

# St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

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October, 2024

St. Paul's United  
Methodist Church

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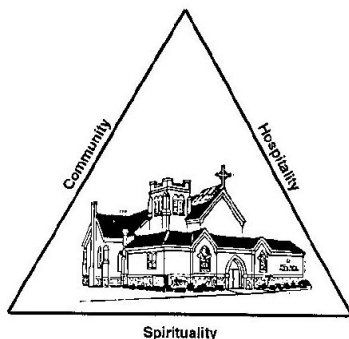
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## Inside this issue:

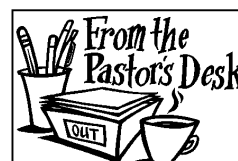
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October is here, and there is so much to get through over the next 5 weeks. First, I hope you have, or will consider, what it is you are going to pledge to the church as we wrap up our annual stewardship campaign. Your commitment will ensure that we will be able to continue God's ministry here in Elida, maintain our infrastructure, and be in mission to the world for Jesus Christ. I hope you will pray, seek God's guidance, and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit as you decide on how you will make a tithe to the church. Thank you in advance for your commitment, and I'll see you on the 6<sup>th</sup> for Consecration Sunday as we offer what we have to God.

Almost every time we have had a plan to 'Campaign for Kindness' here in Elida, something has gotten in the way. Rainout on National Night Out, then not being able to be in the homecoming parade, scrambling with plan b to walk along the sidewalks and hand out info and candy, and finally, more rain stopping us. Well, we will see how it goes for Trunk or Treat as we prepare to, once again, put 'Campaign for Kindness' into action here in Elida. We do have about 240 packets of candy, with an information sheet and sticker attached, ready to hand out. There will be more information coming soon about the date, time, and sign-up for helping hand out candy, hot chocolate, setting up your car for Trunk or Treat, and donating candy. Remember, if you are planning on coming down to join us, we usually have about 300 youngsters, and we encourage you to decorate your vehicle, even though the pastor usually doesn't.

Finally, we are closing in on about a month until the National Election, and I am sure by the time you are reading this, even more ads for the election will be running everywhere you look, listen, or browse. We here at St Paul's would never think we have the right to tell you how, or who, to vote for, but we will be spending time looking at how we as Christians should behave during the campaign season. I don't know if you noticed, but we are also running a campaign this year. Perhaps you have seen the signs? Campaign for Kindness is entering its final month, and inside this issue, we are challenging you to 30 days of Kindness. I hope you will join me in making a difference in the world around you by committing to performing '30 Acts of Kindness' over the next 30 days. I will also be preaching for 4 weeks about 'kindness' and what I believe God would call us to do during the election season. How we act and how we treat others who may have a different opinion from our own. I hope you will join me on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and November 3<sup>rd</sup> as we look at Kindness in-depth as it relates to loving others as God loves us. I look forward to seeing you in church on Sundays, and until then, I will see you in the mission field.

Yours in Christ,  
*Pastor Paul*



**October is Pastor  
Appreciation Month**

**October 14  
Columbus Day**

**World Communion Sunday  
October 6**

**October 17  
Reformation Sunday**



**Food Pantry Sunday  
October 20**

Baking goods; including spices, salt, pepper, flour, sugar, mixes, vanilla, and other non-perishable food items.

**Donations are taken to  
the Church at Allentown**

**October 6  
'Coins for Communion'  
to benefit Family Promise of Lima**

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



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

### **Christian Symbol**

#### **CHRISTIAN FLAG**

Dating to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Christian flag represents all of Christianity, though it's been used primarily in the Americas and Africa. The red Latin cross symbolizes Jesus' blood shed on Calvary to grant us eternal life. The blue background represents Christ's faithfulness even unto death, as well as our baptism into Christ. The white field signifies Jesus' purity, nonviolence and surrender to God's will, plus the peace we gain by surrendering ourselves to Christ.



#### **St. Paul's Epistle**

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Subscription Rate: NONE

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



## 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.

**Shoe Box collection will begin on October 27**



# *Upcoming Events for St. Paul's* **Neighborhood Trick or Treat Mission**

**Date and time to be announced!**

### Trick or Treat in Elida

We will be giving out hot chocolate, coffee, pencils, and Kindness cards with stickers 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 a sign-up sheet at the media desk or contact Tim Piper or the office.



### Trunk or Treat

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. If interested in participating in this fun adventure, there will be a sign-up sheet at the media desk or call the office.

Thank you in advance for your help!

# Mission

## MISSIONS STATEMENT

"We are called to be of service to others in the name of Christ Jesus and, therefore, we shall offer our time, talents and offerings as our commitment to God's mission at St. Paul's Church"

## VETERANS DONATION DRIVE For Dayton Veteran VA Nursing Homes

### Items Collecting:

Playing cards, Checkers, Chess, Backgammon, Dominos, or other board games, Puzzles of 500 to 1000 pieces.

**\*All Items MUST Be NEW\***

**There is a collection box under the coat rack in the hallway**

Items collected will be taken to the collection site at Forest Park United Methodist Church in Lima.

**Collection deadline is October 30**



*Thank you for supporting UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery with your gift of \$104.74.*

*Together, we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate genuine love for our neighbors.*

*From all of us at Crossroads Crisis Center, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for the generous monetary donations of \$37.32. Your generosity creates change for survivors of domestic violence.*

*Sincerely,  
Michelle Glasco  
Executive Assistant*

*On behalf of the students who receive Weekend meals through Meals 'til Monday, Thank you for your recent donation of \$217.26. Your gift and the love you show to these kids is of great value to us.*

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

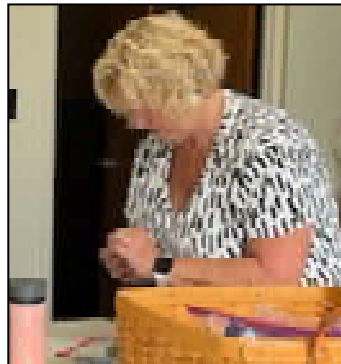
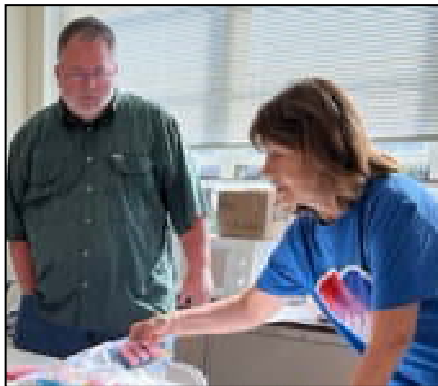


# Kits Mission

## School, Health, and Period Pack kits!

We had another successful year collecting school and health kits, with the addition of the Period Packs for the Festival of Sharing. Thank you to everyone that made a donation of kits or money to this mission. Our congregation donated **56 school, 35 health, and 31 Period Pack kits for a total of 122 kits**. A special thank you to those volunteers that helped sort and box up the kits: Deb Hurd, Maedene Holmes, Tracy Sdao, Janna Thompson, Jan Wyant, and Pastor Paul who helped pack and deliver 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!**



# Faith In Action

## Worship Attendance:

**\* RV**

August 25, 2024	77	40
September 1, 2024	57	55
September 8, 2024	62	59
September 15, 2024	78	49
September 22, 2024	70	X

**\*RV** - Remote Viewing  
(online viewing)

We are now recording the attendance for those watching online. This attendance is taken a week behind so we are sure to record those who have viewed the service throughout the week.

## Financial Giving

Weekly Need for  
Unified Ministry Budget  
\$4,187.00

## Sunday School Attendance

September 1, 2024	9
September 8, 2024	13
September 15, 2024	17
September 22, 2024	13

## Unified Ministry Giving:

## Other:

September 1, 2024	\$13,560.73	\$615.00
September 8, 2024	\$8,166.37	\$255.00
September 15, 2024	\$1,031.48	\$271.00
September 22, 2024	\$1,756.40	\$105.00

## Flower Calendar



October 6, 2024	Don & Maedene Holmes
October 13, 2024	Alex & Stacy McAdams
October 20, 2024	Jason & Sharla Murphy
October 27, 2024	Larry & Shirley Moser

## Hospitality Cart

October 6, 2024	OPEN
October 13, 2024	OPEN
October 20, 2024	OPEN
October 27, 2024	Corinne Piper

# Daily Bible Readings

**Tuesday 10/1**

Psalm 78, Esther 5:1-14  
Acts 18:12-28, Luke 3:15-22

**Wednesday 10/2**

Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120  
Esther 6:1-14  
Acts 19:1-10, Luke 4:1-13

**Thursday 10/3**

Psalm 83, 85, 86, Esther 7:1-10  
Acts 19:11-20, Luke 4:14-30

**Friday 10/4**

Psalm 88, 91, 92, Esther 8:1-17  
Acts 19:21-41, Luke 4:31-37

**Saturday 10/5**

Psalm 87, 90, 136, Hosea 1:1-2:1  
Acts 20:1-16, Luke 4:38-44

**Sunday 10/6**

Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67  
Hosea 2:2-14  
James 3:1-13, Matthew 13:44-52

**Monday 10/7**

Psalm 89, Hosea 2:14-23  
Acts 20:17-38, Luke 5:1-11

**Tuesday 10/8**

Psalm 95, 100, Hosea 4:1-10  
Acts 21:1-14, Luke 5:12-26

**Wednesday 10/9**

Psalm 100, 109, 119:121-144  
Hosea 4:11-19  
Acta 21:15-26, Luke 5:27-39

**Thursday 10/10**

Psalm 105, Hosea 5:8-6:6  
Acts 21:27-36, Luke 6:1-11

**Friday 10/11**

Psalm 102, 107:1-32  
Hosea 10:1-15  
Acts 21:37-22:16, Luke 6:12=26

**Saturday 10/12**

Psalm 33, 107:33-43, 108  
Hosea 11:1-9  
Acts 22:17-29, Luke 6: 27-38

**Sunday 10/13**

Psalm 118, 145, Hosea 13:4-14  
1 Corinthians 2:6-16  
Matthew 14:1-12

**Monday 10/14**

Psalm 106, Hosea 14:1-9  
Acts 22:30-23:11  
Luke 6:39-49

**Tuesday 10/15**

Psalm 120, 127, Micah 1:1-9  
Acts 23:12-24, Luke 7:1-17

**Wednesday 10/16**

Psalm 119:145-176, 128, 129, 130  
Micah 2:1-13  
Acta 23:23-35, Luke 7:18-35

**Thursday 10/17**

Psalm 133, 134, 135, Micah 3:1-8  
Acts 24:1-23, Luke 7:36-50

**Friday 10/18**

Psalm 140, 141, 142, 143  
Micah 3:9-4:5  
Acts 24:24-25:12, Luke 8:1-15

**Saturday 10/19**

Psalm 104, 137, 144  
Micah 5:1-15  
Acts 25:13-27, Luke 8:16-25

**Sunday 10/20**

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

**Monday 10/21**

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

**Tuesday 10/22**

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

**Wednesday 10/23**

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

**Thursday 10/24**

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

**Friday 10/25**

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

**Saturday 10/26**

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

**Sunday 10/27**

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

**Monday 10/28**

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

**Tuesday 10/29**

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

**Wednesday 10/30**

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

**Thursday 10/31**

Psalm 37  
Revelation 9:1-12  
Luke 10:25-37



**Thought for the Month:**

It is great wisdom  
to know  
how to be silent.

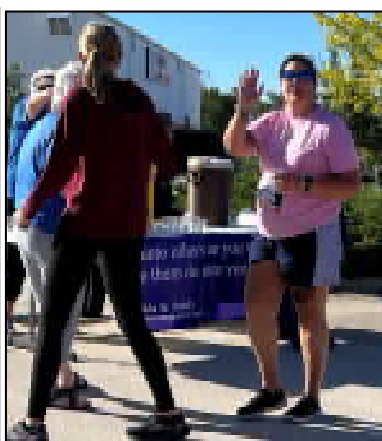
—John of the Cross



# LifeWise 5K

Watering Station #1 in front of the church

Watering Station #2 Fieldhouse parking lot





# Worship - September 8

**Holy Baptism**  
**Noah George Vermillion - May 2, 2024**  
*Son of Adam and Shannen Vermillion*



Introducing Noah to the Congregation!



**Choir Returns!**  
"Surely the Presence" *Arr. C. F. Brown*  
Thank you to Judy Chaffins for conducting the choir, and to Lois Cook, Piano accompaniment.



**Blessing Prayer Blankets**  
Two prayer blankets were blessed to bring comfort to those in need.



# Kindness

# 30 Acts of *kindness* in Thirty Days



Let's spread kindness throughout our communities!

**We challenge you to complete at least one act of kindness each day for the next 30 days.** We've gotten you started with our list of small ways you can positively impact those around you. Feel free to be creative and come up with your own acts of kindness!

Kindness is a ripple effect – encourage others to join the challenge by sharing your acts on social media!

- List 30 people and pray for one each day.
- Take a walk in your neighborhood and pray for each house.
- Leave the largest tip you can afford for a kind server.
- Write a letter to someone who has made a difference in your life.
- Chalk a sidewalk with uplifting messages.
- Send encouraging text messages to 5 people.
- Write cards for a local hospital.
- Pay for the person behind you at a drive-thru.
- Donate seasonal clothes to a clothing pantry.
- Compliment the first 3 people you talk with today.
- Reconnect with someone you haven't spoken with in a while.
- Donate towels, blankets and toys to an animal shelter.
- Surprise a neighbor or friend with freshly baked treats.
- Give parents a night out by offering to babysit for free.
- Give a thank-you treat to your mail, delivery and sanitation employees.
- Donate new socks and underwear to a local shelter.
- Post an encouraging sticky note message on a mirror or door.
- Host a clean-up party at a nearby park.
- Donate books to your local library or a book drive.
- Send a 'Thank You' card to your local police or fire station.
- Leave your server an encouraging note on their receipt.
- Post a positive and encouraging message on social media.
- Help your neighbor with their yard work.
- Donate packages of diapers and wipes to a local agency supporting families.
- Pause to hold the door open for someone behind you.
- Surprise someone with flowers.
- Participate in a blood drive.
- Donate food to a local food pantry.
- Write a positive review online for a local business.
- Pray for government leaders and send a note thanking them for their public service



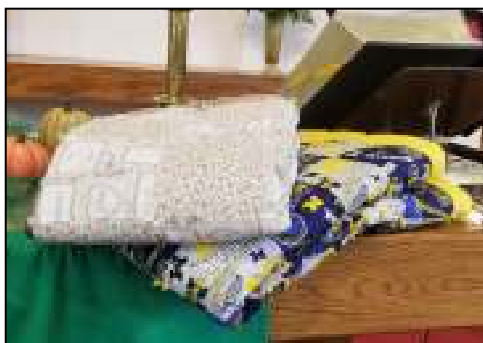


# Connecting With ...

The 1st grade and up Sunday School class is studying about the importance of being an Acolyte. There are several children in training. Lena Whetstone and Jackson Rife are showing Wren Harmon how it is done.



Several quilts were blessed that will be taken to nursing homes or used as prayer blankets to give comfort to those who are in need.



# The People of St. Paul's

## Autumn Leaves At Play

*By Dillon Staas Jr.*

Autumn leaves, they swirl and spin and scamper on their way  
They bring an air of laughter to the forest as they play  
Across the field they hurry now to find some sheltered nook  
Frolicking, meandering beside a sprightly brook.

Strewn about by nature's whim, they gather, then are gone  
Shivering in the cool night air, warming with the dawn  
Their colors blend to weave a coat of lovely autumn hue  
The Master's touch upon the earth, as only He can do.

Until at last the north winds blow to silence sounds of glee  
And winter's holiday has come to every leafless tree  
Now Mother Nature comforts with a blanket soft and white  
The autumn leaves find rest, at last, upon this starlit night.



## Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

Homebound Members

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

Ted and Jan Sodders

In the Military

Nathan Stewart

Our Sympathy to Don and Maedene Holmes and family on the passing of Don's brother, Bob Holmes, on September 14. Cards may be sent to 167 Brookview Ct., Lima, Ohio 45801



*With Deepest Sympathy*

Our condolences to the families of Bill Evans who passed on September 14 in Tennessee. Bill was a brother in law to Lynda Evans and Myrna Metzger.

Our condolences to Ruth Hardy and Mick Hardy Family with the passing of Mick's wife, Tami Hardy. A service was held on September 19th in Bluffton.

**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.*

**Our Biblical Purpose Statement:**  
*Elida St. Paul's United Methodist Church exists as God's people embracing His grace through humble service to all.*



**Meetings**

October 1, 2024  
**Trustees...7:00 PM**

October 2, 2024  
**Worship Mtg..1:00 PM**

October 7, 2024  
**PPR/Nominations..  
 7:00 PM**

October 14, 2024  
**Ad Council / Finance..  
 7:00 PM**

**Missions Mtg.. TBA**

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

**Wednesday  
 Choir ..7:00 PM**

# OCTOBER 2024

**Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

*Anniversaries*

- Troy & Heather Selover  
October 2*
- Barry & Cyndi Smith  
October 8; 41 yrs.*
- 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*

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

**Recipe: Coming In October!**

**A Chance to Share Your Favorite Recipes:**

They can be breads, fruits, veggies, meats, snacks, desserts, anything that's easy and delicious. The current picture board will become a **Recipe Board**. Got some great ideas for the upcoming holidays? Have a family favorite? What ever it is, plan to share with your St. Paul's family in October.

Please make sure your recipe has your name on it and that the ENTIRE Recipe is on one side of the card. Leave your recipe in the church office or give it to Jan Wyant.

**THANK YOU!**

Serves: \_\_\_\_\_ From: \_\_\_\_\_

## Cowboy Beans

*By Jackie Henderson*

Ingredients		Instructions
1 lb.	Ground beef, browned, & drained	Combine all ingredients in a large bowl.  Pour into a greased casserole dish.  Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour, or heat them in a crockpot.
1 lb.	Bacon, crispy & crumbly	
1 med.	Onion, chopped	
1/2 cup	Brown sugar	
1/2 cup	Ketchup	
1/2 cup	BarBQ sauce	
3 Tbl.	Mustard	
3 Tbl.	Molasses	
1 tsp.	Chili powder	
1 tsp.	Salt	
1 tsp.	Pepper	
3 cans 40 - 45 oz.	Pork and beans	
1 can	Black beans, drained, & rinsed	
1 can	Red beans drained & rinsed	
1 can	Butter beans Drained & rinsed	



# KIDZ KORNER



Make this craft as a helpful reminder of Jesus' free gift of grace.



**What you need:**

- Small cardboard box
- Small stones
- Tape
- Wrapping paper and bow
- Permanent marker

**What you do:**

1. Fill the box with small stones to weigh it down. Tape the box securely closed.
2. Wrap the box and add a bow on top.
3. With marker, write a capital letter on each side of the box and the bottom to spell GRACE.
4. Use this as a decoration or paperweight, or give as a gift.
5. Explain GRACE to someone.  
For help, use Ephesians 2:8-9 and the acrostic **God's Riches At Christ's Expense.**



## SAVED BY GRACE

Leaders of the early church discussed whether newly converted Gentiles must keep the Law of Moses. How did Peter answer?

Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the blanks below to complete Acts 15:11, NIV.

NO/WEGBEKLIBEVGEITIYS  
 TUHRCOUJGHRTHOEGPRAH  
 CEIOFXOUKRLHORCDJSESP  
 USGTHWATYWEOARBESPAVLED  
 RJUCSTQASHTHBEYFAROE



" \_\_\_\_\_"  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ " Acts 15:11, NIV

Answer: "Not! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are." Acts 15:11, NIV

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

105 E. Main St.  
Elida, OH 45807

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**Our Web Address:**  
**[www.elidastpaulschurch.org](http://www.elidastpaulschurch.org)**

**Our Facebook page**  
**Elida St. Paul's Church**

**Twitter Account**  
**@ESPCHURCH**



## Living Our Faith

### Pumpkin Prayer

In *The Pumpkin Patch Parable*, Liz Curtis Higgs uses kid-friendly analogies for the Christian life. Many parents now use a Pumpkin Prayer while carving jack-o-lanterns in October. What a great reminder about everything God has done for us!

- While cutting off the pumpkin top, pray, "Lord, open my mind so I can learn new things about you." (See Proverbs 1:7.)
- While removing the seeds and pulp, pray, "Remove the things in my life that don't please you. Forgive the wrong things I do and help me forgive others." (See Matthew 6:14-15.)
- While making eyes, pray, "Open my eyes to see the beauty you've made in the world around me." (See Psalm 104:24.)
- While making the nose, pray, "I'm sorry for the times I've turned up my nose at your many gifts." (See James 1:17.)
- While making the mouth, pray, "Let everything I say please you." (See Psalm 19:14.)
- While lighting the candle, pray, "Lord, help me shine your light to others through the things I do." (See Matthew 5:16.)

Display your carved pumpkins as examples of how God's love transforms us into new creations. (See 2 Corinthians 5:17.)