

**April 2018**

# *The Shepherd's Messenger*



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



Holiness. It means to be "set apart," to have a purpose determined by God. How much is holiness worth to you?

They say that a thing is only worth what someone is willing to pay.

Craig was a young man, fresh out of college and buried under a mountain of student loans. Having just begun his first job in the city, Craig began flirting with a woman at work. Of course, he was a country boy way out of his league—she looked like Heather Locklear on Melrose Place, and he looked like Screech on Saved by the Bell. One day the woman mentioned how much she loved sushi. She said she wanted to try this new sushi restaurant downtown. Realizing his opportunity, Craig asked if she would want to go there for lunch with him. It was a date. Craig's first sign that things were not going to end well for him was when the menu came without any prices listed. The woman ordered some kind of sampler platter with one of everything; Craig just pointed to some Japanese word on the menu without trying to pronounce it. At the end of the meal, the bill was delivered: \$150. At the time, Craig was living on a weekly food budget of \$30. Afterwards, he said that no woman was worth it, that no meal was worth \$150, especially when the whole meal was nothing but cold lumps of rice and raw fish.

What's your holiness worth?

Jesus of Nazareth died at the age of 33, having lived approximately 12,000 days. The Gospel writers devote most of their work to the last 3 years of his life, or about 1100 days. But the real focus is a single day, his last day—24 hours—beginning Thursday evening after sunset and lasting through Friday. If you knew you had only 24 hours to live, what would you do? Jesus chooses to eat his last meal with his 12 closest followers, and as you can imagine, there are things Jesus really wants to say to them. He pours out his heart in what will be his final words to them, and then he prays. What does he pray for? What is Jesus' dying burden?

According to John 17, he prays for us. Jesus knows he is going to die, but his burden is not for himself. Having completed everything he was sent to accomplish, his burden is for others. And what does Jesus want for us? Holiness. That we may remain separate from the world: in the world but not of it. Jesus wants all his followers to be holy, set apart for God's purpose, and he wants it enough to die for it. All Jesus has done and all he is doing comes from this ultimate purpose. Christ's sacrifice makes us holy. You and I don't always think much of holiness, but that which is worth little to us is of ultimate worth to Jesus.

This Easter, let's not only think about Jesus' death. Let's give him what he died for—ourselves, our devotion, our separation from the world. Let's devote ourselves to his purposes, keeping our hearts pure for his use. His holiness is given to us as a free gift, but that doesn't make it cheap. It cost Christ everything.

Blessings,

*Pastor Becky*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

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

PINES - OLEAN

Connie Battistoni



4 - Jeremy Zeh  
6 - Marshall Allen  
Jonnie Rothfus  
Jennie Rothfus  
9 - Keith Pierce  
10- Christine Berardi  
Ed Rothfus  
15 - Sandra LaFever  
Mark Middaugh  
18 - Dale Dutton  
19 - Thela Snow  
22 - Sue Feldbauer  
27 - Brian Hawks  
28 - Mary Hupp



27- Elroy & Kelly Brickey

**Statistics****Needed: \$1,548**

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
2/25	40	18	\$1,528.27
2/25		Rothfus	\$ 116.00
2/25		Naomi	\$ 20.00
3/4	36	15	\$2,670.00
3/4		Naomi	\$ 130.00
3/4		Rothfus	\$ 20.00
3/11	40	16	\$1,781.00
3/18	51	17	\$1,811.00
3/25	55	16	\$1,500.00
3/25		Rothfus	\$ 115.00

**Others to keep in prayer:**

Hazel Cornell  
Luke Fries  
Sandy Lathrop  
Jim Maxim  
Mark Middaugh  
Mary Ellen Moriarty  
Keith Pearce  
Family & friends of Bob Rasmusson  
Laroy Spateholts  
Heidi Sturdevant  
Lon Sweet  
David Taylor  
Family & friends of  
Henny van der Horst  
JoAnn Viglietta  
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!*

**April Helping Hands**Usher:

Jim Travis

Pianist:

Christine Berardi

Organist:

Jonathan Denham

Altar Guild:

Thela Snow

Sharry Semans



**Lincoln Louise Nelson** was born on March 14, 2018. Her Parents are Andy and Emily Nelson. Arnie and Linda Nelson are grandparents. And, she is sister to Payton Nelson.



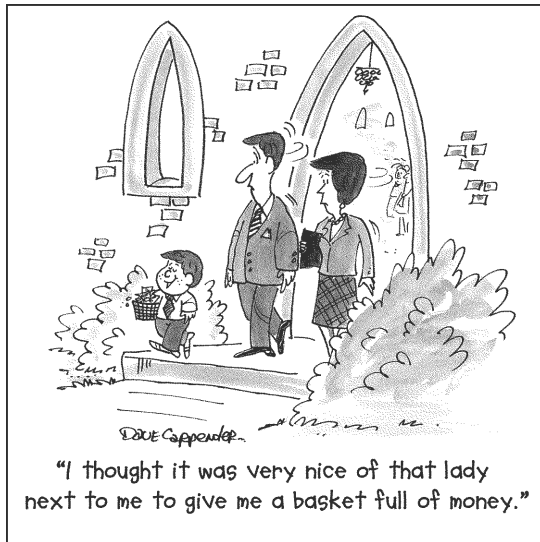
**If you have a prayer request, call the prayer chain.**

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



**Henny van der Horst**, Member of Cuba UMC, passed away on March 3, 2018. The funeral was held at Rinker Funeral Home on March 10. Jon Ward of North Park Wesleyan Church officiated. She is mother of Marjanne Kunz.

**Bob Rasmusson**, Member of Cuba UMC and a member of the Trustees, passed away on March 14, 2018. The funeral was held at Cuba UMC on March 17. Pastor Becky officiated.



## Eastertide: Looking beyond Easter Sunday (From "The Bridge" April, Issue 1)

It's Easter season! Did you know that the past 40 days, starting Ash Wednesday and ending the day before Easter is considered Lenten season, a time where we reflect on the sacrifice, suffering, and death of Jesus? On Easter Sunday we enter the Easter season, a 50-day long season that ends on Pentecost Sunday, which falls on May 20, this year. In this Easter season, we focus on the glory of our risen Lord, the power of the Resurrection, and the worship of our Lord and Savior. This extended season gives us time to rejoice and experience what it means when we say Christ is risen. It's the season when we remember our baptisms and how through this sacrament we are, according to the liturgy, "incorporated into Christ's mighty acts of salvation." We also celebrate and ponder the birth of the Church and gifts of the Spirit (Pentecost), and how we are to live as faithful disciples of Christ.



**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.**

# PUZZLE

## RESURRECTION HOPE

Romans 6:5 reveals the hope we have because Jesus rose from the dead on Easter.

*Directions: First solve the math problems. Then put the corresponding words in the blanks; for example, the word next to the answer "1" goes in the first blank, the word next to the answer "2" goes in the second blank, and so on.*

2+2 = ___ united	2x3 = ___ death	7+6 = ___ resurrection
3x3 = ___ certainly	18-16 = ___ have	4-1 = ___ been
0+1 = ___ if	2x4 = ___ we	13-1 = ___ him
2+3 = ___ in	20-6 = ___ like	2+5 = ___ his
2x5 = ___ be	8+3 = ___ with	

"For \_\_\_ we \_\_\_ with him \_\_\_ a \_\_\_ like \_\_\_ , \_\_\_ will \_\_\_ also \_\_\_ united \_\_\_ in a \_\_\_ his." Romans 6:5, NIV

Answer: For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. Romans 6:5, NIV

## OLD FASHIONED WILTED LETTUCE

Sue Simmons



2 eggs	½ cup milk
¼ cup vinegar	½ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper	8 bacon strips, cut into 1" pieces
1 head lettuce	1 onion, sliced in rings

In bowl, beat eggs, milk, vinegar, salt & pepper until smooth. Set aside. Cook bacon until crisp. Drain on paper towel, reserve drippings. Put heat on medium, whisk egg mixture into drippings. Cook & stir 3-4 min. until thickened. Put lettuce, onion & bacon in salad bowl. Pour dressing over and toss well.



## Adult Sunday School Studies with Cheryl



### 37 Major Bible Prophecies

### PROPHECY #28: The Coming World Government and Final World Religion

To understand what will be happening in the world (in the future), we must believe that Satan exists, and understand the motives for his actions. The Bible tells us that Satan was an angel in heaven before the creation of earth. Satan rebelled against God and was exiled from heaven... then on earth, he was trying to make Adam and Eve do what he said, rather than what God said.

Satan opposed God throughout the Old Testament, telling people lies and trying to convince them to worship idols instead of God. When Jesus came to earth, Satan tempted Jesus (for forty days) in the desert. His purpose was to make Jesus disobey God and worship him instead. Later Satan tried to make the disciples lose faith, and he succeeded with Judas Ischariot.

In the years since Jesus ascended into heaven, Satan has been deceiving mankind, and trying to make people his followers. His goal is to be exalted on earth and to be worshipped instead of God. The evil in our world today comes from Satan and his followers. In the future, Satan will gain a foothold in world government and attempt to establish a world - wide kingdom. Even in our times, now, there are Satan worshippers.

#### World Government

The book of Daniel tells of a fourth kingdom that will appear on earth in the future. It will be of Roman origin and ten Roman kings will rule throughout the earth, "crushing it". (Daniel 7:23) The prophet Daniel also tells how the future World Ruler (in union with Satan) will appear and defeat three of the kings. (Daniel 7:24). This government will rule for three and a half years (during the coming Great Tribulation of the Believers and Jews). The World Ruler (in union with Satan) will speak "against the Most High". (Daniel 7:25) He will erect a statue of himself in the temple, and proclaim himself god. (Daniel 9:27) (Matthew 24:15-16) Since the defeat of Russia, no one will be strong enough to oppose the World Ruler. Then the World Ruler will be revealed as the Anti-Christ. (also called the Beast). World government will be characterized by destruction, blasphemy, political oppression, and martyrdom. Satan's plan to establish his world-wide kingdom begins with the leading of a World Government.

#### Final World Religion

At this point in history, all worship of other gods is forbidden. The final World Religion is Satan Worship.

God's prophecies in the past have come true. God's prophecies for the future will come true also.



**Church Clean-Up Day** to **clean inside** of the church is on April 21, 2018 from 9 am - Noon.

We will be cleaning around the **outside** of the church on May 19, 2018 from 9 am - Noon.

All are welcome. "Many Hands Make Light Work"

## From the Desk of Bishop Webb: Response to the school shooting in Florida

*February 15, 2018 / By Bishop Mark J. Webb*

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

Our hearts ache and our spirits grieve as once again senseless violence and evil has taken the lives of innocent people. I invite you to join me in praying for the victims and families of the shooting yesterday at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Our prayers are with our United Methodist brothers and sisters in the communities of Parkland and Coral Springs, Florida as they seek to be the presence of Christ during this horrific time.

Like you, I watch and listen as people attempt to make sense of events like this. I hear the discussions that attempt to find a reason and then ultimately a solution. We must lead and be engaged in the conversations that address the moral and spiritual decay in our society. We must lead and be engaged in the conversations that work toward ending all acts of violence and evil, including gun violence. We must lead and be engaged in the conversations that seek to address the hopelessness, fear, and spiritual yearnings found in each person. We must confess our lack of compassion, passion, and urgency in offering the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and action to the world around us.

Ephesians 6 remind us of a powerful truth: “for our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.” The words of Jesus in John 12 invite us to claim and proclaim a promise as well – “I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness.”

May we allow the light of Jesus to continue to transform us and then may we take that light into the darkest parts of our community and world, trusting that light to penetrate the darkness. The light of Christ is our hope, our source of peace and the true solution for transforming change in us, in others and in our world. Let us boldly offer Jesus!

Grace and peace,



Bishop Mark J. Webb

## DUDLEY TAILS

*Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick*



Dudley and Tucker came running, one morning, when I asked them if they wanted to go for a ride. Both love car rides and never suspected anything.

The first fifteen minutes went well. So did the 60 mph ride on the expressway. But after the exit...!

I looked over at Dudley who was quivering and looked worried. Then I looked back at Tucker and found him quaking. Now they knew.

We drove up the bumpy gravel driveway and stopped. By now Dudley was running back and forth from the front seat to the back seat, and Tucker stood, (looking out the car window), shaking and panting. We had arrived at the groomer's shop.

Dudley went in first and was placed in a holding cage. Then I got Tucker. He began pulling me past the groomer's door until I firmly told him that he had to go in. When we got inside, Dudley spotted us, stood up in his cage, and scratched rapidly to get out.

The two dogs had gone there for years. What did they not like? Maybe it was: the separation from their master. Maybe it was: not knowing when they would see their master again. Maybe it was: not knowing what would become of them.

When Jesus died on the cross, he left his followers alone in a place where they didn't want to be. The separation was awful. They had spent years with Jesus. Their Master had kept them safe and provided for their needs. Now they were anxious and afraid. When Jesus died on the cross, His physical presence was taken away from the disciples. His teaching was finished. His body was absent. How could the COMFORTING words of Jesus be remembered? The Master was gone. The disciples were fearful and depressed.

When Jesus died on the cross, the disciples did not know what would become of them. They were in a hostile city. The Romans disliked all the Jews and the Jews disliked the disciples of Jesus. Where would they be safe? The disciples chose to stick together and they reunited in a room behind closed doors. There they questioned the recent events, planned to escape Jerusalem, and struggled to keep the faith while trying to reconcile the teaching of Jesus with the death of Jesus.

Dudley and Tucker wanted to be with their master. They did not know if their master would return. They did not know, ultimately, what would become of them. When they saw their master, both were overjoyed.

Our Master has promised that He is always with us, through prayer and the Holy Spirit. Our Master has promised that He is coming (soon) to get us, so that we may be with Him always. Our Master has promised us (through the Bible) what will become of us. Believers will not permanently die, but will permanently live with Him forever. We shall be overjoyed. Hallelujah!



**WORSHIP  
SERVICE  
SUNDAY  
11:00 AM**

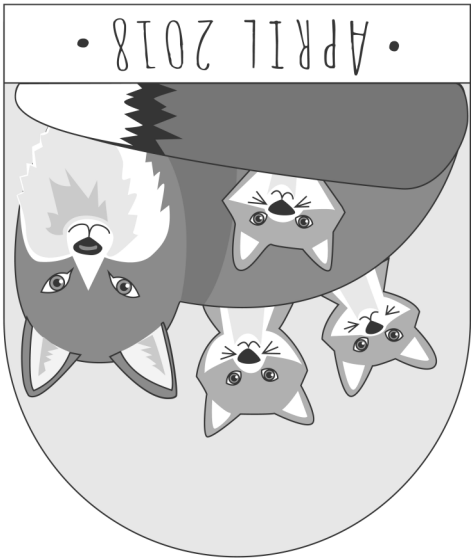
# APRIL 2018

**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
For All Ages  
9:45 AM**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>EASTER</b> Communion Naomi Mission Offering UMW Food Pantry Collection	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Prayer Group 10 am - 11 am	<b>4</b> Trustees meeting 6:00 pm Management Team Meeting 6:45 pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Prayer Group 10 am - 11 am	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Coffee Hour	<b>16</b> May Newsletter Deadline - Noon	<b>17</b> Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> UMW Meeting 10 am Clean inside church 9 am - Noon
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Rothfus Offering	<b>30</b>					

# The Shepherd's Messenger

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Luke 24:6

"HE HAS  
RISEN!"

*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.

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9 am - 3 pm