

Revelations

Sharon Center United Methodist Newsletter

December 2021

Dear Friends,

Luke 21:25 "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves."

As we begin Year C of the Lectionary Readings, our first Scripture in Advent reminds us that all we need to do is look around for the signs of the times. We look up at the sun and the moon and the stars and we can see God at work, the Creator God in the midst of His creation, giving us signs that He is with us, He is in control and He has a great plan for all of His creation and all we need to do is trust Him! What a glorious thought. Yes there is distress; yes, there is a sense of unease and restlessness; but we put our trust in the God of our ancestors, the God of creation, and we know that He keeps all of His promises – to be with us, to encourage and strengthen us, to provide for us our every need in times of trouble and distress. We need only seek Him every day, and trust that He will provide.

With every passing year I am encouraged. We have seen God move in amazing and surprising ways, answering our prayers and guiding us into new places. The growing pains we feel are fierce, and yet we know that they are necessary for the growth of believers spiritually and for the community. Have you seen Jesus at work today? Have you looked for Him at work in your life? He's there, you know. He's waiting to hear from you. Have you seen Jesus my Lord? He's here in plain view.

Please join us for the Hanging of the Greens on Saturday, November 27 at 10:00 AM and we'll decorate the Sanctuary for Advent, followed by some pizza and fellowship. Blue Christmas Service for those may have a difficult time with the holidays due to the loss of a loved one is December 12. We'll enjoy some Christmas cookies on December 11 from 9 to 1, serve at the Akron Food Bank on December 11 (don't forget to fill out your form) and go Christmas Caroling on December 19.

Of course the highlight of the season is the Christmas Eve celebration at 7:00 PM on December 24 when we remember the birth of the Christ child. It's not Christmas unless you are holding a real candle and singing "Silent Night" next to the people you love on Christmas Eve. I hope you will join me. Invite all your friends and family and let's fill the Sanctuary. There's room.

I give thanks to God when I remember each of you. You are a treasure in my life and I wish you the best Advent and Christmas ever.

In Christ Alone,

Pastor Jane



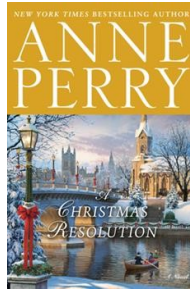
Did Someone Hand You This Newsletter?

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

December 4th- *A Christmas Resolution* by: Anne Perry. A smitten woman is about to marry a dangerous man - unless Detective Hooper and his wife, Celia can prevent it. A wickedly tangled holiday mystery.



January 8th- *The Arctic Fury: A Historical Novel of Fierce Women Explores* by: Greer Macalister. A dozen women join a secret 1850s Arctic expedition and a sensational murder trial unfolds when some of them don't come back.

February 5th- *Early Morning Riser* by Katherine Heiny. A wise bighearted, boundlessly joyful novel of love, disaster and an unconventional family.
~Nancy Vogel

Lunch Bunch

Several people have asked me about the restarting of Lunch Bunch. I had planned on restarting this Fall however with the current state of the COVID virus I have decided to hold off on scheduling at this time. Once we get through this pandemic we will head out again for good fellowship and good food.



Mission Project

Akron Regional Food Bank, December 11 from 8:30am- 11am. Everyone is welcome to participate! A volunteer application will need filled out in advance. Contact Pastor Jane or the office for the link.



Operation Christmas Child

We collected 90 boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Thank you to everyone who donated!

Cookie & Craft Sale

We will have our annual Cookie & Craft Sale on Dec 11 from 9a-1p. Sign up for donations will is on the back table of the sanctuary. Homemade cookies and treats can be dropped off the Friday before or 8:30a-9a on Sat morning. Cookies will be sold for \$10.00 / lb. other treat donations will be sold by the package. Please place price on craft donations.



Calendar

Regular Schedule:
Sun. 10:30a Worship
available on Facebook Live

November

11/27 10a Hanging of Greens
11/30 7p Home For Christmas Stdy

December

12/1 10a Heart Grew 3 Sizes Stdy
12/4 10a Book Club
12/7 7p Home For Christmas Stdy
12/8 10a Heart Grew 3 Sizes Stdy
12/11 8:30a Akron Food Bank
12/11 9a-1p Cookie Sale
12/12 Poinsettia Order Deadline
12/12 3p Blue Christmas Service
12/14 7p Home For Christmas Stdy
12/15 10a Heart Grew 3 Sizes Stdy
12/19 Adopt a Family deadline
3p Christmas Caroling
12/21 7p Home For Christmas Stdy
12/22 10a Heart Grew 3 Sizes Stdy
12/24 7p Christmas Eve Service

Address update:
John & Eileen Smith
Nelson Family
1605 Chestnut Rd.
Seven Hills, OH 44131

*If you have an address/ phone/
email update, please contact the
office.

December Birthdays

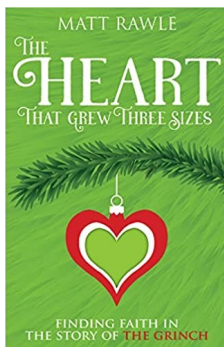
4 – Cayla Falconer
16 - Christina Breese
18 - Stacey Russell
21 - Robert Jones
23 – Janice Jones
Melissa Shaw
24- Eunice Merritt
31 - Ann Krautheim

December Anniversaries

10- Fred & Edilene Coblentz

Foundations Team Spiritual Growth Discussions

We will have two Advent studies, one will start on November 30th. It will be at 7pm and will go til Dec. 21. The title is *Home for Christmas*. We will be looking at the true stories of formerly incarcerated men and women and how their struggles and triumphs show the themes of Advent hope, love, joy and peace.

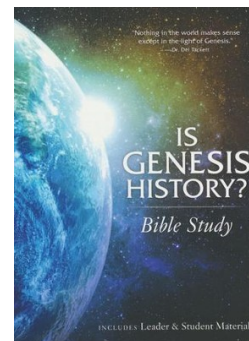


The second Advent study is titled *The Heart That Grew 3 Sizes* and will take place on Wednesdays at 10am beginning on Dec. 1 through Dec. 22.

This Study is in partnership with Granger UMC and Montrose Zion UMC. You can join the study on Tuesdays via zoom led by Rev. Bruce Hartley (contact office@grangerumc.org by Nov. 29 for link). Montrose Zion will have the study on Weds. Dec. 1 at 6:30p led by Rev. Cindy Patterson.

Participants will need to get the book to participate.

Starting on January 4, 2022, we will be discussing *Is Genesis History?* by Thomas Purifoy, Jr. This study explores what the Bible teaches concerning Creation, Adam and Eve, and the Flood. It is a seven week study and will be led by Charlie Tramel
~ Nancy Vogel



Food Pantry Collection

For December let's collect beans of all kinds. Who doesn't love a good bowl of hot chili on a cold winter's night? Let's stock the pantry with canned beans of all kinds for a wonderful variety for a great bowl of chili.



Please place on table in the back of the church.

Hanging of the Greens

Join us in decorating the church for Christmas on Nov. 27 at 10am.



Christmas Eve Service

Join us on Christmas Eve at 7pm for our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service



Blue Christmas Service

Dec. 12 at 3pm we'll have a Blue Christmas Service. All are invited.

Missions: We Give Because He First Gives To Us

Christmas Giving Opportunity

Midwest Mission Collection

Deadline: Nov. 28



We are collecting items for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center, where we have made many contributions in the past toward emergency aid such as Hygiene Kits and Flood Buckets. This time we are collecting toys that can be used as a hands-on way to be generous to those who are experiencing the aftermath of a flood, hurricane or other natural disaster.

LIST OF CHRISTMAS NEEDS (NEW ITEMS ONLY): Jump Ropes, sports balls (soccer, basketball, softball, baseball), pump for the deflated balls, simple musical instruments like a recorder, harmonica, or percussion, new board games like Jenga, Trouble, Candyland, Connect 4 or other simple games that don't require batteries.

Please put items on table in the back of the church. Do not wrap them. If possible, put a note on it that says "Midwest Mission". Many of the UMC churches are collecting and dropping them off at a collection site in the area. Thank you!



Highland Support Network Adopt-A-Family

Deadline: December 19

Our little giving tree is up at the back of the sanctuary. Items "wished for" are on ornaments. Please take an ornament, write name down on paper and return item, unwrapped by Dec. 19.

Service System Operators

Have a little Computer knowledge? We are in need of fill in Audio/ Computer operators for Sunday Services and other Special Services and events. It's always pre set up in advance and mostly just requires turning on the system and pushing an arrow button. Contact the office if you can help.

Acolyting

Is your child entering 2nd grade or higher this year and would like to acolyte? There is no age limit. Middle and High schoolers are welcome to participate also.

Contact Nicole Fox and we'll have a training session and they can acolyte.

Christmas Caroling

Join us on Dec. 19 for Christmas Caroling at 3pm.



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 \$12.75 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. 12th.

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 \$12.75 Quantity ordered_____

In Honor of_____

In Celebration of_____

In Memory of_____

Given by_____

Christmas Eve Service:

Sharon Center UMC
6407 Ridge Rd. Wadsworth, OH

7pm



Contact Us

Sharon Center UMC
6407 Ridge Rd.
P.O. Box 239
Sharon Center, OH 44274

Nicole Fox
(330) 239-1616
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.

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