

February 2017

The Shepherd's Messenger



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

FROM
Pastor
Burt

Grace and Peace to you and yours in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Well let me start by saying how thankful I am for your understanding of me needing a break - a time of reflecting and renewal. It came at a good point in my time with you. It was a time of "snow blowing" and reflection, shoveling and contemplation. It was a time to get refreshed but also a time to look at what God wanted us to address in the next 5 months together.

Time and time again I was directed and led by the Holy Spirit to "GET BACK to the BASICS. In my devotions and in my reading one scripture continuously came to my heart and mind:

"In the beginning was the Word..." John 1:1 "The Word" here is a direct reference to Jesus and as I pondered and prayed on that, I realized that God was also referring to His word, the Bible. I was being encouraged to get back to the basics of the faith. Get back to that which the church, and our faith were both built upon, "THE DIRECTIONS" - if you will!

With that in mind, I began to look at those things that were critical in God's eyes - and 2 basic things came to mind - The 10 COMMANDMENTS and THE BEATITUDES.

As we journey toward Lent, Holy Week and Easter and beyond, I look forward to sharing with you from God's Word about these GREAT TEACHINGS of the faith.

Based on the condition of our country and our world, I think GETTING BACK to the BASICS seems like a good plan -

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet - and a light unto my path." Ps. 118:105

May it be so as we journey together this Spring!

Pastor Burt



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

CUBA CMH

Henny van der Horst

Military personnel and their families...

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:

Tom Bean
Luke Fries
June Ink
Sheila McAndoo
Jackie McKeel
Arnie Nelson
Derwood Say
Thela Snow
Laroy Spateholts
Maggie Watson
Alice Sweet
Ken Wyant

**Prayer LIST Update****Please keep our prayer list up to date.**

If someone should be added or removed from the prayer list, please submit their name in writing.

You can write prayer requests in the attendance pads on Sundays, or drop your request off at the office, or email. *Thank you!*



2 - Richard Pierce
5 - Peggy Baker
10 - Dominic Berardi
14 - Elroy Brickey III
15 - Kerigan Pierce
18 - John Hupp
Linda Nelson
19 - Mark Morris
Christie Lee Reynolds
20 - Chloe Karn
23 - Christopher Hupp



8- Bill & Joyce Amundson
16- Marshall & Sandra Allen
22- Bernie & Julie Hawks

Statistics**Needed: \$1,739**

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
1/1	29	-	\$2,463.25
1/1	Naomi Mission		\$ 80.00
1/8	32		\$1,123.20
1/15	40	18	\$1,911.00
		Rothfus	\$ 40.00
		Naomi	\$ 30.00
1/22	36	13	\$1,080.40

February Helping HandsUshers:

Dean & Cheryl Wildrick

Pianist:

Christine Berardi

Organist:

Jonathan Denham

Altar Guild:

Thela Snow



Dorothy Clark, Kelly Brick-ey's mother, passed away on December 29, 2016. Her funeral services were held on January 2, 2017 at Mark F. Rinker Funeral Home in Cuba.

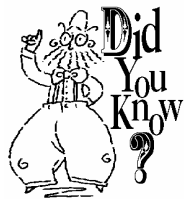


Sue Simmons is the UMW's **Cheer Person**. If you know of someone who needs a note of cheer, please call her at **585-968-1135**.



If you have a prayer request, call the prayer chain.

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

DYK:*Submitted by Dean Wildrick*

The May 21, 1953 issue of the Cuba Patriot and Free Press has an article on the front page entitled "First Methodist Church Annual Meeting Shows Growth and Progress".

One paragraph reads: "In his financial report, Leon Nichols, the church treasurer, showed that he had disbursed for the running of the church, \$3690.24 with about \$500 yet to be paid out by the close of the church year, May 31st. A budget was presented by the finance committee for the coming year and was voted on by the meeting. This budget which will be sent to all families of the church will be raised by subscription."

U M W Meeting*Submitted by Shirley Poore*

January 21, 2017

Thela opened meeting with prayer.

Refreshments were provided by Cindy & Shirley.
Were 10 ladies in attendance.

Minutes of last meeting were read & accepted.
Treasurer report given & accepted.

Cheer Chair Person Sue
received \$19.00 for cards & postage.
Remember to save Giant Receipts for Sue.

Thanks to all who helped decorate
& un-decorate the sanctuary.

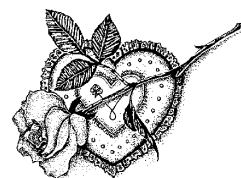
Cindy invited Carlos Barksdale & wife Heidi to do a
presentation of "The Next Generation Youth Center
Inc." on 24 East Main St.
for Cuba & Surrounding areas.
We are sending \$500.00.

Thela is looking for the flatware, but not finding a
match to what we have. May get what is needed &
use to set 1-2 tables.

"Souper Bowl" is Sunday February 5.

February meeting Thela will have lists for what is
needed for the 24 UMCOR heath kits we are going
to do.

Next meeting will be February 18.
Refreshments provided by Ruth & Janet.

Saint Valentine

On February 14, many Christians celebrate Valentine's Day. Valentine, a Roman priest, was a martyr in 270 A.D. because of his love of Christ and persistence in the Christian way of life. He often ended his kind and helpful letters to others with the words "Your Valentine." Later, as Christians remembered and honored this saint, they signed their letters of affection with the same words. St. Valentine is considered by some Christians to be the patron saint of lovers and the helper of those how are unhappily in love. Some Christians call St. Valentine's Day a feast day. It seems fitting for all Christians to make it a "love feast" day. Make it a day when we joyfully share our love and appreciation for our dear friends, family members and all those who are part of the family of God.

*The Newsletter Newsletter
Vol. 22, No. 2*

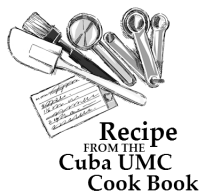
Thank You From the Church Secretary:

Thank you so much to all who gave me Christmas cards, gifts and gift certificates. I appreciate it!
Happy New Year to all!

Jim

GREEN 'N' GOLD EGG BAKE

Doris Wyant



1 cup seasoned bread crumbs (divided)
 2 packages (10 oz) frozen spinach
 3 cups (24 oz) small curd cottage cheese
 1/2 cup grated Romano or Parmesan cheese
 5 eggs

Sprinkle 1/4 cup bread crumbs into a greased 8" square baking dish. Bake 350° for 3-5 minutes or until golden brown. In a bowl, combine spinach, cottage cheese, Romano cheese, three eggs, and remaining crumbs. Spread over the baked crumbs. Beat remaining eggs, pour over spinach mixture. Bake uncovered at 350° for 45 minutes or until knife comes out clean. Let stand 5-10 minutes. About 9 servings.

Sunday February 5 will be "Souper Bowl Sunday" at CUMC! Members of the UMW will have quarts of homemade soups available to take home and enjoy during the Super Bowl. There will be several kinds, including Judy Zayac's "famous" Mexican Wedding Soup!

Naomi Scoville Mission Teaching in Albania

In November 2016, Naomi committed to teaching for six months at Lezha Academic Center in Lezhë, Albania. She will be teaching English Literature to high school students, as well as providing English language tutoring to students who need it.

Naomi arrived in Albania on January 9.

You can follow Naomi by visiting her Blog:
<http://naomisalbanianadventures.wordpress.com>

Her email is: naomi.scoville@emu.edu

We take a special offering for Naomi on the first Sunday of the month.

A Special Message

During the month of February we focus on special feelings and people. We see hearts everywhere and send cards and greetings to friends and family. We need to do this every month!



Use the code to find a special message from God. It's good for any day — any month!



CODE (A¹D¹G¹E¹) (H²I²N²L²) (O³R³T³S³) (U⁴V⁴Y⁴W⁴)

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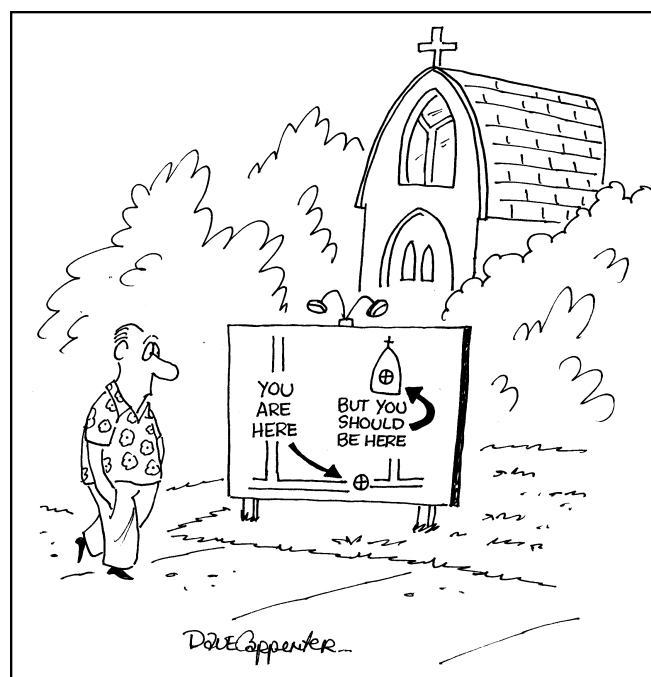
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”

"I have loved you with an everlasting love."





Adult Sunday School Studies with Cheryl

PROPHECY #15: The Destiny of Israel

1. When the king of Babylon conquered the southern Israeli kingdom of Judah, the Jews (including Daniel) were taken captive to Babylon. Daniel (who served the king of Babylon and later the king of Persia) was reading the Jewish scriptures one day. He read that there would be seventy years of desolation in Jerusalem while the Jews were held captive by their conquerors. (Jeremiah 25:11) However, God promised to bring the Jews back to the Holy Land after the seventy years. (Jeremiah 29:10, 14)

When the seventy years were completed, during the reign of Cyrus (king of Persian Empire), God spoke to Cyrus. Then Cyrus proclaimed that any of the captive Jews could return to Jerusalem (in Judah) and rebuild the temple of the God of Israel. (Ezra 1:1-3) So, God's prophecy was fulfilled. Jews were allowed to return to Jerusalem in the Holy Land.

2. Later in the life of Daniel, the angel Gabriel appeared to him. Gabriel announced that: 490 years after the decree of Cyrus, - the Christ would come to earth a second time. (Daniel 9:21-27)

[Note: Although there is a "Gap" in time during the Church Age, which keeps Bible scholars from giving us the exact year when Christ will return... Christ, himself, has told us the signs to look for indicating His return. (Matthew 24:3-14)]

Bible prophecy said that the Jews would begin returning to the Holy Land during the reign of Cyrus, king of the Persian Empire, and that came true. In God's time, His other prophecies will come true.

The January 2017 meeting of clergy and laity was held at North Park Wesleyan. Rev. Megan Cusumano gave the good news about the Cuba Holiday Assistance effort...which was several thousand dollars short of its goal until the *last minute* when several large donations came in. The fund totaled about \$12,000 and the Committee was thus able to give \$35 gift certificates (Family Dollar and Cuba Pharmacy) to families for 251 children; \$30 per household in Giant gift certificates for 110 households, plus each family is also given two bags of groceries from the food pantry. Problems this year were that many applications were received after the deadline, and there could have been more people to help on distribution day.

The November saw 20 requests for assistance from the Food Pantry and 3 for gasoline. December saw 11 requests for grocery assistance and 2 for gas. Monetary donations are especially needed now for the Food Pantry as over \$1000 in vouchers for fresh food from Giant have depleted the checking account.

The Cuba Council of Churches provided a beef on weck lunch for faculty and staff of Cuba Rushford School during an in service training day in early November. There were far fewer attendees than we prepared for but those teachers and staff attending were appreciative.

The Thanksgiving-Advent Service went well with attendance of close to 70. The offering went to the Holiday Assistance fund.

Upcoming plans are for a Fat Tuesday Dessert party on February 28 at Cuba First Baptist...bring a dessert to share! And there are tentative plans for another Progressive Dinner in May with diners traveling from church to church in Cuba for a four or five course meal.

Information will be forthcoming about the Scholarships to be offered to high school seniors by the Council of Churches.



DUDLEY TAILS

Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick

Can we love others before we get to know them? Tucker says, “yes”... but Dudley says “no”.



Rusty (the Cockapoo) came to visit one afternoon. Tucker (our big ‘Sheltie’) had met him once before, and had immediately loved him. That day Tucker’s tail had wagged quickly and there was a smile on his face. On this day, Tucker was thrilled to see Rusty again. They ran around the house together, and Tucker let Rusty eat the food that was in his bowl. Tucker loved Rusty even before he knew Rusty well.

Dudley, however, was not so happy. Upon seeing Rusty, he immediately growled. (loud and continuously) What happened to the “nervous little dog” who had been at Rusty’s house? It was as if Dudley was thinking, “I don’t have to love you... Maybe when I get to know you I will. Not now.”

How about us Christians? Are we friendly to people that we don’t know? Can we love people before we get to know them? Can we love people if they are not similar to us? (Educated? Young? Old? Employed? Loud? Quiet? Withdrawn? Lawbreakers? Haughty? Poor? Those of different ethnicity? Those who are critical? The Ego Centric? The Powerful? The know-it-all? The Disrespectful? The Confrontational?)

God’s love is shown through the love the Believers give to others. In other words: people will believe in God’s love by seeing Christians showing them love in Jesus’ name. Does God want us to love people before we know them? Ask an evangelist. Ask a missionary. In John 15:12 Jesus says, “Love each other as I have loved you.” In 1st John 4:11, John says, “since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”

The Bible does NOT say “only WHEN YOU KNOW and LIKE someone, you should show love to that person.”

What about Dudley not immediately loving Rusty? Well, he’s young. He will learn. Now... how old are we? Have we learned?

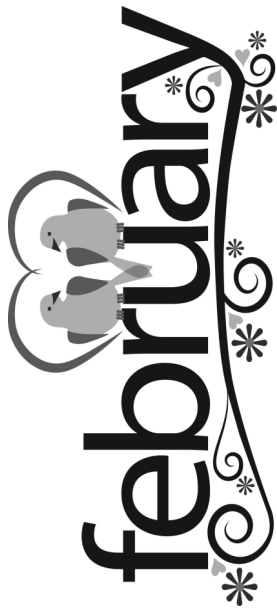


10 Abraham Lincoln facts

1. He was the only president to have a patent: Lincoln invented a device to free steamboats that ran aground.
2. He practiced law without a degree. Lincoln had about 18 months of formal schooling.
3. He wanted women to have the vote in 1836. The future president was a suffragette before it became fashionable.
4. He was a big animal lover, but he wouldn’t hunt or fish.
5. He really was a wrestler. Lincoln was documented as taking part in wrestling bouts. We don’t think he wore a mask or had a manager.
6. He lost in his first bid for a presidential ticket. The unknown Lincoln was an unsuccessful vice presidential candidate in 1856 at the Republican convention.
7. He never belonged to an organized church. Lincoln read the Bible daily, but he never joined an organized church in his lifetime.
8. He didn’t drink, smoke, or chew. Lincoln was a simple man of tastes, and he never drank in the White House.
9. He didn’t have a middle name. Lincoln went through his life with two names.
10. He hated being called Abe. Apparently, he preferred being called by his last name.

Constitution Daily

WORSHIP
SERVICE
SUNDAY
11:00 AM

february

2017

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:45 AM
For All Ages

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Naomi Mission Collection UMW Food Pantry Collection			1 Bible Study 5 pm Trustees 6:00 p Management Team 6:45 pm	2	3	4
5	6	7 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Grief Support Group 12:30 pm	8 Bible Study 5:00 pm	9	10	11
12	13	14 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Bible Study 11 am	15 Bible Study 5:00 pm	16	17	18 UMW Meeting 10:00 am
19	20	21 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Bible Study 11 am	22 Bible Study 5:00 pm	23	24	25
26 Rothfus Collection	27	28 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Bible Study 11 am				



CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
49 EAST MAIN ST. • CUBA, NY 14727
WWW.CUBAUMC.ORG • REV. BURT SMITH

The Shepherd's Messenger

The Shepherd's Messenger is a publication of the Cuba United Methodist Church, and is published monthly to report news & keep members and friends informed of church programs and events. Deadline for article submission is the third Monday of each month at noon. Please email articles to Editor's email address, or drop articles off to the church office.

Editor/Secretary: Jim Travis
e-mail: cubasec@roadrunner.com
Office Hours:
Mon.-Thu. 8 am - 1 pm

Church Mailing address:
Cuba United Methodist Church
49 East Main Street, Cuba, NY 14727
(585) 968-1041
Please visit our Website:
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

«AddressBlock»

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

