

The Shepherd's Messenger

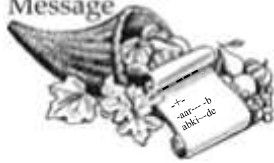


Pastor Becky's Letter	1
Prayer List	2
November Celebrations	2
November Helping Hands	2
Statistics	2
Puzzle	3
Recipe	3
Council of Churches News	4
UMW News	4
Meeting Notice	5
Crop Walk Update	5
"Thanksgiving for Posterity"	6
November Calendar	7



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

Pastor Becky's Thanksgiving Message



"We rejoice in our sufferings" 2 Corinthians 5:3

Thanksgiving is coming. It is a time when we are supposed to give thanks. A lot of times we think of the concrete things: we give thanks for food, our clothes, our homes. These are all good things for which we give thanks to God. However, there is usually something we leave off of our list of thanksgiving. The apostle Paul often speaks of being thankful for . . . our sufferings.

Let me be the first one to say how odd I initially think it is to say we should be "thankful" for suffering. Being thankful for pain, for emotional trauma, for disease, for persecutions we face as Christians, just seems to go against our very grain, doesn't it? Who on earth wants to suffer? I don't. I doubt you do either. We try to shy away from every form of suffering imaginable. But in doing so, we also miss out on something: becoming so broken that we rely upon Christ for everything.

Every single one of us will go through suffering in this life. It's a fact. We will. Suffering is guaranteed in this fallen world (Genesis 3). We will each face horrendous diseases as our bodies breakdown. We will face spiritual sufferings and temptations. Our minds may become fractured and broken with mental illness. Our children will also face struggles no child should ever go through. And yes, then there is death. Each of us will watch the ones we hold dearest die. One day, we ourselves will also go through death as well. None of us is immune to it.

In spite of all these things though, Paul still had the guts to say, "we rejoice in our sufferings." Was he mad? Some people might say so. I have another thought. Paul understood the secret of not just enduring suffering, but actually seeing it as a time God can turn into something good. Just as God turned the terribleness of the cross into the salvation of the entire world, the Apostle Paul was also able to see how God can "re-cycle" the terribleness of suffering we go through into something good, beneficial, and faith strengthening.

Continued on Page 5

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
Our World situation

Others to keep in prayer:

- Norma Andrus
- Todd Baxter
- Wayne Botens
- Family & friends of Robert Burdick
- Frank Calcagno
- Gary Carlson
- Hazel Cornell
- David Edwards
- Don Hall
- David Halstead
- Donna Hart
- Bernie Hawks
- Jean Higby
- Bob Huddleston
- Andrew James
- Katie Kellogg
- Kevin Kranock
- Bruce Metler
- Helen Middaugh
- Mark Middaugh
- Nellie Moses
- Justin Murphy
- Keith Pierce
- Shirley Poore
- Laroy Spateholts
- Family & friends of
Donald Thompson
- Jessica Veiders
- JoAnn Viglietta
- Clint Wilder
- 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!



Robert George Burdick, Husband of Cuba UMC Member, Sandra Burdick, died on October 20, 2022. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of Treusdell Funeral Home, Belfast.



- 5 - Clayton Reed Torrey
- 8 - Tom Krott
- 9 - Sue Simmons
- 14 - Judy Krott
- 17 - Joyce Amundson
- 20 - Suzanne Huddleston
- 22 - Ryan Morris
- 23 - Kelly Brickey
David Battistoni
- 30 - Linda Murphy

BAPTISMS

Sloane Lynn & Eavan Leigh Gross were baptized at the October 9 Worship Service. Mom and dad are Melissa Zeh-Gross and Casey Gross. Grandmother is Thela Snow.

Statistics Needed: \$1,798

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
10/2	37	5	\$1,490.00
			World Communion \$ 10.00
			Gil's Hills \$ 50.00
10/9	48	5	\$1,965.00
10/16	39	5	\$1,885.29
			World Communion \$ 10.00
			UMCORE \$ 50.00
			Gil's Hills \$ 50.00
10/23	34	6	\$1,070.00
			UMCOR \$ 195.00



Daylight Savings
Time ends 2:00 am
Sunday morning,
Nov. 6. Remember to
turn your clocks back
one hour Saturday
night, Nov. 5.

November
Helping
Hands



Power Point:
Rob Cornell

Pianist/Organist:
Christine Berardi

Altar Guild:
Deb Battistoni
Holly Scoville





**Sunday Worship Services
are streamed live
on our website,
www.cubaumc.org**

and also on our Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/Cuba-United-Methodist-Church-533879670015081>




Past Services are Archived
 DVDs are available

Puzzle!

Although the Bible doesn't mention turkey feasts, the gospels do describe a miracle dinner that made thousands of hungry people thankful (see Matthew 14:13-21). Fill in the words to complete a poem about that meal.

Hint: Each pair of line endings should rhyme.

Word
Box

ate	faces	quest	then
began	late	ran	ton
bunch	lunch	rest	true
done	men	spaces	you

Jesus was tired and went to find _____.

So away from the crowd he started his _____.

It came to an end before it _____.

The crowd followed Jesus; they walked and they _____.

His boat pulled ashore, and he looked at their _____.

Five thousand men, plus families, filled all open _____.

And so Jesus spoke, and he taught until _____.

The disciples told him it was time they all _____.

Jesus said, "Yes, that is certainly _____.

And feeding this crowd is now up to _____."

Feeding five thousand! It could not be _____.

What would they do? They'd need a whole _____.

But then a young boy came and offered his _____.

Five loaves and two fish to feed this big _____?

Jesus gave thanks and blessed it and _____ ...

it fed all the women, the children and _____.

Answer: rest, quest, ran, faces, late, ate, true, you, done, ton, lunch, bunch, then, men

STUFFED BAKED EGGPLANT

Sue Simmons

4 Eggplants

1tsp. oregano

1 oz. Parmesan cheese

4 oz. mozzarella cheese, cubed

3 oz. mozzarella sliced 1/8" thick

12 oz. tomato sauce


5 oz. olive oil

1 clove garlic, minced

2 oz. onions, chopped

2 eggs

½ cups bread crumbs



Recipe
from the
Cuba UMC
Cook Book

Trim tops of eggplant. Cut in half lengthwise. Scoop out inside, leave ¼ of pulp between cavity and skin. Dice eggplant.

Heat oil, add garlic and onions. Stir in diced eggplant. Sprinkle oregano and parmesan cheese, remove from heat.

Add mozzarella cheese, egg and crumbs, Stir.

Put mixture into eggplant halves. Layer 1 slice cheese over filling on each half. Pour sauce over each.

Serves 4. Bake at 350° for 35 minutes.

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES NEWS*Submitted by Peggy Pearce*

The **Thanksgiving-Advent Service** is planned for November 27, 6 pm at Cuba First Baptist Church. Pastor Becky will be providing the message, and a fellowship time will follow the service. Put the date on your calendar now, and plan to meet with other community members as we thank God for all His blessings and look forward to the birth of His Son.

The dates for the **2022 Holiday Assistance Program** are: December 6, donations; December 7, sorting; December 8, distribution.

The Food Pantry continues to assist those in the community who need a little extra help during this time of rising food and gasoline prices. At the present time the Pantry is fairly well stocked with the exception of ready to serve soups, canned pasta meals, Hamburger Helper, boxed potatoes, rice and pasta sides, stew and hash. Thank you for assisting with this ministry.

UMW NEWS

Submitted by Peggy Pearce

Officers of the United Methodist Women met in the Green Street foyer on Saturday, October 15 to review past projects and plan for future endeavors.

The July hot dog sale was quite successful in getting the group and church out in the public eye again after the COVID restrictions. Many people made fast work of setting up in front of the church, as well as selling hot dogs, soda, snack bags and cookies. People taking the church tour, sponsored by the Cuba Council of Churches, took advantage of the sale to sit a minute and enjoy lunch before learning about our church's history. A small profit was realized (\$291.46), over half of which was due to the generosity of people's donations. An abundance of delicious cookies, donated by church members, were sold with enough left over for a coffee hour after Sunday worship. The UMW sincerely appreciates all who contributed in any way.

A successful rummage sale was held in August, netting \$733.50 for the group. A small, but dedicated group of volunteers organized the sale, details of which were provided in a previous newsletter. The UMW is grateful to those dedicated to keeping this major money maker 'alive', especially Deb Battistoni, Holly Scoville and Thela Snow.

Christmas giving was discussed and plans were made following past practices. The group will donate to the Cuba Chamber of Commerce Toys for Kids campaign, and will sponsor up to four families, referrals from the Cuba Council of Churches Holiday Assistance Program coordinator.

The next meeting of the United Methodist Women will be Saturday, November 19. All women of the church are cordially invited to attend.



The 2022 Crop Walk campaign came to a close in mid-October. The Cuba goal was \$4500 which was met. Cuba United Methodist Church members donated just over \$600 to Crop Walk this year. Thank you all who participated! Cindy Dutton



Sunday School with Pastor Bob is at 9:30 am in the Adult Sunday School room.



Our annual **Charge Conference** is on Saturday, November 19, 2022 at 2:00 pm at Christ United Methodist Church in Olean.



Wed. Nov. 2, 2022
in Wesley Hall

Trustees Meeting 6:00 pm
Management Team 6:45 pm



UMW Sat. Nov. 19, 2022
10:00 am

(Pastor Becky's letter - Continued from front page)

In 2 Corinthians 12, Paul speaks about an illness he was called by God to endure. We don't know exactly what Paul was suffering, but it was bad enough that Paul asked God to take this illness away three times. God's answer to Paul's request was basically a "no" as God said, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Paul didn't cry about this, or moan that this was unfair. Paul's response was, "Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

"For when I am weak, then I am strong." Paul could say this because his strength did not rely upon Himself. Paul relied only upon the strength of Jesus Christ. It took a bit of a beating down for Paul to realize this. Suffering is serious business. Disease, death, sadness, heartache are not laughing matters to be ridiculed or taken lightly. They are serious. God is also equally serious in meeting all of you in those moments. Christ is there with Himself calling you to remember that indeed if anything "good" can be said to come from suffering, it is this: God is allowing you to become weak, so that He might become strong in you. Now, there is something we can truly be thankful for!

Blessings,
Pastor Becky



Thanksgiving for Posterity

Turkey Day? Really? It was made a national holiday by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863. Was it supposed to be a day to celebrate food? Actually what Lincoln said in his Thanksgiving Proclamation was that the country should "...set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens." This is quite different from some modern school textbooks which state that any thanks was given to the Indians.

The first Thanksgiving was described by Separatist, Edward Winslow, in his writings and published in England in "Mourt's Relation" in 1622. Winslow described the iconic American event this way: "Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after a special manner rejoice together after we had gathered the fruit of our labors. They four in one day killed as much fowl as, with a little help beside, served the company almost a week. At which time, amongst other recreations, we exercised our arms, Many of the Indians coming amongst us, and among the rest their greatest King Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five deer, which they brought to the plantation and bestowed on our governor, and upon the captain and others. And although it be not always so plentiful as it was this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want that we often wish you partakers of our plenty."

William Bradford, the Governor of Plymouth Plantation, summed up the perspective that the Pilgrims had after their year of extreme hardship: "And thus they found the Lord to be with them in all their ways, and to bless their outgoings and incomings, for which let His holy name have the praise forever, to all posterity."

These Separatists, or Pilgrims as we call them, did all to seek God. They came to the New World to seek God. They endured the cold, sickness, and privation as they sought God. And their celebration after the plentiful harvest culminated in thanking God. Their focus was God. The source of this holiday is simple gratitude for God's provision. In our modern, prosperous society we don't look to God as much as this small group of believers did in 1621. They were desperate for God and so they sought Him out. Let's thank Him now in the midst of our plenty and as Bradford said so many years ago, "... let His holy name have the praise forever, to all posterity."

– Mary Atwood churchletters.org



**SUNDAY
WORSHIP
SERVICE
11:00 AM**

November 2022

**Sunday School with
Pastor Bob** is at
9:30 am in the Adult
Sunday School room.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Prayer Group 10:00 am	2 Trustees Meeting 6:00 pm Management Team Mtg. 6:45 pm	3	4	5 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am
6 Communion UMW Food Pantry Collection Daylight Saving Time Ends All Saints Sunday	7 Tai Chi 7:00 pm	8 Prayer Group 10:00 am		10	11	12 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am
13 Sunday School 9:30 am	14 Tai Chi 7:00 pm	15 Prayer Group 10:00 am	16	17	18	19 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am UMW Meeting 10:00 am Charge Conference at Christ UMC Olean 2:00 pm
20 Sunday School 9:30 am	21 December Newsletter Deadline Noon Tai Chi 7:00 pm	22 Prayer Group 10:00 am	23	24	25	26 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am
27 Sunday School 9:30 am Thanksgiving-Advent Service @ First Baptist Church 6pm	28 Tai Chi 7:00 pm	29 Prayer Group 10:00 am	30			

The Shepherd's Messenger

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



2022

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.

Editor/Secretary: Jim Travis

e-mail: cubasec@roadrunner.com

Office Hours:

Mon.-Thu. 8 am - 1 pm

Church Mailing address:

Cuba United Methodist Church

49 East Main Street, Cuba, NY 14727

(585) 968-1041

Please visit our Website:

www.cubaumc.org

Pastor Becky Worth:

Cell Phone: (716) 307-1768



«AddressBlock»

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED