



Sharon United Methodist Church

Rev. Toni C. Wood, Pastor

Sunday, February 23, 2025 – 11:00 AM

Bringing in the Light of Christ		Bob Gadkowski
Prelude		Anita Cotton
Opening Prayer		Rev. Toni Wood
Words of Welcome and Announcements		
*Call to Worship (In Unison)		Ken Edgar
	“An Invitation to Christ”	On Screen/UMH 466
	<i>Come, my Light, and illumine my darkness. Come, my Life, and revive me from death. Come, my Physician, and heal my wounds. Come, Flame of divine love, and burn up the thorns of my sins, kindling my heart with the flame of thy love. Come, my King, sit upon the throne of my heart and reign there. For thou alone art my King and my Lord. Amen.</i>	
*Affirmation of Faith		On Screen/UMH 888
	“Affirmation from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20”	
Leader:	This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:	
People:	<i>Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit. Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. Amen.</i>	
*Hymn of Praise	“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”	UMH 465
Scripture Reading	Genesis 45:3-11, 15	Ken Edgar
Children’s Message		
Sharing our Celebrations and Concerns		
Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer		
Anthem	“His Name Medley”	Choir
Sharing our Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory		
*Doxology		
	<i>Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.</i>	
*Prayer of Thanksgiving		
*Hymn	“Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling”	UMH 348
Scripture Lesson	Luke 6:27-38	
Sermon	“Forgiving”	
*Closing Hymn	“Freely, Freely”	UMH 389
*Taking the Light of Christ into the World		
*Benediction		
*Sending Forth	“The Family of God”	On Screen/CH 419
*Postlude		Anita Cotton

(* Please stand as you are able

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

Sun. Feb. 23	9:45 am – Christian Journey Class 10:00 am – Bryan Morris Class 11:00 am – Worship 12:15 pm – Choir Practice 1:00 pm – Local Church Leadership Training & Live Q&A Happy Birthday to Kenita Sohn
Mon. Feb. 24	2:40 pm – SUMC Literacy Tutoring Program
Tues. Feb. 25	4:00 pm – Red Wagon Ministry
Wed. Feb. 26	2:40 pm – SUMC Literacy Tutoring Program Happy Birthday to Phil Kratzer
Thurs. Feb. 27	7:30 am – Seekers Bible Study (Facilitated by Jeanne Murray) Happy Birthday to Joe Coriaggio
Sun. Mar. 2	9:45 am – Christian Journey Class 10:00 am – Bryan Morris Class 11:00 am – Worship

WORSHIP TEAMS

FEBRUARY 23

Acolyte: Bob Gadkowski
Greeters: Jim & Brenda Zetervall
Worship Leader: Ken Edgar
Ushers: Rosalie Jones & Patricia Leary
Flowers: Anita Cotton
Counters: Jan Eanes & Sue Collie
Trustee: Bob Gadkowski

MARCH 2

Acolyte: Ken Edgar
Greeters: Marshall & Julie Cherry
Worship Leader: Marshall Cherry
Ushers: Deb Chambers & Danielle Skinner
Flowers: OPEN
Counters: Sylvia Kirk & Barbara Gadkowski
Trustee: Marshall Cherry

UPCOMING EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Ash Wednesday Services**
 - **March 5, 5:00 pm** – There will be an Ash Wednesday Service at Sharon UMC.
 - **March 5, 7:00 pm** – There will be an Ash Wednesday Joint Worship Service at First UMC in Elizabeth City. It will be a joint Worship Service with the AME Zion church. Bishop Connie Mitchell Shelton (NC Conference) and Bishop W. Darin Moore (AME Zion, Eastern District) are presiding.
- **Recorded Worship Services** – Each week the recorded Worship Service is posted to our YouTube Channel. If you missed a service or would like to watch past services, you can visit our YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/@sharonumcpoplarbranchnc9028. You can also click the YouTube link at the bottom of our website www.sharon-umc.org.
- **Red Wagon Ministry (located in the Mt. Zion parking lot)** – The Red Wagon ministry is in need of **Baby Diapers** and **Feminine Hygiene Products**. A collection container has been placed in the entryway.
- **Altar Flowers 2025** – If you would like to place altar flowers in the church "in memory of" or "in honor of" a special person, please contact Iris Meekins at imeekins14@gmail.com or 252-202-6401.
- **Online Giving** – We have established an online giving method for SUMC. We encourage you to continue giving in the manner that is most convenient for you, but know that this online giving option is available. Feel free to share this new way of donating to our church with others. You can donate by using the link on our website at <https://www.sharon-umc.org/> or by scanning the QR Code below.

ALTAR FLOWERS



*The flowers are given to the Glory of God,
and in memory of Bobby Cotton's birthday by Anita Cotton*



FINANCES OF THE CHURCH

2025 Monthly Budget \$ 7,502.38	Received Last Month (January) \$6,159.00	Received Last Sunday \$1,265.00	