

December 2017

The Shepherd's Messenger



Some Christmas Reminders

Christmas has become extremely commercialized. The Oxford Study Dictionary describes the term commercialize as 'to make commercial or to alter in order to make profitable'. In light of this definition, I certainly believe that it has become too commercialized and has strayed and deviated far from the Christian holiday used to

celebrate the birth of our Christ and Savior, Jesus. Everywhere we look we see Christmas trees, lights, presents, signs enticing us to buy this or that for the people on our lists. But let's try to keep our thoughts focused on the real meaning of the season.

- * May the Christmas **GIFTS** remind us of God's greatest gift, His only Son.
- * May the Christmas **CANDLES** remind us of Him who is the "Light of the world."
- * May the Christmas **TREES** remind us of another tree upon which he died.
- * May the Christmas **CHEER** remind us of Him who said, "Be of good cheer."
- * May the Christmas **FEAST** remind us of Him who is "the Bread of Life."
- * May the Christmas **BELLS** remind us of the glorious proclamation of His birth.
- * May the Christmas **CAROLS** remind us of the son the angels sang, "Glory to God in the Highest!"
- * May the Christmas **SEASON** remind us in every way of Jesus Christ our King!

The entire reason for Christmas is the love of God. God loves you so much that he came to earth as a human so you could get to know him and learn to trust him and love him back. Theologians call this the Incarnation. God became one of us, a human being, so we could understand what he is really like.

When we see all those around us in need, whether physically, financially, emotionally, or spiritually, let's remember that Christmas really shouldn't be limited to one season of the year.

God's gift was for all seasons. And, every time we share that gift, it's Christmas!

2 Corinthians 9:15 says Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Pastor Becky



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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

PINES - OLEAN

Connie Battistoni

Others to keep in prayer:

Jim Benz
Luke Fries
Ashton Hawks
Howard Hinkle
Pastor Carl Holmes
Sandy Lathrop
Mark Middaugh
Janice Phelps
Keith Pearce
Bob Rasmusson
Laroy Spateholts
Heidi Sturdevant
Lon Sweet
David Taylor
JoAnn Viglietta
Ken Wyant

**Prayer LIST Update**

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.

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

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.



3 - Robert Amundson
4 - Rhonda Cornell
9 - Jared Battistoni
15 - Pamela Higby
16 - Virginia Clayson
25 - **Jesus Christ**
28 - Sandra Allen
- Andy Nelson



12 - John & Mary Hupp
28 - Dean & Cheryl Wildrick

Statistics**Needed: \$1,739**

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
10/29	36	16	\$1,149.00
		Rothfus	\$ 80.00
11/5	54	10	\$2,347.00
		Naomi	\$ 120.00
11/12	51	14	\$1,560.00
		Naomi	\$ 5.00
11/19	38	18	\$1,309.00
		Rothfus	20.00
11/26	58	11	\$1,436.51
		Rothfus	\$ 105.00

November Helping HandsUsher:

Jim Travis

Pianist:

Christine Berardi

Organist:

Jonathan Denham

Breakfast:

12/17 9:30 am

Altar Guild:

Cindy Dutton
Thela Snow



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

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

*Candlelight
Service*



**Christmas Eve
Service Sunday,
Dec 24, 7:00 pm**



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.

U M W Meetings

Submitted by Doris Wyant

October, 21 2017

Thela opened with a prayer.
Thela & Debbie provided refreshments.
Were 8 ladies in attendance.

Sue received \$19.00 for her Cheer account.

Minutes were read & accepted.

Treasurers report, \$8,930.75 in treasure account.

Discussed meeting our new pastor & set up a Coffee Hour for November 19, 2017.

Discussed an U M C O R mission we may do.

Will donate a wreath to the "Toys For Kids".

Thela, Janet & Debbie looking into the purchase of curtain behind cross)
\$1485.00 30% at J C Penney.

We have chosen the 2 families will send the Christmas gift cards to.
I made the motion Sue 2nd it.

Discussed an U M C O R project we will do.
Also will be doing flood buckets.

Next meeting will be November 18, 2017
All ladies welcome.

Doris, Sue & Shirley will do refreshments.



November 18 2017

Pastor Becky opened with prayer.
Refreshments By Sue, Doris & Shirley

Minutes were read & accepted.
Treasurer Balance \$8,939.75

Chose 2 families to receive the Christmas gift Cards. They will be mailed.

Holly will make 2 dozen cookies for the North Park Wesleyan Thanksgiving Advent service.
Cindy will make 2 dozen cookies for Christmas Genesee Park Tree Lighting.

Curtain for back of cross on altar, has been put on hold.

Going to replace 1 refrigerator- Sears, \$469.00.

December 17th a breakfast at 9:30- will be sign up list.

Discussed about needs for Naomi, Flood buckets & Agnity Mission for girls.

Going to give gift cards to shut-ins.
Send \$100.00 to " Henderson Settlement".

Next meeting December 16, 2017.
Ruth & Sandy will do refreshments.



SWEET POTATO SOUFFLE

Claire Morris

2 cups mashed sweet potato
½ stick oleo, salt to taste
1 cup sugar
3 eggs
¾ to 1 cup milk
1 tsp. vanilla
¼ tsp. lemon extract
½ cup seedless raisins
Marshmallows



Boil, peel and mash sweet potatoes. While warm add other ingredients, top with marshmallows and back in 350° oven until done, or brown. You may need to bake awhile before adding the marshmallows. I'm sure you do.

Adult Sunday School Studies with Cheryl



PROPHECY #24: Ten Nation Confederacy and Rise of the Anti-Christ

In the history of the world, three great empires have come and gone. They are: the Babylonian, the Medo-Persian, and the Greek empires. (Daniel 7:2-7) The fourth empire, the Roman empire, was never defeated by a greater nation, but instead, faded away. In Biblical prophecy, we read that the Roman empire will rise again.

Ten Nation Confederacy

In the Old Testament book of Daniel, God reveals a vision of the future, to the prophet Daniel. The vision includes beasts and “horns” which are difficult to understand. In Daniel 7:23, God explains that the fourth beast represents the Roman empire. Daniel would not live to see it, but it existed during the life of Jesus. In Daniel 7:24, the prophecy begins.

The ten “horns” represent ten Roman kings. (One from each of ten countries formerly in the original Roman empire.) These form a political union which is called the Ten Nation Confederacy. It elects a leader, and it governs in the revised Roman empire.

Rise of the Anti-Christ

Later, “another, different king” will arise. (Daniel 7:24) He will subdue three of the ten Roman kings, thus gaining more power. He will eventually take over the remaining seven kingdoms, and become the World Leader. Then the World Leader will become the World Dictator. He will make all the rules. He will speak against God (blasphemy) (Daniel 7:25), and he will put his image in the Jewish sanctuary to be worshipped. (defiling the temple.)

The World Dictator is the Anti-Christ. He is “against Christ” and desires to replace Christ. He elevates himself and demands to be worshipped instead of God. He is Satan’s chosen replacement for God. He will hunt and kill the Jews and the Christians during the Great Tribulation. Other names for the Anti-Christ are: “man of sin” and the “lawless one”.

God’s prophecy of the rise of the Babylonian Empire, the Medo-Persian Empire, the Greek Empire, and the Roman Empire came true. His prophecy of the Ten Nation Confederacy and the Anti-Christ will come true also.

The **Cuba Council of Churches met November 14** at the First Baptist Church.
The following information was shared:

The **Holiday Assistance Program** is behind in raising the \$12,000 needed to help needy families in our school district. Last year the program provided gift certificates for over 100 families which included close to 250 children from the Cuba Rushford School District to buy Christmas groceries and children’s gifts. Donations can be sent to Pastor Megan Cusumano at North Park Wesleyan Church at 32 Spring Street, Cuba. Many hands are needed at the “Sorting and Set Up” at First Baptist Church on Tuesday December 12 from 8am until about 10am because in addition to the gift certificates, groceries and toys purchased by the Cuba Chamber of Commerce are given. Please help! People are also needed on distribution day, Thursday, December 14 starting from 8:30am – 11am, and again from 4:30-6pm.



The Council of Churches will be providing cookies at the **Hometown Christmas** at 5pm, at Genesee Park in the Gazebo. Each church is asked for 3 dozen Christmas cookies...please let me know if you can help. *(Continued on Page 5)*

**Cuba United Methodist Church
Trustees Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2017**



PRESENT: Gary Enderle, Judy Krott, Marshall Allen, and Rob Cornell.

6:10 p.m. Rob Cornell called the meeting to order.

Treasurer's Report: Rob Cornell presented the Treasurer's Report and explained Trustee financials. Discussion followed.

Discussion of Trustee Topics:

*Marshall reported that all boilers have been serviced for the winter.

*The carpet and furniture in the pastor's study will be steam cleaned. Also, a new blind was installed on the door in the pastor's study.

*Pricing will be obtained for replacing the Nursery pull-across door. Having this working door will allow us to have two useable areas for church school when the need arises.

*Discussed ramp project suggestions for Mark Middaugh's home. This topic will be further addressed at tonight's Management Team Meeting.

The next meeting will be held on November 8, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.

Marshall made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 6:45 p.m. Rob seconded the motion, and all approved.



"Council of Churches" *(Continued from Page 4)*

The October 1 **Crop Walk** had over 30 walkers who earned \$4318, which is sent to Church World Services. 25% of that amount is returned to the local community for our Food Pantry.

Meals on Wheels is averaging just under 20 meals each day. Friday is the day that CUMC delivers. Thank you Marshall Allen, Mary Hupp, Fred and Peggy Pearce, Sharry Semans and Dale and Cindy Dutton. We could use a substitute couple or individual from January – March when several drivers are gone. Tell Cindy if you can do this. Any of us will take you along on Friday to familiarize you with the route. It is a very rewarding hour of your time.

The **Cuba Food Pantry**, housed at the Baptist Church but the responsibility of all, had 4 requests for food assistance (food plus a certificate for fresh dairy and meat from Giant), and 3 requests for gas assistance in September; October requests were 5 for food and 2 for gas. Currently the Pantry is well stocked but most of that will be distributed on December 14. Our own Mary Hupp has agreed to sort and stock the donations during the winter months. Thank you Mary!

The Food Pantry especially welcomes boxed potatoes, boxed stuffing mix, and canned cranberries for the December distribution. Our UMW collects your donations in the Green Street Foyer on the first Sunday of every month and takes them to the Pantry.

Coming up... The Fat Tuesday Dessert Buffet will be held at our church on February 13, 6:30. Everyone attending brings a dessert but we need: A Chairman, beverages and musical entertainment. Please see me if you can work on this fun community event.

Submitted by Cindy Dutton

DUDLEY TAILS

Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick

It was a three hour drive to bring Dudley home (2 1/2 years ago) as a puppy. He sat quietly and calmly on my lap the entire way home. Now, every week, he sits quietly and calmly on the floor (or on a willing senior's bed) when he goes visiting. But... there is another side to Dudley.



When someone comes to our door, Dudley barks incessantly. When a neighbor's dog walks through our yard, Dudley barks fiercely. When Dudley wants a dog treat that belongs to Tucker, (our six year old small collie), Dudley goes over to Tucker and gives one or two commanding barks. Tucker drops the treat and Dudley enjoys Tucker's treat as well as his own. (Yes, Tucker gets another treat.)

Early one evening, when I was walking Dudley and Tucker around the yard, Dudley saw one of our young roosters watching him through the fence that separated them. Dudley stopped walking at about eight feet away from the rooster and stood at attention. The rooster did not move. Who would win the approaching confrontation? All was quiet. Then Dudley gave one LOUD bark... and charged forward. The rooster "turned tail" and ran away.

Some of Dudley's actions stem from his nature as a dog. Dogs do things like bark and chase. Excessive barking is bad. Chasing other animals is bad. If a dog will listen to his master and obey... the dog can decrease, and even end, the bad behaviors that are apart of his nature.

We (men and women) were created with a nature too. It's called human nature. It has become a sinful nature because of mankind's original choice to disobey God.

People often blame human nature for the bad things that they do. Human nature is blamed for anger when someone hurts us. For bad language when things are not going well. For stealing when someone wants something badly. For sexual abuse when one won't control a bodily desire. For homicide when a person is "getting even." And, on it goes.

But, our sinful human nature can be changed by listening to our Master and obeying Him. This improved nature begins when we accept Jesus and His teaching. The more we listen and obey our Master, the more we become like Him.

(May the Baby of Bethlehem, who became our Savior and Master, fill your heart with love, joy and peace during this Christmas season and always.)

Dudley and Cheryl

Olean Barbershoppers
3rd Annual Christmas Show
 Sunday, December 17
 4 PM
 Palmer Opera House, Cuba
 Admission by Donation




Christmas Cantata
"Sing Joy to All the World"
 Presented by the Intercommunity Chorus
 Saturday, December 9
 7:00 PM
 Palmer Opera House, Cuba
 Admission by Donation



**WORSHIP
SERVICE
SUNDAY
11:00 AM**

2017

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
For All Ages
9:45 AM**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Decorate the church 10:00 am
3 Communion Naomi Mission Collection UMW Food Pantry Collection	4	5 Prayer Group 10 am - 11 am	6 Trustees Mtg. 6:00 Management Team 6:45 pm	7	8	9
10	11	12 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	13	14	15	16 UMW Meeting 10 am
17 Breakfast 9:30 am	18 January Newsletter Deadline - Noon	19 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	20	21	22	23
24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm		26 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	27	28	29	30
31 Rothfus Collection						

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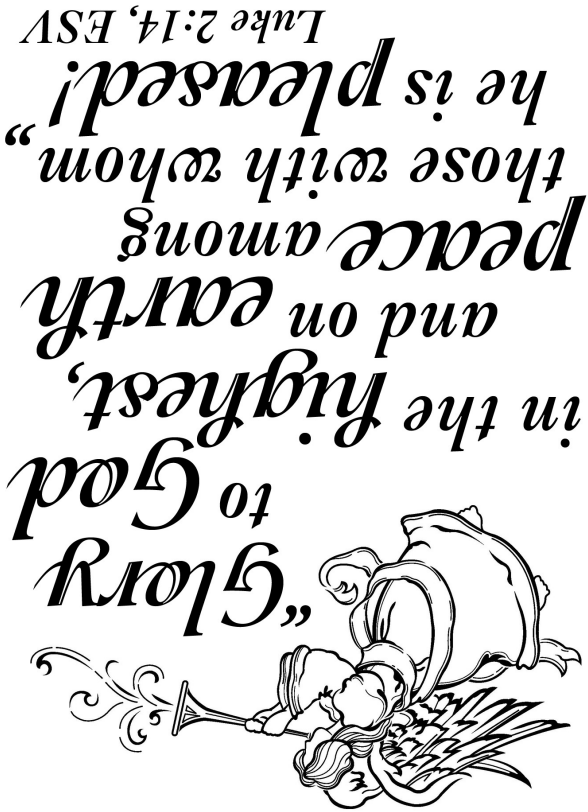


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