



# The Tidings

May—2023

Saron United Church of Christ  
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**“Saron will be transitioning to one worship service at 9:30 a.m. beginning on Sunday, May 7, 2023. We will also resume the passing of the offering plates and ushering people out following the service.”**

## ***Return to Sacred Ground 2023***

***We will love God, all others, and the earth by providing sanctuary, practicing hospitality, and performing ministry. – UCCI Mission Statement***

I am a bit behind this year. I usually write an article about our camps in January or February. I have said it before that I love our camps and feel we are so very fortunate to have access to them. They provide so much that the local church cannot. The theme at our camps this year is Return to Sacred Ground. Here is what Executive Director James Schleif has to say about this theme.

*“The challenges and transitions of the past couple of years can make it feel like the world is spinning out of control. Return to Sacred Ground lifts our collective need to return to solid ground. To find a small piece of stability. To be reminded that we do not control the world. Outdoor ministry truly offers a grounding, and a hope and healing that is hard to find in other settings. Our commitment – to love and provide safe and welcoming spaces is unwavering.”*

I have been to all three of our camps and participated in a variety of camp experiences – sending my children to youth camps, Grandparent and Me with my grandson, clergy retreats, Saron Women’s retreats, and just spending the day walking around the camp. There is nothing like it and I would recommend all three of these camps to anyone of any age.

There is still time to register for a Summer camp or check out the brochure or on-line and see what is offered throughout the year. There are camps for all ages and interests. There will be a display set up in the narthex with more information. The link to UCCI’s website is [www.ucci.org](http://www.ucci.org). Scholarship money is available from UCCI and Saron has some money set aside to help with expenses as well. Please take some time to check out what our camps have to offer and prayerfully consider a Return to Sacred Ground. You won’t regret it!

Blessings,

Pastor RaeAnn

## Confirmation Sunday – May 7 at 9:30 am

This year will be confirming 8 awesome students. You have been a part of their faith journey. So, join them as they confirm their faith and celebrate this milestone with them. Our Confirmands are James Albright, Ella Baumann, Logan Christy, Izzy Dassow, Julia Farnum, Gretchen Herzog, Case Schmidt, and Cole Suemnicht.



## Mission Team Report

The purpose of the Mission Team is to find single-day mission projects or activities and to make the members of Saron aware of these mission projects and encourage and facilitate the congregation to support them. We have set up one panel of the kiosk to be for Mission Team projects, so please be alert to these postings. The members of the Mission Team are Darlene Gumm, Joan Laack, Kari Mooney and Barb Post. The Mission Team appreciates your continued support of these projects:

### (1) Bridgeway & Beyond

Bridgeway is a residential transitional living program for homeless women with children in Sheboygan. They support 4-6 families at a time. We are collecting donations of paper products for the home. Paper towels, toilet paper and tissues can be placed in the tote by the entry doors of the church.

### (2) Immanuel UCC Food Pantry

Food items for the food pantry at Immanuel can be dropped off at Saron. See the kiosk for specific needed items.

*We hope the members of Saron will continue to support these and other upcoming projects as we seek to spread God's love to those nearby who are in need.*

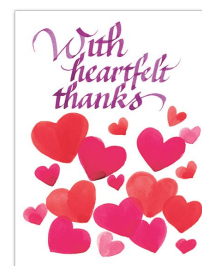
*If you have any questions or suggestions please speak to any member of the Mission Team.*

The Mission Team would like to thank Saron members for their generous support of the baby shower for Mary's Room. The overwhelming number of items that were donated will surely be a blessing of support to needy mothers and their babies in Sheboygan County.



**From Merlin & Shirley Schmidt:** "Thank you for the Easter card and plant and for the thoughtfulness of the congregation."

**From Others:** who also received a card and flower from Saron for Easter also want to thank the congregation for remembering them.





**SUMMER OUTDOOR WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP  
AND SUMMER POTLUCKS**

Saron will once again hold a once-per-month outdoor worship service at 9:30 AM on **Sundays June 18, July 16, & August 20, 2023.**

**NEW THIS YEAR:**

A time of fellowship and a potluck lunch will be held following the service on each of the outdoor services. It will be held rain or shine.

The June 18<sup>th</sup> potluck will be hosted by the Saron Consistory, who will be cooking brats and hamburgers. They will be looking for donations of hard rolls, condiments, salads, desserts, chips, lemonade, & water.

A sign-up sheet and sign-up genius will be posted in May.

We are also looking for Saron groups or individuals to host the potlucks in July and August. If interested, please let the church office know.



### Hello Saron Church Family, We Need You!

Have you ever been in a situation and needed your grass cut and couldn't do it? Have you ever needed your lawn raked and couldn't do it? What about your snow shoveled or something painted or fixed? Well Saron church membership would like to help you.



Now you may be thinking, I don't want to be embarrassed by asking for help. Well don't be. Who doesn't want to help their family? No payment is expected, instead say some prayers for the people doing the work for you or pray for your church family or for the world in general. Prayer goes a long way.

If you need some help, please contact Kari Mooney at 920-207-5258 or the church office at 920-467-6202 so we can put you on a list for things to get done.



Volunteers are also needed to complete these projects. If you would like to help your church family, please contact Kari Mooney or the church office. This opportunity to help one another out is open to all, there is no age limit.

**Saron's Endowment Fund** committee would like to extend a HUGE "Thank you" to the Cornhole Committee for the \$3,614.14 check from the recent cornhole tournament and brat fry. We would like to thank all the teams for participating, all who donated raffle baskets, all those brought baked goods, all the volunteers who worked at the event and of course all who attended. The Endowment Fund will be giving back to Saron soon in the form of funds for Saron UCC programs, Christian Education, Community Services and Wider Missions. In the meantime, if you have any questions, feel free to contact any member of the Endowment Fund committee.

### ENDOWMENT FUND



**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)



**We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Silas Vander Weele, son of Ann Boll who died on March 21..... And to the family of Alan Herzog, brother of Roy and Richard Herzog who died on April 14.....**





While Pastor RaeAnn is on vacation (May 26- June 4) Rev. Julie Mavity Maddalena, Ph.D. will be leading worship. Julie holds several titles at Lakeland University. She is University Chaplain, Ethicist in Residence, Director of the Ulrich Center, and Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion Julie is an ordained United Church of Christ clergy.



### Special Thank You from the Women's Guild:

Thank you to everyone who purchased flowers to decorate our church for Easter morning. The flowers helped make it extra special. Also thank you to the Worship Enhancement Team that did a wonderful job arranging the flowers so beautifully.

If you or anyone in your family will be graduating this Spring from either High School, College or any other school of higher learning please let the church know by calling Kathy in the church office (920-467-6202). We will want to recognize our graduates when we get closer to that time. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.



**Ben Lenz**  
(U.S. Air Force)

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



## Conference office transitions to Daycholah

*Conference Minister Franz Rigert provides an update on the move of the Conference office:*

On April 12 we bid farewell to the Trost Center. After weeks of packing and preparations, Badger Brothers Movers filled a 26-foot truck, delivering most of the items to the new Conference offices, located in the lower lever of Spring Grove Lodge at Daycholah Center, then proceeded to First Congregation UCC in Ripon, where we have secured an additional room for storage. Already, the staff is settling in and excited about this expanded partnership with United Church Camps, Inc.

The sale of the Trost Center, for \$1.35 million, is now complete and there is a spirit of gladness that our beautiful conference home will be transformed into a holistic health clinic, bringing wellness and hope to people for many years to come. With this transition, the Conference will complete our investment in Daycholah, providing UCC financial stability and the promise of a multiyear reboot following the challenges of the COVID pandemic.

We expect some members of the Conference staff to be present at Daycholah each week from Tuesday through Thursday, although all of us are available by email and cellphone whether we are working remotely or on site.

For those who will attend the Annual Meeting, Sunday morning spiritual options will take place at Daycholah Center, and we will offer tours of the new office space. In this Eastertide, we celebrate a new era in our shared Conference Life.



## Treasurer's Update

### As of March 31, 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 **General Fund** 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 \$42,950      YTD expenses \$47,660      **YTD Deficit \$4,710**

**Through the first quarter of 2023 we have a deficit in our general fund. Although there is a reserve built up in the general fund, \$4,710 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 **Improvement Fund** 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 \$4,360      YTD expenditures \$7,665 (includes final septic bills)  
Total Available Fund Balance \$37,440

Good News! 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 **Benevolence Fund** 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 \$7,360

Designated Disbursements:

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

OCWM (\$20,500 commitment - \$5,780 designated, = 28% of commitment)

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.

**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 (920-467-6202 or email [adminoffice@saronucc.org](mailto:adminoffice@saronucc.org)).

May 2 April & Cody Opitz  
Michelle & Scott Stache

May 10 Heidi & Dave Baumann  
Ricky & Nancy Decker  
Josh & Jill Imig

May 12 Jason & Erin Hanke

May 13 Mike & Jill Adamavich

May 14 Ed & Jessica Schmidt

May 21 Terry Provencher & Diane Kaestner



May 24 Larry & Darlene Gumm  
Ron & Lois Roehl  
Lisa & Ted Zak

May 25 David & Roberta Coppersmith  
Nicole & Kevin Nohl

May 26 Brian & Becky Charbonneau  
Richard & Sandy Herzog—50 yrs.

May 30 Dan & Mary Albright

**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 (920-467-6202 or email [adminoffice@saronucc.org](mailto:adminoffice@saronucc.org)).

May 1 Lauren Rabe

May 2 Chuck Kaiser  
Doug Van Helden

May 5 Scott Greger  
Hayden Hanke

May 7 Ben Holzmann

May 8 Connie Sixel  
Keith Steiger

May 9 Bryce Hitzman  
Michael Leu

May 10 Daniel Leu

May 11 Grace Baumann  
Sara Feldmann  
Lois Knowles  
Richard Wagner

May 12 Donna Kaat  
Judy Ryan

May 14 Doug Daun  
Nathan Doebert  
Jeremy Guell

May 15 Jack Hanke  
Jim Hanke

May 16 Terry Boeldt  
Koralyn Kuzulka  
Jim Rabe

May 17 Brandon Beeck  
Jackson Imig  
Wally Knopp

May 18 Mitchell Schmidt

May 20 Paxton Fleck

May 21 Abby Charbonneau  
Skeeter DeGroff

May 24 Harper Kaiser  
Wendy Mauk

May 25 Rev. Ernie Huntzinger

May 26 Nancy Huntzinger  
Dave Thomas

May 28 Jay Grosshuesch

May 29 Braxton Mauk

May 30 Ashley Schmidt

May 31 Erlinda Beebe  
Art Lammers

