



# The Tidings

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

**January—2021**

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There has been a meme making the rounds on Facebook – “I’m going to stay up until midnight on New Year’s Eve. Not to ring in 2021, but to make sure 2020 leaves.” I think we can all understand that sentiment. 2020 did not unfold the way any of us could have imagined it would. It would be very easy to wallow in all the negative stuff that happened. I don’t mean to diminish the losses we experienced or the disappointments at every turn, but if we are so eager to move on to the next year, we might miss the blessings that were apart of 2020.

2020 brought a flourish of creativity. We were in the midst of Lent when we had to close our building down. Holy Week and Easter were right around the corner. How were we going to celebrate and worship if we couldn’t gather in our beloved sanctuary? On-line worship seemed to be the only option available and to be honest my knowledge of how to do that was non-existent. But through webinars and trial and error we did it! Now we are looking at ways to better the quality of our live-streaming and on-line worship. We discovered that while it does not take the place of worshiping in one place together, it does provide worship for those who cannot join at a specific time on a specific day. Our reach as a worshiping community has been greatly extended by our on-line presence. We will continue to experiment and learn as we move forward with this type of worship.

Summer brought uncertainty about gathering and so it was decided to do a virtual Vacation Bible School. While it didn’t work out the way we had envisioned, it did provide an opportunity for faith formation. There are many ideas to build on from this experience. Technology can be our friend if we use it correctly.

I think we also discovered ways of reaching out and communicating with those in our congregation. Not everyone has computer or on-line access. How were we going to reach them? Paper worship services were sent out on a weekly basis. Phone calls and notes were sent on a periodic basis. I believe this is an area we can continue to improve upon. While technology is a great tool, it does not reach everyone. I know that many in the congregation reached out to others making sure to stay connected.

While we have always known that being the church didn’t rely on a building, 2020 made that very real. Saron found ways of reaching out to those in our community who needed us most. We were regular contributors to Emmanuel’s Drive-Up Food Panty. We donated school supplies and Thanksgiving food items to Helping Kids. The Angel Advent Tree did not suffer because people couldn’t get physical tags off a tree (the on-line sign up worked great!). Regular offerings continued to come in to support Saron UCC and its mission and ministry. Being the church in the midst of a pandemic was visible here.

These are just a few of the things I count as blessings from 2020. As a people of the resurrection, as a people who live in hope, it behooves us to take the good things of 2020 and the lessons learned with us into 2021.

One of the things that I miss the most, is seeing all of your faces and being able to celebrate and grieve with you all of life’s events. My prayer is that we can get back to something like normal, but better in 2021. Merry Christmas and my prayers are with and for all of you.

Blessings,  
Pastor RaeAnn

**Budget Meeting**  
**Sunday, January 17th, 2021**  
**Following the 9:30 A.M. Worship Service**

**Annual Meeting of Saron United Church of Christ**  
**Sunday, January 24th, 2021**  
**Following the 9:30 A.M. Worship Service**

**Nominations for Elected Leaders**

*The Consistory of Saron Church is made up of three elders (who are responsible for the congregation's spiritual life), three deacons (who are responsible for the stewardship of finances & property), the treasurer (who oversees the financial security of the church), & the pastor.*

**The nominees for elder are: Doug Van Helden & Judy Glander**

**The nominees for deacon are: David Rautmann & Gayle Holzmann**

*The Consistory requests the trustees to carry out repair and maintenance projects around the church building and grounds.*

**The nominees for trustee are: Matt Dulmes & Jeremy Hanke**

*The Christian Education Board chooses the Sunday School curriculum, recruits and trains teachers, and plans Vacation Bible School and the Christmas program.*

**The nominees for Christian Education Board are: Jenna Hahn & Nicol Oppeneer**

*The Cemetery Board is responsible for the maintenance of the cemetery and its funds.*

**The nominees for the Cemetery Board are: Jack Hanke (Incumbent) & Kurt Kwekkeboom**

*The Endowment Committee is responsible for congregational awareness and prudent investing of Saron's Endowment Funds.*

**The nominees for Endowment Committee are: Jay Hoogstra & Jennifer Albright**

*The Pastor Parish Relations Committee meets at least quarterly with the pastor to ensure a healthy relationship between the pastor and the congregation.*

**The nominees for the Pastor Parish Relations Committee are:  
Jenny Beltran, Jola Erdy & Deb Rautmann (vote for 2)**

**Important Reminder**

**All financial account reports from any Saron UCC groups need to be to the office by Sunday, January 10th. They can be delivered to the church office or emailed to [finance@saronucc.org](mailto:finance@saronucc.org).**

## *Advent Angel Tree*

### *Ask and you shall receive!*



That is how it is at Saron! In October, when we were making plans for the Advent Angel tree, we were uncertain as to how to do it or if we should even attempt to do it. We decided to move forward. Gifts needed were put on the Angel tree and online on Sign up genius. The response we got was overwhelming. Because of the many cash and check donations that we received we were able to purchase all the items that remained. We also received donations of toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, hand sanitizer and Old Wisconsin summer sausages that we divided up among the families.

Saron members THANK YOU so much for your generosity! Six families will be so blessed and thankful for these gifts!

The Women's Guild



## Special Thank You Notes

The following are two 'Thank You Notes' that the Women's Guild received as a result of donations that were made possible thru income from the sale of SCRIPT Cards.

Thank you for the very generous \$500.00 donation from the Women's Guild, which will be added to the UCCI Fund, and used to support general operations at our camps. **This donation was made during the "Keep the Fires Burning" Campaign and, as such, will be doubled! Please share with anyone you know that from now, until the end of the year, all gifts will be matched!**



Because of your support, we can continue to improve, build and grow the Outdoor Ministry of the Wisconsin Conference UCC. Friends like you help keep our programs strong and are vital to fulfilling our mission.

Again, a sincere thank you for your very generous and caring support which will allow us to "Keep the Fires Burning"!

Bless You!

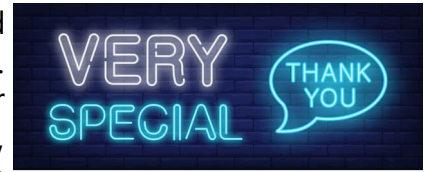
Glenn Svetnicka, Executive Director - UCCI

Saron UCC Women's Guild

Thank you is just two small words with deep admiration and gratitude. I'm humbled by your generosity. As we serve the Lord our greatest blessing is to receive God's love and our greatest privilege is to give it away to others. Your kindness and compassion for others in need means more than you could ever know and I'm thanking God for you. Your generous donation to Helping Kids is greatly appreciated. From the bottom of my heart I thank you.

God's Richest Blessings,  
Kathy Rowe - Helping Kids

Thank you to my Saron UCC family for all of the cards, emails and greetings I received for my retirement from the best job I've ever had. They all meant so much to me. It's so hard leaving a job I loved for over 35 years. I'm going to miss all the interactions of talks, laughs, and tears. I'm not going to miss chasing garbage cans across the parking lot, mice, bats, birds and even a duck etc... Thanks also for the church recognition of my time at Saron and for the gift cards to my most favorite place in Wisconsin—Door County. There are so many places to use these gift cards. It's going to be hard to choose where and what to spend them on. Thank you to Pastor RaeAnn for our daily staff talks. I'm really missing that.



I will still be doing A/V at church as well as being involved in the groups and committees I'm currently on, so I will still be able to stay in touch with the Saron family.

Love and Blessings,  
Barb Post

Thank you is one of those wonderful phrases people use to express a deep admiration, and gratitude, but there is often a lot more to it. When it comes from the heart it means you have done something special that one will never forget. I thank you for all the generous food donations to Helping Kids. Your kindness is greatly appreciated, and you all have made a difference in the lives of many kids and their families during the holidays. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you.



God's Richest Blessings,  
Kathy Rowe - Helping Kids

### 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](http://www.saronucc.org)).



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.....



**We extend our Christian Sympathy** to the family of Saron member **Hermine Kwekkeboom** who died on November 3rd, 2020 (Mother to Kurt and Grandmother to Luke)..... **ALSO** to the family of Saron member **Joyce Riviers** who died on December 19th, 2020 (sister to Virginia Feldmann and Aunt to many Saron members....



**Ben Lenz** **Christopher Kletzien**  
(U.S. Air Force) (U.S. Army)

**Thank You For Your Service To Our Country!**



**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](mailto:adminoffice@saronucc.org)).

January 11 Glenn & Linda Ubbelohde

January 12 Art & Janet Lammers

January 19 Jay & Jill Grosshuesch—30 yrs.



January 23 Mark & Linda Shaw—40 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 [adminoffice@saronucc.org](mailto:adminoffice@saronucc.org)).

January 2 Kris Lenz

January 3 Carrie Nickel

January 5 Jamie Haack

January 6 Elise Casadonte  
Craig Grosshuesch

January 7 Matt Meinnert

January 8 Randy Sixel

January 9 Ed Schmidt

January 10 Jill Farnum  
Heidi Richter  
Ian Richter

January 11 Dorene Hanke  
Waylon Kwekkeboom

January 12 Tim Feldmann  
Jay Pike

January 13 Jan Binder  
DuWayne Nohl  
Emma Pike  
Lois Schlichting  
Haley Wimmeler

January 14 Kari DeHart  
Glenn Nohl  
Coleson Trumm  
Linda Wieck  
Kathie Zittel

January 15 Isabelle Dassow  
John Yellstrom



January 17 Nathan Roehl

January 18 Katie Haas  
Laura Rautmann

January 19 Roberta Coppersmith  
Russ Reichert

January 20 Dan Roehrborn

January 21 Karla Kletzien  
Kendrick Kuzulka  
Kalvin Kuzulka  
Matt Wilke

January 24 Lisa Bunke  
Sarah Gonzales  
Shirley Schmidt

January 26 Brynn Harper  
Reid Harper

January 27 Jeff Lubach  
Marlene Mohr

January 28 Carleigh Milz

January 29 Matt Boedecker  
Ryan Herzog  
Carl Lindquist

January 30 Virginia Braun  
Bill Gardapee  
Kurt Mauk  
Bentley Schmidt

January 31 Katelyn DeHart  
Duane Hitsman

