

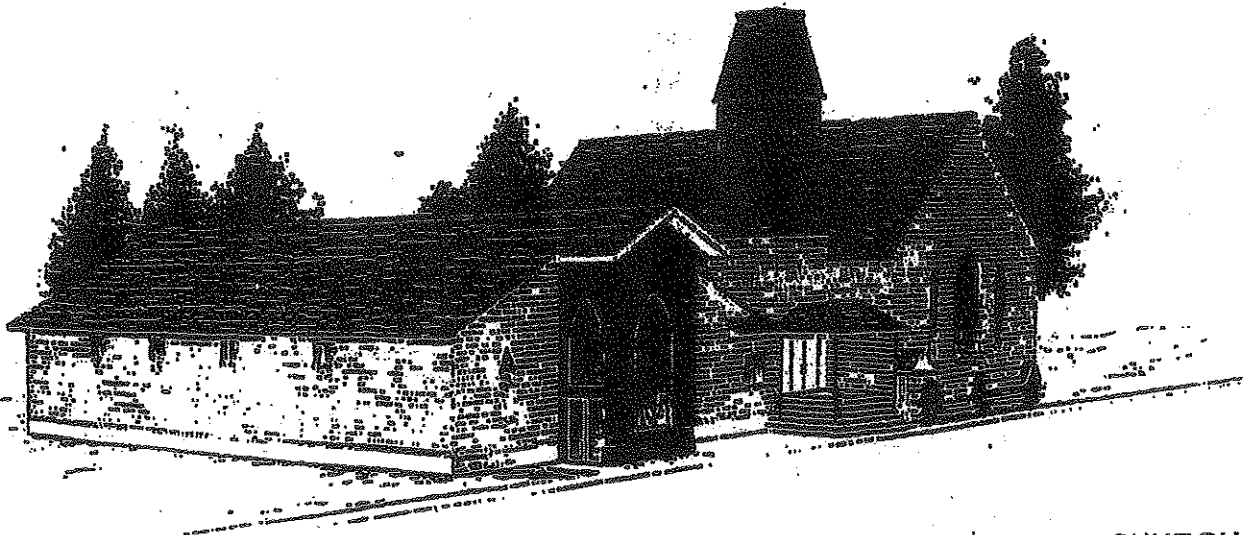
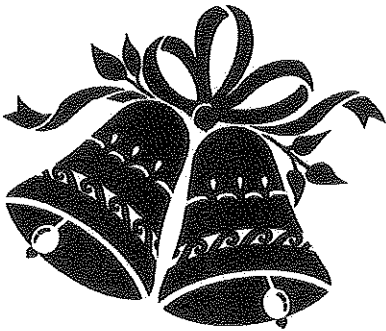
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*The  
Chimes*

*October Church News*



**SEWARD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
SEWARD, ILLINOIS

**From the desk of Pastor Joel:**

**Me: I know you from somewhere**

**Jesus: I get that a lot**

**Me: No, I'm sure**

**Jesus: Just one of those faces**

**Me: [holding arms out] Go like this**

I was in WalMart one day, and the person at the cash register looked really familiar to me, and I couldn't remember where I knew him from. We started talking, comparing notes about places we had worked, places we had been, and realized that we had worked together many years before in a different store. We had not had any contact with each other since that place closed, and had no idea what had happened in the meantime. Ever had an experience like that? Or did you walk away, racking your brain about who that person was? And, when you finally figured it out, you wished you had said something to them!

This really made me stop and think about how much Jesus really loves us. How often do we take the time to look into Jesus' face and talk to Him about His love and what is going on in our lives? Or do we wait until we have a crisis and then try to remember what He has done and what we think He looks like? Is He just a face from the past that, when we see Him, we have to think and think about where we know Him from? We need to be so familiar with Jesus and His love, that we don't have to wonder why we know Him and from where.

## Announcements

**DIACONATE:** Will not meet in October 14 at 9 a.m.

**TRUSTEE'S:** Will meet on October 20, at 6:30 p.m. We will meet in fellowship hall with social distancing.

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP:** Will meet on October 19, at 9 a.m.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** On Sunday Oct 10<sup>th</sup> the Sunday School Students who bring a guest to Sunday school, will get a gift card for the Scoop in Winnebago.

**TEAM SPIRITS SUNDAY:** Wear your favorite team jersey. (Doesn't have to be Bears or Packers). That is the Bears/Packers first game of the season. We have two bins: one labeled Bears and one labeled Packers. We are collecting paper goods (toilet paper, Kleenex, paper towels, napkins etc.) for the Pec food pantry and the Rockford Rescue Mission. Support your favorite team by placing an item in the bin

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** The Sunday School children will be singing on October 17 during the 10:30 worship service. We will be dismissed in time for the noon kickoff!!

**COMMUNION:** Will be October 31, 2021

**REMINDER:** All contributions for the CHIMES newsletter are due to the Office by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month.

### MONTHLY SUMMARY

Monthly Budget \$6,821.50

	August	January-August
General Fund	Income \$5,918.00	\$4,465.73
	Expense \$40,823.05	\$48,028.87

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

#### Birthdays

1—Dennis Freedlund  
2—Karleen Merchant  
5—Judy Beuth  
6--Brody Hilton  
11- Effie Hoppe  
17-Barb Daubs;  
23-Colin Viel  
25- Peggy Whitney

#### Anniversaries

6-Chuck & Theresa Ackerman

Seward Congregational Church  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
August 18, 2021

**Present:** Tari Woods, Effie Hoppe, Dick Remer, Scott Whitney, Matt Cowman, Brenda Van Hauen and Pastor Joel.

**Absent:** Maury Daubs

**The meeting** was called to order by Tari Woods at 6:32 pm and she led us in prayer.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the July meeting were read by Matt and were approved. Motion by Effie, second by Brenda.

**Treasurer's report** was given and approved. Motion by Dick, second by Scott.

**Pastor's report:** Pastor Joel had 30.5 hours, 22 contacts

**Old Business:**

**Downspouts**—Ken Hazzard will provide what we need; Scott will talk to him. Tabled.

**Internet update**—Still waiting on update.

**Financial update**—Maury talked about a 5.5% gain plus dividends which equals a 7-9% yield on investments. Still no takers for the investment committee. Tabled until September in Maury's absence.

**Fire code update**—If we qualify in all categories of the check list, then we will be eligible for a 15% discount. Three fire extinguishers were purchased, and several smoke detectors/carbon monoxide detectors were purchased for the church and the parsonage, that need to be installed. The fire extinguishers were ABC units, Maury will check and make sure they are the correct size that we need. Background checks were discussed for some people, but this was tabled UFN. We also discussed having at least two people count the money for the safety of those who would be doing this. Also, tabled until August in Maury's absence. An inspector was out taking pictures.

**Inside door plate**-tabled for cooler weather.

**Lightbulbs**—Done

**Weeds** have been take care of.

**Sound**-people are needed for Sunday service

**Donation**-Everyone agrees we should donate to a local organization

**New Business:**

**Next meeting** will be on September 15, 2021.

**Motion to adjourn** was made by Scott, and seconded by Dick. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Cowman

## September 14, 2021 Diaconate Meeting Minutes

Chairman Karleen Merchant called the meeting to order at 9:04 A.M. Members present were Char Remer, Bev Weerda, Karleen Merchant, Jean Mennenga, Barb Daubs, and Pastor Joel Hicke. Karleen read from Psalm 96.

Barb read the minutes of the August 10, 2021 meeting. Jean made the motion to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Bev. The motion was approved. Bev presented the treasurer's report showing a balance of \$765.88. Barb made the motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Char. The motion was approved.

Pastor Joel's report included 10 visits and 15 emails, texts, and postcards sent. He reported that there are three possible dates for the Kemp concert or revival, and we hope to confirm one of them soon. We are contacting area churches who may want to join us. Pastor Joel and Cathy will be on sabbatical from September 19-22 in Cedar Lake, IN. Brennan Fender will be working with the sound system some Sundays. The office has a new phone and a new answering machine. Adult Sunday School books have been ordered.

### OLD BUSINESS:

All went well on Rally Day. Five children attended the class of the youngest students. We need volunteers who would be available on Sundays when one of the teachers is unavailable. There have been some very positive comments about the church Facebook page. The lists of those who are homebound, in a facility, or in the service have been well received.

### NEW BUSINESS:

The funeral service and luncheon for Betty Cowman will be held on October 9 at our church. Volunteers will be needed for the luncheon. We discussed visits and contacts by Diaconate members. Communion will be on October 31, and Karleen will not be here that day. Discussion about a November potluck was tabled. The Packers and Bears will play one another on Sunday, October 17. Therefore, we have proclaimed the day Football Sunday and ask that the congregation bring paper products such as paper towels, toilet paper, table napkins for Team Bears or Team Packers. Regardless, of the winner, the Rockford Rescue Mission and the Pecatonica Food Pantry will be the recipients of our generosity. Wear your favorite team jersey or hat.

The motion for adjournment was made at 9:53 A.M. by Barb, seconded by Jean. Our next meeting will be on November 9 at 9:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted, Barb Daubs

# October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Bears/Packers Sunday Sunday School Kids Sing	18	19 Women's Fellowship 9 a.m.	20 Trustees 6:30 p.m.	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Communion						