

St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

Volume 35, Issue 11

November, 2012

St. Paul's United
Methodist Church

105 E. Main St.

Elida, OH 45807

419-339-3801

espcoffice@embarqmail.com

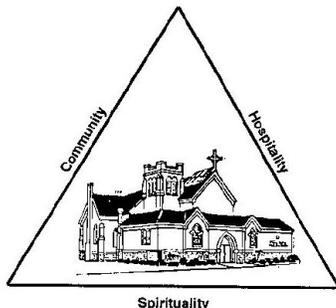
Rev. Paul Scannell

419/909-9419

Cell Phone: 734/660-1984

espcpastor@embarqmail.com

4pastorpaul@gmail.com



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November, the time of year here at St Paul's when our thoughts turn to finances. I want to change that; no not to another month, but to an attitude of stewardship. We are going to start the month with a celebration of the saints of the church. We will not only remember those who have passed in the last year but we will spend some time looking at people who have made a difference in the life of the church and in our own personal lives. How their stewardship in days past makes what we do today possible. Then in the second week we will talk a little about what is expected of us according to the Bible. Week three we will hand in our pledges, celebrate all that God is doing at St. Paul's and gather for a time of celebration at a carry-in dinner. Then we are not finished yet; in week four we will talk about how we are going to live forward into our stewardship.

As part of this series there will be different speakers every week that relate to stewardship. They are not going to be talking about giving money; they are going to talk about how they are following where God is leading them and what that looks like. Yes, it may include how they have changed what they do with their personal finances, but my desire is for you to see stewardship is about faithfulness to God, not a tax to be levied. My goal is to begin to have this type of moment once a month to keep stewardship in front of us all year long. So when November rolls around we will no longer dread the drive to fund the budget, but we will celebrate the work God is doing all around us and most importantly through us. Because I truly believe if we are faithful to what God has called us to be then the budget will be funded and we will move forward in ministries that further the Kingdom of God.

We will also be talking about one other subject that may or may not cause problems. We are currently carrying a debt on our building and the fund established to pay it off no longer covers the payments going out. Last month we dipped into our general fund to make that payment for the first time. If you are still making your regular building fund payment, thank you. If you thought we were finished, we are not, and I am asking you to restart your giving to that fund. If you have never given to the building fund, like me, it is time to look at adding it to your regular giving to the church. My goal is to pay off the building fund in the next year and build up the building fund for emergencies that will come up. Imagine with me, if you will, a leaking roof, a broken boiler, or other major

disaster that happens on a random Wednesday and instead of first figuring out how to pay for the problem we say there is 10, 15, or \$20,000 in the building fund; just fix it.

continued on page 4

Thought for the Month:

If you and God
are far apart,
who moved?

Youth News

CONGRATULATIONS!

To **Torie McAdams** for being selected to this year's Homecoming Court!

CONGRATULATIONS!

To **Aric Thompson** for being selected as the **Honda Math Medal** recipient for the 2012-2013 school year. **Aric** will be honored at a breakfast in November at the Honda plant in Marysville.



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

November 18, 2012
7:00 PM
St. Paul's is hosting

Rev. Paula Snyder Belousek from Salem Mennonite Will be preaching

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Secretary:	Gail Fessler
Secretary:	Jone Lane
Organist:	Linda Holman
Pianist:	Lois Cook
Choir Director	Judy Chaffins
Custodian:	Dave Decker



Newsletter deadline: the **16th** of each month

November 4

Turn your clocks back 1 hour.

Daylight Savings Time ends.



**All Saints Sunday
November 4th**

We will remember those who have died in this world and entered into the eternal life. During the worship, we will light the candles in memory of people from the church who died this past year. As the names are read the bell will be rung.

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

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
All who by faith before the world confessed,
your name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one within your great design.
Alleluia, alleluia!

*- William Walsham How,
For All the Saints, 'vs 1 and 4*



Upcoming Events for St. Paul's

**Holiday Cookies and Treats
Buy or Trade**

**December 9th
After worship Service**

**Watch for further details
closer to the date**



November 18th

Hand in Pledge Cards

**Celebrate together with
Church-Wide
Carry-In Lunch**

The Heart of Church

continued from pg. 1

Then we can come to you and say we need to build up the emergency fund instead of taking a loan or living in the cold until we raise the money needed. Of course there will need to be discussion about what constitutes an emergency and what is regular maintenance to be funded through the budget. But I believe once established, this fund will allow us to move forward with confidence and keep fear from dictating ministry.

I know this has been a lot and if you are like me it is something we don't want to deal with but to be good stewards we MUST take care of business. Besides, when you are not worried about money it allows us to dream dreams and seek the will of God. Together we will move toward faithful stewardship and all fabulous things God has in store for you, the good stewards of St. Paul's.

Pastor Paul

STEWARDSHIP KICK-OFF

What does 'stewardship' mean to you? A reason to head for the door? Something others do? Or does it generate words and deeds of responsibility for the preservation of a worthwhile endeavor...in this instance, the teachings of Jesus Christ and the health and vitality of the church which honors and sustains his life's lessons?

Stewardship season 2012 at St. Paul's are the four Sundays in November culminating with Pledge Sunday on November 18. Pastor Paul will address stewardship during his sermon time each Sunday. Our Stewardship Ad Hoc Committee will offer various perspectives of stewardship here at St. Paul's including highlights and celebrations of activities and accomplishments from the past year and what challenges and opportunities lie ahead.

On the business side of things, our Finance Committee typically develops a budget or set of financial guidelines for our working committees and program chairpersons to follow. We also need recognition of and commitment for the payment of general operating expenses necessary to keep our doors open as to fulfill our Biblical Purpose Statement: Elida St. Paul's United Methodist Church exists as God's people embracing His grace through humble service to all. Commitments of financial stewardship (pledges) help develop St. Paul's operating budget.

No one said it's easy. Last year at this time we followed a series of study sessions centered on Adam Hamilton's "*Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity*". Pastor Hamilton, like many others, recognize just how trying these economic times truly are yet basic Biblical principles applied to six simple financial habits can establish and grow contentment, generosity, and joy in our lives. How did you do this past year in your implementation of Pastor Hamilton's "*Enough*" principles?

There are no deep-rooted, complex theological ideologies that are teed-up for November lecture or letter from Pastor Paul or the Stewardship Ad Hoc Committee. Ever considered thoughts of 'giving back'? 'The right thing to do'? Looking beyond 'what's in it for me'? It's that simple. I can do it, you can do it, meaning we have the resources to fulfill our Vision Statement: 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.

See you in church.

The Business of Church

During fall, 2006, our congregation embraced a building fund campaign entitled, "St. Paul's Family Building Campaign: Standing on the Promises, Building on the Premises." It addressed several areas of targeted improvements: Basement, kitchen, new elevator, main sanctuary air conditioning, sound system upgrade, and new video equipment. In the end, we took out a \$140,000 loan for new basement and elevator work. Our congregation was asked to support this building campaign with personal five-year pledges beginning Year 2007. It worked! Final project costs totaled \$123,500 or \$16,500 under the amount of our loan. The loan was amortized for the full \$140,000 over seven years and was paid down very quickly to a principle balance of approx. \$62,000.

Unfortunately, in fall of 2010, the church's chimney was in horrible condition and threatened our ability to heat the church during the winter of 2010-2011. The Trustees and Finance Committee asked for support when borrowing the remaining \$16,500 of the initial \$140,000 loan and fund raising an additional \$3,500 for the \$20,000 chimney repair. Support from the congregation came in the form of an additional two years of pledge commitments beyond the Standing on the Promises, Building on the Premises commitment of five years.

The balance of our 2007/2010 \$140,000 loan now stands at \$29,345 with 14 installments remaining. The monthly loan payment is \$2,020.09. However, we have exhausted our working building fund balance. Moreover, active monthly building pledges are well under the monthly loan payment. Consequently, the difference – payment less pledges – will be taken out of general funds which strains our ability to meet basic operating expenses such as utilities, payroll, and apportionments.

Year 2012 is the sixth year of this 5 + 2 building fund campaign. If you made a building fund pledge in 2007 or 2010, we need your continued commitment. If you are new to St. Paul's and wish to contribute to this endeavor, mark your contribution 'Building Fund' when placing in the offering plate or sending by mail to the church office.

Thank you.

Book of Timothy



Committee Chairs

PPR Chair	Dwain Metzger
Trustees Chair	Ron Steiner
Finance Chair	Marty White
Treasurer	Jenessa Fletcher
Education Chair	Jan Wyant
Administrative Council Chair	Scott Fessler
Worship	Pastor Paul Scannell
Nurture	Linda Holman
Missions	Tim Piper

Faith In Action

Worship Attendance:

September 30, 2012	110
October 7, 2012	114
October 14, 2012	77
October 21, 2012	104
October 28, 2012	96

Financial Giving

Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,466.00

Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
September 30, 2012	\$2,134.50	\$537.00
October 7, 2012	\$4,804.00	\$637.56
October 14, 2012	\$1,625.00	\$337.00
October 21, 2012	\$3,536.00	\$718.00
October 28, 2012	\$2,419.00	\$195.00



Greeters

November 4, 2012	Don & Mary Irvin
November 11, 2012	Ruth Brugoon & Susan Nartker
November 18, 2012	Margie Best & Jone Lane
November 25, 2012	Jamie & Jan Wyant

Flowers:

November 4	Steve & Tracy Sdao
November 11	Don & Maedene Holmes
November 18	Gary & Deb Hurd
November 25	Gary & Janet Grigg

Visit The United
Methodist Website at:
www.umw.org

Daily Bible Reading for November

Thursday 11/1

Psalm 50
Nehemiah 1:1-11
Revelations 5:11-6:11
Matthew 13:18-23

Friday 11/2

Psalm 40 and 54
Nehemiah 2:1-20
Revelations 6:12-7:4
Matthew 13:24-30

Saturday 11/3

Psalm 55 and 138
Nehemiah 4:1-23
Revelations 7:4-17
Matthew 13:31-35

Sunday 11/4

Psalm 24 and 29
Nehemiah 5:1-19
Acts 20:7-12
Luke 12:22-31

Monday 11/5

Psalm 56 and 57
Nehemiah 6:1-19
Revelations 10:1-11
Matthew 13:36-43

Tuesday 11/6

Psalm 61 and 62
Nehemiah 12:27-47
Revelations 11:1-19
Matthew 13:44-52

Wednesday 11/7

Psalm 72
Nehemiah 13:4-22
Revelations 12:1-12
Matthew 13:53-58

Thursday 11/8

Psalm 71 and 74
Ezra 7:1-26
Revelations 14:1-13
Matthew 14:1-12

Friday 11/9

Psalm 73
Ezra 8:21-36
Revelations 15:1-8
Matthew 14:13-21

Saturday 11/10

Psalm 75 and 76
Ezra 9:1-15
Revelations 17:1-14
Matthew 14:22-36

Sunday 11/11

Psalm 93 and 96
Ezra 10:1-17
Acts 24:10-21, Luke 14:12-24

Monday 11/12

Psalm 79 and 80
Nehemiah 9:1-25
Revelations 18:1-8
Matthew 15:1-20

Tuesday 11/13

Psalm 78
Nehemiah 9:26-38
Revelations 18:9-20
Matthew 15:21-28

Wednesday 11/14

Psalm 81 and 82
Nehemiah 7:73-8:3-18
Revelations 18:21-24
Matthew 15:29-39

Thursday 11/15

Psalm 85 and 86
Revelations 19:1-10
Matthew 16:1-12

Friday 11/16

Psalm 91 and 92
Revelations 19:11-16
Matthew 16:13-20

Saturday 11/17

Psalm 87 and 90
Revelations 20:1-6, Mark 16:21-28

Sunday 11/18

Psalm 66 and 67
Acts 28:14b-23
Luke 16:1-13

Monday 11/19

Psalm 89
Revelations 20:7-15
Matthew 17:1-13

Tuesday 11/20

Psalm 97 and 99
Revelations 21:1-8
Matthew 17:14-21

Wednesday 11/21

Psalm 101
Revelations 21:9-21
Matthew 17:22-27

Thursday 11/22

Psalm 105
Revelations 21:22-22:5
Matthew 18:1-9

Friday 11/23

Psalm 102
Revelations 22:6-13
Matthew 18:10-20

Saturday 11/24

Psalm 108
Isaiah 65:17-25
Revelations 22:14-21
Matthew 18:21-35

Sunday 11/25

Psalm 118 and 145
Isaiah 19:19-25
Romans 15:5-13
Luke 19:11-27

Monday 11/26

Psalm 106
Joel 3:1-17
1 Peter 1:1-12
Matthew 19:1-12

Tuesday 11/27

Psalm 121, 122, 123, and 124
Nahum 1:1-13
1 Peter 1:13-25
Matthew 19:13-22

Wednesday 11/28

Psalm 128, 129, and 130
Obadiah 15-21
1 Peter 2:1-10
Matthew 19:23-30

Thursday 11/29

Psalm 131, 132, 134 and 135
Zephaniah 3:1-13
1 Peter 2:11-25
Matthew 20:1-16

Friday 11/30

Psalm 140, 141 and 142
Isaiah 24:14-23
1 Peter 3:13-4:6
Matthew 20:17-28



Missions

It has been a long time since May, and I want to truly thank you for your hard work in the service projects completed here at Camp Wesley. This summer was a busy, and crazy one but entirely rewarding and fruitful in our efforts of faithfully guiding campers and developing disciples. The week after you completed the roofs and other projects our summer camp program began. We had 600 plus campers come to camp and 300 plus faith decisions were made this summer, 135 of which accepted Christ for the first time. We had a great summer and a great staff. This would not have been possible without working facilities, so I want to thank you. We had many people ask about work projects and anytime they would ask I would tell them about you folks, in reality I would partially brag on how much you completed with limited time and limited people. We heard nothing but positive feedback about the new roofs. This has inspired more churches and individuals to take up their tools and join us this year in bringing Camp Wesley to a new place as a camp. Thank you for your effort, skills and service; we can not run this camp without the very people who keep it going, and continue to show their support year after year. I hope to keep this partnership going strong and focus on new projects to keep this place as special and unique as it appears in our hearts, and in our past summer memories.

Matt Grant
 Director of Camp Wesley
 West Ohio Conference
 Of the United Methodist Church



Donations



We will once again be collecting mittens, hats, gloves and scarves for the mitten tree in December. When you are out shopping, you may want to pick up something for the tree. Your donations will be much appreciated.

YOU DID IT!

Thanks to all who donated school kits and health kits. St. Paul's contributed **55** school kits and **28** health kits to the Festival of Sharing. This was a new record for our church.

All Saints Day

Live Hungry

November 4th is designated as All Saints' Sunday. We are speaking not just of an approved list of particularly holy people. This is a day to remember and honor all those ordinary Christians who have preceded us. And to speak of "All Saints" is to include present company. All Saints means you!

What, then, does it mean to be a saint? To sum it up in one simple sentence, a saint is someone who belongs to God. That's the root meaning of the word saint - "holy; that is, belonging to God." Sounds nice. But what does that mean in everyday living? How can we live out our sainthood, our belonging to God?

The beatitudes give a good description of a saint. Let's focus our attention on just one beatitude: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."

Interesting. I don't think we often picture saints hungering and thirsting. Aren't we much more likely to think of them as calm, peaceful, with an eternal beatific smile? We might think of them as contented. But Jesus points us to a condition of aching, yearning, hungering and thirsting; a sort of holy discontent.

What is the object of this desire? Righteousness - a word which in the Bible means far more than individual moral purity. It points to a complete and total "rightness"; an end to all brokenness and alienation in the world.

We could ask, "What's so saintly about this hunger?" The answer is that when we hunger for rightness, we belong to God in a special way, because we share God's aim. God is out to set things right in this rebellious, broken world.

It isn't easy to be a saint because it isn't easy to live hungry. Since God's goal to set the world completely right is so high, so beyond the range of our abilities, it's very tempting to lower our sights. It is very tempting to try to satisfy ourselves with lesser things - things that we can make happen by ourselves. We can end up trading the kingdom of

God for the kingdom of financial security, or the kingdom of pleasure, or the kingdom of a small circle of family or friends. The problem with lowering our sights is that these satisfactions finally don't last; finally don't satisfy.

When this happens another danger threatens: despair. We decide that there is finally no satisfaction for our hungry hearts, that life is just frustrating and futile, that there is nothing to do but dull the pain with drugs, alcohol, or cynical humor.

To be a saint is to stay hungry. It is to live in hope, settling for nothing less than the world made right. Christ has shown us how to live hungry. And he gives us the power to do it by giving us glimpses of God's kingdom in his own words and deeds and in those he has inspired.

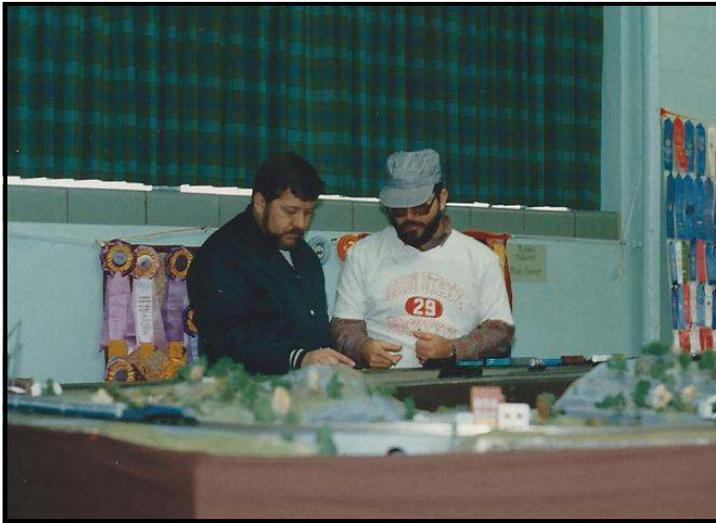
This is what the church is for. The church is a place where we get and give glimpses of the kingdom. The church helps us stay hungry by challenging us with the word of God. We cannot come face to face with Jesus Christ in the Scriptures or on the cross and be content with the way things are. Jesus has called us to be the light of the world, to go the second mile, and to love our enemies.

Blessed are you when you live hungry, in holy discontent. Remember that Christ has given us a foretaste of the feast to come. And he has promised that we will be satisfied. We have his word on it.

- Jeanette Strandjord,
excerpted with permission from *The Clergy Journal*



Remember When...



Sharing Collections
November, 1986
Larry Moser, Jamie Wyant



Joy Singers—1994
Front: Mallory Rentz, Jon Cook, Tara Thompson
Middle: Ashley Reiff, Sara Matlock, Erin Peters
Top: Jennifer Wenger



Koinonia Halloween Party
October, 1994
Gary and Lois Cook



Connecting With ...

The holiday season is normally a time of joy, but when someone you love has died, it can be a time of loneliness and pain. If you are experiencing grief, your neighbors at **Chiles-Laman Funeral Homes** will host their 22nd annual "Tree of Remembrance" at the Shawnee Chapel, 1170 Shawnee Road, with you in mind. On **Saturday, December 1, 2012**, beginning at **2:00 PM**, each family will be given a glass personalized ornament with the name of their loved one on it and invited to place it on the Tree of Remembrance. At **3:00 PM**, area clergy will lead a brief Memorial Service. Refreshments will be available after the service. The "Tree of Remembrance and Memorial Service" are presented as a gift to the community by Chiles-Laman Funeral Homes. All families are welcome, regardless of which funeral home provided the service. There is no charge to attend; however, reservations are requested. To make a reservation, or for more information, **call 419-228-5474**. In order to have your ornament personalized we need to have your reservation by November 15th. Each family will receive one free ornament and additional ornaments may be ordered for \$20.00 each.



What's Cooking?

Primrose Assisted Living had a chili cook-off at their Family Fall Fest on October 23rd. Nine entries were judged. **Deb Hurd** won the prize for best traditional chili. After the contest, all the entries were dumped together for the "Witches' Brew" dinner.



Did You Know?

Joanna Hurd, resident of Primrose Assisted Living, won for the funniest costume at the Annual Halloween Party for residents, employees, and their families She went as "**Mrs. Bubbles.**"



Remember in Prayer

Recovering from Surgery or in the Hospital

- Chuck Holmes
- Tony Matlock
- Lois Rabley
- Ivan Vazquez

Homebound Members

- Hazel Dunn
- Jean Redd
- Helen Scholfield

Those in Need of Healing, Support, Strength & Encouragement

- Joanna Hurd
- Mary LaRue
- Rodney Lee
- Rick Scholfield

In the Military

- Eddie Mault

Visit The United Methodist Communications website : www.umcom.org

This website offers book reviews, music reviews, and web ministry information among other relevant and interesting links.

The People of St. Paul's

Thanks for all the cards, thoughts, and prayers during my recent shoulder surgery. A special thanks to Pastor Paul for the enjoyable hospital visit.

Becky Bean

Thank!
You!

Dear St. Paul's members,
Thank you all so much for the kind words, cards, hugs, visits and the support that we received at the time of my dad's death. I did not want to see him live with hardly any eye sight, a bad heart, and not being able to think clearly. Still when death came we were not ready to give him up. No words can tell you, how grateful we are for our church family.

**With love,
Ron & Mary Steiner**



Congratulations to **Jacinda Fletcher** on her marriage to **Nick Perry**. They exchanged vows on Saturday, October 20, 2012, at St. Paul's. Rev. Eric McGlade performed the ceremony. Jacinda is the daughter of John and Joy Fletcher.



Our sympathy is extended to **Ron and Mary Steiner** and family on the death of Ron's father, Ken Steiner, who died on September 28, 2012. The funeral was on Tuesday, October 2, 2012, in Bluffton. Cards may be sent to Ron and Mary Steiner at 302 N. Greenlawn Ave., Elida, OH 45807



In Sympathy

**Prayer List Updates
Please Contact
Lavonne Segovia**

Meetings

No November PPR...7:00 PM

November 6, 2012
Trustees...7:00 PM

November 7, 2012
Worship Team..6:00 PM

November 12, 2012
Finance...7:00 PM

November 12, 2012
Ad Council...7:30 PM

November 20, 2012
Missions...7:00 PM

November 29, 2012
Nurture...7:00 PM

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

Wednesdays
Chancel Choir...7:00 PM

November 2012

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1 Margie Best Cody Warris	2	3 Jacinda Perry
4	5	6 Trustees	7 Jone Lane Kris Wade Worship	8	9 Jon Cook Joshua Guess	10 Kylee Loose Cam Murphy
11 Ginny Hollar Jenson Nagy	12 Logan House Finance Ad Council	13 Dillon Staas 84 yrs.	14	15 John Holmes 82 yrs.	16 James Fox	17
18 Dennis Bowsher Community Thanksgiving Service	19 Gary Grigg Justin Kruse	20 Rudy Segovia 86 yrs. Marty White Missions	21 Sue Moeller	22 Jason Lane Christie Lewis Tony Lozano Sam Whetstone	23 Tony Shoup	24
25	26	27	28	29 Nurture	30	

Anniversaries

Justin & Marissa Kruse
November 4

Bruce & Tammy Segovia
November 16



Featured Recipes from St. Paul's Cookbook

Caramel Pecan Delight

By Margie Best

Ingredients		Instructions
1 pkg.	Pecan Sandies, crushed	Combine cookie crumbs and butter. Press into greased 9x13 dish. Bake at 375 degrees for 10 minutes. Cool. Beat cream cheese and 1/2 cup of caramel topping until smooth. Add pudding and milk. Beat until well blended. Spread over crust. Sprinkle with pecans and rest of the caramel topping. Chill for several hours.
1/2 cup	Melted butter	
2 (8 oz.) pkg.	Cream cheese	
1 (12 oz.) jar	Caramel ice cream topping	
1 1/2 cups	Milk	
1 large pkg.	Instant vanilla pudding	
3/4 cup	Chopped pecans	



Sweet Pumpkin Whip

Unknown

Ingredients		Instructions
1 (3.4 oz.) pkg.	Instant sugar-free fat-free cheesecake flavor pudding	Combine pudding mix and milk in a medium bowl; whisk until well blended. Stir in pumpkin, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Add whipped topping and mix thoroughly. Put in small serving dishes or sherbets. Serve immediately or cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate up to two days.
1 cup	Fat-free milk	
1/2 (15 oz.) can	Solid pumpkin (NOT pumpkin pie filling)	
1 tsp.	Ground cinnamon	
1/4 tsp.	Ground nutmeg	
1/2 (8 oz.)	Sugar-free whipped topping	



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Permit No. 71**Our Web Address:**
www.elidastpaulschurch.org**November 2012****Living Our Faith****God Breaking Through**

December 2 is the First Sunday of Advent, and the first reading, Jeremiah 33:14-16, talks about a "righteous branch" springing up. As we begin to prepare for Christmas, we look for signs of new life, reminding us of God's presence in our world.

Sometimes it can be easy, and other times difficult, to find signs of new life. In hot and dry places or cold and snow-covered places, it may seem like life is hidden from us. The same might be true in a busy city, where pavement and tall buildings and busyness seem to keep us apart.

Go for a walk in your community and look for signs of new life. Be imaginative in your looking, celebrating and giving thanks to God for what you find. Let it surprise you as you prepare to celebrate God's gift of new life in Jesus.

**Giving Thanks . . . Every Day**

For most people in the United States, the fourth Thursday of November means things like turkey and pumpkin pie, watching a parade or a big football game on television, and perhaps a special visit with family. This is Thanksgiving Day, and these are some of the traditional ways of celebrating this festive holiday.

Some families use this day as an opportunity to share with others. Some like to reflect back on the past year and thank God for all that has happened.

Rather than just celebrating Thanksgiving for one day, take time every day that week to thank God for all of his blessings.