

Annual Meeting of Saron United Church of Christ
January 21, 2018

The annual meeting was called to order by President Gloria Flegal at 11:17 am with 95 members present. There were 15 members that voted by absentee ballot prior to the meeting. Reverend Dr. Ernest Huntzinger opened the meeting with a prayer.

Motion was made by Judy Glander and seconded by Carl Laack to appoint Gloria Flegal as the moderator of the meeting, all in favor.

Motion was made by Lee Post and seconded by Becky Pelnar to appoint Tim Feldmann as Secretary of the meeting, all in favor.

Jenna Hahn, Julie Reichert, Heidi Taylor, Nathan Dassow, David Johannung, Jay Flegal, and Lee Post were appointed as distributors and tabulators of the ballots.

Nominations were presented and it was opened to the floor for additional nominations.

Elder: Janine Gardapee and Mike Walsh

Deacon: Matt Boedecker and David Rautmann

Trustee: Corey Albright and Wade Sebald

Christian Board of Education: (2 voted in) Ashley Schmidt, Jordan Theobald, and Heather Zimbal. Two will be nominated, highest vote getter will receive 3 year term and next highest will receive the 9 months remaining on the vacated term from earlier this year.

Cemetery Board: Jack Hanke and DuWayne Nohl

Endowment Committee: Jacob Barthels and Susan Blasel

Pastor/Parish Relations: (2 voted in) Jill Adamavich, Judy Knuth, and Robin Lindquist

Motion was made by Jay Flegal and seconded by Skeeter Degroff to close nominations, all in favor.

Gloria Flegal gave her Presidents report covering the past year of happenings and improvements that were made throughout the year. It has been an interesting journey; ending with the hiring of a new Pastor, RaeAnn Beebe. A time of trial for the members of Saron, but as is always the case the Saron Congregation was patient and strong as a unit. We cannot thank Pastor Ernie enough for his guidance and support, leading us through the events of the past several years. However, the true credit belongs to the faithful members of Saron Church who work together as a family to ensure the church will thrive. There were many improvements and projects completed over the past year. The ceiling in the back hallway was repainted, the rear entrance was cleared of congestion, and a new wall mounted coat rack was added. The carport ceiling was fixed with Extrutech plastic and the problem spots on the garage roof were repaired. The organ was replaced with a new Yamaha keyboard. Landscaping around the church house was re-done, along with updated landscaping on the east and south side of the church. The sand was removed from the swing set area and filled with topsoil and new grass seeding. Metal railings were installed on the South entrance steps and also by the east side steps by the carport. New field tile was installed through the woods property along with

pumping out the catch basin in the parking lot to help alleviate flooding in the parking lot. Two new faucets were added in the basement kitchen. A wooden cross was made and installed in the cemetery in honor of Reformation Sunday. The "Pave the Way" fundraiser was held to start raising money to re-pave the two cemetery drive ways. Three cracked windows were replaced in the upstairs north side Sunday school rooms. There were two new railings added in the narthex entrance steps for a better grip. The speaker was repaired in the fellowship hall, electric candles were purchased for the Christmas service, and the smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors were replaced in the church house. As we look to the new year, may it be rewarding and exciting with new ideas and goals. The Consistory will continue to improve landscaping around the church grounds, including the area around the wooden cross. We will also look at improving the computer system, reviving the youth program, performing an internal financial audit, and the ongoing goal of repaving the cemetery driveways. Thank you to our dedicated employees, consistory, elected individuals and volunteers, which help make Saron strong.

Gloria asked if there were any additions or corrections to the 2017 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Debbie Rautmann and seconded by Skeeter Degroff to accept the minutes as presented, all in favor, approved.

Debbie Meinnert reported the changes that were going to be made to some of the accounts for 2018. The consistory is going to ask Pastor RaeAnn's input on hiring a Youth Coordinator; if we hire someone, we can take money out of the Youth account if needed for 2018. We had changed the lawn mowing account this past year from a salary position to an hourly position; the consistory will discuss to change it back or keep it hourly for 2018. We had lowered our OCWM for 2018; but after our Budget meeting it was discussed that we should keep it at \$19,200. We will try and make it more visual throughout the 2018 year. Motion was made by Joan Laack and seconded by Bill Gardapee to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, all in favor, approved.

Gloria then asked if there were any questions on the 2018 budget. Motion was made by Brian Rautmann and seconded by Judy Glander to accept the 2018 budget, all in favor, approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

Endowment Fund-Virginia Brown asked what types of investments are in the Endowment fund. It was explained that it is in a high yield savings account; it had lost money when we had it invested, it was then decided to change it.

Cemetery Driveways-Janine Gardapee asked what type of timeline we were looking at for completion of repaving the cemetery driveways because of the good "Pave the Way" fundraising event that was held. Carl stated that estimates came in at about \$40,000 to repave both of them and we were not even halfway there yet. The consistory was planning on waiting until we had at least half of the funding so we didn't have to take a loan for the full amount. Larry Boedecker stated that we should look at other ways of funding the project so we would be able to complete it sooner than later. Judy Dumke then asked how long the bids were good for and if we were locked in to the price that was given. Carl stated that we would have to get new bids again since the current ones were

from last year. Virginia Feldmann then asked if we could do one driveway at a time and do them as funding was available. It was stated that it would be cheaper to have them both done at one time instead of having the crew come back a second time. Judy Dumke made mention of borrowing the money from other groups in the church and then paying them back as we are able, like the Memorial Fund. A motion was made by Lori Albsmeier and seconded by Jay Hoogstra to re-bid the project and then have the consistory re-visit options of funding it and report back to the congregation, all in favor, approved.

Endowment Fund Changes-Kari Mooney mentioned that this fund has been stuck at the current amount for a while now. Members have not been contributing to this account; because of the minimum amount of \$250 that needs to be donated. The Consistory should look into lowering the minimum amount that can be given and report back. Once the account hits \$100,000 the interest that is accrued can be used to support missions of the church; but right now the account is just sitting idle.

Church Support-Lucas Williams asked what groups the Church is currently supporting? Gloria answered that we are still supporting SPARE, the Campital Campaign, One Great Hour of Sharing, we supported the Mission Group, and the Church is part of the 5 for 5 campaign.

Results of the election were announced, and they are as follows:

Elder-Janine Gardapee

Deacon-Matt Boedecker

Trustee-Corey Albright

Christian Board of Education-Jordan Theobald (3 year term), Heather Zimbal
(Remaining 9 month term)

Cemetery Board-Jack Hanke

Endowment Committee-Jacob Barthels

Pastor/Parish Relations-Jill Adamavich and Robin Lindquist

A motion was made by Bill Gardapee and seconded by Skeeter Degroff to destroy the ballots, all in favor, approved.

A motion was made by Skeeter Degroff and seconded by Lee Post to adjourn the meeting at 12:04 pm, all in favor, approved.

Pastor Ernie said a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Feldmann