# The Tidings

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June-2023

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your faither's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing." (Genesis 12:1-2)

A few weeks ago, my nephew was home for a visit. My brother invited us all over so we could reconnect with Eric and hear all about his adventures on a recent vacation he took with his girlfriend and their dog. It was fun listening to their stories and hearing about all of the places they had visited and sites they saw. But eventually my brother, sister, and I began reminiscing about vacations we had taken as a family. They had taken a few more family vacations than I had, but I knew all the stories. Our family had been telling these same stories for years. One would start and then someone else would finish. Even our kids know these stories and can add details we might forget. Family stories. Your family probably has them too. Those stories told around the family table or at holidays or any family gathering. These stories connect us to our ancestors and help to shape our identity as a part of a specific family.

This summer the assigned stories from Genesis are family stories. They are the stories of God's call to a specific family – Abraham's family. I imagine these stories being passed down from generation to generation just like our family stories. Perhaps shared around the campfire. These are the stories of our ancestors in faith as well. They give us identity and purpose. We learn about God's call on our lives through the call on theirs. Hopefully, some of these stories are familiar to you. Some may be hard to hear – Hagar and Ismael being sent away, the sacrifice of Isaac. Others cause us to wonder – Jacob wrestling with God, the visitors to Abraham's tent, Joseph's coat of many colors. But all of them tell the story of how this particular family, that we are a part of, was called by God to be a blessing. So, let's gather around the campfire and share these stories of our faith.

I know summer is a busy time. There are only three months and so much to do in those months. Join us when you can. Watch the services on-line. Know that you are a valued part of this community and I miss you when you are not here. I hold you in prayer for a safe and healthy summer.

Blessings,

Pastor RaeAnn

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#### Saron To Honor It's High School Graduates!

Saron will be honoring it's High School Graduates at our worship service on Sunday, June 4th. Let's all join in on congratulating these fine students: Carson Anhalt (Plymouth High School), Lillian Charbonneau (Sheboygan Falls High School), Anna Depping-Herzog (Plymouth High School), Gage Fleck (Howards Grove High School) Jackson Piccard (Plymouth High School) Calob Rautmann (Plymouth High School).





There will be a Summer Outdoor Worship and Fellowship Potluck on Sunday, June 18th at 9:30 a.m. (Rain or Shine). This first potluck hosted by the Consistory will be immediately following the service. There is a sign up sheet on the kiosk for items needed. Please join us for worship and a time of good food and fellowship! The Consistory is still looking for a group to host the August 20th potluck.

Saron's Endowment Fund committee is involved in working on the distribution process. The EC committee will be giving back to Saron soon in the form of funds for Saron UCC programs. Christian Education, Community Services and Wider Missions. More details will be provided in future updates. If any questions, please contact any member of the Endowment committee.



#### Dear Members of Saron United Church of Christ

Thank you so much for your wonderful donations! The monetary gift will go towards pack n plays, and the new clothes, strollers, bath products and all the diapers will help so many young families here in Sheboygan County.



Thank you again for your kindness and generosity.

Beth Jens, Mary's Room

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We

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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 home) Marilyn Heiden (at The Waterford)

Ben Lenz (U.S. Air Force)

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



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#### Treasurer's Update

## As of April 30, 2023

First and foremost, the Consistory would like to thank you for your generosity. Without your financial support the mission and ministry of Saron UCC would not be possible. The Consistory would also like to keep you, the congregation, updated on the financial situation at Saron.

The <u>General Fund</u> supports the work of the church through salaries, programs, building upkeep, office expenses, utilities, supplies, and of course insurance (the items that are included in our line-item budget).

YTD income \$60,120 YTD expenses \$62,350 **YTD Deficit \$2,230** 

For the month of April, there was a net income of about \$2,500 which helped to reduce the year-to-date deficit in our general fund. However, although there is a reserve built up in the general fund, \$2,230 of that reserve was used for expenses. Please prayerfully consider your support of the daily and weekly vital functions of Saron Church as we go forward through the year.

The **<u>Improvement Fund</u>** supports all maintenance of the buildings and property that is not covered under General Fund expenses. Monies in this fund can be carried over from year to year.

YTD income \$6,760 YTD expenditures \$7,670 (includes final septic bills)

#### Total Available Fund Balance \$39,790

The major improvement projects of the new roof and the septic system have been paid in full. Thanks to the generosity of all of you, these costly projects were completed without depleting the improvement fund. There are no improvement projects scheduled, so the balance in the fund should cover any emergency issues that might come up.

The **<u>Benevolence Fund</u>** supports our OCWM commitment, our SPARE student, other mission opportunities and acts as a pass-through account for the UCC Special Mission Offerings.

YTD income \$9,940

Designated Disbursements:

SPARE (minimum of \$1,250 - \$0 designated)

OCWM (\$20,500 commitment - \$8,050 designated, = 39% of commitment)

One Great Hour of Sharing - \$1,295.68.

Souper Bowl of Caring (distributed to the Sheboygan County Food Bank) \$464.

Other pass-throughs for special mission offerings and projects are distributed as they are collected throughout the year.

This update does not include all funds at Saron. An update on these funds is available from the treasurer. If you have any questions about Saron's finances, please contact Treasurer Linda Barthels or any Consistory member.

For those who contribute to Saron electronically and would like to put something in the collection plate when it is passed there are laminated cards in the pews for you to use.

Merlin and Shirley Schmidt would like to thank the Congregation for remembering them with a card in honor of their 70th wedding anniversary.



## LOOKING AHEAD

#### TO THE

## SARON WOMEN'S FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT

## Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

## At Cedar Valley Retreat Center, West Bend, WI

#### "Drawn In: Living the Creative Life with God"

It's time to start thinking about the Fall Saron Women's Retreat, which is sponsored by the Saron Women's Guild. All women and their friends are invited to attend this one night retreat at the beautiful Cedar Valley Retreat Center, 5329 County Rd. D, West Bend, WI

The retreat begins with dinner at 5 PM on Friday afternoon (feel free to come early – 3 PM - and enjoy their beautiful grounds) and continues through Saturday afternoon.

Pastor RaeAnn Beebe will be the retreat leader. The central image for the retreat is the heart because then the spiritual chambers of the heart are filled or drawn in with such things as; dreaming hovering, listening, acting, reintegrating, and rest, the deepest desires of our hearts are satiated. This heart symbol of the communal nature of creativity will bring more love to the world. May we be filled with the joy and delight of creativity and community through the upcoming retreat.

The Saron Women's Guild will be subsidizing \$20.00 for each person for the retreat. The cost of a double occupancy room is \$100 each. The cost of a single occupancy room is \$115. Each room has a private bathroom. There is an elevator in the building. The cost also includes 3 meals (Fri. dinner & Sat. breakfast and lunch); and includes sheets, blanket, pillow, towels, & little toiletry bottles. Special diets can be accommodated (indicate on sign-up).

A sign-up sheet will be put up on the kiosk in August. If you have any questions before that, please feel free to call Barb Post at 920-207-4513.



# **Strengthen The Church Offering**

The Strengthen the Church Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. There are envelopes in the pews, and make checks our to Saron UCC. We will dedicate the offering on Sunday, June 25th.



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**<u>Happy Anniversary</u>** 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 <u>adminoffice@saronucc.org)</u>.

- June 2 Kurt & Wendy Mauk
- June 6 Dennis & Shirley Roehrborn
- June 7 Scott & Renee Greger
- June 8 Julie & Zeke Fitzgerald
- June 11 Larry & Patti Boedecker
- June 13 David & Laura Rautmann-25 yrs.
- June 19 Rory & RaeAnn Beebe Jim & Bonnie Hanke
- June 20 Roger & Alice Wagner



- June 21 Justin & Amanda Boedecker
- June 23 Keith & Tracy Beeck Anthony & Heather Leu Jim & Donna Rabe—50 yrs.
- June 24 Kurt & Cindy Kwekkeboom John & Kathie Zittel
- June 25 David & Michelle Johanning Luke & Tracy Kwekkeboom
- June 26 Steve & Deborah Boll

<u>**Happy Birthday</u>** 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 <u>adminoffice@saronucc.org).</u></u>

- June 1 Jody Biederwolf June 2 John Zittel June 3 Greg Herzog Amy Kwekkboom **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 June 11 Jim Leu Harrison Miller June 13 Cole Anhalt Janine Gardapee Tate Hollingsworth
- June 14 Amanda Boedecker Ron Matzdorf June 15 Sadie Beltran
- June 16 Russ Beebe Jordan Hanke
- June 17 Nathan Chisholm Brian Gumm
- June 19 Layton Albright Chris Herzog April Opitz Corby Trumm
- June 20 Autumn Christy Hannah Gumm
- June 21 Sawyer Gumm
- June 22 Mike Holzmann
- June 23 Mike Adamavich Gary Hanke Judy Knuth
- June 24 Michelle Stache
- June 26 Carter Suemnicht

- June 29 Rachel Wilke
- June 30 Ereka Kaat Teri Morden-Sengbush Terry Provencher Carl Suemnicht

