

The Shepherd's Messenger



The season of Advent challenges us to fulfill John the Baptists' exhortation: "Prepare the way of the Lord" (Matthew 3:3). The word "Advent" means coming or arrival. In its basic meaning, it refers to the historical coming of Christ in human form. It also refers to the ascended Lord, who will return at the end of time as we know it to bring in the fullness of God's kingdom. Advent is the season to **watch and wait** – expectantly, joyfully. It is also the time to **make ready** for the coming of Jesus Christ.

Are we ready?

In this spirit of preparation, let us reflect on our readiness to receive the Lord. Have you and I kept our hearts open to Christ? Are we ready and willing to receive his transforming presence in our lives? As we prepare for Christ's birthday, are we preparing for our own personal rebirth?

As a church, the body of Christ, have we maintained a state of preparedness? If Christ were to appear in our doorway during Advent, would we run toward or away from him? More important, would he walk in – or walk by? How have we – members of Cuba United Methodist Church – prepared the way of the Lord?

When I think of the persons I know who model for me the depths of the spiritual life, I am struck by their **gentleness**. Their eyes communicate struggling with God and his messages, the costs of caring for others, the deaths of ambition and ego, and the **peace** that comes from having very little to lose in this life. They are gentle because they have honestly faced the struggles given to them and have learned the hard way that personal survival is not the point. There is nothing in their caring for them. Their vulnerability has been stretched to clear sensitivity to others and truly selfless love.

Gracious God, we put ourselves before you in this season with waiting hearts, expectant desire. Open our eyes that we may see your promise fulfilled; open our ears that we may hear your word whispered to our deepest beings. Amen.



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

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Our World situation
The Rothfus Family
to those at other residences...

Military personnel and their families...

Dylan Matijas
Juan Rivera
Christopher Sirianni



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, call Sandy Lathrop at 585-968-1531.

CUBA CMH

Henny van der Horst
Lucille Wildrick

WATERS OF WESTFIELD

Dawn Durkee

EDEN HEIGHTS - OLEAN

Evelyn Steen

Others to keep in prayer:

Tim Bushnell
Chuck Brooks
Terry Bush
Clair (Sandy T.'s friend)
John Culbert
Joyce Enderle
Family & friends of Pearl Franklin
Mike Gibbons
Kathy Glover
Tyler Griffon
Norma Guinnip
Bernie Hawks
Karen Hessney
Diane Karle
James Kellogg
Rolly Miles
Mina (Doris Wyant's sister)
Elizabeth Morris
Harley Poore
Kelly Roberts
Judy Roth
George Schneider
Michael Small
Lola Wilson



- 3 - Tim Kunz
- 8 - Tom Krott
- 9 - Sue Simmons
- 14 - Judy Krott
- 16 - Lisa Kellogg
Leonard
Bruce Metler
- 17 - Joyce Amundson
- 22 - Ryan Morris
Logan VanNess
- 23 - Kelly Brickey

Statistics Needed: \$1,657.75

| Date | Worship | Offering |
|-------|---------|------------|
| 9/22 | 35 | \$1,294.00 |
| 9/29 | 38 | \$1,527.00 |
| 10/6 | 44 | \$1,863.00 |
| 10/13 | 44 | \$1,875.00 |
| 10/20 | 38 | \$1,245.00 |
| 10/27 | 39 | \$1,532.00 |

November Helping Hands

Ushers

Dean & Cheryl Wildrick

Greeters

11/3 *Open for You*
11/10 *Open for You*
11/17 *Open for You*
11/24 *Open for You*



Acolyte

11/3 Nick Berardi
11/10 Dominic Berardi
11/17
11/24

Children's Moment

Marjanne Kunz

Altar Guild

Sandy Tsujimoto



**Call Sandra Allen
for Prayer Chain
968-2137**

November Anniversaries

- 8 - Tom & Darcy Eastham
- 26 - Mike & Marjanne Kunz

*Anniversaries
to Celebrate*



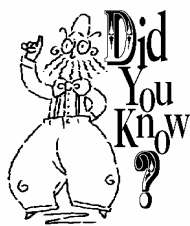
Many Hands make Light Work. Won't you please consider volunteering. We need greeters, liturgists, nursery helpers, Coffee Hour Hosts, Communion servers. Please sign up on the clipboards at the front entrance if you can help. Thank You!

Thankfulness comes from the heart

A young girl sat at the counter of an ice cream store. "How much is an ice cream sundae?" she asked. "Fifty cents," the waitress said with hardly a glance at the child. The girl opened her fist and looked at the coins. She asked, "How much is a dish of just plain ice cream?" Annoyed, the waitress snapped, "Thirty-five cents!" The girl counted out 35 cents and handed it to the waitress. "I'll take the plain ice cream."

The waitress took the money without a word and brought the ice cream. After the small customer had eaten and left, the waitress, cleaning up, suddenly flushed with shame. There, placed neatly beside the dish were two nickels and five pennies - her tip.

DYK: *Submitted by Dean Wildrick*



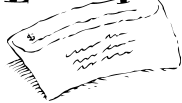
The 100th anniversary of the first Wesley Foundation campus ministry is Oct. 13 of this year. The congregation that gave birth to the notion of a student ministry at the University of Illinois was Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church in Urbana.

Administrative Council Notes:

Submitted by Paul Tsujimoto

- ◆ New Church Organization Structure
- ◆ Charge Conference @ Belfast UMC, Nov 25th @ 6:30pm
- ◆ Trustee Spaghetti Dinner

Offering Envelopes



2014 church offering envelopes.. If you do not have them this year and would like them for 2014, please contact Dean Wildrick. We have ample supply due to minimum order quantity."

United Methodist Women's News

Submitted by Judy Zayac



The Fall Trash and Treasures Sale was a success. We netted almost \$600. It was a lot of work, and I want to thank everyone who helped by donating treasures, helping set up the Sunday before and sorting and working the sale throughout the week. It is always extremely pleasing to see how many people step up when a need is put before the congregation of the CUMC.

The next meeting of the UMW will be on Saturday, January 4, 2014 at noon. We will have a soup and bread luncheon and I am hoping to have someone come in to do a program. I will keep you posted when I get it worked out.

Again, "Thank you CUMC"



Sunday School for grades K-5 meets weekly in the nursery after Worship Service.

CALLING ALL TEENS

Teen Sunday School Begins November 3 after Worship Service until 11:00 AM.

Can you imagine how strong your faith would have to be if you tried to smuggle Bibles into a country where Christians are actively persecuted for their beliefs? Come and find out as we begin a journey with eight ordinary teenagers from the United States and Australia who did exactly that. We will see video clips of their experiences, hold class discussions about how we might react, hear music from the Christian rock band Sonic Flood, utilize a Student Field Manual, and try to discern what God may have in mind for our own lives.

Our interactive curriculum is from the series called "Underground Reality Vietnam...How to Live a Life Worth Dying For." You won't just hear a report of a mission trip from teens sitting in a TV studio. You will see them walk the streets of Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) and meet with students at an underground Bible college where, at any moment, secret police might knock on the door.

Are You Ready for This Journey?

Our trip begins November 3 at the Cuba United Methodist Church. Don't miss the flight!

Michael Kunz

Christian Travel Advisor

What are you thankful for?

In the Bible verses below, you will find the names of some things that we should be thankful for. The words that you find are hidden in the puzzle to the right. Circle them. They will be up, down, across and diagonal.



- F_____ (Ruth 1:6)
- S_____ (Joshua 10:12)
- L_____ (Acts 17:25)
- R_____ (Matthew 5:45)
- E_____ (Isaiah 66:1)
- L_____ (Matthew 22:37)
- H_____ (Isaiah 66:1)
- C_____ (Acts 8:1)
- B_____ (Romans 1:23)
- P_____ (Philippians 4:7)
- T_____ (Nehemiah 9:25)
- F_____ (Psalm 103:15)
- F_____ (Proverbs 17:17)
- T_____ (Galatians 6:6)
- A_____ (Leviticus 11:2)
- C_____ (Deuteronomy 8:4)



TUNA CASSEROLE

Sandy LaFever

- 4 cups thinly sliced potatoes
- 3 TBS oleo
- ¼ cup flour
- 2 TBS prepared mustard
- 1 can tuna
- 1 tsp salt, pepper to taste
- 2 cups milk
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 1 cup sliced onions



Recipe
FROM THE
Cuba UMC
Cook Book

Cook potatoes in salted water for 10 minutes. Drain. Melt oleo in pan and stir in flour, mustard, salt, and pepper. Add milk gradually while stirring. Cook over low heat until thick. Stir in lemon juice. Arrange potatoes, tuna and onion in alternate layers in greased quart casserole. Pour sauce over all. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes. Serves 4.

PASTOR'S TEACHING

Anyone who has attended a meeting of the church council or has sat through a PPRC meeting knows the quandary of modern Christianity: **CHRISTIANS CAN'T SEEM TO AGREE**. And disagreements can make church life pretty disagreeable. In The City of God, St. Augustine pointed out that we are citizens of two cities, one on earth and one in heaven. We are a part of the body of Christ and part of a political body, i.e. the church is both spiritual and secular.

Church politics can get ugly. On the surface, Christianity seems so easy: **"This is the message you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another"** (1 John 3:11). But how do we love one another when, in our humble opinion, others don't know what they're talking about? When people in the church have opposing points of view and understand the will of God differently, the church tends to lose its sense of Christian love.

Everybody has an opinion. We are victims of progress. At one time, an authority would have made decisions for us. At one time, only the clergy had a voice or vote in the church. We now thank God that all people exercise their right to participate in the church. Increased diversity has made life in the church better, but more complicated.

We all want the support of our congregations. We all hope that other church members will take our side on church issues. So the church is apt to take on the character of a shooting gallery, as all kinds of issues and concerns are raised for discussion.

Are we a community united in Christ? It is most important for the church to stay focused on proclaiming the glorious good news of Jesus Christ and offering people access to God through a loving community. We can get so busy with secondary issues that we lose sight of our primary mission focus: Offering Christ to the world by being God's love with our neighbors in all places.

When the church loses its sense of community, it may lose its best witness in the world, the witness of a people who have found ways to disagree in love. When the church resembles a shooting gallery, people get caught in the crossfire; and friendly fire is just as deadly as enemy fire. Christians fighting over issues is a testimony to sinfulness. Christian witness means carefully searching the Scriptures, collectively discerning the will of the Holy Spirit, and seeking consensus.

Let's face it. Christians do not always agree; they argue about many controversial matters. If our stance on any issue becomes a litmus test for orthodoxy, fellowship, or mission, we misunderstand the nature of the Christian community and make it impossible to carry on the work of Christ together. Our unity in Christ does not depend on political uniformity.

However, **the church is a political community.** I am not asking the church to be in total agreement on everything. I am asking Christians to bring to church disagreements wisdom and humility. I am also asking that people refrain from hurtful, personal attacks. Perhaps the best witness we can offer our polarized world is the view of a community based on love and respect, in which people struggle prayerfully to include everyone in the community of faith. In our congregation, let us give people a glimpse of the kind of community God wants for the whole world. Jesus said, "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you" (Matthew 7:12). **Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. Let us bring the issues we face to God.**



**Spaghetti
Dinner**

Support the Trustees
Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5
 Cuba UMC - Wesley Hall
 4:30-7:00 pm
 Adults - \$7.00, Children under 12 - \$3.00,
 Children under 5 - free
 Spaghetti & Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Beverages, Roll, Pies
 Takeouts available



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ANNOUNCEMENT, ANNOUNCEMENT, ANNOUNCEMENT

Our 2013 Church Conference will be held at Belfast UMC. Here's the schedule:

- 6:30 – 7:00 PM **Friends in Christ** action item meeting, Rev. Jeffrey Nowak presiding.
- 7:00 – 8:00 PM Worship and conversation with our **District Superintendent**. Centerville, Friends in Christ, Cuba, Rushford, Caneadea, Belfast, and Friendship will be gathered.
- 8:00 – 8:30 PM **Cuba** action item meeting, Rev. Jeffrey Nowak presiding.

Rational for area Church Conferences

- To gather our churches together for mutual support, encouragement, and fellowship.
- To allow time for the District Superintendent to visit without a business agenda to offer training and/or coaching in visioning, stewardship, role of PPRC, or topic of need.

Who needs to attend?

- At least lay leader, lay member to annual conference, chair of the church council/As. Board, PPRC chair, finance chair, ministry area chairs, other key leaders.
- Everyone is welcome!

What will happen?

- 7 congregations will gather in Belfast UMC. They have adequate parking.
- Congregations will go to break out spaces to meet separately to approve action items.
- Our churches will meet the same night but approve their action items separately.

Action items to be approved:

- Approve the minutes of last year's charge conference.
- Approve audit from previous year.
- Set clergy compensation and housing exclusion.
- Approve lay servants.
- Elect new church trustees by paper ballot.
- Approve Lay Leadership/Nominations report.

SPECIAL SERVICES COMING UP

Nov. 10 Veterans Sunday

Dec. 1 Cuba Community Thanksgiving/Advent



HOLY HUMOR

Comments from parents

"Most children threaten at times to run away from home. This is the only thing that keeps some parents going." Phyllis Diller

"Always end the name of your child with a vowel, so that when you yell, the name will carry." Bill Cosby

"Kids today don't realize how easy they have it. When I was a kid, we actually had to get out of the car and open the garage door." Joe Hickman.

"If I've told the kids once, I've told them a hundred times, "Don't give the dog a bath in the dishwasher!" I have to admit, though, he does come out virtually spotless." Joe Hickman

"Insanity is hereditary. You can get it from your children." Sam Levinson

"If your parents never had children, chances are you won't either." Dick Cavett

"It goes like this. The first child with a bloody nose is rushed to the emergency room. The fifth child with a bloody nose is told to go the yard immediately and stop bleeding on the carpet." Art Linkletter

"The truth is that parents are not really interested in justice. They just want quiet!" Bill Cosby

"Human beings are the only creatures that allow their children to come back home." Bill Cosby

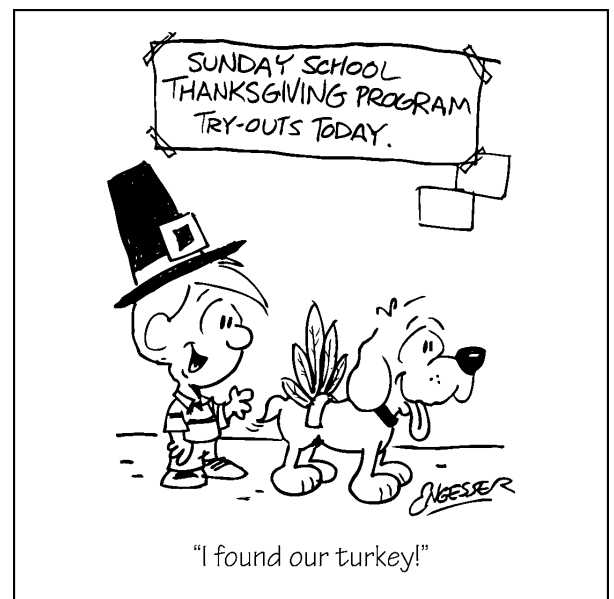


Finance Committee Report

At the end of September all of our financial obligations have been paid. Our church is on solid ground financially. With your continued support we will be able to reach all of our financial goals as outlined in our 2013 budget.

Thank you for your support.

Gary Enderle, finance chairman



The UMW Fall Trash & Treasures Sale had treasures and bargains galore



Anthony Berardi models a treasure



- Please keep the family of the **Rev. Earl Bell** in your prayers. Rev. Bell, 83, died on Thursday, Oct. 10, 2013. He served churches in western New York prior to transferring to the New England Annual Conference in 1984. He retired in 2007. A memorial service was held on Tuesday, Oct. 15, at the Medina United Methodist Church (Niagara Frontier District). Condolences may be sent to his wife, Marilyn, at 10890 Telegraph Road, Medina, NY 14103. Rev. Bell was pastor of Cuba UMC 1959-1963.

- Pearl Franklin, Cheryl Wildrick's mother passed away Tuesday October 29.

Trustees Meeting Notes:

Submitted by Paul Tsujimoto



- ◆ Spaghetti Dinner
- ◆ Bats in Church
- ◆ Painting of Handicap Ramp
- ◆ Completed Conference Handicap Accessibility Audit



Casi Burdick gave birth to twin boys on October 25 at around 2:00 AM.



A Thanksgiving Thought

The day I give thanks for having a nose
 Is Thanksgiving Day, for do you suppose
 That Thanksgiving dinner would taste as good
 If you couldn't smell it? I don't think it would.
 Could apple pie baking---turkey that's basting
 Not be for the smelling? Just be for tasting?
 It's a cranberry-cinnamon-onion bouquet!
 Be thankful for noses on Thanksgiving Day.
 - Bobbi Katz



The date of our Cuba UMC **Charge Conference** is Mon. Nov. 25, 6:30 - 8:30 pm at Belfast UMC. Rev. Jeffrey Nowack, Pastor at Belfast, will preside at our business session.

NOVEMBER 2013

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am Turn Clocks Back one hour Sat. Night |
| 3 Worship 9:00 a.m. All Saints Sunday Sunday School 10:15 am Daylight Savings Time Ends | 4 | 5 Election Day Trustee Spaghetti Dinner 4:30 - 7 pm | 6 Choir Practice 7:00 pm | 7 | 8 | 9 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am |
| 10 Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 am |  | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am |
| 17 Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 am Poinsettia Orders Due | 18 Finance 6 pm Dec. Newsletter Deadline | 19 SPPRC @ Belfast UMC 7 pm (Fillmore joins at 7:30 pm) | 20 Choir Practice 7:00 pm | 21 | 22 | 23 Kung Fu 6-8:00 am |
| 24 Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 am Rothfus Offering | 25 Charge Conference 6:30 - 8:30 pm @ Belfast UMC | 26 | 27 |  | 29 | 30 |

The Shepherd's Messenger

CUBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
49 EAST MAIN ST. • CUBA, NY 14727
WWW.CUBAUMC.ORG • REV. TIM GLEASON



2013

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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Please visit our Website:
www.cubaumc.org

Pastor Tim e-mail:
cubapastor@roadrunner.com

Pastor's Office Hours:
Monday 9a - 3p, Tuesday 9 - Noon

Psalm 95:2, NIV

Let us come
before him with
thanksgiving.