

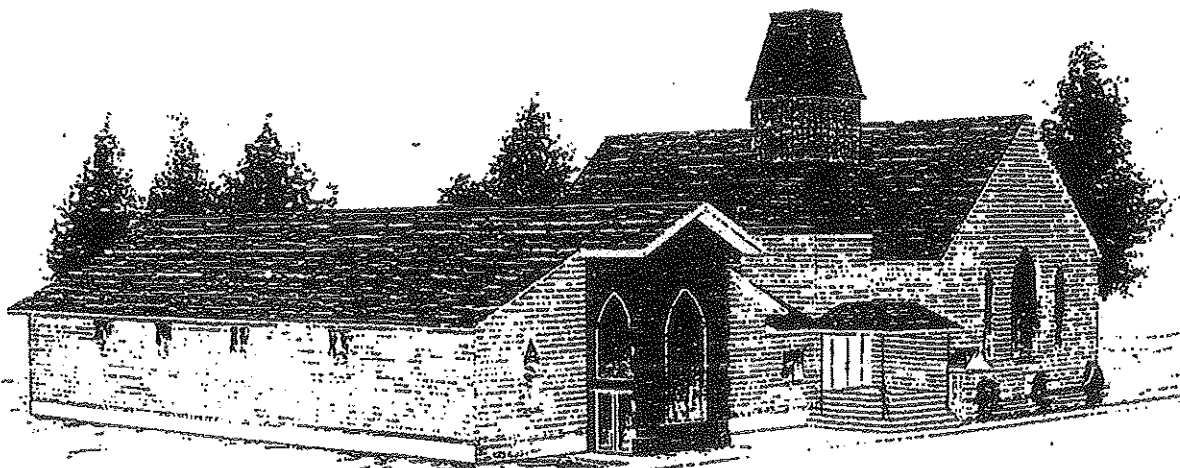
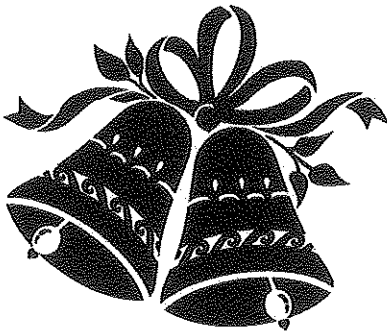
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*The
Chimes*

November Church News



SEWARD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SEWARD, ILLINOIS

Interesting facts about Halloween

Halloween is a holiday celebrated each year on October 31, and Halloween 2021 will occur on Sunday, October 31. The tradition originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor all saints. Soon, All Saints Day incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve, and later Halloween. Over time, Halloween evolved into a day of activities like trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festive gatherings, donning costumes and eating treats.

Halloween Comes to America

The celebration of Halloween was extremely limited in colonial New England because of the rigid Protestant belief systems there. Halloween was much more common in Maryland and the southern colonies.

As the beliefs and customs of different European ethnic groups and the American Indians meshed, a distinctly American version of Halloween began to emerge. The first celebrations included "play parties," which were public events held to celebrate the harvest. Neighbors would share stories of the dead, tell each other's fortunes, dance and sing.

Colonial Halloween festivities also featured the telling of ghost stories and mischief-making of all kinds. By the middle of the 19th century, annual autumn festivities were common, but Halloween was not yet celebrated everywhere in the country.

In the second half of the 19th century, America was flooded with new immigrants. These new immigrants, especially the millions of Irish fleeing the Irish Potato Famine, helped to popularize the celebration of Halloween nationally.

Announcements

DIACONATE: Will not meet in November 9 at 9 a.m.

TRUSTEE'S: Will meet on November 17, at 6:30 p.m. We will meet in fellowship hall with social distancing.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Will meet on November 16, at 9 a.m. We will pack bags for shut-ins. Please bring 2 dozen cookies.

COMMUNION: Will be November 28, 2021

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

MONTHLY SUMMARY

Monthly Budget \$6,821.50

| | September | January-September |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| General Fund | Income \$6,565.00 | \$47,388.05 |
| | Expense \$ 8,889.62 | \$56,918.49 |

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

- 14- Mary Asche
- 18-Ella Rose
- 19-Elaine Long
- 22-Jill Viel
- 30- Robb Klinger

ANNIVERSARY

- 7- Cletus & Effie Hoppe
- 16-Pastor Joel & Cathy Hicke

Seward Congregational Church
Board of Trustees Meeting
September 15, 2021

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

Absent: Scott, Whitney, Maury Daubs

The meeting was called to order by Effie Hoppe at 6:32 pm and Joel led us in prayer.

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

Treasurer's report was given and approved. Motion by Tari, second by Matt.

Pastor's report: Pastor Joel had 29.5 hours, 22 contacts, Joel will be gone from the 19-22nd

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 October in Maury's absence. Aurand house rent increase.

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.

Sound-Brennan Fender, still looking for more options

Donation-Rock House Kids

Maintenance-Dick fixed the landing to the office.

New Business:

Guests-Kasey and Hailey are coming back in March

Next meeting will be on October 20, 2021.

Motion to adjourn was made by Dick , and seconded by Brenda. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Cowman

November 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------------|--------|--|-----------------------------|----------|--------|----------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 Diaconate 9 a.m. | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 Women's fellowship 9 a.m. bring 2 dozen cookies | 17 Trustees 7:00 p.m. | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 Communion | 29 | 30 | | | | |