



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Neillsville, Wisconsin
Church 715-743-2147
Pastor Jacoba Koppert
Pastor's Office 715-743-2117
www.neillsvilleucc.org
September 2017

A Just World for All - Three Great Loves

Jacoba's jottings... In the last year, our denomination has claimed who we are and what we are called to do. This month, I want to share this information with you.

The UCC purpose statement comes from the Gospel of Matthew: ***To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves.***

The vision: statement: ***United in Christ's love, a just world for all.***

The mission statement: ***United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.***



"To craft these statements, the national setting has brought together dialogue partners from the UCC board, national staff, the UCC Historical Council, the Council of Conference Ministers, and youth representatives over the last year, and included survey results from thousands of voices across the life of the denomination. What emerged was a clear focus on the love of God and love of neighbors."

"That love in action envisions a just world for all," Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer (General Minister and President of our Denomination) said.



At General Synod this year, Dorhauer announced that over the next two years our denomination will focus on three great loves. Each church is asked to focus for a time on these three areas in the life of their congregation.

Our three great loves are: ***Love of Children; Love of Neighbor; and Love of Creation.***



As we begin the new program year, I invite our Church, members and committees to consider claiming these areas as we do our ministry together. I am also going to ask the Confirmation Class to focus on these areas as we choose our Mission Projects and as they prepare their Statements of Faith. As I reflect on the class members, I am aware that each one of them has a interest in one of these areas. My hunch is every one of us do too.

Where is your heart? And how can you enact your love for children, neighbor and/or creation? My guess is it won't take you much reflection to choose the area you want to focus on. Each area is important and in many ways they intersect...if we love children, we will also care about the environment we will leave them. If we care about God's creation, we will also be aware of how the natural world affects our neighbor (I am thinking about the individuals who randomly kill all the deer in an area – meaning other hunters have no deer to hunt and less food for their tables.) All of us working together can create a just world for all right here in Neillsville in our church and community.



PASTOR 2nd JACOBA'S PAGE

Again, I enjoyed the Clark County Fair. It was great to see so many of our folks and to check in with one another. I enjoy seeing the projects and watching



the judging, but mostly I enjoy seeing you. I am particularly delighted when the kids greet me or invite me into a conversation with them.

The Circle of Friends enjoyed their annual picnic lunch in the church basement on August 10. They were delighted to have among them that day some long-time members who often can't attend and some new members too!



(Betty and Susie). Dinner was again delicious with salads and homemade rolls and desserts and the malts I brought from the fair.

Weird Church Book Study conversations have proved to be very interesting; usually five of the seven regularly attenders are present each Sunday night. Others tell me they are reading the book.



Several of us are also adding comments to the blog on our church website neillsvilleucc.org

Recently we have talked about what is expected of someone who claims to be a follower of Jesus and what must a Christian Church be/do in order to be a church – the non-negotiables.

I am looking forward to the continuing education experiences which begin later this week. I am curious about what I will learn, see and experience. I will spend a few days at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and then a few days at Estes Park for the Weird Church Camp.

Audrey, Bonnie Weyer and I have spent some time preparing to change our Telephone and internet servers. Craig Sigurdson has been our contact with Charter/Spectrum getting the ducks in a row to move our service. Thank you, Craig and Bonnie. It looks like we will save around \$50 a month by making this change.

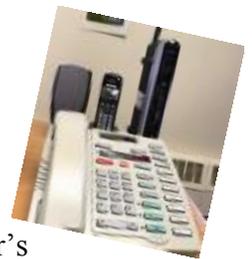
Another change you will notice is a wall mounted television in the lounge. Bob Petkovsek checked around for the best deal – and the best deal was right here in Neillsville!!! Wendy and Doris went right out and picked up the TV. Bob and Hap mounted the TV; and Wendy is rearranging the furniture for us.. The new Confirmation Curriculum has a five-minute video for each class session which we will show on the TV screen.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES – SAME PHONE NUMBERS

The Church phone numbers will remain the same.

Audrey's (Church's) phone number is 715-743-2147; The Pastor's Office phone number is 715 – 743-2117.

The new church email address is neillsvilleuccoffice@gmail.com and my email address is nuccpastor@gmail.com Please change your contact information in your email addresses.



SEPTEMBER COMMUNION

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be served on September 10 at 10 am. It will be served by intinction at the altar.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS

For all Ages

Confirmation Classes and CDs begin after school on September 13. Again, UCC and Calvary share the cost of a bus to bring our youth after school to our churches. CD's are our 5th-7th graders; Confirmands are in the 8th grade.

Sunday School begins on Sunday, September 17 at 9 am for children 3 years old through the 4th grade.

Adult Education will resume September 10 at 7:30 pm for a few more weeks as we finish up our conversations on the book Weird Church.

We will then discuss what our next studies will be.

September Newsletter 2017

Hi Everyone,

I hope everyone has had a good summer. I know that it went fast and I did not get to do all the things I wanted to do. The Clark County Fair is over and again I enjoyed working in the HCE Dairy Bar. I always enjoy seeing old friends and especially the kids that are in 4-H. Malts and ice cream are very popular at the fair so we were busy. The church service held at the fair that was shared with Calvary Lutheran brought in 91 people. Not too well attended by UCC. It was such a nice service and well worth my time. I hope we do it again next year. Our board and committee meetings have resumed in August and Pastor Jacoba will be attending some continuing education leaving on Thursday, August 24 and returning on September 2. It's hard to believe we jump right into fall schedules again. Check out the September calendar for the scheduled meetings and events.

See you in church! – Audrey

Sunday Volunteers for September

Acolytes

Sunday, September 3

Parker Voigt
Logan Erickson

Sunday, September 10

Bryce Erickson
Alex Northup

Sunday, September 17

Mackenzie Hediger
Paige Voigt

Sunday, September 24

Parker Voigt
Logan Erickson

Please let the church office know (715-743-2147) if you are unable to light the candles as scheduled.

Our Acolytes are a very important part of our worship service and we thank you for your help. **Note:** Starting now in September our 8th graders will be in Confirmation and we will need some more of the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th graders to help with Acolyting. We would like to teach the following kids: Brody Bergemann, Sydney Subke, Macci

(Acolytes continued)

Elmhorst, Dante Erickson, Cali Moseid and Delaney Rochester. Think about it kids. We really need your help.

Nursery

Note: Our nursery does not have scheduled volunteers, but it is open to anyone who wishes to use it. Our only requirement is that an adult/parent must be with your child(ren) If the nursery is used, please be sure the toys/etc. are put away. Thank you for your help. **Note:** We could really use a good clean-up in the Nursery. Sort through the toys, wash and clean everything. Anyone wanting to help with this? Contact the church office, 715-743-2147.

Ushers for September

Sunday, September 3 – (9:00 a.m.)

Dick Lewis, Joel Raine
Jeff Raine, Dan Patey

Sunday, September 10

(Time Change – 10:00 a.m.)

Dick Lewis, Joel Raine
Jeff Raine, Dan Patey

Sunday's September 17 & 24

Craig Heck, Neil Czarnecki
Joe Holman, Gene Opelt

Note Ushers: If you are unable to usher when you are scheduled - please exchange with someone else if possible and call the church office to let us know. 715-743-2147. Thank you.

Thank you to our volunteer ushers who help to fill in on Sundays when our scheduled ushers are unable to be here.

Greeters for September

Sunday, September 3

(We need some volunteers this Sunday)

Sunday, September 10

Ray & Bonnie Weyer

Sunday, September 17

Keith & Tammy Loberg

Sunday, September 24

Lynne Abel & Toni Carl

(Greeters continued)

It is always nice to have a warm welcome to our church when you walk in the door. Thank you for

serving as a greeter. If you are unable to greet, please contact the church office. Thank you.

Coffee Hour

We are looking for volunteers to sign-up for September. (Really nice to have two family’s sign-up per Sunday.) The volunteer server list is on the bulletin board – please look and see if you can help us out by volunteering a Sunday. The schedule runs from September to January 2018. Thank you for helping out!

Communion Assignments

(Note the date/TIME change) 10:00 a.m.

Communion - Sunday, September 10 (Intinction)

Volunteering because of the Holiday Weekend:

Janice Miller, Wayne Voss, Sue Vornholt, Betty Barr (Team 2 is scheduled for September)

Bread: Betty Barr

Deacons/Deaconesses Hosting for the

Month of September

Sunday, September 3

Travis Vine.....715-797-2991

Sunday, September 10

Janice Miller.....715-743-7070

Sunday, September 17

Brian Eddy.....715-743-3215

Sunday, September 24

Marge Goetsch.....715-937-0793

Facts & Figures

Attendance

Sunday, July 30.....46

Sunday, August 6.....57

Sunday, August 13 (Fair Sunday).....91

Sunday, August 20.....58

Offerings

Sunday, July 30

General Offering.....\$1563.00

Radio Fund.....75.00

Sunday, August 6

General Offering.....\$1918.00

Back Pack.....100.00

Sunday, August 13

General Offering..... \$662.00

Radio Fund.....150.00

Audio Visual..... 200.00

Sunday, August 20

General Offering.....\$1991.00

August Automatic Giving.....\$2195.00

Are you interested in giving to your church by “Automatic Giving?” If you are – stop by the church office and we will get you set up. We have quite a few people that give this way. It is a good way to keep up your “faith promise.” Check it out.



Radio Broadcast Sponsors

On *Sunday, August 6* the radio broadcast portion of our worship service was given by Neil and Corinne Armitage in loving memory of their son, Ben.

On *Sunday, August 13* the radio broadcast was sponsored by Bob and Lorraine Shaw in honor of their 69th Wedding Anniversary.

On *Sunday, August 20* the radio broadcast portion of our worship service was given by Doris Bakker in honor of her parent’s wedding anniversary.

And on *Sunday, August 27* the radio broadcast portion of our worship service was is anonymously by a church member.

Thank you to our radio broadcast sponsors who sponsored the July broadcasts.

The radio broadcast portion of our Sunday Worship Service can be heard On WCCN AM 1370 on Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m.

TAKE NOTE!
WE NEED 2018 RADIO SPONSORSHIPS

PLEASE SIGN-UP NOW. THANK YOU!
Give me a call to set up a date. The cost is the same as last year: \$75.00 full broadcast- \$37.50 Half – \$25.00. third.

We have many dates to fill (see list) – Please take a look and see if there is a date you can sponsor:

January – 7, 14, 21

February – 18, 28

March – 4, 11, 18, 25

April – 8, 15, 22, 29

May – 6, 13, 20

June – 10, 17, 24

July – 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

August – 5, 19, 26

September – 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

October – 7, 14, 21, 28

November 4, 11, 18, 25

December – 2, 9, 16, 23 (Half) 30

If we want to continue our radio ministry we need to fill up these dates before the end of the year. (This is not a budgeted item so monies for these broadcasts must be in by the end of 2017) Thank you to those that continue to support this important ministry of our church.

Hospital News - We are no longer reporting on the hospital news. Because of the privacy laws and the privacy of individuals we do not know if you want your hospital stays reported in the newsletter. The newsletter goes out on line and everyone has access to it. If you want us to know of your stays and want to see/talk to Pastor Jacoba, give us a call or have your family call. Please inform us of your wishes.

Please remember our shut-in's, those in nursing homes and assisted living. They really do enjoy your cards, calls and visits. We want to *thank* those of you that send cards, make calls, visits, clinic runs, sit with people and share your time. If you wish a call from Pastor Jacoba, give her a call or call the church office and we will give her the information.

Mission & Outreach News

Mission Projects

Food Pantry - Bring your donations – ALL food pantries are in need of food and non-perishable items - Thank you for your support!

Back Pack Program - Now that school is starting again the Back Pack Program will resume again. Thank you for your continued support for this program. If you wish to contribute to this special mission and want to write a check make the check out to United Church of Christ and in the memo line specify "Back Pack Program." If you have any questions about this program, contact Deb Perkl. 715-743-4047

Memory Café "Sun Catchers" – is an informal get-together for people with early memory loss or dementia. It's an opportunity to socialize, listen to speakers and to participate in activities. Come on your own or bring a spouse, friend or family member. Refreshments will be provided. The Memory Café meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month. **September 21** will be the date of the next meeting here at the United Church of Christ from **10-11:30 a.m.** For more information or questions contact Deb Perkl 715-743-4047

Mission Committee: *Cheryl Steinbach, Sue Gurney, Deb Perkl, Carole Romens, Kathy Mathis, Tim Voigt*

Circle of Friends News

The Circle of Friends gathered together on Thursday, August 10 for their Annual Summer Picnic. Good food including the chocolate malts that Pastor Jacoba furnished.

Note when buying cards - if nobody is in the card room to help you and you want to purchase a card(s) you can use the self-service change jar or the I.O.U. tablet which is on the table in the card room. Thank you for your continued support!

Note: If you are interested in helping with the recycling of the cards – check with Darlene and she will tell you what day and time to be here. They are getting a little short of help and could use you.

(Circle of Friends continued)

Again, we want to remind you, if you donate cards please leave the verses in them. We sometimes get some really nice cards but we cannot use them if the verses are not there.

Deepest Sympathy – Lois Corey called and asked us to inform you of the death of Gary’s daughter, Lynn. Lynn died on July 7, 2017. We want to extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Lynn.

Note from Joe & Mel Eddy and family:

The distance from our home to Neillsville, combined with work and school schedules, have kept us from being more involved in committees, meetings, Lenten services, VBS, volunteering, and inviting friends to church. Our children have been involved in the AWANA program for the past few years at a church in Marshfield, where we will now be attending. We remember how it feels when members of the church leave for any reason. We feel that we are leaving on good terms with fond memories. Pastor Jacoba is a great pastor, mentor, teacher and friend. We will miss all of you.

God Bless,
Joe and Mel Eddy and family

Congratulations Emile & Dan Miller – Emile and Dan have another grand-baby to add to their family. Kade Owen was born on August 4. His parents are Brooke and David Giles. Congratulations to all of you.

 **CHOIR MEMBERS**
TAKE NOTE: Practice will begin on **Wednesday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m.**

Men and women are both needed. High School students can also join. If you like to sing....come and join us. Practice will take place every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. unless notified.



September Birthdays

- 1- Logan Erickson
Jerry Quicker
- 2- Fritz Hediger
- 3- M.E. Sjolin
Cindy Craig
- 4- Gene Opelt
- 5- Donita Follen
Joel Raine
Cheryl Steinbach
Hannah Erickson
- 6- Charlotte Gress
Audrey Vradenburg
Crispin Hediger
- 7- Annett Felser
- 10-Karlene Wallace
- 11-Mike Perkl
- 12-John Vornholt
- 16-Iris Edgington
- 17-Mary Finney
- 18-Mollie Stetzer
Delayni Fitzl
Anna Raine
- 19-Wendy Sigurdson
- 20- Kris Anderson
- 22-Linette Kuhn
Leah Wilson
- 23-Carole Romens
- 24-Michelle Kranz
- 25-Frank Zank
Rosanne Ripinski
- 26-Mackenzie Hediger
- 28-Ruth Zwieg
Oliver Raine

Happy Birthday to all of you with an September Birthday. Did we miss your birthday or have the wrong date? Let us know if we did.



September Wedding Anniversaries

8- Mickey & Carla Marty

13-Guy & Sue Jodarski

13-Brian & Marcia Eddy

14-Deon & Jim Spangler

16-Barb & Ken Shoemaker

16-Craig & Wendy Sigurdson

20-Scott & Jill Williams

22-Dale & Betty Opelt

23-Crispin & Lisa Hediger

24-Kim & Terry Stetzer

29-Mathew & Jennifer Roenz

Happy Anniversary! Did we miss your Wedding Anniversary? Let us know if we did.

Stewardship News

“Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering”

Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC’s Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering.

Watch for the special “Neighbors in Need” offering envelopes in the pew racks. We will receive this special offering on Sunday, October 1 as part of our World Communion Sunday. Please give generously to this special UCC Neighbors in Need offering. Thank you for your support.

Bazaar News

Remember your church bazaar while you are fall cleaning. We are looking for the following things (see list) so that we may create some special craft items to sell at our Holiday Fair in November.

Old pails

Pallets

Old and/or new pine barn boards

Shutters

Old wooden framed screen doors

Old wooden framed windows (with or without the glass)

Old wooden kitchen chairs

Old milk cans

Old wooden sleds

Old license plates

Any old metal containers

If you have or know where we can obtain any of the above items that could be donated, please contact Carla Marty at 715-937-0077 or Emile Miller at 715-937-4626. Thank you!

“New to You Treasure’s” from Wendy Sigurdson

We are still taking gently used items for our church bazaar. If you have any items to donate please bring them in now. If you would like us to pick up your donations call Wendy at 715-743-6138 or Audrey at the office 715-743-2147. This is one of the “favorite shops” at our Holiday Fair in November and everyone looks forward to browsing and purchasing items for our little store. Thank you for your help.

Blessings Wendy



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 7 am UCC Men's Club Breakfast
3 9 am Summer Worship Fellowship/Coffee Hour 7:30 pm Weird Church Book Study	4 Office Closed LABOR DAY 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	5 (School Begins)	6 4 pm Stewardship Committee meeting 7 pm Sr. Choir practice	7	8	9
10 TIME CHANGE 10 am Worship – Pastor Jim Mohr Communion (Intinction) Fellowship/Coffee Hour.	11 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	12 10 am Ministerial Alliance at UCC	13 3:30 pm CD's 3:30 pm Confirmation 7 pm Sr. Choir practice	14 1:30 pm Circle of Friends meeting	15	16
17 9 am Mission/Outreach meets 9 am Sunday School BEGINS 10 am Worship Blessing of the Backpacks Fellowship/Coffee Hour	18 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	19 5:30 pm Trustees 6:30 p.m. Deacons and Deaconesses meet 7:30 pm Church Council	20 3:30 pm CD's 3:30 pm Confirmation 7 pm Sr. Choir practice	21 10:30-11:30 am Memory Cafe	22 5 pm Wedding Rehearsal	23 2 p.m. Mitchell Erickson & Cassie Suda
24 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Confirmation Covenant/Bibles Fellowship/Coffee Hour	25 Newsletter Week 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	26	27 3:30 pm CD's 3:30 pm Confirmation 7 pm Sr Choir practice	28	29	30