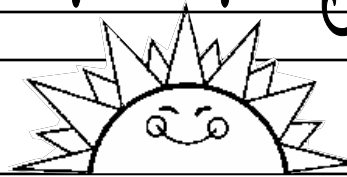


The Shepherd's Messenger

May 2010



Pastor Sunny's Rays

What a beautiful sun shiny day! I love the sun. Things start to turn green and flowers and trees come into bloom with color and life. Isn't it wonderful how God set this world up to work together to bring about that beauty and new life? It's a unity in nature so to speak.

Which reminds me of Psalms 133:1-3:

"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down upon the collar of his robes. It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For the Lord bestows his blessing, even life evermore."

The Lord says 3 things here.

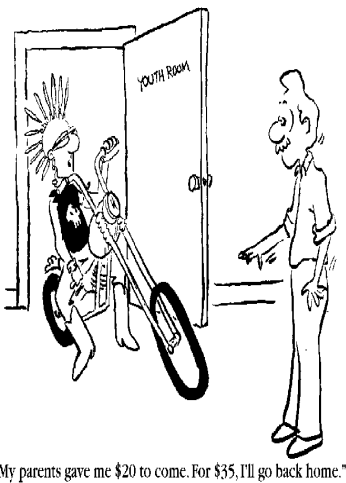
1. If we dwell together in unity....He will send the:
2. the precious ointment. the anointing: then
3. God commanded the blessing

God says that if we will dwell in unity, that it is like the ointment upon the head that ran down Aaron's beard. The ointment is the anointing. Unity will bring anointing. So let's back up a little. What does it take to bring unity?

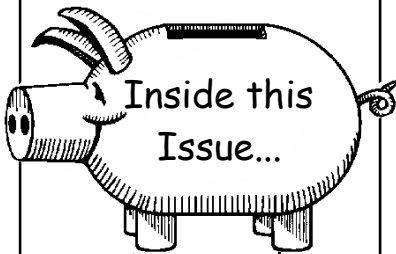
Unity only comes by the Spirit. Let's face it, we all have different ideas of what we want or would like to see. These are our human desires. Everyone has an opinion. When God desires something it would be rather insane to say that in a group that are dwelling together that He would tell each one to go a different direction. God is not the author of confusion. Every one going in a different direction, seeing issues from only one perspective will promote disharmony and confusion. If every person desires only the will of the Holy Spirit, then God would give each a similar direction or desire. Unity comes by the Spirit.

Going backwards a little more, then the question is, "how do we get into the spirit and hear His voice?" First we need to get to the point that we desire HIM first and foremost. We want His will more than our own. Our will and agenda we have learned are fruitless and are just dead religious works. The Holy Spirit says: "if you want me, I'll come, if you will praise me, I'll come". For me personally, I have found that the best way is to spend time with the Lord. I have learned to praise and worship Him no matter what. God inhabits praise. I have learned that spending time praying will bring me into the spirit and out of myself. If we could learn to pray earnestly for this Spirit to come upon us then we would find that we have tapped into God's strength and grace and be able to carry out His plan. We must go where He is instead of asking Him to come to us. Bottom line is that if we will pray in the Spirit, God will talk to us and the end result will be unity with the ones that are doing the same.

continued on page 4



Cartoon by...



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Prayer Requests

Our World situation
The Rothfus Family

THOSE AT HOME

Alicia Bradley
Samuel Bradley
Ernestine Green
Alice Sweet
Adaline Wakefield

To those at other residences...

Cuba CMH

Lucille Wildrick
Laura Clayson
Helen Clement
Pearl Franklin

ABSOLUT HOUGHTON

John Lawton

WATERS IF WESTFIELD

Dawn Durkee

BATH VA CENER

John Visser

IRIS PARK COMMONS

Marge Bly

EDEN HEIGHTS

Jane Wright-Buffalo

Military personnel and their families...

Bob Aaronson
Daniel Bunk
Kevin Desautels
Brad Frank
Mark Keenan
Karl Linderman
Justin Linza
Carl Randall
Alfred Reynolds
Greg Reynolds
Justin Sweet
Dan Thompson
Ron Truax
Miles Ward
Eric Young

Please be
Praying for...

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

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

MAY

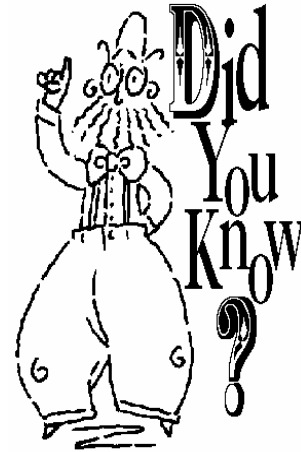
2: Troupsburg & S. Canisteo & Daniel Knof
9: dcom/ Chrpsn
16: Wellsville/Jerry Ward
23: West Valley: St Paul's/Joan Zimmerman
33: Whitesville/Darlene Smiley

Prayer List Update

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.

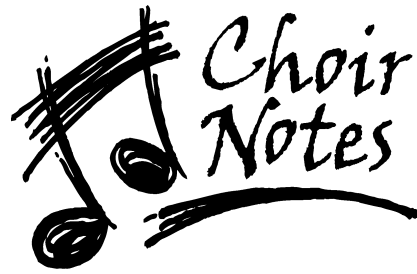
Thank you in advance for your assistance



*Submitted by
Dean Wildrick*

Mission Central (UMCOR) has shipped more supplies in the first three months of this year than they shipped last year in all twelve months. So far in 2010, Mission Central has sent out \$1,489,000.00 worth of supplies to answer people's needs. "Mission" isn't something romantic or new, its people showing love by fulfilling the needs of the oppressed.





Choir Notes:

This past September at our first choir rehearsal of the season I announced that this would be my last year serving as choir director. In November I met with one of the church committees to make my announcement formal. Part of the reason I am writing this is to keep everyone in the loop, as it is very possible many people do not know that our church is currently looking for a choir director, and a piano accompanist for the fall, or maybe someone can be found who feels comfortable doing both.

Just a brief background, I started directing the choir on September of 1985. Over all those years we have always done two anthems for each service for ten months of every year.

During those years from my beginning in 1985 I have been privileged to work with a solid core choir who have carried us through times, thick and thin. The people who were among that original choir that are still generously giving of their time today are (I sure hope I don't leave anyone out) Dave and Deb Battistoni, Jean Bowers, Gary Enderle, Karl and Phyllis Hodge, and Maggie and Wally Watson. Many devoted people who sang in the choir have come and gone. Some due to job relocation and moving, others retiring, some due to family obligations, and a host of other reasons and situations. I wish I could name all the people who have been in choir over my tenure, but I know I would leave out too many.

I cannot leave without mention of two very important ladies; Shirley Pugh was our accompanist for many years until she retired and moved away. She was a wonderful lady and the choir and I were so fortunate to have her accompany. I was especially fortunate, as she many times carried the choir with her amazing accompaniment during my green years.

Likewise we were so fortunate to have Joyce Enderle follow Shirley. With that transition we didn't miss a beat. Joyce accompanied the choir for many years until she felt she could no longer do justice to the music. But even at what she thought was her low point she was still a marvelous accompanist.

Today's choir also has many loyal and self-less members who I cannot leave out in my farewell address. Thank you to our bass section, which also includes Marshall Allen, & Paul Tsujimoto along with before mentioned Gary. Our tenors I already mentioned in the lifelong choir, Dave and Karl, with Wally as switch hitter, singing either bass or tenor where ever needed. Donna Lawton, and Shirley Mosher hold down the alto section with Maggie, while Pastor Sunny, Jean Bowers, and Judy Hughs help Deb and Phyllis fill the air with soprano sounds. This year we have several of our youth singing with us, I do hope they are able to continue, Jasmyn Dorsey, Joshua Tsujimoto, and Joseph Hughes. (Lord help me if I forgot someone, if I did it just proves my time has come!)

Thank you all for your support of the choir over the years. I truly hope this tradition will continue in some form or another in our church.

Sing-cerely – *Louis Petroni*



(continued from page 1)

Going backwards some more is that we must be filled with the Spirit. Unless we are filled, the only thing that we can draw from is the world around us, which is not always pleasing to God. Thus when we use prayer to commune with God suddenly life takes a different perspective. It takes the "I" out and it becomes "HIM". We surrender as Jesus did when He said I came not to do my will, but the will of the Father that sent me. We are about bringing God's kingdom, not establishing a kingdom of our own. When we sincerely pray for the Lord's wisdom, guidance, and grace then is when the unity that God needs us to be in the Spirit, comes into being.

As leadership comes into unity and walking in the same direction to promote God's plan and purpose, then this must trickle into the congregation. God needs leaders here in His church. Folks who will step out of themselves and into being who God called them to be. If there are no leaders, there is no unity. If there is no unity, there is no family.

Scripture says that a house divided cannot stand. A unified body is a real key in bringing God's presence and purposes. Leadership in unity and unity in leadership is the only way there will be growth and change, the only way that the church universal will go on into the world to share the good news. If we can all surrender to God's will and make it the only priority, then I firmly believe that we will experience a very powerful, anointed church. God said in Psalms 133:1-3, that because there was unity, He sent the anointing, and then He commanded the blessings. Blessings will come if we do things God's way and not ours.

And always remember that God loves you and so do we!

Pastor Sunny



FROM THE PASTOR

As you have read in this edition of The Messenger, Louis Petroni is retiring the first of June after serving faithfully for 25 years as our Choir Director. Can you even believe that it has been 25 years? What a blessed time it has been for this church family to praise our Lord under Louis' direction.

We cannot let those 25 years go by without some sort of celebration. So at the Ad Council it was decided that June 11, 2010 at 6:00pm, we will hold a dinner in honor of Louis and his service not only to this church but also to God. We will serve Roast Beef and we ask that the attendees bring a dish to compliment this dinner.

There will be a time of sharing and remembering. If you have any pictures of Louis and his family (IE Patti and the kids as well as all of us) please get them to Pastor Sunny or Larry as soon as possible. If you can't be there that night but would like to share a story please email or snail mail those to the church and we will see that Louis hears what you want to say to him as he begins another chapter in life.

While we are all saddened at this loss, we do wish the best for the Petroni Family. May God richly bless you and keep you. May His Son shine ever brightly on the roads before you and may you always know the peace and grace of God.

The Family of the Cuba United Methodist Church

May Helping Hands

Nursery

2: Doris Kellogg
9: Andrea Smith
16: Judy Zayac
23: Andrea Smith
30: **Reserved for you!!**

23: The Krotts

30: **Reserved for you!!**

Liturgist

2: **Reserved for you!!**

9: **Reserved for you!!**

16: **Reserved for you!!**

23: **Reserved for you!!**

30: **Reserved for you!!**

Ushers

Tom & Judy Krott

Acolytes

2: Michael Hupp
9: Erica Goble
16: Jasmyn Dorsey
23: Josh Enderle
30: Joseph Hughes

Altar Guild

Claire Morris

Greeters

2: Lucinda Pierce
9: Judy & Alan Zayac
16: Rob Cornell



LENTEN LUNCHES

The Lenten Lunches went over very well again this year. The community was served a variety of soups, breads and cookies. A very special thanks to all the ladies and men(Wally) who helped to make this a great success.

We collected \$100 in donations this year.

Not only did the food go over well, but the biggest hit was Pastor Sunny's reading from the book *"Imagine Life Without Fear"*.

It was brought up at the last luncheon that we continue this all year, but instead of soup, everyone bring a brown bag lunch and listen to Pastor read to them, and enjoy fellowship time afterwards.



May Celebrations



Birthdays

1 - Nick Abraham	14 - Brenda Wyant
2 - Alyson Brickey	18 - Carrie LaFave
3 - Nici Kunz	19 - Melody Hayward
Butch Pfouts	20 - Chad Loftis
5 - Pamela Koubek	Pete Quattrini
Aaron Neary	Alicia Sutphin
Andrew Clement	21- Austin Clement
6 - Paul Bean	23 - Jasmyn Dorsey
Merle Burlingame	Doris Kellogg
Richard Lewis	Roy Morris
7 - Steven Abraham	24 - Zea Ann Dutton
Wally Watson	Calvin Mosher
9 - Brandon Cornell	Pearl Stark
Mike Young	25 - Dawn Durkee
10 - Alice German	Kamal Nasser
11 - Bradley Schintzius	30 - Andrew Freeman
13 - Carmelita Butts	Sherry Hopkins
Bruce Stubbs	31 - Lynda Casey

Anniversaries

10 - John & Deborah Freeman
11 - Karl & Phyllis Hodge
13 - Pete & Sue Simmons
17 - Kamal & Jacquelyn Nasser
18 - Adam & Julie Mouser
Tom & Jeanne Steen
20 - Jeremy & Dawn Wildrick-Cole
23 - Anthony & Raquel Kasperski
28 - Mark & Claire Morris



SUMMER TALENT

It is time to start thinking about music for our services over the summer. If you are interested in singing or playing any type of instrument for one of the services, please contact the secretary. If you have relatives visiting who are musical and might like to share their talents again let us know. Also if you know of someone, or even someone who knows someone, it is always worth a try to see if we can have them join us for a Sunday.



Sunday School News

Submitted by Patti Petroni, Superintendent

Our Sunday School teachers meet with the children each Sunday after service with wonderful lessons and fun activities planned for all ages. With the end of the year approaching the last Sunday that the children will be meeting is June 6th. The children and the entire congregation are invited down to Wesley Hall to enjoy ice cream sundaes with all the toppings.

We will have a need for a superintendent and some new teachers for the fall. If you are interested please see Pastor Sunny or Patti Petroni if you have an interest or have any questions about the program. It is a very rewarding time and you need not have teaching experience. The lessons are well planned out and the explanations go step by step in letting you know what to do. There are fun activities with minimal tools necessary to carry out. If you have a love for children why don't you think about it and maybe give it a try. If two people teach the grade level you can teach every other month so you have a break. New classes will begin in September.

STATISTICS

Attendance:

03/28
04/04
04/11
04/18

SS/Worship
17/78
13/76
17/65
11/73

Needed Each Week \$2,407.50

Offerings

\$1,428.00
\$3,194.88
\$1,902.60
\$1,465.00

UMW NEWS

Submitted by Judi Hughes, President



Fifteen ladies met on April 10 for the UMW meeting. Deb Battistoni was our congenial hostess, serving a delightful breakfast pizza and assorted other goodies. Busy times are upon us -

> Cookbooks are still available, and make great Mother's Day gifts. Cindy Dutton is coordinating the sale of cookbooks at Dairy Days, as well. I'm sure she'd appreciate any help you could offer.

> The Spring Rummage Sale will be held May 6, 7 and 8. It's a great opportunity to clean out your closets and support this great cause. Immediately after church on May 2, we'll need help to get the sale started, as we clear out the "Glory Hole" to start the sale. Our Rummage Queen, Deb, gladly welcomes any help - setup, workers during the sale, cleanup afterwards - any time you can offer will be greatly accepted and appreciated.

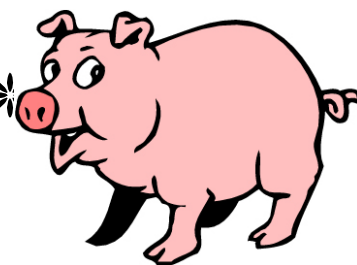
> Tuesday, May 11th will be the Mother and Child Dinner. All Mothers and their children are welcome to join us for dinner at 6 pm, where we will enjoy roast beef on weck, and potluck, as we will each bring a dish to pass. Please join us for great food and fellowship!

> Our end of the year gathering will be dinner at the Allegany Grill in Belfast on Tuesday, June 8th. We'll meet at the church at 5:30 to carpool. ALL women are welcome to join us.

> The Father's Day breakfast will be held on Sunday, June 20th at 8 am. Sign up sheets will be available closer to the date.

Please join us for any or all of these great events!





ELECTION DAY DINNER

The Trustees will be holding a "Pulled Pork Dinner" on May 18, 2010 4:00pm till gone. Menu: Pulled Pork, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, and Dessert. You can eat in or take out.

Tickets are \$6.95 for a meal and \$2.00 for just a sandwich. Please share information with friends and family.



FYI

The Cuba Fire Department met to install officers and honor it's Rookie of the Year and Fireman of the Year at it's annual dinner held Saturday night at the VFW Hall.

Second Assistant Chief Derek Clement took home the Fireman of the Year Award.

Chief Randy Snyder also passed out a service award to Derek for 15 years of service in the department.

Judy Zayac was one of the special guests at the dinner.



MAY 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
White Crane Kung Fu Classes 6-8a						1 White Crane Kung Fu Classes 6-8a Saturdays ↓
2 Worship 10a Sunday School 11:00a	3 Ad Council 7:00p	4 "The Shack" Discussion 7:00pm	5 Choir Practice 7p	6 UMW RUMMAGE SALE	7 RUMMAGE SALE	8
9 Mother's Day	10 Angel Food Deadline	11 Mother & Child / Mother's Day Dinner 6:00pm	12 Choir Practice 7p	13	14	15 Angel Food Dist. 9-10a Trustees Work Day
16 Worship 10a Sunday School 11:00a	17 Newsletter Deadline	18 Election Day Dinner 4:00p	19 Choir Practice 7p	20	21	22
23 Worship 10a Sunday School 11:00a	24 Trustees 7:00p	25	26 Choir Practice 7p	27	28	29
30 Worship 10a Sunday School 11:00a	31 MEMORIAL DAY					

The Shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
49 EAST MAIN ST. • CUBA, NY 14727
www.cubaumc.org • Pastor Sunny Mauser



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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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Please use the ramp door facing
E. Main Street.

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Cuba, New York 14727
(585) 968-1041

Website: www.cubaumc.org

A Mothers Love

There are times when only a mother's love
Can understand our tears,
Can soothe our disappoints
And calm all of our fears.

There are times when only a mother's love
Can share the joy we feel
When something we've dreamed about
Quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only a mother's faith
Can help us on life's way
And inspire in us the confidence
We need from day to day.

For a mother's heart and a mother's faith
And a mother's steadfast love
Were fashioned by the angels
And sent from God above.

--Author Unknown