



# Good News of Sharon

## May 2021

### Tell Me Your Stories

Greetings Friends,  
I pray that you have been finding our current "A Time to Rebuild" message series to be interesting, helpful, and maybe even inspiring as our church is emerging from a year of closures, distancing, and significant transitions. The Old Testament story of Nehemiah, the foundation of this series, comes from the period known as the Hebrew Exile. This was a time of grief and sadness as the glory of God's holy city (Jerusalem/Zion) and God's chosen people (Hebrews/Israel) had become a distant memory. The author of Psalm 137 begins the psalm with these sad words; "By the rivers of Babylon – there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion. On the willows there we hung our harps. For our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, 'Sing us one of the songs of Zion!' How

temple and worship was a universal reality for the people of God. As much as I like to spend much of my energy thinking about plans for the future of Sharon, I think that this is a good season for us to reflect on what God has done in and through Sharon through the years. I want to hear your stories about our church.



Over the course of the month of May I invite you to sit down and remember back to some of your favorite memories relating to your involvement with Sharon. Maybe you can do this with a spouse or a group of friends. These could be memories of worship services, holiday celebrations, concerts, meals, fundraisers, Sunday School classes, mission projects, building campaigns or friendships. They could be about specific people that you have walked with and served alongside. Of special interest to me are your stories of having met Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and how your involvement at Sharon has helped your faith to grow in love and grace as the Holy Spirit has transformed you over time to be more like Jesus.

I invite you to write these memories down and to share them with me so I can have a team of people here compile your collective memories in a little book of favorite Sharon stories. I believe that the memories in this book will serve as fertile soil for the future of Sharon's ministry to grow out of. This past year has generated many memories, many of them difficult and even sad. Let's spend some time this month thinking back further to when God moved in our church in lots of different ways that make Sharon United Methodist Church the vibrant ministry that it is today. Tell me your stories. I look forward to it.

Your Partner in the Adventure, *Pastor Jim Pegan*

## A Praying Church, Loving People to Christ

Sharon United  
Methodist Church  
2030 Holden Beach Road SW  
Supply, NC. 28462  
<http://www.sharonbythesea.com>

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E-Mail: [sharonumc@atmc.net](mailto:sharonumc@atmc.net)

### SUNDAYS

8:45 AM Contemporary Worship  
(Also You Tube @ 12noon)

11:00 AM Traditional Worship  
COVID-19 "safe" in-person services  
with social distancing, masks and by  
reservation.

could we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land? If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy." I don't know about you, but I can relate to the psalmist's depiction of an exiled people longing for the days of old when songs of praise were sung at the

## MEET THE STAFF

Hello Sharon Family, I am Melanie Gray and I have been a member of Sharon UMC since 2013. Recently I have been hired as your new Media and Youth Director. My family and I first visited Sharon because we were searching for a church family. When we arrived at Sharon we immediately felt at home. I remember sitting in the pews praising and praying that God would either give me the opportunity to worship with the praise team or that he would guide me in the direction I needed to go to serve in the church. The song lyrics: "Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders, let me walk upon the waters wherever you would call me" was playing in my heart. Shortly after that, Scott Riley announced that the praise team was open to new members. I jumped right on it.

My husband, Jacob Gray, is a native to Brunswick County and is our sound technician for our 8:45 service. He is also the "hushpuppy master" for our Shrimparoo dinners. Our daughter Evelyn (12) is in the youth group and serves in the Legacy Praise Band as a singer and bass player. Our Son Daniel (8) participates in the Kings Kids ministry and spends most days here at the church with me as a homeschool student. We are what I consider to be an artsy, resourceful family. Most of us enjoy music and have a passion to learn to play instruments and sing. We paint, make tie-dye, jewelry, soap and anything else that we think we can make.

As a youth I attended a Free Will Baptist Church where I began my music ministry. I have never forgotten the tears, joy, and worship that I felt during my first experiences of providing worship leadership in my youth. I felt that very same emotions, but stronger, here at Sharon when I sang the song Because He Lives in 2013. Some of you may remember that day. I know I will never forget it. That was the day Jesus changed my life. That's when I became a follower of Jesus instead of just a fan. Many of you have touched our lives and blessed our family in numerous ways. You have been with us through the loss of family members and difficult financial situations. You have lifted us up through heartaches and challenges. We are eternally grateful to our SUMC family and have enjoyed walking alongside each of you through our faith journey. As we continue this journey together, I pray that God will use me and my family in every way he chooses to help others on their faith journey as you have helped us on ours. Sharon is our home and we are here to stay.

Many blessing to you and your family,

*Melanie*

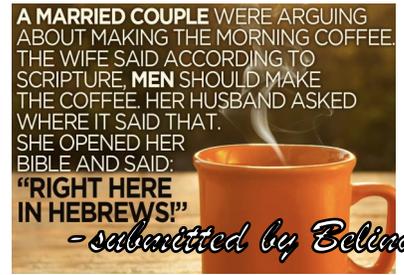


## Helping Families Prepare Children for Kindergarten

On Tuesday mornings from 9:30am –  
11:00am



To register, please contact:  
Lynn Hebert-Smith  
hebertsmith@smartstartbrunswick.org  
910-754-3166 ext. 1010



*- submitted by Belinda!*



“We’re Baaaaaack” !!!! And still staying active since our last meeting.

Thanks to many hands and long sleepless hours, 300 Boston Butts were rubbed and roasted during the all night vigil on April 2nd. After a little testing and tweaking our premier roasters came up with our own rub combination recipe which will be secretly locked up in a capsule and guarded by a German Shepherd somewhere in the Supply area. The sale was successful as we generated over 6,600 dollars profit for the Jarvis Cook church camp fund. With last year’s carry-over the fund for this summer stands at 11,540 dollars. Thanks go out to the many hands working together to pull the sale off.

Another round of thanks to all the men who tuned up their acting talents for a memorable rendition of the Living Last Supper on Maundy Thursday and to everyone behind the scenes (guys and gals), handling the technical aspects. This was the first year that the production was streamed on our church web site.

The men voted to dedicate the 4th Wednesday of each month to feeding the youth starting in May. So “kiddos” tune in and show up to find out what is on the menu May 27th and bring your appetites.

Coming up will be a night out for our June 3rd meeting at Jerome’s as a thank you for all of his support of our church events. This one is for the men and their significant others, so guys bring your wives or girlfriends (but not both) and enjoy a night of fellowship. There has been a request for a handicap ramp so stay tuned for this outreach opportunity sometime in the near future.

More bricks will be added to the walkway between the sanctuary and the education building as soon as they are received.

Men, come join us—First Thursday of the month at 6pm for a meal and fellowship.

The Finance Committee is working diligently on several important tasks. Background work and research is being completed to prepare for the annual audit which is due to the Conference by August 2021.

Towards this end, we are also busy writing process and procedures for the finance committee to formalize the accounting and finance processes used and bring standardization and transparency to the financial practices of Sharon UMC. The Committee is also working on a “Legacy” or “Planned Giving Program”. Stay Tuned for more details.

The Finance Committee needs two additional members. If you have an aptitude for numbers or previous experience, we can use your skills! Or, if you have a desire, we can train you!! Use those gifts God has given you! It is rewarding to be able to help where help is needed!

The Rose continues to be a success!! Now that we have a full quarter of data to analyze The Rose Finance Advisory Board is meeting to determine the allocation and distribution of these monies. The Finance Committee will update the congregation when this decision has been made and the distribution of these funds has been completed. Look for an update in the next Newsletter!

Thanks for the Blessings you bestow on Sharon United Methodist Church!

- Bud Magelli, Chairman Finance Committee





Prayer Shawl Ministry

**KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.**

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets on Thursdays at 1:00 In the fellowship Hall. We have been blessed with monetary and yarn donations. We make lap throws, shawls, baby caps, blankets, *hats and* scarves. We also have good fellowship. Come joins us on Thursdays!

# Legacy Youth

We invite all Youth (6th-12th grade) to our Wednesday evening and Sunday School meet-ups. We offer various opportunities to worship, serve, and learn about Jesus. Join us!

Sunday May 9th is MOTHERS DAY! Support our youth whilst getting something special for your special lady. We will have beautiful yellow and pink carnations for sale after first service and before second service on May 9th. \$3 each.

Consider making a donation today to our youth group. There are various worship and learning experiences available and coming up soon. August 6-8 the youth will be attending a youth event called SURGE at Ft Caswell here they will be fed and on fire for Jesus. Youth who would like to attend please see Melanie Gray or contact the office.

### Future Fundraisers :

- ◆ Car Wash 5/22 9am- 12PM
- ◆ You asked for it and your going to get it! BINGO 6/18 6-8PM
- ◆ Mugs for Father's Day 6/20
- ◆ Youth Meals and volunteers needed. Contact Melanie Gray or the Church office.

# MTV Generation Cookout

MTV GENERATION COOKOUT

Sat. May 15th

6:00 PM

At the home of Jim and Susi Pegan

2163 Boones Neck Rd. Supply

Food, Fun, Music, Games

RSVP to [jpegan@nccumc.org](mailto:jpegan@nccumc.org) by May 10th



## Stewardship Speaks;

**Romans 12:6-8 New Revised Standard Version**  
6 We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; 8 the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.



## Charlie Brown & Gang: Guest Hosts of VBS 2021 SUMC June 7-10th.

Charlie Brown and gang to be guest hosts of VBS 2021 at SUMC June 7-10th.

The Peanuts Gang will help host vacation Bible school here at SUMC this year June 7-10. We will begin activities at 6 pm each night after registration/ check-in at 5:45. Activities will end at 8:30. On June 10th, we will ask parents and family to join us to celebrate VBS 2021.

We will be exploring what the Bible teaches us about how God helps us deal with our human emotions such as anger and fear.

This year we're doing less moving of groups from place to place. There will be large group activity at the beginning and end of each evening. Otherwise small groups will work independently on lesson, game and craft. A meal will be provided.

We need your help to support VBS this year. Groups will be divided into grade levels they WILL BE in the coming year. Group 1: K-1st, Group 2: 2-3rd grade, Group 3: 4-5th grade, Group 4: 6-8th grade. We will have nursery available for VBS group leaders/workers if needed. Everything will be planned out and materials provided for group leaders. Your ideas are welcome!

We also need several people to register/ check- in June 7, 8 & 9 at 5:30-6:30.

Also, if you have great ideas to share, join our planning group! VBS is a lot of work but it is worth it! Everyone looks back and knows what extraordinary fun and learning happens. Everyone feels God at work. Plus, we often are the ones to share Gods love to unchurched children. This is your chance to disciple our children! Be a part of our youth growing in Christ!

PLEASE. Make a COMMITMENT now! The sooner you sign up, the more time you will have to prepare your heart for this opportunity. Call the church office and say "YES!" to leading our youth in their walk with Jesus. Thank you!

Questions?  
Janet Magelli 910-616-1342





## Turning Financial Gifts into Miracles for Women, Children and Youth

United Methodist Women is trusted with pledges and donations from individual members and local member organizations, as well as mission partners and anonymous donors who have a heart for mission. We support programs in the United States and around the world that benefit women, children and youth - thereby impacting entire communities. As an agency of The United Methodist Church, United Methodist Women abides by the social principles and discipline as determined by General Conference, giving only to projects in accordance with those guidelines.

Each Sharon United Methodist Woman contributes to these Financial Gifts. Our treasurer, Shirley Huffstetler, submits these gifts through the district to the conference.

### Meet Harriett J. Olson, CEO, United Methodist Women



Named as a Game Changer, Ms. Olson received a community partner award from Family Values at Work for its Paid Family and Medical Leave Campaign. Congratulations to her for her outstanding leadership!

Speaking of "Game Changers", Sharon United Methodist Women have really been enjoying the accounts of the 8 women who "Refused to Give Up" and did make a difference in the world! Meeting Tuesday evenings via Zoom, we are studying women of the past whose lives have made a difference!

Imagine Fanny Crosby blinded at six weeks old and still wrote over 8,000 hymns along with many poems. She was a teacher and writer. She felt that all the experiences she had were blessings as a result of her blindness. At her death she said that she was eagerly waiting to see her Savior.

Then came Emma Dryer who gave up a financially stable teaching career to found rescue missions in Chicago and then helped establish the Moody Bible Institute. She prayed for God to give that idea to Dwight L. Moody and then raised most of the funds for it. Without her, it would never have come into existence! We learned how her life intersected with Nettie McCormick, wife of Cyrus McCormick. Together the Cyrus's wanted to use their wealth to serve God so supported many missions and schools (including the Moody Bible Institute). Both of these women persisted and continued their work after the Chicago Fire of 1871 and became good friends. Cyrus McCormick, 25 years older than his wife, wished to retire after the fire, but Nettie insisted that they rebuild the company so that their sons would not lead idle lives. Cyrus died and Nettie built the International Harvester Company. Nettie's charitable giving extended beyond Chicago, to schools and organizations across the US and even abroad. Friends said that she was animated by one great purpose—the spread of Chris-

tianity, Christian education, and western medicine all over the world.

Sarah Dunn Clarke was raised a woman of privilege but cared more about reaching souls for Christ and decorating her heavenly home. She married Colonel George Clarke who eventually shared Sarah's compassion to reach out to those in need. After the Chicago Fire when they lost everything, they began to consider the value of things that were not perishable. They established a small mission in the heart of what people called the "devil's territory". Sarah ministered to every person's need no matter the situation. She was called "Mother Clarke" and "The Angel of the Slums". They needed larger facilities so moved to what was called the Pacific Beer Garden, to be known as the Pacific Garden Mission. A boy named Billy was saved at this mission... Billy Sunday, of professional baseball who went on to become a great evangelist leading more than one million people to Christ. After 15 years, Sarah's husband died, but Sarah carried on. For 27 years, almost 10,000 nights, Sarah never missed a single mission service and never mentioned it to anyone!

Evangeline Booth, at age 15, was commissioned as Sergeant in the Salvation Army. Though her parents had already sown the seeds of the "army", her father, William Booth trusted his daughter to go into the seedy parts of London to hand out the Salvation Army news bulletin, War Cry. After the death of her father, she served as its Commander for 30 years. She was sent by her father to the United States where she headed the US efforts to spread God's Message and Fund Raise. When war broke out in Europe, she sent 250 Salvation Army women officers to the front line.

Struck the poverty in NYC with 7,000 children in need of food, Evangeline organized breakfasts and baskets for families to take home. In 1934 she was named as the first woman to lead the Salvation Army International efforts as General. President Roosevelt sent his official congratulations at her official inauguration ceremony. As General Evangeline traveled the world to see the work of the Salvation Army. She was awed to see the people of God serving Him in so many lands, in so many ways, to so many people whose lives had benefited from the Army's efforts!

Sharon United Methodist Women meet every third Thursday of the month in the Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are welcome. We begin with refreshments followed by a program and business meeting. Please join us!





2 Timothy 3:16 - "The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right."

Sunday School has a wonderfully rich history at Sharon United Methodist church. It is school without homework, tests, or pressure. For adults it is a time to focus on specific passages in the Bible and strengthen your understanding. You can actively engage or simply enjoy a cup of coffee and listen. For children it is a time to explore the good word with fun activities and build lifelong friendships with other children within the church family.

We are excited to announce that Sunday School will be coming back. Hopefully, by early June, our new Education Building will provide the space needed to hold in-person Sunday School classes. As in the past, these classes will be held between Sunday services and provide the congregation with additional time to focus on the Word of God. Please stay tuned for more information about the classes that will be offered and the official start date.

As the above passage from 2 Timothy says, God gave us the Bible to teach us. In a world full of noise and distraction the Bible has endured and remains the foundation of our faith. A better understanding of this foundation provides each of us the strength to build the greatest church, family, and us possible.

Brian and Renee Noll

## News Bits:

- King's Kids every Wednesday from 4pm - 5:30pm for elementary grades 1st - 5th. Volunteers are welcomed to join in on the fun.



- **Church DEEP Spring Clean Up Day! May 15th 9am** Join us as we refresh the church campus and prepare for new ministries and our post-covid come back as a church family. ALL skill levels are welcome and there are lots of opportunities to serve. Stay tuned in the bulletin for more specific job details. If you have ideas for areas that need to be addressed please call the church office or see a member of the Trustees.

- **Baking for Babies Bake Sale!** May 16th enjoy some baked goods and yummy treats to help raise funds for nursery repairs and renovations. We welcome your donations of baked goods. Please drop off baked goods on Saturday the 15th. The moms group will be in the Fellowship Hall from 2-4 to accept baking donations for the next day's sale! THANKS!



Good Friday



Easter Egg Hunt



# Easter 2021

King's Kids



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Phone:(910) 842-2929  
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Please submit Monthly Calendar items &  
articles by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month to  
Kari Shumaker: [sharonumc@atmc.net](mailto:sharonumc@atmc.net)  
Newsletter Team: Gina Britton/Kari Shumaker, you?

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

Sharonumcholdenbeach



Sharon United Methodist Church-Holden Beach

**BE SURE TO CHECK THE WEEKLY  
BULLETIN FOR MEETING SCHEDULES  
AND UPDATES !**



Current resident or

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2030 Holden Beach Rd.  
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A Praying Church, Loving People to Christ

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