

# Revelations

Sharon Center United Methodist Newsletter

March 2023

Dear Fellow Pilgrims on the Way,

For my birthday this year my husband bought me a book. He knows me so well! The title of the book is "Pilgrims On The Camino de Santiago" by Paul Stutzman. Paul joins the pilgrims on the Way of St. James, a hike almost 500 miles long, starting in France and stretching across northern Spain. This pilgrimage is not only for the adventure-he needs to find answers and clarity on personal and faith issues. A Mennonite on a Catholic pilgrim trail, his journey across mountains and plains and through ancient towns is enriched by the people he meets along the way. He's looking for one thing: a deeper understanding of what it means to follow Jesus Christ.

The forty days leading to Easter Sunday, known as Lent, have been described as a journey or a pilgrimage, and our goal is also to find a deeper understanding of what it means to follow Jesus. Where are we going? We are all on a lifelong journey of walking each other home. We discover as we move through this life that while we are headed in one direction, we have already arrived.

There are many examples of pilgrimage in the Bible. The most famous and familiar is the journey of the Israelites through the desert to the promised land. The Magi journeyed to find the child Jesus born under the star. Jesus journeyed with his family to Egypt to escape Herod. What others can you think of?

As we travel, we move from a place of certainty to a place of dependence. We start off on our journey feeling pretty good, and soon realize that we need help. We need strength, direction, encouragement. And God is right there with us.

For the coming weeks we will be "Blessing the Lent we Actually Have", not some manufactured Lent with unrealistic expectation. Each week we will focus on a blessing: blessed are the imperfect, the curious, those who suffer and those who feel alone; those who mourn, who are rejected. Easter Resurrection is coming, and blessed are those who hope still.

Bring us home, Jesus. Bring us home.

*O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,*

*leaning on the everlasting arms;*

*O how bright the path grows from day to day,*

*leaning on the the everlasting arms.*

With a Grateful Heart,

*Pastor Jane*



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## 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!*

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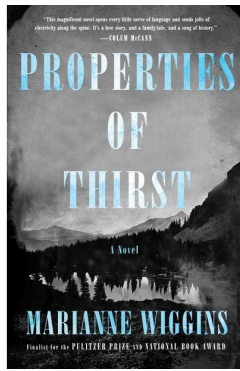


## Book Club

We meet at 10:00am in the Conference Room at the Church. Please join us at any time to discuss the books.

March 4th ***Properties of Thirst*** by: Marianne Wiggins. Set in WW II, the book is about the meaning of family and the limitations of the American Dream.

April 1st ***The Homesman*** by: Glendon Swarthout. A western novel that captures the devastating realities of the early frontier life through the eyes of one extraordinary woman. Mary Bee Buddy an ex-teacher and a spinster, who is indomitable and resourceful, must escort a group of women back East to a sanitarium.  
~Nancy Vogel



## Food Pantry Collection

Let's fill the Food Pantry at St. Paul and our Blessing Box with boxed rice and potatoes. Please remember the Blessing Box in front of the church when purchasing items as well as if you find someone you know who needs some basic food items to hold them over until they are able to purchase their own. The box is open to ANYONE. Drop off an item, or pick one up, or select a book to read. Our box has been used and it is a need in our community! Spread the word!

## Mission Projects

March 18th at 9:30am we will be joining together with Medina United Methodist Church to make Rice Meals for the Midwest Mission. Each meal will serve 6 people. These meals are distributed to people who find themselves in need of a meal through the world. They have been distributed to underdeveloped countries as well as to areas of disaster here in the U.S. COME and help! The event is being held at Medina UMC. Please let us know if we can count on you to come by signing the sign up sheet.

## Easter Week Services and Activities

Palm Sunday (4/2)	10:30am	at Sharon UMC
Holy Thursday Service (4/6)	7pm	at Sharon UMC
Good Friday Service (4/7)	7p	at Sharon UMC



Easter Sunrise Service	7am	Greenleaf Park
Easter Breakfast	9am	at Sharon UMC
Easter Resurrection Service	10:30am	at Sharon UMC

## Calendar

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

## February

2/24-2/26 Retreat for Confirmation Students to Camp Wanake  
2/28 7p *Understanding Jesus Death & Resurrection Study*

## March

3/4	10a	Book Club
3/7	10a	Co-Op School Group
	7p	Lent Study
3/14	10a	Co-Op School Group
	7p	Lent Study
3/18	9:30a	Rice Meal Mission Project @ Medina UMC
3/21	10a	Co-Op School Group
	7p	Lent Study
3/28	10a	Co-Op School Group
	6p	Herb Society
	7p	Lent Study

## April

4/2		Palm Sunday
		Easter Flower orders due
4/6	7p	Holy Thursday Service
4/7	7p	Good Friday Service
4/9	7a	Easter Sunrise Service
	9a	Easter Breakfast
	10:30a	Easter Service

## May

5/4	National Day of Prayer
5/13	Canal District Conference at Centenary UMC, Akron, Ohio, time TBD

## June

6/8-6/10 East Ohio Annual Conference in Akron, OH

Future Dates:

4/23-5/3/2024  
United Methodist Church General Conference at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, North Carolina

## March Birthdays

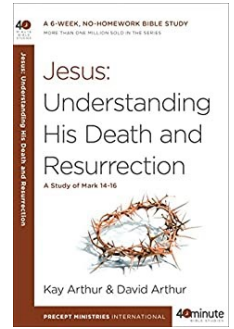
- 2 - Jean Geitgey  
Wanda Lang
- 3 - Chloe Brosch
- 10 - Larry Rexroad
- 17 - Pat Bernhard
- 21 - Eryn Graham
- 26- Benjamin Falconer
- 31 - Richard Frost

## March Anniversaries

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

## Foundations Team Spiritual Growth Discussions

Starting February 28th the study ***Jesus: Understanding His Death & Resurrection*** will begin and continue until April 11th (will not be held on 4/4). It is a study of Mark 14-16. This six-week study is by Kay Arthur & David Arthur. Stephen Kinford is the leader for the class.



On April 18th Millie Frambaugh will be leading a group in a study on ***1 Corinthians, Searching the Depths of God*** by Jaime Clark-Soles. If you want to understand the apostle Paul and his writings this is a must read and study. Please join the group on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm in the Conference Room for six weeks.  
~ Nancy Vogel

## Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast

We will be holding our annual Memorial Day Breakfast on Monday, May 29. Please watch for details to come. Bob Mravetz and George Wemmer will need everyone to pitch in and help, as well as eat lots of pancakes!

## Confirmation Class

Our Confirmation class has been working hard and will have a few activities coming up. February 24-26 they will attend Confirmation Class Retreat at Camp Wanake. We will welcome our confirmands to join church later this Spring.

## Emmaus Walk

There will be an Emmaus Walk Opportunity coming up in April, the dates are:

Men's Emmaus Walk at Camp Wanake, April 13 - 16

Women's Emmaus Walk at Camp Wanake, April 20 - 23

Anyone who would like to attend, please see Pastor Jane or Dave Piehl.

## Notes from Leadership Board

Policy on Routine Maintenance for Church Building: This is a list of maintenance items that must be completed each Spring and Fall.

The list addresses the outside water line, furnace filters, air conditioners, timer for outside lights, stakes for snow removal, checking the sump pump, and clean up of leaves.

Policy on Review of Job Descriptions and Policies: All Job Descriptions and Policies will be reviewed or revised at least every two years and as needed.

Job Descriptions will be reviewed in the odd years, and Policies will be reviewed in the even years.

## Hospital/ Home Visitation

If you or someone you love is in the hospital or sick please call the office and let them know so that the Pastor can call, visit or bring Holy Communion. We will need name, address and phone number.



## Easter Flower Order Form



Yes, believe it or not, Spring is on it's way! Please help us decorate our sanctuary for Easter morning by purchasing Spring Flowers. Once the Easter Service is over, you may take them home with you. Flowers may be purchased in Honor of, Celebration of, or Memory of those you love. What a beautiful way to remember someone!

This year we will be ordering Daffodils, Tulips, Lilies, Hyacinths, and Hydrangeas.

Lilies      \$11.50      Quantity ordered \_\_\_\_\_

Daffodils    \$9.50      Quantity ordered \_\_\_\_\_

Tulips      \$9.50      Quantity ordered \_\_\_\_\_

Hyacinths   \$9.50      Quantity ordered \_\_\_\_\_

Hydrangeas   \$20.00      Quantity ordered \_\_\_\_\_

Orders are due by April 2 to ensure adequate supply. Please fill out the following form and return to the office, the collection plate, or Nancy Baldwin with payment included.

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Celebration of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

The prices vary on the products, so please make sure when you take your flowers after Easter services, that you take what you ordered.



# *Easter Services*

## **Easter Sunday**

**Sunrise Service 7am Greenleaf Park**

**Easter Breakfast 9am at the Church**

**Traditional Service at 10:30am**

### Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at:  
[www.SharonCenterUMC.org](http://www.SharonCenterUMC.org)

Visit Us on Facebook!  
Sharon Center UMC

Service time: Sunday, 10:30a

Don't Forget the Blessing Box! The Blessing Box in front of the church is open to everyone. If you have extra food to share, place it in the box for others to enjoy. If you are short on your food budget this month, you are welcome to take what you need from the Blessing Box. There are books and other supplies welcome in the box too. Spread the word about the Blessing Box!

