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**SEPTEMBER 2021**

## Saron United Church of Christ



# The Tidings

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I am so excited about **Welcome Back Sunday** this year. After a year of nothing being normal, the Consistory decided a true celebration was in order.

### **Welcome Back Sunday - September 12, 2021**

8:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary (live-streamed)

9:05 am Sunday School (parents please gather in the Sanctuary)

10:15 am Worship outside (weather permitting)

Bella Musik will provide our worship music

Communion will be celebrated at both services

### **Church Picnic!**

Entertainment by Bella Musik

Food provided by Saron UCC

(please sign up on the kiosk or on-line so we know how much food to order)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4DAAAE2EA7FA7-welcome1>

Games for the children

Plan on joining us to celebrate our connection as Saron UCC!

Blessings,

Pastor RaeAnn



## Sunday School To Begin

**Sunday School will be starting on Sunday, September 12, which is Welcome Back Sunday.** We look forward to seeing you all again. **Please meet in the sanctuary by 9:05 a.m.** and we will split up into classes from there, with the **parents staying for an orientation meeting.** Also, we are still looking for a few more teachers, so if anyone is willing to help out please contact Jenna Hahn at 917-9713.



## News About The Endowment Fund

The purpose of the Saron UCC Endowment Fund is to enhance the mission and outreach of Saron UCC. The Endowment Fund receives gifts of cash and gifts other than cash that none of our other church funds are equipped to accept or manage. The funds are retained until the principal amount is \$100,000. At that time, a significant amount will be available for distribution to Christian Education, Community Services or Saron UCC Programs. The minimum amount for giving to the Endowment Fund is \$250.00

## ENDOWMENT FUND



There are several ways to consider giving to the Endowment Fund: Gifts of cash or marketable securities, bequest in your will, charitable gift annuity or beneficiary designation. Please consult with a tax or financial advisor to see which option may be of benefit to you. This gift can be given in "living" honor or in memory of someone. In the past few months gifts to the Endowment fund have been received in memory of Gloria Flegal. We are in the process of securing a permanent way to recognize donors.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any one of the committee members: Eric Rabe, Teri Strub, Jacob Barthels, Donna Rautmann or Jay Hoogstra.

## News From The Consistory Concerning Church Clean-Up Dates for Fall and Spring

During our previous consistory meeting we decided to set the **fall clean-up date to ALWAYS be the LAST SATURDAY of OCTOBER.** **This year it will be the 30th of October.** This will help with planning for the clean-up and hopefully have better attendance. **We have also set the spring clean-up to ALWAYS happen the LAST SATURDAY OF APRIL.**

Important  
Information

The Women's Guild would like to **"THANK"** everyone who donated school supplies and for the monetary donations we received. Many children will benefit from these school supplies.





**CONGRAULATIONS** to the Saron UCC Volleyball Team! Their hard work paid off this year with a 1st place in the Rural Church Fellowship League and a 3rd place win in the tournament on Sunday, August 8th. Way to go team!!!

**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)

**We extend our Christian sympathy** to the family of Helen Peichl who died on August 14th, 2021 and whose funeral was held on August 19th, 2021. Helen was the Mother and Mother-in-law to Saron members Randy and Verla Peichl....



## Conference Wide Big Read

### *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants* by Robin Wall Kimmerer

*Braiding Sweetgrass* is a favorite among people interested in nature and spirituality since its 2013 publication, the book finally made it onto *The New York Times'* paperback bestseller list in early 2020 and is currently No. 15 on the *Times'* list of print and e-book best-sellers. Robin has a way of making creation come alive in ways that spark imagination and connection.

Since reading this book, I have used parts in many sermons and notice changes in how I think about the world around me. I highly recommend this book and would look forward to engaging in conversation with others in the congregations about it.

Conference activities and resources to support the Big Read will kick off in the fall. They include:

- **Virtual Conference-wide discussions of *Braiding Sweetgrass*** on the Thursday evenings of Sept. 9, Sept. 30 and Oct. 21. Each session will start at 7 p.m. and run for 90 minutes.
- **Robin Wall Kimmerer's talk to the Wisconsin Conference.** Kimmerer will speak to the entire Wisconsin Conference by Zoom on Oct. 9, in conjunction with the Immersion Event taking place that weekend at the UCCI facility at Green Lake (see below).

**Study guide and other resources** for use by congregational reading groups, Green Teams, and faith formation teams, as well as individual congregants.

#### Immersion Event Signup

"Restoring Relationship with Mother Earth: A Four-Day Immersion Event on Ho Chunk Ancestral Lands," will engage participants in open dialog about fundamental understandings about the nature of place, notions of ownership and stewardship, and our relationship to a shared history. Event co-sponsors are the Alliance for Justice Inc., United Church Camps, and Hocak UCC in Black River Falls. Pilgrim Center

Dates: 10/07/2021 2:30 PM - 10/10/2021 12:00 PM

Ages: Ages 12 and up

Cost: \$300.00 (scholarships available from UCCI and Saron UCC)

Registration will end on 9/23/2021 at 12:00 PM.



### **SARON WOMEN and FRIEND'S RETREAT**

The Saron UCC Women's Guild invites women and their friends to a Fall Retreat from Friday, Oct. 29, 2021 (3 PM) through Saturday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> (3 PM) at the beautiful Cedar Valley Retreat Center, 5329 County Rd. D, West Bend, WI.

Our retreat leader will be Lisa Hamilton Hart. Lisa Hart is the Associate Conference Minister of Faith Formation and Justice Ministries for the Wisconsin Conference UCC. She has served on the Conference staff for over 15 years. Lisa grew up in Kohler, with her sister former Saron member Lori Albsmeier and her dad (Bob Hamilton) was the pastor at Grace UCC for many years.

Lisa recently graduated from Lakeland University with a Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. In addition to faith formations for all ages, she has a strong interest in grief, trauma and justice work. Lisa lives in Fitchburg with her husband, Chuck. They have two adult children and a daughter –in-law.

**The theme for the Retreat will be “Rooted in Love”.** We will explore the ways each of us, through our faith, are “rooted in love.” Possible focus: How we care for ourselves and our community...how our faith is strengthened by being rooted in love. It will be a time to focus on how we experience our faith, how we engage in self-care and how we care for others.

Come and enjoy the beauty of this rural retreat center while we relax and be renewed in God's creation and in Christian fellowship.

The cost of the retreat is \$118 if you would like a single room (1 queen bed) or \$103/ea. (2 queen beds). If you'd like to share a room (please indicate a roommate if desired). There is also the option of three people sharing a room at the cost of \$103+\$103+\$65. Each room has a private bathroom. There is an elevator available in the building. The cost also includes 3 meals (Fri-dinner & Sat breakfast & lunch); and includes sheets, blanket, pillow, towels, & little toiletry bottles. Special diets can be accommodated (indicate on sign-up).

There is a \$40.00 deposit due at sign-up. The remainder is due at the retreat or before. You may sign up and pay at the kiosk in the narthex or you can call Barb Post (920-207-4513) to sign up or if you have any questions. Checks should be made payable to Saron Women's Guild.

## Treasurer's Update

**As of July 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).

**YTD income \$109,073**

**YTD expenses \$92,884**

Saron currently has a surplus in our General Fund of \$98,240. 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 \$13,341**

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 \$9,925 to OCWM which is 48% 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 \$1,400 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.

**YTD income \$23,389**

**YTD expenditures \$7**

Current amount in the fund \$63,229. Of this amount, \$24,610 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.



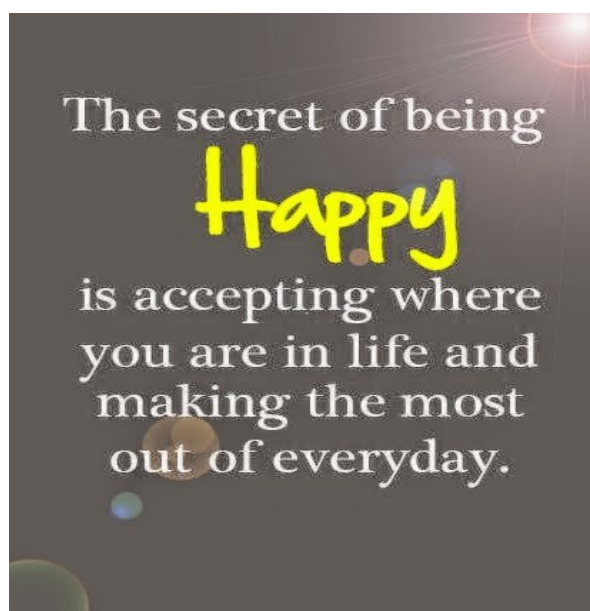
## Septic System Project Update

**As Of July 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)	(\$1,000.00)
(\$5,000 less \$4,000 down payment paid 5/21/20)	
Total member donations as of 7/31/2021	<u>(\$23,610.00)</u>
Balance needed for septic system project	\$15,796.00

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 \$23,610 of your donations from the total funds currently held in the Improvement Fund (\$63,229) 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)).

September 1 Don & Danielle Zimmermann

September 7 Todd & Kim Havlinek

September 8 Pete & Sara Christy  
Wade & Abby Sebald

September 10 Randy & Connie Sixel

September 11 Kristi & Willy Belcher  
Ray & Judy Glander—45 yrs.  
Eric & Katie Haas

September 12 Scott & Tracy Wilke

September 13 Carl & Joan Laack

September 14 Matt & Julie Dulmes  
Michael & Lindsay Rick

September 15 Ralph & Barb Sebald



September 16 Tom & Gloria Kanzelberger

September 18 Jody & Steve Biederwolf

September 19 Al & Susan Blasel  
Don & Lois Herzog—40 yrs.  
Eugene & Helen Rautmann—62 yrs.

September 20 Chuck & Brittany Kaiser

September 21 Claude & Sarah Gonzales

September 23 Lisa & Brian Schneider

September 24 Lloyd & Sharon Feldmann—45 yrs.  
Duane & Jamie Hitsman

September 25 Jerry & Marie Henning

September 27 Bryan & Brittney Mauk

**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)).

September 1 Lydia Albright  
Jacob DeHart

September 3 Devin Gardapee  
Teri Strub

September 4 Keith Beeck

September 5 Steve Casadonte

September 7 Tyler Pike

September 8 Gordon Feldmann  
Kathy Roehl

September 9 Julie Dulmes

September 10 Derek Kaat

September 12 Dawn Giraldo  
Hudson Wagner

September 13 Brittany Kaiser

September 14 Oliver Dicke  
Lee Post

September 14 Merlin Schmidt  
Judy Schmitz

September 15 Joleen Kwekkeboom

September 16 Nicki Decker

September 17 Brevan Harper  
Vicky Verhage

September 18 Sara Dassow  
Scott Stache

September 19 Courtney Booth  
Don Herzog  
Josh Imig

September 20 Karen Boeldt  
Faith Charbonneau  
Seth Conery  
Isabel Wieck

September 21 Don Coller

September 22 Jayden Mauk

September 22 Melissa Reichwald  
Elsa Schuette  
Haley Zimmermann

September 23 Marie Henning  
Carol Scheinoha

September 25 Tyler Gumm  
Jamie Hitsman  
Scott Milz

September 26 Mike Beeck  
Brian Kaat

September 27 Laurel Hahn  
Ryan Harper  
Shelly Hollingsworth  
Paul Williams

September 29 Jeremy Hanke  
Ben Nickel

September 30 Keith Henning  
Cameron McGee

