Saron United Church of Christ

The Tidings

January—2016
Saron UCC
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Pastor's Notes:

Resolutions need to be reviewed. I know, for the most part we don't want to revisit what we ….well, let's say it "what we did a lousy job at." One would think we could make a difference in our lives if we concentrated on changing things and set our minds at making the changes we want or in some cases, we need to make. But it's easier said than done and for the most part, we don't want to be reminded about how far we missed our goal. Every once in a while however, we come to terms with what we're up against and we take heart to try again.

Take for instance the resolution a friend of our son reflected upon in a recent communiqué to him. "…and by the way, I'm within 15 lbs. of meeting my goal to lose 5 lbs. last year."

What a positive attitude. He of course needs to recalibrate his process. But I've got to hand it to him. He has a game attitude.

Well, what are we to take from this? Let's see.

1st – Don't give up on yourself.

2nd – Maybe it's time to readjust what I resolve to do. I mean, let's be realistic.

3rd – Maybe, just maybe, I don't want to put forth the effort or commitment I need to consider if I really want to change.

4th – If I make a resolution, do I think I'm worth making the difference I need to make to change my life for the better?

And to that I must say – Yes! You're worth it. Your life depends on resolving to make things better for you, and all who love you will celebrate that resolve. Let's not hesitate – be it resolved. I propose to do my part to make my life better

Welcome to 2016. And may the blessings of God's grace and love attend you and yours in this New Year and always,

Ernest Huntzinger

Looking Ahead To The Annual Meeting—January 24th, 2016
Following the 10:15 a.m. Worship Service
Proposed Budget Meetings January 10th & 17th
during the Sunday School Hour

The following people have been nominated for the offices of:

Elder: Carl Laack, Ryan Herzog

Deacon: Matt Dulmes, Tim Feldmann

Endowment: Jerry Quilling, Ralph Knuth

Cemetery: Richard Herzog, Lee Post

Trustee: Rich Koller, Matt Kapellen

To Be Discussed At The Annual Meeting

The Consistory has proposed a change to the By-laws at the request of the Endowment Committee as explained below:

The section we would like to change is section 2 "Accumulation and Distribution"
In that section, there is a paragraph titled "Gifts" where the first sentence reads:

"Gifts: Gifts and bequests to the Fund shall be in minimal amounts of $1000.00 or more."

We would like to propose the change it to read:

"Gifts: Gifts and bequests to the Fund shall be in minimal amounts of $250.00 or more."

According to Section 5, a change would require a two-thirds majority vote of members present at a duly-called Congregational meeting.

A Letter From Our Elaine Our Haitian Student

It gave me great pleasure to get your last letter. I am happy to know that everyone is doing well.

My family is doing really well. Things are smoothly moving along and we are not sick. The most important thing for me is good health! As for my school activities, all is going well. You are right in saying that studying is not easy, but truly hard. I have made sacrifices like going to bed an hour later so that I can study more and make good grades. I have also done a great deal of research at the library in order to learn more. I am in my fourth year and I think that I will finish in December 2016. Then after graduating I will give one year to the State in order to get my diploma. Without a diploma you can't really do anything. I have seven internships to do. I really need to do these internships in order to have the chance to work, but it costs a lot.

I would like to graduate with honors and to also specialize in orthopedics.

It has been a pleasure to write you this letter. May the Savior protect you as well as your family!

Elaine Dorlean

Youth Group News

High School is one of the most exciting times in one's life. You get to try new things, be more independent, and prepare for life after High school. This can also be a very scary time in one's life. You are no longer a kid, but aren't an adult yet either. School can be challenging and you might not feel like you fit in. Youth group is a place where all are welcome! This will be a place where you can come and have fun, relate to others and learn how you can bring Christ into the center of your life.

Since the beginning of September we have looked at topics such as self-image, bullying, thanksgiving, and focusing on Christ during our busy lives. We have also had a couple of fun events so far. We carved pumpkins in October, a movie night in November, we watched "Mean Girls" to go with our theme of self – image. We also had our first fundraiser and made over $200 through our bake sale. This money will help us go on our first retreat in January which we have three youth signed up for. December we had a couple of different things going on. We rang the bell for the Salvation Army at Piggly Wiggly in Howards Grove. Although it was a bit chilly out, we enjoyed singing Christmas songs and hopefully making spirits bright! We celebrated the Christmas Season in West Bend on the 13th. We were invited to join Immanuel UCC (my home church) for their Youth Group Christmas party. It was beautiful to see the two groups combine and have a great time together.

What's next? As we approach the start of the New Year I wanted to give you a heads up on some of the exciting things we will be doing. January 3rd we will be having another open house where I would like to invite all of the high school youth and their parents to join me over at the church house at 9:05 (between services). I would like to use this time to get to know everyone a little better, and hopefully you can do the same with me. This day will be used to discuss plans that I have for the New Year, as well as hear ideas from you. There may be a few games, and some bonding activities for families and the youth group as a whole. If you are interested in attending please let me know (262-3888-8838) or Landowskie@lakeland.edu . Also, if you would be willing to bring a breakfast snack (i.e break, muffins, juice etc.) that would be greatly appreciated.

Lastly, a group from our youth will be going to the Jesus Core retreat, leaving January 8th and returning on January 10th, please keep us all in your prayers!

As further events approach I look forward to keeping you updated! Again, if you have any questions or comments about youth group please feel free to contact me.

God Bless,

A Very Special Thank You!

The staff and residents of Pine Haven/Prairie Crossings and The Waterford extend a sincere thank you to Saron members who provided gifts for senior citizens. All of you were "Christmas Angels" who provided many, many smiles and tears of happiness Christmas morning. Blessings to you for a very happy 2016.

Advent Angel Tree

If you attended church on Sunday, December 20th you were greeted by hundreds of gifts under the Christmas tree. It was a sight to behold! The generosity of the members of Saron UCC is truly amazing. We have brightened the lives of many children and their families in the Sheboygan County Head Start Program and some Seniors from Pine Haven and The Waterford this Christmas. Also thank you for the cash donations we received. We used the money to purchase gifts for the tags that were not taken from the tree. We are so thankful for your kindness during this Christmas season!!

The Women's Guild

Cookie Sale

The Women's Guild and the Shawl Ministry would like to send a big THANK YOU to all those who purchased cookies and scarves. The proceeds will help support projects that these groups do.

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), 5 (WFRV), or 11 (WLUK); call the church office to listen for a cancellation message (467-6202) or check the church website for a cancellation notice (www.saronucc.org).

Seminary Update!!!

Hello my Saron family and friends,

As I write this update to you I am approaching the end of my first semester of my second year. The classes and activities that I have been involved in up to this point have been going great! This semester I took a full load of classes, taking five in total. The classes were Biblical Studies 3, Psalms, Song of Songs, Intro to Educational Ministry, and Church History 2. While each of these courses brought new challenges, I ultimately learned so much more and the semester has been very successful.

The next semester brings new courses, such as Biblical Studies 4, Constructive Theology, Preaching, and Death, Dying and Grief class. I am looking forward to an interesting semester, especially with orals coming up in April. The orals are used to assess my progress toward completion of my M.Div.

Along with all of this, I have a church placement, it is at Epiphany UCC. I have had the opportunity to be a part of urban ministries, evangelism, youth ministries, and preaching. This placement is really allowing me to stretch my skills as a future minister in the church, as well as learning things about community.

If you are interested in more of my journeys and ministries at Seminary, I gave a special Facebook page called Lucas' Ministries.

I would also like to thank you all for your care packages you sent during the Thanksgiving holiday. The love I felt when I opened those packages is beyond words. Your generosity is continuously felt here and that goes a long way, because seminary can be and is difficult at times and your support remains as a reminder that this is something I can do, regardless of its difficulty.

Blessings,

Lucas Williams
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In Our Thoughts and Prayers:

Those who are homebound or in care centers: Elvera Dassow (Harvest Home), Janice Hartmann (Pine Haven), Eleanore Herzog (Pine Haven Assisted Living), Ilene Struve (Kindred Hearts, Plymouth), Marilyn Perronne (at home), Mae Schmidt (at home), Beverly Kleinhans (at home)…

Saron members as well as friends and family of Saron who have been hospitalized or receiving ongoing medical care for challenging health problems or are battling cancer……

Those in military service: Jordan Rick (U.S. Marine Corps); Christopher Kletzien (U.S. Army); Jake Meinnert (U.S. Army)….

To those who grieve: We extend our sympathy to the family of LaVerne Wieck (DuWayne Wieck's mother) who passed away on December 8, 2015 and to the family of Arvid McGuire (Peggy Lubach's father) who passed away on December 17, 2015….

We celebrated the Sacrament of Baptisms of: Jacob Thomas DeHart on December 6, 2015. Jacob was born on September 1, 2015 and is the son of Brent and Kari DeHart and the brother of Katelyn and William. His baptism sponsors were Stacey Harmon and Amy DeHart.

Jayden Joseph Mauk on December 13, 2015. Jayden was born September 22, 2015 and is the son of Bryan and Brittney Mauk and the brother of Natalie and Braxton. His baptism sponsors were Chelsie Oberreich and Josh Ermer.

Walter James Zimbal on December 27, 2015. Walter was born on August 17, 2015 and is the son of Mark and Heather Zimbal and brother of Henry and Arwin. His baptism sponsors were Uncle Matt and Aunt Jamie Schuette.

Talon Matthew Schuette on December 27, 2015. Talon was born on October 6, 2015 and is the son of Matt and Jamie Schuette. His baptism sponsors were Aunt Heather Zimbal and Mike Wehmeier (Cousin to Matt).

To My Wonderful Church Family

Thank You to my wonderful Saron Family for all of the prayers, cards, telephone calls, and visits while I was at Sunny Ridge for 67 days. A special thank you to Pastor Ernie for his visits and words of encouragement.

A big thank you too for the Christmas Carolers, that was wonderful.

It feels so good to know that I belong to such a loving church family.

Thanks Again!
Norb Meyer

Happy Anniversary We hope you keep the following couples 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 barb@saronucc.org).

January 11 Glenn & Linda Ubbelohde
January 12 Art & Janet Lammers
January 19 Jay & Jill Grosshuesch 25 yrs.
January 23 Mark & Linda Shaw 35 yrs.
January 24 Doug & Jill Daun
January 26 Don & Judy Ryan

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 barb@saronucc.org).

January 2 Kris Nohl
January 3 Carrie Nickel
Bob Travis
January 4 Milton Braun
January 5 Jamie Haack
January 6 Elise Casadonte
Craig Grosshuesch
January 7 Matt Meinnert
January 8 Randy Sixel
January 9 Ed Schmidt
January 10 Marcus Dumke
Scott Mudler
January 11 Dorene Hanke
Waylon Kwekkeboom
January 12 Tim Feldmann
Jay Pike
January 13 Jan Binder
DuWayne Nohl
Emma Pike
Haley Rautmann
Lois Schlichting
January 14 Kari DeHart
Glenn Nohl
Coleson Trumm
Linda Wieck
Kathie Zittel
January 15 Lily Bohn
John Yellstrom
January 17 Peyton Holzmann
Nathan Roehl
January 18 Katie Haas
Ken Justinger
Laura Rautmann
January 19 Roberta Coppersmith
David Oostdyk
Benjamin Otte
Russ Reichert
January 20 Dan Roehrborn
January 21 Karla Kletzien
Matt Wilke
January 24 Erin Andrews
Lisa Bunke
Sarah Gonzales
Shirley Schmidt
January 27 Jeff Lubach
Marlene Mohr
January 28 Richard Koller
Carleigh Milz
Cindy Uraynar
January 29 Matt Boedecker
Ryan Herzog
Kate Holzmann
Carl Lindquist
January 30 Virginia Braun
Bill Gardapee
Kurt Mauk
Bentley Schmidt
January 31 Katelyn DeHart
Duane Hitsman