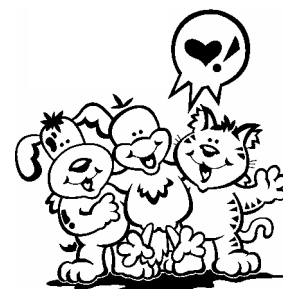
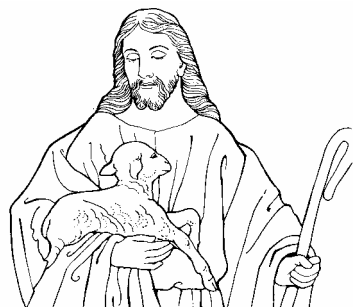


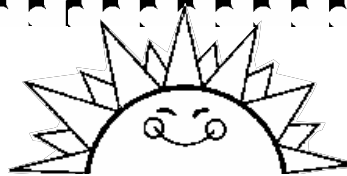
# The Shepherd's Messenger



February 2008



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



## Pastor Sunny's Rays

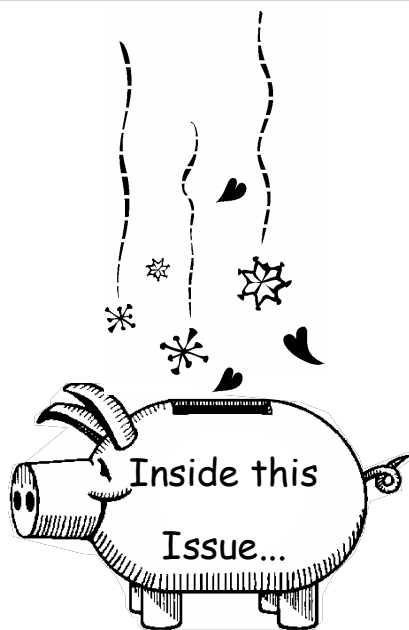
It is hard for me to comprehend sometimes that 2008 is really here already. My Momma used to tell me that the older one gets the faster time goes. I am sure she is sitting up in heaven saying, "See, I told you so!" I can't believe that it has been almost three years since I came here as a probationary elder and some were wondering why the Bishop had sent some one with a prison record to be the pastor. ;-)

Two weeks after you get this letter I will be in Syracuse (February 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>) for my ordination interviews. I would ask all of you to pray for me during these next couple of weeks most particularly on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The end is in sight. I can't wait for it all to be done. It has taken some time to get to this juncture in this ministry journey. Which then begs the question of, "Where are you in your ministry journey?"

Louis' ministry is done not only through his duties as Choir Director but also as a Sunday School teacher along with Doris Kellogg, Sandy Tsujimoto, Rob Cornell, Jeff Worst, Heather Mouser, Patti Petroni, and Mike Kunz who I might add was involved in a special ministry project by going to Louisiana on the Volunteers In Mission. Deb Battistoni and all those who help with the Meals on Wheels, the ladies who have made the baby blankets for the Elizabeth Program, Dave who goes to the nursing homes to play music, Wally who would cook for the world if there was anyway possible, Sue Simmons who sends out cards to those who are ill or mourning, and some many others who I can't think of right now. Don't think however, that that is enough or that you don't have anything that you can do. Evangelism happens in so many ways. We all have something that we can do, but are we always doing it? We get lazy, or we get bored doing the same things, etc. Folks, we can't quit. We also can't live in the past nor can we approach evangelism from the standpoint of wanting the offering plate to grow. We have to approach it from concern about the souls out there who have no relationship with God, no idea who Jesus Christ is, the souls who have drifted away from the fold.

Continued on pg. 4

Now, some of you might be thinking, "Has she **lost** her mind?" Others of you might be thinking, "I'm not a minister." Well, my answers to those statements are "No, I haven't lost my mind, and yes, you are," respectively. We all have a ministry. For me, my ministry is to preach the gospel, salvation in Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and to equip the saints (that's you) to go out into the mission field to meet.



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## Prayer Requests

Our World situation  
 Jan Clement  
 Mike D'Agosta  
 Pat Cyr  
 Kathy Clayson  
 Don Schleigh  
 Mark Burrell  
 De Sirianni,  
 George Blackwell  
 Ruth Davis  
 Elizabeth Morris  
 Doris Kellogg  
 Rita Freeman  
 Nancy Grant  
 Donna Clayson  
 Sharon Pulos  
 Serena Bateman

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. Gatherings are held on Monday's at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels Roman Catholic Church at 50 South Street in Cuba. All are welcomed to attend. For more information, contact Ray Perkins at 585-968-1467

to those at other residences...

Cuba CMH:  
 Lucille Wildrick  
 Eden Heights:  
 Dorothy 'Dee' Petit  
 Bernice Lackey  
 The Pines:  
 Ruth Ella White  
 Waters of Houghton  
 John Lawton  
 Waters of Westfield  
 Dawn Durkee

Military personnel and their families...

Daniel Bunk  
 Ron Truax  
 Mark Keenan  
 Patrick Frank  
 Nicholas Perry  
 Joshua Smith  
 Eric Woodard  
 Duke Kemp

"Praying for Our Churches, Pastors and Leadership" Mountain View District:  
February :

- 3: District Committee on Superintendancy/ Mark Ludwig Chrpsn.
- 10: Machias/ Rocky Mitchell
- 17: Olean; Christ/ William & Kristen Allen
- 24: Olean; Trinity & Knapp Creek/ Gerald Piper

### PRAYER REQUEST LIST

Please keep our prayer list up to date. Requests made in writing are preferred, to assure proper spelling. You can do this in the attendance pads on Sundays, or drop your request off at the office. If you call your request in, please spell out the name.

Thank you in advance for your assistance on this.

## February Celebrations

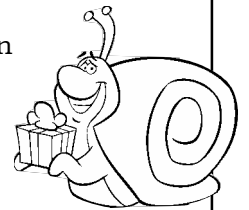
### Birthdays:

- 1 - Marsha Blaker  
 Susanne Rogers
- 2 - Richard Pierce
- 5 - Peg Baker  
 Chase Bump  
 Laurie James  
 Ploma Raub
- 9 - James W. Travis
- 12 - Rachael Brammer  
 Annette Butts  
 Benjamin LaPerna
- 13 - Falynd Sweet
- 14 - Elroy Brickey III
- 17 - Joel Vanik
- 18 - John Hupp  
 Linda Nelson



Caleb Young

- 19 - Mark Morris  
 Tammy Parker  
 Christie Lee Reynolds
- 22 - Alan Deck
- 23 - Christopher Hupp  
 Cherri Quattrini
- 25 - Bill James  
 Clinton Matteson
- 26 - June Odell  
 Stacey Pagli
- 29 - Richard Guild



### Anniversaries:

- 3 - John & Lisa Ricci  
 Wally & Maggie Watson
- 8 - Bill & Joyce Amundson
- 16 - Marshall & Sandra Allen  
 Paul & Sandy Tsujimoto
- 18 - Bob & Sue Shedlock
- 22 - Bernie & Julie Hawks  
 Bill & Mary Ellen James

## Statistics

Date	SS	Worship	Offering
01/06	18	76	\$2,254.00
01/13	17	65	\$1,359.00
01/20	18	56	\$1,755.00 Youth Group \$25.00
01/27	19	76	\$2,091.90

### Special Offerings/Donations:

AIM (Rothfus Family): \$189.00



**GENERAL FUND-year end report***Submitted by Deb Battistoni*

Beginning balance 1/1/07	\$ 2,170.16
Receipts for local budget	\$ 99,711.67
Total receipts	\$ 101,881.83

**Expenses:**

Pastor Salary	31,495.00
Utilities, Housing	11,000.00
CRSP (Pension)	6,860.64
CPP (Protection Plan)	274.88
Basic Protection Plan	275.00
Continuing Education	2,000.00
Travel Reimbursement	3,058.32
Health Insurance	7,529.00
Christian Education	200.00
Choir Director	1,410.00
Music Supplies	777.30
Organist	2,487.00
Church Programming	551.17
Youth Director	750.00
Camp Scholarships	315.40
Pulpit Supply	385.70
Council of Churches	50.00
Annual Conferences	895.73
Church Secretary	5,415.90
Church Sexton	2,500.26
Supplies, postage	1,247.61
Equipment leasing	1,474.56
FICA/Medicare	960.97
Workman's Compensation	646.49
Insurance	2,168.18
Sexton's supplies	438.83
Trustees	2,400.00
Utilities	7,892.47
Pastor Moving Fund	500.00
Firemen - Parking Lot	100.00
Miscellaneous	126.16
Shared Ministries	3,695.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>100,881.57</b>

Ending balance 12/31/07 \$1,000.26

All local bills were paid in full.

We were not able to pay our shared ministries in full (we paid 22%).

**THE CHURCH RETREAT**

Submitted by Judy Zayac

The **Church Retreat** was held on January 18th, 2008. Those attending were; Pastor Sunny & Larry Mauser, Wally & Maggie Watson, Louis & Patti Petroni, Deb & David Battistoni, Butch & Mary Ann Pfouts, Paul & Sandy Tsujimoto and Joshua, Mike Kunz, Barbara Johnston, Rob Cornell, Tom & Judy Krott, Heather Mouser, Jasmyn Dorsey, Katelyn Cornell & Judy Zayac. We began by enjoying a soup and sandwich meal and fellowship.

Pastor Sunny opened the meeting at 8:00 p.m. with a prayer. The purpose of the retreat was to brainstorm for ideas that our church for outreach programs and new evangelistic resources to grow our church both physically and spiritually.

**Fellowship:****Action Team**

Movie night for children/youth	Duttons
Singles Club	Watsons
Road rally	Pfouts
Involve other nearby UMC'S to attend our events	Zayacs
Dinners	

**PUBLICITY/MARKETING:****Action Team**

Brochure and welcome packet for new Families to the area and visitors.	Mike Kunz
Advertising events using the website, press releases and stories with pictures after events.	Patti Petroni
Telephone survey and follow up mailing.	Judy Zayac

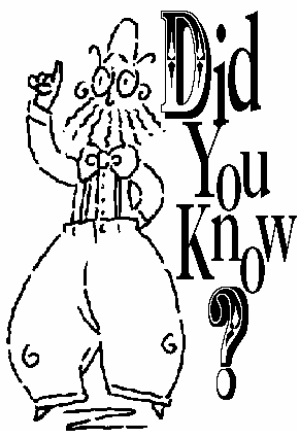
**WORSHIP/ MINISTRIES:****Action Team**

Wednesday night Sunday School.	Wildricks
VBS type program 1 x / month.	Mauser
Adult, in our worship services.	Rob Cornell
And children.	Brandon Cornell
Worship team to help with services and Hymn selection.	
Lawn Chair Sunday.	
LUMCOR- Local United Methodist Committee on Relief.	
DIRT Team- Disaster Intervention Relief Team.	

**MUSIC MINISTRY:****Action Team**

Gospel Karaoke in services.	Paul Tsujimoto
Solos, both adult & children.	Watsons
Instrumental solos & groups.	Louis Petroni
More upbeat hymns.	Heather Mouser
Contemporary music in services.	

If anyone has any more ideas, please contact anyone on the Action Teams.



Submitted by

Retiring to Port Charlotte, Fla., after Army careers, Paul and Linda Lawrence were looking for a place to “fit in” at their church. They found it by repairing bicycles for children, the homeless and others struggling without transportation.

Now, the Lawrences spend four hours a day, five days a week, repairing bicycles at Edgewater United Methodist Church. Some of the bikes are donated, but most are abandoned and given to the church by area police departments.

The couple took over the ministry three years ago with the help of another church member,

Lawrence Lee, who used to work in a bicycle shop and is homeless. The three refurbished more than 700 bicycles in 2006 — a record number for the outreach.

## February Helping Hands

### Nursery

3: Sandy Tsujimoto  
10: Robbie Cornell  
17: Desi Burdick  
24: Judy Zayac

### Ushers

Butch & Mary Ann

### Acolytes

3: Jasmyrn Dorsey  
10: Brandon Cornell  
17: Josh Enderle  
24: Katlyn Cornell

### Greeters

3: Cathy Flower  
10:  
17:  
24:

### Liturgist

3: Patti Petroni  
10: Cathy Flower  
17: Mike Kunz  
24: Liz Abraham

### Children's Moment

3: Cathy Flower  
10: Cathy  
17: OPEN  
24: OPEN

### Altar Flowers

3: OPEN  
10: Mayme Giles  
17: Virginia Clayson  
24: OPEN

### Fellowship Hosts:

10: Joyce & Gary E.  
Cathy F.  
Judy Z.

Continued from Pg. 1

We will have just finished our church retreat trying to find ways to reach out to those souls who need us. During a conversation that I had recently with our new District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Cathy Hall-Stengel, she made the point that it might not be so important to grow in numbers but to grow in mission, in making sure that people aren't going to bed hungry, aren't sleeping under bridges, the children are having their needs met, that people who have lost, no matter how it happened, no matter where in the world it happened are given help in whatever form they need it.

You know we like to use the excuse that we have lost all the young people because of lack of jobs and a lot of the older people due to cold and snow, and to a great extent that is true but folks if we could walk around this town on any given Sunday morning, we would find a large number of people not in any of the seven churches we have in town. These people need us and we need them to help us meet all the expectations that God has of us.

So, my dear Christian friends, I am going to ask again that while you are praying for me and those ordination interviews, that you pray for our church, for yourself that God might show you where your area of ministry is; whether its one or several areas of ministry, pray for those in God's family, and for those outside of God's family. Pray that Cuba United Methodist Church truly becomes the vessel of God's love, that we might tell the story of salvation through Jesus Christ. Pray that 2008 would be the year that Cuba UMC becomes what God intended it to become, a home of happy Christians that pours out God's love to everyone. Remember too, that God loves you and so do we.

*Pastor Sunny*

**PLEASE** keep Pastor Sunny in your prayers

February 11th, while she is taking the ordination interviews. Thank you! Cathy

### **OFFICE ETIQUETTE**

*Please be sure to wait for Pastor Sunny to say it's ok to come in before you enter her office. At times she is in counseling with others and they need their privacy. If you "do" enter and she is on the phone, please step back out and wait. You would appreciate the same consideration. Thank you. Cathy*

**A BIG THANK YOU** to everyone for being **SO** patient with me while I learn this position. Pastor Sunny has been a "Saint" through this learning process. Talk about patient! She deserves a medal! Thank you again. Cathy

## Ash Wednesday Service

Submitted by Pastor Sunny

**It is through the services of ashes that our intention** is then focused on the sacrifice that the season of Lent brings with it. Particularly in this day and age when there is so much demand for instant gratification. We need to be reminded that sacrifice is not a bad thing, but rather can be a growing experience.

February 6th, at 7:00 p.m. we will have an Ash Wednesday service. I ask for two things. One, that you come with a prayerful attitude. Second, if there is anything going on in your life, some medical crisis for you, a family member or friend, the loss or possible loss of employment, whatever the concern is that seems to weigh heavily on your mind, write that down on a slip of paper. They WILL NOT be read, but they will be burnt as a way of turning them over to God. The ashes from them will be added to the palm ashes to be used later in the service.

I hope to see you all there at this service so that you may let go and let God.

## Lenten Community Outreach

Beginning on Wednesday, February 13th, from noon until 1:30pm, we will be serving lunch to those in our community. We will continue to do this every Wednesday throughout Lenten Season, ending on Wednesday, March 19th. Our menu will consist of homemade soups, breads & rolls, and cookies for dessert. We will serve coffee and tea for beverages.

We are in need of volunteers to help make this a success. Can you make some soup? Cookies? Brownies? Breads? Rolls? Can't cook? How about helping with the set-up, serving, and clean-up?

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the Sanctuary. Please help out!

Let's show our community the Cuba UMC is really all about "Open Hearts, Open Doors, and Open Minds" (and free lunch!)

## Trustee Happenings

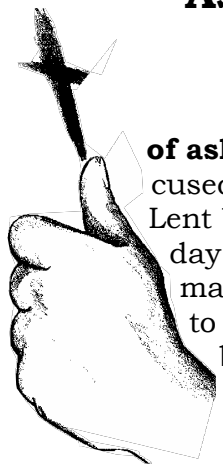
Submitted by Patti Petroni

It may be cold and blustery outside, but the Trustees have been busy at work. The biggest project is that the bid for a new church boiler system in the amount of \$26,500.00 was accepted from Ron Kelley of Kelley's Heating. Presently, we have enough money to cover the cost of the project with monies from the Karen Kunz Memorial Boiler Fund and the rest will come from "borrowing" from ourselves. This way we do not have to take out a loan and pay back with interest. A capital campaign will be run by Trustees chaired by Wally Watson. Watch for details of a dinner to take place in March to kick off the campaign. In addition to this project the ceiling and wall in a Sunday school classroom has been repaired, the brass plates added to the front doors. And a new 'Little Giant Aluminum Ladder System' was purchased to replace the old wooden ladder that when in use needed to take the scenic route to get inside the church sanctuary. Now the "little ladder" comes up via the lift! How cool is that??? For those men who know what I'm talking about I'm sure you will appreciate this fact. Projects to look forward to are a scheduled work day in the spring, a new coat of was applied to the Wesley Hall floor, and the counter top will be replaced on the island in the kitchen. For details on any of the above projects please see a trustee. Your 2008 Trustees are: Chairperson Rob Cornell, Secretary Patti Petroni, Vice Chairperson Bernie Hawks, Treasurer Larry Mauser, Wally Watson, Chris Beradi, Joyce Enderle, and Paul Tsujimoto.

## Meals on Wheels Volunteers

Submitted by Deb Battistoni

I would like to thank our wonderful team of volunteers that take about 1 hour on Fridays to deliver meals to people that are shut-ins, recovering from an illness or accident, or unable to prepare nutritious meals for themselves. The Cuba Council of Churches set up the delivery plan many years ago, where 5 of the village churches cover the delivery of meals to the community. We have been delivering on average 25 meals each day, (some homes get 2 meals). Our team of volunteers are: Dick & Jean Bowers, Gary & Joyce Enderle, Art & Jean Higby, Mike Kunz, Dale & Cindy Dutton, Nick & Liz Abraham, Sandy & Paul Tsujimoto and David & Deb Battistoni. If you'd like to become a volunteer talk to Deb Battistoni who coordinates the Friday deliveries. If you can't help just say Thanks to those that do!!





## UMW

*Submitted by Patti Petroni,  
President*

The United Methodist Women met for the first time on January 12, 2008, led by president, Patti Petroni. Other officers serving through out the year will be Deb Battistoni as vice-president, Cathy Flower as secretary, and Joyce Enderle as treasurer. Maggie Watson and Barb Johnston served as hostesses. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Ethel Holland and then the reorganization meeting began.

Joyce Enderle presented us with a budget and it was approved and amended. Many past, current and future ideas were discussed by the ladies and back by popular demand is the Reading Program. Judy Zayac has offered to chair this program. Many books are available at the Cuba Library and you can also check on line at [www.umwmission.org](http://www.umwmission.org) for a list of books. Judy will get this organized and let all the women interested know when it is up and running.

This is also a reminder that the women collect food for the Cuba Food Pantry the first Sunday of every month using the Green Street entry. Cindy Dutton had offered to continue dropping these needed items for our community to the pantry located at the Baptist Church.

In December our church family collected over \$500 to give to our adopted family which helped a single mom and her children have a Merry Christmas. Louis and I delivered three bags full of goodies to Head Start and they were thrilled to receive the items. A BIG THANK YOU to all that gave and GOD bless you.

Some of you may not know of some of the other good deeds the women continually provide for our members and friends of the church. Patti keeps track of the coffee used and places orders when necessary. Deb Battistoni takes care of planning the coffee hours. Patti also makes sure that all married couples receive a picture frame as a gift from our church, and Mary Ann Pfouts makes sure that all new born babies receives a savings bond. Sue Simmons is our cheer lady and sends cards to many of our current and past members. Joyce Enderle makes sure that our personal products get delivered to Genesis House in Olean.

We hope to have as many, if not more, of the women attending our future events and meetings. Normally, we meet the second Saturday of each month in Wesley Hall at 10:00AM. There will always be changes to the schedule so be sure to read on and check your Sunday bulletins for up to the minute information. All women are invited to attend all the events listed. We hope to see YOU on....

### UMC Coming Events: February 9, 2008 Breakfast at Genesis House

Meet at church: 10AM to car pool to Olean

Reservations to Maggie Watson...home phone: 968-1792 or work: 968-4357

This is our meeting for February.

### March 15, 2008 Mountain View Communion Breakfast

Meet at church: 7:45 to car pool to Portville

Reservations to Patti Petroni by Feb. 29...phone 716-560-9778

### March No-Bake Sale: Chaired by Sandy Tsujimoto

April 12, 2008 next UMW meeting in Wesley Hall: Judy Zayac, Pastor Sunny , hostesses

April 20, 2008 Women's Sunday

The women will be taking a field trip to Genesis House on Saturday morning, February 9th. We are gathering some needed items to take along to contribute to the household. Needed by the residents are newly purchased pillows, blankets, sheets, (sizes twin and double), books for adults and children, games, and decks of cards. Personal care products are always welcome for both sexes and age groups. Winter Can be a very challenging time for the residents as there is a curfew and they need activities to keep busy in the evenings. TV is limited. As these people develop their independence the house sends them on their way with some of these items because they are starting off with nothing. If you should want to donate new items stated above you can drop them off at the church or call Patti Petroni at 716-560-9778 and I'll be glad to come and pick up and deliver to the Genesis House. Every little bit helps. Thank you!



~ THAT YOU MAY “B” HAPPY ~

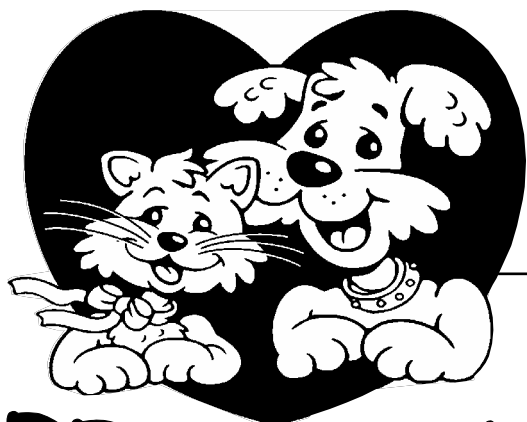
B— patient, B prayerful, B humble, B mild,  
B—wise as a solon, B meek as a child,  
B—studious, B thoughtful, B loving, B kind,  
B—sure you make matter subservient to mind,  
B—cautious, B prudent, B trustful, B true,  
B—courteous to all, B friendly with few,  
B—temperate in argument, pleasure and wine,  
B—careful of conduct, of money and time,  
B—cheerful, B grateful, B hopeful, B firm,  
B—peaceful, benevolent, willing to learn,  
B—courageous, B gentle, B liberal and just,  
B—aspiring, B humble because you are dust,  
B—penitent, circumspect, sound in faith,  
B—active, devoted, B faithful ‘til death,  
B—honest, B Holy, transparent and pure,  
B—dependent, B Christ-like, and you’ll be secure.



The shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
49 EAST MAIN ST. • CUBA, NY 14727  
PASTOR SUNNY MAUSER  
WWW.CUBAUMC.ORG•

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



FEBRUARY

~ GOD BLESS YOU ~

God bless you and keep you,  
And give you His love.

God prosper your labor,  
With help from above.

Be His strength in your arm,  
And His love in your soul.

His smile your reward,  
And His glory your goal.