

Saron United Church of Christ
W3830 County Road J
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

FEBRUARY—2021

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saronucc.org

The Tidings

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Sunshine, sand, and sea water always revive my spirit and my soul.

I know it is a little crazy going on a vacation during a pandemic, but the precautions that were taken at the resort were remarkable. Social distancing was easy to maintain as a hotel that could accommodate around 700 people had less than 100 guests. All staff were masked, and guests were required to wear masks in the dining rooms and buffet lines. Hand sanitizer was available all over and temperature checks were done at check-in. We were able to maintain a bubble that isn't always easy to do here at home. I am grateful that I had the opportunity for renewal and relaxation.

One day as I was standing in the Caribbean Sea, the waves came crashing in. Even though I was not in deep water, I was nearly knocked off my feet. The sand under my feet shifted and keeping my footing became challenging. I moved to what I thought was firmer ground, but the waves kept coming and they were pretty strong. I found that the harder I tried to hold my ground, the more unstable I became. Standing firm only made it more difficult to stay on my feet. I found that if I shifted my weight with the wave and kind of flowed with it, I was able to stay on my feet and move farther out in the water.

The Church (notice the capital C) is in a transitional place right now. The world, like the sand under my feet, is changing. A pandemic like a wave has caused us to lose our footing. Those rituals and activities that gave us identity are no longer possible to participate in right now. We are finding that what we find meaningful, isn't meaningful or important for everyone. We have some choices to make. Do we try and stand firm, hoping we don't get knocked over? Or do we figure out ways to keep upright by moving with the changes?

Out of necessity we have implemented many changes to our worship. Some of these changes we hope are temporary, but others have launched whole new ministries. Facebook kept us connected early on in the pandemic. It was space for us to gather in and share our collective anxiety. How can we use it in the future? Live-streaming worship has allowed participation by many who are unable to worship in person. While it doesn't take the place of worshipping together as a community, it provides an opportunity for folks who cannot participate on Sunday mornings (not an ideal time of everyone). We have invested in better equipment and are looking at other ways to enhance this ministry. Are there ways this technology can be used in other ways? Sunday School? Faith Formation studies? Again, it doesn't take the place of gathering in person. There is nothing like seeing someone face to face and reaching out to touch their hand (when it is safe to do so), but the opportunities for reaching people outside our four walls are endless. While technology is a wonderful tool, we cannot rely solely on it. How can we bring worship and faith formation to those who do not have access to technology? Can we think outside the box of what has been to what can be as we heed God's call?

As I stood in those waves, I found myself purposely walking into them. As I looked out on endless sea, I couldn't help but think of all the possibilities that God has placed before us. It is very exciting! I hope you are as excited as I am about what the future holds.

Blessings,

Pastor RaeAnn



Ash Wednesday Worship

February 17, 2021 at 7:00 pm

**Communion and imposition of ashes
will be a part of the service.**



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

Mid-week Lenten Services each Wednesday in Lent

beginning February 24th at 7:00 pm.

Series on The Lord's Prayer

We will take a detailed look at the different petitions in this prayer that we pray each Sunday.

This series is intended to be interactive.

It has been decided to not have a meal before worship this year.

Those who are homebound or in care centers: Marilyn Perronne (at home), Helen Peichl (at home) Mickey Glander (Sheboygan Senior Community, Rm 404) Eugene Weiskopf (Field of Dreams Assisted Living, Kiel) Merlin & Shirley Schmidt at home.....



**Ben Lenz
(U.S. Air Force)**

**Christopher
Kletzien
(U.S. Army)**



WHAT TO DO IF WE ARE HAVING BAD WEATHER

Winter is here! We hate to cancel worship, but if we need to, Tune in to WHBL 1330 AM (Sheboygan), Milwaukee TV



Stations 4 (WTMJ), FOX 6, 12 (WISN), 58 (CBS 58) or Green Bay TV Stations 2 (WBAY) or 5 (WFRV); call the church office to listen for a cancellation message (467-6202) or check the church website for a cancellation notice (www.saronucc.org).

We Extend Our Christian Sympathy to the family of Vernon Vogel father of Saron member Diane Reil and Grandfather of Carly who died on December 19, 2020....



Saron's Annual Meeting Election Results

Elder: Doug Van Helden

Deacon: Dave Rautmann

Trustee: Matt Dulmes

Endowment Fund: Jay Hoogstra

Pastor Parish Relations Committee: Jenny Beltran & Deb Rautmann

Cemetery Board: Jack Hanke

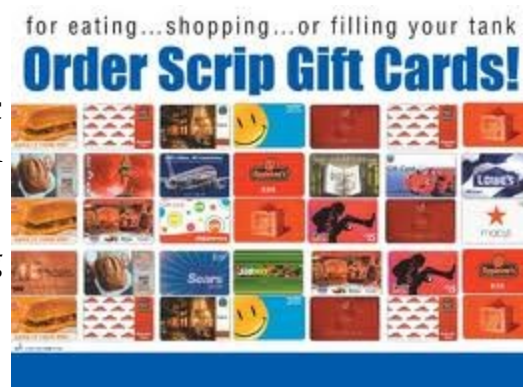
- ♦ The Annual Meeting was recorded and will be made available for you to view, call the church office at 467-6202 for further details on how this will be handled.
- ♦ If you would like a copy of the Annual Report you can pick one up in the back hall of the church.
- ♦ The Minutes of the Annual Meeting will be included in the March Tidings.

SCRIP SALES

In January a donation of \$500.00 was made to the Septic System Project. This donation was made possible from the proceeds of SCRIP sales.

Thank you for your continued support, especially during this last holiday season.

The Women's Guild



Thank You!

Dear Saron UCC Congregation

Thank you for your generosity to the families of Sheboygan County Head Start and Early Head Start. We are thrilled to have your support this year to assist our families in need during this season.

Your donation helped make a much brighter Christmas for the 6 families that you adopted this year. This included 10 adults and 19 children. You have truly made a difference for them all and for that we are extremely grateful!

From the Staff and Families of Head Start and Early Head Start, we wish you well and have a Happy Healthy New Year to you all!

With Gratitude,
Kelly DenBoer

Community Partnership Coordinator
Sheboygan County Head Start and Early Head Start

The Tidings



The Following are Thank You Notes from the families who received our Advent Angel Tree gifts.

"Thank you so much for the gifts!"

"I just want to say Thank You so much for this years blessings. I can not express enough how much this means to our family. I hope you have a Merry Christmas!"

"Thank you so much, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!"

*Saron Church,
Thank you so much for the gifts. Because of your generosity, our family is able to have a Christmas. We are so incredibly grateful and blessed for your kindness."*

"God Bless all of you! Happy Holidays!"



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 (467-6202 or e-mail adminoffice@saronucc.org).

February 6 Jeff & Kim Hanke

February 11 Glenn & Maureen Schnicke

February 17 Russ & Erlinda Beebe



February 24 Jim & Peggy Leu

February 27 Randy & Verla Peichl—50 yrs.

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 (467-6202 or e-mail adminoffice@saronucc.org).

February 1 Jill Imig
Michelle Johanning
Bryan Rick
Arwin Zimbal

February 2 Allen Blasel

February 3 Hartley Bell
Haley Post
Rachel Rautmann

February 4 Brandon Gumm
Jada Lorenz

February 5 Lisa Schneider

February 6 Lloyd Feldmann
Mairin Jarvis
Kevin Wieck

February 7 Adam Konz

February 8 Collin Dulmes

February 9 Julie Wieck

February 10 Randy Beebe
Brian Wagner

February 11 Nate Dassow

February 12 Anna Depping-Herzog
Julianna Kuzulka

February 13 Starr Boldt
Tyler Chisholm
Jaiden Haack
Ava Imig
Calob Rautmann

February 15 Ann Boll
Sarah Skeris

February 16 Tammy Grunewald
Heather Zimbal

February 17 Eugene Rautmann

February 19 Judy Glander
Max Prange
Mary Jo Quilling
Jerry Quilling

February 20 Judy Dumke
Shaun Haas

February 21 Roy Herzog
Brynn Oppeneer
Barb Sebald

February 22 Kristi Belcher
Bonnie Hanke

February 23 Gretchen Herzog

February 24 Lana Jankus

February 24 Peggy Nohl

February 25 Dan Doebert
Karl Fasse

February 27 Deb Rautmann

February 28 Gloria Kanzelberger

