Revelations
Sharon Center United Methodist Newsletter March 2021

From the Pastor’s Desk
Dear Sharon Center UMC Family,

If God had told me a year ago that I would still be wearing masks, social distancing, taking a weekly COVID19 test and sanitizing my hands several times a day, I’m not sure how I would have responded. I always try to be up for whatever God has for me with a goal of living in the moment, accepting one day at a time and even one moment at a time. I wonder if God is trying to remind me to not plan too far ahead and to trust him rather than plan so far into the future. It’s a lesson I’ve had to learn over and over.

I’ll admit I am challenged when I think about the Summer months – should we plan Vacation Bible School? What about Sharon Days, and the Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast and parade? Instead, I must leave it in God’s hands and if He wants it to happen, we are going to need His help. Perhaps you could join me in prayer? Please and thank you.

March is a one of my favorite months – lots of birthdays in March to celebrate, the beginning of Spring, warming temperatures and St. Patrick’s Day. The seed packets have arrived at the corner Drug Store, the birds are chirping in the trees outside my window, and the sun shining through my window seems to remind me that they need cleaned. What’s your favorite warm-weather activity that you are looking forward to? I read an article recently that said we need to spend time each day outside, preferably in the forest among the trees for our mental health. I say let’s go!

Holy Week will be here before you know it with services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Sunrise on Easter morning and our Resurrection Celebration! I trust that you are reading your Lent Devotion every day (let me know if you need a copy) and enjoying what each of the writers shared. It truly was a labor of love. Our study of grace based on “Les Misérables” will continue through Easter too, and the Bible Study meets each Tuesday at 7:00 PM – or follow along with the books found in the back of the Sanctuary – no charge.

Romans 15:13 NIV says, “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Our God is a God of hope and as travelers, we continue our journey knowing that God’s got this.

Blessings,

Pastor Jane
Book Club
March 6th, the Book Club will be discussing *Death Comes for the Archbishop* by Willa Cather. This is one of Cather’s best known novels about a single human life lived simply in the silence of the southwestern desert. In 1851 Father Jean Marie Latour comes to serve as the Apostolic Vicar to New Mexico. This area was American by law but Mexican and Indian in custom and belief. For 40 years he spreads his faith in the only way he knows how. April 4th The book to be discussed is *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn. This book is historical fiction about Charlie, a young unmarried woman banished to Europe due to pregnancy in 1947. She decides to find out what happened to her cousin who disappeared in Nazi-occupied France during the war. In 1915 Eva becomes recruited to spy on the Germans. Thirty years later Charlie and Eva meet.

~Nancy Vogel

Holy Thursday Service
Thursday, April 1
7:00 PM

Good Friday Service
Friday, April 2
7:00 PM

Mission Focus
We will collect breakfast cereal for the Sharing Center during March.

Easter Flowers
Easter Flower order information will be coming soon. Stay tuned to emails for pricing and deadlines.

Sparks Outing
Attention Sparks! We’ll be going for a hike at Allardale Park on March 21 at 3pm. Let Pastor Jane or Paul Turner know if you plan to attend.

Men’s Study Group
The Men’s Study Group will meet at 8AM on March 13 via zoom. Contact Paul Turner or the office for a link. The program is *Man Alive*.
~ Paul Turner

Youth Summer Camp
United Methodist Church Youth Summer Camp will have info and visit sessions in April. More details available at https://www.eocumc.com/camps/summercamp2021.html
March Birthdays
2 - Jean Geitgey
Wanda Lang
Doris Petrencsik
3 - Chloe Brosch
10 - Larry Rexroad
13 - James Eales
15 - Alex Graham
17 - Pat Bernhard
21 - Eryn Graham
26 - Benjamin Falconer
31 - Richard Frost

March Anniversaries
12 - Patrick & Erin Keenan
27 - John & Eileen Smith

Special Thanks
Thank you to Nancy Baldwin for making us new banners to hang in the sanctuary for Lent.

Thank you to everyone who ordered Sub Sandwiches for our fundraiser! We made over $200 for Jacob’s Eagle Scout project.

Foundations Team
Spiritual Growth Discussions
February 23, the Lenten Study on the Grace of Les Miserables began and will continue until the end of March. This study written by Matt Rawle is lead by Pastor Jane. The study is built around the life of a redeemed criminal, Jean Valjean, and his quest to discover the peace of God’s grace. Les Miserables invites us to see what happens when grace and justice collide. We will also examine how one’s personal decisions will affect someone else’s life. Pastor Jane will explore these themes during our weekly Worship as we journey together during Lent and see how grace transforms people yesterday and today. NOTE: Free books that support of this study are available to all. Please pick up at the church or notify Nancy Vogel (330-283-3013) to have one delivered to your home.

Be Like Jesus is the study that will begin on April 6th and continue for eight weeks. This study written by Randy Frazee is to help us transform our thoughts and actions so we can become more like Jesus—the person whom God intended you to be. The Mravetz’s will coordinate this study. In person discussions of the studies are in the Conference Room of the church on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm.

~ Nancy Vogel

Livestreamed East Ohio Conference Information
Forum About General Conference
Saturday, March 13 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

You are encouraged to participate in a livestreamed East Ohio Conference information forum at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 13 to learn about the postponement of the 2020 General Conference and the Special Called Session of General Conference.

The Conference Council on Ministries, members of the East Ohio General Conference delegation, and Bishop Tracy S. Malone will give leadership to this forum, which will provide information about:

• why the 2020 General Conference has been postponed, and
• why the implications of further delaying General Conference warrants the need for a Special Called Session of General Conference.

The information forum will be livestreamed on the East Ohio Conference website. There is no registration for this forum, which will consist of presentations of information and a Question & Answer session. Instructions will be given during the livestream explaining how you will be able to ask questions remotely during the forum.
Easter Services

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service @ 7a- Outside at our Labyrinth

Traditional Service @ 10:30a

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www.SharonCenterUMC.org

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Sharon Center UMC

Service time: Sunday, 10:30a

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