On Friday, September 25, 2020 I attended the historic first virtual East Ohio Clergy Executive Session. Almost 500 clergy from across Ohio participated in this virtual Zoom meeting. East Ohio Annual Conference was also done on virtually utilizing technology to bring together clergy and lay members. I believe that the use of technology is expanding our reach in effectiveness in ministry and in communication of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In her opening comments, Bishop Tracy Malone talked about living in “liminal” times. A liminal time is the space between what is familiar and the unknown that is ahead. It comes from a Latin word “limen” which means “threshold”. Examples are an elevator, a stairwell, or a lobby, as well as a job loss, a divorce or a move to a new place. The last six months have brought us COVID19 pandemic, the ugliness of racism broadcast on our televisions, the unrest of rioting, the rescheduling of our General Conference, the national elections and the return to in-person worship. We find ourselves living in a ‘liminal’ space – our old ways of thinking and doing are behind us yet we aren’t quite sure of what the future looks like.

What we are sure of is that Christ remains our foundation, our rock and the vine that we remain connected to while we navigate this liminal space. God’s word promises that if we remain connected to Him, we will bear fruit. If we remain in Him and His word remains in us, our future is secure. I pray your strength remains in the Lord always. We are living in a different world than we were just six months ago, but we are not of this world. We live in the strong and unshakeable Kingdom of God. The Kingdom is not in trouble and neither are we.

May God continue his work in your soul and spirit,

Pastor Jane
A Note from the Music Director
With every door that closes, a new one opens up. We may not be singing for the moment, but that’s not going to keep us from ringing! Our bell choir will begin rehearsing on Saturdays from 10am to 11am on Oct. 10. You can wear a mask and wear gloves and social distance. Won’t you come join us? And the new door that will open up is a junior bell choir! Yes, that’s right! Our Sunday school age children are invited to join our new junior bell choir. We will be rehearsing Saturdays beginning Oct. 10 from 9:30am-10am (right before the adults). Both groups will aim for performances around Thanksgiving and Christmas. Come join us and help us ring merrily! Questions? Call the head ding-a-ling (Millie) at (330) 239-2032.
~ Millie Frambaugh

Book Club
The October book is Tell Me No Lies: A Lady Dunbridge Novel by Shelly Noble. The widow Lady Dunbridge comes to New York for the social season. She becomes involved in helping to solve the untimely death of a young business tycoon.

In November we will be reading Looking for Me by Beth Hoffman. The main character, Teddi, has a life passion in restoring antiques which she then sells in her store in Charleston. She enjoys her work but is haunted by her brother Josh’s disappearance. Teddi is drawn back to her home in KY when signs emerge that Josh may still be alive.

Come and join the book discussions on the first Saturday of the month at 10am in the Fellowship Room of the church.
~Nancy Vogel

Pantry Pick Of The Month
As we enter Fall and the holiday season, we will focus again on supporting our local food pantry that directly supports our friends and neighbors in Sharon Center, Sharon Township and Medina County. Please bring in items for donation to St. Paul’s Pantry including canned goods, pasta meals, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, jelly. Thanksgiving is November 26 – let’s bless our neighbors with an overflow of nutritious food!

Trick or Treat
Trick or Treat is on for Sharon Center Circle! We will be collecting prepackaged candy to pass out on Oct. 31 from 6p-8p

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox
We will be collecting shoeboxes for Operation Christmas child this year! Boxes and labels will soon be available at the church. They must be at the church by Nov. 15 for drop off to distribution site.
October Birthdays
2 - Danielle Lahoski
3 - Joe Fox
4 - Dave Lahoski
5 - Keegan Cline
9 - Joey Sewell
   Lloyd Fiste
   Nick Phelps
10 - Norma Bates
13 - Emily Hoose
18 - Anne Gavinesky
20 - James Turner
21 - MayKenzie Lahoski
22 - Pattie Fiste
23 - Mark Raw
26 - Art Shick
30 - Melissa Williams
   Joe Brosch
31 - Evan Buck

October Anniversaries
5 – Terry & Mindi Haddix
9 – Dave & Heather Lahoski
13 - Don & Debbie Ensor
16 - Dan & Sherri Buck
24 - Tom & Christine Boche

Foundations Team
Spiritual Growth Discussions
We started the study of The Chosen on September 22nd. It will continue until November 10th. Please feel free to join us at any time for the viewing of an episode followed by group discussion.

The Chosen is a television drama about the life of Christ. It was first released in April 2019 and is on the true stories of the gospels of Jesus Christ. All of the biblical and historical content support the truth and intention of the Scriptures.

The characters of those who knew Christ are well developed and you feel you know them. They become your friends! You hear of their daily struggles and laugh with them. I have watch the episodes several times and each time I have learned something new. I tried to determine which episode I liked the best but I keep changing my mind. I look forward to seeing it again and getting a chance to talk with my church family about the episodes.

Come and join the Tuesday evening study at 7:00pm in the Conference Room of the church. Do to the length of the videos we will be meeting til approximately 8:30pm.
~ Nancy Vogel

Men’s Group
The Men’s Study Group will meet at 8AM on October 24 at Sharon Center UMC. We will get a pot of coffee going but we won’t be cooking food. Your welcome to bring your own breakfast. We will be following church policies and procedures for Covid-19. The program is Man Alive.
~ Paul Turner

Introduction to Prayer Labyrinths
Sunday, October 18 at 3PM – 4PM
Sharon Center United Methodist Church
Beatitude Prayer Garden, behind the church
Pastor Jane Piehl

All are welcome to join us for an introductory workshop on Labyrinths, what they are, where they came from and how we can pray with them to deepen our spiritual walk with Christ. We will hear the background and then walk the Labyrinth.

Questions? Call (330) 239-1616 or email the church at SharonCenterUMCSecretary@gmail.com
Good Grief Gathering
A ministry of Sharon Center United Methodist Church
6407 Ridge Road
Sharon Center, Ohio

Everyone is welcome! We will meet on Thursday, October 15, 2020 through November 19, 2020 from 7 to 8PM in Fellowship Hall. COVID19 practices will be followed. Leaders: John and Lori Weiss, Pastor Jane Piehl. There is no cost. All materials will be provided. This is a safe place where there is no blaming, no shaming and no judgement.

This group is for anyone who is experiencing grief or sadness. There are lots of life changes that might make you consider joining the group:
- Loss of a loved one due to death, divorce or other separation
- Grief due to loss and changes to in our daily activities due to COVID19
- Loss of employment
- Unable to be with a loved one when they die, or mourn the loss
- Changes in lifestyle including illness of yourself or a loved one

Why attend?
1) It’s a safe place where you can go and talk about how you are feeling.
2) People in the group understand what you’re saying when many of your friends and family members don’t.
3) You will make new friends in a grief support group where are bonds formed that become very valuable when you’re having a tough time and you need someone to talk to.
4) It’s a place where people can share coping strategies. Some people who farther along in their grief journey can make suggestions about what worked for them and provide ideas and options, reading material, etc.

Questions? Contact the office at (330) 239-1616 or email sharoncenterUMCsecretary@gmail.com
www.sharoncenterumc.org