

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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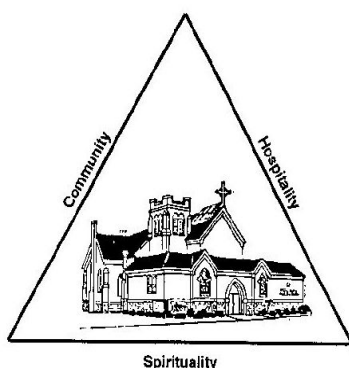
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The ideas of March are upon us, what does that even mean? In Rome, it meant that your loans were due, so it was not the happiest of occasions, and people always watched out for it. March means the beginning of Lent for us with the Ash Wednesday Service on March 2nd at 7 pm. I want to invite you this lent to join me in reading through the book of Mark. I have placed a reading guide that will coincide with the sermon series that begins the first Sunday of Lent. We will read, work, and preach our way through Mark and the life of Jesus leading Him to the cross and our salvation. I hope you will make reading Mark the one thing you do for lent this year.

I want you to be thinking about how you can help the church in the years to come, this month, the plan is to meet with the Nominations Committee to establish the personnel who will fill the leadership positions here at church. As well as establish a membership class for those who wish to join the church. I look forward to seeing all the different ways everyone will serve the church.

Until next month, I will see you in the mission field.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Paul



Thought for the Month:

Better to do something imperfectly than to do nothing flawlessly.

—Robert Schuller

March 6

Coins for Communion will benefit Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen

Mission Statement: *"To serve and be a friend to everyone who enters our doors by providing a safe place, a good meal, and a hope for the future thru our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."*

Everyone is welcome here at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, and everyone who enters is a friend. This is a faith-based soup kitchen and ministry, providing a hot meal for the stomach and a helping of God's word for the soul. There is a clothing room stocked with donated clothes and hygiene products are available on request; on occasion bags of needs are filled and passed out to all. Everything is free, provided through the generosity of individuals, churches, businesses and organizations in our community. All donations are accepted and are tax deductible since we are a 501(c) 3 tax exempt organization. We are not government funded.

We are sponsored by more than 50 churches of different denominations from Allen County and the surrounding counties.

For some, the meal we serve is the only hot meal they will eat on a given day. For some it is the fellowship and camaraderie that brings them here. Whatever the reason, all are greeted with a smile and often a hug from one of our staff or volunteers.

Information from the Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen Website:

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

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

Christian Symbol



40

In Scripture, this number often indicates a time of trial or testing, or simply marks significance. It rained 40 days and nights during the Flood. Israel wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Jesus fasted for 40 days and was with the disciples for 40 days between his resurrection and ascension. The Christian church has long observed 40 days of Lent (not counting Sundays)

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

March 11

Family Promise Mission

St. Paul's will again be partnering with other Elida churches to help with families through Family Promise. The next date is Friday, March 11th starting at 5 PM at Immanuel United Methodist Church. We again need someone to provide food for the family or families at 5 PM and people to stay at the church for three shifts starting at 5:30 and ending Saturday morning at 9 AM. If you are able to help, there is a signup sheet at the media desk. More information on the families will be forthcoming. The next Family Promise event will not be until mid-summer, so if you can help this time, it will be much appreciated.

REMINDER:

March 13

Daylight Savings Time Begins
Set your clocks ahead 1 hour.



March 13

Food Pantry

Bring in non-perishable food items to be taken to the Five Loaves Food Pantry at The Church At Allentown.

* **March 20** *
* **SPRING BEGINS!!** *



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

March 17

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

March 2, 2022
Ash Wednesday
Service 7:00 PM



March 13, 2022
2nd Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022
3rd Sunday in Lent

March 6, 2022
1st Sunday in Lent



March 27, 2022
4th Sunday in Lent

Lent

Lenten Bible Readings

Most Bible scholars agree that Mark is probably the earliest written Gospel, and it brings an urgent message about God's coming kingdom. This Lent, I hope you will join me in reading through the Gospel of Mark using this guide outlined below. Included is a prayer to use each week or fill in your own prayers.

First Week of Lent (Begin 3/2/22)

Read Mark 1:1-13

Prayer of the Week: Lord Jesus, as I begin this Lenten journey listening to Mark tell your story, I open my heart and mind to learn (or learn again) about the way you changed our world for the better forever. Amen.

Second Week of Lent (Begin 3/7/22)

Read Mark 1:9-3:19

Prayer of the Week: Lord Jesus, give me the boldness to be one of your disciples, and the courage to do what is right even when there's pressure to stay quiet and "go along." Amen

Third Week of Lent (Begin 3/14/22)

Read Mark 3:20-6:29

Prayer of the Week: Lord Jesus, sometimes my emotions feel like an Ohio thunderstorm. Thank you for always offering me peace, help, and healing if the storm threatens to last. Amen.

Fourth Week of Lent (Begin 3/21/22)

Read Mark 6:30-9:32

Prayer of the Week: Lord Jesus, open my heart to think God's thoughts, not human thoughts, about what it means for me to follow you and serve your kingdom. When that takes courage, give me that courage. Amen.

Fifth Week of Lent (Begin 3/28/22)

Read Mark 9:33-10:52

Prayer of the Week: Lord God, grow in me the childlike trust and wisdom to always value the eternal treasure you offer more highly than any of this earth's temporary possessions. Amen.

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



Hymn History

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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

1707

But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Galatians 6:14 (NKJV)

After Isaac Watts finished his college studies and returned home to Southampton, he wrote many of his now-immortalized hymns for Above Bar Congregational Church. In 1696, Isaac, twenty-two, left home for London to become a tutor.

All the while, he was feeling a clear tug toward ministry. On his twenty-fourth birthday, July 17, 1698, Isaac preached his first sermon. The following year, he became assistant pastor of London's Mark Lane Church.

In March of 1700, Isaac received a long letter from his brother, Enoch, urging him to publish the hymns he had written in Southampton. The letter said:

Dear Brother, In your last letter you mentioned an inclination to oblige the world by showing it your hymns in print, and I heartily wish... that you were something more inclinable thereunto.... I am very confident whoever has the happiness of reading your hymns (unless he be either sot or atheist) will have a very favorable opinion of their author..... There is a great need of a pen, vigorous and lively as yours, to quicken and revive the dying devotion of the age.... Yours now is the old truth, stripped of its ragged ornaments, and appears, if we may say so, younger by ages in a new and fashionable dress.

Isaac, however hesitated. He had other obligations on his time. On March 8, 1702, he became Mark Lane's pastor. The next year, 1703, the church chose Samuel Price of Wales to assist Isaac, due to the latter's fragile health. Under the preaching of these two, the old, dying church revived. The building grew too small for the crowds, and a new house of worship was built down the street.

Finally in 1707, Watts published his hymns, selling the copyright to a Mr. Lawrence, the publisher, for ten pounds. This volume was an instant success. It was enlarged and republished in 1709.

"When I Surveyed the Wondrous Cross" appeared in his 1707 book of hymns. Inspired by Galatians 6:14, it was originally titled, "Crucifixion to the World, by the Cross of Christ." Many consider it the finest hymn in English church history, and Charles Wesley reportedly said he would rather have written it than all his own.



Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

January 30, 2022	49
February 6, 2022	56
February 13, 2022	57
February 20, 2022	52

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,879.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
January 30, 2022	\$2,620.00	\$182.00
February 6, 2022	\$2,771.00	\$470.00
February 13, 2022	\$3,675.00	\$93.01
February 20, 2022	\$2,108.00	\$244.00

Sunday School Attendance

January 30, 2022	5
February 6, 2022	8
February 13, 2022	9
February 20, 2022	4

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

Greeters

March 6, 2022	OPEN
March 13, 2022	OPEN
March 20, 2022	OPEN
March 27, 2022	OPEN

Flower Calendar

March 6, 2022	Denny & Carole Grapner
March 13, 2022	Jon & Chelsey Cook
March 20, 2022	Denny & Janna Thompson
March 27, 2022	Lois Cook



Daily Bible Readings

Tuesday 3/1

Psalm 5, 6, 10, 11
Proverbs 15:16-33
2 Timothy 2:14-26
John 12:36b-50

Wednesday 3/2 (*Ash Wednesday*)

Psalm 32, 102, 130, 143
Amos 5:6-15
Hebrews 12:1-14, Luke 18:9-14

Thursday 3/3

Psalm 37, Habakkuk 3:1-18
Philippians 3:12-21, John 17:1-8

Friday 3/4

Psalm 31, 35, Ezekiel 18:1-32
Philippians 4:1-9, John 17:9-19

Saturday 3/5

Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43
Ezekiel 39:21-29
Philippians 4:10-20
John 17:20-26

Sunday 3/6

Psalm 63, 98, 103, Daniel 9:3-10
Hebrews 2:10-18, John 12:44-50

Monday 3/7

Psalm 41, 44, 52, Genesis 37:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-19, Mark 1:1-13

Tuesday 3/8

Psalm 45, 47, 48
Genesis 37:12-24
1 Corinthians 1:20-31
Mark 1:14-28

Wednesday 3/9

Psalm 49, 119:49-72
Genesis 37:25-36
1 Corinthians 2:1-13
Mark 1:29-45

Thursday 3/10

Psalm 19, 46, 50, Genesis 39:1-23
1 Corinthians 2:14-3:15
Mark 2:1-12

Friday 3/11

Psalm 40, 51, 54, Genesis 40:1-23
1 Corinthians 3:16-23
Mark 2:13-22

Saturday 3/12

Psalm 55, 138, 139
Genesis 41:1-13
1 Corinthians 4:1-7
Mark 2:23-3:6

Sunday 3/13

Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84
Genesis 41:14-45
Romans 6:3-14, John 5:19-24

Monday 3/14

Psalm 56, 57, 64, 65
Genesis 41:46-57
1 Corinthians 4:8-21
Mark 3:7-19a

Tuesday 3/15

Psalm 61, 62, 68, Genesis 42:1-17
1 Corinthians 5:1-8
Mark 3:19b-35

Wednesday 3/16

Psalm 72, 119:73-96
Genesis 42:18-28
1 Corinthians 42:18-28
Mark 4:1-20

Thursday 3/17

Psalm 71, 74, Genesis 42:29-38
1 Corinthians 6:12-30, Mark 21:34

Friday 3/18

Psalm 69, 73, Genesis 43:1-15
1 Corinthians 7:1-9, Mark 4:35-41

Saturday 3/19

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76
Genesis 43:16-34
1 Corinthians 7:10-24
Mark 5:1-20

Sunday 3/20

Psalm 34, 93, 96, Genesis 44:1-17
Romans 8:1-10, John 5:25-29

Monday 3/21

Psalm 77, 80, Genesis 44:18-34
1 Corinthians 7:25-31
Mark 5:21-43

Tuesday 3/22

Psalm 78, Genesis 45:1-15
1 Corinthians 7:32-40
Mark 6:1-13

Wednesday 3/23

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120
Genesis 45:16-28
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 6:13-29

Thursday 3/24

Psalm 42, 43, 85, 86
Genesis 46:1-7, 28-34
1 Corinthians 9:1-15
Mark 6:30-46

Friday 3/25

Psalm 88, 91, 92, Genesis 47:1-26
1 Corinthians 9:16-27
Mark 6:47-56

Saturday 3/26

Psalm 87, 90, 136
Genesis 47:27-48:7
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Mark 7:1-23

Sunday 3/27

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67
Genesis 48:8-22
Romans 8:11-25, John 6:27-40

Monday 3/28

Psalm 89, Genesis 49:1-28
1 Corinthians 10:14-11:1
Mark 7:24-37

Tuesday 3/29

Psalm 94, 97, 99
Genesis 49:29-50:14
1 Corinthians 11:17-34
Mark 8:1-10

Wednesday 3/30

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144
Genesis 50:15-26
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
Mark 8:11-26

Thursday 3/31

Psalm 69, 73 Exodus 1:6-22
1 Corinthians 12:12-26
Mark 8:27-9:1



2021 Missions Giving Summary

COINS AT COMMUNION GIVING:

		<u>2021 AMOUNT GIVEN</u>
Heartbeat of Lima	(January)	\$ 5.09
Samaritan's Purse	(February)	\$ 92.65
Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen	(March)	\$ 126.97
5 Loaves Food Pantry-Allentown	(April)	\$ 98.05
WOC United Methodist Church Camps	(May)	\$ 273.23
UMCOR—U. S. Disaster Relief	(June)	\$ 94.91
Brad Joseph Memorial Fund	(July)	\$ 376.87
Meals 'til Monday	(August)	\$ 211.23
Samaritans House	(September)	\$ 168.79
Family Promise	(October)	\$ 243.66
Lima Rescue Mission	(November)	\$ 164.83
Salvation Army	(December)	\$ 152.94
TOTAL:		\$2,009.22

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SPECIAL SUNDAY'S GIVING:

Human Relations Day	(January)	\$ 20.00
UMCOR Sunday	(March)	\$ 115.00
Native American Awareness Day	(May)	\$ -
Peace with Justice Sunday	(June)	\$ -
Health & School Kits Shipping donations	(September)	\$ 260.00
World Communion Sunday - no service	(October)	\$ -
United Methodist Student Day	(November)	\$ 60.00

OTHER SPECIAL OFFERINGS /GIVINGS:

Donations to Sunnydale House (Includes \$1,000 from Missions)	\$2,965.00
Heifer International (\$'s left in heifer in hallway)	\$ 488.30
Candy for Elida Teachers	\$ 100.98

TOTALS FOR SPECIAL SUNDAY'S OFFERINGS:

\$4,009.28

SPECIAL SERVICES GIVING (Designated use of \$'s):

Ash Wednesday (St. Paul's Special Needs Fund)	\$ 116.00
Easter (UMCOR)	\$1,190.00
Easter (Other 11 Coins-at-Communion Recipients)	\$1,190.00
Christmas Offering (UMCOR U. S. Disaster Relief)	\$ 591.50
Christmas Offering ("Light the Way" - West Ohio Conference Campaign)	\$ 591.50
TOTAL:	\$3,679.00

SPECIAL MISSIONS / DESIGNATED GIVING:

Giving to ramp fund for ramp projects	\$1,095.00
Brad Joseph Golf Outing hole sponsorship	\$ 100.00
Health & School Kits (contents value=59 Health kits x \$12; 71 School kits x \$11)	\$1,489.00
Donations to General Missions Fund (not incl. Sunnydale House or Ramps)	\$ 125.00
Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes (108 boxes x \$35 + \$9 shipping per box)	\$4,752.00
Hats, Gloves, Scarves (138 items x \$7 per item average)	\$ 966.00
UMCOR - other donations to UMCOR	\$1,228.50
TOTAL:	\$9,755.50

(Donated items for Family Promise meals, Food Pantry and Santa Sacks—not quantified)

GRAND TOTAL MISSIONS GIVING—2021

\$19,453.00

2021 Mission Giving as a % of 2021 Church Budget (\$201,563) = 9.7%

Missions Activities Year-End Report

CONGREGATION AND MISSIONS COMMITTEE EFFORTS DURING THE YEAR OF 2021:

REPORT SUBMITTED BY TIM PIPER, MISSIONS CHAIRPERSON

- Jesus said to “feed my sheep.” Donations of food for the Allentown UMC Five Loaves Food Pantry continued to be strong in 2021 with St. Paul’s individuals faithfully filling the food bins every month. Thank you to all who donated food to feed those families who are in need in our Elida community;
- St. Paul’s has monetarily supported the Meals ‘til Monday mission which provides weekend meals to children from various elementary schools in and around Allen County, including Elida Elementary;
- Bev Nesbitt and her workers processed 71 school kits and 59 health kits donated by numerous members of our congregation as part of this annual mission effort. Pastor Paul delivered the kits to the local collection point for the Festival of Sharing;
- The small group, Crafty Creatures continues to bless our congregation and our community with their mission of prayer shawls, blankets, and quilts. They also made significant contributions to our annual mission, Christmas Tree of hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves which were donated to Crossroads Crisis Center and Our Daily Bread. 138 items were donated by our congregation;
- Our members gave a total of \$2,009 during Coins-at-Communion on the first Sunday of each month. Recipients of these funds included many local missions as well as UMCOR. Our members also gave \$455 to United Methodist Special Sundays such as UMCOR Sunday, and Student Day;
- St. Paul’s was a \$100 hole sponsor for the Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing. We had volunteers help with the outing as well as a four-person golf team. The Brad Joseph Memorial Fund has given out scholarships for medical mission trips to Kenya, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico & Uganda in the past twelve years;
- Our members built several wheel-chair ramps in 2021 for people with special needs to gain access to their houses. \$1,095 was also donated to buy ramp supplies. This continues to be a unique mission both funded and constructed by St. Paul’s members;
- Families were housed at Immanuel UMC for Family Promise of Lima four separate weeks during 2021. St. Paul’s members provided hot meals during these weeks for families and also stayed on those Friday evenings to talk with the families;
- On October 28th members of St. Paul’s Church handed out coffee, hot chocolate and pencils to parents and their children at the church for our Trick-or-Treat Night Mission. Over 300 cups of hot beverages were distributed along with pencils having St. Paul’s name and website on them. Members of St. Paul’s Church also participated by donating candy and tending the trunks for Trunk-or-Treat that same evening. Our members enjoyed this memorable evening;
- St. Paul’s members gave their \$2,380 Easter offering one-half to UMCOR and one-half to the other 11 recipients of Coins-at-Communion. We also designated \$591 of our Christmas offering to “Light the Way” a West Ohio Conference mission and \$591 from the Christmas offering to UMCOR U. S. Disaster Relief to help people in the U.S. recovery from natural disasters;
- Our youth and adults anonymously left \$488 on “the cow” in the hallway to send to Heifer International to purchase farm animals for families around the world. Thank-you to our youth and adults for their generous donations;

Continued on page 10

Missions

Continued from pg. 9

- In 2021 St. Paul's was active in a new mission called **The Sunnydale House**, which is a non-denominational program to teach elementary school students about the Bible and about character-building. St. Paul's congregation donated \$2,965 to the Sunnydale House program to help them renovate a house near the Elida Elementary School into classrooms and to buy supplies. Also, one or more of our congregation helped with the renovation of the house. We had several members volunteer to man the two watering stations for **The Sunnydale House 5K Run** and even had two church members run in the race! The event was a kickoff for The Sunnydale House program;
- St. Paul's Church again participated in a worldwide mission by **Samaritan's Purse** called **Operation Christmas Child**. Jamie Wyant headed up the collection of **108 shoeboxes**, which was nearly **double** the previous year's totals. The shoeboxes were filled with gifts for boys or girls, and given to **Samaritan's Purse** to distribute worldwide. Thank-you to all who filled boxes with gifts;
- **The people of St. Paul's United Methodist Church donated over \$19,453** to special missions, coins-for-communion, United Methodist Special Sundays, special designated Sundays and other missions and ministries of our church. Thank-you to all who donated money or participated in these missions. As we go forward into 2022 we are looking for new ways to impact our community and the world to show people the love of **Jesus Christ!**

The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be – *Thank You!* May we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate the healing power of the gospel with those who suffer.

Roland Fernandes,
Gen. Secretary, UMCOR

Thank You!

Thank you for your generous donation of hats, gloves, scarves and ear warmers to our survivor's. It is greatly appreciated.

The Staff and Board of
Crossroads Crisis Center

As we enter 2022, we at Heartbeat of Lima want to thank you for your support throughout last year. Your gifts have blessed us in more ways than you could imagine. Your support has made it possible for us to reach out to women and families experiencing unplanned pregnancies. We thank you for being a partner in this work.

Patti Kennedy, Director,
Heartbeat of Lima

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.

Chuck Ferguson, Director,
Lima Rescue Mission

Connecting With ...

Congratulations



Apollo Career Center

A /B Honor roll
Senior: Brittany Scannell

Elida High School

Honor Roll I
Sophomore: Savannah Emmons

Elida Middle School

Honor Roll II
Seventh Grade: Adrianna Ellinger



**February 13, 2022
Blessing of the quilts**

Wounded Healers

"Nobody escapes being wounded," writes Henri Nouwen. "We all are wounded people, whether physically, emotionally, mentally or spiritually. The main question is not 'How can we hide our wounds?' so we don't have to be embarrassed, but 'How can we put our woundedness in the service of others?' When our wounds cease to be a source of shame, and become a source of healing, we have become wounded healers." He continues, "Jesus is God's wounded healer: through his wounds we are healed. Jesus' suffering and death brought joy and life. His humiliation brought glory; his rejection brought a community of love. As followers of Jesus, we can also allow our wounds to bring healing to others."

How might viewing Jesus as a wounded healer affect your relationship with him? What roles have wounds and healing played in your own faith life? How can you minister to other people from a place of brokenness?

The People of St. Paul's

Thank You!

This is my long overdue note, however, feeling so blessed to be a part of such a loving church family has kept us going thru these tough days. Also, along with all your prayers, notes, calls, etc. have been a real blessing, especially with Jack's continuing serious struggles. It is such a joy to attend church at home with the music and wonderful messages. Thanks, Thanks for all your encouragement prayers, and words.

Our love and blessings to everyone!
Jack and Cindy Swihart

Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Kim Crates
Carl Miller
Dillon Staas

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Kim Crates
Carl Miller
Dillon Staas
Jack and Cindy Swihart

In the Military & Missions

Nathan Stewart



Our deepest Sympathy to Bev Nesbitt on the passing of her brother, Bob DeShetler on January 27, and the passing of her husband, Bill Nesbitt, on February 19. Cards will reach Bev at 3719 Cherokee Dr. 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

March 1, 2022
Trustees..7:00 PM

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

No PPR

No Ad Council/
Finance

TBA
Missions... 7:00 PM

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

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir....
7:00 PM

MARCH 2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1 Scott Grapner	2	3 Chelsey Cook Ella Nartker Wesley Nartker	4 Janna Thompson	5 Scott Fessler
6	7 Tim Theodore	8	9	10	11	12 Linda Holman Ethan Lewis
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Tara Strauch	21	22 Nancy Gesler	23	24 Joyce Nichols Kathy Waldick	25	26 Luke Selover
27 Julie Bok	28	29	30 Tahler Sdao Julia Thomas	31 Mitchell Furry Tom Thomas		

Happy Anniversary

Jim & Carolyn Michael
March 12; 40 yrs.

Jeff & Shelly Reiff
March 12

Tony & Shirley Shoup
March 20; 40 yrs.

Brent & Vicki McAdams
March 21


Bruce & Nancy Kizer
March 23; 54 yrs.

Jordan & Amy Wyant
March 28

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

Stuffed Pepper Soup

By Virginia Hollar

Ingredients		Instructions
2 lbs.	Ground beef	<p>In a Dutch oven over medium heat, cook and stir beef until no longer pink, drain.</p> <p>Stir in next eight ingredients and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer uncovered until peppers are tender, about 20 minutes.</p> <p>Add uncooked rice and simmer, uncovered, for 20 minutes.</p> <p>Stir occasionally after adding rice. Until rice is cooked.</p>
6 cups	Water	
1 can (28 oz.)	Tomato sauce	
1 can (28 oz.)	Tomatoes, diced, undrained	
2 cups	Green peppers, chopped	
1/4 cup	Brown sugar, packed	
2 tsp.	Salt	
2 tsp.	Beef bouillon granules or 2 beef bouillon cubes	
1 tsp.	Pepper	
2/3 cup	Long grain rice, uncooked	
		

May you have warm words on a cold evening,
a full moon on a dark night,
and the road downhill all the way
to your door.

—Irish blessing

KIDZ KORNER

Washed clean

Make customized jelly
soaps to banish dirt
and grime.



What you need:

- 1 package unflavored gelatin
- ¾ cup very warm water
- 1 tsp salt
- ¾ cup gel body wash
- Food coloring
- Rubbing alcohol in spray bottle
- Silicone baking molds

What you do:

1. In a bowl, stir gelatin and warm water until dissolved.
2. Add salt, body wash and a few drops of food coloring. Stir.
3. Spray molds with rubbing alcohol (to prevent bubbles). Place molds on a tray.
4. Pour mixture into the molds. Refrigerate until set, about two hours.
5. Pop soap out of molds and store in an airtight container.

PUZZLE



A wonderful washing

David's prayer of repentance reveals a desire to be cleansed of his sin.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the left. Then match them with the correct phrases from Psalm 51 (NIV) on the right.

ETRCAE _ _ _ _ _	_____ out my transgressions (v. 1)
HS AW _ _ _ _	_____ away all my iniquity (v. 2)
RSEEROT _ _ _ _ _	_____ me with hyssop, and I will be clean (v. 7)
WNERE _ _ _ _ _	_____ me, and I will be whiter than snow (v. 7)
TLBO _ _ _ _	_____ your face from my sins (v. 9)
DIHE _ _ _ _	_____ out all my iniquity (v. 9)
NATRG _ _ _ _ _	_____ in me a pure heart (v. 10)
LNSECAE _ _ _ _ _	_____ a steadfast spirit within me (v. 10)
LBTO _ _ _ _	_____ to me the joy of your salvation (v. 12)
W HSA _ _ _ _	_____ me a willing spirit, to sustain me (v. 12)

Answer: blot, wash, cleanse, wash, hide, blot, create, renew, restore, grant

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

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Living Our Faith

Complete Serenity

Many of us have heard the first part of what's called "The Serenity Prayer," attributed to theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. But we would do well to learn the rest of it as well:

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference, living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; taking this world as it is and not as I would have it; trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen."

Jesus Has Gone There First



Whether we gaze with longing into the garden or with fear and trembling into the desert, of this we can be sure — God walked there first! And when we who have sinned and despoiled the garden are challenged now to face the desert, we do not face it alone; Jesus has gone there before us to struggle with every demon that has ever plagued a human heart. Face the desert we must if we would reach the garden, but Jesus has gone there before us.

—James Healy