



*Sharing Christ • Uniting as family • Maturing in faith • Calling others*

# Sharon

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FROM WHERE I SIT by Rev. Wally Carlson



Defy Hate. Embrace Jesus.

When traveling around the country (especially in the South like we just did) it's pretty easy to find a billboard that preaches. Sometimes it's Scriptural. For example, John 3:16. Or Psalm 23. Or Psalm 150. Sometimes it's other words. For example, "Prepare to meet Jesus." (This one is a little scary in the mountains when there are big trucks flying by!) Or another popular one: "Did you go to church today?" I have to admit, I don't pay much attention to those signs. So many of them saying the same thing.

Then there was this one: "Defy Hate. Embrace Jesus."

Debby saw it first, someplace in South Carolina. She pointed it out to me and then we were quiet for a while. After another while she said, "That really sums it up, doesn't it." "Yup," I said.

It doesn't have to be long or complicated. It can be just as simple as this, "Defy Hate. Embrace Jesus."

Thank you, South Carolina.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Wally



*Visit us on the web at [sharondecatur.org](http://sharondecatur.org)*

## February 2023

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
<b>29</b> 9:00am - 10:00am Worship 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School for all ages 3:30pm - 5:00pm Troop 91/911 Meetings		<b>30</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm Pack 91 Meeting	<b>31</b> 10:00am - 2:00pm Sharon Quilters 6:00pm - 7:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:00pm - 7:30pm Women's Bible Study	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Groundhog Day</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>						
<b>5</b> Holy Communion Scout Sunday 9:00am - 10:00am Worship 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School for all ages		<b>6</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm Pack 91 Meeting	<b>7</b> 10:00am - 2:00pm Sharon Quilters 6:00pm - 7:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:00pm - 7:30pm Women's Bible Study	<b>8</b> 4:30pm Worship Meeting 5:30pm Ad Council Meeting & 2023 Planning (dinner included)	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>						
<b>12</b> 9:00am - 10:00am Worship 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School for all ages 3:30pm - 5:00pm Troop 91/911 Meetings 5:00pm 91/911 Joint Committee Meeting		<b>13</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm Pack 91 Meeting	<b>14</b> <b>Valentine's Day</b> 10:00am - 2:00pm Sharon Quilters 6:00pm - 7:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:00pm - 7:30pm Women's Bible Study	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 6:00pm Pack 91 Committee Meeting	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 5:30pm F.U.N. Committee Italian Dinner Night						
<b>19</b> <b>Transfiguration Sunday</b> 9:00am - 10:00am Worship 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School for all ages 2:00pm Rev. Wally preaches at Primrose 3:30pm - 5:00pm Troop 91/911 Meetings		<b>20</b> <b>Presidents' Day</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm Pack 91 Meeting	<b>21</b> 10:00am - 2:00pm Sharon Quilters 6:00pm - 7:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:00pm - 7:30pm Women's Bible Study	<b>22</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 4:00pm Pack 91 Blue/Gold Banquet at Harristown Community Center						
<b>26</b> 9:00am - 10:00am Worship 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School for all ages 3:30pm - 5:00pm Troop 91/911 Meetings		<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 10:00am - 2:00pm Sharon Quilters 6:00pm - 7:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:00pm - 7:30pm Women's Bible Study	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> World Day of Prayer	<b>4</b>						

**1** Evan Leeper  
**3** Mandi Podeschi  
**12** Jacob Albert  
**19** Linda Umphryes



## SHARING CHRIST ...



### ★A friendly reminder:

Please make any donation checks out to **Sharon United Methodist Church** and name the receiving ministry in the memo.

### Missions Offerings

Reach out to those in need in our community and world by participating in the following offering opportunities:

#### February 5

- ♥ Monetary donations for **SV Primary Snack Pack Project**

#### February 19

- ♥ Third Sunday Offering for **Dove Financial Assistance**
- ♥ Children's Noisy Offering for **Liberia Pastors**

### Now through March 5

- ♥ New Life Pregnancy Center's **Change for Life** Campaign



Take home one or two baby bottles and return them on **Sunday, March 5**, filled with your pocket change. Put the bottles in a visible place in your home as a reminder to pray for the safety of mothers and their unborn children. Fill out the piece of paper inside the bottle BEFORE you begin filling. NLPC will send you a statement with your tax-deductible contribution. Your donation will support programs and materials used to minister to the lives of those who come to NLPC for help. Thank you!

## UNITING AS FAMILY ...



### Committee Meetings

#### **Worship**

Wednesday, February 8  
4:30 p.m.

#### **Ad Council Meeting & Planning Session**

Wednesday, February 8  
5:30 p.m.  
Dinner is included.  
All are welcome to attend and participate as we look ahead to 2023.

### F.U.N. Committee



#### **Italian Dinner**

**Saturday, February 18**  
5:30 p.m.

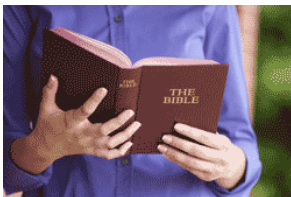
Menu includes lasagna, tortellini, salad, garlic bread, and dessert. Join us!



**Herb Gulick** now resides at Hickory Point Christian Village. You may send mail to this address:

Herb Gulick  
P.O. Box 421  
Forsyth, IL 62535

## MATURING IN FAITH ...



### Sunday School Classes:

**Nursery**  
Lisa Landacre

**Elementary**  
Lori Leeper

**Jr. High-College**  
Mike Landacre

**Wesley**  
Mandi Podeschi

**Good News**  
Martha Leeper



## Bible Studies Continue in February!

- ★ **For Women:** "*Amos: An Invitation to the Good Life*," by Jennifer Rothschild.
- ★ **For Men:** "*Undistracted*," by Bob Goff.

**February 7, 14, 21, 28 6:00-7:30 p.m.**

## CALLING OTHERS ...



### Scouting News

- **Troop 91/911 Meetings**  
February 12, 19, 26  
3:30-5:00 p.m.
- **Troop 91/911 Joint Committee Meeting**  
February 12, 5:00 p.m.
- **Pack 91 Meetings**  
February 6, 13, 20  
6:00-7:00 p.m.



### **Scout Sunday**

February 5

Join us in celebrating the Scout members, leaders, and families.

### **Pack 91 Blue/Gold Banquet**

Saturday, February 25  
4:00 p.m. at the Harristown Community Center.

### Special Worship

Rev. Wally will be preaching at **Primrose** (1145 W. Arbor Drive) on **Sunday, February 12**.  
Worship begins at 2 p.m.  
All are welcome.



### **February 22**

Watch the bulletin for service time and details.



## Serve the LORD with gladness!

	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
<b>Ushers</b>	★Tom Leeper	★Tom Leeper	★Tom Leeper	★Tom Leeper
	Jarred Leeper	Jarred Leeper	Jarred Leeper	Jarred Leeper
	Ben Holmes	Ben Holmes	Ben Holmes	Ben Holmes
<b>Liturgist</b>	Tom Leeper	Debbie Johnson	Mandi Podeschi	Lisa Landacre
<b>Nursery</b>	Jenna Doty	Cindy Landacre	Jenna Doty	Cindy Landacre
<b>Acolyte</b>	Joshua Leeper	Joshua Leeper	Joshua Leeper	Joshua Leeper

Our Tithes and Offerings to God				
	1/1/2023	1/8/23	1/15/23	1/22/23
Tithe	\$4,765.00	\$2,660.00	\$585.00	\$1,830.00
Loose Plate	\$60.00	\$80.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
S. School	\$0.00	\$13.00	\$10.00	\$9.65
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,825.00</b>	<b>\$2,753.00</b>	<b>\$655.00</b>	<b>\$1,839.65</b>
<b>Weekly Budget Need - \$1,965.00</b>				



**SHARON UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

4363 W. Center St.  
Decatur, IL 62522



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