

The Tidings

Saron United church of Christ
W3830 County Road J Sheboygan Falls, Wi 53085

Rev. RaeAnn Beebe, Pastor Phone: 920-467-6202 Cell: 920-838-3172 revraeann@saronucc.org

Judy Knuth—Newsletter Editor Phone: 920-893-0391 jjknuth57@excel.net

Kathy Schwartz—Administrative Assistant Phone: 920-467-6202 adminoffice@saronucc.org

Peter Visselmann—Financial Secretary finance@saronucc.org

Saron Phone: 920-467-6202 Saron Website: www.saronucc.org



“Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”

Isaiah 43:18-19

The 34th General Synod was held in Indianapolis, IN June 30 – July 4. The theme was Making All Things New. Every two years, General Synod brings together thousands of faithful members of the United Church of Christ for inspirational worship, conducting the business of the church, formal church witness, and fellowship with friends (old and new). The delegates from

Wisconsin shared some highlights from General Synod.

History was made at this year’s General Synod as Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson was elected as the 10th General Minister and President of the UCC. Although she is the 3rd woman nominated for this position, she is the 1st elected. Rev. Dr. Thompson served previously as the Associate General Minister for Wider Church Ministries and Co-Executive for Global Ministries. Farewell was bid to Rev. John Dorhauer who served eight years as General Minister and President.

The UCC by-laws were changed regarding the frequency of General Synod. The next General Synod will be in Kansas City in 2025 and there after will be every three years instead of every two years. Those in favor of this change cited cost savings and the ability to hold virtual meetings. Those against fear a loss of connection to the wider church.

The keynote speaker was Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber, author, public theologian, Lutheran pastor. She spoke about being “a part of an old, old story that starts at the beginning of time, brushes the skin of the present, and reaches into the promised future.” “God is not done,” she declared.

Many of us have learned through Confirmation that the UCC was made up of four denominations that formed two and then one – the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Congregational Christian Churches. But there was a 5th stream that has been overlooked when we recall our roots – the Afro-Christian Convention. Apologies were made and initiatives begun to correct the history of our denomination.

Much more happened at General Synod. You can check out the UCC Website (ucc.org/generalsynod) to find out more about these highlights and all the other businesses and activities that took place.

I feel fortunate to have been a delegate twice for General Synod and a volunteer when the Wisconsin Conference hosted it in Milwaukee. It makes me realize how we are part of something bigger than ourselves and the difference we can make in the world when we work together. We may not agree on all the actions taken at General Synod or by the wider church, but that is the beauty of the UCC. We don’t have to, and we can still be in covenant with one another.

Blessings,

Pastor RaeAnn

Mission Opportunities sponsored by Saron's Mission Team for the Church Year

Saron's Mission Team met recently and developed a list of mission projects for the coming church year. We are publishing the entire list now, so Saron members are aware of how our church plans to serve those in need. There are a variety of opportunities available, and we hope that you will feel called to participate in some, or all of the projects. Members of Saron's Mission Team are Darlene Gumm, Jay Grosshuesch, Joan Laack, Kari Mooney, Barb Post and RaeAnn Beebe. Please contact any of these people with your feedback.

Immanuel UCC Food Pantry– We encourage Saron members to continue to support this food pantry. We will have a drive of suggested items to donate bimonthly.

Habitat for Humanity– Habitat for Humanity will again sponsor the Rock The Block Neighborhood Revitalization Program for the Sheridan Park neighborhood in Sheboygan. This year's dates are September 21-23.

Sheboygan Community Cafe– Saron members will have the opportunity beginning in October to prepare and serve a lunch for the Community Cafe. The Community Cafe offers a light lunch each day, except Sundays, to anyone who wishes to come. It is held at St. Luke UMC in Sheboygan.

Feed My Starving Children–Following the success of last year's work, Saron members will again have the opportunity to assist in mixing ingredients for ready-made meals that are delivered world-wide where there is great need. The dates are October 6 or 7.

Salvation Army– The confirmation students will be making Christmas cookies for the inmates at Kettle Moraine Correctional Center, and other Saron members will be welcome to help.

Sheboygan Warming Shelter– Saron members will have several opportunities to prepare and/or serve a warm meal to homeless individuals during the winter months.

Mary's Room–Based on the great response last year, we will again sponsor a 'baby shower' for Mary's Room to be held on Mother's Day (May 12, 2024). Mary's Room, located in Sheboygan, is a resource for needy mothers and their infants. We will be seeking donations of clothing, toys, and diapers.

Bridge Builders in Milwaukee– Saron members of all ages will have the opportunity to participate in a one-day (Saturday) mission project to help restore homes in the city of Milwaukee. We are hoping to secure a Saturday date in May.

News From The Endowment Committee

Saron UCC's Endowment Fund committee will have an update in September of the distribution process to release funds to provide for Saron UCC programs. Christian Education, Community Services and Wider Missions. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Endowment committee.

ENDOWMENT FUND





Many students attend school without the necessary tools needed for their learning experience. The Women's Guild will be sponsoring a "Back to school supply drive." From now until August 27, 2023, we will be collecting NEW school supplies to be distributed to children in need in local area School Districts. There will be a box in the Narthex for you put your donations in. We will also accept cash donations, checks made out to Saron's Women's Guild or gift cards to stores that sell school supplies and the Women's Guild will purchase items needed.

SUGGESTED SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| -Box of 24 Regular Crayons | -Clipboard (Letter size) |
| -Crayola Washable Markers-Wide and Thin | -Kleenex |
| -Colored Pencils | -Post It Notes (3x3 size) |
| -Washable Watercolor Paint Set | -3-ring binder (1") |
| -Fiskars Scissors (blunt & pointy or 5" size) | -Composition Notebooks |
| -#2 Pencils | -Notebooks (wide ruled) |
| -Pink Erasers | -3 Subject Notebooks (wide ruled) |
| -Erasers (Pencil top) | -Loose Leaf Paper (wide ruled) |
| -Highlighters | -2 Pocket Folders |
| -Pens (Red, blue or black) | -3 Prong Plastic Folders |
| -Sharpie Black Markers | -Pencil case or box |
| -Expo Dry Erase Markers (Low Odor) | -Band-Aids (Latex Free) |
| -Glue Sticks | -Ziploc bags (all sizes) |
| -Glue bottles | -Disinfectant Wipes |
| -12" Ruler | -Backpacks (No Wheels) |
| -Earbuds/headphones | -Accordion folder with 7 pockets |

Thank you for helping children in need succeed.

The Women's Guild

Treasurer's Update As of June 30, 2023

First and foremost, the Consistory would like to thank you for your generosity. Without your financial support the mission and ministry of Saron UCC would not be possible. The Consistory would also like to keep you, the congregation, updated on the financial situation at Saron.

The **General Fund** supports the work of the church through salaries, programs, building upkeep, office expenses, utilities, supplies, and of course insurance (the items that are included in our line-item budget).

YTD income \$77,530

YTD expenses \$96,800

YTD Deficit \$19,270

For the month of June, there was a net deficit of \$9,850 which increased the year-to-date deficit in our general fund. Although there is a reserve built up in the general fund, \$9,850 of that reserve was used for expenses. Please prayerfully consider your support of the daily and weekly vital functions of Saron Church as we go forward through the year.

The **Improvement Fund** supports all maintenance of the buildings and property that is not covered under General Fund expenses. Monies in this fund can be carried over from year to year.

YTD Income \$8,800

YTD expenditures \$7,680 (includes final septic bills)

Total Available Fund Balance \$41,870

The major improvement projects of the new roof and the septic system have been paid in full. Thanks to the generosity of all of you, these costly projects were completed without depleting the Improvement Fund. There are no improvement projects scheduled, so the balance in the fund should cover any emergency issues that might come up.

The **Benevolence Fund** supports our OCWM commitment, our SPARE student, other mission opportunities and acts as a pass-through account for the UCC Special Mission Offerings.

YTD Income \$12,814

Designated Disbursements:

SPARE (minimum of \$1,250—\$0 designated)

OCWM (\$20,500 commitment - \$10,643 designated, = 52% of commitment)

One Great Hour of Sharing - \$1,295.68

Souper Bowl of Caring (distributed to the Sheboygan County Food Bank) \$464

Strength The Church - \$375

Other pass-throughs for special mission offerings and projects are distributed as they are collected throughout the year.

This update does not include all funds at Saron. An update on these funds is available from the treasurer. If you have any questions about Saron's finances, please contact Treasurer Linda Barthels or any Consistory member.

Those who are homebound or in care centers: Marilyn Perronne (at home), Eugene Weiskopf (Field of Dreams Assisted Living, Kiel) Shirley Schmidt (at Song Bird Pond), Merlin Schmidt (at home), Sally Nohl (at home) Marilyn Heiden (at The Waterford)



We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family of **MaryEllen Schnelle, sister of Virginia Braun**, who died on June 29th **ALSO to the family of Janice Brass mother of Sara Feldmann**, who died on July 11th.....



Ben Lenz
(U.S. Air Force)

Christopher Kletzien
(U.S. Army)

Happy Anniversary We hope you keep the following people in your prayers as they celebrate their Anniversary this month. If we missed your special day or reported a wrong date please let us know by calling the church office at (920-467-6202 or email adminoffice@saronucc.org).

- August 1 Haley & Jackson Wimmmler
- August 3 Lee & Barb Post
- August 4 Brian & Deb Rautmann
- August 5 Dave & Janice Morse
- August 6 Steve & Amber Cassadonte
- August 10 Dale & Vicky Verhage
- August 12 Bryan & Lois Rick Knowles
- August 14 Mike & Cheryl Walsh
- August 16 Arlan & Sharon Schlundt—65 yrs.
- August 17 Bill & Janine Gardapee
- August 19 Mitchell & Ashley Schmidt
- August 21 Brian & Laura Gumm
Mark & Marci Post
Eugene & Vickie Schapp
- August 22 Ashley & Jeremy Guell
- August 23 Sara & Daniel Skeris

- August 26 Ron & Vicki Imig
- August 27 Nate & Sara Dassow
- August 28 Gary & Jane Hanke
- August 29 Amber & Jacob Meyer



Happy Birthday We hope you keep the following people in your prayers as they celebrate their Birthday this month. If we missed your special day or reported a wrong date please let us know by calling the church office at (920-467-6202 or email adminoffice@saronucc.org).

August 1 Chase Farnum

August 2 Andrew Boll
Ruby Feldmann
Cindy Schuler

August 3 Dan Albright
Verla Peichl
Sharon Schlundt

August 4 Vern Boedecker
Sandy Herzog
Cheryl Walsh

August 5 Miranda Boll
Lou Meinnert
Kennidy Pelnar

August 6 Christine Frazier

August 7 Nancy Fritz
Loretta Kwekkeboom

August 9 Cameron Gumm
David Johanning
Brian Rautmann
Eric Roehl

August 10 Julie Fitzgerald
Rev. Barb Loose
Pearl McCraw

August 11 Jenny Beltran
Amber Meyer

August 12 Tim Chisholm

August 13 Sharon Feldmann
Peggy Lubach
Ann Mitchell-Fessler

August 15 Reed Miller
Bonnie Post
Heath Taylor

August 16 Don Klemme

August 17 Walter Zimbal

August 19 Jill Adamavich
Tom Beitler

August 21 Elizabeth Barthels
Kyler Pennell
Linda Schuler

August 23 Linda Barthels
Tracy Beeck
Marvin Boedecker
Miles Hanke

August 25 Ben Nyhof
Justin Schneider
Cole Suemnicht

August 27 Donna Rautmann

August 28 Xander Dassow
Jeff Hanke
Sally Nohl

August 29 Bryce Holzmann

August 30 Justin Boedecker
Tom Kanzelberger
Diane Voelker

August 31 Joan Laack
Scott Reichert

