

**Saron Lutheran  
Staff**

Pastor Jim Lindekugel  
jlindekugel@sherbtl.net

Curtis Rieck, Director of Youth  
and Family Ministry  
slyguy@izoom.net

Julie Weber, Secretary  
jweber@sherbtl.net

Richard & Gloria Hensel,  
Custodians  
rghensel@sherbtl.net

Jennifer Ulven, Choir Director  
763.263.2209

Emily Ladwig, Organist/Pianist  
763.263.2209

Karen Nelsen, Organist/Pianist  
763.263.2209

Jenny John, Director  
Agape Preschool 763.263.2203

**Church Office: 763.263.2209**  
**Church Fax: 763.262.6002**

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# SCROLL

April 2008

## FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR JIM:

Dear friends,



**REMEMBERING. GIVING THANKS. SAYING GOODBYE.** This is where my thoughts and prayers are as I prepare to end my ministry here at Saron. I have so much to remember here as I think of all the change and growth that has happened in these last years. Saron has a vision now for itself that includes being a mission church with a deep sense of outreach and hospitality. I have worked hard to shape and articulate this vision throughout my time here and the results are clearly taking hold in everything I see. Building on a strong foundation of loyal members, hundreds of new baptisms and families have been added to our membership. A new Ministry Team structure that now elects and includes many new people each year is creating consistent and ongoing ministry that will provide the needed ministry for the future of Saron. I am grateful for being able to lead the congregation during these important transition years.

But, most of all, I thank Saron for calling me here in the first place and thanks to all of you for inviting me into your homes and hearts to be your pastor and friend. These have been good years, and I am deeply appreciative of your trust and your openness to my love for you as a congregation. My wife, Sandy and I will miss all the important relationships that have developed during our time at Saron and we look forward to seeing you in the future.

What will I do now? Of course, this change becomes a new beginning that will offer me the opportunity to spend more time with Sandy and family, plus some time to travel and see faraway friends. There are always many new books to read and different ministry options to explore! I am energized to see what surprises now lay ahead in these next years!

Between now and my Farewell Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, I hope to be able to exchange personal words of appreciation and thanks for all that we have been to one another as pastor and congregation.

Thank you Saron, I will miss you. It will be hard to say goodbye.

Affectionately,

Pastor Jim

## THANK YOU:

- \*\*Thank you to everyone who bought fish fry tickets, bought raffle tickets, all 35 volunteers that hustled at the event and thank you to the companies that supported our ticket sales by giving us items. Please tell these companies when you patronize them: AutoStop, Big Lake Floral, Boone Chiropractic and Wellness, Connections-etc., G&G Cleaners, Target, Inc. Monticello, and Victory Sports Grill and Bar that we really appreciate their support. We will present our mission partner, Faith in Action, with a check for \$400 at the March 30 service. Big thanks to Thrivent Financial for supporting this event with a matching check for \$500, and a \$200 match to the Faith in Action organization donation. The \$2,214.21 money raised will go for the purchase of new projection equipment.
- \*\*Thank you to Steve's Elk River Nursery for donating the huge granite rock and stepping stones for our Easter Open Tomb display. In year's past Steve's has loaned us product, but this year, they gave them to us! Thanks so much.
- \*\*Thank you to Richard Helms for retrofitting the hardware needed to hang our new entrance banners. You did a wonderful job, Richard, thank you!
- \*\*Thank you to everyone who made Easter Worship such a success! The Hospitality Committee and its chair, Marcia Boone, for coordinating the special Easter Hospitality, Julie Churness who coordinated the Special Music Vocal and Instrumental Musicians, Linda Paulson and Sherry Thornberg for the decorations and to the congregational members who assisted them, Deb and Chantele Guthmiller, Lynn and Olivia Karls, and Natalie and Carli Lastavich for participating in the drama, Mona Morrisette for coordinating Communion Assistants and those who prepared Communion, Phyllis Freeman, Audrey Reed and Betty Wheeler who stuffed the bulletins, Scott and Luan Carlson for coordinating the greeters, Judy Klapperick for coordinating the ushers, Stacy Boone for coordinating nursery attendants, Verna Lundgren for coordinating the readers, the Senior Choir and its director Jenn Ulven for all their hard work, and to organist Emily Ladwig.
- \*\*Thank you to everyone who purchased Easter plants that adorned the sanctuary on Easter morning.
- \*\*Thank you to Charlie West and Mary Niklaus for the installation of our replacement phone system.
- \*\*Thank you from the Synod for Saron's 2007 Mission Support offering of \$9,200.00.

## CONFIRMATION PICTURES NEEDED!

**MAVIS LEE, MARLYCE MARQUART & PEARL OLTMANN** have been working for several months on a display of all of Saron's confirmation classes. They have discovered that several years are missing or the classes need identification. Missing: 1987, 1989, 1993, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004. Need identification: 1983, 1984 & 1988. If you have one of these years please bring it into the office and we will make a copy of it. If you can help with the identification, please let us know. Thank you!

## MONTHLY DONATIONS CAN BE HASSLE-FREE!

Dozens of Saron members do not write checks. They use automatic Electronic Funds Transfer or a program called: **Simply Giving. It's easy.** Our church staff can provide you with the form. All you have to do is call or stop in. **It's secure.** Simply Giving programs are processed through secure networks. Each gift will appear on your monthly bank statement. **It's convenient.** You will never again need to spend time writing a check, finding an envelope, or worrying about whether Saron Lutheran Church is receiving your support. And you save the cost of checks and postage. Call Julie at 763.263.2209 for answers to any questions you have, or to set up your automatic monthly donations and enjoy the convenience of hassle-free, life-changing gifts to Saron.

## HAPPY SPRING FROM AGAPE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL!

Agape Christian Preschool students are enjoying the signs of spring and will be studying animals that hatch, Spring weather, flowers, taking care of the Earth/recycling, and growing vegetables.

We'd like to say thank you and we'll miss you Pastor Jim! Have fun being retired!

Our annual Spring Plant Fund-raiser is underway. Orders will be taken until April 7 and delivery is scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup> (just in time for Mother's Day). Available to order are: 10" hanging baskets, 12" planters, 4.5" pot stuffers and perennials.



Stop in the church office to pick up an order form.

We still have a few openings for the Mon/Wed Kindergarten Readiness class for the 2008-09 school year. This class is for 4 & 5 year olds (must be 4 by September 1, 2008). Please call the preschool for more information!

Camp Minnesota registration has begun! Kids entering Kindergarten or 1<sup>st</sup> grade in the Fall can register for this fun summer camp to be held June 9-12 & 16-19 or August 4-7 & 11-14 from 9:00am-12:00pm in the preschool rooms. Cost is \$150. Come and discover all the unique things about Minnesota through art, science, stories, games, snacks, music and other activities. Registration forms available in the church or preschool office. Please call the preschool for more information 263-2203!

### For the Record...

March 2008 First Communions  
Timothy John Uphoff on March 9



March 2008 Funerals  
Victor D. Olson, Sr. On March 8  
Kenneth Zaske on March 28

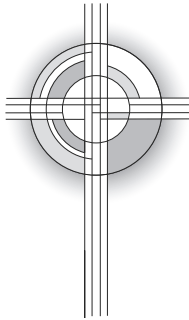
## Living Memorial Fund Given By:

Lynn Asher in memory of Alma Fellman  
Grand Bakis in memory of Marilyn Brenteson  
Don and Anita Deuel in memory of Anita Deuel  
Arnie and Blanche Johnson in memory of Vic Olson for sound equipment  
Mike and Darci Nagorski in memory of Vic Olson for the youth  
Eric and Karen Nelsen in memory of Vic Olson for sound equipment  
Norm and Jan Peterson in memory of Vic Olson  
Paula and Kevin Phillippe in memory of Vic Olson  
Robert and Linda Kollasch in memory of Alma Fellman

**REMINDER:** We have several families who have not picked up their 2008 offering envelopes. Using the envelopes each Sunday makes the process of counting the offering much easier and is more accurate. PLEASE pick them up as soon as you can, they are in the church office.

## SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH

311 Lake St. S  
P.O. BOX 394  
BIG LAKE, MN 55309  
763.263.2209  
Fax: 763.262.6002



We're on the Web!

[www.saron.org](http://www.saron.org)

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# Please join us for worship: 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

*Holy Baptisms are celebrated at Saron on the First and Third Sundays of each month at both services. Holy Communion is celebrated at Saron on the Second and Fourth Sundays of each month at both services.*

### Congregational Council

Tom Stich, President  
Mike Wallen, Vice-President  
Eric Nelsen, Treasurer  
Charlie West, Secretary  
Elaine Bergquist  
Scott Carlson  
Bill Cummings  
Tony Klapperick  
Darlene Lanz

**The deadline for information to be included in the Scroll is the 15th of the month at 4:00p.m.!**

Names will remain on our prayer list for 2 months. We are happy to reinstate a name anytime, but we request that you call the office asking us to do so. Those serving in the armed forces will remain on the list until they come home.

**MEMBERS of the ARMED FORCES:** Jesse and Justin Hattesoehl, Daniel Humphrey, Kyle Kev-elin, Kimberley Knopik, Clint Eklund, Jack Pegg, Jesse Mastley, Matthew Pollock, Nicole & Jake Pishney, Brian Wiltsey, Travis Peterson, Jeff Sandgren, Tyler Holmquist, SFC. Harold Kramer & their families; Sgt. Keith Maupin, U.S. Army - Missing in Action/Prisoner of War, Jessica Walker, the family of Adam Kissalk who was killed in Iraq.

**SICK & RECOVERING:** Loyd Law (Rose Peterson's father); Sharlene Mitchell; Fred Olson (Sandy Olson's brother-in-law); Brett Stich (son of Tom and Bonnie Stich); Cheryl Huehn; Carole Groustra; Doloris Breske; Bob Kara (Friends of Richard Helms); Terry Dols (friend of Verna Lundgren); Rose MacLeod (wife of Randy, mother

of Jennifer, Paul & Becky, Sister of Gail (Pete) Ahrens); Donald Asher (Lynn Asher's uncle); Susan Jacobs (friend of Dee & Norm Leslie); Conrad Gamsey; Scott Nocton (friend of Tim Hayes family); Taylor Tenhoff (Mona Morrisette's nephew), Jeannine Mansfield (friend of Gary and Mona Morrisette), Bobbi Stanton (friend of Joe Fowler), Sharon Evensen (Sister of Lisa Nelson), Kris Welsey (friend of Heidi Domyahn)

**IF YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST** please fill out a prayer request in the Welcome Sheet, found in the bulletin.

**IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD BENEFIT** from receiving a prayer shawl from church please call the church office 763-263-2209.

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE BULLETIN IS TUESDAY 4:00P.M.;**