

# FROM THE BANKS OF THE CURRITUCK SOUND

The E-Mail Newsletter of Sharon United Methodist Church  
275 Poplar Branch Road  
Poplar Branch, North Carolina 27965  
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## PASTOR'S THOUGHTS:

I'm never quite sure what to write in September newsletters. Too often we tend to think of the month as a year's movement into senior adulthood. Remember the lyrics of *The September Song*?

*Oh, it's a long, long way from May to December  
But the days grow short when you reach September  
When the autumn weather turns the leaves to flame  
One hasn't got time for the waiting game.*

The song makes one believe that September is the beginning of the end. But life teaches us otherwise. In many senses, it's just the beginning. Vacation has concluded and school begins. Most of the summer heat wave has concluded, and more pleasant weather begins in September. The leaves begin to turn in September. Don't feel sorry for poor old September hobbling on the calendar's cane. Instead, September is a time when the year begins to sprint, a time with energy and activity, a time when you better hold on because something exciting is about to happen.

September is also the beginning of the new Church program year. As I said, something exciting is about to happen. Sharon is beginning to kick into gear!

A number of our Vision Initiatives are well into play: **DISCIPLE'S PATH BIBLE STUDY** and **ESCAPE BOOK CLUB**. Another vision initiative to improve our handicap accessibility will begin on September 16 with the demolition of our North ramp and platform. Our 2nd Wednesday of every month **COMMUNITY MEAL**, to engage our community in fellowship and speak to the issue of food insecurity will begin on September 14. And a new community outreach will take place on September 16 when our **FOOD PANTRY** will be open for "Fill A Bag Day" for those in need. We anticipate our **BLESSING BOX** in the church yard to return to its usual activity with

school back in session. This is just the beginning of a busy fall here at Sharon Church. There's energy all around – and God's Spirit is on the move!!

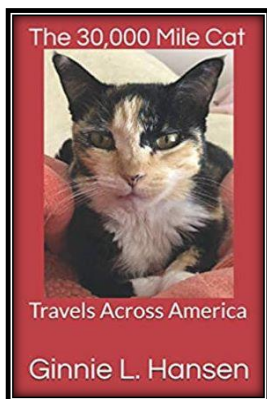
All of which, brings me to a request. With Sharon Church on such a positive move forward and ministries looking to make positive impacts, we shouldn't keep this blessing a secret, should we? So, I encourage you to become invitational. Tell someone you know about our church. Talk with them about worship, Sunday School, mission projects, small groups, etc. Share the good news that is Sharon, and invite others to come and experience it for themselves.

September is upon us! Get ready for some great days ahead! And, my dear flock, please know what a blessing you are to your Pastor!

Love, Susan

## ESCAPE BOOK CLUB

Our first meeting of the Escape Book Club brought eight readers (and one on Zoom) to the Fellowship Hall on August 23. Following a light lunch, we had a delightful discussion on ***Driving Miss Norma*** and the inspiration drawn from this book brought much thought on making the most of every breath of life.



Our next book club is Tuesday, September 27 at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our book is ***The 30,000 Mile Cat: Travels Across America*** by Ginnie Hansen. It is a memoir based on Hansen's cross country adventures with her husband and Trouble, a tortoiseshell cat who found them. It is an easy and enjoyable read about the author's adventures while crossing the US and the changes one silly cat can bring to life. If you are a pet lover or love travel and adventure, you'll want to join us for this story of Trouble and his "hoomans!" A light lunch will be provided.

If you would like to secure a book and be a part of The Escape Book Club, please contact Pastor Susan and plan to join us on Tuesday, September 27.

The Escape Book Club reading for November 1 is ***Tuesdays with Morrie*** by Mitch Albom

## THE SHARON SPOTLIGHT

In an effort to “person”-alize *From The Banks of the Currituck Sound*, we will interview worshipers at Sharon Church each month. In the spotlight this month are **RED and CAROLE MANGHAM.**



Red and Carole moved from Griffin, Georgia to Waterlily a number of years ago to be closer to their son and daughter-in-law. You'll see them at Sharon just about every time the doors to worship are open and they probably wondered what they were getting into when Pastor Susan asked if she could stop by and interview them for the e-newsletter. Yet, they were great sports and said, “Come on over!” Take a moment to get to know some things you may or may not know about these wonderful friends at Sharon Church!

Question 1: What's the first movie you remember?

***Both thought hard on this one. Carole wasn't really sure, so she passed on the question. Red ventured a guess that it was Hop-Along Cassidy!***

Question 2: What was your first car and what did it cost?

***A 1941 2-door Ford costing \$200.***

Question 3: Where did you meet?

***Both joyfully answered, “At Church” and Carole added a side-tidbit that “Red worked for her Daddy!”***

Question 4: What inspires you?

***Carole answered, “Singing the hymns of the church.”***

Question 5: Where were you born?

***Carole in Griffin, GA and Red in Lamar, GA***

Question 6: If a young person came to you and asked, “What is your advice for finding a good, fulfilling life, what would you tell them?”

***Both spoke with conviction about the importance of worship in one's life and spoke fondly about what the experiences in their home church, Pleasant Hill***

***United Methodist Church, had meant to them for so many years. Both agreed in the need for daily Bible reading and the importance of finding a trusted spiritual friend or guide. Carole added to “live the way of Christ at home and in your work” and Red followed up by saying, “Always hold close to your Christian values.”***

Question 7: What did you do for a living?

***Carole worked in a number of office settings and took time off to be with their son, Kirk, when he was a little boy. Red worked for 34 years in the cotton mill in their community and when the mill closed, he worked another 17 years as a Prison Guard for Death Row Inmates at the Georgia State Prison.***

Question 8: What’s your favorite TV show?

***Carole’s response was NCIS and game shows like “The Price Is Right” and Red simply loves FOOTBALL!!***

Question 9: What’s the one snack you can’t live without?

***In unison, Carole and Red replied, “SNICKERS!”***

Question 10: What do these two native “Georgia Peaches” appreciate about the new life they’ve found in coastal Currituck County?

***The BEAUTY. The CURRITUCK SOUND. The SUNRISES.***

Thanks, ever so much, Red and Carole, for sharing a little about yourselves for ***From The Banks of the Currituck Sound***. Stay tuned next month for another Sharon Spotlight Reveal! And PS ... the first one to discover Red’s favorite football team will get a Snickers bar!!!

### **CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 at 1:00 p.m.**

Working through the challenges of caregiving can be daunting! Finding a way to relieve stress and anxiety and to spend even a few minutes caring for yourself can make a profound difference.

At this month’s meeting, our program will be on CAREGIVER JOURNALING. We’ll learn how journaling can be a safe place to express your challenges, fears and hopes, as well as develop meaningful ways that will encourage you to take a moment to care for yourself in the same way you care for the people you love.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO PASTOR ERIC LINDBLADE

Our congratulations to Pastor Eric Lindblade, who will be honored as the 2022 Distinguished Alumni at The Ridgewood School in Springfield, Ohio on Saturday, September 24. The honor, given by The Ridgewood School Board of Trustees, recognizes Eric's professional achievement of forty+ years of active ministry in The North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church; his service to society exhibited with integrity and demonstrated commitment in bettering the lives of others; and his contribution of time and talents to the communities he has served, which honors the legacy of excellence at The Ridgewood School.

Pastor Susan will travel with Eric to Ohio on September 21 - 25 and their son, Eric A. and his fiancée, Renee Steinberg will travel from Gettysburg, PA to join them for this celebration and a short visit.

### COMMUNITY MEAL - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 at 5:30 p.m.

On the 2nd Wednesday of every month, Sharon Church will host a Community Meal at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This month's bill of fare will be hamburgers and hotdogs with all the trimmings!



We will provide a hot meal each month as an opportunity for the congregation to get to know our neighbors and to provide a little extra help in stretching an evening meal. The meal will be free of charge, but if you wish to make a donation, an offering box will be available and all money earned will go into the fund to purchase the next meal.

Be sure to mark your calendars and let's have a good group of Sharon members on hand to receive and welcome our guests and neighbors!!

## **FOOD PANTRY “Fill A Bag Day”**

With food costs on the rise, stretching our dollars until the end of the month can be a real challenge for many of our neighbors in Poplar Branch and Aydlett.

On Friday, September 16 from 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., our Outreach Committee will open the Fellowship Hall for “Fill A Bag Day.” Neighbors will be able to select canned goods and businesses in the community will be solicited to donate other items like milk and fresh vegetables.

Thanks, Sharon Church, for your generous support of our Food Pantry stock for use in our Blessing Box for emergency pick up needs and this “Fill A Bag” event!

## **NEW MEMBER SUNDAY- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2**



We rejoice each time we welcome new members into our church family. If you have never made that step, we invite you to do so by speaking with Pastor Susan and she will be glad to lead you through the steps.

You may join through a variety of ways:

- 1) Profession of Faith
  - a) If you were baptized as an infant/child and now wish to make a public commitment to faith.
  - b) If you are not baptized, through the sacrament of baptism you will be received into membership.
- 2) Transfer from Other Denomination
- 3) Transfer from Other United Methodist Church
- 4) Affiliate Membership - You may be away from the place you call home and have strong ties with your church there. United Methodists honor Affiliate Membership where you retain your primary membership in your home church but are linked and related to the United Methodist Church you attend as a fellow United Methodist.

## **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.**



The bond between person and pet is like no other relationship, because the communication between fellow creatures is at its most basic. The love we give to a pet, and receive from a pet, can draw us more deeply into the larger circle of life, into the wonder of our common relationship to our Creator.

On Sunday, October 2 from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m., we will welcome our pet friends to the parking lot at Sharon Church for a Blessing of the Animals. Please park in the regular parking area. The Blessing will be held on the front steps of the church. On the side closest to Griggs School, we will welcome representatives from various Currituck County Animal Rescue groups as well as affordable spay and neuter clinics to exhibit their information and share about their work on behalf of animals.

We will bless each pet individually and to keep everyone safe, please have your pet secured on a leash or in a cage. Photos of animals who cannot travel like fish and even stuffed pets will be welcomed.

Please bring a can of cat or dog food to be shared with the rescue groups and be sure to invite your friends!!!

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