

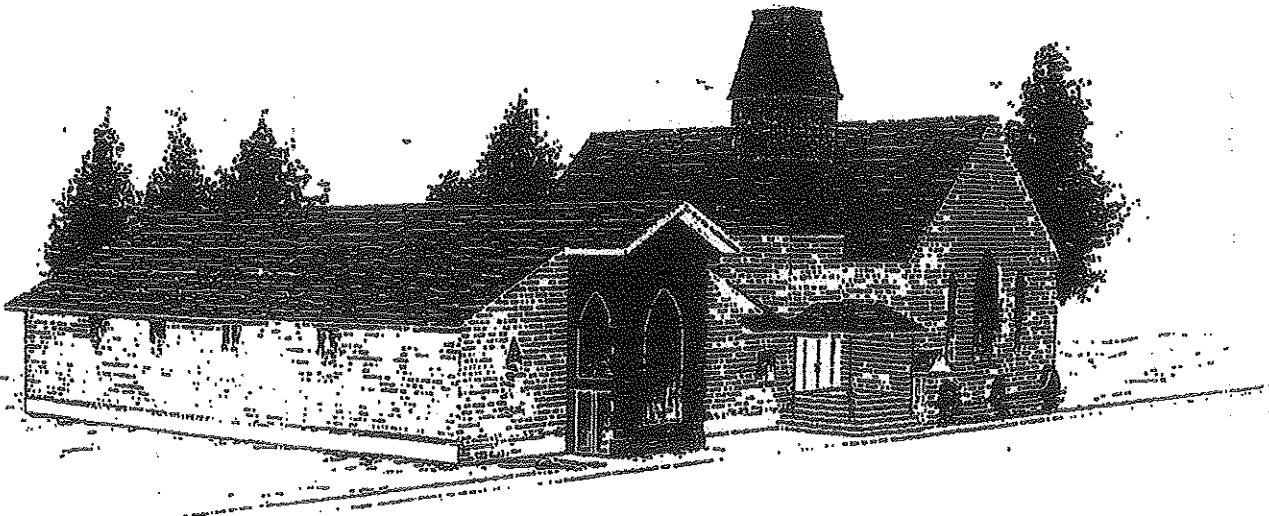
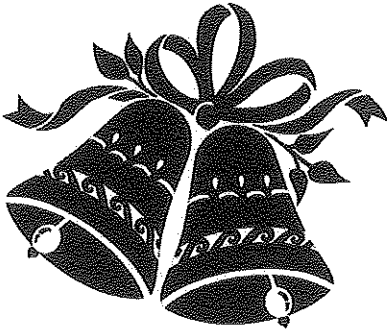
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*The
Chimes*

July Church News



SEWARD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SEWARD, ILLINOIS

The Nehemiah Summit—Part 2
Relational Wisdom 360—Dr Ken Sande

³⁴ So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. ³⁵ Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." John 13:34-35

³⁷ Jesus replied, "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.^[a] ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22:37-39

Dr Sande addressed the fact that sometimes there is conflict in the church, just as there is in a family. He suggested that conflict arises from unmet desires. And it generally follows this course: 1) I desire; 2) I demand; 3) I judge; 4) I punish.

Dr Sande offered some steps for resolving conflict that I want to share with you all. The first is repentance. He outlined seven—no eight—A's of confession. 1) Address everyone involved; 2) Avoid if, but, or maybe in your confession—that just puts the other person(s) on the defensive; 3) Admit specifically; 4) Acknowledge the hurt; 5) Accept the consequences; 6) Alter your behavior; 7) Ask for forgiveness ; 8) Allow time for people to process all of this and offer forgiveness.

He then shared Four Promises of Forgiveness. These are 1) I will not dwell on this incident; 2) I will not bring it up and use it against you; 3) I will not talk to others about this incident; 4) I will not allow this to stand between us or hinder our personal relationship.

Sometimes we just need to PAUSE said Dr Sande.

Prepare—do the research on a given subject and pray over it

Affirm relationships, show respect

Understand interests

Search for creative solutions

Evaluate the options objectively

From the desk of Pastor Joel

Seward Congregational Church
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 17, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:36 pm by Maury Daubs.

Present were Maury, Dick Remer, Brenda Van Hauen, Matt Cowman and Joel Hicke. **Absent** were Peggy Whitney and Effie Hoppe.

Prayer was given by Pastor Joel Hicke.

Minutes from the last meeting were read by Maury Daubs. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Dick and seconded by Brenda; the motion carried.

Financial report was given by Brenda; update on investments was given by Maury. We do have a new agent for Edward Jones. Motion to accept the financial reports was made by Dick and seconded by Matt; the motion carried.

Old business: Brenda brought some light bulbs that she donated to the church. The cleanup on the outside of the church was cancelled due to the weather. Peggy hired a landscape company to come and do the trimming around the church and the parsonage. Maury will follow up on the church being placed on the Historical Registry. The Winnebago County Fair board has not yet decided if the People Mover or the Courtesy Carts will be used this year at the fair. The fair will run from Wednesday through Sunday as usual. Dick suggested that we look into volunteering with the Winnebago Lions Club this year. Their next meeting will be in June, and he will bring more information to the June meeting.

New business: There are some board that are loose on the deck at the parsonage. And there are some broken boards in the courtyard at the church that need to be repaired.

Our next meeting will be on June 21 at 6:30 pm.

There was a motion to adjourn by Matt, seconded by Dick, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Hicke

Announcements

DIACONATE: TBA.

TRUSTEE'S: Will meet on July 19, at 6:30 p.m. We will meet in the Rose Room

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

MONTHLY SUMMARY

January-May

General Fund	Income	\$27,864.11
	Expense	\$ 33,590.00

Monthly Budget \$7,026.50

May

5,889.35
5,887.59

July

BIRTHDAYS

9 Whitney Shank
14-Bryan Allen,
16-Bev Allen
20- Mark Klinger
21-Jennifer Lloyd (Woods)
23-Adam Hazzard
25-Duane Lovett, Scott Whitney,
Ashton Kendall
26-Jim Merchant

ANNIVERSARIES

26- Mike & Bev Weerda
27-Jerry & Brenda VanHauen