

#### THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Neillsville, Wisconsin Church 715-743-2147 Pastor Jacoba Koppert Pastor's Office 715-743-2117

www.neillsvilleucc.org
June 2018

#### "And two shall become one"

*Jacoba's jottings....* Weddings are on my mind. Two become one! My two much-loved nephews are getting married this summer and fall. In addition, we will be invited to celebrate Bob and Lorraine Shaw's 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

I watch as these three couples express their love; hands held, a kiss exchanged; a quick trip to New Orleans to celebrate a birthday, an early honeymoon to Italy, hiking and camping out East, a mission trip to Nicaragua, quiet conversations, walking their dog together, studying side by side. Bob and Loraine and other long time married couples tell me how they supported each other in want and in plenty, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health. I hear stories of ski trips and camping, raising children, the hard work of owning a business farming and making ends meet. I am honored to watch as these three couples and others do the hard work and enjoy the fun times of two becoming and being one.

This two becoming one is God's hope for our relationships – and not only marital relationships. Jesus prayed for his disciples, that they and those who followed them would become one. At various times in our history Christians have worked to become one. Sometimes we failed yet often we found a way to work together claiming our unity in Christ. Today, this unity is fluid as churches unite in one area and not another-while remaining open to possibilities of working together for common causes.

Jesus was very clear that we are to love one another as he loves us. I believe this command is all inclusive. My heart breaks as I hear of continued fear and animosity among people. My heart breaks as I hear of children separated from their parents. My heart breaks as another innocent person is killed, sometimes by those who are supposed to protect them. My heart breaks as we refuse to find a way that regulate guns which are only meant to kill mass numbers of people. My hope is God will open our eyes and hearts so that we change our hearts and lives, letting go of fear, greed and believing that only our way is the way. It is our work as individuals and as a nation to find ways where we can become one, working toward justice for all. We need to acknowledge how as white people we took the land, their faith, their way of life from the Indians. We need to acknowledge how we continue to benefit from our white privilege while people of color struggle to make their way in the world. It is time to end the dividing rhetoric in our nation and work toward unity. God has brought us together, how can we now live together? May we work to become one offering justice and security for all. It is time again for we who claim to be Jesus followers to follow in his ways. It is hard work but imagine a world where we love one another as Christ has loved us. Imagine a world where there is justice and liberty for all. As in the wedding vows this unity, this pledge of faithful love will only be possible with the help of God.

## PASTOR JACOBA'S 2nd PAGE

Since I last wrote, much has taken place.

The Mission and Outreach Committee led us (and our community) in honoring farmers with an appreciation dinner. More than 100 farmers and their families attended. While acknowledging that



things were tough, stories of hope and faith that it will improve also were expressed. I want to say thank you to all

who supported this most faithful expression of love and compassion in our community.

After feeding the community on Saturday, on



Sunday we enjoyed bidding on a variety of baked goods as Emile and Carla again led their crew in raising funds for our church. Bakers and the bidders were

generous. Thank you one and all!

It was with great joy that we confirmed six young people as they proclaimed their faith and also blessed Marshall Roenz bringing him into membership. I will share more about the confirmands in a separate article.

I thank Pastor Jim for leading our worship on Mother's Day, known in the church as the Festival of the Christian Home. I listened to the children sing- they were a small group, but they let us know with full voices that "Love Is Everywhere." Check out the children's music on our website (neillsvilleucc.org) and closed Facebook page. I also thank Julie Garber who led the service on Trinity Sunday, while also remembering those who died serving our nation in the prayers.



On May 20<sup>th</sup> we celebrated Pentecost and baccalaureate Sunday. Hannah and Sarah told us of their achievements and plans (Hannah will attend U-W Marshfield for two years – moving toward her interest in

interior design. Sarah will attend U-W River Falls to study biology while at the same time continuing to develop her artistic abilities.) Erin and



Emily sent word that they both plan to attend U-W Eau Clare moving in the direction of becoming

teachers. All four girls acknowledged that their plans are subject to change. ©

We have again been blessed by the beauty of flowers within and outside the building. I want to thank Audrey and Jim for providing a geranium planter for Confirmation Sunday, Doris and Carla for also adding to our Pentecost worship service with red geraniums. The Trustees have asked David Harnisch to give oversight to the landscaping that surrounds our building. He has already removed some weeds and is doing what needs to be done for our bushes. Bob Petkovsek painted the planters gracing our front entrance which Trink and Merrill then once again filled with lovely flowers. Kevin is again mowing and trimming the church grass. Bob Petkovsek added another row on our wall of Confirmand pictures. Bob was assisted by Wayne Voss. Audrey and Jim then inserted all the pictures back into the rows -atime consuming job. Much has been accomplished in the last month.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

On *July 15* we will worship at the Lion's club Shelter on Ferguson Street behind Care and Rehab at 9am. Be sure to invite anyone you know who lives at Countryview Apartments, at Care and Rehab, and at Sunset and Riverside assisted living facilities to join us. There are also people who say they will only attend a worship service when it outdoors. Our worship service at the Lion's Club Shelter is a marvelous opportunity to invite them to worship with us.

July 22 is the day Eileen Zank will retire from playing our organ and piano. I have asked her to choose some hymns she enjoys and of course play some of her favorite pieces for prelude, special music, offertory and postlude. Please make every effort to come to worship God as Eileen leads us with some of her favorite songs.

August 12 is Fair Sunday this year. Come and join us worship God with Calvary.

#### SEND CARDS to CHURCH CAMPERS

Haylee Erickson and Reese Ziegler will be at camp June 10-16. Send a note addressed to them at Moon Beach Camp 1487 Moon Beach Rd. St. Germain, WI 54558

## THE CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2018



Mason Roenz, son of Mat and Jennifer;
Russ and Susie Karl, Mentors
"Keep alert, stand firm in your faith,
be courageous, be strong.
Let all that you do be done in love."
I Corinthians 16:13-14

Mason enjoys playing football, baseball and basketball, fishing and hunting.

He is a thoughtful young man, asking questions and making statements that cause the rest of us to pause and think.

Marshall Roenz, son of Jennifer and Mat
"As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you; remain in my love."

John 15:9

Marshall is the twin brother of Mason. He likes working puzzles, camping and being outside.

**Tye Kranz,** son of Michelle and Joe;

Jim Filitz, Mentor

Now faith, hope, and love remain these three things and the greatest of these is Love. I Corinthians 13:13

Tye enjoys baseball and hunting. He loves the woods and notices God's creation. He likes shooting his 22; has 8 dogs and 5 rabbits (shows them at the Fair) and likes math. Tye is a kind soul, sees the needs of others (especially his mentor) and responds with a compassionate heart.

Karsen Czarnecki, daughter of Neil Czarnecki and Kellie Murphy; Don Abel, Mentor "Hope in the LORD! Be strong!

Let your heart take courage!

Hope in the LORD!"

Psalm 27:14

Karsen is working toward her 2<sup>nd</sup> degree black belt in martial arts. She enjoys snowboarding,

photography, traveling, shopping, music and friends and family.

Karsen thinks and feels deeply. She asks the deep and hard questions of faith as she wrestles with what God does and does not do.

**Dayne Loberg**, son of Tammy and Keith, Carole Romens, Mentor

"May God encourage your heart and give you strength in every good thing you do or say." II Thessalonians 2:17

Dayne likes to go hunting; he plays the saxophone (and piano). He is involved in FFA and plays baseball.

Dayne has a sarcastic sense of humor enjoyed by his classmates, is quick witted, knows what he must do and does it.

Santana Subke, son of John Subke and
Michelle Grap; Tim Voigt, Mentor
"You are definitely my rock and my fortress;
Guide and lead me for the sake of your good name."

Psalm 31:3 (CEB)

Santana enjoys baseball, basketball, hunting, and fishing. He is an active Boy Scout and likes math. Santana prefers being in the background, unless it comes to sports. He has a sense of humor and puts up with friends who like to tease him. Watch for him to become an Eagle Scout in the next few years.

MacKenzie Keller, daughter of Ellie Keller and Bob Keller; Sue Vornholt, Mentor

"May the Lord direct your heart to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ." II Thessalonians 3:5

MacKenzie likes to run, sing, read, do math and figure skate. She plays volleyball, writes, draws and hunts. She is comfortable in front of a crowd and was the speaker at her eighth-grade graduation. Mackenzie enjoys a good argument and often wonders about the connection between faith and



science.
I thank all who worked with our Confirmands to help them grow in their love of God and to become followers of Jesus.

## **June Newsletter 2018**

Hi Everyone,

We made it through May. It was a busy month. Now maybe our summer months will slow down. Our summer worship service is at the new time: 9:00 a.m. which will begin this Sunday, June 3. Our 9:00 a.m. summer worship time will continue through the second Sunday after Labor Day, Sunday, September 9.

Our Vacation Bible School tried something new this year. We are trying a two-day event. Our July Newsletter will be able to report on how that went.

Pastor Jacoba, Sue Vornholt and Bonnie Weyer will be attending the Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting at Green Lake from Friday, June 8 through Sunday, June 10.

Starting on Sunday, June 10 Pastor Jacoba will be going to Moon Beach Church Camp. She will be chaperoning two of our kids, Haylee Erickson and Reese Ziegler who will be attending camp that week.

The following week Pastor Jacoba will be on vacation from June 20 through Tuesday, June 26.

We hope you have a great June!

See you in church! - Audrey

# **Volunteers for Our June Sundays**

## **Acolytes**

#### Sunday, June 3

Mackenzie Hediger Paige Voigt

#### Sunday, June 10

Bryce Erickson

Alex Northup

## Sunday, June 17

Parker Voigt

Logan Erickson

#### Sunday, June 24

Dante Erickson Sydney Subke

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

#### (Acolytes continued)

**Note:** Our 7<sup>th</sup> grade Acolytes will be going into Confirmation this fall....so we will need some more Sunday school kids to help us out. Let us know if you want to help, we will help teach you. Thank you to those of you that help out on Sunday mornings! Our candle lighters are a very important part of our worship.

#### 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 be there with your child(ren). If you use our nursery, please be sure the toys/etc. are put away. Thank you for your help.

## **Ushers for June**

## Sunday, June 3

Mat Roenz, Hunter Roenz Jim Sjolin, Substitute

## **Sunday, June 10 & 17**

Paul Schmidt, Howie Mathis Roger Carl, Wayne Voss

## Sunday, June 24 & July 1

Joey Kranz, Tye Kranz Joel Raine, Jeff Raine

**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.

## **Greeters for June**

# Sunday, June 3

Howie & Kathy Mathis

#### Sunday, June 10

Lynne Abel & Toni Carl

## Sunday, June 17

Jim & M.E. Sjolin

#### Sunday, June 24

Wayne & Jo Ann Voss

It is always nice to offer 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**

Looking for volunteers to sign-up for June. Look for the list of dates on the bulletin board (we have the whole year (Sundays) listed.) Please look and see if you can help us out by volunteering a Sunday. Thank you for helping! Call the church office if you would like to host a Sunday. 715-743-2147.

## **Communion Assignment for Sunday**

June (Pews) Confirmation- Team 2 – Janice Miller, Wayne Voss, Jake Ratsch, Karlene Wallace, Jim Vradenburg

**Bread:** Wayne Voss

# **Deacons/Deaconesses Hosting for May**

Sunday, June 3	
Sue Vornholt	715-797-4031
Sunday, June 10	
Travis Vine	715-797-2991
Sunday, June 17	

Janice Miller......715-743-7070 Sunday, June 24

Wayne Voss......715-937-3072

# **Facts & Figures**

Sunday, April 29	97
Sunday, May 6	145
Sunday, May 13	92
Sunday, May 20	
Sunday, May 27	

## **Offerings**

## Sunday, April 29

General Offering	\$2053.00
Advertising Fund	50.00
Mission Outreach (Farmer Appreciation)	100.00

## **Sunday, April 29** (Pie Auction)

Total collected 5-29\$	5075.00
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#### Sunday, May 6

General Offering	\$2249.00
Pie Auction	200.00

#### Sunday, May 13

General Offering	\$1180.00
Milk Fund	83.00
Mission Outreach Farmer Appreciation	350.00

# (Facts & Figures continued)

#### Sunday, May 20

General Offering	\$2273.00
Milk Fund	20.00
Strengthen the Church Offering	91.00
PEO Donation (Use of Church)	200.00

#### Sunday, May 27

General Offering	\$1343.00
Audio Fund	500.00
Strengthen the Church Offering	210.00
Milk Fund	11.00

May Automatic Giving.....\$2015.00

## Automatic Giving

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. This is a good way to keep up your "faith promise." Check it out.



## **2018 Baked Goods Fundraiser** Summary

Reported by Emile Miller Well as usual, the church members did not let this fundraising event down; we had

59 baked goods, which consisted of pies, bars, cookies, pizza, lasagna, cheesy hash browns, chicken pot pie, and breakfast casseroles, just to name a few. A GRAND TOTAL \$5445.00 was raised. This year's money will go in the fundraising line of the budget and used for the downstairs parking lot, unless we do not meet budget, then it will be used for that. Thanks again for another successful year for the pie fundraiser!

The breakdown over the years is as follows:

2007 - 49 pies = \$2,043

2008 - 50 pies = \$2,408

2009 - 49 pies = \$3,960

2010 - 50 pies = \$5,2002011 - 52 pies = \$5,385

2012 - 54 pies = \$5,065

## (2018 Baked Goods Fundraiser Summary continued)

2013 - 41 pies = \$4,325

2014 - 53 pies = \$4,775

2015 - 40 pies = \$3,445

2016 - 36 Baked Goods = \$3,425

2018 - 59 Baked Goods = \$5,375

This event could not have been possible without the help of many people, whom I would like to thank:

\*our three baked goods displayers

Hap Eddy

Russ Karl

DeWayne Seelow

\*those who donated the

#### 59 wonderful baked goods

\*my wonderful co-workers

Carla Marty

Barb Miller

Susie Karl

Again, thanks for helping with the fundraiser and your continued support for our church!

-Emile Miller



# Radio Broadcast

On Sunday, April 29 the radio broadcast portion of

our worship service was sponsored anonymously by a faithful radio listener.

On Sunday, May 6 the radio broadcast portion of our worship service was sponsored anonymously by a faithful radio listener.

On Sunday, May 13 the radio broadcast was sponsored by Dolores Johnson in memory of her mother, Nellie Rupnow.

On Sunday, May 20 the radio broadcast portion of our worship service was given by Bob and Ruth Schmidt in memory of sister, Eunice Artac.

And on Sunday, May 27 the radio broadcast was sponsored by the late Mildred Lawson in memory of her husband, Arlo and family and in honor of family and friends.

#### (Radio Broadcast Sponsors continued)

Thank you to our radio broadcast sponsors who sponsored the May 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.

## 2019 Radio Broadcast Sponsors Needed

Would you like to sponsor a radio broadcast for 2019? Now is the time to sign-up. The radio broadcast that is heard on the radio every Sunday is not a budgeted item so we have to find sponsors for these broadcasts. The cost to sponsor a full broadcast is \$75.00; a half broadcast \$37.50 and a third broadcast \$25.00. We believe this is a wonderful ministry of our church and would like to continue to keep it up. You may sponsor in memory of someone-in honor of someone- in thankfulness for something or someone or for any other reason you may have. Monies for these sponsored radio broadcasts must be in by the end of this year (December 2018) We thank you for your continued support of our radio ministry! Call the office (715-743-2147) soon and sign-up for a Sunday – most Sundays are still available.

## Remember our Shut-Ins/Homebound



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. (A Request has been made seeking members to do some visiting of our shut-ins and folks that just need a visit. If you are interested in this special ministry - check with Pastor Jacoba.)



On Baccalaureate Sunday May 20 we honored four of our 2018 Neillsville High School Graduates: Hannah Erickson, daughter of Kevin Erickson and Jennifer Romens-Erickson; Sarah Fields, daughter of David and Corless Fields; and Erin and Emily Voigt, daughters of Tim and Sue Voigt.

Also honored were two College Graduates: Alec Anderson, son or Joe and Kris Anderson – graduate of UW La Crosse and Emma Voss (granddaughter of Wayne & Jo Ann Voss - graduate of UW Stevens Point.

*Congratulations* to our 2018 UCC Hight School and College Graduates!

# **Mission & Outreach News**

## **MILK DRIVE FUNDS**

## Now thru June 30

Have you seen the Milk Jug on the bulletin board in the Narthex? We want to raise enough money to fill it up. If we can raise \$450.00 we will have enough for 150 jugs of milk.

\*Envelopes in the pews for your donation
\*Goal of 150 Jugs @ \$3.00 Each
We want to fill the jug or even overflow it!!
Vouchers will be created for the
Food Pantry and the Office on Aging
1 voucher=1 Gallon of Milk
(Any amount of Money will be accepted)
Thanks for your Support!!!

**Food Pantry** - Bring your non-perishable and paper product donations – ALL food pantries are in need of all items - School will be out soon and many children will be at home and need of food. Thank you for your support!

"Back Pack Program" – Thank you for your continued support for the "Back Pack Program." If you wish to contribute to this special mission you may write a check made out to the 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

Note: School will be out soon but we want to continue this special program in the fall. Thank you for your continued support.

"Sun Catcher's Café — The Sun Catchers Café will hold their monthly meeting on *Thursday*, *June 21* from 10-11-30 a.m. at the United Church of Christ. Kelsey Wussow and Rebecca Rosendick from the Clark County Public Health Dept. will be the guest speakers. They will talk about the new shingles vaccine and why we should all get one. The Café is for people interested in lifelong learning, brainhealthy activities and interesting, positive discussion. It is sponsored by the ADRC of Clark County and is free. Refreshments will be served.

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

<u>Circle of Friends News</u> – the Circle of Friends meet on the second Thursday of each month. You are more than welcome to come and join them. The next meeting of the Circle will be held on *Thursday, June 14*. They meet at 1:30 p.m. Why not come and check them out? They can always use help with the greeting cards during their Monday morning work times.

<u>Greeting Cards</u> – If you need a card – they are always available. Go down to the card room where there is a nice selection to choose from – if no one is in the card room to help you and you want to purchase a card(s) you can use the self-serve change jar or the I.O.U. tablet which is on the table or you can give your money to Audrey in the office. How handy is that? Thank you for supporting us.

Again, we want to remind you if you donate cards, please, leave the verse in them. Thank you.

**Second Half Group** – The Second Half Group will not be meeting during the summer. We are hoping we will find someone/something for September. **Note**: We can use your help. If you know of something we can present, please let us know. Thank you.

## **Stewardship News**

Thank you for your support in your donations to Strengthen the Church special offering. We will continue to collect for this offering for a couple more weeks.

<u>Needed</u>: *Yarn* for the Christmas Angel Project. Bring to the church. Thank you. Any questions check with Doris Bakker.

## Thank You - from Betty Opelt

To my Church family,

Thanks everyone for all the get-well wishes. It's hard when you can't do things you'd like to do – but when we go through difficult times we find our strength with those we love.

-Blessings to All, Betty O.

## Thank you from Shirley's House of Hope

Dear United Church of Christ,

Thank you for your recent donation of \$200.00. Your gift of compassion is providing a safe and nurturing home for women and children hurting from domestic violence. The generosity of you, our donor, is one of Shirley's House of Hope's greatest blessings. Thank you for giving the gift of hope, that rebuilds, renews, and restores lives.

-Blessings Julie Cravillion Executive Director P.S. Emily said, "I'm free for the first time in 34 years. Thank you, United Church of Christ.

## <u>Thank you from Interfaith Volunteer</u> <u>Caregivers of Clark County</u>

To United Church of Christ,

Your donation of \$200.00 is so appreciated. The volunteers continue to try to meet the needs of our elderly in the Clark County communities. It is only with your financial support and prayers that Interfaith is able to continue our mission to keep everyone in their homes as long as possible.

The needs of the elderly are many. The income is most often very tight. This past week we have helped a women with breast cancer with her plumbing. Another needed gravel for her driveway as the culvert is caving in and she cannot use her driveway to get in and out. They can manage their everyday needs but when something extra comes up they just do not have the means to cover the cost.

Thank you for your support so we can continue to find ways to help our elderly have a good quality of life.

> God Bless Judy Morrow, Director Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of Clark County

Note: The monies given for these ministries are part of the Advent/Lenten donations that you give to our church and used for local missions. Mission and Outreach thank you for your continued support.



# JUNE BIRTHDAYS

## June Birthdays

3- Karen Northup Barb Miller

5- Arlene Kernz

8- Lois Lonning

12- Corinne Armitage

13- Allison Raine

14-Don Abel Julie Woods

15-Jill Averill

17-Doris Bakker

18-David Fields

20-Autumn Marshall Barb Petkovsek

22-Kaia Moseid

Ellie Moseid

23-Carolyn Lewis

25-Ellie Keller

26-Lois Kren

27-Deb Perkl

29-Colton Williams

Claire Ziegler

Linda Stalsberg

30-Phil Follen

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



## June Wedding Anniversaries

3- Jim & M.E. Sjolin

8- Tim & Cheryl Steinbach

11- Larry & Kathy Marshall

13- Joey & Michelle Kranz

15-Mike & Sherrie Holub

17-Wayne & Jo Ann Voss

19- Todd & Jill Averill

21-John & Sue Vornholt

21-Jason & Hannah Raine

29-Ricky & Clarissa Rochester

"Happy Anniversary" to all who have a June Wedding Anniversary! Did we miss your anniversary or have the wrong date? Let us know if we did.

<b>July ▶</b>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri  1 Vacation Bible	Sat  2  Vacation Bible
					School 4-8 pm UCC	School 9 am-2 pm UCC
3 TIME CHANGE 9 am Summer Worship Communion (pews) Fellowship/Coffee Hour 3 pm Communion Served at Neillsville Retirement Community	<b>4</b> 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	5	6	7	Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting at Green Lake – Pastor Jacoba attending	Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting at Green Lake – Pastor Jacoba attending
9 a.m. Summer Worship Fellowship/Coffee Hour Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting- Pastor Jacoba Attending – Pastor Jacoba Going to Moon Beach	Pastor Jacoba Moon Beach Church Camp 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	Pastor Jacoba Moon Beach Church Camp	Pastor Jacoba Moon Beach Church Camp	1:30 pm Circle of Friends  Pastor Jacoba Moon Beach Church Camp	15	16
17 Father's Day 9 am Summer Worship Fellowship/Coffee Hour	<b>18</b> 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	19	Pastor Jacoba - Vacation	21 10-11:30 am Sun Catchers Cafe Pastor Jacoba Vacation	Pastor Jacoba Vacation	Pastor Jacoba Vacation
9 am Summer Worship Pastor Julie Garber Leading worship Fellowship/Coffee Hour Pastor Jacoba - Vacation	Pastor Jacoba Vacation 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	26 Pastor Jacoba Vacation	27	28	29	30