



The Good News

Dear Sharon Faithful,

It's so nice to write you and NOT have to say, "Hang in there... you're doing great... we're going to get through this together... God continues to be with us!"

Instead, my heart is filled with songs of joy and Psalms of praise that God has gotten us through the very worst of the worldwide pandemic:

I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God! Ps 40:1-3

While it may be true that the pandemic is not quite over, it is also true that the vaccine for the COVID19 virus is proving to be potent and effective in keeping us safe from infection and wide-spread transmission. So, this Pentecost, we received the best gift the Spirit of God could offer—to safely open up the church in worship and fellowship to our members and community.

As you will see in this *Good News*, we will continue to follow CDC guidelines here at the church and encourage our community to get vaccinated. Yet, joy abounds at Sharon Church as we reunite and see actual smiles on the faces of our brothers and sisters in worship and fellowship!



Maybe you've had to put some things aside this past year in order to survive, but now is the time to move out of survival mode and into new life—in a Pentecost season inspired by the Holy Spirit lifting you up and guiding you forward. This *Good News* celebrates new life in so many ways: the milestones of our children, the call to service and leadership of our new officer nominees, and our coming worship and fellowship plans.

God has called us to be Pentecost People—to rise and be filled with God's breath in our bodies! To serve! And to praise the Lord!

"My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever." Ps. 145:19

Amen!



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Welcome to our New Members



Welcome to new members, Bruce and Genie Ford. When Bruce and Genie first began regular visits to the area 6 years ago to visit their son, Stephen and daughter in law, Stacy, they never thought for a moment that a move to Pittsburgh would be in the future. After granddaughter, Avi, arrived, talk about a move became more frequent until they packed their bags and headed north to retire. In their usual fashion, just backwards.

Bruce is a retired Presbyterian minister from the PCUSA. He has filled the pulpit for Sharon Community on numerous occasions assisted by his trusted liturgist, Walt. He was recently accepted into the Presbytery of Pittsburgh to work and play as needed. Genie is a retired Physical Therapist working right up to moving day. She is glad to hang on as long as she did.

Genie and Bruce enjoy traveling and live by the mantra: Everyday See something you never saw before. Bruce loves to read and laugh. Genie loves to play with a camera. Both are head over heels in love with Avi. They share their home with Duffy, a 3 year old Yorkshire terrier who likes walks and treats. Genie says, "We have enjoyed worshiping at Sharon Community on our visits to see the kids. We are looking forward to being a part of the Church family." Both are grateful for the church's loving welcome.

Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, June 20th following Worship
Election of New Church Officers**



Sunday Fellowship and Food Truck

**June 20th after Worship @11 AM
Outside on the SCPC Patio**



The Deacons have booked a food cart for **June 20th**, after the church service for lunch and fellowship. **Hot Diggity Dogs** will be here serving delicious food: Nathan hotdogs, Kielbasa, pulled pork, & burgers.

Please plan on attending !

~ Lorna Phillips Deacon Moderator

Property Update

The Session will continue to follow CDC guidelines as we open up the church property for member and community use:

- Vaccinated persons are not required to mask
- Unvaccinated persons are required to mask
- We have designated spaces available for small group meetings indoors and the SCPC patio is available for outdoor gatherings.
- The YCC will be opened to community groups who commit to following CDC guidelines.
- Covid-19 Waivers will continue to be signed by all people using the church property.
- [Please call or email Anna Laufer in the Front Office to schedule your group and submit necessary paperwork—412-264-7400 or admin@sharoncpc.org](#)

Our hope is to keep members of Sharon Church and our community safe as we re-open our buildings. Throughout the pandemic, Sharon Church has followed CDC guidelines and, thus far, has had ZERO incidence of Covid-19 infection or transmission of the virus at the church. Thank you for your continued adherence to safe and healthy community wellness practices.



SOLES 4 SOULS

A special THANK YOU to everyone who graciously donated their new & gently used shoes for our Soles4Souls shoe drive. We collected 82 pairs of shoes!! These shoes will benefit entrepreneurs in places like Haiti and Honduras that help start and sustain small businesses, especially during these uncertain times.

If you have any ideas on future Mission Engagement activities or projects, please contact a member of the Mission & Outreach Committee. We are looking forward to reinstating our Mission Sundays soon!

With God's Love,
*Kilee Bomgardner,
Wayne Schuliger, and
Grace Peters*
*Your Mission & Outreach
Committee*



Worship

Pentecost Sunday was an amazing celebration of New Life in the Holy Spirit, with 84 joyful members in attendance. It was wonderful to see so many smiling, unmasked and vaccinated faces! We continued our fellowship together after the service outside on the SCPC Patio and couldn't have asked for a better or brighter day.

It seemed to be just what we all needed after such a long time of waiting patiently for things to "get back to normal."

With that being said, God has definitely been at work among our congregation over this past year, and Covid pushed us into many positive changes outside of our normal in our worship service.

Live church service in the sanctuary will continue to be held at 10:00 AM through the summer. We will still maintain a blend of fresh and familiar, with live and recorded elements, but Pastor Becky has resumed preaching from the pulpit! Outdoor after-church fellowship on the SCPC patio will begin on June 6th and we hope you can join us in some much-needed time with your church family. You may bring your own lunch and stay any week, and we will also have a food truck once a month.

We also want to fill you in on some exciting and much-needed technology updates that will affect worship this summer. We have purchased and will soon be installing new computers and software in the sanctuary that will allow us to record services in the sanctuary, give us the ability to webcast the service, store all of our content and directly send our services to Moon T.V.

It is going to take time for the Worship Team to familiarize themselves with this new equipment and technology, so we will be pausing the release of Online Worship Services while we complete the technology installation and learn to use the new system. We expect to start releasing new Online Worship Services in July.

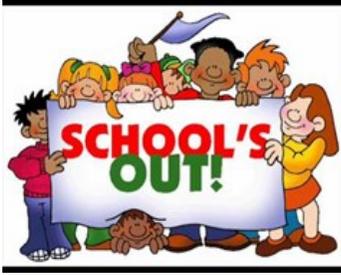
These services will be an upgrade from what we were able to do before, as those of you watching from home will now also be able to experience the worship music we are blessed with and led by the Ruckers, Emily Yuretich, and Alex Weibel in the sanctuary. And you will be able to see Pastor Becky preaching from the pulpit on Sunday morning.

We will continue to faithfully follow God's leading in worship and look forward to this new season in the life of Sharon Church!



Children and Family Ministry

Our Summer Schedule will begin on June 13th!



- ◆ There will be no 9am Sunday School.
- ◆ Children's Church is available for ages 4 and up during the worship hour (10am – 11am). Children will sit with their parents until dismissed after the children's message.
- ◆ The nursery will be open and available for ages 3 and under from 9:30am-11:30am.

Summer Splash Family Event

June 20, 2021

After Worship

Join us after church and food truck fellowship for a super cool time. We will be playing bible-based water games, making crafts, and having some fun in the sun!

Check your email for more information.



The CDC has updated their COVID-19 mitigation guidelines and announced that **fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear a mask or physically distance in any setting**, except where required by federal, state, local laws, rules, and regulations—such as public transportation and healthcare facilities, and including local business and workplace guidance.

CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky said, "Anyone who is fully vaccinated, can participate in indoor and outdoor activities, large or small, without wearing a mask or physical distancing. If you are fully vaccinated, you can start doing the things that you had stopped doing because of the pandemic. The science

demonstrates that if you are fully vaccinated, you are protected. It is the people who are **not** fully vaccinated in those settings, who might not be wearing a mask, who are not protected. And it is those people that we are encouraging to get vaccinated and to wear a mask and to physically distance."

Therefore, the Session has approved lifting the masking requirement for fully vaccinated people on our church campus effective immediately. If you are not vaccinated, we ask that you continue to mask and follow CDC guidelines until you are able to be fully vaccinated.

Given that not all people (like children) are eligible for the vaccine or have received the vaccine at this time, we will continue to spread out and distance our seating in worship.

Anyone who is vaccinated but develops symptoms should mask up and get tested. The CDC has cautioned that there's always a chance the pandemic situation could worsen, and the nation may need to return to pieces of the earlier guidance. Finally, if you have been advised by your physician to mask-up at this time, please do so.

OFFICER Nominations

The Congregation has elected to move the annualization of Sharon Church officers (elders, deacons, and nominating members) from January to July. The rationale for this change is both practical and logistical: the summer months are when the church committees are the *least* busy and it allows time for committee planning, officer training and retreat, and good transition between leaders. So, this year we will elect officers in June and new officer's terms will begin in July 2021.

As well, the congregation updated and approved new congregational bylaws in 2020 which reduce the size of our elder and deacon boards from 15 board members to "at least 9 members" on each board to better reflect the size of our active congregation. Since we currently have a full board of elders, we are moving two current elders to the incoming class to evenly populate the classes—for a total of 11 sitting elders on the coming board. For the deacons, we were in need of more deacons to populate the former class, so we have 5 new deacon nominees this year—for a total of 12 sitting deacons on the coming board.

On Sunday, **June 20th**, there will be a Congregational Meeting following worship to elect a new class of church officers, and on **July 11th** new officers will be ordained and installed in worship.

The Nominating Committee proudly and faithfully recommends the following slate of nominees:

Nominating Committee:

Susanne Udvardi
Gladys Sanderbeck
Chad Henry

Elders 2022:

Lorna Phillips
Todd Carter
Chira Cratsley

Deacons 2022:

Al Zalucky
Jan Benard
Deb Williams

Deacons 2021:

Megan Anderson
Rhianon Michaels

Nominating Members



Gladys Sanderbeck

I have been a member of Sharon Church since the late 1960's when we moved from Sewickley to Moon. I worked at the Moon School District for 32 years.

I enjoy singing in the church Choir, volunteering at the office and helping out at the food pantry. I am president of AARP which has been meeting at the church since the 1970's.

I have a son, Mike, in Texas. My daughter Debra, her husband Mike and granddaughter Erin live in NC.

I have been a Deacon for many years and especially enjoy connecting with the shut-in members. After worshipping here at Sharon Church for many years, I have found how caring the Lord and parishioners are.



Susanne Udvardi

I have been a part of Sharon Church since I was a little girl. I was baptized in the White Church when I was 13. I have served as an Elder and a Deacon, and now serve on the Worship, Music & Arts Committee.

My early career was an elementary education teacher, but I later worked in my husband's Optometric office. I have two grown children, Kristin and Matthew, and

two grandchildren, Ilona and Morgan. My faith and my church have always been a central part of my life. I am blessed to serve Sharon Church.



Chad Henry

I have been a resident of Moon Township since 2004. I would call Indiana, PA my hometown, although I didn't move there until I was 14, and lived several different places prior to moving there because of my Dad's job

(football coach). I would consider North Carolina to be my 2nd home; Winston-Salem specifically. I played lots of sports growing up, most significantly football and baseball.

I attended Penn State for part of college, and then ended up getting both my B.A. and M.A. from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. I have been a College Scout in the NFL for almost 25 years; 19 with the Detroit Lions, and going on my 6th year with the Indianapolis Colts. I have been married to my wonderful Wife Holly for almost 21 years, and we have 3 children; Leah (14), Madeline (13), and Trent (11).

Deacons



Megan Anderson

Megan currently resides in Moon Twp. with her husband, Brian. She has a daughter, Ariana, who is in preschool, a stepson Garrett, who graduated from Clarion, and a dog Chevy.

She has been a member of the church for 3 years, and enjoys the whole experience of our church. She is excited for the opportunity to become a deacon and be able to have more interactions with other members of the church.

Megan works full time at a wealth management firm in Moon Twp, and while not at work, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, cooking and baking and writing a parenting blog online.



Janice (Jan) Benard

Many of the members will always know me as Jan Aber, as I grew up in Sharon Church. I was baptized in what is now the YCC. Recently I was honored to be recognized as a 50 year member of Sharon Church.

I have twin daughters, Casey and Courtney, who are 28. Casey lives in Mt. Washington and Courtney lives in Las Vegas with my grandson Amiri and his dad Vladimir. I have lived in Moon my entire life.

After graduating from Slippery Rock, I worked as an elementary teacher in Moon Schools for 6 years before going to US Airways. I spent the next 38 years as a Flight Attendant before retiring in October 2020.

I served on the Board of Deacons before my daughters were born and look forward to serving again.



Rhiannon Michaels

My family and I reside in Moon Township and we have been members of Sharon Church for 5 years. We have three active children, Lucas (7), Liam (4) and David (4) and one loveable Goldendoodle, Randy.

I am a director with PricewaterhouseCooper's Tax practice with more than 16 years of experience. I support companies in managing tax administration and strategic aspects of deploying an international workforce.

Outside of work and raising a family, I'm most interested in helping others and finding ways to serve my community. I'm so excited for this opportunity.



Albert Zalucky

I went into the US Army in August 1978. I got married to Gail at Sharon Church in November 1979. I retired from the US Army in 1994, and in 1995 started working at the US Post Office as a letter carrier. I retired from the Post Office in July 2018.

I became a member of Sharon Church in May 2007, and a Deacon in 2018.

I enjoy camping and spending time with my kids and grandkids.



Debbie Williams

Greetings to my Sharon family. I'm Debbie Williams and have been a member of Sharon Church for over 40 years and have previously served the church as an Elder and a Deacon.

My professional career included 38 years at Glaxo-SmithKline in an executive administrative capacity. After that I worked in the office here at Sharon Church for three years. In my retirement I enjoy reading, gardening, cooking, my gym classes and lots of miles with my walking buddy Susanne.

My two sons both live in Moon so I have the joy of spending much time with them as well as with my great grandson.

Elders

Chira Cratsley



Hi, I'm Chira Cratsley! I've been attending Sharon Church since birth in 1985. I'm married to Chris, and we have four kids: Eva (10), James (8), Petra (5), and Anneliese (3)...and two cats (Chuck and Norris).

I served on Session this past year as Co-Chair of the Worship, Music and Arts Committee and really enjoyed producing the Online Worship Video each week and watching God at work amongst our congregation, challenging us and strengthening us during the Covid-19 pandemic.

I have a BS in Geology from Dickinson College, a MS in Geosciences from Penn State, and my teaching certification from Pitt. I teach 8th grade science at Chartiers-Houston Jr./Sr. High School.

I enjoy outdoor activities like hiking and biking, watching Dateline and true crime shows, and anything creative, including dancing, music, and art. My favorite scriptures are Matthew 16:13-20, Mark 9:14-29, and Romans 8:9-39. I'm really looking forward to continuing to serve SCPC as an elder and all that God has in store for our church!

Lorna Phillips



I was born in Colorado and my family moved to Moon/Crescent area when I was six. I am an RN spending most of my Nursing career with UPMC, most recently at Mercy Hospital. I am now semi-retired .

Presently I serve as Deacon Moderator at SCPC. I enjoy Volunteering , gardening, reading books, crafting , visiting Antique shops and thrift stores .

My husband Don and I live in Kennedy Twp.

Todd Carter



I am a long-time Sharon Church member, having joined the Church through the Youth Club program while in junior high school in 1972. I was born and raised in Moon Township, and returned here after graduating from the University of Notre Dame.

My wife, Val, and I have been married for 38 years, and have lived in Moon for 36 of those years. We have one son, Scott, who is 29 years old.

I worked in public accounting for several years out of college, then spent 35 years at Mellon Bank/BNY Mellon, retiring three years ago. In retirement, I volunteer at the West Hills Food Pantry, enjoy doing a variety of projects at home, and spend a lot of time outdoors, hiking, biking and enjoying nature.

I was originally ordained an Elder in 2004, and have served on Session and as Treasurer in past years; currently I am in the second year of another term on Session, and am serving as Clerk of Session.

I have also been a member of the Finance Committee since the early 2000s. God has truly blessed me throughout my life, and I want to give back and help others as much as I can now that I have more time available.

Make the decision to do
what Jesus Christ has
asked you to do.


M. Russell Ballard

Children and Family Updates

It has been a trying year for everyone, yet, as this school year comes to a close we are all letting out an enormous HALLELUJAH!!! We have all endured home-schooling, employment ups and downs, sanity ups and downs, children crawling up the walls, but we made it! And not only did we make it, but we have faithfully given our abiding love and selfless care to God's children.

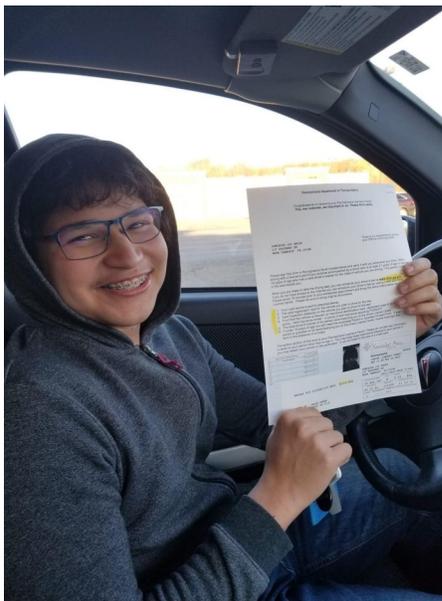
This year SCPC kids have taken their first steps, birthdays have been celebrated, soccer games, softball games, dance performances and karate belts have happened; our kids have graduated from pre-school, grade school, and high school and are moving forward with their lives... all thanks to SCPC families!!

Thank you families for sharing these pictures of your kids activities and accomplishments over the past year.

Ben Branch-Trevathan will be attending Kings College at the University of Cambridge in England in the fall. He will study History, Literature and Modern Languages.



Kominiko Green, Grandson of Vikki Lukac, got his learners permit and can't wait to get his license. He turned 17 May 23rd. We at Sharon have watched him grow up!



Fayte Wilson, who graduated from Aliquippa HS this year and is going to Edinboro University with a major in Social Work.

She plans on becoming an adolescent therapist.



James Cratsley completed 2nd grade. He reached a 4th grade reading level and proudly presented his first PowerPoint presentation to his class on the Emerald Tree Boa.

Leah Henry was a standout on the Track team, sweeping "gold medals" in all three of her events (200, 110 hurdles, & 400) at 3 meets.



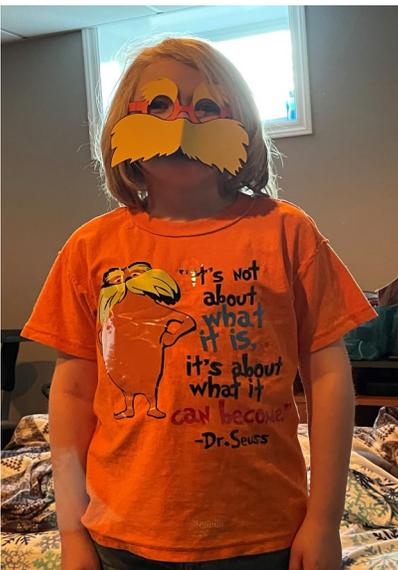
Leighann Roberts played soccer.



Eva Cratsley completed 4th grade. She survived her first camping trip this year with her cousin and a second camping trip with her parents and siblings, becoming an expert marshmallow roaster.

CONGRATULATIONS

On Dr. Seuss' Birthday, Ryder Young, Grandson of Vikki Lukac, was the Lorax. "It's not about what it is...it's about what it can become"



Rebel Young, Granddaughter of Vikki Lukac posing for her gymnastic show held May 15th at Moon Senior High School.



Trent Henry graduated from WEBLOS Scouting and received his Arrow of Light award.

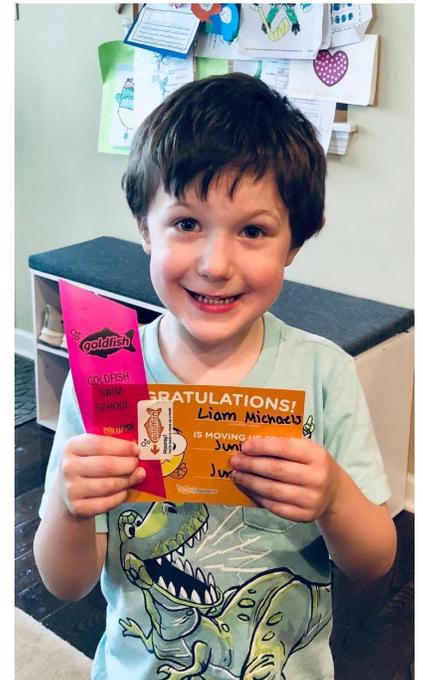


Caleb Painter earned his orange belt.



Lucas Michaels holding the trophy he won in a golf tournament.

Liam Michaels displaying his graduation certificate from Goldfish Swim School and ribbon.



Addie Roberts lost her first tooth!



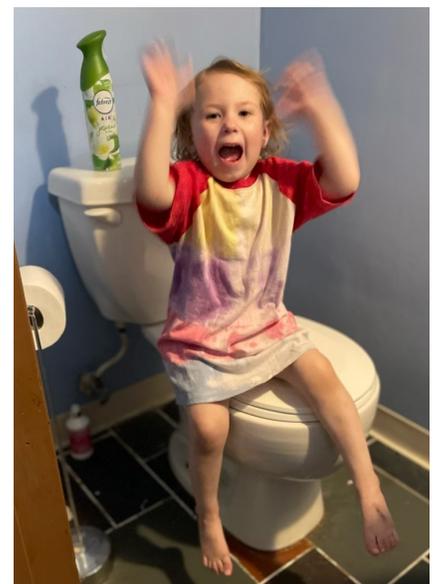
Abby Zalucky, with Raine, the day she got her kitten Luna.



Petra Cratsley graduated from preschool this year. Here she is with her teacher, Mrs. Parks. She is excited to start kindergarten in the fall and ride the bus with Eva and James.



David Michaels showing off his Soccer Shots certificate of completion and medal.



Anna Cratsley learned how to use the potty this year and made the Cratsley house finally a diaper-free zone! She will start preschool in the fall.



Sharon Community Presbyterian Church
522 Carnot Road
Moon Township, PA 15108-2317

The Good News



July 4th Cookout (and hopefully fireworks)!

Join us on the SCPC Patio on July 4th @ 6:00pm for a community cookout.

Bring family and friends for food and fellowship... and please bring a dessert!

We will have cornhole and games for the kids. Moreover, last year we gathered and wished we had had a cookout. So, this year, we are! Fireworks were visible from our cemetery vista. So, bring a lawn chair and come enjoy July 4th with your church family.