

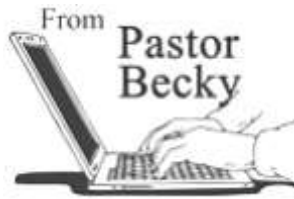
The Shepherd's Messenger



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



Greetings in Christ!

I trust you are doing well and staying healthy in these challenging times.

As you know, our church has faced some challenges over the past 15 months as we have done our best to navigate the pandemic. Doubtless, all the decisions we've made as a team have not been perfect, but we have tried to seek the mind of God and sought His wisdom.

As we have returned to worship together, again, we've tried to do so with a sense of care while striving to gain some semblance of "normalcy." We often hear that people can't wait to "get back to normal." I heard someone say at one point though, that "normal is just a setting on the dryer."

Many churches have seen drops in both attendance (online or in-person) as well as financial drops. We believe God will help us through any of the challenges we have faced along the way.

If you're like me, you hear opinions and facts (that seem to change as much as opinions) on a daily or weekly basis. Talk of the effectiveness of masking or even a vaccine can get tiresome to listen to, let alone attempt to understand!

I won't bore you or entertain you with my opinion on the whole thing.

My goal as Pastor of Cuba United Methodist Church is to do my best to provide an atmosphere where people are welcomed, regardless of where you may stand on these issues.

If you feel it best to attend church with a face covering, then please do! Perhaps you think that you have adequate immunity due to having the virus or from getting the vaccine, then, by all means, you are encouraged to attend church mask free!

Yet, please know if you are still in a place where you don't feel quite ready to return; we do understand. If you would like to discuss your situation personally, please don't hesitate to reach out to me!

I don't believe God's long-term answer for anyone is to spend their church time at home watching online. The Word of God is still true when it shares the following: Hebrews 10:25, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Continued on Page 7

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
Our World situation

Others to keep in prayer:

- Marshall Allen
- Norma Andrus
- Todd Baxter
- Russell Brown
- Hazel Cornell
- David Edwards
- Brian Fries
- Don Hall
- David Halstead
- Donna Hart
- Bernie Hawks
- Bob Huddleston
- Katie Kellogg
- Sandy Lathrop
- Bruce Metler
- Mark Middaugh
- Nellie Moses
- Justin Murphy
- Keith Pierce
- Laroy Spateholts
- Family & friends of
Mary Lou Sprague
- Donald Thompson
- Jessica Veiders
- JoAnn Viglietta
- Clint Wilder
- 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!

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

July 4 Cuba & Friendship UMCs. Pastor Becky Worth, her husband William and their family.



- 2 - Michael Hupp
- 5 - Rita Say
- 6 - James Luckey
- 16 - Katelyn Cornell
- 17 - Lucinda Pierce
- 22 - Stan Scoville
- 23 - Jim Travis
- 24 - Mike LaFever
- 28 - Debra Enderle



- 5 - James & Marilyn Luckey
- 14 - Doug & Lynnette Clayson
- 17- Becky and Bill Worth
- 20 - Lewis & Cheryl Holden, Jr.
- 29 - Dave & Deb Battistoni

Statistics Needed: \$1,736

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
5/30	30		\$1,030.00
		Gil's Hills	\$ 90.00
6/6	41		\$2,750.00
		Gil's Hills	\$ 50.00
6/13	44		\$1,762.00
		Gil's Hills	\$ 30.00
6/20	33		\$1,372.00
6/27	41		\$1,137.00
		Gil's Hills	\$ 290.00

July Helping Hands

Pianist:
Christine Berardi

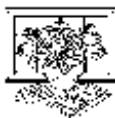


Altar Guild:
Cindy Dutton
Deb Battistoni



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

Ruth Holden
at 585-205-4837



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**.



Thela Snow has twin granddaughters, **Sloane Lynn Gross and Eavan Leigh Gross, born on June 21**. Mom & Dad are Melissa and Casey.



Mary Lou Sprague, Cuba UMC member, passed away on June 16, 2021 at her home in Jamestown, NY. Arrangements were at the convenience of the family.

CUCUMBER DILL ROUNDS

Cindy Dutton

Mix together: 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
1 TBS fresh dill weed, chopped
1 tsp. garlic salt

Dollop onto 24 fresh cucumber slices.
Can garnish with fresh dill sprig.



Puzzle!

Complete this Bible passage by adding the missing vowels.



Th_r_for_ ,
_s G_d's ch_s_n p__pl_ ,
h_ly _nd d__rly l_v_d, cl_th_ ,
y__rs lv_s w_th c_mp_ss__n ,
k_ndn_ss, h_m_l_ty, g_ntl_n_ss
_nd p_t__nc_ . B__r w_th
__ch__th_r__nd f_rg_v__n_ ,
_n_th_r__f__ny__f_y__h_s__ ,
gr__v_nc__g__nst s_m__n_ .
F_rg_v__s th_ L_rd f_rg_v__y__ .
C_l_ss__ns 3:12-13, N_V

Answer: Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:12-13, NIV



Let's make time to express our gratitude to those from our Church who do volunteer work in our Community on behalf of Cuba United Methodist Church. These people are the public face of CUMC in the community! Give them a big "thank you!" Those who deliver Meals on Wheels every Friday in Cuba are: Lynette Decker (not a CUMC member); Mary Hupp, Thela Snow and Don Hall. Plus, Peggy Pearce is an enthusiastic volunteer at the Cuba Food Pantry, keeping those shelves neat and up-to-date. And, Peggy and Mary also serve on the Cuba Council of Churches which coordinates activities in Cuba that involve our five churches. They recently held a fundraiser during Dairy Days...a "jail" that kept prisoners (like Pastor Jon Ward and Elementary School Principal Kevin Erickson) in "jail" until they were "bailed" out! Church volunteers who helped with this activity included myself, Sallie Wild and Mary Hupp. It was a successful fundraiser for the Council's Scholarship Fund!! Thank you volunteers!!

Cindy Dutton

August Helping Hands



Pianist:
Christine Berardi

Altar Guild:
Cindy Dutton
Deb Battistoni



- 17 - Brian & Tammy Hawks
- 18 - Richard & Lucinda Pierce
- 24 - Larry & Veronica Clayson

- 3 - Sylvia Clement
Melissa Zeh-Gross
- 4 - Joshua Enderle
- 12 - Cheryl Wildrick
Sid Wildrick-Cole
- 14 - Lisa Hawks
- 17 - Derek Clement
- 21 - Dean Wildrick
- 28 - Holly Scoville
- 30 - Dawn Wildrick-Cole
- 31 - Brian Krott
Arnold Nelson
Laurie Simons



High School Graduates:

Carley LaFever, granddaughter of Mike & Sandy LaFever.

Connor LaFever, grandson of Mike & Sandy LaFever

College Graduates:

Charissa Currier, granddaughter of Mike & Sandy LaFever.



Watch Live Streaming of Sunday Worship Services
on our website, www.cubaumc.org
(Go to "Sermons" page to watch archived videos.)

also watch on our **Cuba UMC Facebook page.**

UMW NEWS

Submitted by Peggy Pearce



The United Methodist Women (UMW) met in the Green Street foyer on Saturday, June 19.

The main topic of discussion was the August rummage sale. Due to the large amount of items to be sold, the entire church basement will be in use. Many volunteers are needed to help with setting up, selling and cleaning up. If you are available to help, please let Janet Calcagno know. Nothing will be priced except for large or unique items; everything else will be sold by the bag. The sale hours are:

- ◊ Thursday, August 19, noon to 7 p.m. (\$5 bags);
- ◊ Friday, August 20, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (\$3 bags);
- ◊ Saturday, August 21, 9 a.m. to noon (\$2 bags).

Set up will begin the week prior to the sale and clean up the week following the sale. Any COVID restrictions in place at the time of the sale will be followed.

The last time the UMW had **"dinner out"** was June 2019 when a large group enjoyed a meal at the Old Greyhound. Of course, the pandemic prevented any such occasion in 2020. Should we try to revive this annual event this fall? Please let Janet know of your interest and any possible location for the dinner.

Hygiene kits for UMCOR will be assembled at the September UMW meeting. Anyone wishing to participate in this outreach project can pick up a complete list of materials needed for each kit in the Green Street foyer where a tote is provided for donations.

The next UMW meeting is Saturday, July 17 at 10 a.m.

When Possessions become a Prison

Jay E. Adams writes that under the roof in his back yard hangs a hummingbird feeder that he keeps filled with sugar water. There are four openings in it from which birds may suck the nectar. Yet, day after day, from early morning until after dusk, the feeder is the source of their own private version of star wars. One bird chases all the others away.



“As I said,” Adams writes, “there is room for four birds at a time, and fully that number attempt to feed. But the top dog (excuse my use of this metaphor for a hummingbird!), who now ‘owns’ the feeder, will not let them. All day long he sits on the branch of a nearby apricot tree guarding ‘his’ feeder and defying others to transgress on what he has established as ‘his’ territory.

“This ongoing slice of life confronts us throughout the day as green and red hummers streak across the yard, the king hummer in hot pursuit of an intruder. While the chase is on, others sneak a sip or two, only to be driven off when he returns.

“The whole business has become a sort of parable for our family. Here is an example of grace: I bought the feeder; I supply the sugar water. The birds do not earn it; they receive it all FREE. Yet, day after day, they fight over who may enjoy it.

“How like the people of God! All we have or are that is worthwhile is the gift of God's pure grace. And yet we can be proud, self-centered, envious, and quarrelsome. Often, we fight over God's good gifts rather than expressing our gratitude in humility and sharing what we have been given with others. Just as I am confronted daily with rivalry in my yard, even so God is confronted daily with rivalry in His.”

What You Give to God, He Multiplies

Hattie May Wiatt, a six-year-old girl, lived near Grace Baptist Church in Philadelphia, USA. The Sunday school was very crowded. Russell H. Conwell, the minister, told her that one day they would have buildings big enough to allow everyone to attend. She said, ‘I hope you will. It is so crowded I am afraid to go there alone.’ He replied, ‘When we get the money we will construct one large enough to get all the children in.’

Two years later, in 1886, Hattie May died. After the funeral Hattie’s mother gave the minister a little bag they had found under their daughter’s pillow containing 57 cents in change that she had saved up. Alongside it was a note in her handwriting: ‘To help build bigger so that more children can go to Sunday school.’

The minister changed all the money into pennies and offered each one for sale. He received \$250 – and 54 of the cents were given back. The \$250 was itself changed into pennies and sold by the newly formed ‘Wiatt Mite Society’. In this way, her 57 cents kept on multiplying.

Twenty-six years later, in a talk entitled, ‘The history of the 57 cents’, the minister explained the results of her 57-cent donation: a church with a membership of over 5,600 people, a hospital where tens of thousands of people had been treated, 80,000 young people going through university, 2,000 people going out to preach the gospel – all this happened ‘because Hattie May Wiatt invested her 57 cents’.

The theme of multiplication runs throughout the Bible. What cannot be achieved by addition, God does by multiplication. You reap what you sow, only many times more. What you give to the Lord, he multiplies.

From: “ChurchLetters.com/Church-Bulletin-articles”



DUDLEY TAILS

Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick

Hi. It's Dudley again. I hope you don't mind. I need to talk to someone. I feel so alone, and scared...

Last month my pal, Tucker, woke me up (in the middle of the night), with his loud, strained, breathing. I found him lying on his side at the top of the stairs. He tried to sit up, but his legs wouldn't move... and his head just laid back down. And the difficult breathing continued.

I had never seen him this way before. Something was terribly wrong. I became uneasy and worried. I didn't know what was happening.

Soon I heard footsteps coming. It was our master. I felt a weight lift from me. Our master would know what to do.

Our master spoke gently to Tucker and sat by his side. A loving hand slowly stroked Tucker, from his head to his tail. Tucker tried to sit up to show his appreciation, but failed.

Then I noticed it - a tear was quietly rolling down our master's cheek. Then came another, and another. Our master was telling Tucker what a "good boy," he was. ('But Tucker wasn't doing anything for anyone at the moment.) What did our master mean?

Then our master told me that tucker was "going home" and he would not have difficulty breathing any more. I thought Tucker WAS home. (??)

I heard that it had been eleven days since Tucker began coughing. Is that a long time? Each cough was followed by a gasp for air. It must have seemed like a long time to Tucker.

Those trips to the vet, the x-rays, and all those pills could not save Tucker. My master said that the "Master of All" was calling Tucker to a better place.

Now, as I sat next to my buddy, I could see drops of a black liquid fall from Tucker's mouth - to the step below. And then, his difficult breathing stopped. All was quiet in the dark night.

Where did Tucker's life go? I saw only his motionless body before me. I wanted him to run and play with me again. I will have to hold on to my happy memories and wait until the day I will see him again. Will all this happen to me someday?

Love, Dudley



ANSWERS TO DUDLE'S QUESTIONS:

Question #1: Why did Tucker die?

Living creatures are given a finite time to live on this earth. "There is a time for everything... a time to be born and a time to die." (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2) It was Tuckers time to leave this earth.

Question #2: Where is Tucker now? (Genesis 1:25,27) (John 3:16)

God Created animals and mankind, and said both were good.

God has prepared a place in heaven for people who accept Jesus as their saviour. Humans can reason, dogs cannot. But dogs understand love and obedience. Jesus is a better master than any human. A dog would be over joyed to serve Jesus or... perhaps there is a special place where dogs play, until their earthly master joins them, and they cross the "Rainbow Bridge" to eternity together.

(Continued on Page 7)

("Dudley Tales" continued from Page 6)

Question #3: Is Tucker happy? (Psalms 106:1; Psalms 107:1) (Psalms 118:1,2,3,4,29)
(Psalms 118:1-4, 29)

Is someone happy when his pain is gone?
Is someone happy when he is loved?
God's "love endures forever" Yes, I believe Tucker is out of pain, and loved.

Question #4: Will I see Tucker again?

There are some questions that will not be answered until we get to heaven. Wait and see. Why would God withhold the living things, we loved, from us? Heaven is a large place... and we will have plenty of time... so, we can begin searching for our beloved pets as we are praising our maker.

God is good, and He bestows His love on Believers. Trust Him.

(Your thoughts are welcome. 'Especially with scripture references.) c.w.

(Pastor Becky's Letter Continued from Front Page)

We see our nation open up again, and for that, we are thrilled!

If you are out and about doing other things such as shopping, sporting events, etc., why not consider joining us for worship as well! Our Tuesday morning prayer group is meeting once again at 10:00 a.m. in the church sanctuary. We would love to have you come and pray with us!

We want to see our church family! We are strongest that way because, truly, we are better together! Let's start the summer months together again!

Hope to see you Sunday! (And bring a friend!)

In Christ,
Pastor Becky

UMW Rummage Sale



Thursday	Aug. 19	Noon - 7 pm	\$5 bags
Friday	Aug. 20	10 am - 3 pm	\$3 bags
Saturday	Aug. 21	9 am - Noon	\$2 bags




All members and people who attend Cuba UMC services are invited to attend an **information session regarding security for the church** on Monday, July 19 at 6:00 pm in the church sanctuary.



July 2021

SUNDAY
WORSHIP
SERVICE
11:00 AM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
UMW Food Pantry Collection Confirmation 	5	6 Prayer Group 10 am	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Prayer Group 10 am	14	15	16	17 UMW Meeting 10 am
18	19 Church Security Information for all members 6:00 pm	20 Prayer Group 10 am	21	22	23	24
25 Gill's Hills Offering	26	27 Prayer Group 10 am	28	29	30	31

August 2021

SUNDAY
WORSHIP
SERVICE
11:00 AM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 UMW Food Pantry Collection Communion	2	3 Prayer Group 10 am	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Prayer Group 10 am	11	12	13	14
15	16 September Newsletter Deadline	17 Prayer Group 10 am	18	19 UMW Rummage sale Noon-7 pm	20 UMW Rummage sale 10 am -3 pm	21 UMW Rummage sale 9 am - Noon
22	23	24 Prayer Group 10 am	25	6	27	28
29 Gill's Hills Offering	30	31 Prayer Group 10 am				

The Shepherd's Messenger

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



2021

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office.

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

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Home: (716) 373-4332

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Tuesday & Wednesday

9 am - 3 pm