

February 2016

The Shepherd's Messenger



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

FROM
Pastor
Burt



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

Joel 2:13

"Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love.

The season of Lent will soon be here. In Dick Van Dyke's book, "Faith, Hope and Hilarity", he has a children's Kindergarten Concordance. "Lent", in it, is described as the fuzzy white stuff you either find under the bed or in your belly button!

Hope you got a chuckle out of that one! But seriously, the Lenten season is one of the most holy and sacred seasons of the Christian year. But just what is it?

Well, it is a period of 40 days not counting the 6 Sundays from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday before Easter. It is a season to prepare for the celebration of Easter. It began as a time of preparation for persons to be baptized including fasting, prayer and repentance.

Repentance, according to Van Dyke's concordance is the Act of "shaping up or shipping out!"

Seriously through, it is a time to reflect on our Christian walk and a time to grow in our faith. It is a time for growing through repentance, fellowship, prayer, and fasting.

Lent is not a time to give up cake, cookies etc. but rather taking upon ourselves the intention and openness to receiving the fullness of God's grace.

I pray that this lenten season will be one of reflection and growth for your walk with Jesus.

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Burt

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

THE PINES IN MACHIAS

*Laura Clayson

Others to keep in prayer:

Chuck Brooks
Joan Buddle
Laura Clayson
Veronica Clayson
*Ray Climie
Braden Currier
Sid Emmons
*Joyce Enderle
*Art Higby
Stephanie LaFever
Bruce Metler
Thomas Morris
*Keith Pierce
Kerigan Pierce
*Lucinda Pierce
Ann Santagelo
Leroy Sherwood
*Alice Sweet
Laroy Spateholts
Aprille Truax
*Buster Van Valkenburgh
*Connie Wandall
Wally Watson
Ken Wyant

**Sue Simmons, UMW's Cheer
Person, sends cards one a month to
these people.*



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

Military personnel and their families...

Brandon Snyder - Afghanistan



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.



2 - Richard Pierce
5 - Peggy Baker
10- Dominic Berardi
15- Kerigan Pierce
18 - John Hupp
Linda Nelson
19 - Mark Morris
Christie Lee
Reynolds
20 - Chloe Karn
23 - Christopher Hupp



**If you have a need for
prayer, call the prayer
chain.**

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

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

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
12/27	66	-	*\$3,934.14
12/27			Rothfus: \$ 55.00
			Imagine No Malaria: \$676.66
			*(Includes \$2,254.18 from Parsonage Fund & \$72.96 Personal Photocopies)
1/3	39	-	\$2,110.35
1/10	46	16	\$1,243.00
1/10			Rothfus: \$ 20.00
1/17	43	14	\$1,070.00
1/24	47	17	\$1,539.00

February Helping HandsUshers:

Dean & Cheryl Wildrick

Greeters:

2/7 Open for you
2/14 Open for you
2/21 Open for you
2/28 Open for you

Acolyte:

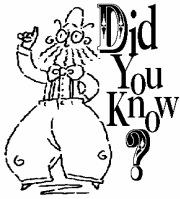
2/7
2/14
2/21
2/28

Coffee Hour:

2/21

Altar Guild

Thela Snow

DYK:*Submitted by Dean Wildrick*

Mission Central recently joined Amazon Smile. What is Amazon Smile, you ask? Amazon Smile is a way to support Mission Central simply by doing what many of you already do...shop on Amazon. When you log in through Amazon Smile, you'll find everything to be the same, however, after choosing Mission Central as your favorite charitable organization, Mission Central will receive .5% of eligible purchases.

<http://missioncentral.org/2015/11/mission-central-now-on-amazon-smile-missionlink-october-29-2015/>



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.

UMW MEETING*Submitted by Shirley Poore*

United
Methodist
Women

There will be a UMW Meeting on February 20th at 10:00 AM. Thela & Shirley will furnish refreshments. We are going to clean the kitchen.

Thank You!

A big thank you for the cards, visits and inquiries concerning my health issues. I appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Joyce Enderle



The Cuba Council of Churches is sponsoring a **Fat Tuesday Dessert Party** on Tuesday Feb 9, at 6pm at North Park Wesleyan. We are all invited to bring a dessert to share! (Last year this event was held at our Church and it was very successful.) Following dessert, Alex Leyva will entertain us all...young and old...with his guitar ...





Baptisms

CORRECTION

Payton Dalainey Nelson was baptized on December 27.

(Sorry, her last name was wrong in last month's newsletter)

Mark 12:30-31

Change some of the letters below to find the words in these important verses.

Change: C's to L J's to A K's to O Z's to H
Q's to T P's to R X's to E

(The other letters stay the same.)

" L
C K V X Q Z X C K P D Y K U P
G K D W I Q Z J C C Y K U P
Z X J P Q J N D W I Q Z J C C
Y K U P S K U C J N D W I Q Z
J C C Y K U P M I N D J N D
W I Q Z J C C Y K U P
S Q P X N G Q Z . . . C K V X
Y K U P N X I G Z B K P
A S Y K U P S X C F .

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength ... Love your neighbor as yourself."



The **Cuba Council of Churches met January 12** with Faith Stewart presiding. It was reported that the Holiday Assistance Program went smoothly with \$30 gift certificates for either Family Dollar or Cuba Pharmacy Gift Nook given to 241 Cuba-Rushford children. 107 families also received \$25 gift certificates to Giant as well as a bag of groceries from the Community Food Pantry. Pastor Megan Cusumano and Pastor Stan Scoville was co-chairs of the Holiday Assistance. Our church was also represented by Fred Pearce who helped with the distribution. The Community Food Pantry is now depleted and in special need of jarred sauces, box dinners, canned meats and cereal.

In December there were five requests for assistance from the Food Pantry: 4 grocery voucher requests and one for gas.

The Council reviewed the very successful Dessert Buffet held last year on Fat Tuesday at Cuba United Methodist Church. Nearly 100 people from all five Cuba churches attended the event which featured music by Chorduroy. This year the event will be held at North Park Wesleyan on Tuesday, February 9 at 6pm. Music will be by Alex Leyva on the guitar. CUMC members are asked to bring a dessert and join the fun!

Submitted by Cindy Dutton

Adult Sunday School Studies with Cheryl



Prophecy #2: Salvation and Spiritual Warfare

After the sin of Adam and Eve, God did not abandon mankind to only a difficult life followed by death. He had a plan for future fellowship with him.

God's first act was to curse Satan who, in the form of a serpent, had tempted Eve. (Genesis 3:14) Satan, like God, was a spiritual being. He existed before the creation of earth, just like God's holy angels did. But Satan was rebellious and desired to be worshipped as God (Isaiah 14:12-14) He is still working in this world to achieve that goal. This is called Spiritual Warfare. (Ephesians 6:11-12) So, God gives prophecy that Spiritual Warfare will continue on earth until Christ comes again.

God spoke to Stan who was in the form of a serpent, (in the Garden). God said that there would be hatred between Eve (and her offspring) against Satan (and his followers.) God next said that Satan would strike also at his son Jesus. But, Jesus, the Christ, would ultimately crush Satan just like a snake's head is crushed to kill it. (Genesis 3:15)

After the sin of Adam and Eve, God shed blood of animals in order to have skins to cover Adam and Eve's nakedness. (Genesis 3:21. This mirrored the future shedding of Jesus' blood for our forgiveness and salvation. (Ephesians 1:7) Thus came the phrases, "covered by the blood," and "washed in the blood."

So, God showed the prophecy of Salvation with Jesus' coming and dying. And, the prophecy of Spiritual Warfare continuing. These pronouncements were literal. And, these pronouncements came true.

Prophecy #3: The Flood

After Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden, they toiled and they had children. After many generations, mankind had become increasingly wicked. (Genesis 6:5-6) So, God made a decision: He would wipe out everything he had created, including mankind and animals. (Genesis 6:7) But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord." (v.6) He and his family would be saved.

Why did Noah find favor? He was "righteous" and "blameless" and "walked with God". (Genesis 6:8-9) And God told Noah His plans. Noah was to build an ark (a huge vessel that would float.) God gave specific instructions and measurements. (Genesis 6:14-16)

Noah followed God's instructions and took his family and pairs of animals into the ark. The entire earth was covered with water and it did not recede until the tenth month. (Genesis 8:5) When Noah and his family were able to exit the ark, the immediately worshiped God.

Then God made a covenant with Noah and Noah's descendants, and with all living creatures. God would never again end all life with a flood. And, never again would there be a flood to destroy the earth. (Genesis 9:11) As a sign of the covenant, God promised (made a prophecy) that there would be a rainbow in the sky after rain fell. (Genesis 9:12-17)

God's pronouncements of a flood and of a rainbow were literal. And, these pronouncements came true.

WHY ASH WEDNESDAY?

Traditionally, the Christian church has observed the seven weeks before Easter as a time of penitence and spiritual self-examination.

Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent, derives its names from the ancient practice of marking the foreheads of worshippers with ashes from the unused palm branches of the previous year. Ashes historically have had a dual significance.

First, they are Old testament symbols of sadness and humility. Job, in the midst of all his troubles, cried out to God from the ash heap.

The second symbolic meaning of ashes is as a reminder of our mortality. Each of us faces the inevitability of physical death. Our bodies and material possessions eventually will turn to dust and ashes. This is a reminder that we dare not trust in things that crumble.

But Lent does not leave us on the ash heap. It begins with Ash Wednesday, but ends with Easter. And Easter proclaims that, through Christ, God resurrects us from our dust and ashes, makes us new creatures, and brings life out of death!

**ASH
WEDNESDAY**

God's Valentine Gift

God's Valentine gift of love to us
Was not a bunch of flowers;
It wasn't candy, or a book
To while away the hours.

His gift was to become a
man,
So He could freely give
His sacrificial love for us,
So you and I could live.

He gave us sweet salvation, and
Instruction, good and true--
To love our friends and enemies
And love our Savior, too.

So as we give our Valentines,
Let's thank our Lord and King;
The reason we have love to give
Is that He gave everything.



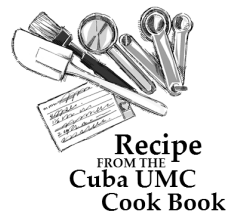
By Joanna Fuchs

BAKED HASH BROWNS AU GRATIN

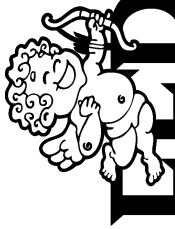
Claire Morris

4 ½ cups (15 oz.) shredded loose-packed
frozen potatoes
2/3 cup Carnation Nonfat dry milk powder
1 cup water
¼ tsp. lemon pepper
1 tsp. dried parsley flakes
1/3 (1 ½ oz.) shredded Kraft reduced-fat Cheddar cheese.

Preheat oven to 375°. Spray 8x8" baking dish with cooking spray. Arrange potatoes in prepared dish. In small bowl, combine dry milk powder, water, lemon pepper and parsley flakes. Evenly pour milk mixture over potatoes. Bake for 45 minutes. Evenly sprinkle Cheddar cheese over top. Continue baking for 5 to 7 minutes or until cheese melts. Place baking dish on wire rack and let set for 5 minutes. Divide into 4 servings.





WORSHIP
SERVICE
SUNDAY
11:00 AM



FEBRUARY

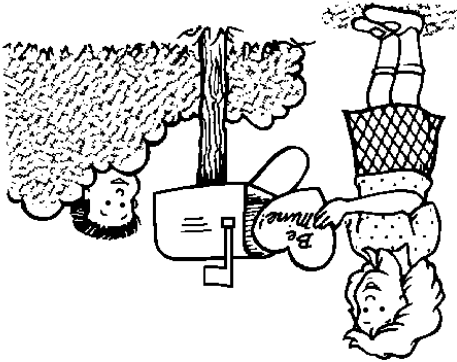
2016

SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:00 AM
ADULT: 9:50 AM
CONFIRMATION CLASS
9:45 am - 10:30 am

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am @ Church	3 Management Team 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm	4	5	6
7 UMW Food Pantry Collection Boy Scout Sunday	8	9 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Fat Tuesday Party @ NPW Church 6 pm	10  Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm	11	12	13
14 	15 March Newsletter Deadline	16 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am @ Church	17 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	18	19	20 UMW Meeting 10 am
21 Coffee Hour after worship	22	23 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am @ Church	24 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	25	26	27
28 Rothfus offering	29					

The Shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
49 EAST MAIN ST. • CUBA, NY 14727
WWW.CUBAUMC.ORG • REV. BURT SMITH



FEBRUARY 2016

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.

Editor/Secretary: Jim Travis
e-mail: cubasecc@roadrunner.com
Office Hours:
Mon.-Thu. 9a- Noon

Church Mailing address:
Cuba United Methodist Church
49 East Main Street, Cuba, NY 14727
(585) 968-1041
Please visit our Website:
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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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