

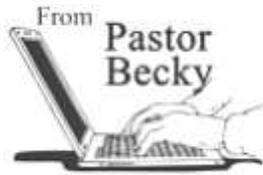
# The Shepherd's Messenger



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



## What kind of church would my church be if everyone were like me?

"What kind of church would my church be, if everyone were just like me?" It's an intriguing thought. It's also very humbling if we really think it through.

Ask yourself a few questions like these. How many Sunday worship services would have to be canceled if everyone attended church as regularly as I do? How many Bible classes would the church have if everyone attended them just like me? Would the members of the church have a good understanding of the Bible or would they have trouble finding the book of Psalms?

Would there be an ample supply of Sunday School teachers if everyone were just like me? Would there be plenty of people to serve on committees, to make calls on prospects or shut-ins? Would the church lawn be cut regularly, the church cleaned weekly? Would the church budget be met, and the bills paid? Would there be strong support for missions if everyone supported the church just like me?

By now you can see how intriguing this question is. If we were able to clone ourselves over and over again, what impact would it have on a congregation if each member was exactly like us? Would our hypothetical church be a friendly church which welcomed others into its midst, or would we keep to ourselves? Would we embrace all who came through the door with the same love and enthusiasm? Would we treat the affluent in the same way as those who were poor? Would we welcome only those whose children were well behaved, who were nicely dressed and caused no disturbance? Would we show love and forgiveness to all when they did something to offend us? Would we be there to support the pastor in his ministry or only be there to criticize?

"What kind of church would my church be, if everyone were just like me?" Would the church have revival, or be struggling for survival? Try to ask yourself this question regularly. It will help you keep things in perspective. If everyone were just like me, there would be some areas where we would shine. But I also know there would be many areas where the church would be wanting.

Thank God that each member of the church is not exactly the same. We all have our strengths and weaknesses. Thank God that there are people who make up for those areas in which we fall short. Let us each ask God to forgive us for our sins and short-comings and ask for help to do better in the future. Let us strive to be more and more like Jesus for what a church it would be if every member were just like him.

See you Sunday (and bring a friend),

Pastor Becky

PLEASE PRAY FOR:  
Our World situation  
Naomi Scoville/Kosovo



Others to keep in prayer:

Norma Andrus  
Todd Baxter  
Bob & Sandy Beard  
Russell Brown  
Virginia Clayson  
Hazel Cornell  
Missy Dabolt  
David Edwards  
Nancy Frazier  
Brian Fries  
Tyler Griffin  
Don Hall  
David Halstead  
Donna Hart  
Bob Huddleston  
Katie Kellogg  
Sandy Lathrop  
Claudia Little  
Mark Middaugh  
Derek Morris family  
Nellie Moses  
Justin Murphy  
Keith Pierce  
Laroy Spateholts  
Donald Thompson  
JoAnn Viglietta  
James Woodruff  
Ken Wyant  
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.  
*Thank you!*

- 2 - Gary Enderle
- 3 - Casi Lockwood  
- Desi Burdick  
- Elisabeth Lockwood
- 4 - Claire Morris
- 8 - Shirley Poore  
- Lori Sweet
- 12 - Helen Middaugh
- 14 - Lincoln Nelson  
- 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



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

**Margie Mazon** had a major heart attack. She is a former member of Cuba UMC.

Her address is :  
Margie Mazon  
2721 N.W. 11th St.  
Cape Coral, FL 33993

Statistics		Needed: \$1,767	
Date	Worship	SS	Offering
2/2	43		\$1,801.00
2/2		Naomi	\$ 110.00
2/2		Gil's Hills	\$ 15.00
2/9	42		\$1,313.00
2/16	50		\$1,164.00
2/16		Gil's Hills	\$ 25.00
2/23	40		\$ 877.00
2/23		Gil's Hills	\$ 150.00

March Helping Hands 

Usher:  
Jim Travis

Acolyte:  
Chris Hupp

Pianist:  
Christine Berardi

Altar Guild:  
Linda Nelson  
Thela Snow



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

**Call Ruth Holden at 968-1933**



**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 7. Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 am on Sunday March 8.

### THE HISTORY OF LENT



The Christian Lent has Hebrew roots. It is related to Annual Jewish Passover Festival which commemorates the beginning of the deliverance of the Hebrews from bondage in Egypt around 1300 B.C. (Exodus 12).

At that time, God went throughout Egypt killing all the firstborn of people and animals but 'passing over' and sparing those of the Hebrews whose houses were marked by blotches of lamb or goat blood on the doorposts and lintels. This was the beginning of new life for the Hebrews. Dating back to well before the time of Christ, the Jews have appropriately celebrated Passover in the early spring, which heralds the beginning of new life in nature.

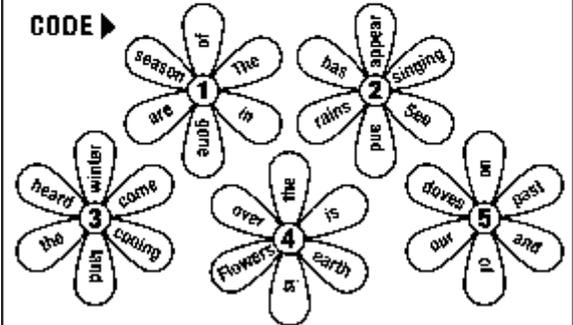
Similarly, Lent for Christians is a season of release from bondage of sin in preparation for Easter that is the beginning of new life in Christ. Just as with the Hebrews, we commemorate Lent and the beginning of Easter season appropriately in early Spring, which is symbolic of new life.

-Johnson United Methodist Church  
Barberton, OH

# Puzzle!

Using the flower code, fill in the blanks to complete the springtime words from Song of Solomon 2:11-12, NIV.

CODE ▶



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SONG OF SOLOMON 2:11-12, NIV

Answer Key: The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come; the croaking of doves is heard in our land. Song of Solomon 2:11-12, NIV

### LAZY DAY STEW

Deb Battistoni



- 2 pounds beef cubes
- 2 cups carrots, sliced
- 2 cups potatoes, diced
- 2 medium onions, sliced
- 1 cup celery, chopped
- 1 ½ cup green beans
- 2 tsp quick tapioca
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp pepper
- 1 8 once can tomato sauce
- 1 cup water
- 1 TBS brown sugar

Place raw beef cubes (do not brown) in a single layer in a 2 ½ quart casserole or roaster pan. Add vegetables and any other you desire. Sprinkle tapioca, salt and pepper over the top. Pour tomato sauce mixed with water over vegetables and seasonings. Crumble brown sugar over all. Cover tightly and do not peek! Bake at 325° for 3 hours.



"Actually, sir, the rules were chiseled in stone."

**SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY** 9:45 am

This month the Adult Class discussed the following questions, looking to scripture for the answers:

- 1) If I don't feel sinful, am I still sinful?
- 2) If I don't see God working in the world, is He still working?
- 3) As a Christian, what does God want from me?
- 4) What is a vow? What do I vow to do when I join the church?
- 5) In heaven, are there degrees of reward?
- 6) How do I know if Satan is tempting me?
- 7) What does Satan want from me?
- 8) Are there big sins and little sins? How are they judged?
- 9) Are the following things temptations from Satan:
  - to feel superior to others, to criticize others?
  - to shout negative things at a friend or spouse?
  - to be disrespectful or gossip about others?
  - to be selfish, or self indulgent?
  - to take the Lord's name in vain, or to skip church services?
  - to be hateful or unforgiving?
- 10) If God and Satan are battling for our allegiance, how do we know when we are being tempted to do wrong? What is "wrong"?
- 11) What does it mean to be holy like Jesus? What might we have to change?
- 12) Christians are told (in Ephesians 6), to put on the "full armor of God". What does that mean?
- 13) What are the six pieces of armor? What does each stand for?
- 14) What does "the powers of this dark world" refer to?
- 15) Why is the United Methodist Church going to split apart soon, and what is causing this division?





## DUDLEY TAILS

*Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick*

### Misunderstanding is the root of conflict.

Dudley and Tucker were waiting for me to go downstairs. Sometimes they waited impatiently. Sometimes they sat and watched my every move. And, sometimes, they laid down... closed their eyes... and simply gave up.

After what must have seemed like an eternity, Dudley heard me say, "let's go downstairs." Dudley sprang up, and ran toward the doorway where Tucker was still laying down with his eyes closed. Thump! Dudley ran into Tucker! It was a very unexpected collision for Tucker who jumped up and snapped at Dudley. The unexpected confrontation by Tucker made Dudley jump back in bewilderment. Tucker had misunderstood Dudley's intent, and it led to a confrontation.

Tucker would not intentionally hurt Dudley... but, being startled awake, Tucker probably thought that some animal was trying to hurt him. This incident reminded me of a conflict (about 4½ years ago) when Dudley was almost one year old and Tucker was about six years old.

My husband and I had packed up the van with food, water, clothing, maps and two dogs. We were heading from our home in Allegany County (NYS), to Silverdale (in Washington state). We were going to visit our adult son who had taken a job out there. After about six days, we arrived at his house, and saw him and his dog in the doorway.

The dog (named Ying) was a former pal of Tucker's. Ying had been adopted by our son about a month after we had adopted Tucker. Both dogs barked, recognized each other and immediately ran inside to play. Dudley barked too, but it was not because he wanted to play... but because this other dog (that he did not know) had run inside with Tucker.

Dudley was a little nervous when we went indoors. I sat down and put Dudley on my lap while we all visited. Dudley watched as Tucker and Ying jumped around, barked, and chased each other. Then, all of a sudden, Dudley jumped off my lap, ran directly at Ying, and tried to bite the back of his leg. Ying quickly turned, and chased Dudley back to where he had been previously sitting. (After the adults finally settled down), it was clear that the dogs had decided to keep a safe distance between each other. Dudley had misunderstood Ying's intent, and it led to a confrontation.

There are times when people too, misunderstand someone else's intention. There are times when our words or actions are misunderstood by another person. This may lead to conflict. It may lead to a break in a friendship. Are we supposed to avoid that person and not speak to that person?

We may not have been guilty of an offence. Or... they might not been guilty of an offense. But... by not talking to that person, or by avoiding that person, the problem does not get resolved. And the relationship is not mended. And God is not pleased.

In the New Testament we are told that, "if we are giving our offering in church, but then we remember that someone has something against us... we should leave our gift at church... and first go and be reconciled to that person. Then go back and offer your gift (to God). (Matthew 5:23, paraphrased). Are we able to do what our Master wants - to forgive or be forgiven?"





## CHURCH MOVIE NIGHT

Wed. March 25, 2020  
6 pm (70 min.)

### “Six Miracles of Calvary”

“Extraordinary things happened at Calvary that modern science and human reasoning consider impossible.” These are the miracles of Calvary:

1. Darkness covered the earth (at noon).
2. Veil of the temple was split in two.
3. An earthquake at Jesus’ death.
4. Graves of past Believers were opened.
5. Jesus’ grave clothes were neatly folded.
6. Dead saints walked streets of Jerusalem.

This film looks historically and reflectively at these events. Scholars share the meaning and purpose of each event. Views of the Holy Land were filmed on location.

Interspersed in the narrative are several songs written and performed by Christian musician Shannon Wexelberg. This is an inspirational and absorbing program that will renew your awe for God. And, it will help you feel the enormity of Jesus’ sacrifice to bring you to heaven and to your heavenly Father!

Who should see this film:

- Christians who want their hearts stirred.
- Unbelievers who need historical proof of miracles.
- Anyone who wants to feel deeply loved.

Please come, and bring a friend.  
Visit with Dudley, and enjoy a bag of popcorn.

## What’s in your bucket?

If you were walking back from a well carrying a bucket of water and someone jostled you, there could be spilled from that bucket only that which it contained.



As you walk along the way of life, people are constantly bumping into you. If your heart is full of ill nature, bad temper and ugly disposition, only those things will be spilled from it. On the other hand, if it is full of life, you will spill a smile or a pleasant remark. You can spill from your bucket only that which it contains.

*(The Newsletter Newsletter, Volume 16, Number 3)*



**We are collecting these items in March for the 15 UMCOR flood buckets:**

16-34 oz. bottle dish soap

Kitchen gloves (durable for multiple uses)

Re-usable cleaning wipes  
(no terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels)

We cannot send items that do not conform to the above specifications, so please shop carefully!

There are buckets in the foyer and by the entrance to the sanctuary for your donations. Thank you for supporting this important project.

**WORSHIP  
SERVICE  
SUNDAY  
11:00 AM**



**2020**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
for all Ages  
10:45 AM**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Communion Naomi Mission Offering UMW Food Pantry Collection	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Violin Lessons 3-6 pm	<b>4</b> Trustees Meeting 6:00 pm Management Team 6:45 pm	<b>5</b> Tai Chi Class 9 am Cub Scouts 6:00-7:30 pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Kung Fu 6-8 am Small Children Yoga 10-11 am Wesley Hall reserved 1-3 pm
<b>8</b> Daylight Saving Time Begins	<b>9</b> Tai Chi Class 7 pm	<b>10</b> Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Violin Lessons 3-6 pm	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Tai Chi Class 9 am Cub Scouts 6:00-7:30 pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Kung Fu 6-8 am
<b>15</b> Coffee Hour	<b>16</b> Tai Chi Class 7 pm	<b>17</b> Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Violin Lessons 3-6 pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Tai Chi Class 9 am Cub Scouts 6:00-7:30 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Kung Fu 6-8 am UMW Meeting 10 am
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> April Newsletter Deadline Noon Tai Chi Class 7 pm	<b>24</b> Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Violin Lessons 3-6 pm	<b>25</b> Movie Night 6 pm	<b>26</b> Tai Chi Class 9 am Cub Scouts 6:00-7:30 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Kung Fu 6-8 am
<b>29</b> Gil's Hills Ministry Offering	<b>30</b> Tai Chi Class 7 pm	<b>31</b> Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Violin Lessons 3-6 pm				

# 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.

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Cell Phone: (716) 307-1768

Home: (716) 373-4332

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesday 9 am - 3 pm

Wednesday 9 am - 11 am



*Lent*, by Christina Rossetti

It is good to be last not first,  
Pending the present distress;  
It is good to hunger and thirst,  
So it be for righteousness.  
It is good to spend and be spent,  
It is good to watch and to pray:  
Life and Death make a goodly Lent  
So it leads us to Easter Day.

«AddressBlock»

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED