

# The Shepherd's Messenger



## Pastor Sunny's Rays

Well, we are approaching that wonderful season of summer, FINALLY. It is also where we see our snowbirds return and others planning vacations and reunions. In thinking about that I ran across an article from the General Board of Discipleship that I would like to share with you now.

### What is stewardship?

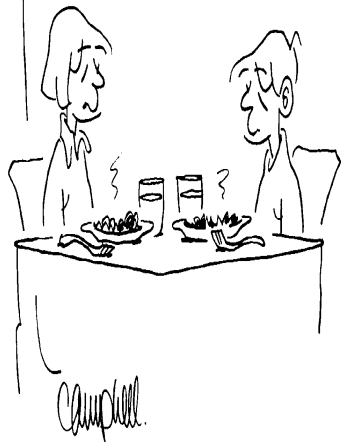
**Stewardship is about God's grace.** Grace is at the very core of Wesleyan understanding of Christian stewardship. The people called United Methodists understand God's grace as a gift. And it is a [free](#) gift, not something that can be earned by doing and/or being good (You cannot receive grace for "good work"). As United Methodists, we acknowledge that all that we are and all that we have comes into our care as the gift of God.

**Stewardship is a grateful response to God.** Christian stewardship is a joyous and life-transforming response to God who gives every good and perfect gift. All Christian stewardship is rooted in the **love** of God. In daily life, a good steward is one who 'loves the Lord with all their heart, with all their soul, with all their mind, and with all their strength, and "loves their neighbor as their self.'" (Mark 12:30-31).

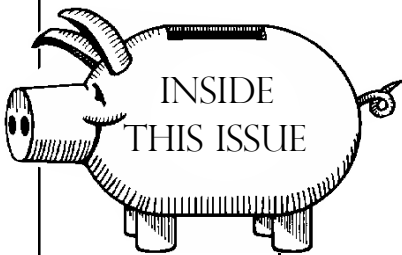
**Stewardship is a matter of trust.** The idea of stewardship originally was applied to a household: a steward is one who has been entrusted with something that belongs to another to care for, utilize and manage, whereby the One who entrusts, trusts the steward; and the one who receives the trust is trustworthy and faithful. To be a steward means to manage everything in life as a trust from God.

**Stewardship calls for life of obedience.** Christian stewardship is the practice of solidarity with God. A steward is a fellow-worker, fellow-creator, and fellow-manager with God in the [management of all the gifts of God. John Wesley claims that God's grace demands us to be an](#) "obedient, faithful, and wise steward of God..." ("Sermon on the Mount, Discourse VIII," V: 376, 377), and that living life in obedience to God, means rendering to God "all we are, all that we have" ("The Danger of Increasing Richness," VII: 361).

(continued on page 3)



"That's the problem with a garden.  
The fruits of your labor are vegetables."



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### Prayer Requests

Please be Praying for...



- Bob Aaronson
- Daniel Bunk
- Kevin Desaultels
- Brad Frank
- Mark Keenan
- Karl Linderman
- Justin Linza
- Carl Randall
- Alfred Reynolds
- Greg Reynolds
- 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

### Prayer Requests

Our World situation  
The Rothfus Family

#### THOSE AT HOME

- Alicia Bradley
- Samuel Bradley
- Earnestine Green
- Alice Sweet
- Adaline Wakefield

#### To those at other residences...

#### CUBA CMH

- Lucille Wildrick
- Laura Clayson
- Helen Celment
- Pearl Franklin

#### ABSOLUT HOUGHTON

- John Lawton

#### WATERS IF WESTFIELD

- Dawn Durkee

#### BATH VA CENER

- John Visser

#### IRIS PARK COMMONS

- Marge Bly

#### EDEN HEIGHTS-

#### BUFFALO

- Jane Wright

Prayer List Update

**Please keep our prayer list up to date.**

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, or email. If you call your request in, please spell out the name.



### CAMP

Submitted by Deb Battistoni

It's not too late to sign up to attend church camp at Camp Asbury or Camp Findley! The United Methodist Church has 2 wonderful camps, with programs for school aged children with a variety of interesting themes. We are very fortunate that we have the David's Kids program, in memory of David Enderle, that covers a good portion of the cost of attending camp. So far I know that Katelyn Cornell, Jasmyn Dorsey, Joe Hughes, the Wildrick-Cole boys (Sam, the youngest, is going with Grandma Cheryl), and Sara Kellogg. Contact Deb Battistoni if you need information, or check [www.wnyumc.org](http://www.wnyumc.org) for the camping news.

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

#### June

- 6 DLT/Clara Wilder, Chrpsn
- 13 Closing Session of WNY Annual Conference
- 20 District Asst./Cheryl Isaman
- 27 Churches in Transition

(continued from page 1)

**Stewardship is the work of all God's people.** To claim the role of steward is to be committed to the work God is calling us to do and to participate fully in the works of God through the mission and ministry of the Church. (*Note here there is NO RETIREMENT PLAN*). In the United Methodist Church, we are never really alone because we are connected. Stewardship is an expression of our connectedness with God and with one another, and we believe that what we do together makes a difference.

### Where to Begin

I suggest we start by considering the following **5 Basic Steps** as a guide as we begin in your new role as stewardship leader in our ministry setting here in Cuba, NY. (*Folks do not assume that these 5 basic steps apply only to the pastor, we are **ALL** in ministry*)

1. Give ourselves plenty of time for study and reflection for our spiritual grounding. Keep in mind that our leadership role in this ministry is a matter of trust and gift from God. Hear our own voice for clarity of purpose and direction. Listen to God for guidance.
2. Review our [job description](#) and the responsibilities of our ministry area on stewardship. Our primary job is to lead your constituency for planning and encouraging a year round stewardship plan for growth in faithful stewardship, which also should consider financial stewardship.
3. Align our own goals with the mission and vision of the church. Meet with our pastor and members of your work area to identify ways to work together and accomplish common objectives.
4. Create and initiate working relationship with other church leaders. Explore with them our goals and plans and enlist their support to address the challenges and opportunities of ministry area. In this way, the whole church will likely benefit.
5. Establish a comprehensive year round stewardship plan for producing faithful stewards. Make sure the plan is appropriate for the ministry setting. Take this action item seriously and do it intentionally.

We will discover that as we practice leading in stewardship, you will greatly contribute to the effort of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. What an honor!

Remember the vows we made when we joined the church? If you look in your hymnal on Sunday on page 38 under RECEPTION INTO THE LOCAL CHURCH, you are asked the following: "As members of this congregation, will you *"faithfully"* participate in its ministries by **your prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service?**" I think it is a safe bet that every single one of us said I will. If we did then we need to uphold our end of the bargain. I guarantee you that God will abundantly uphold his end.

So I ask you; as you return from the warm south, or head out for some summer fun, to remember that Cuba UMC will still be here doing those ministries you promised to God that you would support, and then support them.

And remember that God loves you and so do we.

# Pastor Sunny





Altar Guild  
Shirley Poore

Videographer  
Jim Travis

Liturgist  
6: Doris Kellogg

Nursery

6: **Reserved for you!** 13: Judy Zayac  
13: **Reserved for you!** 20: Hattie Smith  
20: **Reserved for you!** 27: Rob Cornell  
27: Doris Kellogg

Children's Moment

6: Rob Cornell  
13: Judi Hughes  
22: **Reserved for you!**  
27: **Reserved for you!**

Ushers

Alan & Judy Zayac

Greeters

6: Robbie Cornell  
13: Patti Petroni  
20: Shirley & Harley Poore  
27: Sue Simmons & Doris Kellogg

Choir director:

Louis Petroni

Organist:

Donna Lawton

Acolytes

6: Jasmyn Dorsey  
13: Josh Enderle  
20: Joseph Hughes  
27: Josh Tsujimoto

Anniversaries

2 - Elizabeth & Fred Edwards  
6 - Iona & Clinton Matteson  
10 - Cindy & Dale Dutton  
21 - Sunny & Larry Mauser  
22 - Cynthia & Patrick Kennedy  
23 - Susan & Jeff Worst  
27 - Patti & Louis Petroni  
28 - Dorothy & Robert Campbell  
30 - Laurie & John Simons

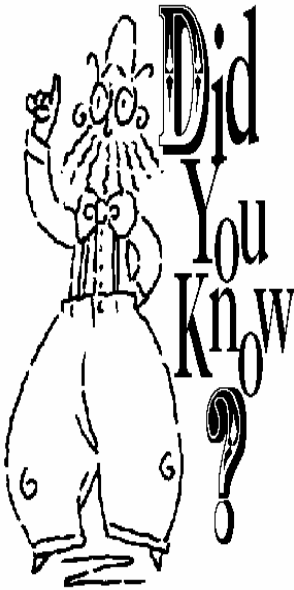
## June Celebrations



Birthdays

1 - Aaron Worst	26 - Kristin Michienzi
2 - Donna Burdick	27 - Ethan Brammer
Lee James	Beth Anne Burrows
3 - Tab Loftis	Lisa Stadler
4 - Anthony Berardi	Brian Worst
Chris Goodman	28 - Aaron Feldbauer
Jason Ricci	Randy Knapp
6 - Julie Hawks	29 - Michael Donahue
7 - Dylan Cornell	Brian Hamilton
Shirley Mosher	Hattie Smith
Kay Wetzell	30 - Alicia Bradley
10 - Alexa Leyva	Charlie Wildrick-Cole
Christian Worst	
11 - Shawn Jacobs	
Sandy Pickert	
12 - Jenny Bilotta	
Franz Hodge	
13 - Daniel Stubbs	
14 - Bill Allis	
15 - Jim Holcomb	
Larry Mauser	
Eric Young	
16 - Todd Appleby	
17 - Debbie Donahue	
18 - Tim Dutton	
20 - Kyle Butts	
Bessie Dillon	
Mary Ann Pfouts	
21 - Myrilyn Burrows	
22 - Andrea Vanik	
25 - Whitney Miller	





Submitted by  
Dean Wildrick

United Methodists rejected constitutional amendments that could have paved the way to make the church in the United States one of several regional bodies throughout the world. The United Methodist Council of Bishops announced that the 135 annual conferences defeated amendments that would have structured the U.S. church in the same manner as church re-

My belief that this would have fragmented the United Methodist church in the US with each area modifying our beliefs to suit themselves. Dean



## CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

We would like to congratulate the following people on their graduation:

### High School Graduates:

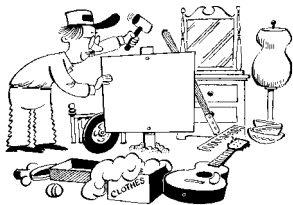
**Ryan Morris** son of Mark & Clare Morris is graduating from Cuba-Rushford High School. He plans to attend college in Mansfield, Pa and study Art.

**Caleb Young** grandson of Michael & Fran Young is graduation from Cuba-Rushford High School. He plans on going to JCC in Jamestown.

### College Graduates

**Aaron Feldbauer** son of Sue Feldbauer is graduating from St. Bonaventure. Sociology was his and he would like to join the Criminal Justice field.

**Elyse Petroni** daughter of Louis and Patti Petroni graduated from Perely Isaac Reed School of Journalism, Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism from West Virginia University at commencement ceremonies held on May 16th. She has accepted an internship with the Golin Harris Public Affairs Relations Firm in Washington, D.C. She has also been accepted into the Integrated Marketing Communications Graduate Program with West Virginia University.



## RUMMAGE SALE

Submitted by Deb Battistoni

Another spring, another successful rummage sale! Many thanks go to everyone that helped, whether by donating items to sell, unpacking, sorting, pricing, merchandising, selling, and cleaning up!

We will clear over \$850. Our leftover usable items were taken to Wellspring Ministries (between Belfast and Angelica) where they have free clothing give aways twice a week by Sandy and Larry Lathrop. Our puppy guy, Fred, took several bags of stained or torn items for his animal rescue bedding. Unsold household items were taken to the transfer station's mission building, where they will get another chance at being sold.

We'll do this again in October.



## UMW NEWS

*Submitted by Judi Hughes, President*

No Report Submitted



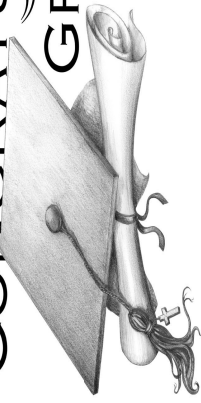
Thank you for your gift of \$568.00 to The Advance, the designated giving channel of the United Methodist Church . Because of your support, UMCOR is able to address not only immediate needs, but also the long term recovery of those whose lives have been shattered. Your contribution is helping UM-

COR in Haiti for as long as it takes to understand the people's needs, and work to create a sustainable integrated infrastructure and address the psychological impact to a traumatized nation.




Thank you for being there...for being hope...in Haiti . As UMCOR prepares to aid the Haitian people in their long-term recovery, we are grateful that you will be our partner in rebuilding homes, lives and families. Your generosity offers a spirit of hope in the midst of devastation.

You can find out more about UMCORs work by visiting our website at [www.umcor.org](http://www.umcor.org). To receive weekly updates about UMCORs work, sign up on our website for the UMCOR Hotline, a weekly email about the latest happenings at UMCOR.

CONGRATULATIONS  
TO OUR  
GRADUATES!



# JUNE 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
Worship 10:00 / Food Pantry Sunday School 11:00am	Ad Council 6:00pm	UMW Dinner Outing Allegany Grill 5:30pm	Choir Practice 7:00pm	Single Mom's Group 6:00pm	Closing Conference of WNY Kung Fu Classes 6-8am Saturdays 	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship 10:00am Rothfus Family Collection	Angel Food Deadline	UMW Dinner Outing Allegany Grill 5:30pm			Dinner for Louis Petroni 6:00pm	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship 10:00am	Angel Food Deadline				Uniting Conference of Upper NY Annual Conference Angel Food Distribution 9-10am	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Graduation Sunday Father's Day Breakf't 8:00a Coffee Hour 11a	Newsletter Deadline				 Baccalaureate at the High School	
27	28	29	30			
Worship 10:00am Rothfus Family Collection	Trustees Meeting 7:00pm					

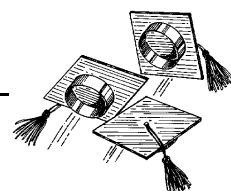
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CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

49 EAST MAIN ST. • CUBA, NY 14727



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 9:00 am. Please email articles to Editor's email address, or drop articles off to the church office.

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## ***Give Me Just This Moment, Please, Forever***

Give me just this moment, please, forever.  
Replicate it for me on demand.  
As I flow unceasingly downriver,  
Do not make me leave this day behind.  
Understand my bittersweet confusion  
As graduation crystallizes youth,  
Tallying my treasures with precision,  
Illuminating wistfully my wealth.  
Out of all my moments pluck this one,  
Nor let me lose its grace until I'm gone.