

See,  
I am making all things  
new.

Revelation 21:5, NRSV

## Curlew United Methodist Church

*where everyone is welcome and  
where all can make a difference!*

Curlew UMC proudly celebrates 150 years of ministry.

### Our Mission:

To Know, Love and Serve Jesus Christ by the grace of God through the Holy Spirit

### Our Purpose:

Be the Body of Christ gathered in love. Worship God and Preach the gospel so that others may know the power of God's love through a personal relationship with His Son, Jesus Christ. Grow in faith, knowledge and strength in order to do God's work in the community and in the world.

**For more information, please contact us.**  
**Office Open: Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**  
**727.784.3424**

**Website: [www.CurlewUMC.org](http://www.CurlewUMC.org)**

**E-Mail: [curlewumc@verizon.net](mailto:curlewumc@verizon.net)**

**Facebook: Curlew UMC**



Curlew United Methodist Church  
2210 Cathedral Drive  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.  
The People of The United Methodist Church



**Forwarding Service Requested**



Open hearts  
Open minds  
Open doors



### Contact Information

2210 Cathedral Drive  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683

Phone: 727.784.3424  
Fax: 727.771.1449

Email:  
[CurlewUMC@verizon.net](mailto:CurlewUMC@verizon.net)

Website:  
[www.CurlewUMC.org](http://www.CurlewUMC.org)

Facebook:  
Curlew UMC



### Sunday Morning

10:15 Organ Selections  
10:30 Morning Worship



**Rev. Rachel Hughes**  
Senior Pastor

E-mail:  
[CurlewUMC@verizon.net](mailto:CurlewUMC@verizon.net)

**727.488.3570**



# THE COURIER NEWSLETTER

*A monthly publication of Curlew United Methodist Church*

## JANUARY 2021

*From Pastor Rachel ...*

### Happy New Year Curlew!

Greetings my Curlew family,

My prayer and desire for the local body for the year 2021 is that God would bless you with joy, strength, and hope to face another year.

Our family here at Curlew is blessed beyond measure, filled with God's grace and showered in His mercy. We can only stand in awe of our profound gratitude and humble reality of our position in Christ Jesus. You have been my joy and purpose over the last 4 years as God has allowed me the great privilege of being your pastor. You are truly the light of the world and your brightness radiates the glory of God throughout not only in Pinellas County but the world, as I have watched God touch countless lives through all of you. Your desire for truth in God's word has always been an encouragement to me. And your passion for worship towards our Savior is contagious and inspiring.

As we say goodbye to 2020, we realize the losses we have grieved and the pandemic we have endured. We have opened our eyes to the reality of the world's troubles and joyfully acknowledge God's divine plan. In the entire world's pandemic, we have never lost faith, shrunk back, or remained stagnant. Throughout the year we have persevered with all diligence and steadfastness. You are God's chosen people, a holy priesthood and warriors standing on the front lines of spiritual battles.

We never give up hope. We remain faithful because we trust in an everlasting God who is sovereign in all His ways.

*In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Rachel*



The Curlew United Methodist Men continues to meet via ZOOM every Saturday morning at 8:00 am. If anyone would like to join us on Zoom.com, the ID sign-in code is: **714 5751 1391**. The password when prompted is: **umm**.



**Out of Spaghetti Sauce?**  
**No problem ... we've got you covered!**  
**Order by Wednesday, 1/13, and pick up your sauce on:**  
**Friday, 1/15, from 4:00-6:00 pm**  
**or Saturday, 1/16, from 10:00 am-12:00 pm**

Here's what to do:

- 1) Call the church office (784-3424) by Wednesday, January 13, and let us know how many quarts you would like to order. **Cost is \$7 per quart.**
- 2) Come pick up your sauce in front of Sutton Hall on Friday, 1/15, from 4:00-6:00 pm, or on Saturday, 1/16, from 10:00 am-12:00 pm.

There MAY be a few extra jars of sauce that will be available after worship on Sunday, January 17, but it's not guaranteed ... so if you want to be sure that you have what you need, don't forget to call and place your order!!!



- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1/03 Winn Ellenwood | 1/11 Janet Hattan       |
| 1/04 Kinsey Winkler | 1/12 Carol Jo Brenneman |
| 1/05 June Gunderman | 1/26 Bill Quinn         |
| 1/08 Sandra Braman  | 1/27 Jerry Nahrwold     |
| 1/10 Mary Smiech    |                         |



- 1/06 Ben & Kinsey Winkler
- 1/25 JR & Linda Melvin
- 1/31 Ernie & Nancy Bear

*(If you want to send a birthday or anniversary card, please call the church office if you need an address for any of the folks listed here.)*

**New Year's Trivia Answers**

- |                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. 1907          | 6. 1890                   |
| 2. 12 feet       | 7. Guy Lombardo           |
| 3. Exercise more | 8. Black-eyed peas        |
| 4. Germany       | 9. Robert Burns           |
| 5. Donuts        | 10. For "old times' sake" |



How many did you get right?

**Book of Jeremiah Bible Crossword Answer Key**

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



Be sure to go online to: [members.InstantChurchDirectory.com](http://members.InstantChurchDirectory.com) and register to use our online directory. Only those in the directory can register, and then you'll have access to our most up-to-date information!

If you need information or assistance, call ...

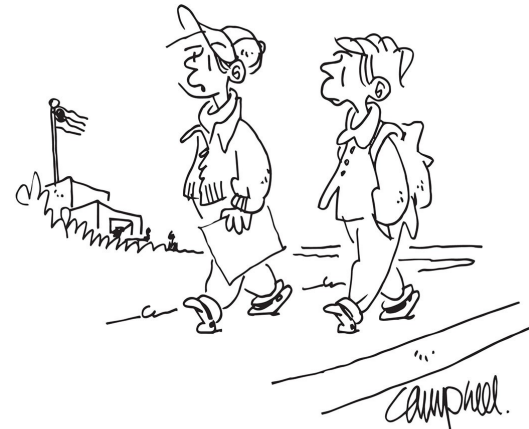
**The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)**

A program of the Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas, Inc.

The ADRC provides access to information and resources for:

- Adult Day Care ♦ Caregiver Support ♦ Food Resources/Meals on Wheels ♦ Housing Options ♦ Incontinence Supplies ♦ Legal Services ♦ Medicaid/Medicare ♦ Nursing Home and Assisted Living Placement ♦ Prescription Assistance ♦ and more!

Helpline: 1-800-963-5337 or 727-217-8111, 8 am - 5 pm; Online: [www.AgingCareFL.org](http://www.AgingCareFL.org)



"I made a New Year's resolution to eat broccoli. If I can't stand it, I'll give it up for Lent."



"Are Forever Stamps OK?"



## Options for Online Worship through Gulf Central District UMC Churches

Aldersgate, Seminole (Sun 10:30) <http://aldersgate.com/watch/>

Anona, Largo (Sun 9:30, 11) <http://live.anona.com/>

Community, Oldsmar (Sun 10) <https://www.facebook.com/pg/GrowWithCommunity/videos/>

East Lake, Palm Harbor (Sun 10:25, 11:35) <https://www.myeastlake.church/watch-live/>

First, Clearwater (Sun 9:45) <https://www.fumc-clw.com/>

First, Lakeland (Sun 8:15, 9:30, 11, 11:20) <https://www.firstumc.org/worship-now/>

First, St. Petersburg (Sun 8, 9:30, 11) <https://www.facebook.com/StPeteFirst/>

Heritage, Clearwater (Sun 9, 10:30) <https://heritageumc.com/watch-listen/>

Hyde Park, Tampa (Sun 8:30, 9:30 11) <http://hydeparkumc.org/watch-live>

New Hope, Brandon (Sun 9:30, 11) <https://www.findnewhope.com/watch-live-1>

Skycrest, Clearwater (Sun 9:45) <www.facebook.com/skycrestumc>

St. Paul, Largo (Sun 9, 10:30) <http://stpaulumc.sermon.net/Live/live/20007062>

Sun City Center (Sun 10, 11) <https://www.sccumc.com/services>

\* Covenant UMC, Port Orange - Pastor B.J. Foster's church (Sun 10:30) <www.jesusatcovenant.org>

\* Church of the Resurrection, Leawood, KS (largest American UMC church, Pastor Adam Hamilton)

(Sun 10:15 am; 12:00 & 6:00 pm) <www.cor.org>

## People Needing Prayer

As the Body of Christ, we are called to pray for each other. What a privilege we have to go to God for the needs of our brothers and sisters!

As of the printing of this newsletter, we are in prayer for:

**Ernie Bear, Janice Boorse, Sandy Fika, Richard & Linda Hicks, Betty Johnson, Helen Kamp, JR Melvin, Mark & Mary Smiech, your Church Family and Church Leaders, the United Methodist Church, our country, and those across the globe fighting the coronavirus pandemic.**

**We are aware of several church families in need of prayer for loved ones, so please lift them up in prayer as well.**

Let us help! **Please** be sure to call the Church Office when you or someone you know is in need of prayer. We want to know when someone is in the hospital or is in need of prayer for any reason, so please be sure to call the church office. If it's after hours, just leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as possible!

## Pray for our Shut-ins

**Esther Besch** - 2851 Tampa Road, Palm Harbor, FL 34684 (Manor Care, 787-4777)

**Mary DeDea** - 2655 Nebraska Avenue, #1002, Palm Harbor, FL 34684 (St. Mark, 785-2576)

**Eileen Huntington** - 2655 Nebraska Avenue, #1022, Palm Harbor, FL 34684 (St. Mark, 785-2576)

**Barbara Bardua** - 1212 Lanyard Street, Palm Harbor, FL 34685 (789-4313)

**Evelyn Ralston** - 2340 Grecian Way, Unit 20, Clearwater FL 33763



## A NEW START

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. <sup>2</sup> Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup> because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. <sup>4</sup> For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup> Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. <sup>6</sup> Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. <sup>7</sup> For we live by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup> We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup> So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 2CORINTHIANS 5:1-10

Years ago, I led skiing and backpacking trips with college students near the Canadian border. We pitched our tents in the snow and spent the short days and long nights enjoying God's presence in a winter wonderland. As peaceful as it was, it was also quite challenging. By the end of the trip, we were all ready to eat a warm meal, take a hot shower, and put on dry clothes. Camping in the sub-freezing wilderness was manageable for a time, but eventually, we yearned for the comforts of home.

In 2 Corinthians, Paul paints a picture of the glorious home that is waiting for all who believe: our heavenly dwelling. Fourteen years before Paul penned this letter, he "was caught up" with Christ into Paradise (2 Cor. 12:2-4). And in our text today, he gives the Corinthians a glimpse of what he experienced in the midst of the present reality (5:1-4). First, Paul acknowledges the suffering, groaning, and brokenness that exists in our world (vv. 2, 4). He does not deny it, overlook it, or explain it away. Rather he embraces the fallenness of humanity and recognizes that God has something much better in store for us (v. 1).

This past year stretched and challenged us. It taught us a lot about ourselves, one another, and God. It also displayed, perhaps more clearly than ever, the depravity of our world and the utter need for the ultimate healer, rescuer, and peacemaker: our Lord Jesus Christ. It is not guaranteed that this year will be easier, but we can rest assured that He has made us "for this very purpose" (v. 5). What awaits is something brand new and He will be with us all the way home.

The New Year offers each of us a fresh new start. Probably more than ever, you are longing for something new. Allow the Lord to show you which areas of your life need a new beginning and choose to begin each day in His Word.

*Chris Rappazini from [www.todayintheword.org](http://www.todayintheword.org)*



**Ouch ...**

Finding one of her students making faces at others on the playground, Ms. Smith stopped to gently reprove the child. Smiling sweetly, the Sunday School teacher said, "Bobby, when I was a child I was told if I made ugly faces, my face would freeze and I would stay like that." Bobby looked up and replied, "Well, Ms. Smith, you can't say you weren't warned."

Dear Curlew Family,

We are so very grateful for the support you have shown in giving through either cash or checks for the Christmas gift cards we sent to the Children's Home. The total amount we received was \$445.00!! Thank you, thank you, thank you!! We know that you helped make Christmas special for these wonderful kids.



Our total giving for the Children's Home for 2020 will be available soon, and we will share that information in the February Courier. There will be four Fifth Sundays in 2021 (January, May, August and October) when we put a special focus on donations for the Children's Home. But you don't have to wait for a Fifth Sunday! You can make a donation any time during the year by just noting the amount of your donation on your check or offering envelope.

Again, we thank you for your prayers and giving for this very special mission of our church.

All God's Blessings,  
Bob and Linda Floyd



"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."  
C.S. Lewis

No matter how much you push the envelope, it will still be stationary.





**Katie's Quips**



I thought I saw an eye doctor in Alaska, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.

**Just for fun this month, let's try some New Year's Trivia**

1. When did the New Year's Eve Ball first drop in Times Square? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How large is the Times Square New Year's Eve Ball in diameter? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What was the most popular 2020 New Year's resolution? \_\_\_\_\_  

4. Immigrants from what country introduced the New Year baby to the United States? \_\_\_\_\_
5. The Dutch believe eating what on New Year's Day will bring good luck? \_\_\_\_\_
6. When was the first Tournament of Roses parade? \_\_\_\_\_  

7. Who was the first broadcast host of Times Square New Year's Eve celebrations? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What do people in the Southern United States eat for good luck on New Year's Eve? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Who is credited with writing the Scottish poem "Auld Lang Syne?" \_\_\_\_\_
10. What does Auld Lang Syne translate to in English? \_\_\_\_\_

*Look for the answers to these trivia questions in the back of the Courier.*



*We would like to thank you for continuing to support the church through your tithes and offerings, even during the uncertain times of 2020. Because of your faithful generosity we are able to meet our financial obligations. Pledge cards for 2021 are available in the church office and the narthex. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge!*



*Our thoughts and prayers are with ...*

Pastor Rachel on the death of her sister, Ernestine Hughes, on December 31.  
Phil Lemons on the death of his sister, Marvene Geller, on December 29.

Please keep Pastor Rachel, Phil, and their families in your prayers.



## Happy New Year

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has passed away, behold the new has come. 2 Cor. 5:17*

As we welcome in the new year, let us be reminded of the above scripture. We have just come through a most difficult year, and we just celebrated the greatest most joyful event in human history—the birth of Christ, the Savior of the world.

Let us remember that 2020 is gone—the old—and yes—now we can “behold the new,” the New Year. As we welcome in the New Year, let us recognize the potential that it brings. A clean slate, new beginnings. How exciting! As we accept the love, grace and forgiveness that Jesus freely pours out on us, let us freely pour it out on others as we begin 2021 with strength, courage and grace.

Let us pray:

*Dear God, Thank You for Your presence with us, thank You for Your Almighty Shadow, the Holy Spirit. Thank You that You go before us and cover us from behind. Thank You that You are in our midst, and that our future is secure in the place You're preparing for us.*

*Your words bring such hope and comfort. Remind us of Your strength today, and may we see glimpses of Your glory and blessing along the way as we seek after You for victory and salvation are found in You alone. In the Mighty Name of Jesus, Amen.*

On behalf of Pastor Rachel, Debbie and your entire leadership team, we wish you a blessed and Happy New Year!

Helen Hershman, Lay Leader

### ***Epiphany, cont.***

*In this coming year, may we look to heaven for guidance and comfort and may we accept God's blessings in whatever forms we find them, just as the Wise Men accepted that their long, expensive journey led them to a baby born to young, inexperienced parents who lived on the poor side of town.*

#### **Finally, the Wise Men brought gifts.**

They did the thing that people in the East or in Africa or India would do when visiting royalty. They brought gifts.

Gold was the kind of gift that you brought to a king. Frankincense was the kind of gift that you would bring to a priest. Myrrh was given to someone who was about to die.

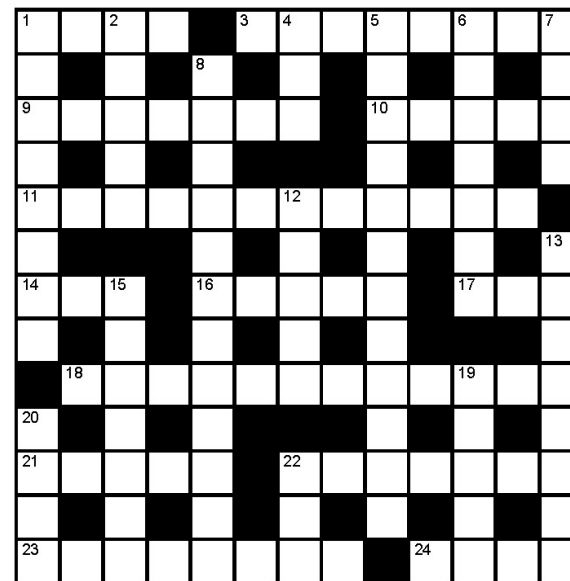
*On This Twelfth Day, or Three Kings Day, otherwise known as Epiphany, think of the gift that you will offer to God in the coming year. The gift of time? The gift of your talents? Your service in the community? Your witness and testimony? The gift of undying love and devotion?*

Their greatest gift comes to us in the form of a realization. The Wise Men were the first Gentiles to recognize that Jesus belongs to everyone. Good news is for everyone, not just a select few.

*Star of wonder, Star of light, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading,  
Still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.*

Amen.

## Book of Jeremiah Bible Crossword (King James Version)



### Across

- 1 Elders of the land \_\_\_\_ up and spoke to the people. Jer 26:17 (4)
- 3 “I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and \_\_\_\_ woman.” Jer 6:2 (8)
- 9 “But, O LORD of hosts, that \_\_\_\_ righteously ...” Jer 11:20 (7)
- 10 “\_\_\_\_ own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee.” Jer 2:19 (5)
- 11 These supplementary texts, written by scholars, can help you understand the Bible. (12)
- 14 The first woman. (3)
- 16 “And I said after she had done all \_\_\_\_ things, Turn thou unto me.” Jer 3:7 (5)
- 17 “But she returned not. And \_\_\_\_ treacherous sister Judah saw it.” Jer 3:7 (3)
- 18 Nebuzaradan left some men to be husbandmen and these. Jer 52:16 (12)

- 21 “Why are thy valiant men swept away? they stood not, because the LORD did \_\_\_\_ them.” Jer 46:15 (5)
- 22 “And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again \_\_\_\_ vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.” Jer 18:4 (7)
- 23 “I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that \_\_\_\_ unto me.” Jer 33:22 (8)
- 24 “For ye have kindled a \_\_\_\_ in mine anger.” Jer 17:4 (4)

### Down

- 1 God says He will bring evil on this people because they have done this with His law. Jer 6:19 (8)
- 2 God overthrew this city because of its wickedness. Jer 49:18 (5)
- 4 “Thou shalt not also go into the house of feasting, to sit with

them to \_\_\_\_ and to drink.” Jer 16:8 (3)

- 5 Synonym for prayer. Jer 27:18 (12)
- 6 “He that \_\_\_\_ in this city shall die by the sword.” Jer 21:9 (7)
- 7 The foolish people have these but do not see. Jer 5:21 (4)
- 8 “\_\_\_\_ in those days, saith the LORD, I will not make a full end with you.” Jer 5:18 (12)
- 12 “Be not afraid of \_\_\_\_ faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.” Jer 1:8 (5)
- 13 God will do this with the fatherless children. Jer 49:11 (8)
- 15 Along with NIV and NASB, the KJV Bible is a translation or \_\_\_\_ of the Bible. (7)
- 19 A Netophathite. Jer 40:8 (5)
- 20 The husband to the answer to clue #14. (4)
- 22 This is used to cut a tree out of the forest. Jer 10:3 (3)



## From your Thrifty Spirit ...

Hello everyone,

It's been a difficult year, but it looks like we may finally see the light at the end of the tunnel in 2021. God is in control and He'll see us through this pandemic. However, we still need to be careful, so since we reopened in October, we have been sanitizing and requiring everyone that enters the store to wear a mask.

We have purchased new vertical blinds for the windows and should have them installed within the month. We hope you like the new look!

We are also planning a big yard sale on Friday, March 19, and Saturday, March 20, if the coronavirus numbers are at a safe level at that time. If you would like to be a vendor, the fee will be \$10 if you use one of our tables or \$5 if you bring your own. If you care to make a donation to the church over that amount it would be very much appreciated. We have a lot of nice merchandise, so we're hoping it will be a success and bring others from the community to our church.

Please continue to keep us in prayer as we do God's work at the Thrifty Spirit!

Happy New Year!  
Jerry and Staff

## Epiphany Sunday, January 3

Epiphany is a Christian feast day that celebrates the revelation of God incarnate as Jesus Christ. In Western Christianity, the feast commemorates principally the visit of the Magi, or Wise Men, to the Christ Child, and thus Jesus' physical manifestation to the Gentiles.



### *What can we learn from the Wise Men?*

**First, the Wise Men began their journey because of their beliefs.**

It was a common belief that when a world leader like a king was born that a special stellar phenomenon would appear in the sky. The Magi saw something that convinced them that they had seen the long-awaited sign and began their journey.

*May God give us all inspiration for this year's journey.*

**Second, the Wise Men were willing to follow what they had seen into unknown territory.**

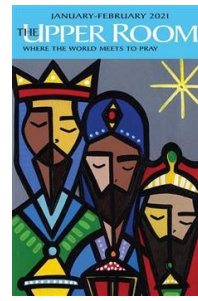
Their journey took them outside their country and their comfort zone. The Wise Men risked the consequences of disobeying Herod, who was known to behave as a madman when provoked and returned to their country by another way.

*The Christian journey is often an off-road excursion.*

**Third, the Wise Men were committed to the journey -- wherever the star might lead.**

The Wise Men set out to find a newborn King by following a star and ended up in finding a baby born to young, relatively poor parents! Not exactly what they expected and not exactly what befitted their dignity as priests.

*continued on page 8*



## The Upper Room, January/February Edition

We have received both the regular and large-print editions of The Upper Room, January-February Edition. They are available in the narthex. If you are unable to attend church (but can still get out) and would like one, please stop by any weekday between 10:00-3:00. If that is not possible, just call the church office (784.3424) and we'd be happy to mail you one!



*Thursday, January 14*

*Board of Trustees meets at 10:00 am*

*Finance Team meets at 11:00 am*

## TWO EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR CHURCH!

Rada Cutlery has all kinds of kitchen gadgets, food mixes and cookbooks available for purchase. In order

to see what's available, go to :

**[www.Radafundraising.com](http://www.Radafundraising.com)**

Once you're on the page, it will ask you to select a fundraising group by putting in the city, state and zip code. Once you enter the info, our church should "pop up". Just click on that and you're all set!



**WE'RE SELLING RADA CUTLERY**

**If you don't have a computer**, we have catalogs available in the church office. Pick one up, or we can mail it to you ... then keep it and whenever you want to order something, just call the church office and we'll order it so that it can be credited to the church!



**iGive.com** is an online site that donates a percentage of your purchase to a designated charity. They have over 2,400 participating stores and are approved by the United Methodist Church. Just go to their site and sign up. Then when you visit a store online, if they participate you will see an "iGive" logo in the bottom right corner of your screen. Click on it and they will automatically make your donation. Some examples: Cokesbury, 7.2%; L.L. Bean: 3.2%; FTD: 8%; Lane Bryant: 3.2%; Personalization Mall: 8%. Questions? Call the church office.