather Selover	25	26 Addison Chaffins
27 Anna Selover	28 Makayla Bok Kate Stengel					



Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

Pineapple Cookies

By Sue Theodore

Ingredients		Instructions
1 cup	Brown Sugar	<p>Preheat oven to 375 degrees.</p> <p>Cream shortening and both sugars. Add eggs, mixing well.</p> <p>Combine dry ingredients. Add to sugar mixture, mixing well. (Mixture will be dry).</p> <p>Add pineapple and vanilla, mixing well. You may have to stir by hand. Stir in chips and coconut.</p> <p>Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto ungreased cookie sheet.</p> <p>Bake until lightly browned, approx. 12—15 minutes <i>Watch closely! Do not overbake. Cool.</i></p> <p>Store in air tight container.</p> <p>These cookies soften upon standing. They are moister after a few days.</p>
1 cup	Sugar	
1 cup	Crisco shortening	
2	Eggs	
4 cups	Flour	
1/2 tsp.	Salt	
1 1/2 tsp.	Baking soda	
1/2 tsp.	Baking powder	
1 (20 oz.)	Crushed pineapple, drained	
1 1/2 tsp.	Vanilla	
1 (12 oz.)	Butterscotch chips	
1 1/2 to 2 cups	Coconut	



KIDZ KORNER

Friendship SOUP

Make jars of Italian barley soup to share love and warmth with friends.



What you need:

- 1 cup pearly barley
- ½ cup sundried tomatoes
- 1 Tbsp dry minced garlic
- 1 Tbsp dry minced onion
- 1 veggie bouillon cube
- Glass pint jars with lids
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Pen

What you do:

1. In order, layer the first five ingredients into the jar.
2. Trace the outline of the lid onto cardstock. Cut out.
3. On the card, write these directions: Remove wrapper from bouillon cube. Add contents of jar to saucepan. Add 4 cups water and a can of diced tomatoes. Bring to a boil over high heat, reduce to low. Simmer about 20 minutes, until barley is tender. Serve with parmesan cheese.
4. Place the card atop the lid. Screw on the canning ring to keep it in place.



The heart of a friend

Big-hearted friendliness comes from generously serving others.

Directions: Start with the first D and move according to the arrows beneath the blanks. Then fill in the letters to complete 1 Peter 4:8-10.



Above all, love each other , because love
 over a multitude of . Offer
 to one another without
 . Each of you should use whatever
 you have received to others, as faithful
 stewards of God's in its various forms.

1 PETER 4:8-10, NIV

Answer: deeply, covers, sins, hospitality, grumbling, gift, serve, grace

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.
Elida, OH 45807

*Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
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45807
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Our Web Address:
www.elidastpaulschurch.org

Our Facebook page
Elida St. Paul's Church

Twitter Account
@ESPCHURCH

FEBRUARY 2022

Living Our Faith

Beyond Candy Hearts and Roses

The first half of February seems dominated by pink and red, cards and candy. But people not in a loving romantic relationship can sometimes feel left out of the festivities. Of course, all people need love — and certainly love is not limited to the romantic kind. Author Leo Buscaglia, who became known as “Dr. Love” for writing about the topic, said, “Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.”

Jesus taught that loving one another is second only in importance to loving God (Matthew 22:37-40), and that when we love one another, God lives in us (1 John 4:12). There are so many ways to do that — beyond candy hearts and roses! But Valentine's Day is as good a reminder as any.