



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

Sharon

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FROM WHERE I SIT by Rev. Wally Carlson



TS Eliot wrote, "April is the cruelest month." It is found at the beginning of his long poem, "The Wasteland." Read the whole thing if you want to, but only if you're tired of feeling good about life. It is an increasingly bleak perspective on post-World War 1 society, culture, and life - and, as such, painful to read.

However, taken by itself, the words, "April is the cruelest month" is a pretty apt description, isn't it? After a (long or short, doesn't matter which) winter, April teases and taunts us with really nice weather and then a blast of arctic cold again. Sunny, lovely days followed by dismal, gray, unending rain. I like winter - snow and all that - but by April I am ready to put winter back into the closet with my scarf and gloves. I get annoyed when I have to drag that stuff out again.

Oh, poor me. I have to wear a coat again. I can't sit outside and read today, I have to stay cuddled up in my chair and read inside. Boo Hoo. I am so put upon.

Listen up (speaking to myself): sometimes it's nice outside. Sometimes it's not. Sometimes it rains, sometimes it doesn't. Sometimes my life is easy and idyllic, sometimes it is anything but. I have a roof and food. I have clothes and friends. I have everything I need - and more. I even have the ability and means to help others who don't have what they need - and that gives me purpose and direction.

Cruelest month? Only if I let it be that. I need to remember - we ALL need to remember that when the pushing turns to shoving at the end of the day, God provides. One way or another, God provides. Maybe not exactly what we want but certainly what we need. The Stones put it this way, "You can't always get what you want... but you get what you need." Jesus used different words. "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows." (Matthew 10:29-31)

Find some flowers. Watch some birds. Read outside when you can, inside when you must. Enjoy April. It's a gift from God.

Peace to you, and grace,
Rev. Wally



Visit us on the web at sharondecatur.org

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Easter Sunday 7:45am Breakfast Potluck 8:15am Kids Easter Egg Hunt 9:00am - 10:00am Worship featuring Adult Choir	1 11:00am - 12:00pm Pilates 6:00pm - 7:00pm Pack 91 Meeting	2 10:00am - 2:00pm Sharon Quilters 6:00pm - 8:00pm Spring Rummage Sale Drop-off	3 11:00am - 12:00pm Pilates	4 6:00pm - 8:00pm Spring Rummage Sale Drop-off	5	6 8:00am - 2:00pm Spring Rummage Sale
7 Holy Communion 9:00am - 10:00am Worship 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School for all ages 3:30pm - 5:00pm Troop 91/911 Meetings	8 11:00am - 12:00pm Pilates 6:00pm - 7:00pm Pack 91 Meeting	9 10:00am - 2:00pm Sharon Quilters 6:30pm - 7:30pm Scuba VBS Meeting	10 11:00am - 12:00pm Pilates	11	12	13 9:00am - 10:00am Walk 'n Roll
14 9:00am - 10:00am Worship 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School for all ages 3:30pm Troop 91/911 Court of Honor & Potluck (Parent Meeting to follow)	15 11:00am - 12:00pm Pilates 6:00pm - 7:00pm Pack 91 Meeting	16 10:00am - 2:00pm Sharon Quilters	17 11:00am - 12:00pm Pilates	18	19	20 9:00am - 10:00am Walk 'n Roll
21 9:00am - 10:00am Worship 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School for all ages	22 Earth Day 11:00am - 12:00pm Pilates 6:00pm - 7:00pm Pack 91 Meeting	23 10:00am - 2:00pm Sharon Quilters	24 Administrative Professionals Day 11:00am - 12:00pm Pilates 3:30pm Worship Meeting	25	26	27 9:00am - 10:00am Walk 'n Roll
28 9:00am - 10:00am Worship 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School for all ages 3:30pm - 5:00pm Troop 91/911 Meetings	29 11:00am - 12:00pm Pilates 6:00pm - 7:00pm Pack 91 Meeting	30 10:00am - 2:00pm Sharon Quilters	1 11:00am - 12:00pm Pilates	2 National Day of Prayer	3	4 9:00am - 10:00am Walk 'n Roll



1 Laura Jones
4 Allen Albert
14 Cindy Landacre
18 Rev. Wally Carlson

15 Mike & Jennifer Williams
24 Wayne & Janet Hirst

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:

April 7

- ♥ Monetary donations for **T.A.G. Fund**

April 14

- ♥ Special Offering for **Native American Ministries Sunday**

April 21

- ♥ Third Sunday Offering for **Dove Financial Assistance**
- ♥ Children’s Noisy Offering for **Liberia Pastor & D. S. Salary Support**

All month

- ♥ **Northeast Community Fund Items** (canned goods, non-perishable food items)



“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

Matthew 25:40

UNITING AS FAMILY ...



Spring Rummage Sale

Saturday, April 6
8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Donation Drop-off Times:
Tuesday (4/2)
Thursday (4/4)
6:00-8:00 p.m.

NO ELECTRONICS, please!

All sales are by donation.
Proceeds will benefit the T.A.G. Fund (Teachers Assistance & Generosity)

Committee Meetings

Worship Meeting
Wednesday, April 24
3:30 p.m.

Walk ‘n Roll Group

Walk with us on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.!

Meet at Cresthaven Park or Hickory Point Mall (depending on weather)

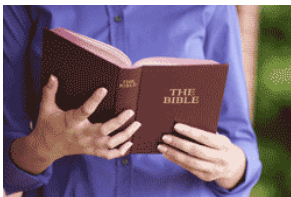
See Lori Leeper for details.

Prayer Chain

If you are not currently a member and would like to join, here’s how:

1. To join the **text chain**, text **@sumcprayer** to the number 81010 and follow the prompts.
2. To join the **phone chain**, please talk to Beverly Carmean (422-7115 or 433-1242)

MATURING IN FAITH ...



Sunday School Classes:

Nursery
Lisa Landacre

Elementary
Lori Leeper

Jr. High-College
Mike Landacre

Wesley
Mandi Podeschi

Good News
Martha Leeper



CALLING
OTHERS ...



Scouting News

- **Troop 91/911 Meetings**
April 7, 28
3:30-5:00 p.m.
- **Joint Court of Honor**
April 14, 3:30 p.m.
- **Pack 91 Meetings**
April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
6:00-7:00 p.m.



SCUBA VBS
June 24-28
9:00-11:30 a.m. daily

Volunteer Meeting
Tuesday, April 9, at 6:30 p.m.



Serve the LORD with gladness!

	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Ushers	Tom Leeper	Tom Leeper	Tom Leeper	Tom Leeper
	Jarred Leeper	Jarred Leeper	Jarred Leeper	Jarred Leeper
	Ben Holmes	Ben Holmes	Ben Holmes	Ben Holmes
Greeters	Nathan & Jenna Doty	Pat Bales & Jan Gulick	Janet Hirst & Joni Simms	Mike & Cindy Landacre
Liturgist	Jarred Leeper	Lori Leeper	Mandi Podeschi	Joni Simms
Nursery	Jenna Doty	Cindy Landacre	Cindy Landacre	Cindy Landacre
Acolyte	Joshua Leeper	Joshua Leeper	Joshua Leeper	Joshua Leeper

Our Tithes and Offerings to God					
	2/25/24	3/3/24	3/10/24	3/17/24	3/24/24
Tithe	\$1,810.00	\$3,390.00	\$3,950.00	\$470.00	\$2,120.00
Loose Plate	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$80.00	\$20.00	\$16.00
S. School	\$12.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$12.00	\$8.00
TOTAL	\$1,822.00	\$3,516.00	\$4,036.00	\$502.00	\$2,144.00
Weekly Budget Need - \$2,211.00					



**SHARON UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

4363 W. Center St.
Decatur, IL 62522

