

The Shepherd's Messenger



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

God is With Us

"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). Matthew 1:23



Forget the presents. Ignore all the food. Enjoy friends and family, but don't let your joy stop there.

During this time of year, there is only one reason to have true, lasting joy – God has taken on human flesh, forever. God has taken on "flesh" in many ways throughout time. God walked in Eden (Gen. 3:8). He came to Moses in a burning bush (Exodus 3:6). He led the people of Israel out of Egypt as a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night (Exodus 13:21). He literally sat on top of the ark of the covenant between the two cherubim (1 Sam. 4:4). God has been taking on various forms of "flesh" ever since Eden, but they all pale in comparison to what Christ has done for you at Christmas. He took on YOUR flesh.

He took on our flesh with all its weaknesses, our flesh with all its temptations, our flesh with its many limitations, our flesh that is subject to pain, and hunger, and tiredness. God took on all these limitations willingly. God could have stayed the way He was. He didn't have to take on our flesh, but He did have to take on our flesh if He wanted to pay the price for our sin, to suffer the punishment we deserve, and to make peace between us and God. Jesus, the Son of God, had to take on flesh to save us; and He did. This is why Jesus is named "Immanuel" which means God with us.

You truly have so much to be thankful for at Christmas, but make sure you look past the lights, the trees, the gifts, and the food. Take joy in what Christ has done for you by coming in your flesh to save you from all sins and even save you from death itself.

Come and celebrate this Advent season with us at Cuba United Methodist Church. Service starts at 11:00 am. We would love to have you! And bring a friend!

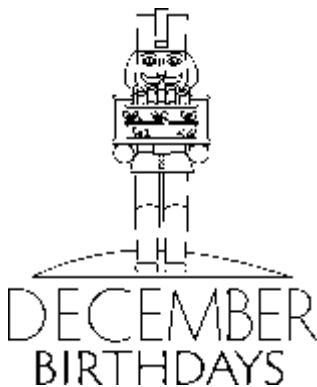
Blessings,

Pastor Becky

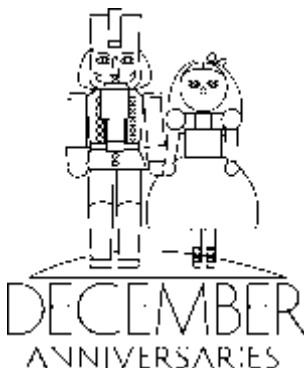
PLEASE PRAY FOR:
Our World situation

Others to keep in prayer:

- Norma Andrus
- Todd Baxter
- Wayne Botens
- Frank Calcagno
- Gary Carlson
- Hazel Cornell
- David Edwards
- Don Hall
- David Halstead
- Donna Hart
- Bernie Hawks
- Jean Higby
- Andrew James
- Katie Kellogg
- Kevin Kranock
- Bruce Metler
- Helen Middaugh
- Mark Middaugh
- Nellie Moses
- Justin Murphy
- Keith Pierce
- Shirley Poore
- Laroy Spateholts
- Jessica Veiders
- JoAnn Viglietta
- Clint Wilder
- Judy Zayac



- 3 Robert Amundson
- 4 Rhonda Cornell
- 9 Jared Battistoni
- 15 Pamela Higby
- 20 Janet Calcagno
- 25 **Jesus Christ**
- 28 Sandra Allen
- Andy Nelson



- 12 John & Mary Hupp
- 28 Dean & Cheryl Wildrick

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!

Statistics Needed: \$1,798

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
10/30	34	4	\$1,187.00
			Gil's Hills \$ 470.00
11/6	30	5	\$2,815.00
			Gil's Hills \$ 100.00
11/13	32	5	\$1,258.00
11/20	14	3	\$ 585.00
11/27	37	5	\$3,754.00
			Gil's Hills \$ 393.00
			UM Student Day \$ 20.00



December
Helping
Hands



Power Point:
Rob Cornell

Pianist:
12/4 Deb Battistoni
12/11 Holly Scoville
12/18 Christine Berardi
12/24 Christine Berardi
12/25 Holly Scoville

Altar Guild:
Thela Snow



Do you know of someone who needs a note of cheer?
Someone who might be sick, in the hospital, has a birthday, or has a loved one who has passed away?

If you do, please call **Sue Simmons at 585-968-1135**. She is the UMW's **Cheer person**. She sends out cards to those in need of some cheer, so please contact her to let her know.



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!

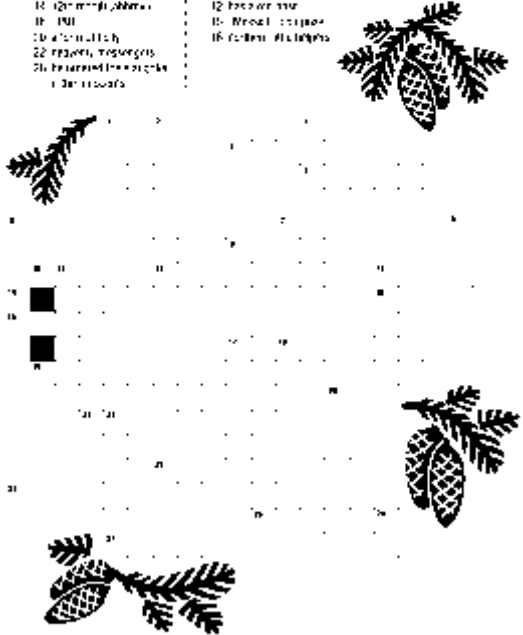
Take a break from Christmas preparations
to complete this seasonal crossword.

DOWN

- 1 song
- 2 eggs + dairy
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DOUBLE CHOCOLATE BROWNIES

Cindy Dutton

1 stick butter, melted in saucepan
1 cup semisweet chocolate chips — melt with butter, stirring constantly
Remove from heat. Stir in:
1 cup sugar
1 tsp vanilla
3 eggs
Mix together and stir in:
1 ¼ cup flour
½ tsp baking powder
½ tsp salt
Add remaining 1 cup chocolate chips.
Spread in greased 9" x 13" pan. Sprinkle top with 1 cup coarsely chopped walnuts.
Bake 350° for 30 minutes or just until center is set. Cool completely before cutting.





DUDLEY TAILS

Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick

Dudley was now five years old.

He had:

- grown through a fun-filled puppyhood with his siblings....
- experienced the trauma of being taken from his mother....
- adapted to a new home with a new location....
- learned to recognize his new master, and “the family dog” who was older than he was....
- he had experienced new and exciting things....
- he had grown to appreciate more of creation, and more of his larger world.

Dudley felt comfortable — pleased with his new surroundings and with his new life. He loved his master, and was obedient to his master’s call. Dudley knew, and responded to, his master’s voice.

This 15 lb, 12” high (at the shoulder) dog was always excited to have his master’s attention, and provisions. Dudley showed his loyalty to his master. Dudley defended his master. And, Dudley did not want to ever be separated from his master.

Dudley’s master loved him deeply. There was not much, that Dudley’s master would not do for him. But — there was a line that Dudley was not allowed to cross. It included things like:

1. Dudley should never respond to any request from someone pretending to be his master.
2. Dudley should never elevate anything above his master. That includes not listening to false masters who would pretend to love him, but only use him their own benefit.
3. Dudley should be enticed away, by any offers of false affection, or by toys, or by the offer of a tempting food or tempting activity.
4. Dudley should not turn against his rightful master, for any reason. He must trust and obey.
5. Dudley should take time to rest, and take time to just, “be in the presence of his master.”
6. Dudley should remember his parents, and should not stray from what they taught him.
7. Dudley should not recklessly kill other forms of life without cause.

Shouldn’t people respond in similar ways toward their master?

These seven statements are the Seven Commandments for dogs. Why? Not because the master wants to restrict his faithful friend... but because the master wants to protect him.

Likewise... when God gave mankind the Ten Commandments... it was to protect us. (See Exodus 20, verses 3-17) Now think:


1st Command: What would it be like with many gods, each demanding different things from us?
(verse 3)

2nd Command: Would we want our children and grandchildren to be punished for the wrong that we
(verses 4-6) commit?

3rd Command: How many times would we be guilty of wrongly using God’s name? (in a week? a year?)
(verse 7)


4th Command: Remember the Sabbath day, by keeping it holy. How many days, weeks, years have we
(verses 8-11) been guilty of not going to church?

Continued on Page 6



Adult Sunday School Class

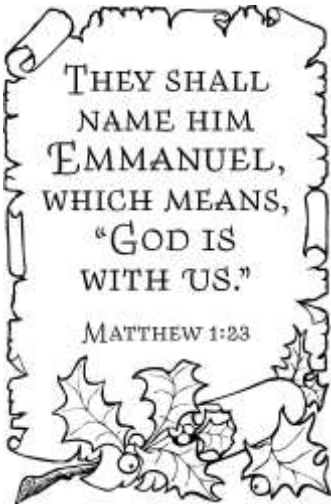

Sunday School with Pastor Bob is at 9:30 am in the Adult Sunday School room. The study is "Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph".



Holiday Assistance

The dates for the **2022 Holiday Assistance Program at the Baptist church** are:

December 6, 9 am - 4 pm donations
 December 7, 11 am - 4 pm sorting
 December 8, distribution

meeting
NOTICE

No Trustees and Management Team Meetings in December unless special meetings are called

Next Meetings:
Wed. January 18, 2023
 in Adult Sunday School Room

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

The Cuba UMC Christmas Eve Candle Light Service is at 6:00 pm.

Church is open for business as usual on Sunday, Christmas Day 11:00 am



Thanks So Much!

Thank you for your prayers as I recover from knee replacement surgery, and for your cards and best wishes that brightened my days.
 Peggy

UMW NEWS



UMW officers Janet Calcagno and Thela Snow, along with member Deb Battistoni, met on Saturday November 19th at the church. No other officers or members were available to attend. One item of business was a request from Henderson Settlement. As in the past we are sending a donation to help support this ministry. A second item discussed was making a gift to Gabby Kranock's family during this Christmas season. These gifts will be sent out along with those approved at the October meeting. A contribution was sent to the Toys for Kids through the Chamber of Commerce. The proceeds from the rummage sale and contributions by other individuals allows the UMW to reach out to persons in our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Scoville

"Dudley Tales" Continued from page 4

5th Command: How can we best honor our fathers and mothers?
(verse 12)

6th Command: What things would lead us to commit murder?
(verse 13)

7th Command: Are humans too weak to control their actions?
(verse 14)

8th Command: What causes someone to steal? Need? Desire? Challenge? Do people no longer believe in
(verse 15) judgement?

9th Command: Why do people lie about what others do, or don't do? If God says lying is wrong... Why do it?
(verse 16)

10th Command: Why do people think they need what others have? Shouldn't we see that we already have
(verse 17) more than many people do? What should we desire instead?



God loves us more than we can ever love Him. Our Christmas gift from God is His Son, Jesus, our Savior. Through faith in Jesus as our Savior, we receive God's gift of eternal life in heaven with God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Have you accepted Jesus as your Savior? Do it now. He is always calling for you to come to Him. May God bless you.

Merry Christmas! From Cheryl and Dudley!

**SUNDAY
WORSHIP
SERVICE
11:00 AM**

DECEMBER 2022

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 Communion UMW Food Pantry Collection Sunday School 9:30 am	5 Tai Chi 7:00 pm	6 Prayer Group 10:00 am Holiday Assistance Donations - Baptist Church 9 am - 4 pm	7 Holiday Assistance Sorting - Baptist Church 11 am - 4 pm	8 Holiday Assistance Distribution - Baptist Church	9 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am	10 Charge Conference 11:00 am Christ UMC, Olean
11 Sunday School 9:30 am	12 Tai Chi 7:00 pm	13 Prayer Group 10:00 am	14	15	16 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am UMW Meeting 10:00 am	17 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am UMW Meeting 10:00 am
18 Sunday School 9:30 am	19 January Newsletter Deadline Noon Tai Chi 7:00 pm	20 Prayer Group 10:00 am	21	22	23	24  Service 6:00 pm
25 Service 11 am Sunday School 9:30 am 	26 Tai Chi 7:00 pm	27 Prayer Group 10:00 am	28	29	30	31 Kung Fu 6:00-8:00 am

The Shepherd's Messenger

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



2022

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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www.cubaumc.org

Pastor Becky Worth:
Cell Phone: (716) 307-1768

FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN,
TO US A SON IS GIVEN,
AND THE GOVERNMENT
WILL BE ON HIS SHOULDERS,
AND HE WILL BE CALLED

WONDERFUL

COUNSELOR

MIGHTY

YOD

EVERLASTING

FATHER

PRINCE OF

PEACE

ISAIAH 9:6, NIV