# St. Paul's Epistle

An Inviting Community of Christ's Disciples

#### Volume 37, Issue 9

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September has arrived and kids are back in school, football is back on TV, and summer is making a last ditch effort to hold on. August was a busy month with movie night by the ECC, Seniors Day Out, 5<sup>th</sup> Friday at Our Daily Bread and Fair Chairs (thanks to all who make these programs a reality). September looks to be as busy with



another movie night, Blessing of the Pets, beginning Sunday School and Seniors Day Out.

We have several great opportunities to invite people to church without inviting people to "church". Blessing of the Pets, Seniors Day Out and ECC movie night are three events that you can invite people you know to experience church in nontraditional ways. It's a chance for people to come to church without the pressure of Sunday morning. Does your neighbor or friend LOVE their pet? Well, invite them to come September 20<sup>th</sup> to have their special member of the family blessed and feel God's love through not only the blessing, but through your caring enough to invite them. Tell your friends to bring their kids to Free Movie Night with free popcorn and drinks. What family isn't looking for a cheap entertaining night out with the kids? Your invitation is showing them God cares for them.

I talked to someone last month at Seniors Day Out who was from another church. She wanted me to know she went to church somewhere else and she hoped it was OK she was attending. Well of course it is! We as a church are doing this not only for the people of St Paul but for the people of Elida. Everything we do as outreach is for the Community of Elida to know God loves them and cares for them. God's love and care does not begin or end with membership. It extends beyond what we are capable of imagining, so keep inviting, keep caring, keep loving.

This month also begins an eight week sermon series on who God is, called "4 Letter Words"; so each week look for a different 4 letter word to lead us into conversation about who God is and who God isn't. I look forward to seeing you around and meeting your neighbors and friends.

Yours in Christ,

Tastor Taul



Thought for the Month:

We don't change the message... the message changes us.

September, 2014





## Allen County Fair Chair Challenge 2014!

Romans 12:4-6a "Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body and we all belong to each other. In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well."

The members of St. Paul UMC along with a few from Immanuel UMC came together as one body to set up the fair chairs at the Allen County Fair for the Toby Keith concert. This was a huge undertaking this year as we set up 1,000 more chairs than usual. In fact, we set up 4,400 chairs in all!!! Some arrived as early as 6:30 a.m. to put out the stakes and ropes and the chairs arrived at 7:45 a.m. Our volunteers (55 from St. Paul and 15 from IUM) worked diligently and had them all up and completed by 10:00 a.m. Then jokingly I had said to be back between 10:22 & 10:29 p.m. and I was spot on, as we started tearing down the chairs at 10:35 p.m. (50 from St. Paul and 13 from IUM). The chairs were down and the trucks were all loaded by 11:50 p.m.!!!

We all are unique individuals as God created us all in His special way. We all have special talents. So whether you set up chairs, tore them down, put out the stakes and ropes, were in the trucks, passing out water, cheering us on, or praying for all of us, YOU each played a very important part and we couldn't have done it without you. You each had a function but together we are ONE. Thank you so much for all of your hard work. The St. Paul family and IUM family together created a blessing for many.

#### Deb Hurd Koinonia President



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## The Business of Church

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#### Elida After School Youth Program (EASY)

Thank you St. Paul's UMC for your support of Elida After School Youth (EASY) this past school year. Twenty-one 5th and 6th grade students received help with homework and engaged through a selection of eight possible hands-on projects. Teachers, parents and administrators have praised the program for producing higher grades, increased participation, greater personal confidence and improved behavior. Because of your contribution, the lives of these students, many of them at-risk, are being changed! May God continue to bless you as you bless others.

Brad Joseph Memorial Golf Outing

We would like to extend a sincere and hardy thank you to all of you who attended or helped in any way the Seventh Annual Bradley W. Joseph Memorial Golf Outing. The financial results of the Outing show we will be contributing \$3,308 to the Memorial Fund which is held at the Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation. That brings our seven year Outing total to \$28,163, which will be used to fund future scholarships for Medical Mission Trips. Thank you again and see you next year at the Eighth Annual Bradley W. Joseph Memorial Golf Outing which will the Colonial held on Saturday, July 11, 2015 at Golfers Club. be

John Fleming – Ryan Kruse – Tim Burkart Becky Paskvan – Kenny Joseph – Greg Joseph



Committee Chairs	2014
PPR Chair	Dwain Metzger
Trustees Chair	Ron Steiner
Finance Chair	Marty White
Treasurer	Margie Best
Education Chair	Jan Wyant
Administrative Council	Art Holman
Worship	Pastor Paul Scannell
Nurture	Linda Holman
Missions	Tim Piper

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## Faith In Action

dance:
82
79
94
90

#### Adult Sunday School / Children's Church Attendance

August 3, 2014	C-4
August 10, 2014	A-5 C-4
August 17, 2014	A-5 C-5
August 24, 2014	A-6 C-5

Financial Giving
Weekly Need for
Unified Ministry Budget
\$3,466.00



Unified Ministry Giving:		Other:
August 3, 2014	\$5,732.60	\$918.16
August 10, 2014	\$5,084.00	\$245.00
August 17, 2014	\$2,746.56	\$1,337.26
August 24, 2014	\$2,422.50	\$432.93

Greeters	
September 7, 2014	Margie Best & Jone Lane
September 14, 2014	Ruth Hardy
September 21, 2014	Rudy & Lavonne Segovia
September 28, 2014	Bev Nesbitt

Flower	Calendar
September 7, 2014	Lynda Evans
September 14, 2104	Jerry Crates
September 21, 2104	Don & Mary Irvin
September 28, 2014	Ruth Hardy

Communion Servers September 7	
Station #1	Lois Rabley
Station #2	Tim & Sue Theodore
Station #3	OPEN

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## **Daily Bible Readings**

**Monday 9/1** Psalm 9,15, 25 2 Chronicles 6:32-7:7 James 2:1-13, Mark 14:53-65

**Tuesday 9/2** Psalm 26, 28, 36, 39 1 Kings 8:65-9:9 James 2:14-26, Mark 14:66-72

Wednesday 9/3 Psalm 38, 119:25-48 1 Kings 9:24-10:13 James 3:1-12, Mark 15:1-11

Thursday 9/4 Psalm 37, 1 Kings 11:1-13 James 3:13-4:12, Mark 15:12-21

Friday 9/5 Psalm 31, 35, 1 Kings 11:26-43 James 4:13-5:6, Mark 15:22-32

**Saturday 9/6** Psalm 30, 32, 42, 43 1 Kings 12:1-20 James 5:7-20, Mark 15:33-39

Sunday 9/7 Psalm 63, 98, 103 1 Kings 12:21-33 Acts 4:18-31, John 10:31-42

**Monday 9/8** Psalm 41, 44, 52, 1 Kings 13:1-10 Philippians 1:1-11, Mark 15:40-47

**Tuesday 9/9** Psalm 45, 47, 48 1 Kings 16:23-34 Philippians 1:12-30, Mark 16:1-20

Wednesday 9/10 Psalm 49, 53, 119:49-72 1 Kings 17:1-24 Philippians 2:1-11 Matthew 2:1-12

**Thursday 9/11** Psalm 50, 59, 60, 1 Kings 18:1-19 Philippians 2:12-30 Matthew 2:13-23 Friday 9/12 Psalm 40, 51, 54 1 Kings 18:20-40 Philippians 3:1-16 Matthew 3:1-12

**Saturday 9/13** Psalm 55, 138, 139 1 Kings 18:41-19:8 Philippians 3:17-4:7 Matthew 3:13-17

**Sunday 9/14** Psalm 8, 24, 29, 84 1 Kings 19:8-21 Acts 5:34-42, John 11:45-47

Monday 9/15 Psalm 56, 57, 58, 64, 65 1 Kings 21:1-16 1 Corinthians 1:1-19 Matthew 4:1-11

**Tuesday 9/16** Psalm 61, 62, 68 1 Kings 21:17-29 1 Corinthians1:20-31 Matthew 4:12-17

Wednesday 9/17 Psalm 72, 119:73-96 1 Kings 22:1-28 1 Corinthians 2:1-13 Matthew 4:18-25

**Thursday 9/18** Psalm 70, 71, 74 1 Kings 22:29-45 1 Corinthians 2:14-3:15 Matthew 5:1-10

**Friday 9/19** Psalm 69, 73, 2 Kings 1:2-17 1 Corinthians 3:16-23 Matthew 5:11-16

**Saturday 9/20** Psalm 23, 27, 75, 76 2 Kings 2:1-18 1 Corinthians 4:1-7 Matthew 5:17-20 **Sunday 9/21** Psalm 34, 93, 96, 2 Kings 4:8-37 Acts 9:10-31, Luke 3:7-18

**Monday 9/22** Psalm 77, 79, 80, 2 Kings 5:1-19 1 Corinthians 4:8-21 Matthew 5:21-26

**Tuesday 9/23** Psalm 78, 2 Kings 5:19-27 1 Corinthians 5:1-8 Matthew 5:27-37

Wednesday 9/24 Psalm 81, 82, 119:97-120 2 Kings 6:1-23 1 Corinthians 5:9-6:8 Matthew 5:38-48

Thursday 9/25 Psalm 85, 86, 146, 147 2 Kings 9:1-16 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

**Friday 9/26** Psalm 88, 91, 92, 2 Kings 9:17-37 1 Corinthians 7:1-9 Matthew 6:7-15

**Saturday 9/27** Psalm 87, 90, 136 2 Kings 11:1-20a 1 Corinthians 7:10-24 Matthew 6:19-24

**Sunday 9/28** Psalm 19, 46, 66, 67 2 Kings 17:1-18 Acts 9:36-43, Luke 5:1-11

**Monday 9/29** Psalm 89, 2 Kings 17:24-41 1 Corinthians 7:25-31 Matthew 6:25-34

**Tuesday 9/30** Psalm 94, 95, 97, 99 2 Chronicles 29:1-3 1 Corinthians 7:32-40 Matthew 7:1-12

## **Spotlight On Youth**



Meet **Torie McAdams**, daughter of Brent and Vicki and a recent graduate of Elida High School. While at Elida Torie played intermural beach volleyball, volleyball, soccer and basketball. She was elected the 2013 Homecoming Queen. Torie was always on the EHS honor roll and received the Vicki Mauk Memorial Scholarship and the Scott G. Harmon Memorial Scholarship. She will be a freshman at the University of Toledo this fall, with the goal of becoming an occupational therapist.

Torie has been attending St. Paul UMC all of her life. She was a member of the Confirmation Class of 2009. Torie has three brothers: Alex, a student at Ohio University; Reggie, a student at the University of Akron; and Isaac, a freshman at Elida High School. Torie's hobby is reading and her favorite subjects are anatomy and physiology. She is looking forward to college and having a very exciting experience.

In her spare time Torie likes going to the lake and hanging out with her girlfriends and her boyfriend, Joe. She loves Nicholas Sparks books, the "Pretty Little Liars" TV show and Chipotle.

Good luck at the University of Toledo, Torie!



Meet, **Isaac McAdams**, son of Brent and Vicki and a freshman at Elida High School. Isaac plays football and basketball and plans to join the FFA this year and wants to learn how to weld.

Isaac has been attending St. Paul UMC all of his life. He will be able to be a part of the next confirmation class. His siblings are Alex, Ohio University student; Reggie, University of Akron student; and Torie, University of Toledo student.

Isaac's hobbies are playing ping pong, designing and building homes and making building plans and layouts on a computer program. History and Math are his favorite subjects in school. Sports and fun times

are what he likes most about school. You can always find Isaac's name on Elida's honor roll.

When Isaac has spare time he likes to "chill", listen to music, play X-Box and go to the lake. Some of his favorites are the TV show "Big Bang Theory", vacations in Gatlinburg, and Chipotle.

Isaac would like to attend the University of Tennessee someday and play football. He wants to pursue a business/engineering degree and develop and own a sports complex.

Great goals, Isaac!





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## Where Two or Three Are Gathered

In one congregation I served, summertime was the catalyst for many of our members to hook up their camper trailers and head to northern Michigan for a weekend at a beautiful campground. In an effort to minister to these "weekenders," I floated the idea of offering a Monday night worship service for the returning campers.

One hot July evening, only one man showed up. As I visited with him and glanced anxiously at my watch, it became obvious there would be only three of us: the organist, the lone worshiper, and I. Finally, I went ahead with a shortened version of the service. I know my heart was not in it because I was inwardly pouting over my disappointment. I wonder what memories the "lone worshiper" has of that service. I know that I will never forget it! The "martyr complex" I felt that night is symbolic of other times in my ministry when I was really into the numbers game and became quite discouraged when the turnout at a meeting or special service was smaller than anticipated. On those occasions, the words of Jesus, "where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them," were far from my thoughts.

And yet, in reflection, some of the most moving times in my ministry have come when only two or three of us were gathered together in Christ's name. One such incident comes to mind from my early years as a pastor. I was asked to call on a member of the congregation who had been a patient in a mental hospital for many years. It was a 40-mile trip to the hospital, so I brought along my private communion set with the goal of sharing the sacrament with him on this visit. After I met Louie, I did my best to spark some kind of conversation with him. Since Louie had been a farmer, I used my own farm background to weave in comments and questions that I thought just might interest him. Nothing! Louie seemed to be off in his own little world, mumbling some unintelligible words and occasionally looking at me with a blank So, I moved on to plan B. I said: "Louie, I stare. would like to share Holy Communion with you." To my surprise, he quieted and then folded his hands. So, there we were, just the two of us, in this stark hospital room. I prepared the bread and wine and then shared God's word and offered a prayer. Then I said to him: "Louie, let's pray together the Lord's Prayer." The memory is as vivid as if it were yesterday. As I began to pray, I could hear Louie's clear voice praying the

Lord's Prayer with me. He didn't miss a word! Surely the presence of the Lord was in that place.

I learned something in a congregation I served where consistently there were over 500 people at the worship service. In a follow up with visitors, I often heard the comment: "You certainly serve a friendly congregation." Of course, I was pleased to hear that and then would ask: "Why do you say that?" "Oh, people talked with us and smiled at us and welcomed us." My response: "How many people would you say did that?" Their response: "Oh, I suppose there were at least five different people who spoke to us."

Think about it: hundreds of people did not even know of their presence. But, because a small group of people took the time to welcome them, they concluded that this was a friendly congregation. The impact that a few people can have on a congregation is powerful. Never discount that! Never sell yourself short.

It doesn't matter whether the group is large or small, right? Through the centuries, Jesus reassures us: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

- E. Dean Windhorn, excerpted with permission from The Clergy Journal, © Logos Productions.



## Remember When...



#### Confirmation Class, 2003

Lindsey Reiff, Kelly Warris, Jenni Theodore, Megan Bible, Kayla Stewart Rev. Larry Snyder

#### Confirmation Class, 2007

Cody Smith, Kelsey Smith, Reggie McAdams, Tahler Sdao, Alex McAdams, Miochele Theodore, A.J. White, Audrey Fox, John Segovia, Molly Fessler, Doug Guess, Jacinda Fletcher Rev. John Tsironis, Mike Matlock





#### Confirmation Class, 2009

Aric Thompason, Torie McAdams, Oliver Fessler Marty White, Myrna Metzger, Jamie Wyant Rev. Ruth Solo





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## The People of St. Paul's

Thanks to all the members of St Paul's church for their continued prayers and support for Jason while he was serving in the military.

> Mary Kaye Pease and Jason's family



Dear St. Paul's friends, Your kind expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged,

Anne Laman

Thank you to all who had Ed in their prayers. He is getting out of the Army on August 23, 2014. He is going back to college. His goal is to be a High School Math teacher.

> Thank you, Connie and Denny Mault

## *The Sandbox* By Dillon Staas

I strolled along this byway to see what I might learn when lo, to my surprise a giant sandbox I discerned. All the tools were furnished and the sand was fine and clean. I knelt and built a castle there, the grandest ever seen.

It came complete with water with which to fill a moat. Its drawbridge was perfection; its wall a thing of note. Its towers so tall and stately, windows dark and bare. A sad and lovely maiden perchance be hidden there.

Then as I dreamed my daydream and marveled at my work The daylight turned to darkness, and there out of the murk, there came a horde of children, who didn't share my dream. Being of a different age, they shared a different theme.

And so in rack and ruin, my castle lay destroyed, By those impulsive children, their vilest wiles employed. Yet somehow 'ere the morning came this scene had been transformed With wondrous things of beauty had this sandbox been adorned.

So be not quick to judgment, but allow to come what may Our youth will fashion marvels with each hour of every day. If we but stand aside and let this lovely flower bloom, They'll build a land of Eden if we'll only give them room.



The Sandbox by Dillon Staas appreared in the August newsletter. We apologize to him for inadvertently omitting the last verse. Thank you, Dillon!



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### Vegetable Pizza

By Kathy White

2 Tbl.Mayonnaisepan or cookie sheet with sides.1 pkg.Hidden Valley dressing mixDo not tear apart the crescent rolls.2 cupShredded cheddar cheeseBake 10-12 minutes. Let coolMix_rest_of_ingredients (excent_cheese and vergies).Sr	Ingredients Instru		Instructions
2 Tbl.Mayonnaisepan or cookie sheet with sides.1 pkg.Hidden Valley dressing mixDo not tear apart the crescent rolls.2 cupShredded cheddar cheeseBake 10-12 minutes. Let coolMix_rest_of_ingredients (excent_cheese and vergies)Sr	2 cans	Crescent rolls	Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
	2 Tbl. 1 pkg.	Mayonnaise Hidden Valley dressing mix	<ul> <li>Do not tear apart the crescent rolls.</li> <li>Bake 10-12 minutes. Let cool</li> <li>Mix rest of ingredients (except, cheese and veggies). Spread over baked crescent rolls. Sprinkle shredded cheese over top and garnish with your favorite chopped up veggies.</li> </ul>

## **Tomato Chicken Italiano**

		By Judy Chaffins
Ingredients		Instructions
3 Tbl.	All purpose flour	In quart bowl, combine flour, salt, and black pepper.
1/2 tsp	Salt	Dredge chicken in flour mixture, shaking off excess.
1/4 tsp.	Ground Pepper	Heat 1 Tbl. of oil in 10 in. frying pan over medium heat. Add
1 lb.	Boneless chicken breast halves	chicken and cook, turning once, until golden brown, about 10 minutes.
2 Tbl.	Olive oil	Transfer chicken to plate.
2	Garlic cloves, pressed	Add remaining 1 Tbl. Oil and garlic to pan and cook, stirring
1 cup	Cubed zucchini (1 medium zucchini	constantly, until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Add Zucchini, bell pepper and basil.
1 cup	Red bell pepper chunks (1 medium)	Continue to cook, stirring until vegetables are crisp-tender, about 2 minutes. Add tomatoes and stir.
2 tsp.	Dried basil	
1 (14 oz)	Diced tomatoes (with Italian style herbs)	<ul> <li>Return chicken to pan and cook until chicken is no longer pink in center and vegetables are tender, about 6 more minutes.</li> <li>Serve hot.</li> </ul>

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## KIDZ KORNER

## Jesus Is the Way

Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). Find the path that leads to Jesus.



**St. Paul's United Methodist Church** 105 E. Main St. Elida, OH 45807

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Our Web Address: www.elidastpaulschurch.org

## September 2014



## **Living Our Faith**

#### Compassion

Do you ever think about the word compassion? It may come from the Latin for "to suffer with" or "to walk with." The Bible calls us to be compassionate - to join one another in suffering and to join one another in the journey of life. We share together and are at one with each other in joys and in suffering.

Kenneth Carder, Duke Divinity School professor and retired United Methodist bishop writes: "Christian discipleship requires being held in love and being held accountable. We simply cannot follow Christ apart from a community that holds us in compassion and calls us to accountability. Solitary discipleship is a misnomer. We cannot be Christian alone."

Pay attention to the ways God may be calling you to show compassion and receive the love and care of others.

### LOVE ONE ANOTHER

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#### Wisdom from Helen Keller

I believe that we can live on earth according to the teachings of Jesus, and the greatest happiness will come to the world when man obeys his commandment "Love one another."

I believe that we can live on earth according to the fulfilment of God's will, and that when the will of God is done on earth as it is done in heaven, every man will love his fellowmen, and act toward them as he desires they should act toward him. I believe that the welfare of each is bound up in the welfare of all.

I believe that life is given to us so that we may grow in love, and I believe that God is in me as the sun is in the color and fragrance of a flower - the light in my darkness, the voice in my silence.

I believe that only in broken gleams has the sun of truth yet shone upon men. I believe that love will finally establish the kingdom of God on earth, and that the cornerstones of that kingdom will be liberty, truth, brotherhood, and service.