

Revelations

Sharon Center United Methodist Newsletter

December 2020

Dear Sharon Center UMC Family,

Jesus is more concerned about the process we are going through as we are changed and transformed into the image of God, and less on checking off the boxes on our imaginary spiritual growth chart. How have you been changed over this past year as we have journeyed together? Are you closer to God, farther away, maybe sitting on his lap?

We are living in an unusual time in history. Every generation has a moment that defines them, and I believe we are living in one of those times. A moment when we will look back and share stories of where we were when we heard the news, when things changed, and how we coped. And yet, the things of God remain the same.

By the time you read this, Advent will have begun and the preparations for Christmas will be in full swing – just not the way we ever imagined them. Since things change almost daily, I hesitate to make too many plans. This I know: I will spend time with God each day in preparation for the coming of the Christ child, God in human form, God with us. I will rejoice with all of heaven that God loved me enough to come down here and make sure there was a way for me to be with him forever. And I will give thanks for God's provision of food, safety, shelter, community. Christmas may not look like other Christmases this year, but my heart will be filled with gratitude for this amazing gift.

The Advent Bible study this year is "Incarnation" by Adam Hamilton and led by Randy Raw. It promises to be a good one. We'll have a Blue Christmas Service on December 6 at 3:00 PM for all those folks who have lost a loved one or had a loss in their life that has them feeling sad, especially during a holiday. We'll have a special Christmas Eve online service for those who are staying home, and we'll have a short service in person, but without some of the traditional things that we've come to love.

Check your newsletter and email for updates each week. God be with you!

Pastor Jane



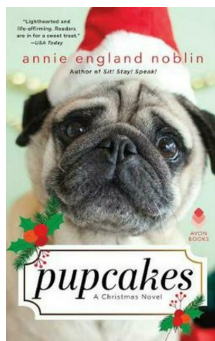
Did Someone Hand You This Newsletter?

If so, we're excited to share with you all the things going on in the life of Sharon Center United Methodist Church! Our church is a community that seeks to discover more about God and about who we are as the people God loves. We are truly a family of all ages, and there's always room for more! You're always invited to take part in all the activities and gatherings listed in this newsletter, as well as to join us every Sunday morning at 10:30am as we gather to worship and connect. Thanks!



Book Club

The December book is by Annie England Noblin and titled *Pupcakes - A Christmas Novel*. The story is about an aging pug and his very human family. The date for this discussion is Saturday, December 5, at 10am in the Fellowship Room of the church.



The Crocodile On the Sandbank by Elizabeth Peters is the book for January 9, 2021. Egyptologist Amelia Peabody, a product of the Victorian age, embarks on her debut Egyptian adventure armed with unshakable self-confidence, a journal, and a sturdy umbrella. When her companion becomes a target of an aborted kidnapping and strange accidents with mysterious visitations occur, Amelia sets out to discover who is behind it all.

On February 6th the Book Club will be discussing Christina Baker Kline's book *The Exiles*. A pregnant London governess is convicted of a trumped-up charge and sent to prison. She soon learns that she will be exiled to "the land beyond the seas". It is a novel based on true events in Australia. It is a story of grace born in hardship.
~Nancy Vogel

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox

Thank you to everyone that donated for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes this year. We collected 123.



Donations for Midwest Mission

I want to thank everyone who donated supplies for the International Health Care Kits. These donations will be delivered the week of December 1st to the drop-off location for pickup by the Mission.
~Nancy Vogel



Pantry Pick

You are welcome to bring canned and boxed food donations in and we will take them to the Sharing Center. Lets help our community out for the holidays!

Adopt a Family



The adopt a family program is set up. We have a few more ornaments available to be picked up. You can contact the church for a list of available items. All items need to be returned by Dec. 20. Remember: do not wrap items and supply a gift receipt.

Christmas Eve Service

Details will be forthcoming about our Christmas Eve Service. Please watch for info in the weekly email and online.



Calendar

Regular Schedule:

Sun. 10:30a Worship

available on Youtube in afternoon

December

12/1	7p	<i>Incarnation Study</i>
12/3	7p	Grief Group
12/5	8a	Radio Group Test
12/5	10a	Book Club
12/6	3p	Blue Christmas Service
12/6	6p	Caroling
12/8	7p	<i>Incarnation Study</i>
12/12	8a	Men's Study
12/13	6p	Caroling
Poinsettia order deadline		
12/15	7p	<i>Incarnation Study</i>
12/20	6p	Caroling
12/22	7p	<i>Incarnation Study</i>
12/23	6p	Herb Society mtg
12/24		Christmas Eve Service

December Our Daily Breads are available. Contact office if you would like one set out for you. Or pick up on back counter in sanctuary.

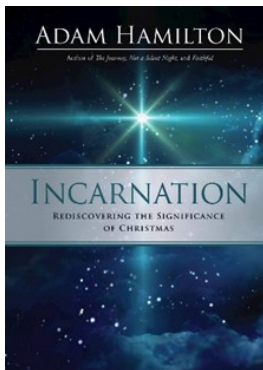
December Birthdays

4 – Cayla Falconer
16 - Christina Breese
18 - Stacy Russell
21 - Robert Jones
23 – Janice Jones
Melissa Shaw
24- Eunice Merritt
31 - Ann Krautheim

December Anniversaries

10- Fred & Edilene Coblentz

Foundations Team Spiritual Growth Discussions



The Advent Bible Study will begin on Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm in the church Conference Room. The study is by Adam Hamilton and will be coordinated by Randy Raw. *Incarnation - Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas* is a four-week study exploring the meaning of the titles Lord, Messiah, Savior, Emmanuel, Light of the World, and Word Made Flesh. We will be discussing what these titles tell us about Christ and reflect upon the significance of the Christ-child for our lives and world today. Books are available now. Please see Nancy Vogel to purchase.

On January 5, 2021, at 7pm, we will begin another study by Adam Hamilton, *Moses*. Using historical information, archaeological data, and biblical text the author guides us in the footsteps of this reluctant prophet who blazed a trail of faith. The study is six-weeks long and will be lead by Charlie Tramel.

~ Nancy Vogel

Men's Group

The Men's Study Group will meet at 8AM on December 12 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



"Comfort, comfort my people, says your God." Isaiah 40:1

You are invited to a special service on Sunday, December 6 at 3PM for a Blue Christmas Service of Remembrance, Healing and Hope in our Sanctuary.

What is Blue Christmas service? Christmas can be a time for many when we need reassurance and comfort due to the loss of a loved one or a life change that makes the holidays difficult to face. Perhaps we are grieving over the loss of a loved one, struggling with illness, or have experienced the loss of a job. We wonder how we will get through the holidays. Those looking for comfort, hope, wholeness, and renewal join together for a time of quiet reflection and meaningful words and music. All are welcome.

Caroling at Labyrinth

We will be caroling at the Labyrinth behind the church during Advent on Sunday evenings at 6pm.





Poinsettia Order Form

Our sanctuary will be decorated the Sunday before Christmas with Poinsettias ordered by members of our congregation in honor of, in memory of, or to celebrate loved ones. You can also purchase one to be given to a homebound individual. The names of donators will be listed in an insert in the bulletin.

Poinsettias may be ordered for \$9.00 each using the following form. You may place the order form with payment in the collection plate on Sundays, return to the office by drop off or email, pay online, or give to Nancy Baldwin. If you pay online please let the office know and send form with info by email or drop off. Orders for poinsettias will be taken until Dec. 13th.

You may take the poinsettias home after Christmas Eve, Sundays following Christmas, pick up during office time at church, or have dropped off at your home by request.

Poinsettia \$9.00 Quantity ordered_____

In Honor of_____

In Celebration of_____

In Memory of_____

Given by_____

Blue Christmas Service

December 6

3pm.

Sharon Center UMC

6407 Ridge Rd. Wadsworth, OH

Contact Us

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SharonCenterUMCSecretary@gmail.com

Pastor Jane
janepiehl@gmail.com
(330) 321-4700

Visit us on the web at:
www.SharonCenterUMC.org

Visit Us on Facebook!
Sharon Center UMC

Service time: Sunday, 10:30a

Shop and Support Your Church at No Extra Cost



What Is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile offers all of the same items, prices, and benefits of its sister website, Amazon.com, but with one distinct difference. When users shop on AmazonSmile, the retailer's Foundation contributes 0.5% of eligible purchases to the charity of your choice. For frequent Amazon users, this additional perk is a great way to give back to our church effortlessly. Here are some things to remember.

The Internet address is smile.amazon.com. But the company uses the term AmazonSmile in its explanatory information.

- If you already have an Amazon account, when you click on smile.amazon.com, you will be asked to sign in. If you don't have an account, you will need to set one up. It doesn't cost anything to set up an Amazon account.

- Once signed into smile.amazon.com, you will be prompted to pick a charity. You can select Sharon Center United Methodist Church. Once you do that, a percentage of your purchase price on many, but not all, items will be donated to the church.

You must remember to go to smile.amazon.com each time you shop for all of this to work. So, consider bookmarking the site.

This is an easy, simple way for the church to benefit from your shopping at no extra cost to you!

Sign up today!