

The Shepherd's Messenger

Pastor Sunny's Rays



December 2010



This morning as I was thinking about writing this article, (along with the 4 million other things that this time of year brings), I spotted this week's Patriot that I had yet to read. So I picked it up and sat down with my cup of coffee and began to read it. In the letters to the editor there was a letter that was thanking Ellsworth Swift for an article he had done that brought back memories of her hometown of Cuba. So that set me to thinking about memories of holidays with my family. Someone asked me recently why I liked making the dressing for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner. My answer was; "Because it brings my Mom closer for that time, it's a connection." I love doing the dressing.

Then Christmas came to mind since this is the December Newsletter I let my mind go way back. I remember a song my sister, Sandra, taught me. It was called: "Christmas Alphabet"

- C* is for the candy hanging on the Christmas tree
- H* is for the happiness with all the family
- R* is for the reindeer passing by the window pane
- I* is for the icing on the cake as sweet as sugar cane
- S* is for the stockings hanging on the chimney wall
- T* is for the toys beneath the tree so very tall
- M* is for the mistletoe where everyone is kissed
- A* is for the angels who make up the Christmas list
- S* is for ole Santa who makes all the kids his pets

Be good and he'll bring everything in your Christmas Alphabet

I remember Christmas morning and Sis trying to keep me in bed till Mom could get the wood stove going from the coals left overnight. I remember getting a Suzy Smart Doll, **1962 Suzy Smart**, 24" tall, vinyl head, sleep eyes, rooted blonde hair, hard plastic body, jointed knees; came with a plastic red, yellow and black desk chair and easel, she wears a schoolgirl plaid jumper with white short sleeve shirt and black ribbon tie, and a matching plaid beret with black shoes. As you can see I was thoroughly enamored with that doll. I also remember when I got my pony and for Christmas that year my brother, Gary, bought me a beautiful saddle to ride Rex with. Then there were the Christmases with Larry. My first gift from him while we were dating was a stuffed Owl, the second year was a Chanel perfume called Cachet, and the third year before we were married was matching CPO jackets. Yes folks we are that bloomin' old.

Then there were the years with the kids. What fun those years were. When Adam was about 6 or 7 years old we got the kids a dog, I remember all three of them tiptoeing into our bed room at 3:30 in the morning, whispering; Mom, Mom, we hear something in the kitchen. We think its alive! They were so excited. They named him Radar after the character on M*A*S*H. I remember the last Christmas gifts that my Mom got the girls. Now I love my mother but she was slipping at this point in time. Heather and Meredith received these gaudy earring and necklace. They were dangly and seriously they looked like something a saloon girl would wear in the old west. We gently talked Mom out of buying gifts after that.

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Our World situation
The Rothfus Family



families...

Bob Aaronson
Daniel Bunk
Kevin Desaultels
Patrick Frank
Mark Keenan
Justin Linza
Charles Randall
Alfred Reynolds
Greg Rogers
Justin Sweet
Dan Thompson
Ron Truax
Miles Ward
Eric Young

All are welcomed to attend. For more information, contact Ray Perkins at 585-968-1467

Our continued prayers go out to those who have been hospitalized, experienced an illness or injury or have other concerns.

Prayer List Update

Please keep our prayer list up to date. We have had names on our list for longer than our secretary has been our secretary.

Requests made in writing are preferred, to assure proper spelling. You can do this in the attendance pads on Sundays, or drop your request off at the office. If you call your request in, please spell out the name.

Your help is greatly appreciated!

THOSE AT HOME:

Alicia Bradley
Alice Sweet

to those at other residences...

Cuba CMH:

Lucille Wildrick
Laura Clayson
Pearl Franklin

Absolut Houghton

John Lawton

Bath VA

John Visser

Eden Heights-Buffalo

Jane Wright

Waters of West Field

Dawn Durkee

Eden Heights-Olean

Evelyn Steen

Olean Pines

Adaline Wakefield



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.

Military personnel and their



COMMUNION STEWARD

Sandy Tsujimoto & Mary Hupp

USHERS:

Nick & Liz Abraham

LITURGIST:

5: Doris Kellogg
12: Mary Ann Pfouts
19: reserved for you!
26: reserved for you!

CHILDREN'S MOMENT:

5:
12:
19:
26:



NURSERY:

5: reserved for you!
12: MaryLou VanValkenbergh & Doris Kellogg
19: reserved for you!
26: reserved for you!

AOLYTES:

5: Katelyn Cornell
12: Michael Hupp
19: Jasmyn Dorsey
24: Josh Enderle
26: Josh Tsujimoto

GREETERS:

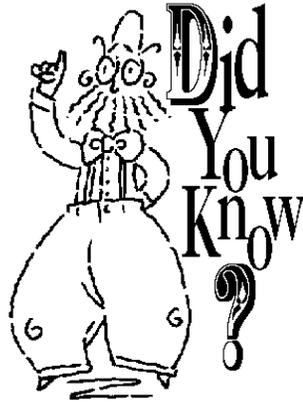
6:
13:
20:
24:
27:



ALTAR FLOWERS:

5: Lucinda Pierce
12: The Hupps
19: Clement Family
26: Sue Feldbauer

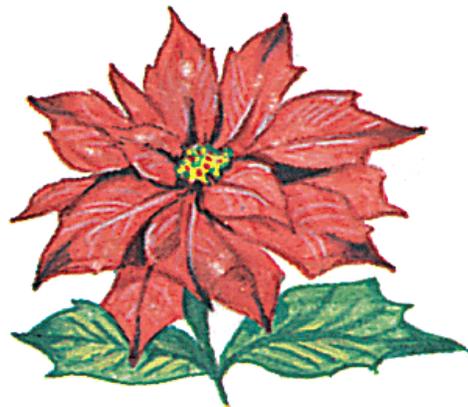
Sign-up sheets are always located at the back of the Sanctuary. **So hurry and sign up today!**



*Submitted by
Dean Wildrick*

Church World Service responds to tsunami, volcano

MENTAWAI DISTRICT, Indonesia (UMNS) — Indonesia is dealing with two disasters: a powerful earthquake that triggered a tsunami that has killed more than 400 people, with the death toll rising, and a volcanic eruption at Mount Merapi that has prompted displacement of hundreds. The 7.7-magnitude earthquake and 10-foot-high tsunami Oct. 25 stem from a fault on the west coast of Sumatra island. In immediate response to the tsunami, Church World Service — a partner of The United Methodist Church — is providing 140 baby care kits and is assessing additional needs in partnership with the Mentawai Christian Protestant Church. Church World Service staff members are monitoring the situation at Mount Merapi. Contributions to support the emergency response work of Church World Service may be made online.



United Methodist Women

submitted by Maggie Watson



We started off with a dinner and a room sale on Sept 9. There were twelve ladies present. We chose officers: Maggie Watson, President (thru Dec), Sue Simmons, Secretary and MaryAnn Pfouts, Treasurer.

During the summer, five ladies attended a Mission Work shop in Chautauqua called International Day. We donated a health kit and a layette kit. (Patti wrote a great article in the messenger and I hope you had the chance to read about it).

The October rummage sale was a success we made \$886.59.

We purchased new table cloths.

The Holiday Assistance Program is under way. The UMW donates \$600 and we ask the congregation to help with raising \$400, which enables us to give each family \$500. We give to two families who need our help.

The November meeting had 12 ladies. We had a guest speaker, Sandra Lathrop, gave a very informative and eye opener presentation about the Red Bird Mission. Red Bird is one of the UMW missions that we support, we send them yearly \$200. The UMW purchased through Church World Service, two goats, 50 chicks and 5 Mosquito nets as another of our mission projects. During the year we also gave \$100 to the Genesis House. Doris Kellogg and Sue Simmons put on a beautiful brunch for the ladies.

Needed: A president for UMW beginning Jan. 2011....you facilitate the meetings, write a report for the newsletter and a year end report...come on, isn't it your turn?



SWEDISH CHRISTMAS COOKIES

Doris Kellogg

Cream:

1 cup butter or margarine
3/4 cup sugar

Add:

2 egg yolks
1 tsp almond extract

Mix all together and add to creamed mixture:

2 1/2 - 2 3/4 cups flour
dash salt

Also: 4 TBS chopped almonds
2 TBS sugar and 1 egg white

Mix all and chill 30 minutes. Divide dough into six equal portions. Roll each portion to make a rope about 24" long. Cut each rope into 2" pieces. Place on cookie sheet.

Brush with:

1 egg white, slightly beaten. Sprinkle with sugar and almonds. Bake 375* for 10 minutes or until firm and slightly brown at edges. Let cool on pan 2 minutes before removing to wire racks

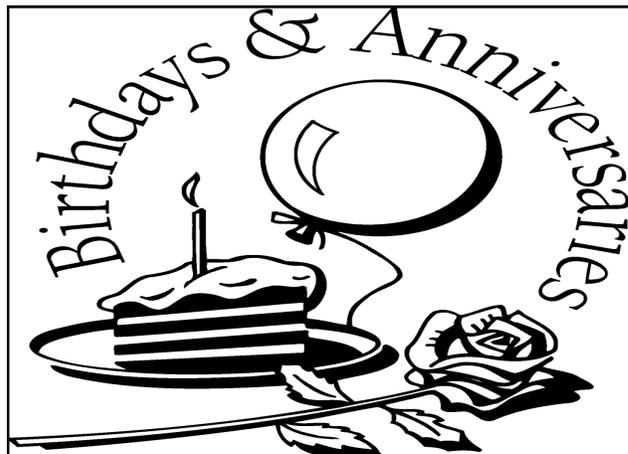
Birthdays

- 1 Raquel Kasperski
Kala Nugent
John Riley
- 2 Adam Freeman
Julie Mouser
- 3 Robert Amundson
- 4 Rhonda Cornell
- 5 Cheryl Steen
Morgan Sweet
- 8 Austin Parker
Elyse Petroni
- 9 Jared Battistoni
Sue Osborne
- 10 John Visser
- 11 Adam Mouser
- 12 Lucille Wildrick
Jeff Worst
- 13 Phyllis Hodge
- 14 Shawn-Day Frederick
- 15 Pamela Higby
- 16 Virginia Clayson
- 17 Frederick Edwards
Byron Hamilton
- 18 Patti Metler
- 20 Jeanine Rose
- 21 Janice Sutphin
- 23 Caitlin Metler
- 25 **Jesus Christ**
Zachary Metler
- 27 Bryan Manhardt
- 28 Sandra Allen
Scott Emerson
Andy Nelson
Shirley Pugh
- 29 David Cox

Anniversaries

- 1 - Marc & Sylvia Subject
- 12 - John & Mary Hupp
- 15 - Alan & Judy Zayac
- 26 - Art & Jean Higby
- 28 - Jerry & Donna Burdick
Dean & Cheryl Wildrick

Please submit any changes to any month's celebrations to cubasec@roadrunner.com or call the church office. Thank you for your help!



(continued from page 1)

Memories are one of the great gifts that God gives us. I love the feeling that the smell of the spices and onions and the celery makes and the memories it brings. The way my heart warms when I think of the Christmases when the kids were little. God is so good to us even when we aren't very good to him, even though our commitment to him is thin and weak, when we go out of our way to be unkind to each other, when we chose to ignore our call, God is still good.

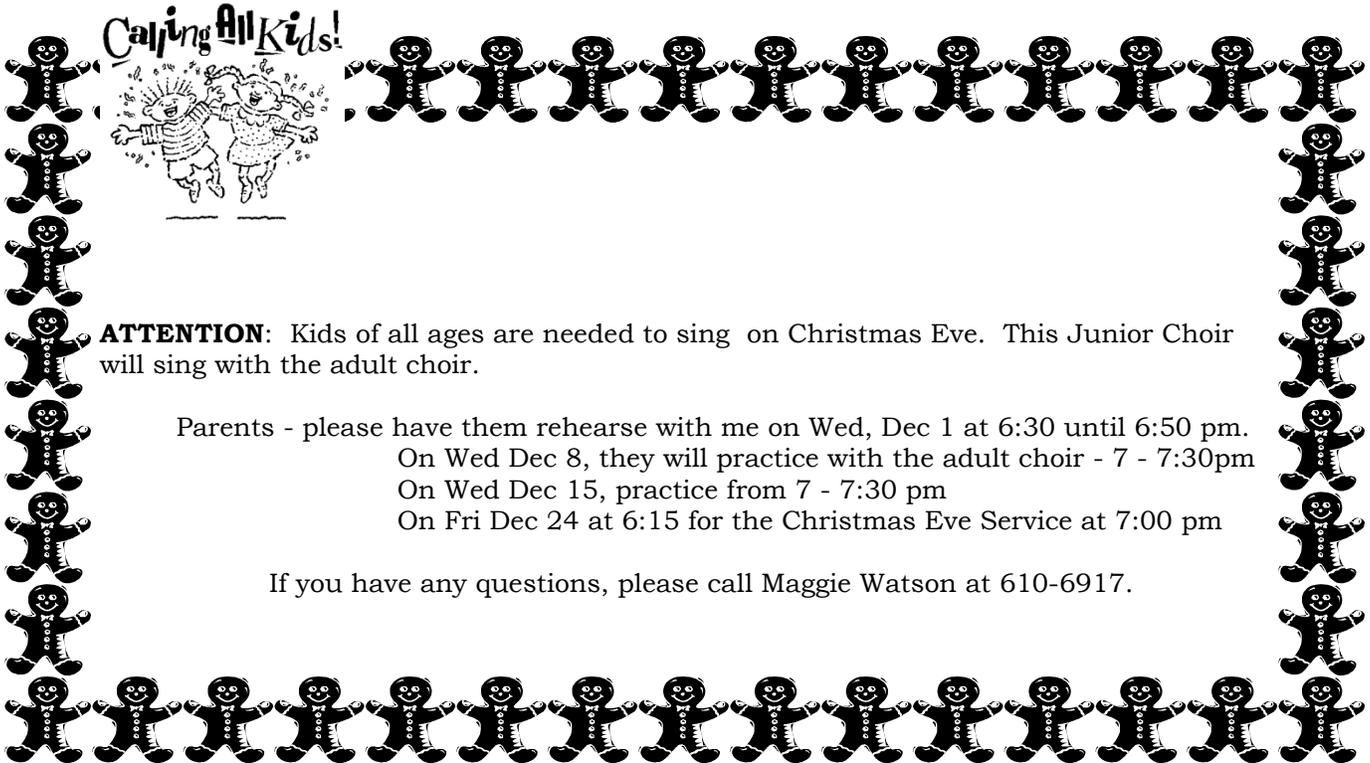
So this Christmas I want to challenge you all. Take a moment each day and remember—remember Christmases from your childhood, when your kids were little, remember when you realized that the baby whose birth we will celebrate is also the man who saved us, who bought our souls to be in Heaven with the Father, the Son and the Heavenly Host. I also challenge you to “Spend less, and give more!” The memories should not be about money that was spent or the gifts themselves, they should be about the feelings of safety, grace, and God's eternal gift of life in his kingdom. So let me wrap this up with hopefully new words to the Christmas Alphabet:

C is for the Christ child who came to save us
H is for the Holy Spirit who guides us in our call
R is for repentance that cleanses our very soul
I is for the great I AM that came to make us whole
S is for salvation a gift of love not lost
T is for the tears shed as He died upon the cross
M is for the mercy God so freely gives
A is for the Angels who proclaimed that He lives
S is for the serenity He has brought to the earth.

Be good for he has paid your debt in this Christmas Alphabet

May the peace, the joy, the hope and the love of this season, flow over you and please always remember that God loves you and so do we!

Pastor Sunny



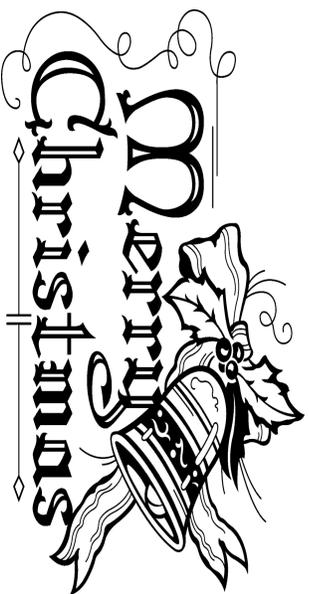
ATTENTION: Kids of all ages are needed to sing on Christmas Eve. This Junior Choir will sing with the adult choir.

Parents - please have them rehearse with me on Wed, Dec 1 at 6:30 until 6:50 pm.
 On Wed Dec 8, they will practice with the adult choir - 7 - 7:30pm
 On Wed Dec 15, practice from 7 - 7:30 pm
 On Fri Dec 24 at 6:15 for the Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm

If you have any questions, please call Maggie Watson at 610-6917.



December



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Choir Practice 7:00p	2	3	4 Kung Fu Classes 6-8a
5 Worship 10a One Room School 11:15	6 Ad Council 6:00p	7 Brown Bag Bible Study 11:45	8 Angel Food Deadline 4:00p Choir Practice 7:00p	9	10	11 UMW Meeting 10a
12 Worship 10a One Room School 11:15	13 Trustees 7:00pm	14 Brown Bag Bible Study 11:45	15 Choir Practice 7:00p	16	17	18 Angel Food Distribution 9-10a "Blue Service"
19 Worship 10a One Room School 11:15	20 News Letter Deadline	21	22	23	24 Candlelight Service	25 New Year's Celebration
26 Worship 10a One Room School 11:15	27	28	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30	31	



The Shepherd's Messenger
Cuba United Methodist Church
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Return Service Requested

When eggnog's generously filling
Each and every Christmas mug
And siblings tour miles and miles
To greet you with a hug
There's scarce else I'll be wishing
Than this simple little prayer
Of peace and calm and blessings much
On Christmas Day this year.



The Shepherd's Messenger is a publication of the Cuba United Methodist Church, and is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs of the church and to report news about the *Messenger's* people.

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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