

# The Scroll

SHARON UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

March 2010



We are disciples growing in our love for God and neighbor! The church is our family, living, and celebrating our faith in God's unconditional love through Jesus Christ. "To grow as disciples and reach others for Christ."

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Have you noticed that our bulletin says- Ministers- Everyone in the congregation!?! Each of us are called to be ministers in our lives. We are called to minister to those that we know and love, as well as those that we do not know, but extend God's love to them. That is what ministering is all about. It is about actively sharing the love of God to all whom we encounter.

This month you may have noticed that we are doing the mission meal differently. The mission meal is one opportunity for us to be ministers in our world. It is a real opportunity to physically feed people that are hungry. To say that we have food on our table, and as an act of thanksgiving and generosity, we are going to share a portion of it with others. So, even if you are not one of the people that comes to cook, and serve the food, now you can participate. You are simply being asked to add a few cans of vegetables, an extra bag of cheese, or a box of pasta to your grocery list. The first person to email me, I will give \$10. Many hands make light work, right?

There are other opportunities as well to be a minister. One is, in the Joliet Cluster, we are a part of a food pantry at Trinity United Methodist Church. Other churches in our cluster participate in this ministry by going on Wednesdays to help in the food pantry. Trinity is able to serve about 100 families a week right now. Another way to be in ministry, is every month I visit Lakewood and Rosewood nursing homes on the first Thursday of the month. You are welcome to come along at 2pm, to help sing, hold books, or bring cookies to share with the residents. Or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, at 10:30am, I head to the Timbers to share a communion service with the residents there. They love having visitors!

Keep an eye out for more places that you can be a minister, that we can get our hands and feet working for God in this world. Mark your calendar for April 25<sup>th</sup>, as a chance for all of us to get involved in "Changing the World." Through these opportunities we can share the love of God by our presence with people outside of our church, with those who are a part of our greater community. Jesus talked to strangers from all different places, and spoke about feeding, clothing, and sharing with all of those people who are our neighbors. Let us continue to live out our love of God, and our love for our neighbors in the world, through our collective ministry!

Family worship 9:30  
Fellowship 10:30  
Sunday School 10:45-  
11:30  
Sept. ~ May

**Sacrament of Holy  
Communion  
March 7th**

## Inside this issue:

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Church News

Pastor Beth

Next Issue Deadline  
3.25.10

## Lectionary Reading for Worship

### Be in the Word of God Daily!

**March 7**—Third Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 55: 1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9:

March 14, - Fourth Sunday in Lent—One Great Hour of Sharing—Girl Scout Sunday

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-2, 11b-32

March 21—Fifth Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 43: 16-21; Psalm 126: Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

March 28—Passion/Palm Sunday— Sixth Sunday in Lent

Liturgy of the Palms: Luke 19:38-40; Psalm 118:1-2,19-29;

Red Liturgy of the Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16: Philippians 2:5-11;

Luke22:14-23;56

March 29— Monday of Holy Week

Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 26:5-11; Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11

March 30—Tuesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 41:1-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 12:20-36

March 31— Wednesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 40; Hebrews 12:1-2; John 13:21-32

## **HANNAH'S CIRCLE**

A HUGE THANK YOU goes out to all the people, and little people, who helped make our 96th Chicken Noodle Supper a great success. We served over 200, combined carry-outs, and dine in's. It was a great time had by all.

March 20 Hannah's Circle will be painting the Fellowship Hall. The follow up date if we can't complete on that Saturday will be March 27. We would love to have some helping hands for this project. Soon after the Trustees will be striping and re-waxing the floor. All Helpers are welcome.



**MISSION MEAL**  
**PANTRY WISH LIST**



Here is the Mission Meal Team's Wish List for the year. Print it out and place next to your grocery list. Again, thank you for your support.

		August	Ranch Salad Dressing
March	Green Beans	September	Instant Mashed Potatoes
April	Parsley	October	Diced Tomatoes
May	Corn	November	Cream Soups, any kind
June	Cream of Chicken Soup	December	Cooking Spray
July	Elbow Macaroni		

**FINANCE NEWS**

**Electronic Funds Transfer**

We are almost there! I just received the on-line registration request and replied to the message. We received a phone call from a Vanco representative and we should be ready to go in a few short days.

The process for on-line donations will come with a training component. I will gather the training information from Vanco and pass it along to you soon.

Karin

## More News



# SONG

### EASTER CANATA!

I am very pleased to announce that the choir will be presenting a musical cantata on Easter morning during the 9:30 am service. We would love to have more voices join us for this special presentation. This would be a short-term commitment and not a push to become a regular choir member (of course, if you did want to continue singing with us, we would love to have you!). Please consider rehearsing with the choir on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings for the 6 weeks leading up to Easter Sunday and then singing with us during service on Easter morning. I've outlined the rehearsal schedule below.

We need male **VOICES**, female **VOICES**, high **VOICES**, low **VOICES**, medium **VOICES**, strong **VOICES**, soft **VOICES** and all **VOICES** in between. Do you get the hint?? We need **VOICES!** There are opportunities for solos throughout the cantata. If you've ever sung in choir, ever wanted to sing in choir, ever thought about singing in choir, were ever curious about choir, this is an excellent opportunity on a short-term basis to be a part of this exciting event.

I realize people have lives and cannot make every single rehearsal (although if you can, EXCELLENT!). I would ask, if at all possible, that the last 4 rehearsals (3/24 – 4/4) are mandatory attendance and that you attend at least 5 of the first 8 rehearsals. I am very flexible and easy to work with, so please let me know if you are interested, your conflict schedule and I know we can work something out.

### Rehearsal Schedule:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
2/24	Wednesday	6:50 – 7:30pm	Choir Room in Education Building
2/28	Sunday	8:40 – 9:10am	Choir Room in Education Building
3/3	Wednesday	6:50 – 7:30pm	Choir Room in Education Building
3/7	Sunday	8:40 – 9:10am	Choir Room in Education Building
3/10	Wednesday	6:50 – 7:30pm	Choir Room in Education Building
3/14	Sunday	8:40 – 9:10am	Choir Room in Education Building
3/17	Wednesday	6:50 – 7:30pm	Choir Room in Education Building
3/21	Sunday	8:40 – 9:10am	Choir Room in Education Building
3/24	Wednesday	7:00 – 8:00pm	Sanctuary
3/28	Sunday	8:30 – 9:10am	Sanctuary – PALM SUNDAY
3/31	Wednesday	7:00 – 8:00pm	Sanctuary
4/4	Sunday	8:30 – 9:10am	Sanctuary – EASTER

Please help make this an outstanding gift of music to God and the congregation and community of Sharon UMC.

Yours in Christ, Donna Kirkwood



## MEET THE CONGREGATION

1 John 1:7 "If we walk in the light, as He is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another..."

Although we walk together in the light of the Lord, there are stories to be told that we don't get to hear in casual conversation. From time to time Meet the Congregation will feature a member or two of our congregation to get to know one another a little better. One goal is to include both newer members and those who have been at Sharon Church for a long time. Another goal is to introduce you to someone to whom you may have never spoken. A friendship in the Lord is the very nicest kind.

Alexis Catherine Obman

Although my name is Alexis, everyone calls me Lexi. I am nine and in fourth grade at Central Elementary School. My favorite class is Science. Once we had stations where we had to decide if there was a chemical change or a physical change. At one station our student teacher put baking soda in a cup of vinegar, and it bubbled so that was a chemical change. At another station we discovered that when you pop popcorn kernels, they just turn inside out so that's a physical change.

I have one brother Jack and one sister Jenna. Jack is six, and sometimes he's nice, but most of the time he's crazy. Jenna is seven, and she shares a room with me. Sometimes we share clothes. My mom Karin is the accountant at Allied Landscaping. She is really nice. My dad is a fireman at Lyden, IL. The good thing about my dad is that he fixes things when my mom breaks them. He even fixed the vacuum.

When I'm not in school, I like to watch TV and read. Right now I'm reading Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Titans Curse. I also play my DS. I like Guitar Hero. On the computer sometimes I go on Webkins. I have a stuffed animal, and it has a code. Then I go on the computer and log them in and play games with my Webkin. In the summer I like to swim at my Grandma Geega's house, Grandma Marcia. In the winter I will either be inside or playing in the snow.

On Thursdays and Saturdays I have dance class for two hours at Vaughn Dance Academy. This year I take hip hop, tap, jazz and ballet. It's a really fun time. Sometimes it's hard to get the dance cleaner and make everyone stay with the music. This June we are going to national competition at the Wisconsin Dells. I will do all my dances at Nationals. In dance competition someday I hope to get a Platinum, the award higher than Gold.

Every year we go to the Wisconsin Dells with my family and cousins. There is a water park there, and we get to play. Once I went to Disneyworld, and that was my first time on an airplane. I had some snacks with me and games to play so it was good. There are many rides to go on at Disneyworld, and I remember the Rock and Roller Coaster because it was fun. We got to have ice cream for breakfast on the last day because we had money left on our snack card.

At church I'm an acolyte. When the flame goes out, I have to light it again from another candle. Once I didn't have any more wick, and I didn't know what to do, but someone came up and got the other candle lighter and lit that for me. Once you see how to do it, it's not as hard as it looks. I like being an acolyte, and I don't get nervous when I do it.

## Good Food from the Good Book

For the most part, I prefer complete idiots to dummies. That is my preference for the popular how-to books would typically put *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Brain Surgery* ahead of *Brain Surgery for Dummies*. However, it is the exception that proves the rule, right?

I recently read [The Complete Idiot's Guide to Good Food from the Good Book](#), by [Leslie Bilderback](#). Now, I have not actually been able to get a copy of *Jewish Cooking for Dummies*, which appears to be as close a match as Google and I could make. So, pardon the fact that I didn't make a true comparison. The book is not a total waste; I'd give it three (of five) stars. It's a good cookbook, but not so good a book about scripture or ancient Hebrews' lifestyle. The first two chapters address much of the culinary commandments and references of The Bible. For example, it is a common misunderstanding that kosher laws are there to make the chosen people healthier than their pagan neighbors. That's over-simplifying; kosher laws are there to help the Hebrews set themselves apart. Bilderback brings this out. (1 star)

She also quotes some scripture, and in context (2 stars). In Genesis 1:29, God says, I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. (NRSV.) To paraphrase, in the beginning, all God's people were vegans. We became carnivores after the Great Flood. God commanded Noah to bring both clean animals and animals that are not clean... (Genesis 7:2-8) Before that, he had made no such designations because humans didn't eat animals. Even after being banished from the G of E, humans remained herbivores.

She also gets into some science (3 stars). Among the clean animals are those with cloven hooves, who chew their cud (Leviticus 11). This design is well-suited to allow animals to run in grasslands. Grassland beasts have multi-chambered stomachs designed to extract the maximum nutrition from simple plants. Domestic cattle and buffalo are good examples.

In the water, fins and scales are inductive for moving fast, because they live in clear water, and need to be nimble to stay alive. Shellfish and other scale-free fish move slowly, and feed rather indiscriminately on the bottom of the sea or lakes. Unclean fowl are mostly birds of prey that frequently eat carrion.

Did you ever wonder where in the land of 'milk and honey' the honey comes from? The ancient Hebrews notched palm trees, then collected and processed the sap. New Englanders do the same thing with Maple trees.

However, after the end of the second chapter, she tosses out the Torah, packs in the Pentateuch, lays aside Leviticus, and expels Exodus.

At this point, Bilderback presents her own cookbook. That is, she presents her very own contemporary cookbook. She organized her recipes as breakfast, bread, appetizers, soups, etc.) But few of the ingredients were middle-eastern. There is not even a pretext of connection to Biblical stories, places or characters related to the recipes.

Don't get me wrong, she is a successful cook, well-published and in-demand. The recipes are well done and at least one reviewer said they were tasty. But the Biblical connection is out the window too soon.

Scott Cheffer -- *To be continued*



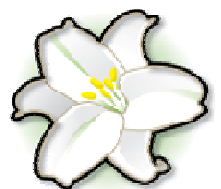
We invite you to join us as we continue our journey to Easter through our Holy Week Services. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, March 28, as we remember Christ's entry into Jerusalem to the waving of palm branches and shouts of Hosanna!

On Maundy Thursday, April 1, we remember Christ's last supper in the upper room with his disciples. We will be meeting in Fellowship Hall at 7PM. We will be having a modified seder. This will include a small meal and communion. We will need several readers for this service, if you would like to participate as a reader please talk to Pastor Beth. Since we will be preparing plates for this service we will need reservations, please contact Carol Knotts for reservations by Wednesday March 31, there will also be a sign up sheet in Jacob Albright Hall the last two Sundays of March.

On Good Friday, April 2, we will have a Tenebrae Service ending in darkness as we remember Christ's crucifixion. This will be a combined service with Plainfield First UM Church in our sanctuary at 7PM.

Our Easter celebration will begin in our sanctuary at 6:00AM with our Sunrise Service, followed by breakfast in Fellowship Hall. The celebration will continue at our 9:30AM service where our choir will present the cantata "Easter Song".

We will again have an opportunity to order spring flowers to decorate the sanctuary for our Easter services. You will have a choice of Easter lily, tulips, daffodils or hyacinths. Each plant will be \$13.00. Forms will be in the bulletins in early March and will need to be turned in by March 14<sup>th</sup>.



Below are dates that we wish you will keep in mind, and support our area churches with the events that are happening in and around our community.

**March 6th-** Corned Beef Dinner at Hope UMC @ 4-7pm

**March 16th-** Cluster meeting with Laity at Hope UMC @ 7pm

**March 27th-** All You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner at Christ UMC in Lockport @ 5-7pm

### **April 25th- Change the World Event**

#### United Methodists Unite to Change the World

United Methodists everywhere are encouraged to begin planning now to join in *Change the World*, a church-wide event on April 24-25 that prompts members to join with others in the community to make a difference locally and globally.

During that weekend, United Methodist churches are encouraged to create and participate in a service or fundraising event that helps effect positive and long-lasting change, whether it's revitalizing a food-pantry program, creating a new ministry to help the homeless, or increasing awareness of global health issues like malaria. Churches can utilize existing ministries or initiate a new outreach event.

Sharon along with the 1st Methodist church will combine as a team to do missions work in our area. Plainfield Academy is one area that will be helped, along with some of their students. More details on other area's that we will be assisting will be forth coming in the Bulletin. If you would like to help supervisor a place in need, please contact Pastor Beth.



### MARCH CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Choir Rehearsal 6:50—8:10 Every Wednesday	4 Trustee's 7 pm	5	6 Corned Beef Dinner at Hope UMC 4-7pm
7 Choir Rehearsal 8:20—9:10 Every Sunday	8	9	10	11 Finance 6 pm Council 7 pm	12	13 Mission Meal at Morningstar
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			