

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE		
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24	9:30AM	Prayer Time
	10:00AM	Sunday School
	11:00AM	Christmas Eve Service
	5:00PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
MONDAY, DEC. 25		MERRY CHRISTMAS
TUESDAY, DEC. 26		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27		No Wed. Night Activities
FRIDAY, DEC. 29		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30	8:00AM	Interval Training

Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017	
Sunday School	62
Worship	171
Offering	\$7,285.00
Received YTD	\$329,520.14
Needed YTD	\$325,327.98
Needed Weekly	\$6,378.98
Difference	+\$4,192.16
Cemetery Fund (11/30/2017)	\$2,256.96
Capital Imp. Received	\$210.00
Capital Imp. Fund Balance	\$88,731.89

SERVANT MINISTRIES	
Nursery Workers Today	Myra Boland & Karen Waldrep
Nursery Workers Dec. 31	Ann Edwards & Linette Garrett
Children's Church Today	Amy Blackwell & Sarah Boland
Children's Church Dec. 31	Kelle Waters & Kelsey Hendrix
Head Usher Today	Rick Christopher
Head Usher Dec. 31	Eddie Bright

SCA Staff	
Kay Bright	Bailey Cox
Melissa Farmer	Lisa Welch
Laura Williams	Stephanie Wykel

LECTIONARY TEXTS
Sunday, December 31
Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm 148
Galaians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40



## Sharon United Methodist Church

1421 Reidville Sharon Rd.

Greer, SC 29651

Phone: 864-879-7926

Church Website: [sharonumchurch.com](http://sharonumchurch.com)

E-Mail: [sharonumcgreer@gmail.com](mailto:sharonumcgreer@gmail.com)

### CHURCH STAFF:

*Rev. Bryson Williams, Jr., Pastor*

*Mary Jo Bradley, Secretary*

*Katie Stewart, Music Director*

*Clara Godfrey, Pianist*

*Bill Lee, Organist*

*Amy Blackwell, Children's Co-Director*

*Kelle Waters, Children's Co-Director*

*Debra Fowler, Custodian*

*Grey Pennell, Director of Student Ministries*

*Laura Williams, Preschool Director*

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT – Sharon United Methodist Church glorifies God as a friendly, caring, Christ-centered fellowship with strong family and spiritual values working to grow our church, our community, and our world one disciple at a time.**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
CHRISTMAS EVE**

**DECEMBER 24, 2017**

**11:00AM**

**"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."**

**--John 1:1**

**We Gather To Worship God**

**Prelude**

**Bill Lee, Organist**

**Announcements**

**Rev. Bryson Williams**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

**\*Call To Worship "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v.1) UMH #211  
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**\*Opening Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem" UMH #230**

**We Praise God**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

**Offering**

**The Offertory "Hark The Herald Angels Sing" Julia DeSerio**

**\*Doxology UMH#95**

**\*The Offertory Prayer**

**Special Music "Angels Among Us" Children & Scott Davis**

**Children's Message**

**Kelle Waters**

**(Sing "Jesus Loves Me" as the children ages 4,5 & 1st grade go to children's church.)  
Jesus Loves Me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong;  
they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes,  
Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

**The Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer**

**Rev. Bryson Williams**

**Special Music**

**"Mary Did You Know"**

**Julia DeSerio**

**We Hear God's Word**

**Scripture**

**"John 1:1-5"**

**Pew Bible, p.86 (N.T.)**

**Sermon**

**"In The Beginning"**

**Rev. Bryson Williams**

**We Go Forth To Serve God In The Worship**

**\*Closing Hymn**

**"Joy To The World"**

**UMH #246**

**\*Benediction**

**Rev. Bryson Williams**

**\*Benediction Response**

**"Away in a Manger"**

**(v.1) UMH #217**

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the Little Lord Jesus, asleep on the  
hay.**

**\*Postlude**

**\*The Congregation standing. If it is uncomfortable for you to stand, please remain seated  
and continue your participation.**

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**WELCOME: Good morning and welcome to all guests, members, youth and children  
worshipping with us today. We are glad that you decided to join us for worship! We hope you  
will experience the hope and love of Jesus Christ as we worship together. If you do not have  
a church home, we invite you to become a part of the Sharon family.**

DECEMBER 24, 2017

**ON-GOING PRAYER-SHARON UMC FAMILY**

Ben Brockman  
Frank & Ruby Vaughn  
Roie Johnson  
Margaret DeYoung  
Dorothy McHugh  
Gregg Gowan  
Pete O'Shields  
Gerald & Ruth Snow  
Dot DeYoung

**ON-GOING PRAYER – SHARON UMC FRIENDS**

Heather Osegueda, friend of the SCA  
Family of Larry Yon, father of Matt Yon  
Carol Welch, Friend of SCA  
Judy Johnson, friend of Darlene DeYoung  
Amanda Newton  
Family of Carmella Hudson  
Wirron Leonard, friend of Johnny Wade  
Sharon Community Cupboard

**IN NURSING HOME/SHUT IN**

Dora Edwards  
Betty Jean Brockman  
Ruby Coggins  
Vivian Eubanks  
June Gossett  
Family of Gertrude Smith  
J. B. Waddell

**OUR MILITARY**

Erin Pennell  
Jonathan Houck, Chuck and Debi Hembree's grandson  
Jamie Matekaitis, Rob & Amy Lancaster's son-in-law

**FOOD COLLECTIONS:**

*Sharon's Community Cupboard –  
Can fruit (all kinds), soup, peanut butter and jelly*

**ON-GOING PRAYER FOR SHARON FAMILY RELATIVES**

Joann Waldrep      Eddie Waldrep's mother  
Mike West          Joyce Lee's son  
Shelby Hendrix     Jackie Floyd and Allen Sheriff's sister  
Steve Farmer       Katy Lee's father  
Dottie Currin       Brian Harrison's sister  
Mary & Bill Ruppe   Suzie Horn's mother & step-father  
Cash Richards       Grandson of Andrea Payne and Great Grandson of Nancy Morgan  
Charles & Diane Babb   Parents of Chip Babb  
Kay Ford             Ken DeYoung's sister

**MISSIONARIES IN ACTION**

Asia Minor - Steve, Jean, Jordan & Davis Dunlap  
Thailand - Todd, Pam, Sidney, Ashley, Noah & Hannah Grace Attaway

**MISSION PRAYER FOCUS:** This week we pray for Ethiopia. Ethiopian monarchy embraced Christianity at its very early stages, and it became the state religion in the 4th century. In the 7th century there was Muslim influence. Tensions and conflict have been recurrent between the Christian and Muslim communities. There is currently a large Ethiopian Orthodox Church, it was the state church under the monarchy but has lost this position. Catholic presence goes back to the 16th century, and Protestant missions arrived in the 20th century. The largest non-Orthodox church is the World of Life Church (Evangelical), followed by Lutheran and Presbyterian. There are also two large Pentecostal churches.

**JESUS IS THE GIFT:** This year our church is collecting money for Epworth Children's Home. Our intention is this collection is A Gift For Jesus, which we will forward to Epworth. If you would like to make a gift, please mark your check or envelope with Epworth or Jesus Is The Gift. Our goal is \$15,000.00..

**CROSSFIRE:** The CrossFire Youth are returning to Revolution again this year in Columbia from January 26-28. There will be music, speakers and mission opportunities over the course of the week-end. If any parents or adults want to join as chaperones for the trip, please let Grey know. This trip is always a blast and we hope you will be able to join us!

**TRIP TO HOLY LAND:** We have a trip to the Holy Land scheduled for April 2-12, 2018. The trip will be led by Pastor Bryson.

**WELCOME:** Good morning and welcome to all guests, members, youth and children worshipping with us today. We are glad that you decided to join us for worship! We hope you will experience the hope and love of Jesus Christ as we worship together. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to become a part of the Sharon family.

**NURSERY FOR OUR CHILDREN:** Parents, we are so glad that you are our guest today. We have a nursery for our children. The nursery is for newborn to three years old, and is located on the main floor in the gathering space. If you need help with locating the nursery, please see one of our greeters in the narthex. We are so glad that your family came to worship with us today!

**EXERCISE CLASS STARTING:** We are continuing our interval training for anyone 13 years and up. Classes will be Mondays at 6:30pm and Saturdays at 8:00am. Cost is \$80 for 8 weeks or \$6 per class. Come get fit with us!!

