

December 2016

The Shepherd's Messenger



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Pastor Burt

LOVE - Main Ingredient for A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Grace and peace to you and yours in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Ephesians 3:17-19

"...so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

In Rochester this past week there was an amazing act of love. In the early evening, after putting her children to bed, a young mother was working in the kitchen. She heard something and went into the living room to find it fully engulfed in flames. She ran upstairs with the fire on her heels to warn the others in the house and to rescue her two babies. She passed those little ones out a small window and got disoriented and consumed by fire and smoke and did not get out. It was motherly instinct and her love for her children that motivated that sacrifice, that ACT of LOVE!

That's what Christmas is about. It is God's love going the extra mile - the distance for you and me! God loved us enough that he would have his only Son to be born in a manger! He came down to us in love, unconditional love like the love the young mother demonstrated by running up those stairs! That is what love does, it puts the beloved before self!

That is LOVE! Think about that for a minute - take a deep breath - fill yourself with just how much God LOVES You!

Do you realize that God's love can flow over and cover every bit of your life! Every act, thought, hurt, disappointment, broken promise, sickness, cuss words, harsh words, every worry - because He is God and GOD IS LOVE! That is the message of Christmas.

This Christmas - let the love of the Christ Child and the Savior of the cross, bring his PEACE to your heart, to your life and the lives of those you love!

That will make for a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Pastor Burt



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

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas!

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...

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:

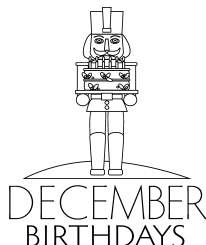
Tom Bean
Connie Battistoni
Derwood Say
Laroy Spatcholts
Thela Snow
Alice Sweet
Ken Wyant

**Prayer LIST Update**

Please keep our prayer list up to date.

We are starting over with the prayer list. If someone should be added or removed from the prayer list, please submit their name in writing.

You can write prayer requests in the attendance pads on Sundays, or drop your request off at the office, or



3 Robert Amundson
4 Rhonda Cornell
9 Jared Battistoni
13 Phyllis Hodge
15 Pamela Higby
16 Virginia Clayson
18 Patti Metler
23 Caitlin Metler
25 **Jesus Christ**
Zachary Metler
28 Sandra Allen
Andy Nelson

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

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
10/30	44	14	\$1,531.37
10/30		Rothfus	\$ 94.00
11/6	50	14	\$1,410.00
11/6	Naomi Mission		\$ 55.00
11/13	45	21	\$1,670.00
11/20	55	19	\$1,727.00
11/20	Naomi Mission		\$ 10.00

December Helping HandsUshers:

Dean & Cheryl Wildrick

Pianist:

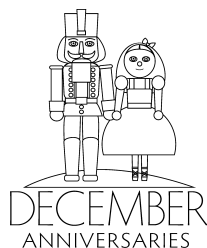
Christine Berardi

Organist:

Jonathan Denham

Altar Guild:

Thela Snow



12 John & Mary Hupp
28 Dean & Cheryl Wildrick

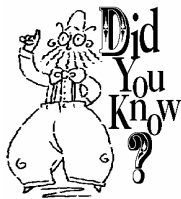


Sue Simmons is the UMW's **Cheer Person**. If you know of someone who needs a note of cheer, please call her at **585-968-1135**.



If you have a prayer request, call the prayer chain.

Call Sandra Allen
at 968-2137
or Ruth Holden
at 968-1933

DYK:*Submitted by Dean Wildrick*

The United Methodist Council of Bishops has announced the membership of the Commission on a Way Forward. The 2016 General Conference gave a specific mandate to the Council of Bishops to lead The United Methodist Church in discerning and proposing a way forward through the present impasse related to human sexuality and the consequent questions about unity and covenant. The Commission is a group appointed by the Council of Bishops to assist the Council in fulfilling this mandate. Dr. Scott Johnson, the former UNY Conference lay leader, was one of the 32 members chosen for the Commission.

U M W Meeting*Submitted by Shirley Poore*

United Methodist Women

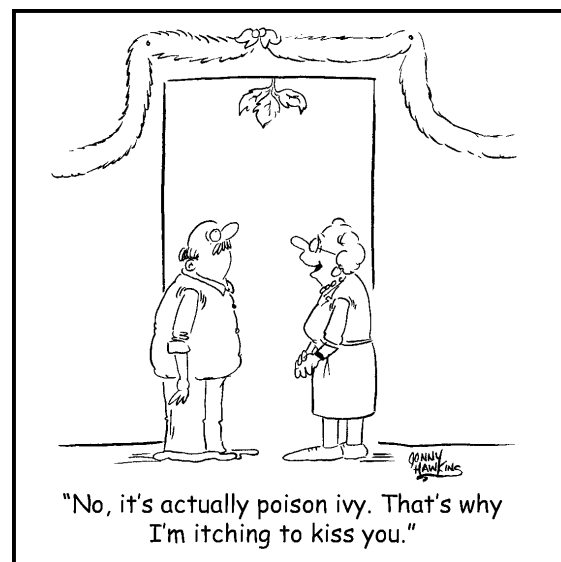
The next U M W meeting will be December, 17
10:00 AM. All ladies welcome.

We will be discussing our plan to send Christmas Gift cards to two families. 1- \$100, from giant, 1-\$150 from Kmart.

The Cellular blinds are up in Wesley Hall and the new stoves are in.

Remember Sue Simmons is the cheer chair, if you know anyone who needs a card. Also save giant receipts for her.

Ruth will make her reminding calls.



Orders need to be given to Thela Snow, 5841 Hilltop Rd. Cuba, NY 14727 no later than
Sunday, December 11.

Candlelight Service

Christmas Eve Service
Saturday, Dec 24, 7:00 pm
Bring a friend!



Christmas Day Worship Service
will be held at regular time
11:00 am, Sunday, Dec. 25

WINTER STEW DELIGHT

Peggy Pearce

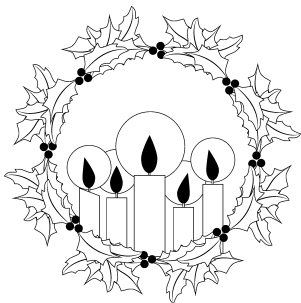


Combine:

- 1 small head cabbage, chopped
- 4 medium potatoes, diced
- 4 medium onions, diced
- 1 28-oz. can diced tomatoes
- 1 pound carrots, peeled and sliced
- 2 pounds Italian sausage, fried and drained
- 4 cups beef broth
- 1 cup tomato juice (or V8 juice)
- 1 15-oz. can black beans (or kidney or pinto beans)
- salt to taste

Cover and bake at 350° for 1 ½ to 2 hours until tender, stirring occasionally. If necessary add more broth or juice. Freezes well. Fills a large roaster pan as written, but recipe can be easily halved.

(Adjust quantities as desired; I use less carrots, more onions and beans.)

**The Christmas Story**

Each line below contains the letters to form a word that is part of the Christmas story. But each group of letters has 1 that is extra! Unscramble the words and write the extra letter on the lines at the bottom. What did we all receive at Christmas?

- | | | | |
|---|------------|-------|-------|
| ① | TGLBEHHEME | _____ | _____ |
| ② | NEAGLO | _____ | _____ |
| ③ | NRMEDAG | _____ | _____ |
| ④ | ODEKSNY | _____ | _____ |
| ⑤ | AMGYR | _____ | _____ |
| ⑥ | OHESJIP | _____ | _____ |
| ⑦ | EFJSUS | _____ | _____ |
| ⑧ | ITEENMSW | _____ | _____ |
| ⑨ | SPHHDSREEO | _____ | _____ |
| ⑩ | EMCFAL | _____ | _____ |
| ⑪ | TLSRA | _____ | _____ |
| ⑫ | CSSNUEO | _____ | _____ |
| ⑬ | HEVSPE | _____ | _____ |
| ⑭ | ENIN | _____ | _____ |

“ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 ”
9 10 11 12 13 14



The Food Pantry is in need of the following for the **Holiday Assistance Program**: Boxed stuffing, boxed potatoes, canned gravy cranberry sauce as well as the "always needed" PB and J, canned/boxed meals, soups and cereal. (each Holiday Assistance family is given a bag of groceries and a gift certificate to Giant for perishable. Last year over 125 families)



- Dec. 12 - **Drop off day** for items (new toys/games) for Holiday Assistance at First Baptist 9 am - 5 pm
- Dec. 13 - **Sorting Day** for Holiday Assistance 8 am - 10 am
- Dec. 15 - **Distribution Day** for Holiday Assistance 8:30 - 11 am and 4:30 - 6 pm. **Volunteers needed for all times!**



**Holiday
Assistance**

Adult Sunday School Class



Adult Sunday School Studies with Cheryl

PROPHECY #13: The Grecian Empire

There are several prophecies concerning the Grecian Empire.

1. The empire of Greece is described in prophecy as "a leopard with four wings and four heads." (Daniel 7:1,6) The leopard and the four wings each stand for speed. Alexander the Great conducted a very swift conquest of Medo-Persian empire and surrounding countries. The "four heads" in the prophecy stand for Alexander's four generals who divided his empire after his death. - History records these events.
2. Warfare between Egypt and Syria was predicted. (Daniel 11:3-13) And an Egypt - Syrian alliance was predicted. (Daniel 11:17) - History records that these predictions came true.
3. Prophecy also predicted the rise of Antiochus Epiphanes, ruler of Syria. This Greek (a former general of Alexander's) hated the Jews who did not support him. He punished the Jews by no longer allowing them to give temple sacrifices, and he desecrated their temple by offering a sow (an unclean animal) on the temple's altar. (Daniel 8:9-14) Antiochus elevated himself above God. (Daniel 8:23-25) When Antiochus killed thousands of Jews on their way to worship, it began the Maccabean (priests') Revolt. This led to the temple being reconsecrated and Jewish religion being restored. - (As recorded in history.)
4. Antiochus Epiphanes would, in the future, depose the Jewish High Priest and persecute the Jews. (Daniel 11:28) He would desecrate the temple by placing a pagan statue in the "Holy of Holies". (Daniel 11:31-32) While Antiochus was in Jerusalem, it was, "a time of Jewish distress." (Daniel 11:33) - History records this. — These prophecies of the Greek Empire came true. - Other prophecy will come true.

Prophecy of the Future End Times says that an evil ruler (Anti Christ) will also abolish the daily temple sacrifice, and then place his image in the temple for all to worship (instead of the One True God.) (Daniel 11:36-45) (Daniel 12:10-11)



Christmas Cantata
The Inter-Community Choir
presents
"The Mystery and the Majesty"
Written by Joseph Martin

Friday, December 2 - 7:00 p.m. - River's Edge UM Church, Portville
Sunday, December 4 - 2:00 p.m. - Palmer Opera House - Cuba
 Saturday, December 10 - 7:00 p.m. - Friendship United Methodist Church
 Sunday, December 11 - 7:00 p.m. - Friendship United Methodist Church



NO CLASSES

There will be no
Elementary & Teen
Sunday School on
 Dec 25, Jan. 1,
 and
 Jan. 8

DUDLEY TAILS

Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick

Occasionally when I am out in public with Dudley, someone will come over and ask me if he is my dog. I reply with a smile, “Yes, he belongs to me.”

What does that sentence mean?

1. That I saw him and wanted him with me always?
2. That I prepared a place for him and would take him home?
3. That he has a tag that tells where his home is?
4. That I care for him and meet his needs?
5. That I will give him a reward if he is obedient?
6. That I will correct him when he is wrong?
7. That I will always love him?



Many dog lovers have experienced these things. But, did you know that God does these same things for the Believer?

1. God saw us (who were the work of his hand) (Psalms 139:13 and he wanted us with Him always - (Philippians 3:20-21)
2. God prepared a place for us (John 14:2) and He will take us to His home. (John 14:3)
3. God gave the Believer a “seal” that tells where the Believer’s home is. (Ephesians 1:13) (2 Corinthians 1:21-22)
4. God cares for us (1 Peter 5:7) and meets our needs.(Philippians 4:19)
5. God rewards us when we are obedient. (Deuteronomy 7:12-13), (Deuteronomy 28:2-4), (Psalms 103:11), (Isaiah 1:19)
6. God corrects us when we are wrong. (Jeremiah 7:23-24a) (Luke 15:7)
7. God promises to always love us. (Psalms 97:10), (Psalms 106:1), (psalms 107:1), (Psalms 118:1-4), (Psalms 136:1-9).

We belong to God. He is our maker.

We belong to God. He has made a commitment to us.

We belong to God. He wants us with Him always.

A good meditation for each morning is:

“Lord, I came from you.” (past)

“Lord, I belong to you.” (present)

“Lord, I will return to you.” (future)

And about Dudley?

Put him into a room full of strangers, and he will come to me. He knows that he belongs to me.

(The pictures shown in “Dudley Tails” are of residents in Cuba Memorial Hospital that Dudley visits.)



WORSHIP
SERVICE
SUNDAY
11:00 AM



december
2016

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:45 AM
For All Ages

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Naomi Mission Collection UMW Food Pantry Collection	5	6 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Grief Support Group 12:30 am	7 Management Team 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30p	8	9	10
11 Poinsettia Order Deadline	12	13 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	14 Choir Practice 7 pm	15	16	17 UMW Meeting 10:00 am
18 Poinsettias ar- ranged during Worship Service	19	20 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	21 Choir Practice 7 pm	22	23	 Christmas Eve Service 7 pm
25 Christmas Day Service 11:00 am Rothfus Collection	26	27 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	28 Choir Practice 7 pm	29	30	31

The Shepherd's Messenger
CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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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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www.cubaumc.org

Interim Pastor Burt Smith:
Phone: (585) 567-2650

Pastor's Office Hours:
Tuesday 9 am - 3 pm
Wednesday 1 pm - 6 pm
and by appointment

