

The Shepherd's Messenger



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



Pastor Becky's
 Message
 for Lent

Washing Feet: Serving Others During Lent

On the night before he died, Jesus acted like a servant, washing his followers' feet. His message was loud and clear: think of others, make their needs your priority.

In John 13:15, Jesus sets an example for us to follow. After washing His disciples' feet — an act of love, humility, and service — He encourages us to follow His lead and serve one another.

"I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you," Jesus says.

Jesus, the Son of God, the Most High King, Lord of Lords, never placed himself in a position above others. He led by serving, and He loved by serving. He washed feet. He fed thousands. He walked to visit and heal the sick and dead. He stopped to touch and heal a sick woman. He spent time with those no one else cared to spend time with. Jesus lived a life of humility. Jesus showed us that serving others and humility go hand in hand.

Serving others is more than keeping up with your to-do list. To be a servant means we genuinely need to care about people. It's keeping our eyes, hearts, and schedules open for divine appointments. Jesus was not stressed by time, what others thought of Him, or a list of tasks to accomplish each day. Jesus was led by the Spirit of God and followed His promptings to serve, love, and help others. No task was ever beneath Jesus, and no person was ever unworthy.

Serving others and genuine love go hand in hand. But what exactly does that look like? How do we genuinely love even the unlovable? How do we let go of our to-do list? How do we position ourselves to act humbly?

Here are four good places to start:

- **Is your heart struggling to love others? Ask Jesus for a heart change.**

Be open to Him working, stretching, and changing your heart. This may bring out some things you need to address and work on, but it will be worth it! He can change your heart, soften the edges, and teach you to love others with kindness and compassion.

(Continued on page 7)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Our World situation
 The Rothfus Family
 Naomi Scoville/Kosovo
 Butch Holden (in Kuwait)

For those at other residences...

PINES - OLEAN
 Connie Battistoni

Others to keep in prayer:

Norma Andrus
 Sally Brinkmann
 Hazel Cornell
 David Edwards
 Nancy Frazier
 Brian Fries
 Luke Fries
 Tyler Griffin
 Don Hall
 David Halstead
 Donna Hart
 Bernie Hawks
 Sandy Lathrop
 Mary McCarthy
 Mark Middaugh
 Mary Ellen Moriarty
 Justin Murphy
 Keith Pearce
 Laroy Spateholts
 Lon Sweet
 JoAnn Viglietta
 Ken Wyant
 David Yonaka
 Judy Zayac



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 email. *Thank you!*



Raymond G. Shawl, father of Heidi Pockey, passed away on February 19, 2019 at Cuba Memorial Hospital's Palliative Care Unit after a short illness. Funeral Services were held at Rinker Funeral Home on February 22, 2019.

Praying for Our Churches, Pastors and Leadership in Cornerstone District:

March 3 Falconer & Gerry UMCs. Pastor Heather Allport-Cohon, her husband Robert and their family.

March 10 Fentonville UMC. Pastor Chris Rhodes and his family.

March 17 Findley Lake UMC. Rev. Dave Cooke, his wife Heather and their children Ben, Grace & Nathan.

March 24 Fredonia 1st UMC. Pastor Nettie Puleff and her family.

March 31 Frewsburg: Trinity UMC. Pastor PJ Pasieka, his wife Lindsey and their children Peter & Leah.



- 2 - Gary Enderle
- 3 - Casi Lockwood
Desi Burdick
Elisabeth Lockwood
- 4 - Claire Morris
- 8 - Shirley Poore
- Lori Sweet
- 12 - Helen Middaugh
- 14 - Peggy Pearce
- 15 - Jeffery Zeh
- 17 - Cindy Dutton
- 19 - Derwood Say
- 21 - Rachel Holden
- 23 - Rob Cornell
- 25 - Todd Young
- 26- Pete Sprague
- 27 - Jean Higby (90th)*

Statistics

Needed: \$1,659

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
2/3	43	17	\$1,945.00
2/3	Naomi/Rothfus		\$148/\$20
2/10	47	13	\$1,335.00
2/17	38	13	\$1,561.00
2/24	36	13	\$1,315.00
			Rothfus \$ 70.00

March Helping Hands

Usher:
 Jim Travis



Pianist:
 Christine Berardi

Organist:
 Jonathan Denham

Acolyte:
 Chris Hupp

Altar Guild:



- 18- Arnold & Linda Nelson
- 28 - Mike & Fran Young



*** It is Jean Higby's 90th birthday.**
 If you would like to send a card to her in Florida, her address is 4444 Sentry Palm Loop, Zephyrhills, FL 33542.

FARM HOUSE COOKIES

Sandy LaFever



- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Cream: | Mix and add: |
| 1 cup shortening | 4 ½ cups flour |
| 2 cups sugar | ½ tsp salt |
| Add: | ½ tsp baking soda |
| 2 eggs | 4 tsp baking powder |
| 1 cup sour cream | |
| 1 tsp. vanilla | |

Chill if very soft. Roll on floured board, fairly thick (1/2") Cut with round cutter. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet at 375° for 10-12 minutes. Sprinkle with granulated sugar, or press a little jam or jelly in center.

Puzzle!

Find and circle these words associated with the Lenten journey to the cross.

colt	denial	kiss	repent
confess	donkey	lots	silver
cross	forsaken	palms	sins
crown	Gethsemane	penance	suffer
crucifixion	Golgotha	Pilate	thorns
death	hosanna	prayer	vigil

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



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**.



Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night, March 9. Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 am on Sunday March 10.



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

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



ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES with Cheryl

“Spiritual Warfare”



Another example of God and Satan fighting for the minds and souls of humans comes from the Old Testament book of 2 Kings. Previously, the Israelites had been given God's Ten Commandments and knew what was right in God's sight... but they chose to break their laws and do evil.

Hoshea, king of Israel, “did evil in the eyes of the Lord.” (2 Kings 17:1-2) He set the example of defying God and worshipping idols and false gods like the heathen people did. (2 Kings 17:7-8) Soon the Israelite people were practicing divination and sorcery. The people even sacrificed their sons and daughters by throwing them into a large fire until they died. (2 Kings 17:17) All this, they did in the name of religion.

Where did this evil come from? Remember back to when Satan lived in heaven and was too evil to worship God. He was proud, and wanted to be worshipped in place of God. Satan had free will and rebelled against God. Satan is the embodiment of evil. The “evil one”. (Matthew 6:13, John 17:15, Ephesians 6:16, 2 Thessalonians 3:3, 1 John 2:13-14, 1 John 3:12, 1 John 5:19) Ever since the Garden of Eden, he has been tempting people to do wrong and to follow him.

How does Satan tempt us? He speaks to us. The voice of Satan may not be heard out loud, (for everyone to hear), but he influences us by putting thoughts into our minds. So, here is the battle: 1.) God is speaking to us and asking us to acknowledge His glory, power, love and sacrifice. He is asking us to accept Jesus as Lord, and tell others. He is asking us to exemplify the characteristics of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and self control. BUT, at the same time, 2.) Satan is speaking to us and asking us to trust him. He is tempting us to do wrong. (as did Adam and Eve, their son Cain, and generations of disobedient men and women.) He is telling us to follow him, and promising to give us our desires (money, power, influence, revenge, all kinds of sex, removal of our obligations... etc.) Satan is telling us that we can use any means, to get what we want. (lying, pretending to be someone that we are not, stealing, killing, committing adultery, fraud, purposely giving false advice, etc.)

Have we ever been undecided between good and evil?

Have we ever committed just a “little” sin? How do we avoid sin?

1. Recognize whose voice you hear. Is it God or is it Satan?
2. Is what you are being asked to do Good or Evil? Kind or Cruel?
3. Pray: “deliver us from evil.” “Thy will be done on earth...”

Remember, Satan “prowls like a lion, looking for someone to devour.” (1 Peter 5:8) Satan is deceitful. He masquerades as an angel. (2 Corinthians 11:14) He schemes. (Ephesians 6:11) He is the “father of lies”. (John 8:44)

Remember “our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, and against the powers of this dark world, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms” . (Ephesians 6:12)

To be continued...

DUDLEY TAILS

Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick



When the winter temperatures drop below zero, I only go outside if I have to. This means that I am often sitting at the computer which is located next to a sliding door that leads to a small deck. Going on, down five steps, leads to a fenced -in yard which is mainly used by Dudley and our other dog, Tucker.

The yard is not a square, or a rectangle, or a circle. I consists of a five foot wide corridor which extends about twenty feet... and then opens to a large round area (which is nice for playing fetch.)

As I sit in the chair in front of the computer, the “boys” decide that they need to go out. Sliding open the door, I am hit by a wall of cold air, as the boys run across the deck and down the steps. Did I mention that if the boys see (or hear) a car (or another dog), they race out barking all the way? When the boys decide to come indoors, I am again hit by the wall of cold air.

This “in and out” activity may continue for an hour (or until Dudley’s master declares “that’s enough.” Dudley and Tucker both know that it’s wrong to go outside running at top speed, and barking at full volume. Yet, the activity continues. They also know that they should come when they are called, yet they seem to ignore their master’s voice. Sometimes they stand at a distance from the house, look up at their master calling, and defiantly decide that they are not ready to answer the call. Does this behavior make their master happy? Definitely not.

On. “really cold” mornings, the boys are usually content to go out, do their business, and come indoors immediately. Recently, Tucker did that very thing. However, as Dudley worked his way back to the house... he was distracted by a brown patch in the snow. It seemed to call to him with its warmth and scent.

Dudley’s master quickly slid open the door and called emphatically to him. “Dudley, COME!” “Dudley, GET AWAY FROM THERE!” “Dudley, THAT’S DIRTY!”

Like Dudley, we often forget about our Master. We become so involved with our own interests that we don’t hear our Master’s Voice, and that leads to selfishness.*

Like Dudley, we know our Master’s rules, yet we choose not to obey. Rules are for our benefit, and teach us to be obedient for our own good.**

Like Dudley, our nature can lead us into the dirt. For humans, “the dirt” is sin. And there are two kinds: sins of “omission” and also sins of “commission”. We tend to think that “COMMITING” sins is worse than “OMITTING” to do good. Committed sins include: 1.) putting our own desires above what God wants, 2.) disrespecting our Creator (swearing, avoiding the worship of God, breaking Commandments) and 3.) turning to evil (Satan worship, mass murders, lust for power.)

But God also sees sin when we “OMIT” doing acts to help others. These may include: 1.) feeding the hungry, 2.) Clothing the poor, 3.) being a friend to the lonely, 4.) visiting the sick, or 5.) offering a ride to those without transportation. and the list goes on... These two things: 1.) not committing sin, and 2.) not omitting the act of doing good, will bring us closer to our Master. Peace.

* (Romans 6:14) “For sin shall not be your master...”

** (John 14:15) “If you love me, you will obey what I command.”

*** (Micah 7:186) “(Master) you do not stay angry forever, but delight to show mercy.”



The Rev. Suzanne Block to become
District Superintendent of the Cornerstone District
January 21, 2019 / By Upper New York Communications

Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb is pleased to announce this intention to appoint the Rev. Suzanne Block as a Conference Superintendent assigned to the Cornerstone District effective July 1, 2019.

Rev. Block currently serves Christ United Methodist Church, Olean, NY. Rev. Block has been involved in various Conference and District leadership roles, including as a current member of Board of Ordained Ministry, Cornerstone District Committee on Ministry, and Cornerstone District Leadership Team. She has served as a local pastor mentor and has been involved in ecumenical and community partnerships.

“Reverend Block has demonstrated a commitment to Christ and a passion for the Church throughout her life and pastoral ministry. Her clear understanding of the purpose of the Church and desire to see congregations live out that purpose will be a gift to the Upper New York Conference and the Cornerstone District” Bishop Webb said. “I am grateful to welcome Suzanne to this new form of ministry and encourage you to pray for her, the Christ, Olean congregation, and the people of the Cornerstone District”.

Rev. Block will be replacing the Rev. Dr. Sherri Rood as Superintendent of the Cornerstone District. Rev. Rood will be returning to pastoring a local church after eight faithful years serving as the Cornerstone District Superintendent. “Dr. Rood has served the Cornerstone District with grace, passion and compassion. Upper New York has been blessed by Sherri’s leadership and I’m extremely grateful for the excellent leadership Sherri has provided at the cabinet table, as well as in many other arenas of the Conference”, Bishop Webb stated. “Sherri will be deeply missed in this role, but I celebrate the next chapter that she and Bob will experience in ministry and service. I invite you to pray for Sherri and Bob as they travel toward this new chapter”.

Rev. Block is a graduate of Niagara Community College, Daemen College and United Theological Seminary.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to these students from our church who were inducted into the Cuba-Rushford **Honor Society**:
Dominic Berardi, Andrew Clement and Chloe Karn.

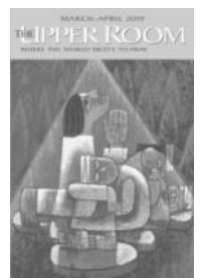


Ash
Wednesday
Service
March 6 at
7:00 PM

THE
**UPPER
ROOM**
DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Upper Room Daily Devotionals are placed on the windowsills in back of the sanctuary every two months.

March-April issue is currently “on the stands”.



Pastor Becky's letter, "Washing Feet: Serving Others During Lent" (Continued from Front Page)

- **Take a look at your schedule. Are you doing too much?**

Are you keeping things on your list because of appearances? Allow Him to free up your time. Ask Him to show you each day what needs to be done and what can be set aside.

- **Begin placing others first in your day to day.**

Think about the needs of others and how you can place them before your own. Do you see a struggling mom at the store? Let her get in line before you. Does your neighbor need help with his lawn? Take care of it for him. Are there service programs within a few miles of our home that need volunteers? Today the Internet makes it possible for us to do a simple search to find where we can take our extra clothes and furniture, where we can help distribute food, and where faith-based programs provide social services and support.

- **Listen to God and do what He says.**

Follow God's prompting and leading when going about your day. If you feel like you should stop and serve, do it. This doesn't necessarily mean you take on every opportunity presented to you. Pray. Ask God, then listen and do what He says.

Through the reflection and repentance that mark Lent, we hope to clear out our personal clutter and start fresh with Easter, to become more whole and more holy. All of this requires that we step back from ourselves and get a clearer perspective. Nothing helps us step back better than focusing on someone besides ourselves.

Finding the means to serve other people, we benefit those people in the help we offer them. We benefit ourselves in balancing our interests and energy. And we benefit the Kingdom of God, simply by living more as Jesus did. When we follow Jesus' example of humility during Lent—everyone wins.

See You Sunday,
Pastor Becky



CRUCIFIED
GLORIFIED

Devotional Prayer Journal

If you haven't already, be sure to pick up your copy of the **Devotional Prayer Journal "Crucified Glorified"**

for Lent. It begins on Ash Wednesday. Explore the transformational love of

Christ throughout this devotional journal.

They are located in back of the



Coming Soon
Pot Luck Supper
Wed. March 27th (5:30 pm?)

Followed by
Movie: "The Case for Christ"
An atheist proves the
Life, Death, and Resurrection
of Jesus





A LETTER TO CHARLIE WILDRICK-COLE (2003 - 2018)

Dear Charles,

It's been about five months now. You've never been away that long before. I expect to see you coming through our doorway any day now. I want to hug you close and tell you that I love you. I want to advise you on how to be strong in a difficult and painful world. I want to watch your favorite movies with you. I want to hear you laugh. I want to see your huge smile when you've out-witted one of us.

We are so proud of you. 'A high honor student. 'An avid skier, track runner, and lake diver. But we are perhaps most proud that you were known as a friend to all.

Charles... was I the only one who called you "Charles"? I am sure that you were told the story about your name. Your mother liked A Tale of Two Cities so well that she said, if she had two boys, that one would be named Charles, and the other named Sidney. So, I called you "Charles" most often. Through elementary school and early junior high, I remember you as a voracious reader — a boy who preferred his quiet room over a loud game of shooting hoops with his brother.

Your parents taught you how to manage your allowance. Soon you were saving a portion for your future, giving a portion to the church, and (at Christmas time), supporting a charity of your choice. As you and your allowance grew, you were able to save up for items that no one else your age would have desired. Who else wanted a forge for his birthday? You were a unique young man.

Although you liked to swim and play Four Square, the summer camps that you chose to attend were: a Boy Scout Camp that taught how to identify trees by their bark and leaves, (and that taught which type of wood would make the best walking stick). Then second: a Methodist survival camp that taught how to find edible food in the woods, and how to hang a hammock between two trees for sleeping at night.

By ninth grade, you had developed an interest in the Navy, and began attending "drill" once a month in Sea Cadets. You grew through the ranks and became a respected leader. After that, buying you Christmas presents became easy: you were thrilled with anything that said, "Navy" on it.

Oh how we family members looked forward to what you would accomplish next, and where your interests would take you in the future. We were so pleased when you took Andrea to the school dance, and when you officially became a couple. I am just getting to know her now, and I am sure that she will always be apart of the Wildrick and Wildrick-Cole families.

Charles, our grief is a necessary process. But we are comforted by our faith. We are confident that you are with your heavenly Father who loves you deeply and has given you a new sense of joy and acceptance. You will always be in our hearts. You loved us. And we love you. We look forward to that future day when we will be reunited for eternity.

' Love you SO MUCH!! XXOO
Gamma



WORSHIP
SERVICE
SUNDAY
11:00 AM



MARCH

SUNDAY SCHOOL
For All Ages
9:45 AM

2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion Naomi Offering UMW Food Pantry	4	5 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	6 ASH WEDNESDAY Service 7:00 pm	7	8	9
10	11	12 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	13 Trustees Meeting 6:00 pm Management Team Meeting 6:45 pm	14	15	16 UMW Meeting 10 am
17	18 April Newsletter Deadline - Noon	19 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	27 Pot Luck Supper & Movie 5:30 pm?	28	29	30
31 Rothfus Offering						

The Shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
49 EAST MAIN ST. • CUBA, NY 14727
WWW.CUBAUMC.ORG • PASTOR BECKY WORTH



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. 8 am - 1 pm

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(585) 968-1041

Please visit our Website:

www.cubaumc.org

Pastor Becky Worth:

Cell Phone: (716) 307-1768

Home: (716) 373-4332

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesday & Wednesday

9 am - 3 pm

Dear March - Come in

Emily Dickinson

Dear March - Come in -
How glad I am -
I hoped for you before -
Put down your Hat -
You must have walked -
How out of Breath you are -

Dear March, how are you, and the Rest -
Did you leave Nature well -
Oh March, Come right upstairs with me -
I have so much to tell -

I got your Letter, and the Birds -
The Maples never knew that you were coming -
I declare - how Red their Faces grew -

But March, forgive me -
And all those Hills you left for me to Hue -
There was no Purple suitable -
You took it all with you -

Who knocks? That April -
Lock the Door -
I will not be pursued -

He stayed away a Year to call

When I am occupied -

But trifles look so trivial

As soon as you have come

That blame is just as dear as Praise

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

«AddressBlock»

