



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

February
2024

The Tidings

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Dorry and Gary Wilner

In my first career, I worked in the electrical industry for 30+ yrs. My training and work brought me skills and experience in engineering, marketing and sales, product and project management, strategic planning, and running small to global companies after receiving an MBA from Wake Forest Univ.

As I was moving from commercial/industrial work to ministry, I directed an interfaith non-profit organization in a nine-county area of Wisconsin for 10 years. Wisconsin Interfaith Needs Response, Inc. provided vehicles to those needing them to gain or retain employment. Our services expanded from one city to nine counties during the time I was there.

And now, as you know, I am a second career interim minister having served 10 churches in Wisconsin prior to Saron UCC. I very much look forward to serving you.

Grace and peace,

Dan in VA; Laura CO; Mike MA; Cheryl CO; Brian NC

Gary

Contact Information:

Gary E. Wilner
920-216-3973 (Mobil phone)
gewilner@gmail.com



CHILDREN

Ash Wednesday, February 14th, Worship Service

The Ash Wednesday Worship Service will be held on February 14th at 7:00 P.M. Communion will be served.



We are going to be having Lenten Suppers!

Lenten Suppers will be served from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be collecting a free will offering.

Church Service to follow at 7:00 p.m.

Here are the Lenten supper and worship dates:

February 21st and 28th, March 6th, 13th, and 20th.

Please join us for good food, fellowship, and delicious Saron desserts.

A Note of Thanks

I would like to thank all of you for the wonderful celebration of my retirement. It was wonderful that so many of you were able to join us for lunch and the gift of Door County is so appreciated. Door County is one of our favorite places to visit. The beauty of the area, the shopping at quaint shops, and of course, the wine tasting! I will toast you all when we are there.

I so appreciated all of the stories and memories you shared of things that were meaningful or impactful in your life during our ministry together. You have impacted my life as well and I take a piece of all of you and of Saron with me. We are forever connected to one another.

Thank you and God's blessings to you,

Pastor RaeAnn



Upcoming Mission Opportunities sponsored by Saron's Mission Team

Below are several opportunities for Saron members to serve the community in the name of Jesus. Please consider supporting one or more of these worthwhile projects.

Immanuel UCC Food Pantry– We encourage Saron members to continue to support this food pantry. Mac n' Cheese is the suggested food item to donate for January and February.

Sheboygan Warming Shelter–Thank you to all who donated ingredients or volunteered to prepare the warming shelter meal on January 23rd. Saron is also in charge of preparing the meal on March 12. Sign up sheets for donations and volunteers for this meal will be up shortly.

Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive–Saron will again be a host of a collection box for a county-wide effort to collect hygiene and cleaning products for local shelters and crisis programs. The collection box will be in the narthex February 11-March 3.

Member of Saron's Mission Team are Darlene Gumm, Jay Grosshuesch, Joan Laack, Kari Mooney and Barb Post. If you are interested in serving on the mission team or have any suggestions or feedback please contact any of these people.



Just a friendly reminder that we sell scrip cards for all your needs.

We have them available every Sunday after church or stop by the office and talk to Kathy. You can also order scrip cards online at <https://www.raiseright.com>.

If you any questions call Kathy 920-467-6202.

SCRIPT DONATIONS

The Women's Guild is making a donation to the Sheboygan County Veterans Memorial towards their two new granite walls they hope to build by the end of October.

A raffle basket is going to be donated to the Saron UCC Cornhole Tournament. Another raffle basket will be donated to the UCC Mission Soup Cook Off.

All these donations are possible from the proceeds of Scrip sales.

THANK YOU for purchasing scrip cards!

The Women's Guild

You are cordially invited to participate in the

The Rural Churches Mission Soup Cookoff
Sunday, February 25, 2024
 Laack's Tavern & Ballroom, W4302 CO RD JM, Johnsonville
11:00 - 2:00
 \$10 adults, \$5 children 12 and under



Why should you participate?

Why: This event is being organized to unite area rural churches to participate in a Mission Outreach Project. It will allow members (adult and youth) to socialize outside of their churches, to build friendships, camaraderie, and bonds with other Christians. It is with anticipation that we can unify to allow for more opportunities that exist outside of our own congregations.

It will also allow the cookoff winner's church to hold **"Bragging Rights"** for the best soup in the community.

How can your congregation participate?

How: Members can Prepare/Enter Soups to the competition for taste testing.
 Members can Prepare Tortes and Baked Goods for dessert after the taste-testing!
 Members can Prepare Raffle Baskets for Fun and Fundraising
 Youth can wait on tables, empty garbage, help in the kitchen, etc.
 Members can Advertise - Pass the word to your family and friends to join us.

BEFORE THE DAY, by February 19th

Register your Soup - Cook-Off Entry

THE DAY OF: Sunday, February 25th at Laack's Tavern and Ballroom - Johnsonville, W4302 CO RD JM, Sheboygan Falls Wi 53085

Drop-off your Donations, Baked Goods, Tortes (Wrapped Individually for Sale) and Raffle Donations between 8-9

Soups may be brought any time after 8 am but must be in place no later than 10:30 am. Please fill out an index card with the name of the soup, your name and church's name. Please provide a ladle, marked with your name.

Soups can be picked up after the cook-off, but before 4 pm.

All proceeds will benefit the ASP Mission Trip planned for June 2024 for Mission Ministry in Appalachia. The Appalachia Service Project "ASP" is devoted to helping families of Appalachia "Making Homes Warmer, Safer and Drier."

Questions & Contacts: Janice Morse, 920-980-1666, morse1995@gmail.com
 Amanda Boedecker, 920-207-9700
 Pastor Nicole Herda, pastornicoleherda@gmail.com

Soup Cookoff
Rural Churches Mission
Sunday, February 25, 2024
 Laack's Tavern & Ballroom
 W4302 CO RD JM, Johnsonville
 11:00 - 2:00



Enter your favorite SOUP for tasting!



Come to Taste Test the Soups!

\$10 adults, \$5 children 12 and under

Enjoy a Bake Sale



Enjoy Raffle Baskets

ALL DONATIONS WELCOME

Soup Entry Information

Janice Morse - morse1995@gmail.com - 920-980-1666

Amanda Boedecker, 920-207-9700

Pastor Nicole Herda, pastornicoleherda@gmail.com

**All proceeds benefit ASP a Trip planned for June 2024 for Mission Ministry in Appalachia.
 The Appalachia Service Project "ASP" is devoted to helping families of Appalachia.
 "Making Homes Warmer, Safer and Drier."**



Saron's Cornhole Tournament

Saturday, March 9 is the date for this year's cornhole tournament and brat fry at Laack's Hall. Registration forms for the doubles team cornhole tournament are in the narthex. Sign up sheets for bucket raffle or baked good donations and to volunteer to help are on the kiosk in the narthex. Proceeds from this event will help defray the parking lot maintenance costs. Contact Devin Gardapee, Carl Laack, Dave Rautmann, Micah Rautmann or Jay Grosshuesch with any questions or suggestions.



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 Rocky Knoll).....



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).



Shirley Schmidt would like the congregation for the lovely card and plant that she received in honor of her 91st birthday.



Join us for
SARON FAMILY NIGHT on Wednesday
April 17th at 6:30 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall.
Come see therapy dogs. More details coming soon.

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).

February 6 Jeff & Kim Hanke—25 yrs.

February 17 Russ & Erlinda Beebe



February 24 Jim & Peggy Leu

February 27 Randy & Verla Peichl

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).

February 1 Jill Imig
Michelle Johanning
Bryan Rick
Arwin Zimbal

February 2 Al Blasel

February 3 Hartley Bell
Hailey Post
Rachel Rautmann

February 4 Brandon Gumm
Jada Lorenz

February 5 Lisa Schneider

February 6 Lloyd Feldmann
Mairin Jarvis
Kevin Weick

February 8 Collin Dulmes

February 9 Julie Wieck

February 11 Nate Dassow

February 12 Anna Depping-Herzog
Julianna Kuzulka

February 13 Ava Imig
Calob Rautmann

February 15 Sara Skeris



February 16 Tammy Grunewald
Heather Zimbal

February 17 Eugene Rautmann

February 19 Judy Glander
Max Prange

February 20 Judy Dumke
Shaun Haas

February 21 Roy Herzog
Brynn Oppeneer
Barb Sebald

February 22 Kristi Belcher
Bonnie Hanke
George Sommer

February 23 Gretchen Herzog

February 24 Lana Jankus
Peggy Nohl

February 25 Dan Doebert
Karl Fasse

February 27 Debbie Rautmann

February 28 Gloria Kanzelberger

ANNUAL MEETING OF SARON UCC

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024

The meeting was called to order by President Doug VanHelden at 10:40 am.

Doug VanHelden led us in prayer.

There were eighty-one people in attendance as recorded on the signup sheets.

Carl Laack made a motion to have Doug as moderator and Judy Glander as secretary. Lee Post seconded the motion. All in favor and motion carried.

Nominees for Consistory, Board of Christian Ed, Trustee, Cemetery Board and Endowment were put up on the screen in front of church. President Doug VanHelden asked for any other nominations from the floor three times.

Elder-Heather Zimbal

Deacon-Tim Feldmann and Melissa Fleck

Trustee-Andy Boll

Board of Christian Ed-Cindy Knopp

Cemetery Board-Jack Hanke

Endowment-Judy Dumke

Jay Flegal made a motion to close the nominations and Ron Roehl seconded it. The ballot counters were Katie VanHelden, Brian Rautmann, Janine Gardapee and Luke Kwekkeboom.

President Doug VanHelden had the members look over the minutes from the 2023 annual meeting. Roy Herzog made a motion to accept the minutes as printed and Lee Post seconded it.

Barb Post read the Pastor's Report that Pastor RaeAnn had written. Doug thanked Barb for reading this.

Doug gave his President's Report. He thanked the Consistory members for their dedication and for the opportunity to serve the last 3 years. He reviewed some of the projects that we have completed or are still ongoing. Some of these projects include landscaping for the septic system, water issue in the church basement with new larger gutters, downspouts and splash shields being installed on the north side of the narthex. He mentioned that the physical care of Saron is ongoing and will continually be addressed as needed. Doug's focus this past year as President was to question "what is Saron church" who we are and where are we going as a church also, to move beyond the physical needs of the church but the spiritual needs. Doug also mentioned we have seen an increase in mission opportunities such as potluck lunches with the outdoor



services, coffee/conversation time before church, ushering teams to full groups and involving them more in the service. Midsummer Pastor RaeAnn announced her retirement to the Consistory which now leaves our church in a time of transition. We, as the Consistory have worked diligently to find an interim Pastor, create a Search Committee also, pulpit supply. The Consistory will be collaborating with interim Pastor Gary Wilner, our church conference, search committee and the Church. During this time hopefully we will learn “Who we are as a church and who do we want to become.”

Treasurer, Linda Barthels reviewed the 2023 Treasurer’s report and the 2024 budget. Danielle Zimmerman questioned the Pastor’s Salary, and we were basing the salary this year for the interim on UCC guidelines also for a church our size. This also is guided by the number of years of service. Doug asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer’s report. Danielle Zimmerman made a motion to accept the 2024 Budget and Kevin Fleck seconded the motion. All in favor and motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Parking Lot Maintenance-The Consistory has come up with the following proposal for the parking lot.

Utilize up to \$25,000 from the Improvement Fund to sealcoat, stripe and maintenance of Saron’s parking lot and driveway (Excluding cemetery property)

At the budget meeting Allen Nohl made a comment to make sure that when this is being worked on that we distinguish the driving lanes for in and out. We, as Consistory, have gotten some quotes in the last couple of years so these will be reviewed. Carl Laack made a motion to proceed with the project and Lee Post seconded it. We had a ballot vote and it passed. Motion carried.

Cemetery Sign- Jay Flegal gave a detailed description of the new signage that the Cemetery Board would like to have placed on the west cemetery. This sign will be identical to the sign that is on the east cemetery. The following proposal was as follows:

Utilize up to \$22,500.00 from the Memorial Fund to purchase and install a sign on the west cemetery.

Jeff Meinnert questioned if the sign will be set back far enough so it will not be in the right of way of the road. Jay answered yes to the question. Judy Dumke made a motion to accept the proposal and Michelle Johanning seconded it. This was a ballot vote and it passed. Motion carried.

Endowment Fund-Teri Strub gave an update on the distribution of the funds (income and earnings) not principal for the Endowment. Last year it was requested to lower the funds from \$100,000.00 to \$75,000.00. The funds are to be utilized for Christian Education, Community Services and Wider Mission and Saron UCC programs.

Items not eligible for funds are improvements and purchases that relate to buildings and grounds or any other operating expenses of the church (salaries, heating, and cooling, etc.)

In 2024 the available funds for distribution are \$4000.00. The Endowment Committee has an application form to be filled out before the distribution of funds. Teri asked if there were any other questions and there were none.

Doug asked if there was any other business while waiting for the nomination ballots. Larry Boedecker questioned if there still was a committee that would oversee ringing the bell, answering any questions about funerals and or weddings. Doug mentioned that this was discussed at the Consistory's last meeting and before we put up a sign-up sheet, we would like to have a procedure in place. Carl Laack mentioned after the meeting that he would be available to give us some insight and information on this.

Voting for the following positions are as follows:

Elder-Heather Zimbal

Deacon-Melissa Fleck

Trustee-Andy Boll

Board of Christian Ed-Cindy Knopp

Cemetery Board-Jack Hanke

Endowment Committee-Judy Dumke

Members leaving: Elder-Doug VanHelden, Deacon-David Rautmann, Trustee-Matt Dulmes, Endowment-Teri Strub

Doug asked for a motion to destroy the ballots. Skeeter DeGroff made a motion to destroy the ballots and Danielle Zimmerman seconded it. All in favor and motion carried.

Stan Strub commended the Consistory for the work they did this last year.

Doug asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathy Depping made a motion to adjourn, and Lee Post seconded it. All in favor and motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.

We closed with the Lords Prayer.

Judy Glander, Secretary