

June—2020

Church Phone

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

THE TIDINGS

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"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35

Members and Friends of Saron United Church of Christ,

Jesus spoke these words to the disciples at the Last Supper. It is a reminder to us that the church is called to be a community of people who care about and for one another. While we know people are eager to return to worshiping in the sanctuary, the Consistory has taken this commandment to love one another into consideration as decisions were made about returning to in-person worship.

After reviewing guidelines from the Wisconsin Council of Churches, Sheboygan County Public Health, Badger Bounce Back and conversations with health care professionals and congregation members, the following timeline and preventative measures were agreed upon.

Unless the Sheboygan County Benchmarks (which are updated weekly) indicate not to, we will resume in person worship on **June 21, 2020**. We will hold one service at 9:30 am as would be our normal schedule for the summer months.

Since a vaccine is not yet available physical distancing will be necessary to prevent the spread of the virus as much as possible. Therefore, every other pew will be blocked off. Those who are not a part of the same family may sit in the same pew as long as a distance of 6 feet is maintained (example: a couple on each end of the pew). The balcony will be open to aid in separation. The front pews will be seated first, and dismissal will be from the back of the sanctuary to the front. This will reduce the risk of a bottleneck at the entrance. The pastor will not shake hands as people depart and we encourage you to not congregate in the narthex, but to socialize in the parking lot at a safe distance. We may need to limit the number of people worshiping in the sanctuary if we reach physical distancing capacity.

There is so much debate over the use of masks. Wearing a mask is an act of love for our neighbor, those who are more vulnerable to the virus. Masks will be required for worship, unless there is a medical reason you are unable to wear one. You may bring your own if you have one and cloth masks will be available at church for you to use for worship and then take home to wash and reuse.

Hand sanitizing stations will be available in the narthex.

Restrooms will be open. And although it does not really need to be said - wash your hands. We ask that you use a paper towel to open the door and dispose of it in the wastebasket that will be located by the bubbler.

One of the reasons communal worship spreads the virus more than other activities is how we worship. Our worship service will look different for the foreseeable future.

- Offering plates will be located at the entrance to the sanctuary and will not be passed during the service. An usher will bring the plates up during the offertory and place them on the altar.
- We will continue to have a Children's Sermon but will not have the children come forward.
- We will have all the information necessary for worship on the screen and will not pass out bulletins.
- Singing has been shown to spread the virus faster as the droplets are broken up and become aerosols which hang in the air much longer. So, while it is very difficult to imagine, there will be no congregational singing. We will find other ways to enjoy music together.
- Communion is another risky practice. We have purchased individual communion cups (they have grape juice in the cup and a wafer on top and are sealed). A gloved Consistory member will place one of these cups in your hand if you chose to participate in communion. We will then consume the wafer and the grape juice at the same time. Unfortunately, we will be suspending the children coming forward during the final hymn for bread and a blessing.
- The nursery will not be staffed during the summer months, but sanitizer will be available if a family chooses to take a little one down and care for them themselves.

We love you and seeing you in worship, but if you are feeling sick or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Fever, Chills, Muscle pain, Sore throat, New loss of taste or smell) or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive, please remain at home. Worship services will continue to be available online.

As the situation changes, these practices will be reviewed and revised as needed. I am sure you have seen the stories of places of worship being closed again due to the spread of COVID-19 amongst their congregation. We do not want that to happen here. Updates will be shared via the Thursday Greetings and telephone calls where appropriate.

The Consistory and Pastor are available for any questions or concerns you may wish to share.

Blessings,

Janine Gardapee, Consistory President; Nate Dassow, Elder; Jay Grosshuesch, Elder; Matt Boedecker, Deacon; Jason Bitter, Deacon; Ryan Herzong, Deacon; Tracy Beeck, Treasurer; Rev. RaeAnn Beebe, Pastor

Resources used in our decision making.

Sheboygan County Safe Restart Guidelines and Recommendations for Action

<https://www.sheboygancounty.com/departments/departments-f-q/health-and-human-services/public-health/communicable-disease/coronavirus-covid-19>

Resources used in our decision making.

Badger Bounce Back

https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/WIGOV/2020/04/20/file_attachments/1431305/Badger%20Bounce%20Back%20PlanFINAL.pdf

Wisconsin Council of Churches

<https://www.wichurches.org/2020/04/23/returning-to-church/>

<https://www.wichurches.org/2020/05/08/church-music-covid19/>

Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ

<https://www.wcucc.org/coronavirus-resources-for-churches/>

Message From The Consistory: No Aluminum Cans Accepted

We are **No Longer** collecting Aluminum cans for re-cycling. Please **Do Not** bring them to the church and put them in the garage. Thank You.

Thank You to everyone who volunteered their time, with the current stay at home situation, to help clean up the outside of Church. It was appreciated.



THANK YOU!

Thank you for your generosity. During this time of worshiping at home, many of you have continued to send in your financial contributions or signed up for electronic giving. This has helped Saron be able to continue to pay our staff and our bills. Many of you have contributed to Immanuel's Drive Up Food Pantry and it is appreciated so much. We received a wonderful thank you note from them and it was in the Thursday Greetings a few weeks ago. Thank you to Jerry Henning for delivering the donations each week. Thank you to those who cleaned out the gardens and spread the mulch. We couldn't have a clean-up day, but some tasks still needed to be done.

A special **thanks!**

CONFIRMATION

Even though we have not had our Confirmation Service, I want to congratulate the 2020 Confirmation class. I have enjoyed spending Wednesday nights with you and seeing you grow. You taught me many things and inspire me in many ways. We will celebrate at some point!

Collin Dulmes, Quinn Gumm, Mylee Nickel, Lauryn Pelnar, Corin Trumm, and Isabel Wieck

Confirmation

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Board of Christian Education will be meeting in early June to discuss Vacation Bible School options. Stayed tuned for more information.

Congratulations to all our Graduates

We are so proud of you and all you have accomplished!

Brandon Beeck - graduating from Howards Grove High School. He will be attending LTC to pursue a degree in Law Enforcement.

Cole Booth – graduating from Plymouth High School and will be attending UW Oshkosh pursuing a degree in Education. He would like to be a social studies or physical education teacher and a High School coach.

Abi Charbonneau – graduating from Sheboygan Falls High School and will be attending American Music and Drama Academy in New York pursuing a degree in Fine Arts

Morgan Johanning – graduating from Howards Gove High School and will be attending UW Green Bay in Sheboygan for a year and then transferring to UW River Falls pursuing a degree in Agricultural Business.

Seth Morse – graduating from Howards Grove High School and will be attending UW Whitewater pursuing a degree in Secondary Education.

Mitchell Nelson – graduating from Plymouth High School and will be attending Lakeland University.

Emily Schnicke – graduating from Howards Grove High School. She will be attending St. Norbert's College pursuing a degree in Human Resources.

Jenna Hahn graduated from LTC with an Associates Degree in Landscape Horticulture.

Russell Schuette graduated from Lakeland University with a BA in Business Administration.

Lydia Albright graduated from Ohio University with a Masters Degree in Geology.



Those who are homebound or in care centers: Janet Klemme (Pine Haven), Joyce Riviers (Pine Haven Assisted Living Rm 315, at the Giddings Ave. Campus) Ilene Struve (Rocky Knoll, Rm 287), Beverly Kleinhans (Rocky Knoll) Marilyn Perronne (at home), Helen Peichl (at home) Mickey Glander (Sheboygan Senior Community, Rm 404) Audrey Laack (Songbird Pond, Plymouth).....



Please remember to keep these people in your thoughts and prayers.

Sign-up sheets are posted on the kiosk for help that is needed during the summer months at Saron:

- ♦ You can help keep the church gardens looking its best by signing up for a week or two or three.
- ♦ If you are interest in the audio/visual aspect of a worship service, summer is a great time to learn.



Please Note:

There will be NO Church Volleyball League or Softball League this summer.

We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family of Imogene "Emmy" Knopp (Wally Knopp's Mother) who passed away on May 2nd.....

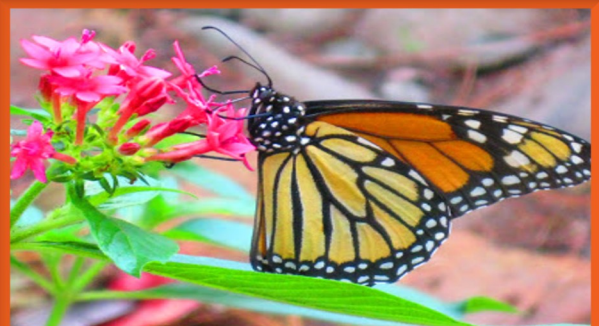


Ben Lenz
(U.S Air Force)

Christopher Kletzien
(U.S. Army)



Just
when the
caterpillar
thought the
world was
over, it
became a
butterfly...



Thank You Notes From Beyond Saron

Dear Saron UCC Friends,

Thank you so, so much for your many kind and generous gifts to the Immanuel UCC Food Pantry. We are so very grateful, and we want you to know that your donations have brought help that is tangible and hope that is felt to many in our community. This new Food Pantry has been a great success—thanks, in large part to you!

The need has continued to increase each day the pantry is open, but we have been overwhelmed by the generosity that has poured in, somehow, by the grace of God, always meeting the need.

It has been such an inspiring gift to see the goodness and selflessness of people shine through during this difficult and uncertain time. We are grateful for your gifts of love to the community and we are thankful to God for you!

With Grateful Hearts,

Rev. Laura Yurs & The Immanuel UCC Congregation

Dear Saron UCC Congregation,

Thank you is just two small words with deep admiration and gratitude. I am humbled by your generous donation of good for the kids in need because of the COVID-19, and I'm thanking God for you. The goodness and generosity you share so freely are wonderful reminders of the true meaning of God's love. Kindness is a small gesture that makes all the difference, and your kindness has truly been a blessing to Helping Kids. From the bottom of my heart I thank you.

God's Richest Blessings!

Kathy Rowe—Helping Kids



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 barb@saronucc.org).

- June 2 Kurt & Wendy Mauk
- June 4 Dan & Joy Grunewald
- June 6 John & Dawn Giraldo
Dennis & Shirley Roehrborn—50 yrs.
- June 7 Scott & Renee Greger
- June 8 Julie & Zeke Firzgerald
- June 10 Dave & Lisa Bunke
John & Sonya Yellstrom
- June 11 Larry & Patti Boedecker
- June 13 David & Laura Rautmann
- June 16 Jay & Lexann Hoogstra
- June 19 Rory & RaeAnn Beebe
Jim & Bonnie Hanke
- June 20 Jim & Virginia Karstaedt
Roger & Alice Wagner
- June 21 Justin & Amanda Boedecker
Duane & Lori Knuth Gumm
- June 23 Keith & Tracy Beeck—25 yrs.
Anthony & Heather Leu
Jim & Donna Rabe
- June 24 Kurt & Cindy Kwekkeboom
John & Kathy Zittel—50 yrs.
- June 25 David & Michelle Johnanning
Luke & Tracy Kwekkeboom
- June 26 Steve & Deborah Boll
- June 27 Chris & Courtney Booth
Steve & Deanna Milz
Andy & Kari Nyhof



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).

June 1 Jody Biederwolf
Lori Knuth Gumm

June 2 John Zittel

June 3 Greg Herzog
Amy Kwekkeboom
Bryak Slaton
Lisa Zak

June 4 Brian Barthels
Avery Beltran
Darlene Gumm

June 5 Gail Federwisch
Jenna Hahn

June 6 Eric Haas

June 8 Jessica Trumm

June 9 Heather Leu

June 10 Heidi Baumann
Melissa Roth

June 11 David Laack
Jim Leu
Harrison Miller

June 12 Dylan Bell
Kim Havlinek

June 13 Cole Anhalt
Janine Gardapee
Tate Hollingsworth
Peter Laack

June 14 Amanda Boedecker
Ron Matzdorf

June 15 Sadie Beltran
Carol Mooney



June 16 Bonnie Adamavich
Russ Beebe
Jordan Hanke
Noah Meyer
Glenn Schnicke

June 17 Nathan Chisholm
John Giraldo
Brian Gumm

June 19 Layton Albright
April Decker
Chris Herzog
Corby Trumm

June 20 Autumn Christy

June 21 Sawyer Gumm

June 22 Mike Holzmann
Sydney Theobald

June 23 Michael Adamavich
Gary Hanke
Judy Knuth

June 24 Michelle Stache

June 26 Matthew Nelson
Carter Suemnicht

June 29 Kathleen Salm
Rachel Wilke

June 30 Ereka Kaat
Meghan Kallas
Teri Morden-Sengbusch
Terry Provencher
Carl Suemnicht