

Revelations

Sharon Center United Methodist Newsletter January/ February 2021

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Sharon Center UMC Family,

Happy New Year! It sure feels good to greet you in the midst of good news. With a new year comes a feeling of starting over and creating positive change. The past year brought us many obstacles and challenges, but we pulled together, helped each other and continue to persevere. We started out 2020 with so many good things happening in our church, and then having many of them put on hold. We are now starting to plan for a resurrection – a bringing to life the plans that the Lord has for us, plans to grow us both in our discipleship and in our community, plans to prosper. God loves us too much to leave us where we are!

As we learn more about COVID-19, how it's transmitted and how to stop it, and more people get the vaccine, we will slowly see a return to face-to-face meetings. The process will be slow, but we will do what it takes to keep people safe and still present the gospel message to the lost and those living in darkness.

Galatians 6:9 says, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." We haven't given up, but only slowed down a bit. Our prayer team continues to lift the requests that are given to us and we urge others to join us in lifting those who suffer from COVID-19, those who are suffering, lost or lonely. We continue to hold Bible Study every Tuesday evening and I encourage you to join us or read and study your Bible at home. Finally, we urge you to serve through giving to our monthly mission or other community outreach. If we persevere in these things – prayer, study and service – God will be with us and his grace and mercy will cover us. Our hope is in the Lord, who is faithful to keep all of His promises.

May God continue to bless you in 2021!

Pastor Jane



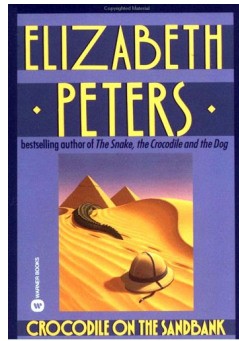
Did Someone Hand You This Newsletter?

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 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.

March 6th, the Book Club will be discussing *Death Come to 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.
~Nancy Vogel



Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, February 17
7:00 PM

Please join us as we begin the journey of through the forty days of Lent with a focus on God's Amazing Grace.



Mission Focus

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

MISSION FOCUS: We will be collecting items for Valentine's Day boxes being sent to our college students and deployed military family and friends. Some

ideas are cards, candy, snacks, and small novelty gifts. Please submit names to the office of students/military with addresses. Also, in January we will continue to support our local food pantry with donations of canned soup and boxed crackers.

To the Sharon Center UMC congregation

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generous gifts at Christmas. We are blessed! Dave and I are truly blessed to be here and we thank God every day that we are able to continue. Each of you have become special to me. My prayers continue for you, for our church to continue to grow and share the gospel of Jesus Christ, and for our community to be transformed by our witness. Happy new year!

~Pastor Jane

Calendar

Regular Schedule:

Sun. 10:30a Worship

available on Youtube in afternoon

January

| | | |
|------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 1/9 | 8a | Men's Study via zoom |
| | 10a | Book Club |
| | 10a | Christmas clean up |
| 1/12 | 7p | Moses Study |
| 1/13 | 7p | Leadership Team mtg |
| 1/17 | 2p | Tobogganing in Strongsville |
| 1/19 | 7p | Moses Study |
| 1/24 | 2p | Emmaus Grp mtg |
| 1/26 | 7p | Moses Study |

February

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| 2/1 | | Sub Sale Order Form Deadline |
| 2/2 | 7p | Moses Study |
| 2/7 | | Sub Sale Pick Up |
| | | Valentine Care Package Donation and Name Submit deadline |
| | 2p | Sparks make Valentines |
| 2/9 | 7p | Moses Study |
| 2/17 | 7p | Ash Wednesday Service |
| 2/21 | | Scout Sunday |
| 2/23 | 7p | Les Mis Study |

January Birthdays

- 1 - Fred Coblentz
- 7 - Bob Mravetz
- 11 - Doug Williams
Ann Passmore
- 20 - Dora Barnes
Aimee Brosch
Chad Lahoski
Phyllis Flaugh
- 23 - Steve Farkas
- 24 - Millie Frambaugh
- 31 - Bill Baldwin
Edilene Coblentz
Randy Raw

January Anniversaries

- 7 - Pat & Art Shick
- 15- Andy & Deanna Pylypiak
- 17 - Scott & Nikki Danko

February Birthdays

- 3 - Shirley Graham
- 5 – Amy Falconer
- 10 - Christine Boche
Hannah Phelps
- 15 – Pastor Jane Piehl
- 18 - Sharon Fox
Nicole Fox
Connor Haddix
- 23 - Julia Mazur
Kerry Cline
- 28 - Eileen Smith

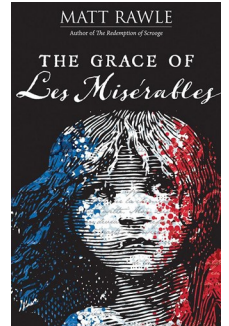
Foundations Team

Spiritual Growth Discussions

On January 5, we will begin a 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.

On February 23, we will begin the Lenten Study on the *Grace of Les Miserables*. This study was written by Matt Rawle and will be 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 affects someone else's life. In this six-week Bible study experience, we will dive into six ideals found in the story—grace, justice, poverty, revolution, love, and hope—each represented by a character in Hugo's story. As these imperfect and relatable characters interact, we can see how these ideals work together (perhaps even in spite of each other) out in the world. Pastor Jane will continue to explore these themes during our weekly Worship as we journey together for Lent and see how grace transforms people yesterday and today.

~ Nancy Vogel



Men's Study Group

The Men's Study Group will meet at 8AM on January 9 via zoom Contact Paul Turner or the office for a link. The program is Man Alive.

~ Paul Turner

Valentine Care Packages

We will continue our traditional Valentine Care Packages for College students and Active Duty Military this year. Please submit names and addresses to the office. Snacks and goodies donations will be collected thru Feb. 7.



Sparks and Children activities Updates

Children's Sunday School will resume soon. Class will take place in Fellowship Hall. Stay tuned for further updates.

Scout Sunday will take place on February 21. The scouts will show a video of activities going on. If any church families with scouts would like to reserve a pew for their family that Sunday let the office know.

Vacation Bible School is in the planning works and being coordinated by Paul Turner. Our theme will be Rocky Railway and looking at a June schedule.



Sparks

Mark your calendars for Spark activities this winter and spring!

January 17 2pm Toboggan Chute Outing in Strongsville.

Families are encouraged to ride together. Reservations are required. Please contact Pastor Jane or Paul Turner if you would like to attend.



February 7 2pm Valentine Creations, In Fellowship Hall. We will be creating cards for shut ins, college students, and military care packages.

March 21 Hiking at Allardale County Park

April 25 Arbor Day Tree Planting



Sub Sandwich Sale Order Form

Date: February 7, for pick up after church or delivery by request within 5 mile radius of church. Pick up also available Saturday afternoon or Sunday afternoon

All Subs are by donation, if requesting delivery please leave donation in envelope by drop off door.

Contact info:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address, if delivery: _____

Pick up time frame (please circle): Saturday afternoon, Sunday after church, Sunday afternoon

If picking up Saturday or Sunday later in day we may place a cooler out for those orders. To be determined by necessity.

Delivery time frame: (please circle): Saturday afternoon, Sunday afternoon

We'll be coordinating our Sub Sandwich Sale a little different this year. Subs will be made and wrapped as usual with meat on them, this year we will be packaging selected toppings in sandwich bags or containers. Please checkmark the toppings you would like included in your order.

Notes:

Sandwiches will be served on 7" sub sandwich rolls.

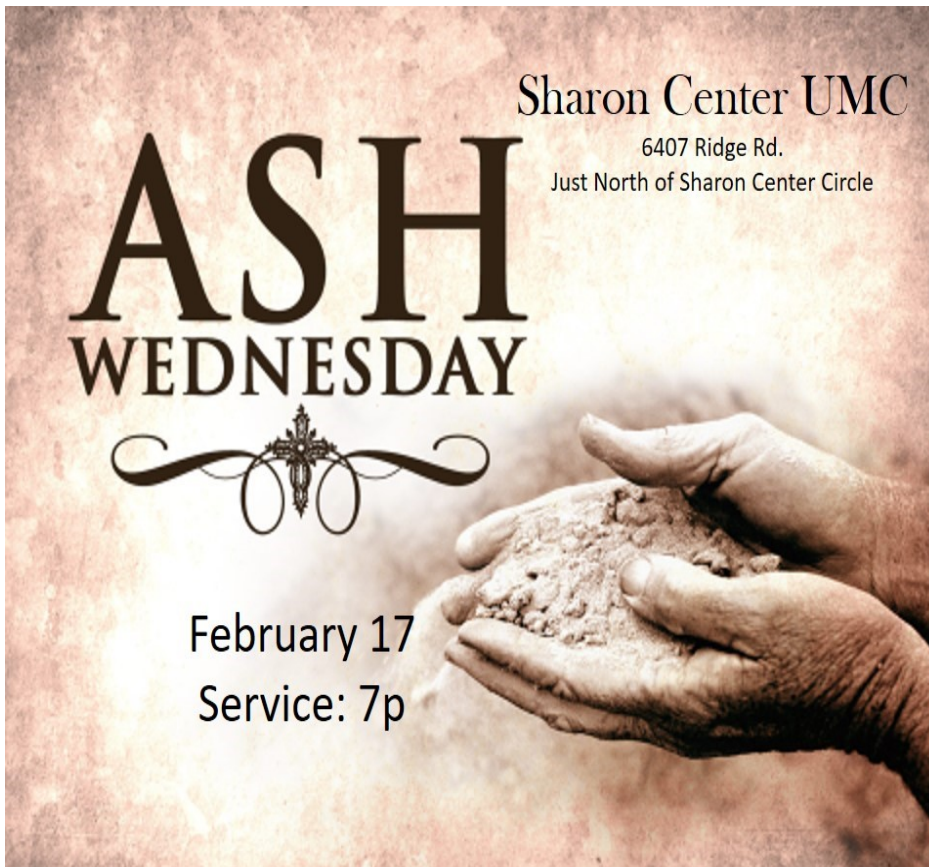
Italian Sub includes: Ham, Salami, Peperoni

Please fill out line on form for each Sandwich, use blank lines to write in additional subs.

Use boxes to check mark what you would like for each sub ordering.

Please have order form returned by **Feb. 1st**

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Contact Us

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www.SharonCenterUMC.org

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Sharon Center UMC

Service time: Sunday, 10:30a

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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.

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