

May 2023

The Shepherd's Messenger

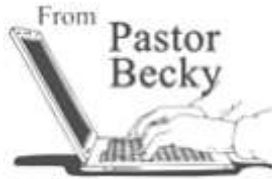


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KNOWING JESUS AS THE
GOOD SHEPHERD & SHARING
THE RISEN CHRIST WITH ALL.

Ambassadors for Christ



“Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

Ambassadors for Christ. Sounds good. Better than being a servant, or even a disciple. An ambassador. Don't they fly first class, have Diplomatic Immunity, eat at nice restaurants, and rub elbows with the elite? I can do that. Sign me up.

Great. I would love to have you be an ambassador for Christ. But there is something you should know: Ambassadors represent the King (or country) who sent them. As an Ambassador for Christ, you will represent the one who came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many, who had no place to rest his head, who was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering, who made himself nothing and took the form of a slave. How does that sound? What do you mean you're having second thoughts?

You didn't think that being Christ's Ambassador would be easy, did you? Please tell me you didn't think it was going to be a part-time job. Far from it. It's not even a full-time job. It is an all-consuming identity.

But here's the thing: you don't need to choose to either be or not be an ambassador for Christ. You are an ambassador for Christ. Why? Because you heard the good news, and the Holy Spirit has created faith (and a new identity) in your heart. “For our sake he made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him you and I might become the righteousness of God.” You are not the only ambassador Christ has; he has vast multitudes of representatives in the world.

You worship with about 35 of them on Sunday. And there are others, strategically placed at your school, your home, and your place of employment. Some you know, others you don't. But he has sent all of them (and you) to achieve his purpose: the salvation of all people. Working together with them, under the controlling influence of the Holy Spirit, we are his ambassadors!

God bless you as you speak the name of Jesus and share with people the best news that they will ever hear: the good news of Jesus! See you in church on Sunday and bring a friend!

Pastor Becky

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
Our World situation

Others to keep in prayer:

Brad Allen
Norma Andrus
Todd Baxter
Wayne Botens
Family & friends of
 Clifford Boyer
Frank Calcagno
Hazel Cornell
David Edwards
Don Hall
David Halstead
Donna Hart
Bernie Hawks
Jean Higby
Andrew James
Katie Kellogg
Kevin Kranock
Bruce Metler
Helen Middaugh
Mark Middaugh
Nellie Moses
Justin Murphy
Family & friends of
 Arnold Nelson, Jr.
Keith Pierce
Shirley Poore
Laroy Spateholts
Jessica Veiders
JoAnn Viglietta
Clint Wilder
Judy Zayac



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.
Thank you!



3 - Kameron Pierce
5 - Andrew Clement
9 - Brandon Cornell
 Payton Nelson
 Mike Young
14 - Brenda Wyant
21 - Austin Clement
23 - Doris Wyant
24 - Zea Ann Dutton
27 - Kim Hall



13 - Pete & Sue Simmons
20- Jeremy & Dawn
 Wildrick-Cole
28 - Mark & Claire Morris



Molly Lynne Sytsma was born on March 20, 2023. Her grandparents are Tom & Judy Krott.

Statistics Needed: \$1,970

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
4/2	26	4	\$2,840.00
4/6	Maundy Thursday		
	15		
4/9	33	4	\$2,543.00
		Gil's Hills	\$ 50.00
4/16	38	5	\$1,168.00



Clifford "Ted" Boyer, Sallie Wild's father, passed away on March 27, 2023 in Olean General Hospital. His Funeral Service was held on April 1, 2023 in Switzer Funeral Home, Port Allegany, PA.

Arnold L. Nelson, Jr., Linda Nelson's stepson, passed away on April 3, 2023. A Memorial Mass will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at St. Andrew Church, Sloan, NY.



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.

May
Helping
Hands



Power Point:
Rob Cornell

Pianist:
Holly Scoville

Altar Guild:
Claire Morris





Wind, fire & spirit

Acts 2 describes the amazing events of Pentecost, when the apostles received the Holy Spirit.

Directions: The last letter(s) of each word is the beginning letter of the next. Fill in the missing words to complete Acts 2:1-4, NIV.

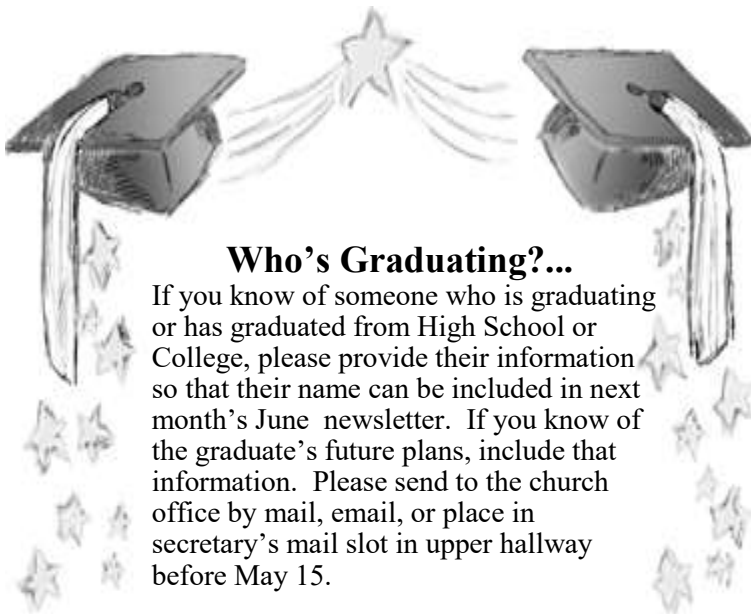
1. [H'E'A'V']
2. [A'B'L'E]
3. [A'Y] O'F P'E'N'T'E'C'O'S
4. [O'N'G'U'E]
5. [P'I'R'I]
6. [O'G'E'T'H'E]
7. [E'S]
8. [O'N'G'U'E]
9. [A]
10. [I'N'D]



"When the _____ came, they were all _____ in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent _____ came from _____ and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They _____ what seemed to be _____ of fire that separated and came to _____ on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy _____ and began to speak in other _____ as the Spirit _____ them."

ACTS 2:1-4, NIV

...and they were all gathered together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They were amazed at what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak to one another as the Spirit gave them songs that they were singing and playing together.



Who's Graduating?...

If you know of someone who is graduating or has graduated from High School or College, please provide their information so that their name can be included in next month's June newsletter. If you know of the graduate's future plans, include that information. Please send to the church office by mail, email, or place in secretary's mail slot in upper hallway before May 15.

AUNT FRANCIS' LEMONADE

Sue Simmons

- 5 lemons
- 5 limes
- 5 oranges
- 3 quarts of water
- 1 1/2 - 2 cups water



Squeeze fruit.
 Mix juices, water and sugar to taste. Chill.
 Makes 1 gallon.



Whoever
 finds their life
 will lose it,
 — and —
Whoever
 loses their life
 for my sake
 will find it.

MATTHEW 10:39, NIV



meeting
NOTICE

Next Meetings:
Wed. May 3, 2023
in Adult Sunday School Room

Trustees Meeting 6:00 pm
Management Team 6:45 pm

The **Reader's Theater** planned by the Cuba Council of Churches for Sunday, April 30th has been **canceled** due to unforeseen scheduling difficulties.



Sunday Worship Services
are streamed live
on our website,
www.cubaumc.org



Also on our Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/Cuba-United-Methodist-Church-533879670015081>



Discerning whether to disaffiliate or remain in the United Methodist Church is a solemn process and must be done carefully, thoughtfully, respectfully, and prayerfully.

Two discernment gatherings for our church have been scheduled for April 29 and May 6 in Wesley Hall starting at 10 a.m. The recommended guide provided by the Upper New York Conference consisting of prayer, Scripture, general conversation, and small group discussions will be followed at each meeting. Information concerning the financial impact of disaffiliation and timelines will also be shared. In order to cover all required material, these meetings will be fairly lengthy.

The following questions will be discussed:

- What are the strengths of The United Methodist Church and Upper New York Conference?
- What are the challenges of The United Methodist Church and Upper New York Conference?
- What are your reasons to stay with The United Methodist Church and Upper New York Conference?
- What are your reasons to leave The United Methodist Church and Upper New York Conference?

A special **Church Conference will be held on Saturday, May 20 in Wesley Hall starting at 10 a.m.** for the sole purpose of deciding if the Cuba United Methodist Church will request to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church and the Upper New York Conference. **All professing members of the congregation able to be present are eligible to vote at this special Church Conference. There will be no absentee or digital voting.**

The District Superintendent has suggested viewing YouTube videos by Rob Renfro of the Wesleyan Covenant Association (traditional) and Adam Hamilton (centrist) prior to the discernment meetings. If you do not have internet access available and wish to view these videos, please contact the church to make arrangements to see them. You may also wish to check out the Global Methodist Church website (<https://globalmethodist.org/>).

**SUNDAY
WORSHIP
SERVICE
11:00 AM**

May 2023

Sunday School is at
9:30 am in the Adult
Sunday School room.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Tai Chi 7:00 pm	2 Prayer Group 10:00 am Barbershoppers 6:30-8:30 pm	3 Trustees Mtg. 6:00 pm Management Team Mtg. 6:45 pm	4	5	6 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am Discerment gatering 10:00 am Wesley Hall
7 Communion UMW Food Pantry Collection	8 Tai Chi 7:00 pm	9 Prayer Group 10:00 am Barbershoppers 6:30-8:30 pm	10	11	12	13 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am
14 Sunday School 9:30 am	15 Tai Chi 7:00 pm Jun Newsletter Deadline Noon	16 Prayer Group 10:00 am Barbershoppers 6:30-8:30 pm	17	18	19	20 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am Charge Conference in Wesley Hall 10:00 am
21 Sunday School 9:30 am	22 Tai Chi 7:00 pm	23 Prayer Group 10:00 am Barbershoppers 6:30-8:30 pm	24	25	26	27 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am
28 Sunday School 9:30 am Gil's Hills Offering	29 Tai Chi 7:00 pm	30 Prayer Group 10:00 am Barbershoppers 6:30-8:30 pm	31			

The Shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
49 EAST MAIN ST. • CUBA, NY 14727
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2023

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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 visit our Website:

www.cubaumc.org

Pastor Becky Worth:

Cell Phone: (716) 307-1768

Let my teaching
fall like rain
and my words
descend like
dew,



like showers on
new grass,
like abundant rain
on tender plants.

Deuteronomy 32:2