

March—2020

Church Phone
920-467-6202



The Tidings

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

Rev. RaeAnn Beebe, Pastor Phone: 920-467-6202 Cell: 920-838-3172 revraeann@saronucc.org

Judy Knuth—Newsletter Editor Phone: 920-893-0391 jjknuth57@excel.net

Barb Post—Administrative Assistant Phone: 920-467-6202 barb@saronucc.org

Peter Viesselmann—Financial Secretary finance@saronucc.org

Saron Website: saronucc.org

“And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more.” 2 Samuel 7:10

I spent a great deal of time in January with my brother and sister cleaning out our mother's home. As you can imagine there were lots of smiles, outright laughter, and many tears as we sorted through her life in her belongings. We found things we had never seen before (pictures and knick-knacks) and those things we knew she treasured. It was very hard disposing of some things and other things we wondered why she had kept them in the first place (lots of tissue paper and old wrapping paper). We were grateful that she and my dad had downsized some when they moved to Plymouth in 1998. It was hard and healing all at the same time. The hardest part for me was seeing that empty house. Even though I had never lived in that house, it was like home to me. Last Mother's Day, I had given her a garden flag that said, "There's no place like Home." I found it still in the original packaging. She never had a chance to hang it outside. Wherever my mom was, was home.

King David had been traveling all over, fighting battle after battle. Finally, after defeating the Philistine's he brings the Ark of the Covenant into Jerusalem. He builds a home for himself and puts down roots. He wants to build a home for God (a place for the Ark to be housed), but God has other ideas. While Jerusalem will be a place for the people, God's place is among the people. Wherever God is, is home.

Home, a permanent place, was very important in Biblical times and in our own. There are all kinds of statistics showing that children who live in stable environments do better in multiple ways. I think that is one of the reasons I was drawn to Habitat for Humanity and continue to volunteer with them. I have witnessed many a family as the keys to their first home are handed over and they talk about the hopes and dreams they have for the future. Megan and Joel Bernal and their two young sons are the next Habitat for Humanity Lakeside family. Their home will be the Faith Build home and construction will begin this spring. Megan and Joel, along with staff from Habitat will be with us on March 15 at the 10:15 service to talk about what this opportunity means to their family and how we can get involved in this Faith Build. I am very excited about this opportunity for us and hope that you will plan to join us for worship and a time of fellowship.

I saw a plaque with a saying, "Home is where your story begins." We can be a part of that story for Megan, Joel and their boys.

Blessings,

Pastor RaeAnn



Our season of Lent begins with the Ash Wednesday Service on February 26th with worship at 7:00 P.M. There will be the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion will be served. The Senior Choir will sing.

The following Wednesday night worship services begin at 7:00 P.M. following the suppers. The theme this year will be **Reflections From The Holy Land**. Please join us for an evening of food, fellowship and inspiration.

Lenten Suppers

We will be having our Lenten Suppers again this year. As it was for the past few years we will be having two nights where the Congregation can help bring items for the suppers. We will be looking for people to help work those two nights and to help bring food. This is a great opportunity for people who are not part of a group in the church to help out. Please look for sign-up sheets on the kiosk by the middle of March. If you have any questions please let me know. Thank you, Christine Frazier 920-918-1169 or cfroggner@yahoo.com.

Lenten Suppers will be served from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

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

Here is the Lenten Supper schedule and menu:

March 4th	Senior Choir	Grilled Cheese Sandwiches
March 11th	Sunday School	Pancakes
March 18th	Women's Guild	Casseroles
March 25th	Congregation	Chili & Soups
April 1st	Congregation	Soups





ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING – 2020

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery.



For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building. 1 Corinthians 3:9

About the Theme: The theme is “Invest in Futures”. The scripture reference is 1 Corinthians 3:5–9. It tells us we are servants in the service of God, one planting, one watering, and God being the one who grows and nurtures it all.

When we participate in the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, we provide valuable support. Our church reaches people who suffer from emergencies, chronic poverty, and violence worldwide.

Among the support we give, water, sanitation and adequate nutrition top the list of resources needed. Assets such as irrigation systems, wells, latrines and wash houses change peoples' lives in amazing ways. Clean water and adequate facilities improve health and gives dignity to people at the same time.

Clean water is also provided to grow better gardens. A combination of water, seeds, tools, and training on modern farming techniques produce a great harvest—leaving more money for families to live on. Lives are changed when health improves.

What may seem like a small investment to us, yields amazing results worldwide. With water, sanitation and adequate food, children are more likely to attend school, and women, no longer searching for water, are able to earn money to contribute to their families' well-being and overall health.

Stand with UCC congregations by lending a hand through support to the OGHS offering! Your financial assistance will directly help people and communities affected by disaster, violence and poverty. Your financial assistance will be an investment into the lives of people and communities who need it most.

Together, we are co-workers in God's service, planting and watering seeds for God to nurture. Thank you on behalf of the individuals and communities who will benefit directly from your support.

Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.

Envelopes will be in the pews beginning Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020. Please make any checks out to “Saron UCC” so that your account can be credited. The children will be bringing home banks for their donations to our One Great Hour of Sharing offering. The Saron Women's Guild is sponsoring this offering.

Women's Guild Spring Flower Sale



The women's Guild will once again be selling a variety of flowers for Easter. Watch for them on the Sunday mornings of March 8th, 15th, and 22nd, at a table in the Narthex ready to take your order.



Please welcome Peter Viesselmann our new Financial Secretary.

I am very happy to be able to help Saron United Church of Christ in the position of Financial Secretary! I am grateful for the friendly and welcoming acceptance I've received from Pastor RaeAnn, Deb, Barb, and the members of the Consistory. Deb has been extremely helpful in teaching me the tasks needed to get started in the job.



I grew up on my parents' dairy farm in Grafton. My mother kept the books for the farm, so I guess that's where I got my interest in bookkeeping as I grew up. I went to college for an accounting degree, and then served in the Air Force for four years after college with assignments in Missouri and England. After the Air Force, I worked in manufacturing accounting positions in Cedarburg until my retirement in 2019.

I've also been the treasurer at my home church in Grafton for a number of years.

My wife Kathie and I live in Cedar Grove. We have a daughter who lives in Arizona, and a son in Waukesha.

I look forward to meeting Saron members in the coming months!

Peter Viesselmann

Thank You



My mind was in many scattered places at the end of 2019. I feel badly that I did not acknowledge the work that so many people did in the past year. Please accept my apology. Thank you to those completing their terms on Consistory, Doreen Hanke (elder), Becky Pelnar (deacon), and Deb Meinnert (treasurer), and others ending their terms on committees, trustee Justin Boedecker, Board of Christian Education Jessica Herzog, Pastor-Parish Brian Rautmann and Melissa Fleck, Endowment Kathy Roehl, and Cemetery Board Jim Rabe. Your dedication and commitment to the mission and ministry of Saron UCC is appreciated by me and the entire congregation. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Kari Mooney who stepped down as Financial Secretary in December for her years of service to Saron UCC. Blessings to all of you as you embark on other adventures in your spiritual journeys.

Pastor RaeAnn

Habitat for Humanity Lakeside Update

Several exciting things are happening at Habitat for Humanity Lakeside. Check out the kiosk in the Narthex for more details.

- **Adult Activity Night at 3 Sheeps Brewing Company** (1837 North Ave, Sheboygan)

Tuesday, March 24th from 6:00 pm- 8:00 pm

Light refreshments will be served and beverages available for purchase. I hear there will be some kind of building challenges to participate in. They are in need of Legos so if you have some lying around and would like to donate them, please contact Pastor RaeAnn or Habitat directly. RSVP by Mar 17th to Janine Dickens at jdickens@habitatlakeside.com or 920-458-3399 ext. 301.

- **Women's Build Days at Lowes in Manitowoc**

Tuesday, March 3 or Wednesday, March 4 from 10:00am – 2:00 pm

Who wants to join me as we build outdoor walls for the latest home in the warmth of Lowe's warehouse?

- **Tool School: A Ladies Night Out at Habitat ReStore in Sheboygan** (1911 N 8th Street in Sheboygan)

Thursday, March 5 from 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Several stations will be set up for you to learn how to use the various tools necessary for construction. Registration IS REQUIRED for this event and the event is limited to the first 60 women who sign up. Register by following this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D4FA8AC29A3FA7-tool>

- **Habitat Lakeside Dine Out Week**

Monday, March 9-Friday, March 13, 2020 at restaurants throughout Sheboygan County. During Dine Out Week, participating restaurants will partner to donate to Habitat for Humanity Lakeside when you dine with them. Check out their Facebook Page (Habitat for Humanity Lakeside) or the kiosk for participating restaurants.

Looking ahead **Rock the Block** will be September 17, 19, and 20 in Franklin Park and King Park neighborhoods. A "Messy Church" service is being planned for 9/20. More details will be provided as they become available.



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).



Time To Change Your Clocks— Spring Ahead!

Daylight Savings Time starts on Sunday, March 8th. Don't forget to turn your clocks **AHEAD** one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.



On December 21st, 2019, a gas fireplace insert was installed in the parsonage office. The fireplace, labor and materials were all donated by Neumann Plumbing & Heating.

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

Please Note Change: Audrey Laack is now residing at Songbird Pond on County PP in Plymouth. Please remember to keep these people in your thoughts and prayers.



We extend our Christian Sympathy to the families of Leonora Gierach (the mother of Verla Peichl who died on February 4th... and to the family of Sharon Milz (the mother of Scott and Steve Milz) who died on February 10th.....



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



SARON UCC ANNUAL MEETING Sunday January 26, 2020

The annual meeting was called to order, by president Dorene Hanke at 11:16, with 88 congregational members present. All consistory members were present, Dorene Hanke, Matt Boedecker, Deb Meinnert, Janine Gardapee, Nate Dassow, Jason Bitter, Becky Pelnar, and Pastor RaeAnn Beebe.

Pastor RaeAnn opened the meeting with a prayer.

Dorene Hanke was appointed as the moderator and Matt Boedecker was appointed as the Secretary of the meeting by the consistory.

2020 Nominations/Candidates are as follows:

Elder: Jay Grosshuesch/ Paul Williams

Deacon: Ryan Herzog/ Allen Nohl

Treasure: Tracy Beeck/ Sarah Mauk

Trustee: Ralph Sebald

Board of Christian Ed.: Kari DeHart/Shelly Hollingsworth

Pastor Parish Relations: Rita Bender/Gayle Holzmann/Joanne Howe/Laura Rautmann

Cemetery Board: Steve Bender/Randy Rautmann/Randy Sixel

A motion was made by Dan Albright and seconded by Allen Nohl to close all nominations from the floor.

Barb Post, Haley Rautmann, Josh Imig, Cheryl Walsh, and Lilly Charbonneau were appointed as the 2020 distributors and tabulators of the ballots.

Review/Approval of Minutes

Pastor's Report. Pastor highlighted report printed in booklet.

President's Report. Dorene Hanke gave her President's report covering the events, happenings and improvements throughout the past year in the life of the church. Dorene had expressed her gratitude and appreciation to everyone from church employees, friends, family and the consistory. She started by mentioning improvements which consisted of a new storm door on the parsonage entryway. Removing the 4 large trees and replacing them with three new ones on the west side of the church. Removing the four trees near the volleyball court including the pine tree closest to the road and replacing them with new trees of a different species. She also brought to our attention the separate fund that was established for the tree replacement on the church property. The 14 windows along the north side of the church including the Sunday school rooms and the west entryway of the church have been replaced. There was a financial audit that was conducted in October. A special Saron Security Committee was formed to make the congregation better aware of any possible/ future intruders to the Church. A Saron church directory was done and completed. An appreciation to past Financial Secretary Kari Mooney for her time while employed at Saron.

In conclusion, a special thank you to the entire Saron Family...friends, neighbors, members, employees, and small businesses of the church.

Review of Treasurer's Reports

Budget Line Items:

Associate Pastor

It was brought up to the congregation by Treasurer, Deb Meinnert...the line item under involving an associate pastor has been removed. Motion was made by Bill Gardapee and seconded by Sarah Mauk to accept the removal of that line item.

Health Insurance

Line item has been removed because the Wisconsin Conference UCC no longer has the shared premium program. The church will no longer need to pay into this fund.

Budget-2020 Approval -- There was a motion made by Ryan Herzog and seconded by Lee Post to accept the 2020 budget.

Slide show- "Budgets aren't just numbers".

Christine Frazier presented a slide show called Budgets aren't just numbers... to show that there are more than just numbers involved with our church and its budget. The slide show was great and gave the congregation a feeling of hard work and that cooperation is just as important as numbers.

Heating System-Boiler

Dorene gave a brief description on the status of the church's heating system. The church has two boilers that function together to heat the church, one of the two has developed a crack in the main body of the boiler. One which was replaced in 2015 and the other in 1998. The boiler that is from 1998 has developed the crack. Dorene had received an estimate to replace the boiler and related pumps, piping and controls from Neumann Plumbing & Heating. It was voted on and a motion was made to replace the boiler that has the crack, per the estimate from Neumann Plumbing and Heating. The motion was made by Lee Post and seconded by Sarah Mauk.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Septic System

It has also been brought to the consistory; the septic systems of the church have failed their 3-year inspection. Since May, Dorene has been working with the county and septic system contractors to find out what are the churches options and timeline needed to follow. She has received two separate estimates with different variations and suggestions. Discussion only - no motion was made until the consistory has received all collective estimates and proposals.

Financial Secretary

Over the past three months the consistory has been interviewing candidates for the financial Secretary position of the church. It has been decided to hire Mr. Peter Viesselmann from the Cedar Grove area. He has 30 plus years' experience and is scheduled to start February 1st, 2020.

Electronic Giving

The topic of the church's electronic giving was asked by a member. The response was, it has been overall a good addition to the offertory and continues to grow.

New Trees

Jay Flegal had suggested the consistory look into planting different types of trees, not all the same species, while replacing the ones that have become deceased.

New 2020 Elected officers:

Elder-Jay Grosschuesch

Deacon- Ryan Herzog

Treasure-Tracy Beeck

Cemetery Board-Steve Bender

Christian Ed Board- Kari DeHart

Pastor Parish- Rita Bender

Pastor Parish- Joann Howe

Destroying Ballots

There was a motion made by Lee Post & seconded by Judy Dumke to destroy all ballots.

Car Port Roof

Larry Boedecker had expressed concern about the church's carport roof. Dorene replied that the consistory was aware and will be addressing it as soon as possible given the fact that the septic is the priority.

Adjournment

There was a motion made by Sarah Mauk to and seconded by Gloria Flegal to adjourn the meeting, at 12:10.

Pastor RaeAnn ended the meeting with a blessing.

Respectfully

Matt Boedecker

Conferences, Associations, Local Churches:

The United Church of Christ

“The United Church of Christ, formed June 25, 1957, by the union of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and The General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches of the United States in order to express more fully the oneness in Christ of the churches composing it, to make more effective their common witness in Him, and to serve His kingdom in the world, hereby adapts this Constitution.” Preamble to The Constitution of the United Church of Christ

I thought it would be helpful for folks to understand how the United Church of Christ came into existence and how the various entities of the UCC relate to one another.

When the UCC was formed one of the important pieces was the autonomy of the local congregation. It is very clearly stated in the UCC Constitution, “the basic unit of the life and organization of the United Church of Christ is the Local Church.” This means that the local church decides for itself how the church is run, who makes the decisions, how resources are spent, who to call as pastor and how membership is determined. We have our own Constitution and By-Laws. Members of a local church are not only members of that specific congregation; they are also members of the United Church of Christ.

Local Churches are a part of Associations and Conferences. Saron UCC is in the Northeast Association of the Wisconsin Conference. Each of these entities has certain responsibilities to the local church and the local church as responsibilities to these entities. We are in a covenantal relationship which means that we support one another and are supported by one another. It is through Associations that ministers are granted standing and this includes mentoring seminary students as well as examining candidates for ordination or seeking other kinds of standing. Associations may also have programs to assist local congregations in a variety of ways. Each Association decides how it will generate the funds necessary to carry out its work. Our Association charges dues based on the number of members we report each year.

The Conference is made up of all the local churches in Wisconsin’s four Associations. It is the responsibility of the Conference to provide those services and perform the duties which will strengthen the witness of the UCC and the local church. They do this in many ways and the Conference Minister’s report in our Annual Report highlights what is being done in Wisconsin to support and strengthen the ministries of our local churches and pastors. The Conference’s work is supported by local churches through our offerings to Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM). The Conference suggests an amount, but each congregation decides how much it will give to OCWM. Our OCWM comes out of our Benevolence Fund and is not a part of our general operating expenses (General Fund). The National setting of the UCC is also supported in part by OCWM.

Each year delegates from Saron along with the pastor attend the Annual Meetings of the Association and the Conference. Annual Reports from these entities are available if anyone is interested in reviewing them. If you would like to be a delegate, please let Pastor RaeAnn or a Consistory member know of your interest. The Association Meeting will be held on May 2 at 1st Congregational in Plymouth and the Conference Annual Meeting is June 5-7 at Green Lake Conference Center.

As the Body of Christ, each expression of the Church is called to honor and respect the work and ministry of each other part. This is a very condensed summary. I would be happy to answer any more detailed questions you may have about The United Church of Christ, its polity and its history.

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 email barb@saronucc.org.)

March 4 Brian & Kelly Kaat— 20 yrs.

March 20 Rachel & Cameron Peichl-McGee—10 yrs.

March 24 Corey & Jenny Albright



March 24 Karl & Deb Fasse

March 27 Palmer & Ruby Feldmann—72 yrs.
Ralph & Judy Knuth

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 email barb@saronucc.org).

March 2 Joan Baganz
Kayla Bender
Kurt Kwekkeboom
Courtland Suemnicht

March 3 Alice Glander

March 4 Linda Shaw

March 6 Nancy Coller
Emily Meinnert
Linda Ubbelohde

March 7 Ron Roehl

March 8 Claude Gonzales

March 9 Roger Wagner

March 10 Pete Christy
Jill Daun
DuWayne Grunewald
Mairlyn Heiden

March 11 Amy Roehl

March 13 Tim De Groff
Amelia Miles
Brock Roehrborn
Robert Theune

March 15 Avia Athorp
Riley Casadonte

March 16 Mary Albright
Sean Beitler
Kelly Grosshuesch

March 16 Tyler Hanke
David Rautmann

March 17 Josh Beeck
Gage Fleck
Jessica Herzog
Micah Rautmann
Cindy Roehrborn

March 18 Russ Schuette

March 19 Andrew Schnicke

March 20 Wyatt Herzog

March 21 Michelle Meinnert
Mattison Milz

March 23 James Albright

March 24 Morgan Johanning

March 25 Diane Kaestner

March 27 Jason Hanke
Deann Harper
Cindy Knopp
Mark Shaw

March 28 Case Schmidt

March 29 Paige Baumann
Kenjay Fiedler
Becky Pelter
Abby Sebald

March 30 Beverly Kleinhans
Nicole Nohl
Richard Specht

