

920-467-6202  
October—2021



Saron United Church of Christ

# The Tidings

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***“Worship is the central activity of the church. In worship we seek and celebrate the presence of God.”***

**Martin B. Copenhaver from *To Begin at the Beginning* (page 88)**

Welcome Back Sunday was a joyful celebration. It was so good to see so many in worship. While the church is many things and does many things, worship is the activity that draws most of us together in one place and at one time (or two). Worship can only happen when the community of faith gathers.

There is an exercise I do with the confirmation classes based on an analogy Søren Kierkegaard (a 19<sup>th</sup> century Danish theologian) uses for worship. If we think of worship as a performance, identify who would be the prompter, the performer, and the audience. Most people assume that God is the prompter, the pastor is the performer, and the congregation is the audience. Kierkegaard asserts however that the pastor is the prompter, the congregation is the performers, and God is the audience. Our worship is for God. *Leitourgia*, the word used in the New Testament for worship, literally means “the work of the people.”

We have been blessed in this congregation with people who are willing to participate in worship leadership. We are grateful for those who are readers, ushers, singers/musicians, acolytes, and run our A/V (which has grown this past year to include live streaming). But there is always room for more help. In particular, we are looking for more assistance with A/V and live streaming. Barb Post and Christine Frazier have done a wonderful job with the assistance of DuWayne Wieck and Jacob Barthels making sure all can be heard, and the power point is run smoothly. Rory Beebe has been our live streaming person with assistance from Christine Frazier. Currently, we are live streaming our 8 am service. No prior A/V or live streaming experience is necessary as they are willing to train anyone who has an interest.

Music is an important part of worship, and we are moving toward adding more music into our worship as the pandemic allows. In the past we have had a music coordinator to arrange for special music. There are many talented people in this congregation, so if you are willing to provide special music, please let either me or Kathy in the office know. It would also be helpful to our online worshipers if there was someone who could lead the singing of the hymns (we all know that is not one of my talents).

There are many ways for you to be a part of the mission and ministry of Saron UCC. These I have listed are only a few of the needs at this time. Let's have a conversation about your interests and how you can use them in service to God. As Marva Dawn (a theologian and author) says in *A Royal “Waste” of Time*, “The entire reason for our worship is that God deserves it.”

Blessings,

Pastor RaeAnn

# ENDOWMENT FUND



## FAQ' of the Endowment Fund

### 1. What is the difference between the Memorial Fund and the Endowment Fund?

**A.** The Memorial Fund can only accept cash, whereas the Endowment Fund can accept gifts other than cash, such as charitable gift annuities or marketable securities. Also gifts can be given in “Living” honor of someone.

### 2. Why has no money been distributed from the Endowment Fund?

**A.** According to the Statement of Purpose and Mission of Saron's Endowment Fund, the principal amount needs to be \$100,000. The fund has not reached that goal yet.

### 3. What is the minimum amount that can be given to the Endowment Fund?

**A.** \$250 or the value of \$250.

If you have any questions regarding Saron's Endowment Fund, please contact anyone of the committee members: Eric Rabe, Teri Strub, Jacob Bartels, Donna Rautmann or Jay Hoogstra.

**Attention all Gamers .....** Are you someone who enjoys playing board games and card games? We will be holding a Game Night every 2nd Tuesday night of the month from 6:00—8:00 p.m. starting on October 12th in the Fellowship Hall of the church. We are looking forward to having a lot of fun and fellowship together and (you don't have to be a Saron member to participate). We will start off by playing basic games and if there is interest to learn new games please let me know. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Amanda Boedecker at 920-207-9700. We are hoping to have a good turnout.



## Helping Kids School Drive Thank You

Saron UCC, thank you for all the generous donations of school supplies and monetary donations to Helping Kids. I am beyond grateful. Your generous donations have helped so many kids this year that we were able to give out 86 school backpacks, and we wouldn't have been able to do that without your help. Because of your kindness Helping Kids was able to make a child's school year a little brighter, their problems a little smaller, and their hearts a little happier. God has truly blessed your church and members with the gift of kindness, compassion, and love for others. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you.

God's Richest Blessings,

Kathy Rowe

Helping Kids

Let all that you do be done with love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



## Custodial Position

Connie Kaker our custodian will be retiring this year. If you or someone you know may be interested in this position, please contact Pastor RaeAnn or Consistory President Nathan Dassow. The position is part-time (at least 4 hours and up to 8 hours a week). There is much flexibility in this position. Tasks are scheduled on a weekly, monthly, and as needed basis. A complete job description with tasks is available from the office.

*We are*  
**HIRING!!!**

**Those who are homebound or in care centers:** Marilyn Perronne (at home), Mickey Glander (Sheboygan Senior Community, Rm 404) Eugene Weiskopf (Field of Dreams Assisted Living, Kiel) Merlin & Shirley Schmidt at home.....



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

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



**Kim Abston and Jeremy Shaske** were married at Saron on September 25th.



Notice how the trees do not cling to their leaves. Fall is about releasing the old to make way for the new.

## Treasurer's Update

### As of August 31, 2021

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 insurances (the items that are included in our line-item budget).

<b>YTD income \$122,125</b>	<b>YTD expenses</b>	<b>\$111,321</b>
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Saron currently has a surplus in our General Fund of \$92,855. This will be used to offset any difference between our income and expenses during the year.

It should be noted that the income above includes \$21,145 from a forgivable loan through the Small Business Administration as part of the CARES Act "Paycheck Protection Program" due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The loan was forgiven and became a grant in June of 2021 upon acceptance of the submitted application supporting the use of the funds for payroll and utilities during the period that Saron was unable to have full services during 2020.

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 \$14,912**

Of this total income amount, \$1,625 has been designated to One Great hour of Sharing (OGHS), \$100 to Habitat for Humanity, \$285 to Strengthen the Church (STC), and \$11,245 to OCWM which is 55% of our annual budgeted commitment for OCWM of \$20,500.

The funds received for OGHS and STC are distributed in the month after they are received. The funds received for OCWM are distributed quarterly. Gifts received toward SPARE sponsorship total \$1,625 so far, and these will be paid out at the end of the year. In addition to the \$100 for Habitat for Humanity received for benevolence, the Consistory voted to send \$1,000 to Habitat from the Mission Fund in May.

The **Improvement Fund** supports all maintenance of the buildings and property that is not covered under General Fund expenses.

<b>YTD income \$26,127</b>	<b>YTD expenditures \$9</b>
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Current amount in the fund is \$65,965. Of this amount, \$25,810 has been designated to be applied to the septic system replacement costs in 2021. Monies in this fund can be carried over from year to 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 Tracy Beeck or any Consistory member.



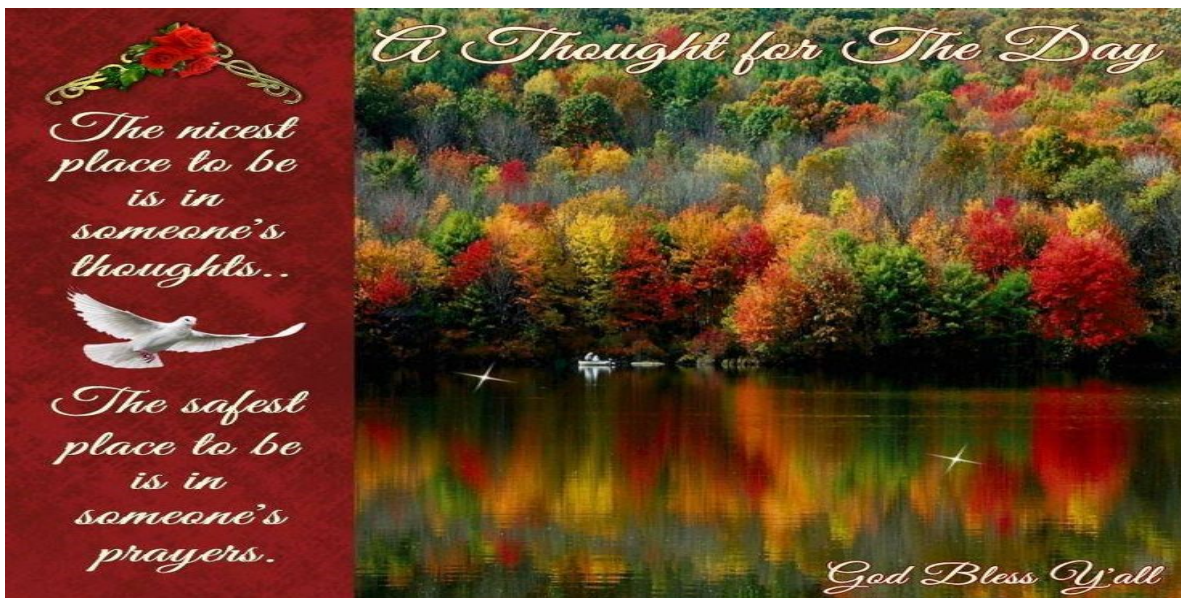
## Septic System Project Update

As Of August 31, 2021

As you will recall, in May 2020 we provided the congregation with a copy of the accepted bids from Schwartz Septic, Neumann Plumbing & Heating and KW Electric for replacement of the septic system. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$44,406 (which includes an additional \$5,000 above bids for unforeseen expenses). Here is an update to the congregation on the progress that has been made in funding this project.

Estimated Cost of Project	\$44,406.00
Less: Down payment for church & house holding tanks 5/21/20)	<u>(\$4,000.00)</u>
Balance of Estimated Total Cost to be Paid to Vendors	\$40,406.00
Improvement Fund (earmarked for project from fund balance) (\$5,000 less \$4,000 down payment paid 5/21/20)	(\$1,000.00)
Total member donations as of 8/31/2021	<u>(\$24,810.00)</u>
Balance needed for septic system project	\$14,596.00

If you would like to contribute towards this project, please note in the memo section of your check "Septic System Project". As shown above, we have earmarked \$5,000 plus the \$24,810 of your donations from the total funds currently held in the Improvement Fund (\$65,965) for this project. Barring any unforeseen expenses that may arise, we expect to be able to pay the balance of the septic project out of the Improvement Fund balance when the final total comes due later in 2021. Therefore, we do not anticipate the need to explore further fundraising options.



**Happy Anniversary** We hope you keep the following couples 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)).

October 2 Linda & Mike Schuler—50 yrs.

October 5 Brooke & Bryce Lueck

October 7 Mike & Gayle Holzmann  
Julianna & Kurt Kuzulka

October 8 Tim & Sara Feldmann

October 9 Shelly & Ty Hollingsworth  
Wally & Cindy Knopp—45 yrs.

October 11 Kari & Brent DeHart

October 12 Marvin & Suzi Boedecker  
Jamie & Jill Farnum

October 13 Ann & Joy Mitchell-Fessler



October 15 Matt & Amy Miles

October 16 Vern & Sharon Boedecker

October 17 Bonnie & Kirby Post  
Jason & Sara Schnicke

October 18 Steve & Rita Bender  
Kyle & Brianna Pennell

October 19 Jon & Tammy Anhalt  
Tyler & Erin Gumm

October 20 Jeff & Debbie Meinnert  
Allen & Sue Nohl

October 27 Greg & Jessica Herzog

**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)).

October 1 Rachel Zeinemann

October 3 Campbell Booth  
Gayle Holzmann  
Barb Post

October 4 Rita Bender  
Randy Rautmann  
Linda Suemnicht

October 5 Kevin Ress  
Sophia Rick  
Zach Williams

October 6 Virginia Karstaedt  
Kari Mooney  
Carley Reil

October 8 Derrik Daun

October 9 Amber Casadonte  
Seth Morse  
Evelyn Rick  
Vickie Schaap

October 11 Gracelynn Konz

October 12 Lorraine Barthels

October 13 Aaron Beitler  
Renee Greger

October 14 Jackson Christy  
Duane Gumm

October 15 Adam Bunke  
Adam Jankus  
Cindy Kwekkeboom  
Marilyn Perronne  
Ava Schneider  
Stan Strub

October 17 Jay Flegal

October 18 Larry Gumm  
Sarah Mauk

October 19 Joanne Howe  
Brooke Lueck  
Don Zimmermann

October 20 Richard Herzog  
Julie Reichert

October 21 Lauryn Pelnar

October 22 Ava Kwekkeboom  
Jennifer McCraw

October 24 William Fitzgerald  
Levi Wieck

October 25 Ray Glander  
Barb Meinnert

October 27 Cole Booth  
Emily Gumm  
Jackie Jarvis

October 28 Jordan Rick

October 29 Danika Kaat  
Kathy Thomas

October 30 Alexis Abston  
Kurt Kuzulka

