

# St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

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November, 2024

St. Paul's United  
Methodist Church

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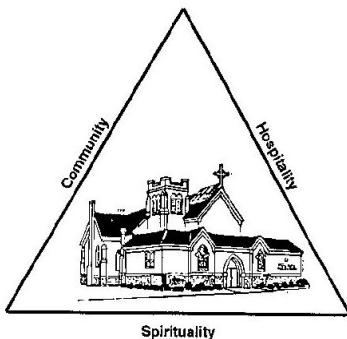
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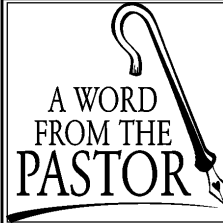
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Wow, what a month October has been, and it is all thanks to you! I want to take a little space to say thank you to everyone who gave me something for pastor appreciation month. I have had people do things for me in the past, but never on this scale. Every day, for the month of October, I received things from you in appreciation for doing my job here at St Paul's. At first, it was nice, but by the end of the month, I was overwhelmed by the outpouring of thanks. I will also be posting a thank you on our Facebook page with a picture of all the cards I have received. Here is just a partial list of what you have given me and my family this month. Flowers, Dinners, Gas, a Loaf of Bread, Art Work, Lunches, a Phone Call, a Text, Snacks, Games, Amazon, Cookies, Pies, a Quilt, Tools, and Groceries. With many multiples and such creativity, it has been unlike any month of October I have had in 23 years of ministry. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

I want to also thank you for being so intentional with our Campaign for Kindness, and if you receive this before election day, get out there and vote. I don't care who you vote for or how you vote on the issues, but I know we are always better when more of us work together on anything. Show kindness at the polls, and in the neighborhood, and remember to congratulate whoever wins and encourage them to be kind as well.

Until the Christmas season is upon us in church, we will finish the 'Kindness series', then do a simple little series about '3 Simple Rules for Living as Christians'. I hope you will join me as we look to Jesus Christ and the founders of Methodism, John and Charles Wesley, as we explore these basic rules we need to live by: 1. Do Good; 2. Do No Harm; and 3. Stay in Love with God. I know it sounds simple, but there is a lot to unpack in these simple rules for living.

Again, THANK YOU ALL for a great October, I was overwhelmed with your appreciation and kindness. You are indeed shining the light of Christ in what you are doing, and I look forward to seeing you in the mission field.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Paul*

### Thought for the Month:

Let gratitude for the past inspire us with trust for the future.

- Francois Fénelon

**BOOK CLUB**

**November 2 at 9:00 AM  
in the classroom beside the office**

**The book for discussion is;  
"What Happens Next"  
By: Christina Suzann Nelson**

**November 3  
All Saints Sunday**

**Bring a white candle and place on  
the altar in remembrance of your  
loved ones.**



Daylight Savings Time Ends  
November 3  
Remember to turn your clocks  
back one hour.

**November 3**

**Coins for Communion  
will benefit Lima Rescue Mission**



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



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

**Christian Symbol**

**ALMOND**



In Numbers 17:1-8, God settles a dispute among the Israelites by directing Moses to obtain a staff from each of Israel's 12 tribes and to place the staffs in the Tent of Meeting. The one representing the tribe God chose would sprout. The next day, not only had the staff of Aaron, representing the tribe of Levi, sprouted; it had blossomed and borne ripe almonds. Thus, the almond came to symbolize God's approval. By extension, it also represents the Virgin Mary, who found divine favor and was chosen to bear God's Son.

**St. Paul's Epistle**

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United Methodist Church

Subscription Rate: NONE

Secretary	Gail Fessler
Pianist	Lois Cook
Choir Director	Casey Rife
Custodian	Dave Decker



**November 11**

**Christ the King Sunday  
November 24**



**November 28**

**Charge Conference  
November 17 at 6:00 PM**

**Trinity United Methodist Church in Lima**

**December 1  
1st Sunday of Advent**

**Food Pantry  
November 24**

**Personal care items  
plus feminine care items needed.**

**Items are taken to the Five Loaves Food  
Pantry at The Church At Allentown.**

**Anyone interested in doing the  
reading and lighting of the  
Advent candle,  
please notify Pastor Paul  
or the church office.**

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

### **Veterans Day Salute**

After fighting in World War II, Luther Bergeland wasn't done serving his country — or his God. The Minnesota farm boy, who “came back to faith” during combat, later served for decades as a military chaplain. For his actions in the field in Korea, Bergeland was awarded the Bronze Star. Then during Vietnam, he served in the Army Reserves in Colorado, tasked with informing family members about soldiers' deaths.

Despite the challenges, Bergeland embraces the special role he was able to play for four decades, sharing Jesus and his love with countless people. “That's what we did, preaching and reaching out to people,” he told a reporter. “I always liked the military very much because it just did a lot for me, and I hope I did a lot for it.”



**On Veterans Day, we salute Bergeland and all the men  
and women who selflessly serve.**

# Crafty Creatures

## Pre-Order Candy Sales

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Order Deadline:** December 1, 2024

**Pick Up:** December 14, 2024 10:00 AM—Noon in Fellowship Hall

	# Pkgs	Cost	Total
Buckeyes - 12 Per Package		\$7.50	
Turtles - 12 Per Package		\$8.50	
Peanut Clusters - 12 Per Package		\$8.50	
White/Chocolate Covered Pretzels Mixed - 12per Package		\$6.00	
Peanut Butter Fudge - 8 oz. Package		\$7.00	
Chocolate Fudge - 8 oz. Package		\$7.00	
Variety Package: 3 Turtles, 3 Peanut Clusters, 3 Chocolate Covered Pretzels, 2 Pieces Peanut Butter Fudge, 2 Pieces Chocolate Fudge, 4 Buckeyes		\$10.00	

**Pay When Picked up:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grand Total:** \$\_\_\_\_\_

\* Please make check payable to St. Paul's United Methodist Church \*  
Write **Candy Orders** in the memo line.

Order forms may be given to a Crafty Creature or placed in the office.  
We have been truly blessed by the many donations we have received over the years,  
but we still have to purchase many supplies to finish the quilts and prayer blankets.

**Thank you all for supporting our Crafty Creatures Mission!**

## Missions

### Samaritans Purse, Operation Christmas Child

A small shoe box can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Guides for how to pack a shoebox may be picked up in the church sanctuary or online at [samaritanspurse.org](http://samaritanspurse.org). Be a part of changing children's lives all over the world in Jesus' name through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child. Remember to pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives a shoebox gift. Please include a donation of \$10.00 per box to cover international shipping and other costs.



**Last Sunday to collect boxes is November 17!**

Dear Festival of Sharing Supporter,

We are deeply grateful for your incredible generosity and commitment to this year's Festival of Sharing Kit collection. Because of your unwavering support, we have been able to share essential items to communities in need following Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton:

- 5,272 Emergency Cleanup Buckets
- 9,560 Hygiene Kits
- 7,280 Blankets
- 1,800 Menstrual Hygiene Kits
- 650 School Kits

These supplies are crucial for recovery, offering comfort, restoring dignity and helping families rebuild their lives in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton.

***Your love for your neighbors, both near and far, is evident in every kit and bucket.***

With heartfelt thanks,

Matthew Stevens  
Festival of Sharing Committee Member



*Thank you!*

*We are truly grateful for your support.*

*God Bless,  
Staff, Lima Samaritan House*

*On behalf of the students who receive Weekend meals through Meals 'til Monday, Thank you for your recent donation of \$30.00 Your gift and the love you show to these kids is of great value to us.*

*Sincerely,  
The Meals 'til Monday Board of Directors*

# Faith In Action

<b>Worship Attendance:</b>	
September 22, 2024	70
September 29, 2024	64
October 6, 2024	62
October 13, 2024	52
October 20, 2024	66
October 27, 2024	68

**REMOTE VIEWING ATTENDANCE**

**We need your help with our Remote viewing attendance.**

**For those watching online, please Like the video or leave a comment so we can do a more accurate remote viewing attendance.**

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

<b>Sunday School Attendance</b>	
September 29, 2024	11
October 6, 2024	10
October 13, 2024	11
October 20, 2024	12
October 27, 2024	11

	<b>Unified Ministry Giving:</b>	<b>Other:</b>
September 29, 2024	\$1,676.01	\$205.00
October 6, 2024	\$10,476.88	\$475.00
October 13, 2024	\$4,126.22	\$95.00
October 20, 2024	\$1,393.17	\$454.00
October 27, 2024	\$1,802.24	\$1,530.00

<b>Flower Calendar</b>	
November 3, 2024	Greg & Barb Schade
November 10, 2024	Jonathan & Chelsey Cook
November 17, 2024	Gary & Deb Hurd
November 24, 2024	Virginia Hollar

<b>Hospitality Cart</b>	
November 3, 2024	Rife Family
November 10, 2024	McAdams Family
November 17, 2024	OPEN
November 24, 2024	Deb Hurd

## Daily Bible Readings

**Friday 11/1**

Psalm 31, 35  
Revelation 9:13-21  
Luke 113:10-17

**Saturday 11/2**

Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43  
Revelation 10:1-11  
Luke 11:1-13

**Sunday 11/3**

Psalm 63, 98, 103  
1 Corinthians 10:15-24  
Matthew 18:15-20

**Monday 11/4**

Psalm 41, 44, 52  
Revelation 11:1-14  
Luke 11:14-26

**Tuesday 11/5**

Psalm 54, 47, 48  
Revelation 11:14-19  
Luke 11:27-36

**Wednesday 11/6**

Psalm 53, 119:49-72  
Revelation 12:1-6  
Luke 11:37-52

**Thursday 11/7**

Psalm 59, 60  
Revelation 12:7-17  
Luke 11:53-12:12

**Friday 11/8**

Psalm 40, 51, 54  
Revelation 13:1-10  
Luke 12:13-31

**Saturday 11/9**

Psalm 55, 138, 139  
Revelation 13:11-18  
Luke 12:32-48

**Sunday 11/10**

Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84  
1 Corinthian 12:27-13:13  
Matthew 18:21-35

**Monday 11/11**

Psalm 58, 64, 65  
Revelation 14:1-13  
Luke 12:49-59

**Tuesday 11/12**

Psalm 61, 62, 68, 43:1-22  
Revelation 14:14-15:8  
Luke 13:1-9

**Wednesday 11/13**

Psalm 72, 119:73-96  
Revelation 16:1-11  
Luke 13:10-17

**Thursday 11/14**

Psalm 70, 74  
Revelation 16:12-21  
Luke 14:18-30

**Friday 11/15**

Psalm 69, 73  
Revelation 17:1-18  
Luke 13:31-35

**Saturday 11/16**

Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76  
Revelation 18:1-14  
Luke 14:1-11

**Sunday 11/17**

Psalm 34, 93, 96  
1 Corinthians 14:1-12  
Matthew 20:1-16

**Monday 11/18**

Psalm 79, 80, Joel 1:1-13  
Revelation 18:15-24,  
Luke 14:12-24

**Tuesday 11/19**

Psalm 78, Joel 1:15-2:11  
Revelation 19:1-10  
Luke 14:25-35

**Wednesday 11/20**

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120  
Joel 2:12-19  
Revelation 19:11-21  
Luke 15:1-10

**Thursday 11/21**

Psalm 83, 85, 86  
Joel 2:21-27  
James 1:1-15  
Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

**Friday 11/22**

Psalm 88, 91, 92  
Joel 2:28-3:8  
James 1:16-27

**Saturday 11/23**

Psalm 87, 90, 136  
Joel 3:9-17  
James 2:1-13  
Luke 16:10-17(18)

**Sunday 11/24**

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67  
Habakkuk 1:1-2:1  
Philippians 3:13-4:1  
Matthew 23:13-24

**Monday 11/25**

Psalm 89, Habakkuk 2:1-20  
James 2:14-26, Luke 16:19-31

**Tuesday 11/26**

Psalm 95, 100  
Habakkuk 3:1-18  
James 3:1-12  
Luke 17:1-10

**Wednesday 11/27**

Psalm 101, 109, 119:121-144  
Malachi:, 6-14  
James 3:13-4:12, Luke 17:11-19

**Thursday 11/28 Thanksgiving**

Psalm 105, Malachi 2:1-16  
James 4:1-5:6, Luke 17:20-37

**Friday 11/29**

Psalm 102, 107:33-43, 108  
Malachi 3:1-12  
James 5:7-12, Luke 18:1-8

**Saturday 11/30**

Psalm 33, 107:33-43  
Malachi 3:13-4:6  
Luke 18:9-14



# Kindness

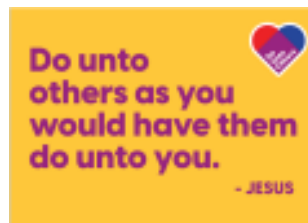
**Our faith calls us to a higher purpose: loving others as Christ loved us.  
 At Elida St. Paul's, we believe we can hold our convictions while still  
 treating everyone with dignity and respect.  
 In all things, love comes first.**

**Join us as we walk this journey together, embracing both truth and grace.**



Sunday, October 27, was wear your 'DUO' t-shirts to worship. Norm Grigsby and Jan Wyant sharing their kindness at the hospitality area.

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





# Students

## 2024/2025 College Student

**Makayla Bok**  
*Senior at Bowling Green State University*  
 318 Campbell Hill Rd.  
 Bowling Green, OH 43402  
 Major: Microbiology

## 2025 High School Graduate

**Cody Scannell**  
*Received his High School diploma from the*  
*West Central Learning Academy*  
*He is enrolled to start classes at Rhodes State Community College*  
*in Lima for the Winter quarter.*



A celebration  
 was held with  
 family and  
 friends on  
 October 26.



# Worship

Jan Wyant presented Bibles to our two third graders.  
**Jackson Rife**, son of Benjamin and Casey Rife.  
**Ryleigh Warris**, daughter of Cody and Briana Warris.

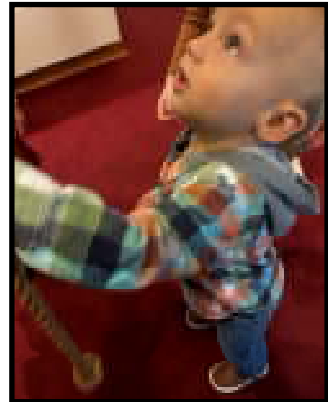
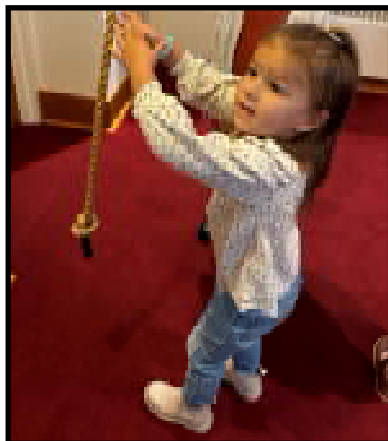
**CONGRATULATIONS!!**  
 Cody Scannell on his High School graduation!  
 Jan Wyant presented Cody with a gift.



**Acolytes in Training:**  
 Lena Whetstone and Holly Cook.  
 Jackson Rife and Ashton Rife  
 Lena Whetstone, Wren Harmon, and Ashton Rife



**Bell Ringers in training:**  
 Rylan McAdams, Andi Harmon, Baylor McAdams



## Connecting With ...



Congratulations to Gene and Linda Craft on the birth of their grandson, Lee Arthur Craft, born on October 18 to Rob and Anna Craft. He weighed 7lbs. 2oz. And 19 inches long.

### CONGRATULATIONS!!

Congratulations to Reggie and Stephanie McAdams on the birth of their Son, Miles Brent McAdams, on October 21. Miles weighed 7lbs. 4oz. And 21 1/2 inches long. He has welcomed by big brother Greyson. Grandparents Brent and Vicki McAdams, great-grandmother, Myrna Metzger, and great-grandfather Ron McAdams.



Congratulations to Joe and Torie Gerdeman on the birth of their daughter, Gracie Shay Gerdeman, born on October 25. She was 7lbs. 15 oz. and 20 1/2 inches long. Her big sister Paisley welcomed her home. Grandparents Brent and Vicki McAdams and great-grandmother, Myrna Metzger, and great-grandfather Ron McAdams.



### THANK YOU!

The PPR Committee would like to thank each and every one of you who participated in our Pastor Appreciation Event. Pastor Paul never knew what was coming next. This was something different that we wanted to try and because of all of you, it was a huge success! We thank you!

### In Awe of Everyday Joy

Maybe you've heard of making micro-resolutions for the new year. Similarly, health experts recommend becoming aware of — and thankful for — micro-joys we experience and encounter.

In *The Power of Awe*, Jake Eagle and Michael Amster describe the benefits of taking several brief A.W.E. breaks throughout the day:

- **A** is for Attention, as you focus on something that amazes you or seems valuable.
- **W** is for Waiting, as you pause to take a deep breath.
- **E** is for Exhaling, as you breathe out and feel joy and gratitude.

This simple practice reveals how profound the "ordinary" can be, thanks to the generosity of our extraordinary God.

# The People of St. Paul's

*Our sympathy to the Hardy Family on the passing of Ruth on October 9, she was 96. A memorial service was held on October 14. Ruth was a long time member of St. Paul's and enjoyed singing in the choir. Ruth Was the secretary and a volunteer for over 30 yrs at the Elida Elementary School.*

With Heartfelt  
*Sympathy*

*Our condolences to Ted Soddors and family on the passing of Janice (Jan) on October 14th , she was 95. Ted and Jan celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary this summer. Jan retired after 25 years as an Elida High School secretary. Cards may reach Ted at 205 N. Greenlawn, Elida, OH 45807.*



## Remember in Prayer

*Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital*  
Don Chaffins  
Myrna Metzger  
Greg Schade

*Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement*

*In the Military*  
Nathan Stewart

# THANK YOU!

*St. Paul's UMC Family,  
Thank you for the beautiful wind chimes to honor Jan as a memory.  
Your Thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.  
The Soddors Family*

*Friends of the St. Paul's Community and the Crafty Creatures,  
I cannot express enough the gratitude for all of your support and prayers during this difficult time.  
The beautiful quilt (Go Blue) that all of you blessed for us has not left my side. I appreciate the continued support and prayers.  
Scott and Michelle Grapner*

**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**

November 5, 2024  
Trustees...7:00 PM

November 6, 2024  
Worship Mtg..1:00 PM

NO PPR

NO Ad Council /  
Finance..

NO Missions Mtg..

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

Wednesday  
Choir ..7:00 PM

# NOVEMBER

## 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



					1 Margie Best Cody Warris	2
3 Holly Cook Jacinda Fried	4	5	6	7	8	9 Jonathan Cook Joshua Guess
10 Kylee Loose	11 Virginia Hollar Jenson Nagy	12 Logan House	13	14	15	16
17	18 Dennis Bowsher	19 Audrey Cook Gary Grigg	20 Brinley Edwards Brody Edwards Marty White	21	22 Christie Lewis Tony Lozano Samantha Whetstone	23 Piper Kinney Jennifer Loose Tony Shoup
24	25	26	27 Terry Bok	28	29	30

## Slow-Cooker Baked Potatoes

*By Susan Nartker*

Ingredients		Instructions
6 medium	Russet Potatoes	Scrub Potatoes; pierce each several times with a fork. In a small bowl, mix butter and garlic. Rub potatoes with butter mixture. Wrap each tightly with a piece of foil. Pour water into 6 Qt. slow cooker; add potatoes. Cook covered on low until tender, 8 to 10 hrs.
3 Tbs.	Butter	
3	Garlic cloves, minced	
1 cup	Water	

## Featured Recipes

### Grandma's Oatmeal Cake

*By Barb Schade*

Ingredients		Instructions
1 1/2 cup	Boiling water	Mix oatmeal and boiling water together. Set aside. Cream butter, eggs, white sugar, brown sugar together. Add flour, soda, cinnamon, salt and vanilla. Add the oatmeal mixture and mix well. Press in greased 9 x 13 pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 to 50 minutes. ( check at 35 minutes). <b>Frosting:</b> 4 Tbs. - Milk 12 Tbs. - Melted butter 1 1/3 cup -Brown sugar (packed lightly) 1 tsp. -Vanilla extract 1 cup Pecan pieces (or Walnut) 1 cup-Coconut Melt butter; add milk brown sugar, vanilla, nuts and coconut. Spread frosting over the warm cake and broil in oven until lightly browned.
1 cup	Quick oats	
1/2 cup (1 stick)	Butter	
2	Eggs	
1 cup	White sugar	
1 cup	Brown Sugar	
1 1/2 cups	Flour	
1 tsp	Baking Soda	
1 1/2 tsp.	Cinnamon	
1/2 tsp.	Salt	
1 tsp.	Vanilla extract	



# KIDZ KORNER



Make decorative stones as reminders of God's many great attributes.

**What you need:**

- Flat, smooth stones
- Printed, decorative napkins
- Paintbrush
- Clear-drying craft glue
- Scissors
- Permanent marker

**What you do:**

1. Unfold the napkin, carefully separating the printed side from the solid side.
2. Brush a thin layer of glue atop a stone. Lay the napkin (printed side up) on the glue and press down. Paint more glue over the napkin. Let dry.
3. Turn the stone over and paint more glue on the back. Wrap the napkin edges around the stone, trimming as needed. Paint more glue over the napkin. Let dry.
4. On the stone, write an attribute of God (loving, wise, powerful, merciful, etc.).
5. Repeat with more stones. Use them as gifts, paperweights, table decorations, etc.



## BECAUSE OF WHO GOD IS

Thanks to who God is, we can talk to him in prayer.

Directions: Unscramble the descriptions of God, using the Bible references as clues. Then write the circled letters below to complete Psalm 109:26, NIV

- |                      |             |  |
|----------------------|-------------|--|
| Psalm 145:8          | SGAICURO    | <input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _           |
| Job 36:5             | HGIYMT      | <input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _           |
| Psalm 90:2           | LTAVREENISG | _ _ _ _ _ <input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _ |
| 2 Peter 3:9          | INETTPA     | _ _ _ _ _ <input type="checkbox"/> _         |
| 1 Thessalonians 5:24 | FUFHIATL    | <input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _           |
| Isaiah 40:25         | OYHL        | _ <input type="checkbox"/> _ _               |

Help me, Lord my \_\_od;  
 save \_\_e \_\_ccording \_\_o  
 your un\_\_ailing l\_\_ve.

Psalm 109:26, NIV

Answers: gracious, mighty, everlasting, patient, faithful, holy; Help me, Lord my God; save me according to your unfailing love; Psalm 109:26, NIV

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

105 E. Main St.  
Elida, OH 45807

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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**



NOVEMBER

## Living Our Faith

### What Your Heart Clamors To Do

We often speak of pastors as having a divine “calling.” God gives them a strong sense of purpose for a specific holy role, like how Old Testament prophets were called to bring messages to God’s people. But what about the rest of us? Is teaching, practicing medicine, being a plumber, writing or another non-church job also a “call”?

Martin Luther and others have said we should seek work that benefits others and for which God has given us talent. We should also treat any good work we do as a calling — be it cleaning a house or school, mending a broken leg or torn garment, or (as Luther mentioned a *father* doing — in the 1500s!) changing a baby’s diaper.

Dorothy Sayers wrote that “work is not primarily a thing one does to live, but the thing one lives to do,” and that “we should clamor to be engaged in work that [is] worth doing, and in which we [can] take pride.” What work does your heart clamor to do? In other words, what is *your* divine call?