

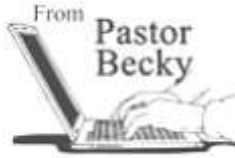
The Shepherd's Messenger



| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Pastor Becky's Letter | 1 |
| Prayer List | 2 |
| September Celebrations | 2 |
| September Helping Hands | 2 |
| Statistics | 2 |
| Puzzle | 3 |
| Rummage Sale News | 3 |
| Recipe | 3 |
| "Dudley Tails" | 4 |
| Crop Walk | 6 |
| Meeting Notice | 6 |
| September Calendar | 7 |



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



Greetings in Christ,

Love makes ALL the difference! We've perhaps heard that many times, yet I wanted to take a few moments to share this reminder with you that it truly does make ALL the difference, especially when it's the love of God being referred to! I believe today if we are ever going to share God's love with those around us, we first need to experience it in our own lives.

As I was reading various scriptures having to do with the love God has for us, I came across the following which was actually a prayer the Apostle Paul was offering to God on behalf of the church at Ephesus while he was in prison for preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 3:16-21 says,

¹⁶I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

While we may face persecution and challenge from this world we live in, there is something that will keep us through the storms and trials of life, and it is the unending, unfathomable, unexplainable love that God has for each and every one of us, and yes, even for this World.

The primary purpose of this letter to the Ephesians was to talk about a "mystery", and of course, this mystery was not intended to be kept that way. Paul's purpose was to explain and reveal it by sharing about this thing called "the church" whose purpose it was to express the fullness of Christ on the Earth.

One of the ways this would be done was by uniting both Jew and Gentile which of course was another aspect to this great mystery. (Eph. 3:5) It had never been done before like this; yet God was maturing a people who would take the victory Christ won at Calvary and expand it further in reach and scope which would continue through today.

(Continued on page 5)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
Our World situation

Others to keep in prayer:

- Norma Andrus
- Todd Baxter
- Russell Brown
- Gary Carlson
- Hazel Cornell
- David Edwards
- Brian Fries
- Don Hall
- David Halstead
- Donna Hart
- Bernie Hawks
- Jean Higby
- Bob Huddleston
- Andrew James
- Katie Kellogg
- Bruce Metler
- Helen Middaugh
- Mark Middaugh
- Nellie Moses
- Justin Murphy
- Keith Pierce
- Laroy Spateholts
- Donald Thompson
- Jessica Veiders
- JoAnn Viglietta
- Clint Wilder
- James Woodruff
- 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.

Thank you!




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



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

| Statistics | | Needed: \$1,736 | |
|------------|---------|-----------------|------------|
| Date | Worship | SS | Offering |
| 7/4 | 62 | | \$2,903.00 |
| | | Gil's Hills | \$ 100.00 |
| 7/11 | 40 | | \$1,748.00 |
| | | Gil's Hills | 50.00 |
| 7/18 | 45 | | \$2,292.99 |
| 7/25 | 47 | | \$1,216.00 |
| | | Gil's Hills | \$ 276.00 |
| 8/1 | 41 | | \$3,726.00 |
| 8/8 | 24 | | 940.00 |
| 8/15 | 36 | | \$1,778.00 |
| | | Gil's Hills | \$ 50.00 |
| 8/22 | 43 | | \$1,795.00 |
| 8/22 | | Gil's Hills | 25.00 |

September Helping Hands 

Power Point:
Rob Cornell

Pianist:
Christine Berardi

Altar Guild:
Thela Snow
Holly Scoville



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

Call 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.



JoAnne and Christopher Hupp were confirmed and became members of the Cuba UMC at the Worship Service on Sunday, July 4, 2021.

UMW Rummage Sale

by Deb Battistoni



This year's sale, after a 2 year absence, was also promoted as a fill the bag sale! Bargains were plentiful, as each bag was either \$5, \$3, or \$2, depending on which day you shopped. Besides Wesley Hall being filled with clothing and shoes for all ages and sizes, we filled the choir area as well as 4 Sunday School rooms. They were neatly sorted as the Barnes and Noble (books, games and puzzles) room, toys, holiday décor and the kitchen room. Larger items that we individually priced were in Wesley Hall.

Our workers enjoyed spending time visiting and catching up with each other as we hadn't been able to socialize during Covid. We had UMW workers, ladies that just like to help, a spouse, and 3 grandchildren help up set up over 2 weeks.

Our entrance sign asked shoppers to wear masks, and we also provided masks to those who needed one.

The last day we enjoyed watching a gentleman shopper with a list in hand of his children's sizes, carefully looking for bargains! At noon when we closed, we had invited Suzanne Krull from the Cuba Cultural Center to take any items that her clients could use. She was so happy for the opportunity, and took all of the children's clothing, all the remaining coats, shoes, boots, some adult clothing, and some kitchen items. We were impressed with her stories of how many people they serve that can use the help.

I have always felt that our rummage sales serve three purposes – we and our families clear our homes of items we don't use anymore, we sell to the community at reasonable prices, and we use the monies earned to sponsor families that we adopt at Christmas as well as other charities. We took in \$1,180 and have a few items to try to sell online yet. Good work, ladies, and thanks to all that helped!!!

Puzzle!

Answer each statement by circling the letter in the correct column. Then write the circled letters on the numbered lines below to complete the biblical word.

| | TRUE | FALSE |
|---|------|-------|
| 1. Naomi is Ruth's mother. | D | Ⓡ |
| 2. Ruth is a Moabite. | T | P |
| 3. Naomi wants Ruth to leave her and return to Moab. | N | L |
| 4. Orpah is Naomi's hired hand. | H | S |
| 5. Boaz lives in Bethlehem. | C | B |
| 6. Boaz is a farmer. | U | V |
| 7. Ruth makes a living begging at Bethlehem's gates. | X | E |
| 8. Boaz instructs his field workers to leave extra grain for Ruth to glean. | E | J |
| 9. Boaz invites Ruth to eat with the harvesters. | R | Q |
| 10. Boaz is related to Naomi. | I | W |
| 11. Boaz refuses to marry Ruth. | F | R |
| 12. Ruth is the great-grandmother of King David. | O | G |

R

9 7 4 6 1 11 8 5 2 10 12 3

ANSWER TO 12 OF RECREATION



ZUCCHINI BREAD

Sue Simmons

(In memory of Mother Ruth Galente)



| | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| MIX: | ADD: |
| 3 eggs | 3 cups flour |
| 1 cup oil | 1 tsp. salt |
| 2 cups sugar | 1 tsp. baking powder |
| 2 tsp. vanilla | 1 tsp. baking soda |

ADD:
 ½ cup chopped nuts
 2 cups peeled, grated zucchini squash

Mix well, put in two greased loaf pans. Bake at 350° for 1 hour.



DUDLEY TAILS

Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick

Who are you, really Dudley? When your brother, Tucker, was on earth, you were "THE BOSS". In the morning, you barked at Tucker until he allowed you to use his bed.

During the day, you announced when the mailman or delivery person, stopped... so that Tucker would join-in barking. At evening "walk time," you led the charge up the hill and down, teasing Tucker to follow.

Who are you, really, Dudley? When our neighbor, (or our family members) came to our house with their dog, you were a "FRIGHTENED CHILD." Sometimes you hid under the table. Sometimes you went to the top of the sofa, and sometimes you were cringing behind your master.

Who are you, really, Dudley? When you do what your master asks, you are an "EXAMPLE OF OBEDIENCE." But... how often (when your master says, "Come") do you pretend you can't hear? How often, (when your master says, "Did you take my pen?") do you hide a well-bitten "BIC"? Or, how often (when your master says, "Did you eat the cat's dinner?") do you just laugh? Little things are forgivable, but matters of obedience to your master, are not little things.

Who are YOU, really, dear Christian? Are you, "THE BOSS"? Must you always have things your own way? Do you use your authority for the good of others, or for your own gain?

The Gospel of Matthew tells of a time when the mother of Jesus' disciples (James and John) came to Jesus with a request. She asked that her sons might sit at either side of Jesus when He came into His kingdom. (Matthew 20:21)

The brothers were Believers... but what was their motive? Status? Power? Authority? Did the brothers each want to be, "THE BOSS" in the Christian movement?

Who are YOU, really, dear Christian? Are you a, "FRIGHTENED CHILD"? Would you feel intimidated at a Bible Study? Would you feel uncomfortable at a Prayer Meeting? Do you have doubts about the word of God, but you are afraid to express them?

The gospel of Mark tells about a very frightening event in the lives of these disciples. Peter, James and John were high on a mountain with Jesus. The clothing of Jesus suddenly became dazzling white... and then Moses and Elijah appeared. They were talking with Jesus. "Peter... did not know what to say... (all three were) so frightened." (Mark 9:5-6) Even the close disciples of Jesus were afraid at times.

Who are YOU really, dear Christian? Are you an "EXAMPLE OF OBEDIENCE"? God's Word says: Don't make anything more important than God. Also, don't misuse the name of God. It says: Do keep the Sabbath holy with worship and rest. And, Do honor your father and mother. And more: (See Exodus 20:3-17).

Obedience shows honor to our all - powerful God. And to our Master, the Lord Jesus.

Who are you really?

(Pastor Becky's Letter Continued from front page)

So, Paul's heart's desire was that these new believers would know the love of Christ, and in knowing that love, do their part in sharing it to anyone and everyone who would listen. He wanted to see that love both draw people into the family of God, and also unite the Church for more effective ministry and outreach.

Our lives find completion as we love and are loved in return. While being loved in return may seem less frequent than we had hoped for, let's continue to reach out to this world with the love of Jesus Christ!

Blessings in Christ!

Pastor Becky

Go to Sleep, God Has the Wheel

I remember driving with my Dad at night when it would rain hard, and as a kid, I was afraid. I thought to myself, "How could he see? What about all of the cars around him?" However, time and time again, I would drift off to sleep in the back of the car. You see, no matter how dark and stormy the road, my Dad had the wheel, and I trusted him.



I'm reminded of a story about the English Reformer martyr, Nicholas Ridley. Nicholas Ridley was a Bishop of London who lived during the times of the Marian persecution of Protestants. The night before Ridley was to be executed, we find recorded that when asked by some friends if he would like them to stay up with him that night, he said, "No, no, that you shall not. For I mind (God willing) to go to bed, and to sleep as quietly tonight, as ever I did in my life."

How could he sleep before his execution? It was because he knew that his heavenly Father had the wheel, no matter how dark and stormy the road ahead might be. The Psalmist wrote about this experience in Psalm 4:8, "In peace, I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety." Another way to say this is, "Be still and know that I am God." Still your heart Christian, because God is God. No matter what happens, no matter what your experience may be, there is not a square inch in this universe or moment in time over which he does not reign. Lay your head on this pillow and sleep: God is God. Whisper to your heart, "Be still, heart, God is God." Fall, recklessly into the pillow of his sovereignty, love, mercy, and care.

What is happening in your life? What anxiety is keeping you up at night? You can drift off to sleep because your Heavenly Father has the wheel, and no matter how dark and stormy the road ahead of you might be, you can trust him with your life.

Paul Banfe

From: "ChurchLetters.com/Church-Bulletin-articles"

The Happy God

1 Tim. 1:11 says, “in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.” The phrase “the Blessed God” could be translated as “the happy God.” In John 15:11, Jesus said, “These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you.” Have you ever considered the fact that God is happy?

God is not gloomy or sad but is infinitely happy. He has been happy for eternity. The cup of his joy cannot be more full. Above all the uncertainties and anxieties of life, the calm smile of the happy God immutably shines. In what does God’s happiness consist? He is happy with the works of his hands. Psalm 104:31 says, “may the Lord rejoice in his works.” He is happy knowing that everything he has purposed will come to pass. He is happy in his people as Psalm 149:4 says, “For the Lord takes delight in his people.”

Preeminently, God is happy in himself. I know that may sound strange at first, but let me explain. God is a Trinity, meaning that he is one God in three persons. The Father loves the Son. Heb. 1:3 says that the Son is the, “radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature.” In Is. 42:1 the Father says of his Son, “Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;” Put these verses together. The Father sees himself in his Son, and he delights in what he sees. God’s happiness is found in himself.

Together with the Holy Spirit, the Father has been delighting in His Son forever. Likewise, the Son has been delighting in the Father.

This is good news. You can be happy because God is happy. One day when we die, we will be brought into the presence of God, and in his presence will be fullness of joy, and at his right hand are pleasures forevermore!

(From: “ChurchLetters.com/Church-Bulletin-articles)



The annual **CROP Walk** will be held on October 3rd. All ages are invited to support this worthwhile cause

by walking or donating. Cindy Dutton is once again the contact for CUMC....She says...”Get those check books out!” More information to follow.....

The **Trustees** held an **outdoor clean-up day** on June 5th. They cleaned the outside of the church, put down mulch and **planted shrubs** at the Green Street entrance. Great job!



Trustees Meeting Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary.

Management Team Meeting, September 8, 2021 at 6:45 pm in the sanctuary.

Watch **Live Streaming of Sunday Worship Services** on our website, www.cubaumc.org

You attended the service, but would like to see it again?.. Go to “Sermons” page to watch archived videos.

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

SUNDAY
WORSHIP
SERVICE
11:00 AM

SEPTEMBER 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 UMW Food Pantry Collection Communion | 6 | 7 | 8 Trustees Mtg. 6:00 pm Management Team Mtg. 6:45 pm | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 October Newsletter Deadline Noon | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 Gil's Hills Offering | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

The Shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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September

2021

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

«AddressBlock»

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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Home: (716) 373-4332

*The grass withers
and the flowers fall,
but the word of
the Lord stands
forever.*
1 Peter 1:24

