# 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



# 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

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 4th The book to be discussed is The Alice Network by Kate Quinn. This book is historical fiction about

spreads his faith in the only way he knows how. April Charlie, a young unmarried woman banish to Europe due to pregnancy in 1947. She decides to find out what happen 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/summercamp2021html

## Calendar

WILLA

CATHER

**Maundy Thursday Service Sharon Center UMC** 

> April 1 7pm

Regular Schedule: Sun. 10:30a Worship available on Youtube in afternoon

#### March

	3/2	7p	Les Mis Study	
	3/6	10a	Book Club	
	3/9	7p	Les Mis Study	
	3/10	7p	Leadership Team mtg	
	3/13	8:30a	Men's Study mtg	
		1p	East Ohio Conference	
	Info S	ession	online	
	3/14	Da	ylight Savings Time	
Change Your Clocks!				
	3/16	7p	Les Mis Study	
	3/21	3р	Sparks Group Hike	
	3/23	7p	Les Mis Study	
	3.24	6р	Herb Society mtg	
	3/30	7p	Les Mis Study	

# **April**

4/1 7p	Holy Thursday Service			
4/2 7p	Good Friday Service			
	Sunrise Service at the			
Labyrinth				

10:30a Traditional Easter Service

# 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 til 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.



# Shop and Support Your Church at No Extra Cost



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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 <u>smile.amazon.com</u>. 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!