Revelations

Sharon Center United Methodist Newsletter October 2026



Autumn is a beautiful time of year. Particularly in October when the trees reveal their hidden beauty in the colors of their leaves. This is one of the reasons Don and I typically take a vacation in October. We enjoy travelling to some beautiful areas of our country just to enjoy God's handiwork in the colorization of his creation.

This year I have been blessed by our churches to be able to take a month-long renewal leave. This leave is afforded to every clergy member who has been in full-time ministry for at least four years. It is a special rest given to us to help combat burnout in our vocation. Paragraph 351.2 of the 2020/2024 Book of Discipline states, "A clergy member 's continuing education and spiritual growth program shall include professional formation leaves at least one week per year and may include at least one month during one year of every quadrennium. Such leaves shall not be considered part of the ministers' vacations and shall be planned in consultation with their charges or other agencies to which they are appointed as well as the bishop, district superintendent, and annual conference education committee."

What does renewal leave mean? A renewal leave is a planned time to move outside the normal demands of pastoral leadership in order to make space for God to bring renewal. It's the renewal that is needed for moving forward in life and ministry with increased health spiritually, physically, emotionally, and as a visionary spiritual leader.

While I love my churches and my calling, burnout is real and prevalent among my brethren in the clergy. Pastor burnout statistics show that this is not a new phenomenon, but recent studies suggest it's on the rise. For example, in 2017 Barna Research found that

30% of pastors were facing the risk of burnout, but by November 2021, that number had increased to 38%!

Why do I need Renewal Leave? As the leader goes, so goes the church! If the pastor is physically, emotionally and spiritually exhausted, the church will suffer. Thus, Renewal Leave is not just time off. Renewal leave is an investment – An investment in yourself; An investment in the church; An investment in the Kingdom of God! Here are just a few statistics to help you understand why this investment is so important. 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

- 90% of pastors feel fatigued and worn out every week
- 91% of pastors experience some form of burnout
- 70% of pastors fight depression
- 80% of pastors believe that ministry negatively affects their families
- 80% of seminary and Bible school graduates who enter ministry will leave the ministry within the first five years

I am trusting two good friends and great pastors, Barb Roseberry and Bob Ludwig, to lead you in meaningful worship the four Sundays in October. If you need a pastor for personal assistance, please contact Elaine at Granger or Nikki at Sharon Center for Doc Loomis' contact info. He has graciously agreed to meet your spiritual needs in my absence.

Blessings and Peace!

Pastor Wendy



All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday is Nov. 1. If you have any church members to list please let the office know.

Sharon Center Trick-or-Treat

Oct. 31 Sharon Center will have their Trick-or-Treat around the Sharon Circle from 6p-8p. We will collect Candy to pass out along with the hot dogs and hot chocolate. Your are welcome to bring in Candy for the event and help is needed Halloween night. We will have a bag stuffing day TBD later.

Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request please call or message Nancy Baldwin: Phone 330-350-0913. She will contact Pastor Wendy and the rest of the members on the prayer chain.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox

It's that time of year again! Check the stores for clearance items on school supplies and fun summer toys for the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes!

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes are being collected Nov. 16-23. We will bring them in on Nov. 15 so they can be dropped off that week. Boxes are available at the back of the Sanctuary.

Community Thanksgiving Service

There will be a Community Thanksgiving Service at Granger UMC this year on Nov. 22 at 7p. All are invited to attend.

Calendar

Regular Schedule:
Sun. 11am Worship

September

9/25 6p Movie night at Granger UMC

October

10/3 8a Men's Study at Bob Evans
10/6 11a Senior Lunch Grp @GUMC
6p Herb Society mtg
10/11 Potluck Lunch after church
10/17 10a Charge Conference at Medina UMC
10/31 6p-8p Trick or Treat on Sharon Circle

November

11/1 All Saints Sunday
11/3 11a Senior Lunch Grp @GUMC
11/7 8a Men's Study at Bob Evans
11a-5p Sharon Firefighter's Fish Fry
11/15 Operation Christmas Child Shoebox collection deadline
11/18 6p Leadership Team mtg
11/21 10a Hanging of the Greens
11/22 7p Community Thanksgiving Service at Granger UMC
11/28 4p-6p Spaghetti Dinner @ Sharon UMC
11/29 7p Sharon Community Christmas Gathering

October Birthdays

2 - Danielle Lahoski
3 - Joe Fox
4 - Dave Lahoski
9 - Lloyd Fiste

10 - Norma Bates
19- Bennet Calhoun
21 - MayKenzie Lahoski
22 - Pattie Fiste
30 - Joe Brosch
31 - Evan Buck

October Anniversaries

9 – Dave & Heather Lahoski
13 - Don & Debbie Ensor
24 - Tom & Christine Boche

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.

Spaghetti Dinner



Mark your calendars! Sharon Center UMC will have a spaghetti dinner on Nov. 28 from 4p-6p. It will be by donation and you can participate in the Highland Community Support Network Adopt-a-Family.

Community Events to Join in on

-Free Sharon Community Pancake Breakfast at the Sharon Fire Station on Sept. 27 from 8a-noon.

-Senior Lunch with guest speaker at Granger UMC on the first Tuesday of the month at 11am.

-Sharon Firefighter's Fall Fish Fry will be Nov. 7 from 11a-5p at the Town Hall.

-The Sharon Community Christmas Gathering will be Nov. 29 at 7p at the Town Hall with Tree Lighting and singing.

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.

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.

Operation Christmas Child

Shoe box collection
Is due Nov. 15

Toys, gloves, crayons,
hats, soap bar,
toothbrush, paper, etc

Contact Us

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SharonCenterUMCSecretary@gmail.com

Pastor Wendy
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(330)242-8092

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

Visit Us on Facebook!
Sharon Center UMC

Service time: Sunday, 11am

Join us for Community
Trick-or-Treat night.
Oct. 31 6p-8p

Candy being collected to pass out, please put at back of sanctuary.
We'll hand out hot chocolate and hot dogs

