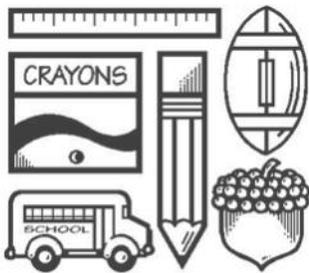


September 2018

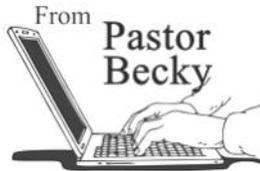
# The Shepherd's Messenger



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



From Pastor Becky  
*"If the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches."*

Romans 11:16

## More Than Money

When you think of the word "tithe," what's the first thing that comes to your mind? Most people probably think of money, but it actually has little to do with money. For God, tithing is an issue of the heart. Genesis 4:3-5 tells the story of Cain and Abel bringing their offerings to the Lord, and it gives us a lot of insight into what God is looking at when we give: "And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell."

People have wondered for years why God respected Abel's offering and not Cain's. The Word makes it clear the offering Abel brought was the firstborn of his flock, but it doesn't say Cain brought the firstfruits of his crops. In fact, it says, "and in the process of time." In other words, Cain grew his crops and then, "in the process of time," got around to bringing an offering to the Lord. The implication is that he didn't bring his firstfruits to the Lord. Could that be why God did not respect Cain's offering? I believe so. Abel, on the other hand, brought the firstborn of his flock to the Lord, and God accepted his offering.

Here's the lesson for us: God is looking at our hearts when we give. And when we give the first of our firstfruits, or our tithe, God receives and respects that offering because it takes a lot of faith to give to God before we pay our mortgage, our car payment, or the IRS.

There was much more at stake than money when Abraham offered his firstborn son, Isaac, to the Lord (Genesis 22). Abraham didn't wait to see if he had 10 sons before he gave his first one. Nor did God go to Abraham when he only had Isaac and say, "After you have four or five more sons, I'm going to come to you and ask you for one of them." No, God asked for the first when one was all he had! Abraham only had the promise of having more sons. It took faith for Abraham to offer Isaac. And faith is precisely what tithing requires. It's giving God the first, in faith. Many people say they're putting God first, but true tithing is where the rubber meets the road. It's where we walk what we talk. It's also one of the ways God blesses and protects us.

When Satan comes against you with fear and says, "You're going to go broke, your marriage is going to fail, you're going to get a disease," you can firmly reply, "No, I'm a tither, and because I tithe, the Bible says that God will rebuke the devourer for my sake. Yes, for my sake! God is first in my life, and God is going to redeem and protect everything else in my life!" Putting God first in our lives is what tithing is all about. It's not about money; it's about revealing the state of our hearts.

### Prayer

God, thank You for blessing me with everything I have. Help me to understand Your heart for tithing, and give me the faith to give You the first of my increase. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Blessings,  
*Pastor Becky*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

Our World situation  
The Rothfus Family  
Naomi Scoville/Kosovo

For those at other residences...

PINES - OLEAN  
Connie Battistoni



- 4 Sarah Krott
- 8 Marilyn Goodliff
- 12 Alan Zayac
- 14 Ashton Hawks
- 17 Veronica Clayson
- 18 JoAnne Hupp  
Derek Morris  
Alice Sweet
- 19 Delain Pierce
- 21 Mary Ellen James  
Eve Kuhn  
Mary Lou Sprague
- 25 James Burdick
- 27 Fran Young
- 28 Jessica Holden  
Laroy Spateholts
- 29 Marie Willer
- 30 Judy Zayac

<u>Statistics</u>		<u>Needed: \$1,548</u>	
Date	Worship	SS	Offering
7/1	42	-	\$2,167.00
7/1		Naomi	\$ 155.00
7/1		Rothfus	\$ 20.00
7/8	45		\$1,082.00
7/15	35		\$1,104.26
7/22	35		\$1,198.00
7/29	47		\$ 980.00
7/29		Rothfus	35.00
8/5	33		\$1,708.00
8/5		Naomi	\$ 85.00
8/5		Rothfus	\$ 20.00
8/12	53		\$1,313.00
8/19	47		\$1,285.00
8/26	41		\$1,208.00
8/26		Rothfus	\$ 35.00

**Others to keep in prayer:**

- Norma Andrus
- Dana Boss
- Hazel Cornell
- David Edwards
- Luke Fries
- David Halstead
- Donna Hart
- Bernie Hawks
- Sandy Lathrop
- Jim Maxim
- Mary McCarthy
- Mark Middaugh
- Mary Ellen Moriarty
- Justin Murphy
- Keith Pearce
- Laroy Spateholts
- Lon Sweet
- Donald Thompson
- JoAnn Viglietta
- Ken Wyant



**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!*



- 19 Mike & Sandy LaFever
- 26 Robbie & Rhonda Cornell

**September Helping Hands**

Usher:  
Jim Travis



Pianist:  
Christine Berardi

Altar Guild:  
Thela Snow



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

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



**Rodney R. Cornell**  
(Rob Cornell's father)  
passed away on May 31,  
2018 in Wellsville Manor  
Care Center.

**B. Lynn "Bud" Williams**  
(Deb Battistoni's father)  
passed away on August 1,  
2018 at the Pines in Machias.

**Everett E. Mulkin Howard**  
(Marilyn Goodliff's brother)  
passed away on August 25,  
2018 at his home in  
Friendship.



**Rinoa Lockwood** was born on June 18, 2018. Her mother & father are Casi & Brett.

**Marinated Veggies** (Editor's note: A hit at the church picnic)

Janet Calcagno

- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 t. dry mustard
- 2 t. salt
- Large onion (finely grated)
- 2/3 C. cider vinegar
- Mix above ingredients together



- 2 C. cooking oil
- 2 T. poppy seed
- 1 head of cauliflower
- 1 head of broccoli
- 3 small zucchini
- 8 carrots (cook a little)
- Mushrooms
- Combine all ingredients
- Let set 3 hours.....DO NOT REFRIDGERATE!

**ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY**



An invitation is extended to all adults who would like to learn more about what the Bible says on topics of interest. And, Welcome Back! to our regular attenders.

These past months we have built a foundation of information on heaven. Beginning in September (9th) we will be looking at the question: Do animals go to heaven? We will read many scriptures that will address this question. Our study is based on a book by Steven H. Woodward who shares scripture and his experiences with Jesus.

Later, in September, we will begin a study on people who have died (clinically dead) and then come back to life. Some were believers in Jesus and others were not. These people are referred to as NDEers. (These who have had a Near Death Experience)

Join us to learn what these people experienced. There are a number of common elements in these experiences and some experiences are unique to the individual. Even NDE children contribute.

Our studies this year should prove to be an exciting time of looking ahead to our future life beyond this earth. And, it will be a testament to the incredible love of Jesus.

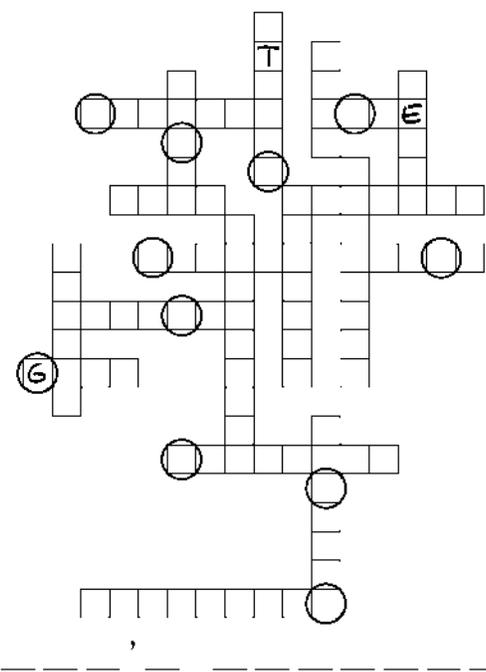
Come. Join our fellowship! Let's learn more about the spirit within us! Meet at 9:45 am in the church sanctuary on Sunday, September 9th.

Cheryl

# Puzzle!

Followers of Jesus have dual citizenship. To discover where you dwell, fill in these Bible-time places. Then write the circled letters in order (left to right, top to bottom) on the blanks below.

Tyre	Berea	Galilee	Damascus
Canan	Lycia	Ephraim	Philippi
Rome	Athens	Ephesus	Bethlehem
Gaza	Kedesh	Corinth	Jerusalem
Sidon	Sychar	Iconium	



Answer: God's kingdom



## ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES with Cheryl



### PROPHECY #33: Judgements at the Second Coming

You've probably heard it said: "judgement day is coming." At the return of Jesus to earth: sin, wickedness, and rebellion against God will be punished.

When Satan gathers his supporters to wage war at Armageddon, the armies and their leaders will be judged. It will happen in an instant. Jesus will say the word, and the earthly armies (and even their horses) will be killed. (Revelation 19:17-19)

The World Ruler and his Associate will be judged. For their evil campaign to rule the earth (with power and hate) they will be thrown into the "fiery lake of burning Sulphur." (Revelation 19:20)

Satan will be judged. For his desire to be worshipped like God, Satan will be bound with a chain and thrown into the Abyss (home of the demon world) during Christ's 1,000 year rule on earth. (Revelation 20:1-3)

Old Testament persons who have died, will be judged. After they have been raised from the dead, "some will awake to everlasting life, others..." (Daniel 12:2)

At the Second Coming, those Israelites who are alive will face purging judgements. These will determine which Jews will enter the Millennial Kingdom. Who of them is prepared? (Matthew 25:1-13) Who will receive a reward? (Matthew 25:14-27)

At the Second Coming, those Gentiles who are alive will be judged. (During the Great Tribulation, there will be Anti-Semitism. Gentiles who help and befriend the persecuted Jews will show their trust in Jesus.) The Gentiles who are selfish will be "lost". (Matthew 25:31-46)

At the end of the 1,000 years of Jesus' rule, the children who were born during that time will be judged. Have they become true believers? Is Jesus their Savior?

God's prophecies of the past came true.

God's prophecies of the future will come true also.



Photo by Cindy Dutton

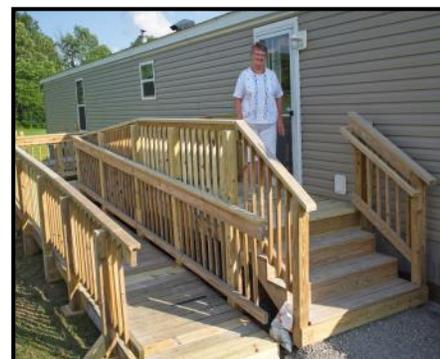


Photo courtesy of Joe Tecza,  
Grace United Church, Wellsville

Here are members of the Grace United Church of Wellsville's "Congregational Samaritans" who are doing a "ramps project" at the home of CUMC members Helen Middaugh, and son Mark Middaugh. The ramp is the 27th ramp they have built...Mark will be able to leave his home more easily now.

# DUDLEY TAILS

*Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick*



I was jolted awake by the sound of frantic barking. It was Dudley and also Tucker. Their barking was not the kind of barking that says, "I heard a noise outside." But the kind of loud, sharp barking that says, "Something is wrong!!" At the same time, there was a shocking, huge clap of thunder. The kind that makes a heart stop, and the kind that takes one's breath away. It demonstrated the power of God. (Psalms 29:3,4,7) (Psalms 150:2) (Romans 1:2) **POWER**

Tucker ran from room to room to see if anyone else needed to be alerted. Pounding rain, accompanied by startling, intermittent thunder continued. Nothing can compare to the might and power of a summer downpour. It can put the fear of God into any living creature. (Psalms 33:8) (Proverbs 9:10 (Proverbs 19:23) **FEAR**

In his young life, Dudley had not experienced many thunderstorms. This one had hit "all-at-once"... and it took a few seconds for us to realize what was happening and to know what to do. Dudley went straight to his master for help and a safe spot. (Deuteronomy 33:27) (Psalms 46:1) (Psalms 121:7) **SAFETY AND HELP**

It is always a comfort to go to someone who loves us in our times of trouble. We may go to a friend, a spouse, a parent, or a pastor. That person's strength and confidence will lift us up and give us courage. Dudley went to his master for comfort, and our Master is the best choice for us too. (Psalms 119:76) (2 Corinthians 1:3) **COMFORT**

God's power is seen and heard in thunder and lightning... and His power is available to Believers to meet any threat. The "fear of the Lord" is a good thing. It reminds Believers that they are accountable for their actions. God desires that Believers come to Him for safety and help. He has provided these two things for thousands of years. We worship the God who "comforts us in all our troubles." And He wants Believers to comfort others in their troubles.



**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**.



**Sunday School**  
for All Ages begins  
September 9 at 9:45 am



# MISSIONS

**Naomi Scoville** is beginning her second year teaching in Kosovo. In addition to teaching, she is stepping into the role of Middle School Principal. We take a special offering for Naomi on the first Sunday of each month.



You can follow Naomi by visiting her Blog:  
<http://naomisalbanianadventures.wordpress.com>

**Ed and Debbie Rothfus** arrived back in Kenya, Africa on August 16. Ed teaches art and Debbie is Librarian at the Rift Valley Academy. We take an offering for them on the last Sunday of each month.

You can read email updates from the them on our church website:  
<http://cubaumc.org/rothfus.html>





## ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES with Cheryl

### PROPHECY #34: The Millennial Kingdom: Restoration of Israel

After the Second Coming of Jesus to earth, and the Battle of Armageddon, the Millennial (1,000 year) kingdom is established and Israel is restored. The “king of the Jews” becomes in control of a renovated earth, and brings new standards: righteousness, peace and prosperity.

Jesus (as the king of kings) will assume the throne of David and reign (from Jerusalem) over the entire earth. (Isaiah 2:4) (Psalms 2:6-9) Christ’s reign will be just. (Psalms 72:1-2, 11-14) Peace will exist for all.

The “Restoration of Israel” refers to the fact that the Jews will return (from all over the world) to their Promised Land. (Ezekiel 39:25-29) It also indicates a spiritual restoration for the Jews because Christ’s reign will be the literal fulfillment of God’s promises to King David. (Jeremiah 23:5-6)

Spiritual Life during the Millennium will have, as its foundation, knowledge of the person and work of Christ. Christ will be the object of worship and obedience. His glory will be visible. Also present will be the indwelling of the Holy Spirit... giving believers joy and peace. (Ezekiel 36:27)

The larger Millennial Temple will assure believers that God is in their midst. (Ezekiel 43:4-5)

Social and economic life during the Millennium will include: equalization of wealth, prosperity in material things and in justice, health and long life. The “Curse of Adam” will be lifted and the earth will no longer produce thorns, thistles, and weeds. (Isaiah 30:23-24) Man will not have to toil with great strength to grow things and woman will not have pain in childbearing.

At the end of the Millennium, Satan will be loosed and he will attempt (unsuccessfully) to capture Jerusalem. (Revelation 20:7-10) He will be judged and thrown into the Lake of Fire for eternity.

God’s prophecies of the past came true.

God’s prophecies of the future will come true also.



Our church picnic and worship on July 15 in Chamberlain Park was a success with 35 people attending and lots of good food and fellowship.

*Photos courtesy of Thela Snow*

**WORSHIP  
SERVICE  
SUNDAY  
11:00 AM**



# 2018

**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
For All Ages  
9:45 AM**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Communion Naomi Mission Offering UMW Food Pantry Collection	<b>3</b> 	<b>4</b> Prayer Group 10 am - 11 am	<b>5</b> Trustees meeting 6:00 pm Management Team Meeting 6:45 pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> First Day of Sunday School	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> UMW Meeting 10:00 am
<b>16</b> Coffee Hour	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> Rothfus Offering						

# The Shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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WWW.CUBAUMC.ORG • PASTOR BECKY WORTH



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*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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