



## THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Neillsville, Wisconsin

Church 715-743-2147

Pastor Jacoba Koppert

Pastor's Office 715-743-2117

[www.neillsvilleucc.org](http://www.neillsvilleucc.org)

August 2018

***Jacoba's jottings...*** Call me foolish if you will, but I planted some beans last week. The package said 59 days before harvest – so maybe mid-September. This morning, I noticed some of the seeds have sprouted!



We do what we can. It may be foolish to plant beans this late in the season. Yet sometimes we just need to make an effort, no matter how foolish our actions because likely what we do in faith and hope will sprout into an amazing harvest. The seeds we plant in faith, with hope, and through love bring about God's kingdom and God's peace into the world. God takes what we do, adds grace causing what we plant so that the ways and love of Jesus grow. Together with God, the seeds we plant can bear much fruit.

These days, some of us wonder, what can we do to change the tenor of our world. Planting seeds in faith and love yields hope and maybe someone will also find their way through their challenges and fears. A homeless person recently said, someone noticing him, someone offering a smile, or looking into his eyes brightened his day more than a handful of change. I imagine that might be true for many who face various unknown challenges. Faith, hope and love expressed can transform a world overwhelmed by despair, fear, and intolerance. Surprising harvests are still possible feeding a world hungry for hope, joy and peace.

The miracles of Jesus were based on his faith, hope and love. With love he offered compassion, grace, kindness, and caring bringing healing to those others refused to touch or even notice. His faith in God gave him courage to reach out to those some feared and even hated. Trusting God gave him the hope that the world could be re-formed, enabling him to make what seemed overwhelming, powerless over him. Through faith, hope and love Jesus planted seeds which empowered his followers to plant their own seeds. What Jesus did, what he calls us to do, the world may see as foolish; however, his life, his teachings, his love transformed the world and still provides a harvest that feeds the hungry, restores hope, and offers new life.

*"Let's not get tired of doing good, because in time we'll have a harvest if we don't give up.  
So then, let us work for the good of all whenever we have an opportunity."*

Galatians 6:9-10

## **PASTOR JACOBA'S 2<sup>nd</sup> PAGE**

I always enjoy it when we work together to worship God. On July 15, we worshipped at the Lion's Club Shelter behind Care & Rehab – Neillsville. Many people helped to make that service possible.

Audrey and Jim gathered various items from the church to help us worship. Mike Perkl and his helpers– Don Abel, Jim Vradenburg, Al Hosely, Bob Petkosvek and Sue Jodarski (walking by) brought, set up and returned chairs (Hope I didn't miss anyone.)

Karlene, Janice, and Donita helped with hosting the fellowship time – and many members brought delicious goodies. Care & Rehab Staff were amazing... Carol



Strunsee, Jill Friemoth and Janice Miller brought out residents to join us for worship –Tom Opelt and the grounds crew helped prepare the space for us. Al Hosely saw to it that the sound system from Care & Rehab and the Keyboard borrowed from Jody Rueth all worked. Karen Mohr played the music and led the songs. With the residents of Care & Rehab sitting among us, our folks helped them with their bulletins. Many told me how much they enjoyed the service. I did too! In the beauty of creation a cloud of witnesses gathered to sing praises to God and lift up prayers. Then at WCCN Kevin and Logan Grap helped me so we could broadcast a service on the radio (complete with two piano renditions by Eileen from previous weeks.)



On July 22, we celebrated the beautiful music Eileen Zank has given to our congregation for over sixty years.

Moderator Mike Perkl presented a gift certificate to her from the congregation.

Eileen expressed her gratitude to the church for receiving her music over the years. As Mike said, she has played for many services, baptisms, weddings and funerals. We will miss her sitting behind the organ and piano as she begins a well-deserved retirement. Donita, Phil and Audrey hosted a reception after worship for Eileen.

The Music Committee hired Vincente Cortez to accompany congregational singing and play our instruments and his keyboard on the second and

fourth Sundays of the month. Karen Mohr will play on the first, third and fifth Sundays when she is in town. It will be a change that I hope we will enjoy even as we have enjoyed the various kinds of music in worship in the past.

Dave Harnisch continues to keep an eye on our landscaping doing what needs to be done. Kevin Erickson – with some help from his family continues to keep our grass cut and trimmed. Jim Vradenburg waters the plants outside and in. Dale Opelt again took the aluminum cans to the recycling – (Dale says it is time for someone else to do this job – is there someone willing?) Bonnie Weyer continues to bring donuts when no one else signs up to host coffee hour – she (and Ray and usually Doris) often do the set up and wash the tables and dishes. Doris and I have been bringing the flowers for the sanctuary – anyone else have an

arrangement or plant they want to share? – tell one of us.

Bob and Lorraine celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary and Bob's 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday. It was a delightful party with many church members, people from the community and Bob and Lorraine's family enjoying conversation and the music. Congratulations Bob and Lorraine! (The actual wedding date is August 14.)



## **CLARK COUNTY FAIR**

**Worship at the Fair**

**August 12 9am**

**At the WCCN Tent**

**Free entrance to the Fair**

**Bus Transportation available**

The service will be broadcast live at 9am and then a portion of the service will also be re-broadcast at our regular time at 11am. on 1340 am

I will be at the Fair most of fair week supporting our youth and visiting with other fair goers. I will have my cell phone (314) 910-9751) and I will be checking Audrey and my office phones and emails. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. I look forward to catching up with folk at the Fair.

**Anyone who has a project at the Fair this year, let me know so I can watch you show or see what you created.**

## **August Newsletter 2018**

Hi Everyone,

How fast our summer is going? I hope you are all having time to enjoy it. It's time to get our August Newsletter out to you. We see that board meetings are scheduled for August 21. I will be taking a few days off to help in the Dairy Bar at the Clark County Fair from August 8-12. Don't forget our Church Fair Service on Sunday, August 12. We will again be worshiping with Calvary. Hope to see you there. *See you in church! – Audrey*

## **Volunteers for Our August Sundays**

### **Acolytes**

#### **Sunday, August 5**

Mackenzie Hediger

Paige Voigt

#### **Sunday, August 5**

**(Fair Sunday – will not need Acolytes this Sunday)**

#### **Sunday, August 19**

Byrce Erickson

Alex Northup

#### **Sunday, August 26**

Parker Voigt

Logan Erickson

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

**Note:** We need some more Sunday School children to help with lighting candles beginning in September. We will be losing our 8<sup>th</sup> graders as they will be going into Confirmation. 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School kids let us know if you want to help. We will teach you. Thank you to those of you that help 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 August**

### **Sunday, August 5 & 12**

Hap Eddy, Tom Barr

Dave Steiger (we need 1 more volunteer)

### **Sunday, August 19 & 26**

Roger Carl, Paul Schmidt

Wayne Voss, Craig Sigurdson

**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 August**

### **Sunday, August 5**

Bob & Lorraine Shaw

### **Sunday, August 12 (Fair Sunday)**

Tom & Karlene Wallace

### **Sunday, August 19**

Roberta Gaier & Linda Stalsberg

### **Sunday, August 26**

Joe & Deb Holman

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 August  
Look for the list of dates on the bulletin board (the whole year Sundays are 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.

**Note:** Our church will be hosting coffee hour following the 9 a.m. Fair Service on Sunday, August 12. We will need some bars/cookies for that Sunday. There will be a sign-up on the bulletin board. (**Note: bring your bars/cookies to the fair-ground service ready to serve and on disposable plate. Thank you.**)

## **Communion Assignments for Sunday**

**August 5** (Pews) Communion- Team 2 – Janice Miller, Jim Vradenburg, Wayne Voss, Jake Ratsch, Karlene Wallace

**Bread:** Jake Ratsch

## **Deacons/Deaconesses Hosting for August**

### **Sunday, August 5**

Jim Vradenburg.....715-743-2403

### **Sunday, August 12**

Sue Vornholt..... 715-797-4031

### **Sunday, August 19**

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

### **Sunday, August 26**

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

## **Facts & Figures**

Sunday, July 1.....63

Sunday, July 8.....50

Sunday, July 15.....61

Sunday, July 22.....55

## **Offerings**

### **Sunday, July 1**

General Offering.....\$1866.00

Milk Fund Mission .....55.00

### **Sunday, July 8**

General Offering.....\$3195.00

Radio Fund.....600.00

Back Pack Mission.....10.00

Audio Visual.....500.00

House of Mercy.....50.00

### **Sunday, July 15**

General Offering..... \$869.00

### **Sunday, July 22**

General Offering.....\$2350.00

Memorial Fund.....25.00

**July 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.*



## **Radio Broadcast**

### **Sponsors**

On *Sunday, July 1* the radio broadcast portion of our worship service was sponsored by Anita Lulloff in memory of her husband, Bob and her loved ones.

On *Sunday, July 8, 15 & 22* the radio broadcast portion of our worship service was sponsored anonymously by a faithful radio listener.

*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.**

## **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 need 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. Following is a list of Sundays. Let's keep this special radio ministry. Sponsor a broadcast!

### **2019 Dates Available:**

January: 6-13-2-27

February: 10

March: 3-17-24-31

April: 28

May: 5-12-26

June: 2-9-16-30

July: 7-14-21-28

August: 4-18-25

## **(Radio Broadcast Sponsors Needed continued)**

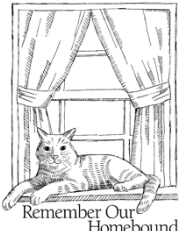
September: 1-8-15-22-29

October: 20-27

November 3-10-17-24

December 1-8-15-22 (Half)-29

### **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.)***

## **Mission & Outreach News**

**Food Pantry** - Bring your non-perishable food and paper product donations – ALL food pantries are in need of all items - School is out and the food pantries are especially busy with needs for children. Cereals, soups, macaroni/cheese, peanut butter etc. Thank you for your support!

**“Back Pack Program”** – Even though school is out the “Back Pack Program” still needs your financial support. The program will again begin with the fall opening of school. 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. Thank you for your continued support.

**“Sun Catcher’s Café** – The Sun Catchers Café will hold their monthly meeting on **Thursday, August 16** from, 10-11-30 a.m. here at the United Church of Christ. The August meeting theme will be *“Eating By Color.”* Kelsey Wussow and Rebecca Rosandick, Clark County Public Health will present a program on choosing healthy foods that are

## ***(Sun Catchers Café continued)***

enjoyable and fun! This program is sponsored by the ADRC of Clark County and is free. Refreshments will be served.

**Guest House Delivery** – Another Guest House delivery was made to the Guest House (*Men’s Shelter*) in Milwaukee. We thank Sue and her son Matt for making this delivery. Another load will be going later this fall.

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

**Circle of Friends News** – the Circle of Friends meet usually on the second Thursday of each month but for the month of August they will be meeting on the third Thursday the 16th. This will be their annual potluck picnic. Pastor Jacoba has invited the Circle over to her house. The picnic will begin at 12 noon. You are more than welcome to come and join them.

**Note:** They can always use help with the greeting cards during their Monday morning work times.

**Greeting Cards** – 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.

### **Our Deepest Sympathy**

Our deepest sympathy to Paul and Sandra Schmidt and family and friends on the death of Paul's brother, Anthony "Tony" Schmidt. Tony Schmidt died on Tuesday, June 19 following a lengthy battle with cancer. Again, our deepest sympathy to all of you.



We also want to extend our deepest sympathy to Hanna Opelt and family and to Fritz Hediger and family on the death of their sister, Rosemarie Knoop. Rosemarie died on July 5. Again, our deepest sympathy to family and friends of Rosemarie Knoop.

### **Bazaar News:** Report from Carla Marty

We are still looking for someone to take over the "New To You Treasures" "Twice Around Shop" for the Holiday Fair this year. Whoever accepts this position has full reign on how to set it up. We would hate to lose this part of the bazaar because lot of people enjoy this shop. **But** if we don't find someone to take it over, we will not be able to open it. If there is a group of ladies that want to share it that would be even better. More help the better. Please contact me: Carla Marty 715-937-0077 or Audrey at the church office. 715-743-2147. Thank you!

Also, I would like to have a meeting **Wednesday, August 8 at 6:00.** We want to get things rolling for this year's bazaar. All are welcome! Come with ideas.

And then beginning on Wednesday, August 22 painting nights begin. (*we will meet every Wednesday night.*) Again, all are welcome. We have a lot of fun and you can visit with friends while painting. You don't need to be an expert at painting – it's all easy painting. Hope to see you there. Thank you!

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



August  
BIRTHDAYS

### **August Birthdays**

1- Ruth Schmidt  
Sue Voigt

3-Delaney Rochester  
6- Jerry Johnson  
Layne Woods  
7- Morgan Erickson  
8- Sydney Subke  
12-Alexis Bergemann  
Quinn Sexauer  
17-Bill Sisson  
18-Jameson Bennett  
19-Ben Mathis  
21-Pat Wall  
Karen Mohr  
23-Cole Hediger  
Craig Heck  
27-Cody Northup  
Kathy Marshall  
28-Sandra Bieneck  
29-Nancy Boon  
James Repinski  
Cassie Erickson

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



### **August Wedding Anniversaries**

9- Wendell & Linette Kuhn  
11-Howard & Kathy Mathis  
13-Marilyn & Robert Marty  
14-Bob & Lorraine Shaw  
14-Mike & Deb Perkl  
15-Paul & Sandra Schmidt  
18-Francis & Kathy Carl  
19-Jim & Karen Mohr  
20-Barb & Steve Miller  
22-Kellie Murphy & Neil Czarnecki  
22-Craig & Stephanie Heck  
28-Sandra & Roy Bieneck  
28-Linda & John Stalsberg



*(Wedding Anniversaries continued)*

28-Jerry & Judith Quicker  
29-Cynthia & Nathaniel Craig  
30-Wallace & Pat Garbisch

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

**Conference News**

***Grow in Faith with Lay Academy*** – Lay Academy is a ministry of transformation and faith formation offered by the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ. Participants dive into scripture, explore theology, consider God’s presence in their lives and discover fresh ways to speak about and live out their faith in their day to day lives. Registration is open for the next cycle of classes, which will begin on Saturday, August 18 and continue with additional two-day classes, which will begin November, January, March and April. For more information go to [www.wuccorg/layacademy](http://www.wuccorg/layacademy) or talk to Pastor Jacoba.

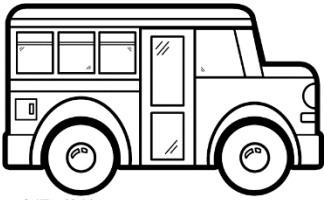


*From Eileen*  
Thank you to everyone who made my last day of playing for UCC a very special day on July 22 and for the gift certificate and the cake. I thank you very much  
*Eileen Zank*

**TAKING OUR MISSION INTO THE WORLD**  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 12<sup>TH</sup>**  
**AT THE CLARK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**  
**9:00 AM**



A JOINT ECCUMENICAL SERVICE SPONSORED BY CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ZION LUTHERAN PINE VALLEY & THE NEILLSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST WILL BE HELD AT THE WCCN RADIO TENT.



In years past, parking and getting around the grounds for some has been a challenge. This year, if you do not wish to stay at the fair following the service, there will be a one trip shuttle running from Calvary and UCC. The shuttle will leave Calvary at 8:40 am and UCC at 8:45 am. It will drop you off at the tent and pick you up there following the service. The shuttle will leave approximately 20 minutes following the service.

Taking the shuttle will avoid walking, finding a parking spot and dealing with admission lines.

For those who are staying for the day, remember, there is no admission charged to those attending the service and arriving before 9 am. So if you choose to drive yourself, please tell the ticket takers that you are attending the worship service and find a place to park in the infield. You can head directly toward the tent after parking as the north fence of the infield has been removed to allow better access to the midway area where the tent is located.



August 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
<b>5</b> 9 am Summer Worship <b>Communion –</b> <b>Pews</b> <b>Fellowship/Coffee</b> <b>Hour</b> <b>3 pm Communion</b> <b>served at</b> <b>Neillsville</b> <b>Retirement</b> <b>Community</b>	<b>6</b> 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	<b>7</b> 6 pm Pastor/Parish meeting 8:30 am Music Committee meeting	<b>8</b> 6 pm Bazaar Meeting	<b>9</b> Fair (Office Closed)	<b>10</b> Fair (Office Closed)	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> FAIR SUNDAY <b>9 am Fair</b> <b>Service</b> <b>At the</b> <b>Fairgrounds</b> <b>UCC/Calvary</b> <b>Fellowship/Coffee</b> <b>Hour</b> <b>following</b>	<b>13</b> 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>12 Noon Circle of</b> <b>Friends Picnic – at</b> <b>Pastor Jacoba's</b> <b>10-11:30 am Sun</b> <b>Catchers</b> <b>Cafe</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9 am Summer Worship Fellowship/Coffee Hour	<b>20</b> 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	<b>21</b> 5:30 pm Trustees meeting 6:30 pm Deacons and Deaconesses meeting 7:30 pm Church Council meeting	<b>22</b> 6 pm Bazaar Painting	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <b>9 am Summer</b> <b>Worship</b> Fellowship/Coffee Hour	<b>27</b> 6:30-7:pm Nar-Anon	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6 pm Bazaar Painting	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	