

Revelations

Sharon Center United Methodist Newsletter January/February 2026

Are you feeling cold in this dark world we live in? Do you need your fire rekindled? The church is your answer! The following is an illustration shared online by Fred Cantrell. It is a great example of what happens to each of our souls when we are removed from church and the word of God.



"A member of a certain church, who previously had been attending services regularly, stopped going. After a few weeks, the pastor decided to visit him. It was a chilly evening. The pastor found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire.

Guessing the reason for his pastor's visit, the man welcomed him, led him to a big chair near the fireplace and waited. The pastor made himself comfortable but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the play of the flames around the burning logs.

After some minutes, the pastor took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent. The host watched all this in quiet fascination.

As the one lone ember's flame diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and "dead as a doornail."

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting.

Just before the pastor was ready to leave, he picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the pastor reached the door to leave, his host said, "Thank you so much for your visit and especially for the fiery sermon. I shall be back in church next Sunday."

This story reminds me that God longs for friendship with us. God wants to have a relationship with us. God created us for companionship but even God can't have a friendship alone. When we don't read the Bible daily we become one lone ember; we become cold and our relationship with God is diminished. If we *ct'd*

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 11am as we gather to worship and connect. Thanks!



Ct'd

want to grow the relationship, then reading the Bible every day is absolutely essential.

Being a Christian is about being friends with Jesus. It is a real relationship just like the one you have with your best friend. Now in all relationships we talk and we listen to each other. And this is what reading the Bible and praying is all about. When we read the Bible, we are listening to what God has to say to us. In the Bible, God has made sure He has told us everything we need to know in order to be the best of friends with Him. So when we pray and read, we are really having a conversation with God and that is definitely something worth doing every day.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 tells us: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

If we want to live more in line with who God wants us to be, we need to be regularly in His word and as we do that, God can use us to change other's lives too.

-Fred Cantrell, *The Lonely Ember*, Servants of Christ, [https://](https://www.servantsanglican.org/2017/06/23/the-lonely-ember/)

www.servantsanglican.org/2017/06/23/the-lonely-ember/, June 23, 2017

Joining Church

If you are interested in joining Sharon Center UMC contact Pastor Wendy. She will set up a meeting for a Membership Sunday.

East Ohio Conference Newsletter Link

Follow the following link to check out the East Ohio Conference Newsletters

<https://eocumcnews.com//2026/01/12/january-12-2026/>
(Jan 12 edition)

<https://eocumcnews.com/> (Main page)

West Plains District Newsletter Link

Follow the following link to check out the West Plains District Newsletter.

[eastohio-email.brtapp.com/
viewinsite/7f685220d73208e25af2714e766d842b?](http://eastohio-email.brtapp.com/viewinsite/7f685220d73208e25af2714e766d842b?)

Calendar

Regular Schedule:

Sun. 11am Worship

January

1/19	7p	Grief Group mtg
1/21	6p	Leadership Team mtg
1/26	7p	Grief Group mtg
1/27	6p	Herb Society mtg

February

2/2	7p	Grief Group mtg
2/7	8am	Men's Study at Bob Evans
2/9	7p	Grief Group mtg
2/12	6p	Herb Society mtg
2/16	7p	Grief Group mtg
2/18	6p	Ash Wednesday Soup
	Supper	
	7p	Ash Wednesday Service
2/23	7p	Grief Group mtg

January Birthdays

7 - Bob Mravetz

11 - Ann Passmore

20 - Aimee Brosch

23 - Steve Farkas

24 - Millie Frambaugh

31 - Bill Baldwin

Edilene Coblentz

Randy Raw

January Anniversaries

15- Andy & Deanna Pylypiak

February Birthdays

5 – Amy Falconer

10 - Christine Boche

18 - Sharon Fox

Nicole Fox

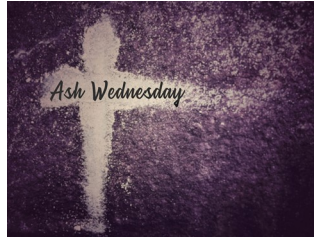
20 - Chad Lahoski

21 – Brantley Brown

Spiritual Growth Discussions

Our Daily Breads are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Granger Men's Study Group meets at Bob Evan's on Rt. 18 near i71 on the First Saturday of the month at 8am. Sharon UMC is invited to attend.



Ash Wednesday Service

We will have an Ash Wednesday Service on February 18 at 7pm. Prior to the service at 6pm we will have our annual Soup Supper. A sign up sheet to provide soups, bread, and desserts is posted at the back of the sanctuary.

Prayer Chain

We are starting a new prayer chain. If you are interested in being on the prayer chain, please contact Nancy Baldwin. Phone 330-350-0913.

Nancy's e-mail address baldwinwn@aol.com.

Please send your name, e-mail address and phone number. Nancy will contact each one of you after she gets a list together.

Community Events to Join in on

Mark your calendars for the Sharon Firefighter's Annual Spring Fish Fry on March 28, from 11a-5p or sell out.

The annual Community Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 4. Check back for more info closer to the date.

Pop Tab collection

Looking for a simple project to help out big? Collect pop tabs! These can be saved in a baggie and brought to the church and will be given to Ronald McDonald House. There is also a jar in the Gathering Space to drop individual tabs in.

Easter Flower Orders

Keep an eye out for upcoming Easter Flower Orders. We'll be decorating the church for Easter Sunday with them.

Grief Support Group

We will continue Grief Group on Monday nights at 7pm in the Conference Room. This is led by John and Lori Weiss.

Blessing Box/ Food Pantry Collection

Please remember the Blessing Box in front of the Church. There are people in our community that go to that box for food on a regular basis. Please pick up some food items and place in box or put in the back of the church and we will add them to the box. This is an important ministry to our community and much needed in these hard times. Thank You for your help.



Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at:
www.SharonCenterUMC.org

Visit Us on Facebook!
Sharon Center UMC

Service time: Sunday, 11am

ASH WEDNESDAY



February 18
Soup Supper: 6p
Service: 7p

Sharon Center UMC

6407 Ridge Rd.
Just North of Sharon Center Circle

