

The Shepherd's Messenger

January 2010



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



Pastor Sunny's Rays

The following is a Sandi Patty Song called: "Love in Any language". I invite you to read the lyrics slowly and deliberately

**The sounds are all as different As the lands from which they came
 And though our words are all unique Our hearts are still the same**

*Love in any language
 Straight from the heart
 Pulls us all together, Never apart
 And once we learn to speak it
 All the world will hear
 Love in any language
 Fluently spoken here*

**We teach the young our differences
 Yet look how we're the same
 We love to laugh, to dream our dreams
 We know the sting of pain**

**From Leningrad to Lexington
 The farmer loves his land
 And daddies all get misty-eyed
 To give their daughter's hand**

**Oh maybe when we realize
 Just how much there is to share
 We'll find too much in common
 To pretend it isn't there**

*Love in any language
 Straight from the heart
 Pulls us all together, Never apart
 And once we learn to speak it
 All the world will hear
 Love in any language
 Fluently spoken here*



Prayer List	2
Statistics	2
Celebrating	2
Thank You	3
Did You Know?	3
Sunny's Rays(cont)	4
Sunny's Rays (cont)	5
Sunny's Rays (cont)	6
Helping Hands	6
Calendar	7

(continued on page 4)

Prayer Requests

Our World situation
The Rothfus Family

THOSE AT HOME..

to those at home....

Alicia Bradley
Ernestine Green
Alice Sweet
Adaline Wakefield



to those at other residences...

Cuba CMH:

Lucille Wildrick
Helen Clement
Mayme Giles
Laura Clayson
Pearl Franklin

Eden Heights-Buffalo

Jane Wright

Absolut Houghton

John Lawton

Waters of Westfield

Dawn Durkee

Bath VA

John Visser

Iris Park Commons

Marge Bly

Military personnel and their families...

Bob Aaronson
Daniel Bunk
Kevin Desaultels
Brad Frank
Mark Keenan
Karl Linderman
Justin Linza
Charles Randall
Alfred Reynolds
Greg Rogers
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 welcomed to attend. For more information, contact Ray Perkins at 585-968-1467

"Praying for Our Churches, Pastors and Leadership" Mountain View District:

January:

3: District Lay Leader/
Leslie Haggstrom
10: Holland/Robert Zimmerman
17: Hornell/Marian Luce
24: Jasper/David Barnard
31: District Committee on
Superintendency/Sandra
Lasher Chrpsn

Prayer List Update

Please keep our prayer list up to date. We have had names on our list for some time now.

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

Thank you in advance for your assistance on this.

January Celebrations

Birthdays:

2 - Jeff Hewitt
3 - Ernestine Green
Ericka McKelvey
4 - Eliana Whitford
8 - Mayme Giles
Chris Hulburt
10 - Justin Freeman
11 - Karl Hodge
14 - Marcia Loftis
Ray McKelvey
Todd Mosher
15- Lisa Ricci
16 - Derek Edwards
Pat Kennedy
Kristin Whittaker
17 - Amanda Clayson
18 - Janet Enderle
Meghann Warren
19 - Butch Holden
20 - Erin LaFave
Brittany VanNess
21 - Edward Dalton
Will Landon
Mary Naud
Brock Stadler
Thomas Steen
23 - Jessica Clayson
Art Higby
25 - Pete Simmons
Laurie Torpey
Maggie Watson
26 - Carol Fisk
Pastor Sunny
27 - Stacy James
28 - Kayla Noll
Andrew Thornton
30 - Diane Karle
Elizabeth Ray
31 - Pearl Hamilton
Bernie Hawks
Kimberley Sweet

Anniversaries:

8 - Butch & Mary Ann Pfouts
16 - Leo & Christie Reynolds
18 - Bruce & Patti Metler
23 - Nick & Molly Axe

Statistics for December

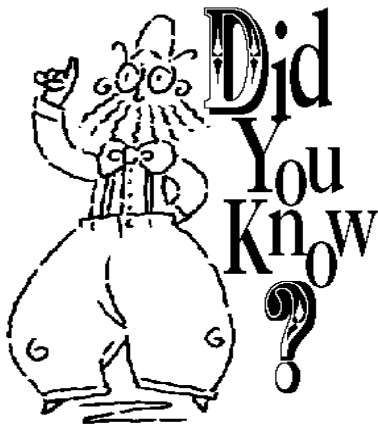
<u>Date</u>	<u>SS/Worship</u>	<u>Offering</u>	
12/03	15/81	\$2,324.00	
12/13	15/67	\$2,475.00	
12/20	17/87	\$1,772.00	
12/24	114	\$ 325.00	
12/27	55	\$2,142.00	
			<u>Rothfus Mission</u>
			\$121.00



Gary and I have had a time of hardship that was made easier with your help and attention. We thank all of you for your generosity. The calls re: Gary's health status, the cards that conveyed your feelings, the week's worth of delicious meals, the offers of transportation to Buffalo and the trips to the grocery store.

The depth of our appreciation is hard to express.
May God bless all of you.

Gary and Joyce



*Submitted by
Dean Wildrick*

The United Methodist Church is going forward with a plan to do a system wide study of its structure and practices to reinvigorate a denomination that is growing older and smaller in the United States. The Connectional Table at its Nov. 6-8 meeting agreed to fund a proposal approved by the Council of Bishops earlier this month to consider fundamental changes in the church's structure, from annual conferences to General Conference, from national agencies to the bishops' council. Among the specifics, the plan calls for consideration of the elimination of guaranteed appointments for clergy, rebuilding the church's leadership development system with special attention to young people and exploring the "right sizing" of general agencies and general church activities.

(Continued from page 1)

**Though the rhetoric of government
May keep us worlds apart
There's no misinterpreting
The language of the heart**

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Straight from the heart
Pulls us all together, Never apart
And once we learn to speak it
All the world will hear
Love in any language
Fluently spoken here
Love in any language
Fluently spoken here*

Whenever I hear this song I think about the Cuba United Methodist Church family. When I first came here in 2005 there had been some old hurts that hadn't seem to have healed completely. There wasn't a "real" family feeling here. I can honestly say that at last there is that feeling of family. I have seen it in many, many ways over this last couple of years. When one of the family becomes ill or down or maybe suffering from a loss, the rest of the family does what any good family would do, what my father-in-law would call "kick into high mag" and do what needed to be done. Doesn't matter what the need is it gets done!

There is much ministry happening at Cuba UMC. We help feed the people by being a distribution and ordering point for ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES. That is ministry! That is love in any language! We served a full Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings at no charge to anyone in the community. We fed 125 people and a good number of them wouldn't have had that kind of meal had we not provided it for them. That is ministry! That is love in any language! During Lent we have Soup and Bread luncheons also for the community at no charge to them. That is ministry! That is love in any language!

When a family member is ill we prepare meals for that family. That is ministry! That is love in any language! We are extremely active in the Meals on Wheels. That is ministry! That is love in any language! We have provided sofas and chairs, kitchen tables and mattresses and bedding to those marginalized people who needed it. That is ministry! That is love in any language! We have paid heat bills, doctor bills and bought vital medications for some families. That is ministry! That is love in any language! We have helped at least two families provided a Christmas for their families. That is ministry! That is love in any language!

We have cleaned homes, helped with home repairs, assisted with apartment securities for some that would have been homeless had Cuba United Methodist Church not been at the corner of Main and Green Streets. That is ministry! That is love in any language!

We have an active United Methodist Women's group who have been extremely important to the ministry of Cuba UMC. They have reached also beyond the city limits, beyond the county and state lines, indeed beyond the borders of our country. They have collected money for flood buckets that go throughout the country that has suffered a natural disaster, they provided VBS materials for Nome, Alaska, and they helped provided solar cookers for the desperate women in Africa. That is ministry! That is love in any language!

(continued on page 5)

(continued from page 4)

And the Trustee's should not be forgotten here. Their ministry is to keep this family's home in good order. They have done just that and then some. The sanctuary has had a face lift and there is more to come. The front and Green Street doors have been repaired along with the steeple. That is ministry! That is love in any language! The new furnace system has accomplished even more than we had expected it too. There is now a vent from the boiler room into the fellowship hall that will help heat the rooms thus providing even more savings on the heating costs. We have purchased new tables and new padded chairs for our family to enjoy fellowship. That is ministry! That is love in any language!

The youth are not to be out done. They have and continue to create baskets for our family member who are ill or shut in. The baskets have candy and muffins along with reading materials and other comfort items. That is ministry! That is love in any language!

We have seen members taking a more active part in the ministry of the church. We have a lay member who is leading a bible study, one of our faithful has taken over as coordinator of the Angel Food Ministries, there was wonderful people helping with the community Thanksgiving dinner. More people are volunteering for liturgist. That is ministry! That is love in any language!

There is also the joy of having nine, yes I said NINE, new people joining this loving and caring family that makes up the Cuba United Methodist Church. And they have become very active members of this family. That is ministry! That is love in any language!

We haven't had any baptisms this year and there we have only seen 2 of our members go home to God. And while the loss of those dear people is great there is also the joy that we don't have to worry about them being in pain anymore because we know that God holds them and has taken away the pain. The outpouring of love and comfort given to those families during that time of loss is ministry and love in any language

It is my belief and prayer that 2010 will see that ministry and love in any language grow. One way we will try to do that is to create some small groups. One of those groups are in the making even now. It is a support group for single mothers. Society today is different from when most of us were growing up and a family was made up of 2 parents and with 2.5 children. Families have many shapes and sizes today. We know how difficult raising children can be with 2 parents, the job must be overwhelming at times for a single parent. It is our desire to provide some support for those moms that are doing it in our family and in our community. That is ministry! That is love in any language!

The face lift that the Trustee's have started will continue and they will be aided in that face lift by the UMW. There is more work to be done in the sanctuary, the UMW has plans to paint and provide new window treatments in Wesley Hall. Plans are in the works for building a shed with a patio on it to provide a more inviting place for outdoor activities and more storage. That is ministry! That is love in any language!

The one cloud that we see is the fact that we were not able to pay our full share of the Shared Ministries. However, we have done much better than last year. We were able to pay all of World Service and the district dollars and we will have paid approximately 50% of the Shared Ministries. Is that perfect? No, but we are striving for that perfection. That is the important part. That is ministry! That is love in any language!

As for me, I will with the prayers and support of this dear church family continue to grow. I have some things that I need to work on as do most of us. As John Wesley said, "I am going on to perfection." I will seek to learn more about leadership and church growth. I very much need also to learn how to better handle stress so has to maintain good mental and physical health.

It is also one of my goals this year to help all of us learn that we are in ministry together!! It is not a one man show. I will continue to search for ways to share God's Word to the congregation in new and exciting ways. To do that however, there must be a commitment from the folks in the pews to be open and willing to take part in that newness.

(continued on page 6)

(continued from page 5)

As 2009 ends we have much to rejoice in, as 2010 begins let us approach it with excitement, with eagerness to try something new and different. Let us hold each other up in prayer and love. Let us share, love, laugh and cry together. Let us continue to do ministry and to speak fluently that love in any language.

May God bless all of you and your families in the New Year. Remember that God loves you and so do we.

Pastor Sunny



COMMUNION

STEWARDS:

Thela Snow & Darcy Eastham

USHERS:

Sandy Tsujimoto
Rob Cornell

LITURGIST:

3: Rob Cornell
10: Judi Hughes
17: Shirley Mosher
24: Cindy Dutton
31: Louis Petroni

CHILDREN'S MOMENT:

3: Deb Battistoni
10: Judi Hughes
17: **Reserved for you!**
24: **Reserved for you!**
31: **Reserved for you!**

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Tom and Judy Krott
Butch and Mary Ann Pfouts

NURSERY:

3: **Reserved for you!**
10: **Reserved for you!**
17: **Reserved for you!**
24: **Reserved for you!**
31: **Reserved for you!**

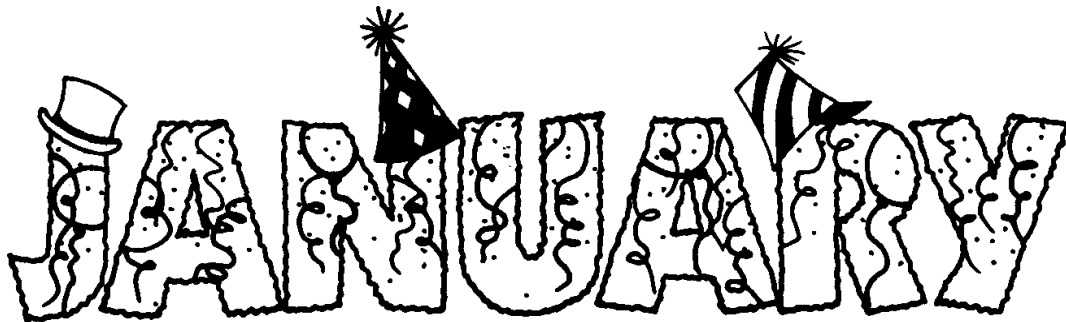
ACOLYTE:

3: Jasmyn Dorsey
10: Josh Enderle
17: Joseph Hughes
24: Katelyn Cornell
31: Michael Hupp

GREETERS:

3: Rob, Dylan, & Katelyn Cornell
10: Thela Snow & Barb Spateholts
17: Sandra Allen
24: Mike & Sandy Lafever
31: Lucinda Pierce

Sign-up sheets are always located at the back of the Sanctuary. **So hurry and sign up today!**



2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Kung Fu 6-8 am
3 	4	5 Ad Council 7:00pm	6 Choir Practice 7pm	7	8	9 Kung Fu 6-8 am UMW 10:00a
10 Worship 10am Coffee Hour 11am Sunday School	11 Angell Food Dead- line	12	13 Choir Practice 7pm	14	15	16 Kung Fu 6-8 am
17 Worship 10am Sunday School	18 Newsletter Deadline	19	20 Choir Practice 7pm	21	22	23 Kung Fu 6-8 am Angle Food Distribution 9-
24 Worship 10am Sunday School	25 Trustees 7:00pm	26	27 Choir Practice 7pm	28	29	30 Kung Fu 6-8 am
31 Worship 10am Sunday School						

The Shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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www.cubaumc.org • Pastor Sunny Mauser



JANUARY

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Shepherd's Messenger is a publication of the Cuba United Methodist Church, and is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs of the church and to report news about the *Messenger's* people.

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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New Year's Reflections

Looking back on the months gone by,
As a new year starts and an old one ends,
We contemplate what brought us joy,
And we think of our loved ones and our friends.
Recalling all the happy times,
Remembering how they enriched our lives,
We reflect upon who really counts,
As the fresh and bright new year arrives.
And when I ponder those who do,
I immediately think of you.

Thanks for being one of the reasons I'll have a Happy New Year!

By Joanna Fuchs

www.poemsource.com