

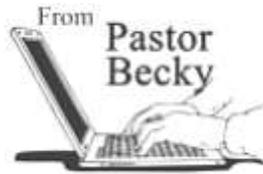
The Shepherd's Messenger



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



Choices

2 Timothy 4:7–8 says, **I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.**

This is what every believer longs to say at the end of their life. Unfortunately, to be able to say this at the end of our lives, it must also be true now.

There is a singlemindedness in these words that is tough to carry out in a world that continually throws up obstacles to faith. We want everything the world has to offer and often push the Lord to the side. We don't intend to put other things first for long, but months turn to years, and the focus and discipline that reveals faithfulness continues to slide down the priority list. **Faithfulness requires tough decisions.**

Have you lost your focus? Has your attendance at worship become sporadic? Is your Bible Reading occasional? Has prayer become a concept rather than a regular practice? Are you fighting the good fight or are you coasting?

At the end of our lives, we will not wish we had worked more, been involved in more activities, or made more money. We will wish we had a better relationship with the Lord and passed on the heritage of faith to our family and friends. To avoid regret then . . . we have to make changes now. Why not make it a priority to come to church? Here at Cuba United Methodist Church we have Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. and worship at 11:00 a.m. We're all about Jesus Christ. We believe that Jesus was who he said he was, the Son of God who came and died for our sins. So, if this is your first time in church, we hope that you get to know Him as we do, because He's truly what life is all about for us! And we're all about people. Every person who walks through our doors is important to us! Hope to see you soon and bring a friend!

Blessings,

Pastor Becky

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
Our World situation
Naomi Scoville /Kosovo



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

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

For those at other residences...

PINES - OLEAN
Connie Battistoni

Statistics		Needed: \$1,659	
Date	Worship	SS	Offering
9/1	60	-	\$2,702.00
		Naomi	\$100.00
9/8	48	8	\$ 827.00
9/15	58		\$1,684.00
9/22	42		\$1,117.00

Others to keep in prayer:



- Norma Andrus
- Bob & Sandy Beard
- Hazel Cornell
- Missy Dabolt
- David Edwards
- Nancy Frazier
- Brian Fries
- Luke Fries
- Tyler Griffin
- Don Hall
- David Halstead
- Donna Hart
- Sandy Lathrop
- Lynn Manning
- Mark Middaugh
- Mary Ellen Moriarty
- Nellie Moses
- Justin Murphy
- Keith Pierce
- Laroy Spateholts
- Alice Sweet
- JoAnn Viglietta
- James Woodruff
- Ken Wyant
- David Yonaka
- Judy Zayac

Roger Talbot was pastor at our church 1974 - 1980. His younger son, Jim, was born at Cuba hospital. His older son, Matt, started school here.

You can read his blog at: <http://fearnotonline.org/>

or scan this code with your smart phone:

October Helping Hands

Usher:
Jim Travis



Acolyte:
Chris Hupp

Pianist:
Christine Berardi

Altar Guild:
Sharry Seamans
Linda Nelson

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- Deb Battistoni
- Naomi Scoville
- 4- Marilyn Luckey
- Dwane Wildrick
- 10- Hannah Scoville
- 11- Doug Clayson
- 12- Ruth Holden
- 17- Lynnette Clayson
- 18- Fred Pearce
- 23- Leah Scoville
- 28- Cheryl Holden
- 31- Elroy Brickey Jr.

- 10- Fred & Peggy Pearce
- 16- Vanessa & Derek Clement
- Tom & Judy Krott
- 21- Derwood & Rita Say



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**.

BANANA MUFFINS

Deb Battistoni

So moist, we stopped making banana bread!



- 3 large bananas, mashed
- 1 egg, slightly beaten
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/3 cup melted butter
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1-1/4 cup flour

Chopped nuts (optional-but never in my house)
Bake in greased tins for 20 minutes at 375°.



The **Don White Memorial CROP Walk** takes place in Chamberlain Park on Sunday, October 6 starting at 1:30 p.m. Please considering sponsoring a walker or getting sponsors for yourself as you enjoy a walk through the park with your neighbors and friends. Our contact is **Cindy Dutton**.

UMW NEWS

Submitted by: Deb Battistoni



The UMW met Saturday, September 21, with 9 ladies attending the meeting. After prayer we enjoyed refreshments provided by Peggy.

There is currently \$7,461.60 in our treasury. Our rummage sale netted \$1247.10, which included a \$400 donation.

Janet presented information on various groups looking for financial help. We decided to give to the Cuba-Rushford Student Council, which will be working with students to make Christmas gifts for their families, as well as Genesis House in Olean and Henderson Settlement in Kentucky.

Thela will look into the UMW website about any kits that might be needed. This could be a winter project. In January we will vote on a slate of officers for 2020. In December we will look for a committee to form a slate of officers.

Puzzle!

Each year, the Israelites had three harvests. Find and circle these foods that the people gathered.

- almonds
- apples
- barley
- beans
- cucumbers
- figs
- gourds
- grapes
- herbs
- leeks
- lentils
- melons
- nuts
- olives
- onions
- pomegranates
- rye
- wheat

H A C B R Y E B R V E N
 G A U A S N O L E M S U
 R L C R F I G S T A T T
 A M U L I M B E H A N S
 P O M E G R A N A T E S
 E N B Y E S E L P P A K
 S D E H R O N I O N S E
 V S R E S G O U R D S E
 T I S M E S L I T N E L
 S E V I L O W H E A T H





Commit Your Way to the Lord - Psalm 37:5a

September marks our third month in ministry together. Our ministry of building God's kingdom one heart and life at a time. Our ministry of sharing God's love found in Jesus Christ. Our ministry directed by the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the third month of five where I will be continuing to share my call story through Psalm 37.

The dictionary defines to commit or make a commitment as "to pledge, devote, bind or to obligate oneself to an organization, a certain course or a policy."

In our culture today, we commit ourselves almost effortlessly to professional organizations, to community groups and to service organizations. Our children are committed to scouts, dance, sports and music. None of these commitments are wrong. They become a challenge when our priorities are not in order.

Psalm 37:5a tells us, "Commit your way to the Lord."

In the beginning of my faith journey, I found this statement to be confusing and restraining. I thought, "How can I commit my way to the Lord when I really do not know the Lord, I cannot see the Lord, and I know what is best for me, myself and I." My professional journey was mapped out. The corporate ladder was before me. Why would I commit my way to the Lord?

Then I started to hear sermons about a faithful person's life priorities. We were asked as a group to share the important areas in our lives and place them in a pie chart. Some of the areas were family/friends, dating/marriage, health, recreation/fun, career/job/profession/work, relationships, finances, personal development, volunteering and faith/spiritual growth.

Next, we were asked "Where is God in this mix of the important areas in our lives?" So, I placed God in a slice of the pie. A neat, small slice of the pie. A neat, **extremely small** slice of the pie.

More sermons on a faithful person's life priority list. UGH! This faith journey was not going to be easy. Ever so slowly I began to understand that each slice of the pie was okay **IF** God was at the center of the pie.

Psalm 37:5a tells us, "Commit your way to the Lord."

Over the years, "Commit your way to the Lord," has transformed my life into daily reading of the scriptures, prayer, weekly attendance at church for worship (yes weekly), seeking God's best, seeing others as beloved children of God, sharing the love of God found in Jesus by building relationships, being involved in the community and continuing with the hobbies that I love (walks with "The Boys," knitting, reading and napping).

Today, when I have conversations about faith and commitment, I often hear excuses.

According to a Pew Research Center survey, the top reasons respondents gave for skipping regular religious services included:

- They practice their faith in "other ways." (37%)
- They are not believers. (28%)
- No reason is "very important." (26%)
- They haven't found a house of worship they like. (23%)
- They don't like the sermons. (18%)
- They don't feel welcome. (14%)
- They don't have the time. (12%)
- Poor health or mobility. (9%)
- No house of worship in their area. (7%)

I find the above statistics disheartening as well as challenging. In a world in need of God's love and grace, forgiveness and the hope we have in Jesus, how can we as the Cornerstone District commit or recommit our work together to begin to change what the statistics are telling us?

(Continued on Page 5)



DUDLEY TAILS

Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick

I hate to say this... but sometimes Dudley is bossy. He is bossy with dogs that come to visit, with cats that walk through the yard, with the UPS man, and even with Tucker. Tucker, our small collie, had lived in our home as the only dog, until Dudley arrived.

Dudley was not bossy as a puppy. He enjoyed Tucker's company and playing with Tucker's toys. Tucker put up with Dudley's energy and his crying the first few nights. If Tucker needed a break from Dudley, he would climb about four steps up on the stairway. Dudley was unable to climb steps for weeks.,

But now Dudley is grown up. He has put himself in charge of: 1) eating first, (out of either dog dish), 2) in charge of leading the direction of the walks that the three of us take, and 3) in charge of the number of treats that he gets as compared to Tucker.

One day when Tucker and Dudley each got three small treats, Dudley gobbled his down and confronted Tucker (who had only eaten one so far.) Dudley stared at Tucker... and, without warning, barked so loud, that I was jolted from doing what I was doing. What caused that?

Tucker slowly got up and walked away... and Dudley ran over and quickly ate Tucker's treats.

Dudley had coveted Tucker's treats, and he had stolen them from Tucker. Why? Maybe it was a survival instinct. Maybe Dudley learned that he could get his own way by being loud and threatening.

Evidently Dudley did not know that his master would not be pleased.

God made the rules clear to mankind. People were not to covet things that others had, and they were not to steal what belonged to others. (Exodus 20) God's Word also teaches mankind about anger. Tucker did not get angry with Dudley. He walked away.

The Bible says that if we are angry, we should not retaliate, because that is sin. (Psalm 4:4) The Bible also says that if we are angry with someone, we should resolve it quickly (before we go to bed) or else the anger will fester. (Ephesians 4:26)

When Jesus lived on earth, on occasion, he became angry. But, the anger of Jesus was righteous anger. He hated all forms of sin. (Matthew 23:13-14) He hated the unfairness in man's judging others. (John 8:3-7) He hated the conceit of the religious leaders. (Matthew 23:13) He hated that people were buying and selling merchandise in the temple. (John 2:16) He hated Satan who tried to snatch mankind away from God. (Matthew 16:23)

Dudley's master doesn't like him being bossy, but she loves who he is. Jesus, our Master, doesn't like our sinful nature, but loves who we are. We are created in the image of God. (Genesis 1:27) Do we speak and act in a godly manner?

("Commit Your Way to the Lord" Continued from Page 4)

Proverbs 16:3 tells us, "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and the Lord will establish your plans."

I place this challenge before us: Let us commit to praying together; to building relationships; to sharing the love of God and the hope we have in Jesus. Let the Holy Spirit lead us to radical commitment!

In Grace and Peace,

Suzanne

From the Sept. 5, 2019 issue of the "Around the Corner" newsletter.



What is **Naomi Scoville** up to in **Kosovo**?
Visit her Blog at:

<https://naomisalbanianadventures.wordpress.com>

or scan this code with your smart phone:



ADULT BIBLE STUDY



A welcome is extended to all adults to attend our Sunday morning class at 9:45 am.

The classroom is upstairs next to the pastor's study/office.

We are presently reviewing our study on Spiritual Warfare, and will move on to study the Christian's armor. Please join us.



The **Cuba Council of Churches** met at the United Methodist Church on Sunday, September 8th and received the following reports/updates:

- A \$500 Council scholarship was awarded to Cuba-Rushford senior Rebekah Ward. The Council raises money for this annual scholarship through a variety of ways including the annual Dairy Days "Songs of Faith" concert held at the Palmer House and this year's Dairy Days "Jail" (very popular, much fun and financially successful).
- The Food Pantry provided assistance in May (7 food/4 gas/1 hotel), July (12 food/2 gas/1 hotel) and August (3 food/1 gas). There were no requests in June!
- Looking toward the holiday season, the Cuba Food Pantry is in need of the following items for holiday meal preparation: instant potatoes, sweet potatoes, canned corn, stuffing mix, canned gravy, chicken broth, pie crust mixes, canned pumpkin, and corn bread mix. Of course, all donations are appreciated and people are asked to be aware of the date codes on the cans and boxes.
- Volunteers are needed to help clean up after the monthly evening senior citizen dinners.

The next meeting of the full council (clergy and laity) will be November 10 at Christ Episcopal Church.

Our church **Movie Night** will resume in **October**.

Come with family and friends. Meet Dudley. Date and time and other details will be in upcoming bulletins. We welcome you!



MANAGEMENT TEAM NOTES



- No decisions have been made on the security cameras... need more information.
- Good Shephard Window is complete. Other windows will be put off until next summer.
- The two new handicap parking spaces on Green Street are just waiting to be painted by the village.



Please let the church office know when you are flying South so you don't miss a newsletter. Same applies when you fly back North.

WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY 11:00 AM



SUNDAY SCHOOL for all Ages 10:45 AM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Violin Lessons 3-6 pm	2 Trustees meeting 6:00 pm Management Team Meeting 6:45 pm	3 Cub Scouts Evening	4	5 Kung Fu 6-8 am
6 World Communion Sunday Naomi Mission Offering UMW Food Pantry Collection Don White Memorial CROP walk 1:30 pm Chamberlain Park	7	8 Prayer Group 10 am-11 am Violin Lessons 3-6 pm	9	10 Cub Scouts Evening	11	12 Kung Fu 6-8 am
13	14	15 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Violin Lessons 3-6 pm	16	17 Cub Scouts Evening	18	19 Kung Fu 6-8 am UMW Meeting 10 am
20 Coffee Hour	21 November Newsletter Deadline - Noon	22 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Violin Lessons 3-6 pm	23	24 Cub Scouts Evening	25	26 Kung Fu 6-8 am
27	28	29 Prayer Group 10 am- 11 am Violin Lessons 3-6 pm	30	31 Cub Scouts Evening		

The Shepherd's Messenger

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



October 2019

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



If the earthly tent we live in is destroyed,

we have a building from God,

an eternal house in heaven ...

2 Corinthians 5:1

«AddressBlock»

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED