

Sharon-Hope This Week – April 24th, 2026
Sharon-Hope United Church
A vibrant community of faith, hope and love ...
come and see!

“From Helpless to Healed”



Rev Sadekie

“Jesus said to him, ‘Stand up, take your mat and walk.’” — John 5:8 (see also John 5:1–18)

There are so many things that are outside of our control. Certainly, in a crisis, most of the time, we are dependent on others to help us move from one stage to the next. When this is working well, we are grateful. When it is not, it can leave us in a state of helplessness.



In the story of Jesus and the paralytic, we see something powerful—Jesus not only restores the man’s health, but He also makes him active in his healing.

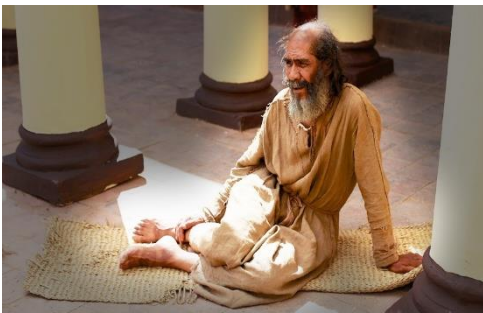
In John 5, there is a man who has been waiting for thirty-eight years.

- Thirty-eight years of limitation.
- Thirty-eight years of hoping something would change.
- Thirty-eight years of watching others move ahead of him.

By the time Jesus meets him at the pool, his condition is not just physical—it is internalized. When asked if he wants to be made well, his response reveals more than circumstance: *“I have no one... someone else always gets there before me.”* His reality has shaped his belief system. Healing feels dependent on others, on timing, on conditions outside of his control. **Helplessness has become a way of being.**

And then Jesus speaks—direct, clear, and disruptive: *Get up. Take up your mat. Walk.* No elaborate ritual, no waiting for the waters to stir, just a call to move. This moment marks a shift—from passivity to participation.

Healing begins not only with divine intervention but with a human response.



Step 1: Get Up — Shift Your Position

Before anything else, Jesus calls him to rise. **To get up is to interrupt the identity of helplessness.** It is a refusal to remain defined by what has been. This is not a denial of the struggle; it is a decision not to stay there. **Getting up begins internally:** a change in mindset, a

willingness to believe that change is possible, even after a long time. It is the moment you say, *“I will not remain here.”*



Step 2: Take Up Your Bed — Own Your Story

The mat represents the place where he has lived in limitation. It is evidence of his past, but now, he is asked to carry it. Not to lie on it again, but to take hold of it. Healing does not erase history. It transforms our relationship to it. What once held you down can become something you carry with awareness, strength, and perspective. **Taking up your bed is about ownership, acknowledging where you have been without allowing it to define where you are going.** It is the moment you say, *“This is part of my story, but it is no longer my identity.”*



Step 3: Walk — Move Forward Intentionally

Walking is an action. It is ongoing. It is lived out beyond the moment of breakthrough. Jesus does not just restore him; He calls him into movement.

Healing is not a single event; it is a process that unfolds as we continue to take steps forward. Walking requires

consistency, courage, and sometimes discomfort. It means choosing new patterns, new directions, and new ways of being. It is the moment you say, “*I will live differently now.*”

The man who once waited became the man who walked. And that is the invitation within this story.

There are places in life where we have learned to wait, wait for others, wait for change, wait for the right conditions. But at some point, healing asks something more of us. It asks us to respond.

- To rise
- To do our part
- To change our position
- To carry what we have been through
- To move forward

Not alone, but not passive either. Passive does not get us anywhere. When we do something, it takes us closer to our healing than doing nothing at all.

Reflection Question:

Where in my life am I being invited to move from waiting into active participation in my own healing, and what would it look like for me to take the first step?

Sunday's Message:
"Find Your Place"



*Every **Thursday** from **11 am - 12 pm**, we read and discuss our insights on the Scriptures read on Sunday and others designated for study in the reading plan for that week.*

Connect...Grow

Come and Join Us in the Lounge



Rev Sadekie will be taking
some well-deserved Time Off

April 24, April 25, April 26

We welcome Rev Elias
who will be available for Pastoral Care.

A MOMENT OF
Hope

Weekly Online Devotional



**New Videos are Available Every Monday at 6am
on Facebook & Youtube. Click [Here](#) to see last week's Devotional video**



SUNDAY'S SERVICE THEME: CAMPING

YOU'RE WELCOME TO WEAR CASUAL CLOTHES



As WE follow
after Christ, we
all can lead one

SHARON-HOPE'S – PLANT, BAKE & MORE SALE!!

Sale – Saturday May 16th (8:30 to 12pm).

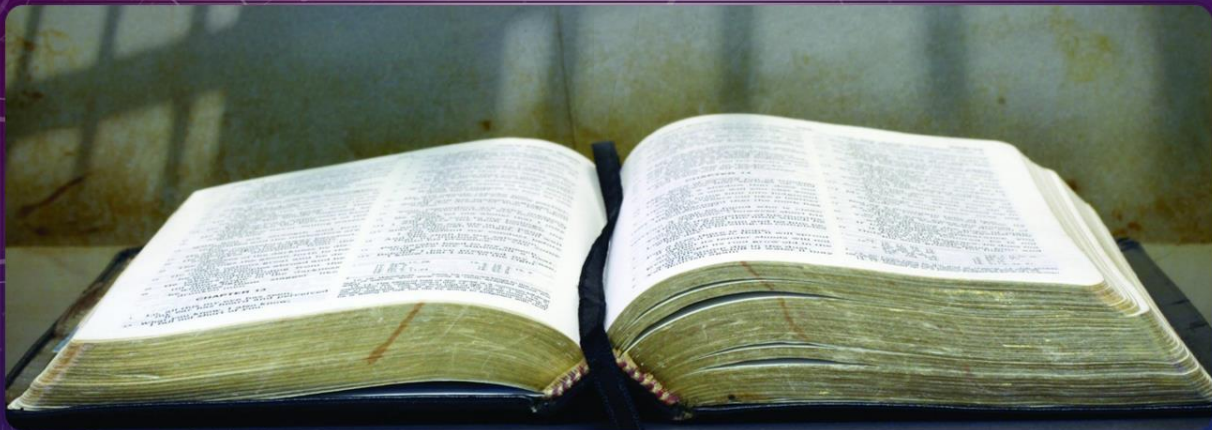
**Will move inside if weather is bad*

Carol Bertram will be organizing the Plant Sale.
If you can provide plants – please fill out the Sign Up sheet
(located outside the kitchen).

Any questions? Would you like a donation receipt? Contact Carol.

Bake Sale – Sign Up Sheets posted outside the
kitchen. Total of your items sold will be added to
your yearly donation.

**Contact the office if you would like to book a table.*



LECTIONARY READINGS 2026

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN
READING THE ONLINE
VERSION?

WOULD YOU PREFER
TO PRINT YOUR OWN
COPY AT HOME?

Click Here to
Access the Full
Series for 2026.

THANK YOU TO OUR APRIL 26TH, VOLUNTEERS!!

Greeter

Ed

All

Megan

Scripture

Neil

**Collection
ushers**

Coffee Time

Mary Jane, Carol &
Ginny

AV team

Mary Jane &
Vicki

Remember to signup outside the kitchen or
[click here](#)

ON AIR

Missed a Service? Look for it on [Sharon-
Hope's YouTube channel](#)

Watch where you want when you want!

Remember



Sharon-Hope is a scent-free building

Did you know ... You can find the weekly readings for 2026 [here](#)

Readings April 26th...

OT: Psalm 23

Epistle: Acts 2:42-47



SHARON HOPE: 55+ GROUP

1pm

May 28th

Lounge

A Message from Finance

Financial Update for March

Givings in March and year-to-date are ahead of budget and 2025 (excluding Count Me In). Thank you to everyone for your continued support. Our expenses exceeded our revenue putting us in a deficit position for the month and year-to-date. We are hopeful that Easter and Lenten donations in April will lead to a surplus for that month.

Our deficit position for this first quarter of the year is \$12,418.

April is a time to start preparing for our big “plants, baking, and more sale”. Let’s make this our best one yet. The success of this fundraiser in May could help to yield a surplus for the month. Signup sheets are posted outside of the kitchen door. Flyers will be available soon and we’ll need help to spread them around the area. Your help will also be needed to forward the advertiser to lots of people on your email contact list, so spread the word!

"Do all the good you can,
 By all the means you can,
 In all the ways you can,
 In all the places you can,
 At all the times you can,
 To all the people you can,
 As long as ever you can."

-John Wesley

With gratitude and blessings,
 Your Finance Team

	Year-to-date March		
Sharon-Hope United Church	2026		2025
Income & expense summary	Actual	Budget	Actual
<u>Income</u>	\$	\$	\$
Donations	25,320	22,882	24,710
All other sources	21,968	21,425	23,841
Total income	47,288	44,307	48,551
<u>Expense</u>			
Total expense	59,706	65,088	61,982
Operating deficit before the following	(12,418)	(20,781)	(13,431)
Count Me In Special Gifts	-	-	11,202
Operating DEFICIT	(12,418)	(20,781)	(2,229)
OPERATING SURPLUS, DECEMBER 31, 2025	18,921		
OPERATING SURPLUS, MARCH 31, 2026	6,503		
	\$	\$	\$
MISSION & SERVICE	2,188	2,500	2,156



Thank you for
your donations



CARING CRAFTERS

Check Out Our Library!!

Please remember Only Novels
can be donated.

SIGN UP FOR COFFEE TIME!!

Home baked
goods not
required

Sign Up Sheet
located outside
the Kitchen.



The Week at a Glance (See [website calendar](#) for other details)

Week at a Glance – April 26 th to May 2 nd						
Sunday April 26	Monday April 27	Tuesday April 28	Wednesday April 29	Thursday April 30	Friday May 1	Saturday May 2
		Rev Sadekie in Office		Rev Sadekie in Office	Rev Sadekie in Office	St. Silouan Orthodox Church 9am-1pm Harmony Hall / Kitchen
			Ignited Learning 9:30pm-3pm Outside	Lectionary 11am Lounge	Ignited Learning 9am-2:30pm Outside	
<u>SHUC Worship</u> 10 - 11am <u>Sanctuary or</u> <u>Click for ZOOM</u>	Gwillimbury Quilters 1pm-4pm Harmony Hall / Kitchen	55+ Group 1pm Lounge	Gwillimbury Quilters 9am-5pm Harmony Hall / Kitchen			
Sharon Village Bible Church 1 - 5pm Building				SHUC Celebration Choir 7pm-9:30pm Sanctuary		
		York Harmony Chorus 6:30pm-10pm Harmony Hall	A Cappella York 6:30pm-10pm Harmony Hall	Church of Christ 7:15pm-9:15pm Hall / Lounge		Church of Christ 5pm – 9pm Hall / Lounge

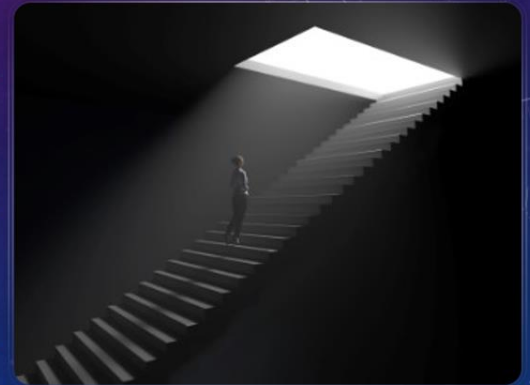
DID YOU KNOW ... YOU ARE NOT ALONE

If you would like Rev Sadekie to call you, you could do one of the following:

Leave a voicemail message on the minister's confidential phone # 905 -589-0889

Leave a voicemail message on the office phone # 905-478-2231 and the office will direct the message

Let your phone tree caller know and they can direct a message



Community Notices

CHATs, [Community Programs](#)

United Church of Canada, [Events and Webinars](#) and [e-Newletters](#)

Shining Waters Regional Council, [Events](#) and [News](#) (including the Current)

Toronto United Church Council, [Events and Workshops](#)

Sharon-Hope United Church

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sharonhopeuc@gmail.com

www.sharonhopeunitedchurch.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday 10-3pm, Thursday 10-2pm, Friday 10-3pm

Click here to [unsubscribe](#)