

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 46, Issue 10

October, 2023

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

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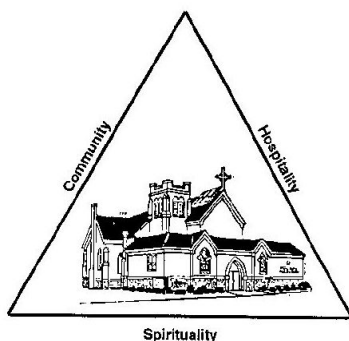
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Inside this issue:

Upcoming Events	2-3
VANCO	4
Hymn History	5
Faith in Action	6
Daily Bible Readings	7
Kits Mission	8
Community Mission	9
Quilts	10
Connecting With...	11
The People of St. Paul's	12
October Calendar	13
Recipes	14
Kidz Korner	15
Living Our Faith	16



October is here, and things are moving along both time and news. We are launching online giving to Elida St. Paul's on the 1st of the month. The next few sentences are going to be about online giving and if you don't want to use it, skip to the next paragraph. We have contracted with Vanco, an online giving company, to handle our online giving. They are a pass-through company for nonprofit companies that only charges us fees if there is giving. If no one gives online we have no fees, if you decide to give online, St Paul's is charged 2.25% and \$0.30 per transaction for debit/credit cards, or 0.5% and \$0.30 per transaction for ACH (checking transfer). You will have the option of giving one time or setting up a recurring giving on a weekly, every 2 weeks, twice a month (1st & 15th), monthly, quarterly, or annually. If you wish, you can choose to give an extra 3% to cover credit/debit costs or 1% to cover ACH costs. If you enjoy automatic online bill pay, I hope you will consider giving online to Elida St. Paul's, if you are here one Sunday and have forgotten your checkbook, or have no cash, you can give online quickly via your phone, or if you are an online viewer this is your chance to be a faithful giver to Elida St. Paul's. Thank you for your continued faithfulness in giving to the church and continuing the mission of Christ at St. Paul's.

Halloween is also soon at hand, and we will once again be doing Trunk-or-Treat here at St. Paul's. We hand out hot chocolate to the trick or treaters, and you have a chance to park your car and hand out candy to the kids as they are trick or treating. Elida normally celebrates the Thursday before Halloween, which would be the 26th of October, so pencil it in your calendar. If the date is different, we will announce it in the Weekly Word and the announcements on Sunday. Not available, but still want to be a part of this ministry? You can donate individually wrapped candy to the office, and we will make sure it gets handed out to the kiddos. If you are handing out candy and wonder how many kids we normally see, the answer is about 300, what a chance we have to share God's love for families here in Elida.

Also, the 5th of November will be the All Saints celebration here at St. Paul's. Be looking for information in the weeks to come. A white candle, to remember your loved ones, can be placed on the altar before church. We will also celebrate those who have gone on to heaven in the last 12 months. Joy and sadness altogether, can at times be overwhelming, but remembering together helps us see that we are never alone in our grief.

We will wrap up "The Gospel in Disney" series and spend the last couple of weeks in October talking about giving and stewardship, not only money but also your time, and your talents. How can you honor God with all that you are and all that you have? I invite you to explore with me what God calls us to do with our time, talents, and money as Christians. Until then, I will see you in the Mission Field.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Paul



October is



Month

Food Pantry Sunday
October 15
 Baking goods:
 Including spices, salt, pepper, flour,
 sugar, mixes, vanilla
 Donations are taken to the
Five Loaves Food Pantry
 At The Church at Allentown

October 1
 'Coins for Communion'
 to benefit Family Promise



October 29
 Reformation Sunday



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


Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Christian Symbol

Thought for the Month:
 Silence roots out the weeds of
 our souls and levels the rocky
 ground in which we've grown.
 —Sister Joan Chittister

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

WATER



Water flows through the Scriptures: the Flood, the Red Sea crossing, water springing from a rock to nourish Israelites in the wilderness, the healing of Naaman's leprosy when he washed in the Jordan River, John baptizing Jesus and, chiefly, our baptism into Christ. The water of baptism symbolizes cleansing from sin, the quenching of our spiritual thirst and God raising us from death (drowning in sin) to life everlasting. Just as we cannot live without physical water, neither can we truly live without the living water Jesus gives (see John 4:13-14).



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. 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.

Shoe Box collection is October 22 to November 19!

Thank You!

Dear Friends in Mission,
 Thank You!! The dear people you just helped with your gift (\$1,010 donation) to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be - Thank You!

Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

Join Us In Mission to Our Neighborhood

The date will be announced in worship service, and in the Weekly Word.

**October
 Trick or Treat in Elida**
The date will be announced in worship and in the Weekly Word

We will once again be giving out hot chocolate, coffee and pencils to trick-or-treaters and parents. We will need volunteers to help get the drinks ready and to serve. If you would like to be part of this, there will be sign-up sheet at the media desk, or call the church office.

**Trunk or Treat
 October**

Trunk or Treat is in the St. Paul's East parking lot. We are looking for people who do not have trick-or-treaters coming to their homes to come and open their trunks and pass out goodies. Candy donations are needed. Please pray about participating in this fun adventure. If interested there will be a sign-up sheet at the media desk or call the office.

Thank you in advance for your help!

VANCO

HELP US GROW THROUGH EGIVING



We are excited to offer electronic giving a convenient, easy solution when you don't have cash or a checkbook. Giving in the moment with a fast, one-time donation.

Schedule and manage reoccurring donations.

Pay or give using your debit/credit card or banking information. If you would like to give visit:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZJ2D/home?source=qr>

or scan the QR code below.



Hymn History

I Surrender All

“Then Sings My Soul” Book 1, By Robert J. Morgan

1896

*“But now, O Lord, You are our Father; we are the clay, and you our Potter;
and all we are the work of Your hand.”* Isaiah 64:8

Someone once said, “Only in the Christian life does surrender bring victory.” Judson Wheeler Van De Venter learned that himself.

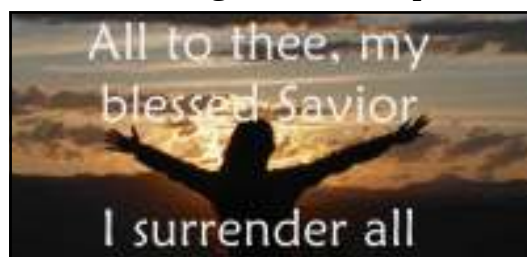
Born on a farm in Monroe Country, Michigan, in 1885, Judson grew up interested in art and music. He was converted to Christ at age 17. After graduating from college in Hillsdale, Michigan, Judson became an art teacher and then a supervisor of art for the high school in Sharon, Pennsylvania. In 1885, he toured Europe, visiting art galleries and museums and studying painting. He was also a musician, having studied in numerous singing schools.

All the while, Judson was heavily involved in his local Methodist Episcopal Church where he sang in the choir. He found himself especially fulfilled when participating in evangelistic rallies and revivals in which people received Christ as their personal Savior. Friends encouraged him to resign from the school system to enter full time evangelism, but for 5 years he struggled with decision.

Finally falling to his knees, he said “Lord, if you want me to give my full time to Thy work, I’ll do it, I surrender all to Thee.” For the next several years he traveled extensively through the United States, England, and Scotland, assisting in evangelical work, leading the singing for Wilber Chapman and other evangelists, and winning men and women to Christ.

While engaging in meetings in East Palestine, Ohio, Judson stayed in the home of George Sebring (whose family founded Sebring, Ohio, and who himself later founded Sebring, Florida). It was there that he wrote the hymn, “I Surrender All,” while recalling his own personal submitting to full-time ministry.

Moving to Tampa in 1923, he began teaching hymnology at Florida Bible Institute. He retired after several years, but still occasionally showed up on campus to lecture or to speak in chapel. In the 1930s, a student at Florida Bible Institute sat wide-eyed, listening to Judson Van De Venter. That student, Billy Graham, later wrote: “One of the evangelist who influenced my early preaching was also a hymnist who wrote: ‘I Surrender All,’ the Rev. J. W. Van De Venter. He was a regular visitor at the Florida Bible Institute (now Trinity Bible College) in the late 1930s. We students loved this kind, deeply spiritual gentleman and often gathered in his winter home at Tampa, Florida, for an evening of fellowship and singing.”



Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

September 3, 2023	44
September 10, 2023	64
September 17, 2023	58
September 24, 2023	54

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$4,187.00

	Unified Ministry Giving:	Other:
September 3, 2023	\$3,905.00	\$227.53
September 10, 2023	\$2,245.37	\$100.00
September 17, 2023	\$2,968.17	\$210.00
September 24, 2023	\$5,175.63	\$90.00

Sunday School Attendance

September 3, 2023	2
September 10, 2023	8
September 17, 2023	8
September 24, 2023	4

Hospitality Cart

October 1, 2023	Slone Whetstone
October 8, 2023	Rife Family
October 15, 2023	Shirley Moser
October 22, 2023	OPEN
October 29, 2023	Jan Wyant

Flower Calendar

October 1, 2023	Don & Maedene Holmes
October 8, 2023	Connie Mault
October 15, 2023	Scott & Gail Fessler
October 22, 2023	Tim & Corinne Piper
October 29, 2023	Larry & Shirley Moser



Daily Bible Readings

Sunday 10/1 GRATITUDE

- Prayer: 1 Samuel 2:1-10
- Gospel: Luke 17:11-19
- Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Monday 10/2 TRUST

- Prayer: Psalm 28:6-9
- Gospel: Mark 5:21-43

Tuesday 10/3 PRAISE

- Prayer: Exodus 15:1-18
- Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

Wednesday 10/4 LOVE

- Prayer: Philippians 1:9-11
- Gospel: Mark 12:28-33
- Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21

Thursday 10/5 PRAYER

- Prayer: Matthew 6:9-13
- Parable: Luke 18:10-14
- Epistle: Ephesians 6:17-20

Friday 10/6 OBEDIENCE

- Parable: Matthew 21:28-32
- Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Saturday 10/7 PATIENCE

- Parable: James 5:7-11
- Epistle: Romans 8:22-25

Sunday 10/8 WISDOM

- Prayer: 1 Kings 3:3-9
- Parable: Matthew 7:24-27
- Epistle: James 3:13-18

Monday 10/9 CALLING

- Prayer: Isaiah 6:1-8
- Epistle: 1 Peter 2:9-10

Tuesday 10/10 FORGIVENESS

- Prayer: 1 Kings 8:46-53
- Parable: Matthew 18:21-35
- Gospel: Luke 23:32-34

Wednesday 10/11 JOY

- Prayer: Psalm 16
- Parable: Luke 15:1-10
- Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Thursday 10/12 RESTORATION

- Prayer: Psalm 5:10-19
- Gospel: John 2:19-22

Friday 10/13 STEWARDSHIP

- Parable: Luke 12:16-21
- Gospel: Luke 21:1-4
- Epistle: 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Saturday 10/14 HUMILITY

- Parable: Luke 14:7-14
- Epistle: Philippians 2:1-11

Sunday 10/15 REFUGE

- Prayer: Psalm 121
- Gospel: John 17:11-19

Monday 10/16 MIRACLES

- Prayer: Matthew 14:13-21
- Gospel: Mark 9:14-24

Tuesday 10/17
FRUITFULNESS

- Parable: Matthew 25:14-30
- Gospel: John 15:1-8
- Epistle: James 2:14-24

Wednesday 10/18 UNITY

- Prayer: John 17:20-23
- Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

Thursday 10/19 PROVISION

- Prayer: Deuteronomy 28:1-14
- Parable: John 10:1-18
- Gospel: Matthew 6:25-34

Friday 10/20 PEACE

- Prayer: Isaiah 26:1-13
- Epistle: 2 Corinthians 13:11-14

Saturday 10/21 JUSTICE

- Prayer: 1 Kings 8:56-61
- Parable: Matthew 20:1-16

Sunday 10/22 PERSISTENCE

- Prayer: James 5:13-18
- Parable: Luke 18:1-8

Monday 10/23 EVANGELISM

- Prayer: Acts 4:23-31
- Epistle: Romans 10:9-15

Tuesday 10/24
FAITHFULNESS

- Prayer: Nehemiah 8:1-13
- Parable: Matthew 21:18-22

Wednesday 10/25
SUFFERING

- Prayer: Job 19:21-27
- Epistle: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Thursday 10/26 GROWTH

- Prayer: Colossians 1:9-14
- Parable: Mark 4:26-29

Friday 10/27 MERCY

- Parable: Luke 10:30-37
- Epistle: Hebrew 4:14-16

Saturday 10/28 SALVATION

- Prayer: Acts 2:22-36
- Parable: Luke 16:19-31
- Gospel: John 3:16-17

Sunday 10/29 READINESS

- Prayer: Luke 1:46-55
- Parable: Matthew 25:1-13

Monday 10/30
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

- Parable: Matthew 13:31-33
- Gospel: John 14:1-4

Tuesday 10/31 BLESSING

- Prayer: Numbers 6:24-27
- Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24



Kits Mission

School and Health kits!

St. Paul's had another successful year collecting school and health kits for the Festival of Sharing. Thank you to everyone that made a donation of kits or money to this mission. Our congregation donated **52 school and 62 health kits for a total of 114 kits**. Also, a special thank you to those volunteers that helped check and box up the kits: Carole Grapner, Myrna Metzger, Barb Schade, Tracy and Tahler Sdao, Martha Vazquez, Jan Wyant, and Pastor Paul for delivering them to a collection location. Your generosity helps more people experience the love of God and your continued support to this mission is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Janna Thompson for leading this missions project!



thank
you



Community Missions



LIFEWISE 5k
Acts Sunnydale House
Water Station Mission
Held on Labor Day, September 4
St. Paul's provided a Water station
in front of the church
and in the Fieldhouse parking lot.
Tahler Sdao, and Lauren and
Calloway Clark participated.



Quilts

Blessing of quilts on September 17

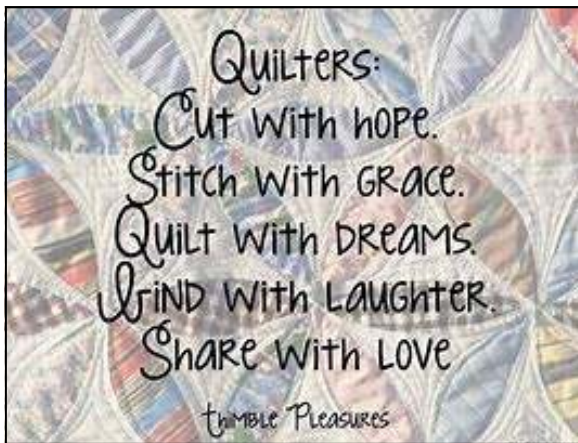
Quilts were delivered on September 19 by Margie Best, Connie Mault, Shirley Moser and Tracy Sdao.

10 quilts to Shawnee Manor, 10 to Willow Ridge in Bluffton, and 15 to Lost Creek.



Thank you for the blankets, the Residents love them! Blanche, Terry, Connie, Pat, Carol, Shirley, David, Bob, Howie, Rose, Ralphie.

C. Barry, Lost Creek Activities



I want to "Thank You" folks for the beautiful blanket that you gave to us. Sometimes we are forgotten, especially since it's not a holiday!!

Martha E. Schneider

Dear Crafty Creatures,
Thank you so much for our hand-made lap blankets. They are beautiful and it was so thoughtful of you all.

Thanks again!
Elders at Willow Ridge

Dear Shirley and the blanket knotters of St. Paul's,
Thank you for thinking of us and our Residents in your blanket quilt Ministry!
Warmly,
On behalf of the Residents at Willow Ridge, Bluffton.

Connecting With ...



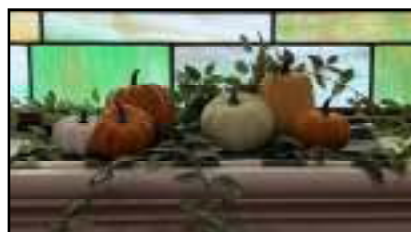
Congratulations Cody Scannell

Cody earned his Eagle Scout rank on September 7th. An Eagle Scout is the highest rank to achieve in the Scouts. Cody earned many badges and his final Eagle Scout project was building a playground for the children at Family Promise. A ceremony and reception will be at a later date. Cody is the son of Pastor Paul and Marla Scannell.

Lena Whetstone sang a solo with the choir on Sunday, September 17 "The Bible Tells Me So" *arr. L. Larson*.



Calloway Clark wearing his Stump the Pastor item he brought in for Children's moments.



The People of St. Paul's

Our Sympathy to Kathy and Marty White family, on the passing of Kathy's mother, Marjorie Strouse, on August 30. Cards will reach the family at 3146 Aspen Ln., Twinsburg, Ohio, 44087

With Deepest Sympathy

Thank You

Thank you for supporting the Historical Society of Elida. We appreciate you providing a space for our meetings.

We invite anyone that is interested in our mission to join us.

Thanks again,
Judy and Deb, and our board

Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital
Tim Piper
Ray Trigg

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

In the Military
Nathan Stewart



What Is Lament?

The spiritual discipline of lament may not come naturally, and churches rarely teach it. Because we're raised to stay silent if we can't say something nice, passionately pouring out our sorrow just doesn't seem right.

My opinion changed when I heard author Sharon Garlough Brown explain this spiritual practice from God's perspective. As parents can attest, toddlers have an innate ability to find foreign objects and put them in their mouths. Concerned parents bend down and coax the child to remove the toy, bottle top, coin or rock. "Spit it out." "Let me have it." "It's not good for you to swallow that."

As a concerned parent, God sees and knows what's troubling us. He knows that this world's woes and trials will hurt us if we keep them all inside. God, our good and gracious Father, wants us to passionately pour out our grief, so he bends down, looks us in the eyes, and says, "Spit it out." "Let me have it." "It's not good for you to swallow that." Spend time with God, sharing your laments. God loves you and is faithful to listen well.

—Janna Firestone

Meetings

October 2, 2023
PPR...7:00 PM

October 3, 2023
Trustees...7:00 PM

October 4, 2023
Worship Mtg.10:00 AM

October 9, 2023
Ad Council/Finance

October 19, 2023
Missions...7:00 PM

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

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir..7:00 PM

OCTOBER

2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 Brent McAdams	2 Reed Chambers Carter Craft Kay McAdams	3 Beth Warris	4 Kim White	5 Corinne Piper Blake Selover	6 Molly Przekora	7 Denny Thompson Brogan Wyant
8	9 Paysen Wyant	10 Ray Trigg Sr.	11 Slone Whetstone	12	13	14 Samuel Kinney
15	16	17	18 Brad Whetstone Ayva Wyant	19 Ryleigh Warris	20 Stacy McAdams	21
22	23	24 Nick White	25	26 Kassidy Bok Tonya Craft	27	28
29 John Fletcher Shirley Moser	30	31				

Anniversaries

- Troy & Heather Selover*
October 2
- Barry & Cyndi Smith*
October 8; 40 yrs.
- Gary & Shirley Adams*
October 10; 71yrs.
- Zack & Katie White*
October 10
- Juergen & Kathy Waldick*
October 11
- Scott & Gail Fessler*
October 15
- Alex & Stacy McAdams*
October 15
- Jason & Sharla Murphy*
October 17
- Ron & Ann Stewart*
October 19
- Nate & Tonya Craft*
October 27

Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Great Cooks

Creamsicle Cookies

By Shirley Moser

Ingredients		Instructions
1/2 cup	Butter, softened	Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line cookie sheet with parchment paper. In large mixing bowl, beat together butter, orange extract, cream cheese, and egg, until smooth. Add cake mix and mix well. *optional* Add orange food coloring to desired color. Stir white chocolate chips into cookie dough. Chill dough in refrigerator for 30 minutes. Form dough into balls, roll into powdered sugar, place onto cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 12-13 minutes, they will be a little soft. Do Not overbake. Cool 2 -3 minutes then remove from pan.
8 oz.	Cream Cheese, softened	
1	Egg	
1/2 tsp.	Orange extract	
1 box	Orange cake mix (Duncan Hines)	
* 1 drop (optional)	Orange food coloring to desired color	
1 cup	White chocolate chips	
1 cup	Powdered sugar	

Caramel Apple Crisp

By Susan Nartker

Ingredients		Instructions
3 cups	Oats, old-fashioned	In large bowl, combine oats, flour, brown sugar, and cinnamon; cut in butter until crumbly. Press half of the mixture into a greased 13x9 in. baking dish. Layer with half of the apples, caramels and 1 cup oat mixture. Repeat layers. Pour 1/2 cup cider over top. Bake the crisp, uncovered at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Drizzle with remaining cider; bake 15-20 minutes longer or until apples are tender.
2 cups	Flour, all-purpose	
1 1/2 cups	Brown sugar, packed	
1 tsp.	Cinnamon, ground	
1 cup	Butter, cold & cubed	
8 cups	Apples, tart peeled & thinly sliced	
1 pkg. (14 oz.)	Caramels, halved	
1 cup	Apple cider, divided	



KIDZ KORNER

MISSIONARY-MINDED PRAYER

An important part of missions is prayerfully supporting the church. Use this activity to guide your family's prayer time.



What you need:

- Plastic bag (large zippered)
- Permanent marker
- Bandage
- Toy plane
- Heart-shaped drawing or toy
- Spoon
- Coin
- Hot-sauce packet



What you do:

1. Label the bag with details about the missionaries you'll be praying for (names, location, specific needs).
2. Add small prayer-prompt objects to guide your prayer time (bandage = health, plane = travel, heart = relationships, spoon = cultural connection, coin = finances, hot sauce = boldness).
3. Include other objects that will prompt prayer for missionaries' specific needs.
4. Place the bag where it will remind your family to pray regularly.

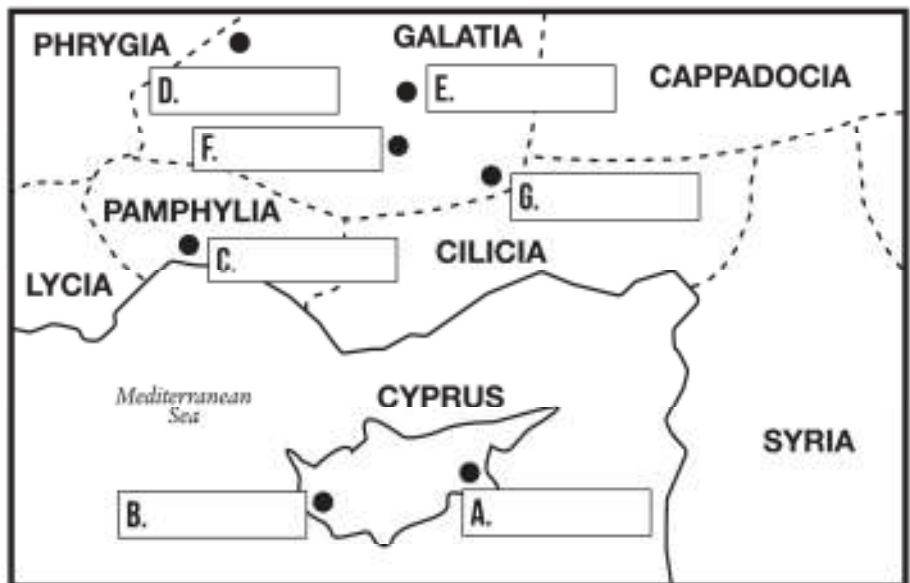
PUZZLE CITY SEARCH

God used Paul to spread the Gospel to many cities during his first missionary journey. Can you find them all?

Directions: From the fragments, guess each city and locate it on the map. Use the Bible references to help.



- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| A. (ACTS 13:5) | E. (ACTS 13:51) |
| B. (ACTS 13:6) | F. (ACTS 14:6) |
| C. (ACTS 13:13) | G. (ACTS 14:6) |
| D. (ACTS 13:14) | |



Answers: Salamis, Paphos, Perga, Antioch, Leonium, Lystra, Derbe

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

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Elida, OH 45807

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Our Web Address:
www.elidastpaulschurch.org

Our Facebook page
Elida St. Paul's Church

Twitter Account
@ESPCURCH



Living Our Faith

Starting A Ripple Effect

Shortly before his death, 80-year-old farmer Hody Childress asked his daughter to continue a practice he'd quietly conducted for years: taking a \$100 bill to a local pharmacist on the first of every month. For years, Childress anonymously came to the aid of neighbors in Geraldine, Alabama, who couldn't afford medications. "Don't tell a soul where the money came from," he instructed store owner Brooke Walker. "If they ask, just tell them it's a blessing from the Lord."

Thanks to the farmer's generosity, Walker could fill prescriptions for about 24 uninsured or underinsured people each year. "I was honored he allowed me to do that," she said, "and it really encouraged me to do the same in my life."

Childress wasn't wealthy but "always gave what he could," said daughter Tania Nix. "I think he felt like he couldn't not give," she added. "Giving that way, that just got on his heart." After word spread about Childress' generosity, other people were inspired to perform stealth outreach and a fund was established in his name.

A man in Oklahoma who shares Childress' surname said a story about the farmer caught his attention. They're probably not related, he wrote, but he'd feel proud if they were. "A man like that surely tried to follow the example of Jesus," the Oklahoman wrote, and "[his] story inspires me to be a better man."

—*adapted from The Wired Word*