

January 2016

The Shepherd's Messenger

Welcome
2016!



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KNOWING JESUS AS THE
GOOD SHEPHERD & SHARING
THE RISEN CHRIST WITH ALL.

FROM
Pastor
Burt



Thoughts for a New Year

Grace and peace to you and yours, members and friends of Cuba United Methodist Church, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior!

As the wonder and joy of a glorious Christmas season is now in the rear view mirror, a NEW year lies before us. There is great anticipation of what this year will hold for us - individually, collectively as Cuba UMC, and as a nation. With this anticipation also comes anxiety, fears, concerns as what is around the corner.

I have always found that if I take God's hand and walk in faith with him, I have peace in my heart as I journey into the uncertainty.

In the face of an uncertain future, I take comfort and reassurance from these words in Jeremiah 29:11ff...

“ ‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘Plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you HOPE and a future. Then you will call upon me and come to pray to me and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you,’ declares the Lord.”

Let us as followers of Jesus Christ - individually and as the Body of Christ - the church - move into 2016 with that HOPE. Resolute, that God has a plan for you, for me, for us. Let us pray daily for God's Holy Spirit to show us the way! And we will find Him!

Happy New Year!

Pastor Burt

Wishing you a Blessed New Year!

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Our World situation
The Rothfus Family
to those at other residences...

CUBA CMH

Henny van der Horst

WATERS OF WESTFIELD

Dawn Durkee

Military personnel and their families...

Brandon Snyder - Afghanistan



Our continued prayers go out to ALL military personnel who are serving our country by active duty & reserve status, both in the States, and abroad. Our List of Military Names is provided by the Weekly Prayer Group for our Military men and women and our world situation.

Others to keep in prayer:

Family & friends of Donna Abbott
Chuck Brooks
Joan Buddle
Laura Clayson
Veronica Clayson
Ray Climie
Braden Currier
Sid Emmons
Joyce Enderle
Art Higby
Stephanie LaFever
Bruce Metler
Thomas Morris
Keith Pierce
Kerigan Pierce
Ann Santagelo
Leroy Sherwood
Muriel Small
Alice Sweet
Family & friends of Barb Spateholts
Laroy Spateholts
Aprille Truax
Connie Wandall
Judy Warner
Wally Watson
Ken Wyant



9 - Marjanne Kunz
11 - Karl Hodge
15 - Lisa Ricci
Vanessa Clement
17 - Amanda Clayson
Chris Berardi
18 - Janet Enderle
19 - Butch Holden
20 - Brittany VanNess
23 - Jessica Clayson
Art Higby
25- Peter Simmons
31 - Bernie Hawks

Statistics**Needed: \$1,657**

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
11/29	46	9	\$1,069.00
11/29		Rothfus	\$ 147.00
12/6	50	18	\$1,437.09
12/13	42	14	\$1,687.00
12/20	54	20	\$1,329.25
Christmas Eve	111	-	\$ 420.00
12/27	66	-	*\$3,934.14
12/27		Rothfus:	\$ 55.00

Imagine No Malaria: \$676.66

*(Includes \$2,254.18 from Parsonage Fund & \$72.96 Personal Photocopies)

January Helping HandsUshers:

Dean & Cheryl Wildrick

Greeters:

1/3 *Open for you*
1/10 *Open for you*
1/17 *Open for you*
1/24 *Open for you*
1/31 *Open for you*

Acolyte:

1/3
1/10
1/17
1/24
1/31

Coffee Hour:

1/17

Altar Guild

Thela Snow
Darcy Eastham



16- Leo & Christy Reynolds
18- Bruce & Patti Metler



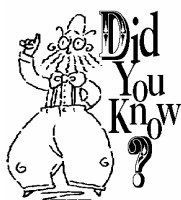
If you have a need for prayer, call the prayer chain.

**Call Sandra Allen
at 968-2137
or Ruth Holden
at 968-1933**



Jeffrey Kellogg, Doris Wyant's son
passed away on Nov. 22, 2015

Barbara Spateholts passed away on
December 26, 2015

DYK:*Submitted by Dean Wildrick*

New York's two resident bishops - New York's Bishop Jane Allen Middleton and Upper New York's Bishop Mark J. Webb - have co-authored an open letter to United Methodists in the state, encouraging them to "welcome those seeking refuge, to advocate for systems that will deal with this international crisis, and to offer hope, peace, joy, and love to all, in the name and person of Jesus the Christ."



Do you know of someone who needs a note of cheer? Someone who might be sick, in the hospital, has a birthday, or has a loved one who has passed away? If you do, please call **Sue Simmons at 585-968-1135**. She is the UMW's **Cheer person**. She sends out cards to those in need of some cheer, so please contact her to let her know.



"I suspected it was done that way."



Thank you to Claire, Doris, Holly, Peggy, Ruth, Sandy A., Sue S., and Thela for providing refreshments for the Community Chorus Christmas Concert on Dec. 4.

Cindy



Thank you Thela Snow, Marshall and Sandy Allen, Sylvia Clement, Julie Hawks, the "Berardi Boys," Rob Cornell, Sue Feldbauer, Shirley Poore, Cheryl Wildrick, Clements family, Fred and Peggy Pearce and Rev. Stan and Holly Scoville for taking a two hour turn **ringing the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Bell in December!**

Cindy

WELCOME New Members

Four new members were received at the December 6 service:
Bob Rasmusson, Helen & Fred Middaugh,
and Mark Middaugh.

Baptisms

Cullen Gross, son of Casey & Melissa Gross
on November 22
Payton Hall, daughter of Andy & Emily
Nelson on December 27

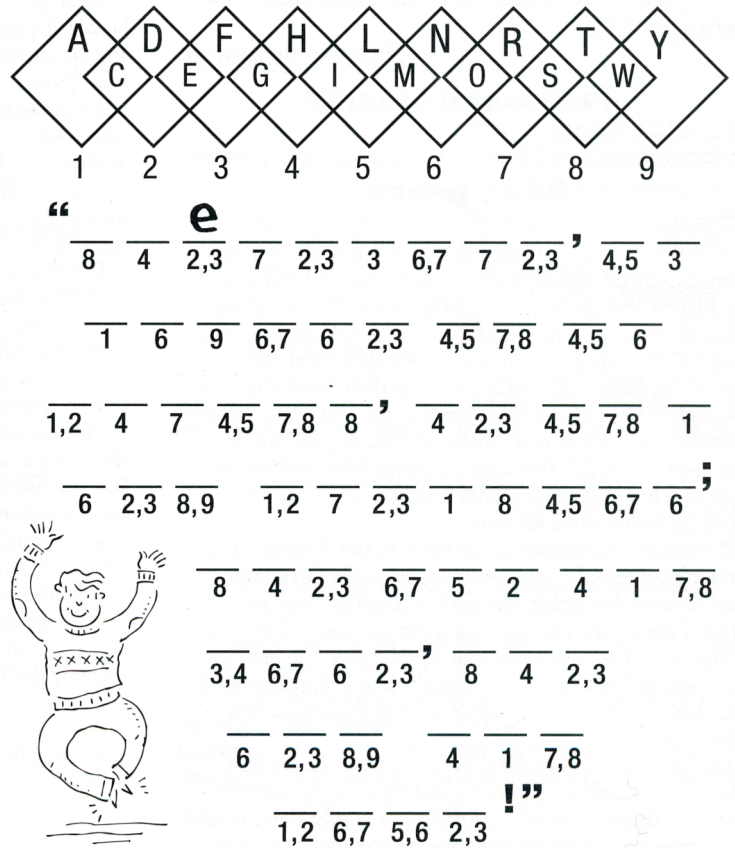


**Thank you to
our Meals on
Wheels drivers**
who deliver
meals year
round: Marshall

Allen and Ray Climie; Mary
Hupp, Fred Pearce, Dean and
Cheryl Wildrick, and Duttons.

"A New Year – A New You"

Find the words from 2 Corinthians 5:17.



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!



Fred Pearce helped sort canned goods at the Cuba Council of Churches Holiday Assistance Program



Canned food ready for distribution through the Council of Churches Holiday Assistance program

Photos submitted by Cindy Dutton

Bishop Mark J. Webb's Christmas Message

December 16, 2015

The days leading up to Christmas have always been my favorite. It is a time of anticipation and expectation. As a child, many things were a part of this season. There were the traditional Christmas programs I never missed, programs like "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," and of course, "A Charlie Brown Christmas." My dad and I would put up the outdoor Christmas lights. Our family would go together to search for the "perfect" Christmas tree. There were special services and programs we would participate in at our church. We would set up the nativity, the very one that sits in our house today. And, of course, there was the annual visit to see Santa Claus.

I still enjoy many of those things that made this season so magical as a child. But as I continue to "grow up," I am coming to understand in a deeper way how important the days leading up to Christmas are. I'm attempting to move from getting ready to *celebrate* Christmas to getting ready to *be changed by the promise and truth* of Christmas.

We find ourselves living in a time that many of us have never experienced before. While the world has always been filled with violence, injustice, and despair, the days we experience seem filled with event after event that remind us: We live in a world that needs the promise of Christmas. We live in a time where those who follow Jesus have the potential to share with a hurting humanity the promise of healing and hope – a message of justice and love beyond comprehension.

As we get ready to celebrate Christmas, I wonder how we are getting ready to be changed by the promise of Christmas? Are we boldly sharing that promise with the world? External preparations are fun, but how are our internal preparations of mind, heart, and spirit taking priority? How are we opening our lives in a deeper way, so that we might truly live among the world as people changed by the truth of Christmas? How are we preparing for and anticipating God to use us, our actions, and our words to proclaim to the present reality of the world, that there is another way?

The words of Isaiah must speak into and through our lives:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

The promise of Christmas is Jesus! The truth of Christmas is Jesus! The hope for the injustice and despair of our world is Jesus! The hope for the brokenness of the Church is Jesus! The hope for me and for you is Jesus!

In these days leading up to Christmas, let us open our lives to Jesus in a fresh way. Let us be open to the promises of Jesus to give us new life and a new way of living. May we boldly offer Jesus to the world, believing that He will give to the world a new way! Let's not simply get ready for another celebration of Christmas, let's get ready to be changed by Jesus in a deeper way and to offer that promise of change to those around us.

(Continued on Page 6)



Adult Sunday School Studies with Cheryl

Prophecy #1: SIN and DEATH

God created the earth, animals and mankind... And said it was good. Adam and Eve were created to worship and fellowship with God. They lived in an environment that was perfect: they had work (tending the Garden), they had food (fruit and vegetables), they had clean air and clean water, and they had no sickness or disease.

Adam and Eve had rules. They were not to eat the fruit of the "Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil." They were also given free will. (the ability to make choices.) (good or bad.)

Unfortunately, Satan tempted and deceived Eve and she made a choice to disobey God and persuade Adam to do the same. Thus, sin entered the world, and there were consequences.

Consequences included: Adam and Eve having to leave the Garden, Adam having to work hard to get crops to grow, and Eve having pain in childbirth. (Gen. 3:16-19)

These consequences of sin (hard work and painful labor) are still with us today, and so is sin.

Likewise, sin resulted in physical death for mankind. (Gen 5:3-5) This began with Adam and Eve, continues through our lifetime, and continues through the future, until Jesus returns.

These pronouncements (Sin and Death) were literal. And these pronouncements came true.

"Bishop Webb's Christmas Letter" (Continued from Page 5)

Codi, Tyler, and Ben join with me in wishing you a blessed and holy Christmas! May it be filled with anticipation, expectation, promise, and truth. May it be centered on truly getting ready for the only One who offers lasting hope and change. The one we call Emmanuel. Then one whose name is Jesus!

Merry Christmas!

Bishop Mark J. Webb

PORK AND BEAN BREAD

Peggy Pearce

Combine and set aside to cool:

1 cup raisins

1 cup boiling water

Mash one 15-oz. can pork and beans until very smooth.

Add:

2 cups sugar

3 eggs, beaten

1 cup vegetable oil

1 tsp. vanilla

Stir until well mixed.

Fold in:

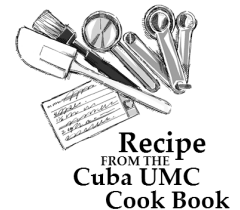
3 cups flour

1tsp. cinnamon

tsp. baking powder

1 tsp. baking soda

Drain raisins and fold into batter along with 1 cup chopped nuts. Spoon batter into three greased and floured loaf pans. Bake at 325° for 50-60 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean.




**WORSHIP
SERVICE
SUNDAY
11:00 AM**

JANUARY 2016



**SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:00 AM
ADULT: 9:50 AM
CONFIRMATION CLASS
9:45 am - 10:30 am**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 	2
3 UMW Food Pantry Collection	4	5 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am @ Church	6 Management Team 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm	7	8	9
10	11	12 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am @ Church	13 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	14	15	16
17 Coffee Hour after worship	18 February Newsletter Deadline	19 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am @ Church	20 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	21	22	23
24	25	26 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am @ Church	27 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	28	29	30
31 Rothfus offering						

The Shepherd's Messenger

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2016

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www.cubaumc.org

Interim Pastor Burt Smith:
Phone: (585) 567-2650

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesday 9 am - 3 pm
Wednesday 1 pm - 6 pm
and by appointment



“...though your sins
are like scarlet, they
shall be as white
as snow;...”
-Isaiah 1:18

«AddressBlock»

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED