

July/August

The Shepherd's Messenger



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

FROM HANDS TO PLOW

WHAT MAKES A VITAL CONGREGATION?

It depends on who you ask. Here is part of my understanding based on my experience with Hand To Plow and twenty years of experience as a pastor, twelve leading small, rural congregations.

1. Every aspect of the life of the church returns to the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This **mission** is the bottom line or what the church is about. The way **our church** would carry out this mission will be unique. Biblical **core values** will drive our church as it makes disciples of Jesus Christ. (Hint: These values do not include buildings or money). There will be clear, tangible, and measurable steps that will be taken as we carry out the mission.
2. We will face two kinds of challenges as we carry out our mission:
 Technical and adaptive. Technical challenges will require your leadership, clergy and laity, to apply current know-how (knowledge, skills, procedures). Adaptive challenges will require the people with the problem to learn new ways (change attitudes, values, behaviors). One of the changes needed is that lay leadership work with the pastor (co-operate) to set clear direction for the church and establish goals that motivate people to work towards a shared vision. Another adaptive change needed is that we learn who the people in the community really are. Other changes are needed in the areas of developing lay leadership, outreach, connecting with un-churched families in the community, worship services that inspire young adults, and moving from management to mission,
3. Our mission will never change. It is what we **do**. Our vision will change periodically, probably every five years. It is what the congregation looks like as it is living into the mission. Our core values will rarely change. They influence how we make disciples of Jesus Christ. Our goals will change annually. They are what we do right now.
4. We will worship the Lord with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We will engage the senses during worship as well as connecting with our minds. Emotion will play a role in our worship services and I will be inviting a response from the congregation. And we will move towards team planning, with the pastor as chief, rather than solo, worship planner. This will be an adaptive change for the congregation.

Continued on Page 3

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

CUBA CMH

Henny van der Horst

WATERS OF WESTFIELD

Dawn Durkee

Military personnel and their families...

*All the people on our Military
Prayer List have returned to
the states!!!*

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:**

Marshall Allen
Barb & John Brant
Chuck Brooks
Terry Bush
Veronica Clayson
Virginia Clayson
Jan Congdon
Hattie Cooper
Braden Currier
Sid Emmons
Art Higby
Jeffrey Kellogg
Stephanie LaFever
Amber McCarthy & Family
Bruce Metler
Family of Mina (Doris Wyant's sister)
Wanda Pease
Keith Pierce
Kerigan Pierce
Harley Poore
Shirley Poore
Family & friends of
Ruth Rasmusson
Muriel Small
Laroy Spateholts
Carl Wagner
Judy Warner
Ken Wyant



2 - Michael Hupp
5 - Rita Say
11 - Linda Appleby
12 - Shelly Giczkowski
14 - Tom Eastham
16 - Katelyn Cornell
Debbie Rothfus
Daniel Rothfus
17 - Lucinda Pierce
21 - Joshua Tsujimoto
22- Stan Scoville
23 - Jim Travis
24 - Mike LaFever
26 - Douglas Clayson, III
28 - Debra Enderle
29 - Molly Ann Kunz

Statistics**Needed: \$1,657**

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
5/24	29		\$1,313.00
5/31	27		\$ 793.50
5/31		Rothfus	\$ 132.00
6/7	28		\$2,428.50
6/14	24		\$1,005.00
6/21	22		\$ 567.00

*(This block does not appear in the
Friendship edition of this newsletter)*

Cuba July Helping HandsUshers:

Dean & Cheryl Wildrick

Greeters:

7/5 Open for you
7/12 Open for you
7/19 Open for you
7/26 Open for you

Liturgists

7/5 Open for you
7/12 Open for you
7/19 Open for you
7/26 Open for you

Altar Guild

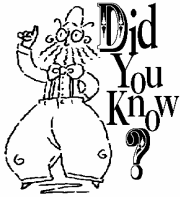
Claire Morris



3 - Mary Lou & David VanValkenburgh
5 - Nick & Liz Abraham
James & Marilyn Luckey
14- Douglas & Lynnette Clayson
20 - Lewis & Cheryl Holden, Jr.
29 - Dave & Deb Battistoni



**Call Sandra Allen
for Prayer Chain
(585) 968-2137**

DYK:*Submitted by Dean Wildrick*

There are more than one billion hungry people in the world today.

- More people die each year from hunger-related causes than AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis combined.
- Between 5 million and 6 million children die each year from infections that would not have killed them had they been properly fed.
- There is enough food in the world to feed everyone 4.3 pounds of food every day.



- 17 - Brian & Tammy Hawks
 18 - Richard & Lucinda Pierce
 Pastor Tim and Jennie Gleason
 24 - Larry & Veronica Clayson
 25- Peter & Mary Lou Sprague



- 1 - Liz Abraham
 Alex Eastham
 3 - Sylvia Clement
 Melissa Zeh-Gross
 4 - Joshua Enderle
 12 - Cheryl Wildrick
 Sid Wildrick-Cole
 14 - Allison Eastham
 Lisa Hawks
 15 - Robert Rasmusson
 17 - Derek Clement
 20 - Joyce Enderle
 21 - Dean Wildrick
 24 - Darcy Eastham
 Karl Giczkowski
 Barbara Johnston
 Donna Lawton
 27 - Jean Bowers
 30 - Dawn Wildrick-Cole
 31 - Brian Krott
 Arnold Nelson
 Laurie Simons
 Mary Lou Van Valkenburgh

Cuba August Helping HandsUshers:

Dean & Cheryl Wildrick

Greeters:

- 8/2 Open for you
 8/9 Open for you
 8/16 Open for you
 8/23 Open for you
 8/30 Open for you

Liturgists

- 8/2 Open for you
 8/9 Open for you
 8/16 Open for you
 8/23 Open for you
 8/30 Open for you

Altar Guild

Judy Zayac
 Holly Scoville

WHAT MAKES A VITAL CONGREGATION?*(Continued from front page)*

5. The goal of my preaching will be to teach people how to live a life that reflects the values, principles and truths of the Bible. My biggest challenge will be focusing on **one idea**. The way I plan sermons will change so that we are inspired and I will move towards preaching without notes. This will be an adaptive change for me.

Pastor Tim

Cuba United Methodist Women News

Submitted by
Judy Zayac



United
Methodist
Women

Pastor Tim and eight ladies celebrated with a very nice dinner at Moonwinks on June 4th. The group will take a break for the summer and re-convene the first Saturday in September.

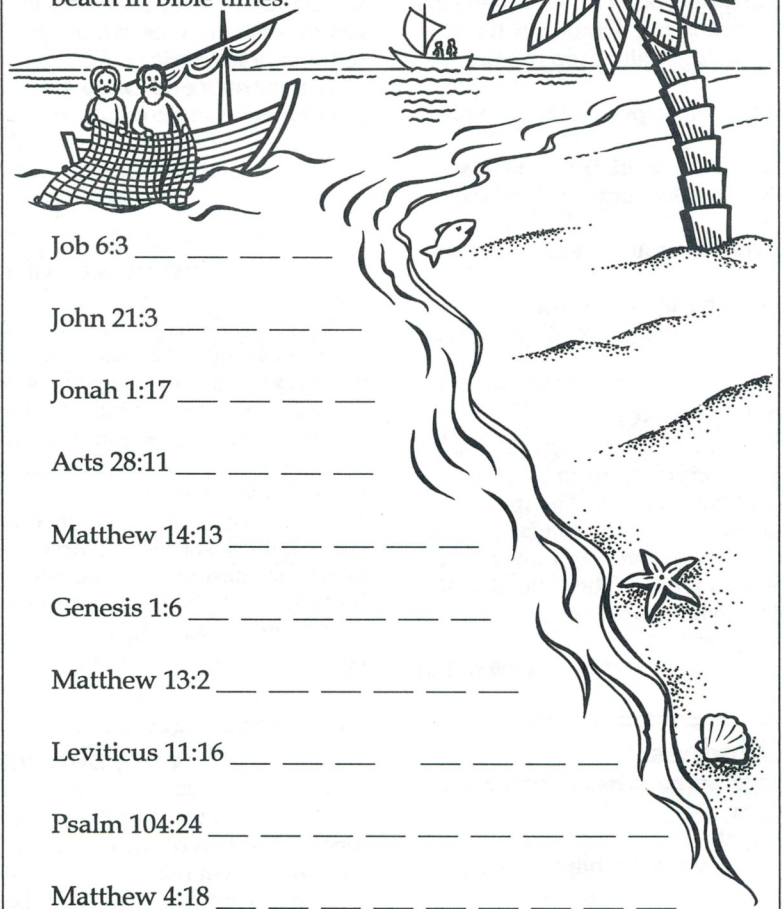
We assembled a dozen medical kits and a dozen school kits for UMCOR. We just need to complete sewing the bags for the school kits and get everything shipped out. I will do my best to get that done soon.

Sadly, we will need someone to step up as president in September as I will be moving to North Carolina soon. I will miss everyone and hope the group will be able to keep the good work and missions going. Maybe you could have co-presidents to make the job a little less. I will always be available to help via e-mail if needed.

Have a great summer 😊
Judy

What's at the beach?

Look up these Bible verses to find things and people you would've seen at the beach in Bible times.



FRIENDSHIP ENTERS PHASE II

HAND TO PLOW

"I believe in this process so much that I will personally contribute \$500 towards the cost of the consultation weekend." That's Sandy Golden's take on the impact the *Hand to Plow* process will make at the Friendship United Methodist Church. She is revitalized and excited after participating in a peer learning group organized and implemented by our Annual Conference. By the way, so is your pastor!

Hand to Plow is a three-phase process that assists churches in the **revitalization** of their congregations. Friendship UMC started this process a year ago, and dreams of revitalization are building.

Phase one engaged together Sandy, Pat Kupiac, and Pastor Tim with laity and clergy from several churches in western New York in peer learning groups, called covenant groups. We gathered regularly and read and discussed books that included topics such as mission and outreach, leadership, and worship. Pastor Tim has a headache because he had to read 9 books. The readings also gave us ideas on how to define our vision and mission.

Continued on next page



Thanks to all who attended this year. I believe we had a good time learning about God's love and plan for us, Jesus' sacrifice and our future with him, and the Holy Spirit's inspiration and gifts given to us.

Next fall we will begin looking at Bible prophecy, including prophecies that have been fulfilled, and those that are yet to come. This study will answer questions like: What does the Bible say about Satan vs. God's angels, (in past ages and in the future)? What were the covenants of God with Abraham and Noah, and is there a covenant with Christians today?

Why do we have to know so much about the history of the Jews in order to understand prophecy? Do the past empires of the world have anything to do with the predicted future? What does the Sermon on the Mount have to say about whether we get into Jesus' future kingdom? What events will happen in the End Times, and when will they begin? What is the Great Tribulation and what will happen during those years? Will both Christians and those who do evil be judged? What does God tell us about the end of time and the future eternity?

I hope to see our past class members again in the fall. Thanks for sharing your faith and being a blessing to me. I also hope new members will join our fellowship and join us in growing our faith.

God be with you, and God bless your summer.

In Jesus' love,
Cheryl



Recipe
FROM THE
Cuba UMC
Cook Book

KEY LIME PIE

Mary Lou VanValkenburg

4 egg yolks
1 (14 oz.) can condensed milk
1/2 cup key lime juice
1 pkg (8 oz) cream cheese,
softened
9" baked pie shell, or graham
cracker shell

Combine egg yolks, condensed milk and lime juice. Mix in soft cream cheese. Place in pie shell and refrigerate overnight. Top with whipped cream.

FRIENDSHIP ENTERS PHASE II (Continued from page 4)

At its meeting on June 23, the Friendship church council unanimously decided to move along with the process: **Phase II**. This involves consultation with the Rev. Dr. Aaron Bouwens, Conference Director of Vital Congregations, who will visit our church for a weekend-long evaluation along with our district superintendent. Discussion and observations take place during this time. Rev. Bouwens and Rev. Dr. Sherri Rood will look for ways Friendship UMC can improve. (To be candid, a person on the church council pressed me to do this at the meeting. I'm sorry, that's "above my pay grade". Rev. Bouwens and Rood have the expertise we need.) At the end of Phase II, the church will be given a consultation report with recommended "revitalization prescriptions", which the church can vote to adopt or decline. (I'm sorry, these prescriptions cannot be filled by Jeff Marx at the Friendship Pharmacy, although he has offered to be pastor some Sunday if I will be pharmacist that day. This could be much riskier than *Hand To Plow*.) If the church adopts the prescriptions, it moves to the final step: Phase III.

Most outside consultants would charge a congregation between \$8000 and \$10,000 for a consultation weekend. The Annual Conference will pay the majority of the cost. Our share, based on our average worship attendance, will be between \$1000 and \$1300. I believe in this process and God's intention to renew my congregations so much that I will contribute any part of the cost to Friendship UMC exceeding \$1000. (Sorry, Jennie, no ride on lawn mower).

Pastor Tim, with material from the "Upper New York Advocate".

For more information, including details of Phase III and an impact report from the first church in the Conference to enter Phase III, read pages 8 – 9 of the Spring 2015 issue of the "Upper New York Advocate".

UNY Conference exceeds meal-packaging goal

There are more than one billion hungry people in the world today, and there is enough food in the world to feed everyone 4.3 pounds of food every day.

Stop Hunger Now (SHN) strives to end hunger by providing food and aid to vulnerable areas worldwide. At the 2015 session of Annual Conference, several hundred Upper New York volunteers of all age groups and abilities helped with *SHN*'s mission on Thursday, May 28, at The Oncenter's War Memorial Arena in Syracuse.

"Once again, I'm encouraged by the way we included a time for hands-on service at Annual Conference," said the Rev. Bill Gottschalk-Fielding, Director of Connectional Ministries. "Over 75,000 families around the world will have a nutritious meal because we United Methodist got together in Syracuse last month!"

Volunteers packaged 75,384 meals, exceeding the Conference goal of packaging 75,000 and the 2014 Annual Conference session meal-packaging total.

Each meal costs 29 cents and feeds one family. At this price, the Conference had to raise \$21,861.36 to reach the meal-packaging goal. The Conference has raised over \$21,000 – dona-

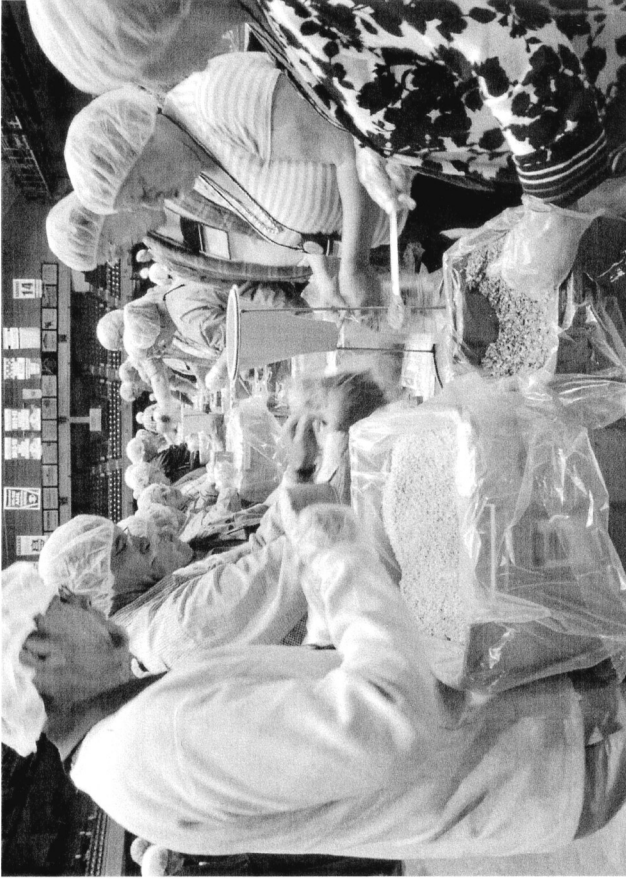
tions are still coming in – which helped purchase the materials necessary to package the meals. Church Mutual made a sizable donation, and its team members also packaged meals.

God's Gracious Gleaners and United Methodist Men helped notably, working tirelessly to set up for the event, package meals, and clean up at the event's conclusion.

At the beginning of both the lunch and dinner shifts, there were not enough volunteers due to other events going on. But once this was made known, volunteers flooded the War Memorial, according to Cherish McGowan, administrative assistant to Connectional Ministries.

"It's hard to articulate the feeling I got when I looked around the War Memorial and saw hundreds of people working together, each doing their assigned task, laughing, dancing, and contributing to such an important cause," McGowan said. "I think the event was a very positive, uplifting event for the Conference again this year, and I was very happy to be a part of it."

McGowan helped prepare the Conference for the event, beginning last fall. She got in contact with *SHN* to discuss the event, meal-packaging goals and costs,



packaging shifts, and more. She also worked closely with the War Memorial to insure volunteers had meals available to them – as the event took place during meal hours – and to discuss other event requirements as well as helping with fundraising.

"*Stop Hunger Now* is a focused, dedicated, and impressive organization," said McGowan. The organization has packaged 201,540,739 meals in total, and they serve 71 countries."

McGowan said the Conference currently does not know where the 75,384 meals packaged at the

2015 AC session will go, but in 2014, the packaged meals were sent to Haiti and Malawi, areas that are gravely affected by hunger.

"I would like to thank each and every person who helped to make this event the success that it was, whether by donating their time, money, or both," McGowan said. "We will be doing another meal-packaging event with *Stop Hunger Now* at some point in the future, and we look forward to having another successful and meaningful event."

(From "The Bridge" June 2015, Vol.2)

Friendship UMC

July Birthdays

- 3 Ellen Shawl
- 4 Seth, Evan & Aubrey Bogart
- 7 Ethel Hint
- 8 Scott Golden
- 9 Cindy Pierce
- 10 Roberta Butler
- 15 Debbie Crane
- 16 Denny Carr
- 17 Gerald Jones
- 26 Chuck Woodford
- 27 Mike Mason
- 28 David Norton
- 30 Cyril Jordan



July Anniversaries

- 3 Toby & Jean Bessey
- 6 Tim & Michelle Hall
- 10 Randy & Debbie Crane
- 14 Denny & Sheary Carr
- 15 Carl & Penny Baxter
- 19 Ken & Cindy Pierce
- 25 Chris & Jill Bogart

Jennie Gleason &
her Parents
Tristyn Logue
Shirley Southwick
--her daughter Trudy
Nancy Sortore
Diana Langdon
Dawn Kieser
Toby Bessey
Mary Baker
Cyril Jordan



For Prayer Chain, call
Roberta Butler 973-2351
or Pat Kupiec 808-7345

August Anniversaries

- 1 Lee & Donette Shelley
- 8 Jeff & Tracy Marks
- 18 Jerry & Mary Jones
- 18 Tim & Jennie Gleason

Friendship United Methodist Women News

Submitted by President Vicki Baker



The UMW met on June 11 at the church with 11 members in attendance. We had lunch, followed by our meeting. Our summer picnic will be held at Jackie Ward's home in August. Date will be announced when set. We have a graduate that has done a good job doing the overhead during church. A special coffee hour for her the Sun. after graduation was discussed.

Dolly did a wonderful program on the history of hymns. How they got started, who wrote them and why, etc. Very interesting.

No meetings in July & Aug. Summer Picnic in August in lei of meetings.


Next regular meeting will be Sept. 10.

Any woman may be part of UMW. They meet the second Thursday of the month, excluding May, July & August. Come join us.

JULY 2015

Sunday Worship 11:00 am
Sunday School - Summer Break
Cuba Dates
(C)

Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Sunday School
Friendship Dates
(F)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 
5 (C) UMW Food Pantry Collection	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 (F) WIC	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 (F) Strawberry Shortcake Sale
26 Cuba Rothfus Offering	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2015

Sunday Worship 11:00 am
 Sunday School -Summer Break
 Cuba Dates
 (C)

Sunday Worship 9:30 am
 Sunday School
 Friendship Dates
 (F)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
(C) UMW Food Pantry Collection						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 September Newsletter Deadline	18	19	20 (F) WIC	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Cuba Rothfus Offering	31					

The Shepherd's Messenger

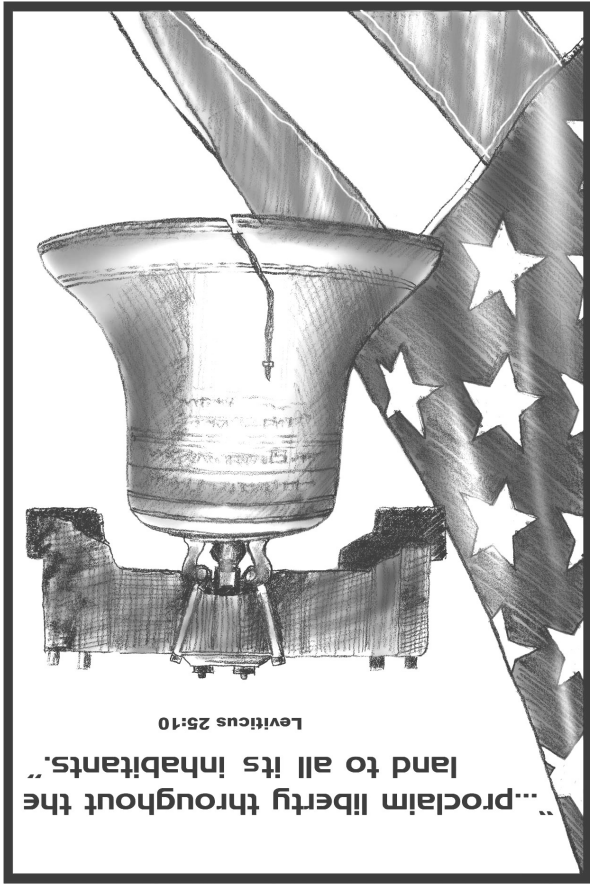
CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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WWW.CUBAUMC.ORG • REV. TIM GLEASON



2015

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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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