

# The Shepherd's Messenger



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**Congratulations to our  
new Church Secretary,  
Jim Travis!!!**



## TIME CHANGE!!

Don't forget that our worship  
time has changed to **9:00 a.m.**

## FROM THE GRINCH

(Pastor Tim?)

As Jennie and I begin planning for our Christmas, I am reminded of that wonderful Dr. Seuss story, *How The Grinch Stole Christmas*. Children's stories have some very adult messages, too. It has been a long time since I have seen the movie based on this story, so I had forgotten some of the messages. In case you don't have a little one to read to, or if in case you have forgotten, here are some of the messages of this so-called children's story:

- The Grinch is jealous of other people enjoying Christmas because he has a heart that is "two sizes too small".
- The Grinch decides to steal everyone's Christmas presents, their decorations, and even their Christmas trees so he can have Christmas all to himself.
- The Grinch is surprised to discover that the people, (called the "Who's") are still able to celebrate Christmas, even without their gifts and decorations.
- The Grinch further discovers that Christmas isn't just about gifts, decorations, and trees, it is about "something more".
- The Grinch's heart suddenly grows several sizes, he returns all of the Christmas items to the Who's, and he is invited to join them in celebrating Christmas.

Not a bad list of lessons at this time of year, is it? Not just a book for kids, is it? It is even something a preacher could preach about, isn't it?

How about you? Is your heart "two sizes too small"? Do you need to let your heart grow several sizes this Advent? Do you know that Christmas is "something more" than just presents, gifts, decorations, Christmas carols and cantatas, and even worship services?

Merry Christmas to all...to all the children of all ages...and to all the Grinch's, too. And so I pray:

Grow our hearts, Lord; grow them during these Advent days. Take away our cheapness, and fill us with your generous ways. Grow our minds, Lord; grow them during this Advent season. Take away our old thoughts and fill us with your gracious wisdom. Grow our love, Lord; grow us to the Christmas celebration. Take away our sorrows, and fill us with your joy. Grow our lives, Lord; grow us during this Advent time. Take away our failures and start us on the upward climb. Grow our church, Lord. Grow it during this Christmas preparation. Take away our smallness, and help us to share the baby boy. Amen.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

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

CUBA CMH

Lucille Wildrick  
Pearl Franklin  
Carmelita Butts

WATERS OF WESTFIELD

Dawn Durkee

OLEAN PINES

Adaline Wakefield

EDEN HEIGHTS-OLEAN

Evelyn Steen

**Others to keep in prayer:**

Brooklyn (premature baby, friend of  
the La Fever's)

Tim Bushnell  
Chuck Brooks  
Eva Carlson  
John Culbert  
Gary Enderle  
The Family of Harris Fitch  
Mike Gibbons  
Tyler Griffin  
Karen Hessney  
Lew Holden (In Afghanistan)  
James Kellogg  
Dick Karle  
Rolly Miles  
Elizabeth Morris  
Keith Pierce  
Jean Switalski

**Military personnel and their families...**

Pauline Baker  
Benny Cartin  
Lew Holden (Afghanistan)  
Casey Krug (Returned Home)  
Colby Krug  
Ross McPhee  
Chris Sirianni (Deployed)  
John Curtis Quattrini



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, call Sandy Lathrop at 585-968-91531.

**Great holiday news!** Santa and his elves will take a break from their busy, bustling workshop to join our parish families for breakfast on **Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** at Our Lady of the Angels Carmody Hall. Breakfast will be served from 10:00-11:00 a.m. while Santa visits with each family. There will also be Christmas carols and activities for all ages. Seating is limited to the first 100, so sign up at your church as soon as possible. Admission is easy-just bring a non-perishable food offering on the 15<sup>th</sup> per family member to donate to our local food pantry.

Can't attend but would like to help out? Donations of breakfast treats such as donuts, muffins, and coffee cakes would be greatly appreciated.

**December Helping Hands**Ushers

Alan & Judy Zayac

Greeters

12/2 Thela Snow  
12/9 Open for You  
12/16 Open for You  
12/23 Open for You  
12/30 Open for You

Acolyte

12/2 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle  
12/9 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle  
12/16 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle  
12/23 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle  
12/30 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle

Altar GuildCoffee Hour

Open for Volunteers



*Many Hands make Light Work. Won't you please consider volunteering. We need greeters, liturgists, nursery helpers, Coffee Hour Hosts. Please sign up on the clipboards at the front entrance if you can help. Thank You.*

## December Birthdays

- 1 Raquel Kasperski
- Kala Nugent
- John Riley
- 2 Adam Freeman
- 3 Robert Amundson
- 4 Rhonda Cornell
- 5 Cheryl Steen
- Morgan Sweet
- 8 Austin Parker
- Elyse Petroni
- 9 Jared Battistoni
- Sue Osborne ??
- 12 Lucille Wildrick
- 13 Phyllis Hodge
- 14 Shawn-Day Frederick
- 15 Pamela Higby
- 16 Virginia Clayson
- 17 Frederick Edwards
- Byron Hamilton
- 18 Patti Metler
- 20 Jeanine Rose
- 21 Janice Sutphin
- 23 Caitlin Metler
- 25 **Jesus Christ**
- Zachary Metler
- 27 Bryan Manhardt
- 28 Sandra Allen
- Scott Emerson
- Andy Nelson
- Shirley Pugh



### Statistics

**Needed: \$**

Date	Worship	Offering
10/28	32	\$1,383.00
11/4	35	\$1,851.00
11/11	34	\$1,618.00
11/18	32	\$1,322.00
11/25	29	\$1,392.00

## Special Birthday

### Special Greetings

Lucille Wildrick, will celebrate her **100th birthday on Dec. 12, 2012**. She is a member of our church and a former member of the Baptist Church. I am sure she would appreciate a birthday greeting from anyone wishing to send her a card.

Lucille Wildrick  
Cuba Memorial Hospital, Rm 238W  
140 W. Main St.

**Inter-Community Choir "Journey of Promises"**  
Sunday Dec. 2, 4pm, First Presbyterian Church, Cuba

## December Anniversaries

- 1 Marc & Sylvia Subject
- 12 John & Mary Hupp
- 15 Alan & Judy Zayac
- 26 Art & Jean Higby
- 28 Jerry & Donna Burdick
- Dean & Cheryl Wildrick



### **Good Job CUMC!**

Nick Abraham had always organized the Bell Ringers for the Salvation Army and the Cuba United Methodists have always provided Volunteer ringers for the day before Thanksgiving at the Cuba Giant. We miss you Nick!

Please submit any changes to any Month's celebrations to any cubasec@roadrunner.com or call the church office. Thank you for your help!



It was a last-minute effort by Cindy Dutton this Year after returning from vacation, but she was able to get the day covered with bell ringers from our congregation.

Many thanks to Ruth Holden, Laroy and Barb Spateholts, Harley & Shirley Poore, Mike and Marjanne Kunz, The Tsujimoto Family and Sue Feldbauer.

The "miracle" of Christmas is repeated over and over again through the joy of caring and sharing. The traditional red kettle is an integral part of the Christmas scene, with millions of dollars donated each year to aid needy families, seniors, and the

## UMW NEWS

*Submitted by Judy*

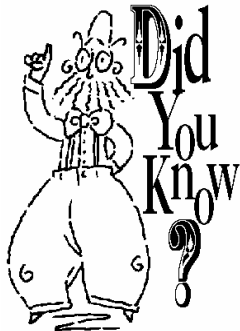
We have had a disappointing start to the UMW calendar year with light attendance. I urge all women of the church to attend if you are able. Not only do we do a lot of mission work for our church and community, but we have delicious brunch meetings on Saturday mornings. If the time is keeping you from attending, please let us know and we may be able to change, and please feel free to make any suggestions. We have had a strong group over the years, and I truly pray that we can continue this.



We are proud to again be able to give a better Christmas to four families from the Cuba-Rushford School District with the help of the full congregation. Thanks to the school nurse for helping to identify those in need. At the December meeting on 12/8 we hope to complete our donations to mission and the local church. We have had two successful rummage sales to help us to this end.

The UMW also donated a beautiful wreath from Pleasant Valley Nursery to the Many Splendored Evening to raise money for the Cuba Chamber of Commerce's Toys for Kids program.

I hope to see you on Saturday, December 8th at 10:00 a.m. for brunch!



**DYK:** *Submitted by Dean Wildrick*

***"It is He who saved us and chose us for his holy work, not because we deserved it but because that was his plan."***  
***(2 Timothy 1:9)***

By the end of the third quarter of 2012 Mission Central had been blessed with more than 6,000 volunteers who donated almost 18,000 hours "for his holy work." This is the equivalent of 12 additional full time employees at a cost savings of almost \$130,000! Our volunteers are clearly one of God's bountiful blessings.

October saw almost 125,000 lives touched by Mission Central, with more than 2 million people assisted by the \$7,344,000 worth of resources we have disbursed from this building this year. Of the \$3,433,000 disbursed by Mission Central in 2012, 66% of the resources have gone overseas, 8% have remained within Pennsylvania, and the remaining 26% have been shipped elsewhere in the United States. These percentages are likely to shift significantly as we prepare to distribute Cleaning Buckets and Health Kits to our neighbors who have been impacted by Hurricane Sandy. October's interactions included medical shipments of feeding supplement; seasonal items, activity kits and candy for outreach programs; and items for Haiti, Sierra Leone, India and Guatemala. "

### Help UMCOR Response to Hurricane Sandy

Donations to help Our United Methodist response to Hurricane Sandy can be sent to: Upper New York Annual Conference, 324 University Ave, 3rd Floor, Syracuse, NY 13210. Please mark the donation **"UMCOR Hurricane 2012 Advance #3021787."** Or you can donate at [www.umcor.org](http://www.umcor.org) selecting **"Hurricanes 2012"** from the drop down menu.

## Administrative Council Report

*by Judy Zayac, Chair*

The Administrative Council met on November 13th after the Finance Committee. It was good to hear that the change to a part time pastor has helped bring some financial solvency to our church. We are glad to be able to meet expenses and pay the bills.

Judy had compiled a spreadsheet from the surveys that were turned in which made it a little easier to come to some conclusions about what the congregation is thinking and expecting from the CUMC. The committee reviewed the surveys and the compilation.

Some interesting facts:

We had 23 responses to the survey. The average age of the members was 41 to 60+. The average membership was either 20+ years or 6-20 years. Most responded that they would like more familiar music **and a choir**. I believe we have already taken care of the familiar music situation. Now, please pray for a choir director. I know we have some really good voices. We need a leader.

A common theme throughout the surveys was that we need more children. Unfortunately, we probably don't have young families because we don't have local business and jobs to support them. We need to think about outreach and ministering to our community.

There was a unanimous "Great Job" response for Sandy Tsujimoto with the Summer Shenanigans program. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you Sandy!

*(Cont on Page 7)*

## Trustee News

*From Rob Cornell*

Activities this week made me proud to be a member of our congregation

You may remember we wondered if we would have support

No doubt, Almost all members supported – Trustees initiated, but this was a congregation dinner

We joined together for a common cause and it was good

We joined together for a common cause and it was good

There were pies 23 I think – Also pumpkin roll and cookies

Trustee's took liking Pie & Salad Masters said no – insisted that they were for children

Kids from the school helped as in the past

Someone didn't like their assignment and did something else

We had dinner music

One fellow got a 4 course meal

Someone got a chance to eat spaghetti at a dinner 1<sup>st</sup> time in 15 years

One person came, saw all of the work going on, went home, took a nap, and came back for clean-up

Got the garbage disposal working better – a little too good

We went to the store a few times to ensure that we had enough of everything

106 adult 18 kids ... \$410 profit

Pastor Tim asked what he could do, we had enough help that he could relax and chat with the people.

There were 4 pastors there at once – may have been a sign there

The community came, saw what we were doing was good, and complimented us

The community came, saw what we were doing was good, and complimented us

Activities this week made me proud to be a member of our congregation – **and you should be too!**



*(Admin Council Continued)*

Some other comments/suggestions: “Priority should be to build our congregation”

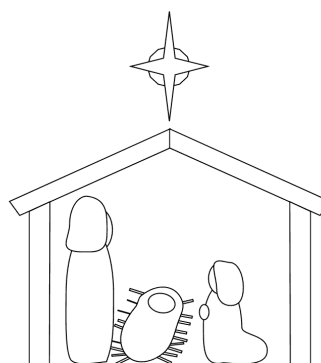
“Pastor should do announcements, etc.” “Greeting time awkward, should be after hymn”

“Seeking a happier service” “Music better than 3 months ago” “Move forward with positive expectations”

“Would like to see more home visits” “Miss choir and organist” “Mission projects that all can get involved in”

Thanks to all for sharing your thoughts and concerns about the CUMC. I think that we can collectively respond to most of these in time.

## Just For the Children



# December 2012



Sun	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> Kung Fu 6-8:00 am Decorate Sanctuary Advent Breakfast Reflection OLA
<b>2</b> Worship 9:00 a.m. Inter-Community Choir First Presbyterian-4:00	<b>3</b> Military Prayer Grp 7:00 @ OLA	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Kung Fu 6-8:00 am UMW Meeting 10:00
<b>9</b> Worship 9:00 a.m.	<b>10</b> Military Prayer Grp 7:00 @ OLA	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Holiday Assistance Distribution 8:15-3:00-Baptist Church	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Kung Fu 6-8:00 am Breakfast w/Santq OLA Church @ 10:00 am
<b>16</b> Worship 9:00 a.m. Graduates	<b>17</b> Military Prayer Grp 7:00 @ OLA	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Kung Fu 6-8:00 am
<b>23</b> Worship 9:00 a.m.	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Service 6:00	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Kung Fu 6-8:00 am
<b>30</b> Worship 9:00 a.m.	<b>31</b>				

**25**  
Happy  
Birthday Jesus!

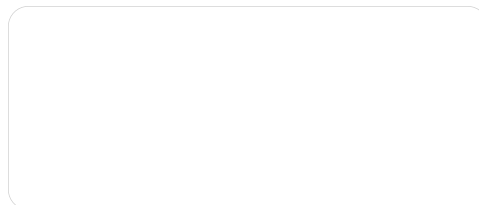
\*\*1/12 Un-decorate  
Sanctuary

# The Shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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WWW.CUBAUMC.ORG •

## December 2012

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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