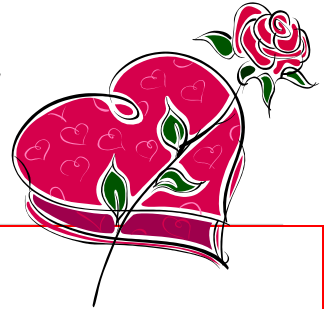


The Shepherd's Messenger



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PASTOR'S MESSAGE

REMOTE-STARTING THE CHURCH

Pray without ceasing.
(1 Thessalonians 5:17)

For Christmas one year, our church gave us a remote starter for the gas fireplace in the parsonage. The idea was to stay seated in my lounge chair and start the fire by remote control. Many of us have remote controls for our televisions. Some even have remote starters for their cars.

Which has led me to wonder: How do we remote start the church? I have noticed many churches seem almost lifeless, and then suddenly they spring to life on some issue or some **ministry opportunity**. They have had worship and fellowship for years, their pastors have preached and served faithfully, and their laity have been loyal church members. But suddenly something happens and the whole church comes to life. How does that happen?

Wouldn't it be great to have a remote starter for our church? I have even fanatized about sitting in my office and pushing some kind of remote starter and... presto! Our church would become more **alive and vital** than it had ever been!

From some of the conversations I have had, there must be a lot of you who believe that we pastors possess such a device. Unfortunately, if there is such a thing in my office, I have not yet located it.

Let me suggest an alternative. I believe that the Holy Spirit remote starts the church and that the "device" is **prayer**. Every church I know that has had an experience of sudden life or new birth has done so as a result of significant prayer by its pastor and lay leaders. It is through prayer that we make ourselves available to the power of God's Spirit to give our church (and us as individuals) the remote start that we need. Through prayer we provide an access for the Spirit to give us new life.

I **envision** our church having a *group of laity who pray for me* just before I lead the congregation in worship. I sometimes get inundated with announcements, last minute schedule changes, and other sorts of information overload before worship services begin. Not to mention a 30 – 45 minute drive, possibly in near white-out conditions. (Ah, January in Allegany County). These things make it difficult for me to be spiritually prepared to lead the services. Wouldn't it be great for a group of the laity of the church to gather me in a prayer circle and to ask God to empower me to lead you in worship?

I **envision** our church having a *prayer group that meets at least weekly* to pray for the concerns and needs of the church and community. It is important for this group to avoid being a gossip group, because then it could help remote-start God's healing presence in the lives of individuals and our church. These groups are usually stronger and more vital when they are led by laity and the pastor can attend as a participant.

(continued on page 4)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

CUBA CMH

Pearl Franklin
Lucille Wildrick

WATERS OF WESTFIELD

Dawn Durkee

OLEAN PINES

Adaline Wakefield

EDEN HEIGHTS-

OLEAN

Evelyn Steen

Military personnel and their families...

Erik Beatty
Benny Cartin (in States)
Steven Moore
Chris Sirianni
John Curtis Quattrini (in States)



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.

Statistics

Needed: \$1,657.75

Date	Worship	Offering
1/6	29	\$1,819.00
1/13	28	\$1,225.00
1/20	29	\$1,819.00
1/27	27	\$1,184.00
2/3	37	\$1,153.00

Others to keep in prayer:

Tim Bushnell
Chuck Brooks
Becky Calarco
John Culbert
Greg Franklin
Mike Gibbons
Kathy Glover
Tyler Griffin
Norma Uinnip
Karen Hessney
Kelly Hitchcock
Richard Karle
James Kellogg
Rolly Miles
Mina (Doris Wyant's sister)
Elizabeth Morris
Keith Pierce
Pastor Bob Schooley
Starry Sherwood



February

Anniversaries

3 - John & Lisa Ricci
16-Marshall & Sandra Allen
Paul & Sandy Tsujimoto
22 -Bernie & Julie Hawks



February Birthdays

2 - Richard Pierce
9 - James W. Travis, Sr. (95)
15- Kerigan Pierce
19 - Mark Morris
Christie Lee Reynolds
28- Kay Hays



February Helping Hands

Ushers

Tom & Judy Krott

Greeters

2/3 *Open for you*
2/10 *Open for You*
2/17 *Open for You*
2/24 *Open for You*

Acolyte

2/3 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle
2/10 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle
2/17 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle
2/24 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle

Altar Guild

Darcy Eastham & Thela Snow

Coffee Hour

Altar Flowers

2/17 Marshall & Sandy Allen
In Honor of Their 50th Anniversary



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.

March Birthdays

2 - Gary Enderle
 3 - Casi Burdick
 Desi Burdick
 4 - Clair Morris
 6 - Barbara Spateholts
 8 - Shirley Poore
 Ray Climie
 14 - Peggy Pearce
 17 - Cindy Dutton
 19 - Derwood Say
 23 - Rob Cornell
 27 - Jean Higby



March Anniversaries



25 - Leroy & Barbara Spateholts
 28 - Mike & Fran Young

March Helping Hands

Ushers

Cindy Dutton

Greeters

3/3 *Open for you*
 3/10 *Open for You*
 3/17 *Open for You*
 3/24 *Open for You*
 3/31 *Open for you*

Pianist



Acolyte

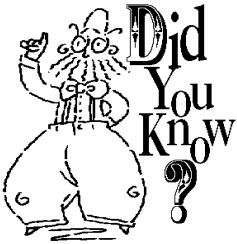
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 3/10 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle
 3/17 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle
 3/24 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle
 3/31 Josh Tsujimoto or Josh Enderle

Altar Guild

Cindy Dutton

Coffee Hour

DYK: *Submitted by Dean Wildrick*



The Upper New York Annual Conference collected donations totaling \$173,847.88 for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) U.S. Disaster Response (Advance #3021787) as of Dec. 31. That money goes directly to UMCOR, and provides assistance to all areas affected by Super Storm Sandy.

WASHINGTON (UMNS) □ The Rev. Gina Campbell, a United Methodist elder, is the first worship director at the National Cathedral who is not an Episcopal priest, and she believes that was intentional. □ I think they knew this would be a departure from what people expect. And from a missional point of view, the cathedral is a house of prayer for all people, said Campbell.

PROOF THAT MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

Submitted by Judy Zayac

Our sanctuary was very beautifully decorated for the Advent season by the Altar Guild and families. It took the better part of a Saturday morning to get it right.

We had scheduled the un-decorating for Sunday, January 13th after the regular worship service. What a blessed surprise when almost everyone at that service stayed afterward to help take the decorations down and put them into storage until next year. The best part was that it only took about an hour to accomplish all this! God's hand was working with us.

And special thanks to Marshall Allen and Keith Pierce for putting up the nativity and taking it down.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEADERS

The General Board of Discipleship offers training opportunities for new leaders. I recommend them for veteran leaders also. We have a need to clarify who is expected to do what in the church and the specific responsibilities of each church leadership position.

During January GBOD is offering a series of webinars for church officers and leaders. All of the webinars are recorded and archived, so **they are available to be used throughout the year.** Brilliant!!!...Take in a training webinar on one of those days when you don't want to go out in the frigid weather and are suffering from cabin fever. This winter, you may be able to prepare for any lay leadership position in the church. HINT: WE NEED A CHURCH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON. The production of these webinars is supported through World service apportionment giving, so there is **no additional cost** to participants. (Say what? We can get something back from our apportionments?) Registration and full description are at: www.gbod.org/webinars.

The topics are listed below. The first 4 have already been recorded and archived.
THE LAST TWO SESSIONS START AT 7:30 PM Eastern Standard Time (even in Florida)

Stewardship and Finance: Getting it right at the starting line

SPRC Plans the Year

Lay Leader: What do I do?

Trustees Plan a Year of Ministry

January 29 – Church Council Leads Discipleship

January 31 – Nominations Committee Develops Leaders



CHERRY ICE BOX COOKIES

Sandy LaFever



- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp. Vanilla
- 2 3/4 cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 (16oz) jar maraschino cherries, drained and chopped fine
- 1 cup finely chopped nuts
- 1/4 c. red decorator sugar (optional)

Cream butter, gradually add sugar, then egg and vanilla, beating well. Combine dry ingredients and add to creamed mixture. Pat cherries between paper towels. Stir in cherries and nuts. Shape dough into two logs. Roll in decorator sugar. Wrap in wax paper and freeze for two hours. (could store in freezer for up to six months). Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Slice into 1/4" slices. Place on lightly greased baking sheet. Bake 8- 10 minutes. (Do not let the dough thaw before slicing)



Recipe
FROM THE
Cuba UMC
Cook Book



(continued from page 1)

I **envision** each one of us *taking time each day to pray and to ask God to help our church* be alive to God's presence. What might happen if we all prayed daily for God to remote-start our church? We might find people peering into our windows (and walking into our doors) to discover how our church suddenly came to life.

That's my **dream**. Every time I remote-start my TV I also pray for God's Spirit to remote-start me, you, and our church.

And so I pray:

Get us started, and make us alive and anew. Remote-start us with the gift of the Spirit that comes from you. Don't let us sit idly by; don't let us simply go through the motions. Start us up with your great spiritual power, and set us all into motion.

Too long we have waited and not seemed alive; too often we have missed opportunities to serve. Give us your power and make us alive; fill us with your strength and your energy.

We are open and waiting, ready to hear when you say, "Today is the day to be more alive, to be led anew in my ways." So fill us with your Spirit and teach us always to pray, that we and our church may be more alive to your way. Amen.

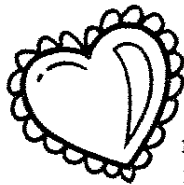


1 Corinthians 13 is often called "the love chapter."



In the puzzle below circle the words that describe "love." Cross out the things that love is "not." The words to look for are underlined and may run left to right, backwards or diagonally.

Love is...



- patient
- kind
- not jealous
- not boastful
- not irritable
- hopes all things
- endures all things
- does not insist on its own way
- not arrogant
- not rude
- not resentful
- rejoices in the right
- bears all things
- believes all things
- does not rejoice at wrong



P K I N D R T B L B S I
 A W L O U H E U O U I R
 T R V D G L F A O S N R
 I O E I I T S L R E S I
 E N R E N T A A E P I T
 N G V E F E E N E O S A
 T E S U J B V E R H T B
 S E L S E C I O J E R L
 R E N D U R E S E N D E
 S T N A G O R R A

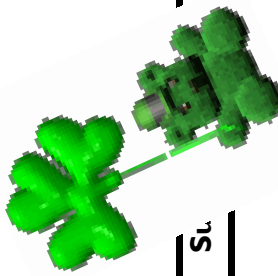
The letters that are left spell a special message!


February 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am
3 Worship 9:00 a.m. Communion Boy Scout Sunday	4 Military Prayer Grp 7:00 @ OLA	5	6	7	8	9 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am
10 No Worship at UMC Service at Cuba First Presbyterian Church 11:00 a.m.	11 Military Prayer Grp 7:00 @ OLA	12 Finance 6 pm Ad Council 7 pm	13 Ash Wednesday 7:00 pm	14 Valentine's Day	15	16 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am
17 Worship 9:00 a.m.	18 Military Prayer Grp 7:00 @ OLA	19 Joint SPPRC @ Fillmore 7:00 - 8:30 pm	20	21	22	23 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am
24 Worship 9:00 a.m. AIM offering	25 Military Prayer Grp 7:00 @ OLA Trustees 7 pm	26	27	28		

March 2013



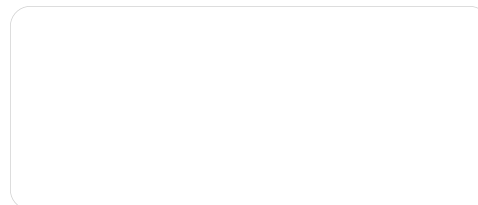
Su	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
					1	2 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am
3 Worship 9:00 a.m. Communion	4 Military Prayer Grp 7:00 @ OLA	5	6	7	8	9 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am
10 Worship 9:00 a.m.	11 Military Prayer Grp 7:00 @ OLA	12 Finance 6 pm Ad Council 7 pm	13	14	15	16 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am
17 Worship 9:00 a.m.	18 Military Prayer Grp 7:00 @ OLA	19	20	21	22	23 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am
24 Worship 9:00 a.m. Palm Sunday	25 Military Prayer Grp 7:00 @ OLA Trustees 7 pm	26	27	28 Holy Thursday	29 Good Friday 	30 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am
31 Easter Worship 9:00 a.m. AIM Offering						

The Shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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WWW.CUBAUMC.ORG •

February March 2013

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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