

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.

Elida, OH 45807

419-339-3801

officeespc@gmail.com

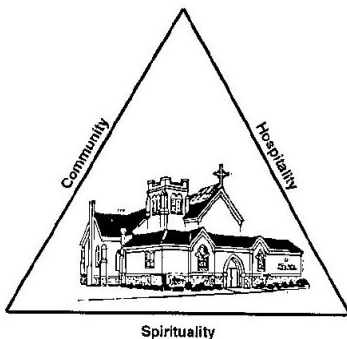
Rev. Paul Scannell

419/909-9419

Cell Phone: 734/660-1984

pastorespc@gmail.com

4pastorpaul@gmail.com



Inside this issue:

Upcoming Events	2-3
Romania Vision Mission	4
Hymn History	5
Faith in Action	6
Daily Bible Readings	7
Missions	8
Crafty Creatures	9
Student Participation	10
Connecting With...	11
The People of St. Paul's	12
November Calendar	13
Recipes	14
Kidz Korner	15
Living Our Faith	16

From the Pastor's Desk

Hello Everyone,

November 9th is Consecration Sunday; I want to invite you to turn in a pledge card for 2026 on that Sunday, or turn it into the office if you will be out of town. We have been looking at 'The Good Life' as we look at stewardship. Your Stewardship here at St. Paul's helps us maintain all of our ministries, keep the lights on, make repairs to the building, and pay salaries. Your pledge will help us set the budget for 2026 and give us a framework for the ministry of the church. I want to encourage you to pray about what God has called you to give and follow your heart as you fill out your pledge card.

Operation Christmas Child is already in full swing. There are lists available of all the things that are not allowed this year. Build a box, and if you can, pack it as a family or include your grandkids. Pray for the person who will receive it, and remember to pay for the shipping. Packing a box is a great way to get kids interested in the real message of Christmas and giving to others. If you pay online, you will be able to track your package and see where the child who receives it lives. Over the years, our family has had boxes delivered to 17 different countries. It is a great way to show kids how our witness for God here can reach all over the world. Pack a box, and change the world!

We will finish up "The Good Life" series, then begin getting ready for Advent 2025. Before that, there are a couple of weeks we will "Give Thanks" and celebrate "Christ the King". Then, looking way ahead to January. We will once again celebrate "Women of Faith" in January. Wow, I can't wait for everything that will be happening over the very busy weeks and months ahead. When you see me out and about, remember to say hello and wave.

Yours in Christ

Pastor Paul

Thought for the Month:

If God is your copilot,
swap seats.

—Anonymous

Daylight Savings Time ends

November 2

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour, and change the batteries in your smoke detectors.



All Saints Sunday

November 2

This is a day of remembrance as we celebrate the communion of Saints whom have passed.

Bring a white candle in a holder to place on the altar in memory of loved ones.

November 2

Coins for Communion to benefit
The Lima Rescue Mission



St. Paul's Book Club

Saturday, November 8

9:00 AM

In the classroom beside the office

The book for discussion is:

"The Prayer Box"

By Lisa Wingate

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



Deadline: the 20th
of each month

Christian Symbol

CIRCLE



The circle is a symbol for God, as well as for eternity, due to its lack of a beginning or an end. It also reminds us of how the church year (not unlike the secular calendar) flows from season to season and moves smoothly from Christ the King Sunday (the culmination of the liturgical calendar) to the First Sunday of Advent (a new beginning). Indeed, the One who rules all is the same One whose first and final comings we anticipate anew during Advent.

St. Paul's Epistle

is published by St. Paul's
United Methodist Church

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



**November 11, 2025
Veterans Day**

**November 23
Christ the King Sunday**



**THANKSGIVING DAY
November 27**

**Food Pantry Sunday
November 23**

Items needed:
Personal care items, body wash,
shampoo, Tooth paste,
tooth brush,
also feminine care items

**November 30
First Sunday of Advent**

ADVENT

**If you or your family is interested
in lighting an Advent candle,
please contact Pastor Paul
or the church office.**

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Bell Workshop:

**Sunday,
November 9
at 1:00 pm.
in the Choir Room**



Would YOU like to learn how to ring our beautiful HANDBELLS?'

Please plan to join us in a hands-on, hour-long workshop
to learn the proper technique to ring handbells.

NO previous experience or musical background is required.

Also, there will not be any obligation to perform. This is just
going to be a fun introductory class hosted by Kerry Fremont.

"If you can count, you can play handbells!"

Children's Program Director:

We are looking for someone to direct the 'Christmas
Children's Program'. The teachers will also be helping,
but are in need of someone to be in charge.

If this is something you would like to do,
please contact Marla Scannell or Sloan Whetstone.



Hymn History

I'll Fly Away

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

1932

Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you. John 16:22 (NKJV)

I could tell you this old southern hymn was written by a sacred soul on his knees with Psalm 90 open before him: "The days of our lives are seventy years; and if by reason of strength they are eighty years, yet their only boast is labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away."

The truth, however, is a little plainer.

Albert E. Brumley was born on a cotton farm near Spiro, Oklahoma, in 1905. The medium of radio was gaining popularity as he grew up, and one of the most requested songs was a sad ballad called "If I Had the Wings of an Angel" which said:

*Now if I had the wings of an angel,
Over these prison walls I would fly away,
I would fly to the arms of my poor darling,
And there I would be willing to die.*

One hot Oklahoma day, Albert was in the fields picking cotton and singing this song. The thought of flying away suddenly seemed quite appealing to him, and he began composing "I'll Fly Away" on the spot. I was dreaming of flying away from the cotton field when I wrote "I'll Fly Away," he later said. The middle verse of Albert's song echoes the old prison ballad when it says:

*When the shadows of this life have grown, I'll fly away;
Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll Fly Away.*

Of course, "I'll Fly Away" is about far more than escaping cotton fields. It expressed Brumley's personal hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ. It was one of a number of gospel songs he wrote during those days, but all of them were stashed away in drawers and boxes unpublished.

Two years later, Albert married Goldie Schell, whom he met while teaching a singing school in Powell, Missouri. With her encouragement, Albert mailed "I'll Fly Away" to the Hartford Music Company. It was published in 1932, and shortly afterward, Albert was hired by Hartford for \$12.50 a month. He spent thirty-four years writing for the Hartford and Stamps/Baxter companies before forming the Albert E. Brumley & Sons Music Company. In all, Albert wrote over eight hundred songs and became one of the most respected names in the development of twentieth-century Southern gospel music.



Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

September 28, 2025	65
October 5, 2025	69
October 12, 2025	78
October 19, 2025	81
October 26, 2025	70

Sunday School Attendance

September 28, 2025	11
October 5, 2025	11
October 12, 2025	13
October 19, 2025	15
October 26, 2025	8

Flower Calendar

November 2, 2025	Tim & Corinne Piper
November 9, 2025	Jonathan & Chelsey Cook
November 16, 2025	Gary & Deb Hurd
November 23, 2025	Don & Mary Irvin
November 30, 2025	Virginia Hollar

FINANCIAL GIVING

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
October 5, 2025	\$5,209.40	\$485.00
October 12, 2025	\$3,711.09	\$80.00
October 19, 2025	\$2,389.26	\$155.00
October 26, 2025	\$5,051.70	\$875.00
TOTAL:	\$16,361.45	\$1,595.00

Unified Budget:

Weekly Budget Needed = \$4,644.58

October Total Need = \$18,578.32

October Total = \$16,361.45

Deficit = \$2,216.87

Hospitality Cart

November 2, 2025	Rife family
November 9, 2025	OPEN
November 16, 2025	Sharla Murphy
November 23, 2025	OPEN
November 30, 2025	OPEN

Communion Servers November 2

Station #1:

Corinne Piper & Deb Hurd

Station #2: Eric & Joella Stern

Daily Bible Readings

Saturday 11/1

Psalm 33, 107:33-43, 108
2 Kings 19:21-36
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Matthew 8:18-27

Sunday 11/2

Psalm 118, 145, 2 Kings 20:1-21
Acts 12:1-17, Luke 7:11-17

Monday 11/3

Psalm 106, 2 Kings 21:1-18
1 Corinthians 10:14-11:1
Matthew 8:28-34

Tuesday 11/4

Psalm 120, 127, 2 Kings 22:1-13
1 Corinthians 11:2, 17-22
Matthew 9:1-8

Wednesday 11/5

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130
2 Kings 22:14-23:3
1 Corinthians 11:23-34
Matthew 9:9-17

Thursday 11/6

Psalm 133, 134, 135
2 Kings 23:4-25
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
Matthew 9:18-26

Friday 11/7

Psalm 140, 141, 142, 143
2 Kings 23:36-24:17
1 Corinthians 12:12-26
Matthew 9:27-34

Saturday 11/8

Psalm 104, 137, 144
Jeremiah 35:1-19
1 Corinthians 12:27-13:3
Matthew 9:35-10:4

Sunday 11/9

Psalm 111, 112, 113, 146, 147
Micah 6:1-8
1 Corinthians 4:9-16
Matthew 15:21-28

Monday 11/10

Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, Micah 7:1-7
Acts 26:1-23, Luke 8:26-39

Tuesday 11/11

Psalm 5, 6, 10, 11, Jonah 1:1-17
Acts 26:24-27:8, Luke 8:40-56

Wednesday 11/12

Psalm 12, 13, 14, 119:1-24
Jonah 1:17-2:10
Acts 27:9-26, Luke 9:1-17

Thursday 11/13

Psalm 18, Jonah 3:1-4:11
Acts 27:27-44, Luke 9:18-27

Friday 11/14

Psalm 16, 17, 22, Acts 28:1-16
Luke 9:28-36

Saturday 11/15

Psalm 20, 21, 110, 116, 117
Acts 28:17-31
Luke 9:37-50

Sunday 11/16

Psalm 114, 115, 148, 149, 150
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Matthew 16:13-20

Monday 11/17

Psalm 9, 15, 25, Revelation 7:1-8
Luke 9:51-62

Tuesday 11/18

Psalm 26, 28, 36, 39
Revelation 7:9-17, Luke 10:1-16

Wednesday 11/19

Psalm 38, 119:25-48
Revelation 8:1-13
Luke 10:17-24

Thursday 11/20

Psalm 37
Revelation 9:1-12, Luke 10:38-42

Friday 11/21

Psalm 31, 35
Revelation 9:13-21, Luke 11:1-13

Saturday 11/22

Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43
Revelation 10:1-11
Luke 10:25-37

Sunday 11/23

Psalm 63, 98, 103, Haggai 1:1-2:9
Acts 18:24-19:7
Luke 10:25-37

Monday 11/24

Psalm 41, 44, 52
Zechariah 1:7-17
Revelation 1:4-20
Matthew 12:43-50

Tuesday 11/25

Psalm 45, 47, 48, Ezra 5:1-17
Revelation 4:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9

Wednesday 11/26

Psalm 53, 119:49-72
Ezra 6:1-22
Revelation 5:1-10
Matthew 13:10-17

Thursday 11/27 Thanksgiving

Psalm 33, 59, 60
Nehemiah 1:1-11
Revelation 5:11-6:11
Matthew 13:18-23

Friday 11/28

Psalm 40, 51, 54
Nehemiah 2:1-20
Revelation 6:12-7:4
Matthew 13:24-30

Saturday 11/29

Psalm 55, 138, 139
Nehemiah 4:1-23
Revelation 7:4-17
Matthew 13:31-35

Sunday 11/30

Psalm 111, 112, 113, 146, 147
Amos 1:1-2:8
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Luke 21:5-19



Missions

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Pack a Gift and Pray

A shoe box filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies tangibly demonstrates God's love to a child in need. Guides for how to pack a shoebox may be picked up in the church office or online at samaritanspurse.org. Remember to pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives a shoebox gift, and that many children and families will come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Give

We ask for a donation of \$10.00 per box to cover international shipping and other costs, but not everyone can afford to send a gift. Your generosity beyond \$10.00 per shoebox gift will help us to reach even more children with the true meaning of Christmas and a tangible expression of God's amazing love.



Last Sunday for Shoe Box Collection is November 16



November: Coins for Communion to benefit The Lima Rescue Mission

Lima Rescue Mission reaches out to poor and homeless men by providing physical and spiritual care in a time of crisis. The Mission is an evangelical, non-denominational organization. We strive to provide an environment that promotes positive life changes and where healing takes place.



REMINDER:

Start making or buying mittens, scarves, hats and gloves for our special tree.

Thank You



Dear St. Paul's United Methodist Church,
On behalf of the children who receive weekend food through Meals 'til Monday, thank you for your recent donation of \$559.66. Because you give, over 400 local elementary students are having their hunger needs addressed. Your gift and the love you show for these kids is of great value to us.

Sincerely,
The Meals 'til Monday Board of Directors

Crafty Creatures

Pre-Order Candy Sales

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Order Deadline: November 30, 2025

Pick Up: December 13, 2025 10:00 AM—Noon in Fellowship Hall

	# Pkgs	Cost	Total
Buckeyes - 12 Per Package		\$8.00	
Turtles - 12 Per Package		\$9.00	
Peanut Clusters - 12 Per Package		\$9.00	
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		\$11.00	

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 turned into 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!

Student Participation Sunday

The students participated in the Sunday morning Worship Service on October 19.

Acolytes:

Hudson Rife, Jonathan Perry



Call to Worship:

Lena Whetstone,
Holly Cook



Opening Prayer:

Ashton Rife



Scripture Reading:

Rylan McAdams, Jackson Rife, Wren Harmon



Special Music:

Lena Whetstone
And Children's Choir
"The Jesus Way"
By Phil Wickham



Connecting With ...



October was Pastor Appreciation Month, and we certainly do appreciate ours. Pastor Paul came to Elida St. Paul's in June of 2012. We have surely been blessed with many years of having him and his family with us. Our church has grown during his time with us. We have a wonderful diversity of ages, and he has helped us to be more visible in the community. As it says in Matthew 25:21, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Thank You

The PPR Committee would like to thank all of you for participating in our Pastor Appreciation Month event by giving him cards and notes of thanks. He was surprised, and this was a wonderful way of showing our appreciation to him.



Jan Wyant Presented a Bible on October 12th to Izzy Mault (Pictured), the daughter of the late Ed Mault, and granddaughter of Connie Mault.

Jonathan Perry the son of Jacinda and Jordan Fried, and Dakota DeRose, the son of Dominic and Kelly DeRose received their bibles at a later date.

**United Methodist
Student Day 30
Sunday, November**

2025/2026 COLLEGE STUDENT

Makayla Bok

First year at Mercy College of Ohio
822 Lima City Rd. Apt. B
Rossford, OH 43460

Major: Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Please pray for her and send notes of encouragement throughout the year.

The People of St. Paul's

With Heartfelt *Sympathy*

Our condolences to the family of Ted Soddors, who passed away on October 25. Ted was 96, and was very active in the Elida community. A memorial service was held at St. Paul's on October 29 with Pastor Paul officiating.

Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or
in the Hospital

Mary Irvin

Those in Need of Healing,
Support, Strength &
Encouragement

In the Military & Missions

Nathan Stewart

A Thanksgiving Prayer

Gracious God,
thank you for every good gift—
for the food before us,
the people around us,
and the love that surrounds us.
Help us to pause, reflect, and rejoice
in Your constant goodness and grace.
May our hearts overflow with gratitude,
not just today, but every day.

Amen.



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 4, 2025
Trustees...7:00 PM

November 5, 2025
Worship Mtg. 2:15 PM

NO PPR Meeting

No Ad Council/
Finance Mtg

No Missions

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

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir..7:00
PM

NOVEMBER 2025

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 Cammie Murphy Kylee Stephenson	11 Virginia Hollar Jenson Nagy	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Dennis Bowsher	19 Audrey Cook Gary Grigg	20 Joella Stern 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						



*Reggie & Stephanie
McAdams
November 7*



Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

Pumpkin Pecan Bundt Cake

By Susan Nartker

Ingredients		Instructions
CAKE:		Cake:
1 box	Yellow cake mix	Heat oven to 350 degrees. Generously spray bundt cake pan with baking spray with flour.
3/4 cup	Pumpkin, canned	In large bowl, beat cake, pumpkin, water, oil, eggs, cinnamon, ginger and 1/2 tsp. nutmeg with electric mixer on medium speed for 2 minutes., scraping bowl occasionally.
1/2 cup	Water	
1/2 cup	Vegetable oil	Stir in 3/4 cup Pecans. Pour into pan.
3	Eggs	Bake 35 to 40 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.
1 1/2 tsp.	Cinnamon, ground	Remove from oven. Let stand 20 minutes, remove from pan to cooling rack. Cool completely, about 1 hour.
1/2 tsp.	Ginger, ground	
1/2 tsp.	Nutmeg, ground	Glaze:
3/4 cup	Pecans, chopped	In 1-quart saucepan, cook butter, brown sugar, 1/8 tsp. nutmeg, and whipping cream over medium heat until mixture comes to a boil. Boil 1 minute.
GLAZE:		Remove from heat, pour into medium bowl. Cool for 20 minutes. With whisk, beat in powdered sugar and vanilla until smooth. Immediately pour over cake. Sprinkle 2 Tbl. Pecan on top. Store loosely covered at room temperature.
2 Tbl.	Butter	
1/4 cup	Brown Sugar, packed	
1/8 tsp.	Nutmeg, ground	
1/4 cup	Heavy Whipping Cream	
2/3 cup	Powdered sugar	
1/2 tsp.	Vanilla	
2 Tbl.	Pecans, toasted & chopped	



KIDZ KORNER



Thankful Garland

Celebrate the season of gratitude by creating a colorful Thankful decoration!

What you need:

- Construction paper in a variety of fall colors
- Pencil, marker, or crayons
- Yarn, ribbon, or raffia
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Spray bottle filled with water
- Real leaves (Optional)
- Wooden or plastic beads, cereal with holes (Cheerios, Froot Loops, etc.), or any dried pasta with a hole (Optional)



What you do:

1. Draw or trace leaf shapes onto construction paper.
2. Lay the paper flat and spray with water until the paper is completely wet.
3. Crumple the wet paper into balls.
4. Open the paper and let the sheets dry flat.
5. When dry, cut out each leaf.
6. On each leaf, write the name of one person or thing you're thankful for.
7. Punch a hole in each leaf.
8. Lace the leaves, beads, cereal, and pasta onto the yarn, ribbon, or raffia.
9. Tie the ends and hang your garland.



Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)



GIVE PRAISE

Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

Directions: In each group, circle the word that doesn't belong. Then write the circled words on the lines below.

1 Give Take Grab	2 peanut praise pear	3 temple house Lord	4 proclaim past present	5 name boy lad	6 ruin destroy make
7 pine acorn known	8 train nations bus	9 done donut muffin	10 Sing Sleep Yawn	11 she him girl	12 sun praise moon
13 tell fast slow	14 red all blue	15 horrible dreadful wonderful	16 acts sisters aunts		

_____ to the _____, _____ his _____;
 1 2 3 4 5

_____ among the _____ what he has _____.
 6 7 8 9

_____ to _____, sing _____ to him; _____ of
 10 11 12 13

_____ his _____
 14 15 16

PSALM 105:1-2, NIV

Answer: Give, praise, Lord, proclaim, name, make, known, nations, done, sing, him, praise, tell, all, wonderful, acts

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

Our Facebook page
Elida St. Paul's Church

Twitter Account
@ESPCHURCH



Living Our Faith

Take Me to the River

God often works in unexpected ways. Just ask Naaman, the army commander in 2 Kings 5:1-14. Stricken with leprosy, he traveled to Israel seeking healing from the prophet Elisha. Instead of an impressive display or a grand ceremony, Elisha sent word for him to simply wash seven times in the Jordan River.

Naaman was not impressed. "Aren't the rivers of Damascus better than all the waters of Israel?" he asked. Why bathe in a foreign, muddy river when the clean, sparkling rivers of home were far more appealing? It didn't make sense. Yet what seemed absurd became the very path to his healing.

We may not be told to wade into an actual river, but we all face "Jordan moments" in life — times when God calls us to take a step that feels uncomfortable, humbling or completely illogical. It is in those moments that trust and obedience matter most.

Naaman's story reminds us that God's power is not limited by appearances or human reasoning. Sometimes the action that feels least likely to work is the one that opens the door to blessing. When God invites you to take the plunge, step into the water. You may find healing and hope waiting there.

—adapted from *Homiletics.com*