

920-467-6202
October—2022

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

The Tidings



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“May we not keep our blessings, but give them away.”

Thom M. Shuman

I am writing this article right before Rory and I leave on our trip to Germany. By the time you are reading it we will be back and sharing stories of the trip. We have been so fortunate in the last 5 years or so to be able to travel. We have visited some awesome places. Our experiences have taught us much and changed our views on some things as well. We are so grateful to have been able to travel, for friends to travel with, and for the experiences we have had.

We often think about gratitude around Thanksgiving. Not that we aren't grateful at other times, but we are particularly mindful of it around Thanksgiving. It is right there in the name of the holiday – thanks – giving. During the month of November, several people I know will post daily something they are grateful for. I even saw a Gratitude Scavenger Hunt! All of this got me thinking about being grateful and how that feeling or attitude affects our lives. I began reading a book by Diana Butler Bass titled *Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks*. In meeting with the Worship Design Team, we decided to focus on gratitude and being grateful during the months of October and November. Not all of the details are worked out at the time of this writing, we will update you as we move through the last weeks of Ordinary Time and get ready for Advent.

Know that I am grateful for all of you and that I am in ministry with you. You are in good hands while I am away. See you October 2nd for World Communion Sunday. A fitting day for me to return to the pulpit after my vacation.

Blessings,
Pastor RaeAnn

Fall Clean-Up

A reminder to all Saron members, the **fall clean-up day will be Saturday, Oct. 29 at 8:00 AM.** Working side-by-side with fellow Saron members cleaning up the **inside and outside of the church** is a great way to spend a fall morning. Hope to see many of you there!



Church Leadership

The Consistory was pleased to read the many positive responses on the church-wide survey regarding members willingness to serve in leadership positions. As an early notice of these elected positions, the Consistory would welcome members to volunteer for any position in which they are interested. Below is a brief job description for each position. Please contact any Consistory member if you are interested in serving the church in any of these positions. Consistory Members: Jay Grosshuesch (920-918-2037), Ryan Herzog (920-377-0063), Doug VanHelden (920-946-5361); Dave Rautmann (920-698-6677); Jeff Meinnert (920-918-6518); Judy Glander (920-980-0748); Tracy Beeck (920-467-3735).

The **Consistory** is made up of the Elders, Deacons and Treasurer. The Consistory assists and supports the pastor in the business and spiritual matters of the church. They typically meet once a month for about a 2 hour meeting. Members of the Consistory are on a rotating schedule to open and close the church on Sunday mornings and serve Communion. All members of the Consistory serve a 3-year term.

Elder:

The Elders are also liaison representatives for other committees in the church, like the Board of Christian Education, Endowment Committee and Pastor Parish Relations Committee.

Deacon:

The Deacons also serve as liaisons to the trustees.

Treasurer:

The Treasurer oversees the financial security of the church. He/She signs checks, explains financial reports to the consistory and works closely with the church's financial secretary.

Trustee:

The Trustees complete simple maintenance projects on the church property and parking lot. They also secure and forward to the Consistory bids for any contracted projects on the church property, and they plan and lead the fall and spring clean-up days each year. Trustees serve a three year term.

Pastor Parish Relations:

Members of the Pastor Parish Relations Committee are a liaison between the Pastor and members of the congregation. They meet quarterly to provide feedback and support for the pastor. PPR members serve a three year term.

Board of Christian Education:

Members of the Board of Christian Education facilitate the religious education of the children. This includes securing teachers and curriculum for the Sunday School and Vacation Bible School programs, as well as organizing a SS Christmas program. Members serve a three year term.

Endowment Committee:

Members of the Endowment Committee encourage the contribution of money to the Endowment Fund, and they make decisions regarding the investment of the funds. Members serve a five year term.

Cemetery Board:

Members of the Cemetery Board maintain the cemetery and its funds. Members serve a three year term.

From The Consistory

The consistory would like to thank all the Saron members who took the time to complete the recent survey. The feedback was fantastic and the consistory looks forward to evaluating the results and using the information to further enhance our church.



Roof Report

The Consistory is happy to report that the roof project on the narthex and carport has been completed. The Consistory appreciates very much the members of the congregation who supported this project with your gifts of both money, talent, and time. The new roof looks great, and it will last a long time.



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 and Barb Post. The Mission Team is excited about church members' response to three initial 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. Saron members have committed to providing a meal one evening a month from July through December. A big thank you to all who have signed up to make a meal. Look for more opportunities in the future.

(2) Habitat For Humanity.

Several Saron members participated in the 'Rock the Block' neighborhood revitalization project of the Gateway neighborhood in Sheboygan in September. Thank you to those who supported this important ministry. We hope Saron members will continue to volunteer their time to upcoming Habitat projects.

(3) Food Pantry.

The Mission Team appreciates the continued support of the congregation to the Food Pantry. Food items can be donated by placing them in the plastic bin below the kiosk in the narthex.

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.

Treasurer's Update As of August 31, 2022

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).

YTD income \$100,847 YTD expenses \$122,917 **YTD Deficit \$22,070**

As you can see, we are running a deficit in our general fund. Although there is a reserve built up in the general fund, year-to-date \$22,070 of that reserve has been used for expenses. Please prayerfully consider your support of the daily and weekly vital functions of Saron Church

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 \$25,636 YTD expenditures \$10,288 (including \$9,250 roof)
Total Fund Balance \$93,538 Total Approved Expenditures (Septic & Roof) \$78,156

Unexpended Balance \$15,382

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 \$18,150

Designated Disbursements:

SPARE (minimum of \$1,250 - \$1,800 designated so far)

OCWM (\$20,500 commitment - \$13,555 designated so far, **\$6,945 deficit**)

Pass Through for Special Offerings and Mission Projects (\$2,737 distributed so far)

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 Beek or any Consistory member.

Saron UCC Endowment Fund Committee Asks:
Did you know? Did you know...a beneficiary is a person or entity that receives your assets by operation of law following your passing? Saron UCC is an example of an entity that can be named as a beneficiary.

**ENDOWMENT
FUND**



Please consult your tax advisor. Feel free to contact any member of Saron's Endowment Fund Committee member with any questions

Merlin Schmidt would like to thank everyone for the birthday wishes, cards and plant. It made my 91st birthday very special. Thank you again.



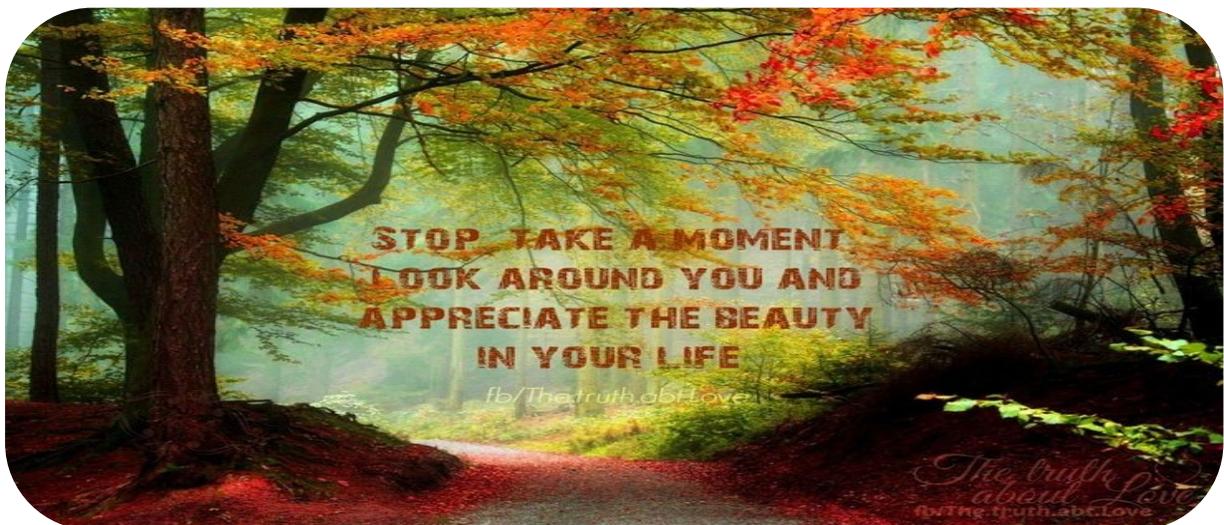
Those who are homebound or in care centers: Marilyn Perronne (at home), Mickey Glander (Sheboygan Senior Community, Rm 404) Eugene Weiskopf (Field of Dreams Assisted Living, Kiel) Shirley Schmidt (at Song Bird Pond), Merlin Schmidt (at home), Sally Nohl (at home)



We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family of Richard Hemb, Nate Dassow's Stepfather who died on September 2, 2022....



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



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).

October 2 Linda & Mike Schuler
Tanner & Olivia Gumm

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

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 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).

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
Zack Williams

October 6 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

October 15 Cindy Kwekkeboom
Marilyn Perronne
Ava Schneider
Stan Strub

October 17 Jay Flegal

October 18 Larry Gumm

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

