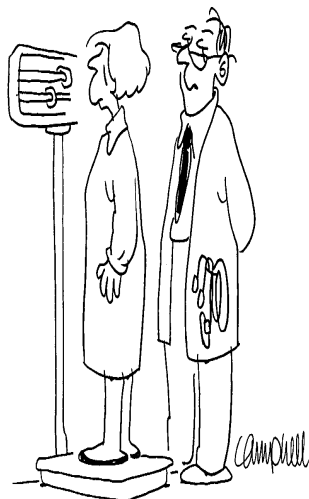


# The Shepherd's Messenger



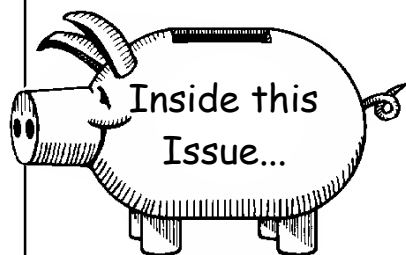
## Sunny's Rays



"You counted your blessings instead of your calories on Thanksgiving, didn't you Mrs. Blair?"

I cannot believe that it is almost Halloween already. Time seems to go by faster and faster. Humanity seems so busy that no one is stopping to smell the roses any more. But we can see that God too, has been busy, preparing our world for its season of rest. The colors have been beautiful, the air has been getting cooler, and there is that fall crispness that tells us to pay attention and think about preparing for winter and all that brings with it.

We here at Cuba United Methodist have just finished up our stewardship campaign. I don't know the outcome of our pledge Sunday, I hope you have all thought about your commitment to God and your church. Not just financially but in, oh so many other ways. Have you ever stopped and looked through the hymnal at the various services in the front of it? If you were to flip through it, on page 38, you will see RECEPTION INTO THE LOCAL CONGREGATION, number 15; the question reads; "*As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service?*" I dare say that every one of us answered with the same answer that is printed in the hymnal: "**I will!**" That is the expected answer from us, isn't it? But is it the answer that we live out?



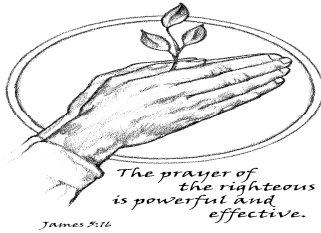
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Very soon we will begin another campaign that is this time to fill various positions within the church. This is a chore that I truly dread because I already can hear the answers that I will receive from the majority of the people. They will vary slightly but they will be there. The first one is; "No, we will be going south for the 5 months of winter." "I don't like to attend meetings." And the last one is, "I don't have time." How does the church carry on its business if no one is willing to step out to do those things?

Now as pastor, I have a fairly well defined job description that is to shepherd the flock, to preach, teach and empower you to grow the

(continued on page 3)



## **Prayer Requests**

Our World situation  
The Rothfus Family

### **CUBA CMH**

Lucille Wildrick  
Laura Clayson  
Pearl Franklin  
Carmelita Butts

### **WATERS OF WEST FIELD**

Dawn Durkee

### **BATH VA CENER**

John Visser

### **EMERITUS BASSETT**

**MANOR/  
WILLIAMSVILLE**

Jane Wright

### **OLEAN PINES**

Adaline Wakefield

### **EDEN HEIGHTS-**

**OLEAN**

Evelyn Steen

Military personnel and  
their  
families...

Bob Aaronson  
Daniel Bunk  
Kevin Desautls  
Brad Frank  
Mark Keenan  
Justin Linza  
John Curtis Quattrini  
Carl Randall  
Alfred Reynolds  
Greg Reynolds  
Brandon Snyder  
Justin Sweet  
Dan Thompson  
Ron Truax  
Miles Ward  
Eric Young

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 welcome to attend. For more information, contact Ray Perkins at 585-968-1467

TO: Members and Friends of Cuba  
United Methodist Church

We would like to express our appreciation for all the many condolences, both verbals and cards, we have received on the death of our father, John Elmer Lawton.

We would also like to thank Pastor Sunny for guiding us and officiating at his service at the Mark Rinker Funeral Home.

And last, but definitely not the least, a heartfelt thank you to the United Methodist Women for the delicious luncheon they prepared and served after the funeral.

Sincerely, Donna Y Lawton, Phyllis A Hodge, Debi Jean Fife and Patricia A. Jensen

## **Prayer LIST Update**

**Please keep our prayer list up to date.**

Requests made in assure proper spelling. You can do this in the attendance pads on Sundays, or drop your request off at the office, or email. If you call your request in, please spell out the name.

Thank you in advance for your assistance on this.



*(continued from page 1)*

church, to share the story of salvation and to do the work of the church. I can't be the chair of every committee, or the only person who works at the work of the church. Think about that shepherd metaphor for a moment. The shepherd tends the flock, they don't grow the flock, the flock increases the flock. The shepherd sees that the flock is feed, can get to water, to show them the path they need to walk to arrive at that beautiful, lush, green pasture.

I know that there are jobs that some of you have done forever, but they still have to be done. What if God got bored with doing the same thing for us and decided not to do it? What happens to us then? Some of you are probably thinking; "Well I deserve....." whatever it is we think we deserve, but that wasn't the promise that God gave us. He promised us eternal life, a place with God, Jesus, and the heavenly throng. He never promised us that we could quit the work that Jesus left us to do. He never promised us it wouldn't be boring at times. He never promised us that would always be peaches and cream.

We made promises too. Have you ever gone back and checked the vows you made when you accepted Christ into your life and joined his church? If there were to be a directive that came down from God that asks for a complete inventory of what we do here in Cuba, New York, to build the kingdom of God, to make disciples for Jesus Christ, how would you fair in that report? Would you hear God's voice say; *"Well done, my good and faithful servant."*?

So I am going to ask you to live up to those vows you made some time ago, ...to be faithful with your prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service. I pray that you remember your vows and your commitment.

Remember that God loves you and so do we.

*Pastor Sunny*



The Altar Gild is in need of ladies. The duties are very small, but the most rewarding is preparing communion. If you are interested please contact Thela Snow, or the secretary.





Our Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on November 19, from 12:00-3:00pm. This dinner is totally free!!!!.

There will be a sign-up sheet for pies. Please help us if you can. We also will need help with cooking, serving and clean up. In the past, everyone has really been great in that area.

The Ad Council will be putting this on, so please if you want to donate something, check with one of them first. We have a small budget and we cannot reimburse for things bought. We will be asking the congregation for donations, as we have in the past.

Take outs will be for membership shut-ins ONLY. The whole idea of the dinner is to have the community staying here and getting to know us. You can call the church for reservations.

I know that this year will be as successful as in the past if we all pull together.



## UMW HAPPENINGS

*Submitted by Patti Petroni*

Eight ladies braved the rain, wind, and cold to meet and discuss the latest issues concerning the activities of the UMW. Minutes of the meeting in September were read and approved. Mary Ann Pfouts gave the treasurer's report. We did really well with the latest rummage sale adding \$911.26 to our treasury. This will help with our Family Holiday Assistance program and allow us to meet the needs of what is left of our obligations for the 2011 budget. Judy Zayac along with Mary Ann Pfouts will create UMW Thank You cards and they will be sent out when necessary. It was decided that to save on costs that in the future we will do press releases only in advertising our rummage sales. That means more money can be used for mission projects. Thela Snow is taking care of providing a permanent flower arrangement for the altar when there are no fresh flowers available. It was decided that we would support four families this year at holiday time with a \$250 Walmart gift card. Patti Petroni will take care of this and work with Cuba Elementary School and request the families in need be chosen from the Town/Village of Cuba. The UMW will be dispensing two baby frames and two wedding frames to friends associated with our church. Women's Sunday will be planned for sometime in the spring. We need two people to step up and co-chair the UMW at meetings. The outline of monthly duties is available in the UMW slot near the hallway bulletin board. Sue Simmons would like to see more women reading in the UMW structured reading program. A list of books is available in the same slot and can be found at the Cuba library. Sue can answer any questions about the program which is open to ALL ladies of the church. New projects involve purchasing new dishes for the kitchen, valences for the nursery, painting Wesley Hall, and cleaning the kitchen. (Please remove wanted items from the fridge in a timely manner as overdue items will be thrown out.) Our next meeting is Sat., Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.....all ladies of the church are invited and our hostesses will be Mary Ann Pfouts and Shirley Poore.

## NOVEMBER Helping Hands

### Acolytes

6: Katelyn Cornell  
13: Nick Berardi  
20: Dominic Berardi  
27: Andrew Clement

### Liturgist

6: Robbie Cornell  
13: Judy Zayac  
20: Liz Abraham  
27: Mary Ann Pfouts

### Greeters

6: Robbie Cornell  
13: Sue Simmons &  
Doris Wyant  
20: Thela Show  
27: Jerry & Donna Burdick

### Altar Guild

Sandy Tsujimoto



## Are You Able?

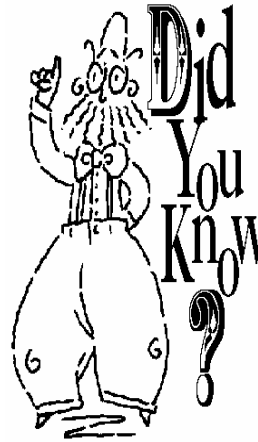
## NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

### Birthdays

2 - Samira Nasser	23 - Sandra Allis
3 - Molly Axe	Dave Battistoni
Tim Kunz	Kelly Brickey
4 - Robert Butts	Andrew James
Tom Cilvick	Paul Karle
Sandra Visser	24 - Larry Clayson
5 - Aaron Appleby	25 - Jonathan Clayson
Amy Fry	26 - Kelly Hasard
6 - Norma Andrus	29 - Judy Bowker
8 - Joel Battistoni	30 - David Williams
Tom Krott	
9 - Sue Simmons	
10 - Paula Burlingame	
11 - Lon Sweet	
12 - Drew Cox	
13 - Ann Hayward	
14 - Judy Krott	
15 - Calsey Bump	
16 - Lisa Kellogg	
Bruce Metler	
17 - Joyce Amundson	
18 - Teri Violet	
21 - Carey Donahue	
Dawn Enders	
22 - Ryan Morris	
Logan VanNess	



BLESSINGS  
ON YOUR  
BIRTHDAY



submitted by  
Dean Wildrick

Whether they call it “mudding out” or “mucking out,” seven of the 10 United Methodist annual (regional) conferences in the Northeast are in active disaster mode as they assist communities hit by record flooding at the end of the summer. The calendar is as much of a hindrance as the mud left behind.

“Our problem is we’re coming up on winter,” explained the Rev. Larry Siikanen, disaster response coordinator for the United Methodist Susquehanna Annual (regional) Conference in Pennsylvania. “We’ve got six or eight weeks to get a lot of these homes cleaned out.” Donations to assist the denomination’s response to the tropical storm flooding can be made to UMCOR Advance No. 901670, U.S. Disaster Response, designated for Hurricanes 2011.



### Anniversaries

8 - Tom & Darcy Eastham  
10 - Dick & Jean Bowers  
12 - Tom & Debbie Donahue  
13 - Bryan & Sharooz Manhardt  
23 - Robin & Laurie Torpey  
24 - Tom & June Odell

Please submit any changes to any month’s celebrations to cubasec@verizon.net or call the church office. Thank you for your help!

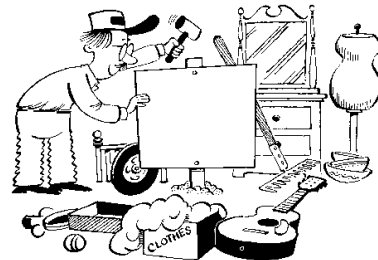
## FALL RUMMAGE SALE

*Submitted by Deb Battistoni*

The fall rummage sale was a great success this year! Many hands helped bring the treasures in the glory hole and extra storage room where donations had been accumulating since last spring to Wesley Hall to prepare for the transformation of Wesley Hall to the UMW Store of Bargains. Every morning that week the volunteers unpacked, displayed, and priced household goods with our eyes to Thursday night, when we opened to the public.

We had a good group of shoppers, and we sold \$930 of our donated goods at the sale. We set a rummage sale record - Saturday's \$1 a bag sale had 120 bags go. In the past, we've had 70 to 90 sales. A group of 4 dedicated ladies were on hand to pack up the unsold merchandise, and we were cleaned up and out in a little over an hour. A tired rummage queen took the easy way to send our unsold merchandise on to the next donation. The Vietnam Veteran's group came and took our donations (we get bags in the mail looking for donations, and someone suggested giving them a call). Wesley Hall was back to normal again.

Now we look forward to doing this again in May!



## A NOTE FROM MAGGIE

*Submitted by Maggie Watson*

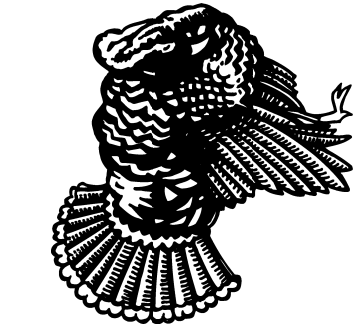
I would like to thank all of you who didn't help with the rummage sale, either setting up tables, unloading boxes and bags, pricing, working the days and evening, and cleaning up afterwards, because the ones who did work these hours really care about those who are unfortunate and who need

It was a beautiful Saturday afternoon and I wanted to be outside enjoying it, but I was at church helping Deb, Patti and 86 year old Mrs. Battistoni clean up....without your help, I might add. Mrs. Battistoni put you people to shame and I'm proud of her as she worked very hard. Not one of you men came down to help move tables or put chairs back on the racks. Wally came and got a car load of cardboard and extra trash and took care of them, AND I did not say one word to him about it..ask

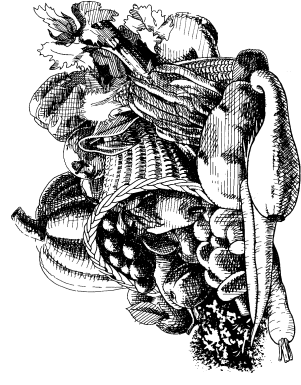
But I really want to say thank you to the few who did help whenever you could...you are good






If you have anything to say about this article, contact Maggie Watson. The secretary and the minis-

The end



# NOVEMBER



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Ad Council 6:00p	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Kung Fu 6-8 Saturdays 
<b>6</b> Worship 10:00a S/S 11:15a Kaffee Haus 6p	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Election Day Spaghetti Dinner 4:00pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  UMW 10:00a
<b>13</b> Worship 10:00a S/S 11:15a Kaffee Haus 6p	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Finance 6:00p	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Community Thanksgiving Dinner 12-3
<b>20</b> Worship 10:00a S/S 11:15a Kaffee Haus 6p	<b>21</b> 	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Hanging of the Greens Thnks/Vent 6p	<b>28</b> Trustees 7:00p	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 			

# The Shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

49 EAST MAIN ST. • CUBA, NY 14727

[www.cubaumc.org](http://www.cubaumc.org) • Pastor Sunny Mauser



## Thanksgiving

# November 2011

*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 9:00 am. Please email articles to Editor's email address, or drop articles off to the church office.

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Cuba, New York 14727  
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Website: [www.cubaumc.org](http://www.cubaumc.org)

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## A Thanksgiving Day Prayer

Lord, so often times, as any other day  
When we sit down to our meal and pray

We hurry along and make fast the blessing  
Thanks, amen. Now please pass the dressing

We're slaves to the olfactory overload  
We must rush our prayer before the food gets cold

But Lord, I'd like to take a few minute more  
To really give thanks to what I'm thankful for

For my family, my health, a nice soft bed  
My friends, my freedom, a roof over my head

I'm thankful right now to be surrounded by those  
Whose lives touch me more than they'll ever possibly know

Thankful Lord, that You've blessed me beyond measure  
Thankful that in my heart lives life's greatest treasure

That You, dear Jesus, reside in that place  
And I'm ever so grateful for Your unending grace

So please, heavenly Father, bless this food You've provided  
And bless each and every person invited

*Amen!*

--Scott Wesemann