



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

August 2019

⁹*Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;*

¹⁶*Live in harmony with one another;*

¹⁸*If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.*

Romans 12

Jacoba's jottings... I asked Joel and Jeff Raine to help with moving the chairs from the church to the Shelter and setting them up for our worship service with Care & Rehab. Joel invited some of his buddies/customers who were at the BP Gas Station on Sunday morning at 7:45 to give him a hand. When I thanked the guys, one of them said we need to spread some love and kindness; there is too much hate in the world. Who can disagree?



Several weeks ago, I mentioned in a sermon that UCC seems to be a purple church. We have members who are a strong red or blue – and others like me, who vote a mixed ballot. One of our members commented our purple color has not only to do with politics, but also our theology, our morality, our social views. I would add it also has to do with local issues – such as support of or lack of school administration, ATV use of city streets and the new hospital. When our understandings are so different, it makes discussions difficult – whether we are sitting around a campfire, dinner table at the ball game, in the community or at church meetings or coffee hours. In no way do I see us moving toward hate locally, but I do wonder how our differences are affecting relationships and our conversations.

I wonder too if we are less friendly today. When I moved to Neillsville, I was taken aback by all the hellos as I was shopping. The checkers often engaged in small talk. Folks would stand around in the aisles and check-in with each other. Today, it seems we greet each other less often. Maybe it is obvious to others we are on a mission and there is little time for chit chat. Maybe we are too busy or too focused on the task on at hand to be interrupted. Or I wonder, have our differences silenced us?

As I said in the sermon on July 7th, the church may be a place to practice being in conversation with one another. If we are uncomfortable talking about issues which might divide us, maybe conversations about the weather, health, the kids and grand-kids or recent travels are good ways to get to know each other. I realize, we are often admonished to not discuss politics or religion; however we must remember Jesus and both the New and Old Testaments were and are very political. They are not partisan in the way of choosing a conservative or liberal side – however naming the Samaritan as the one who was merciful was very political. Saying that the powerful would be brought low was very political. Saying that those in power who do not show support to the widow, the orphan, the immigrant (sojourner in our midst is how the Old Testament sometimes names immigrants), the poor and needy will be overthrown by God working through Israel's enemies was very political. Those of us who love the Moses stories know how political it was for the midwives to protect the male babies and there is no denying as Moses stood before Pharaoh saying let my people (who were slaves in Egypt) go, he was being political.

Let's claim being a purple church and people– supporting one another, living in harmony with one another and working toward the good of all. Let our love be genuine, while hating what is evil. Yes, political – but not partisan.

**UCC and CALVARY WORSHIP
at the CLARK COUNTY FAIR
AUGUST 11 9:00AM
WCCN TENT**

(Near what used to be the Front entrance)

Free entry to the Fairgrounds before 9am.

Handicap Parking nearby.

**Pastors Koppert & Anderson Preaching
Vicente Cortez on the Keyboard**

If you want a ride,

please contact the church office

If you like to bake, bring some treats to share.

The Service will be broadcast live at 9am.

**A portion of the service will be broadcast
at 11am as usual.**

WCCN 1370 am



Some would think, July was a quieter month – yet there were still things taking place around the church and with our church families. I want to thank Karen Mohr and the Mohr family for taking good care of me with my cataract surgery. My surgery went well.

The first weekend of July was a full one... Thank you, to Barb Petkovsek and the team members who planned, set up, prepared, served and cleaned up afterwards the funeral dinner for the family of Patty Steele.

It was a delight to celebrate Lois Kren's 90th birthday with her family and friends – yes, she did come to her party on a hay wagon!

And then we celebrated the Baptism of Emilia Mathis... before serving Communion in worship and then at the Neillsville Retirement Community -thank you Arlene Stark for assisting.

That Sunday evening the Stewardship Committee co-chairs (Emile and M.E.) and I met. The Stewardship Committee has been doing much work this last month; I want to commend them. You will notice on the August Calendar there are several education events members of the Committee and I are attending.

The Heritage Day Parade the Next weekend was again fun – with many church members in the parade.

We had just beautiful weather for our service at the Shelter behind Care & Rehab. I want to thank the guys who helped – with set up and take down, all the cookie bakers and servers and Carol Struensee, Theresa and Janice Miller of Care & Rehab. Vicente, just back from visiting family in Ecuador, played his keyboard for us. Fourteen Residents of Care & Rehab joined us and I am guessing another six or so residents from Sunset Gardens. (Jeff – thanks for reminding your friends at Sunset Gardens to come) It takes a bit of extra work to move the service to the Shelter, yet the residents and some of our members very much enjoy worshipping together. Again, thank you to all who helped make it happen.



Dave and Carol Harnisch have been working hard to weed, prune, dig out, and replace dying plants with new ones donated by Tom and Karlene. We thank Dave and Carol for their donations of time, labor and products. You may have heard, Tom and Karlene have sold their

building, but not their business so they have been busy moving their store items to their home place. We wish them well in this transition.

**GATHERING - SUPPER AT
PASTOR JACOBA'S HOME
SUNDAY, AUGUST 18 AT 5PM**

(Back yard, weather permitting)

I will prepare Sloppy Joes and have some drinks.

You are welcome to bring a dish to pass.

Plates and eating utensils will be provided.

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION

Youth in the 7th or 8th Grades who would like consider being confirmed in May of 2020 and their parents are asked to attend an orientation meeting on Wednesday August 21 at 7pm. Please speak to the Pastor and RSVP to her via email, phone or in person. Please bring your calendars to this meeting.

Church Office Closed – August 8-11.

The Pastor and Audrey will be at the Fair. The Pastor will be checking voice mail – and she can be contacted on her cell phone at any time. (314)910-9751.

August Newsletter 2019

Hi Everyone, yes, here we are at the end of July and time to get the August Newsletter out to you. July was a very quiet month as far as activities going on here at our church. It was a good thing with the *hot/humid* weather and the storms. We hope you did not have too much damage at your home following the storms. August brings us to the time we start thinking about our fall activities beginning. As you will notice in the August calendar our board meetings will meet on Tuesday, August 20. These are important meetings and we hope you will be able to attend.

See you in church! Audrey

Our Volunteers for August

Acolytes

Sunday, August 4

Haylee Erickson

Dottie Holm

Sunday, August 11

Worship at the Fair

Sunday, August 18

Parker Voigt

Bryce Erickson

Sunday, August 25

Paige Voigt

Sydney Subke

We know that August is still a busy month for most of our families with all the summer activities yet going on and some of you will most likely not be here to light the candles. We still want to make up a schedule. (Hoping you will be here.) We really appreciate your help. If you are scheduled to light the candles and cannot be here, please let the Church office know. 715-743-2147. Our acolytes are an important part of our worship service and we thank you for helping us. We are always looking for more volunteers to light the candles...let Pastor Jacoba know if you would like to help. Volunteers are needed on some Sundays when we have no children in church, and we thank those that help us out by filling in.

Nursery We do have a nursery downstairs and a small nursery upstairs off the Narthex available for mothers/dads with small children. We do not have scheduled volunteers to take care of your children. It is required that an adult/parent be there with your child(ren) if you plan on using the nursery. Please leave it cleaned up when you leave. Thank you. *(Looking for volunteers to help do some fall cleaning in our nurseries) If you are willing to help with this...call the church office. 715-742-2147.*

Ushers for August

Sunday, August 4 & 11- (11th Fair Sunday)

Hap Eddy Craig Sigurdson

Phil Follen, Jim Sjolín

Sunday, August 18-25

Kevin Erickson, Logan Erickson

Chad Erickson, Dante Erickson

Ushers Note: *If you are unable to usher when you are scheduled (we know that summer is a bad time for some of you too) – please exchange with someone else if possible and call the church office to let us know (715-743-2147) Thank you for your help.*

Ushers take Note: *There have been some changes in the ushering duties. Please read over the letter you receive in the mail. If you have any questions, please talk to Mike Perkl. Also, we are looking for a Head Usher that could help us out on Sundays. (Just to make sure we have ushers in place and that they are aware of what they are to do and to answer their questions.) Even Co-Head Ushers would be nice. Can you **HELP** us out and volunteer for this position?*

Take Note: **During our 9:00 a.m. summer worship months the front doors will be open at 8:15 a.m. Ushers, please be here by 8:30 a.m. If you have a key, you can get in anytime but make sure the doors are locked behind you. Thank you.**

Greeters for August

Sunday, August 4

Dorothy Steiger & Arlene Stark

Sunday, August 11 (Fair Service)

James & Karen Mohr

Sunday, August 18

Frances Short & Kim Stetzer

Sunday, August 25

Mark & Merrill Brunette

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.

Communion Assignments for August

Sunday, August 4– Communion in the Pews

Team 2- Janice Miller, Jim Vradenburg, Wayne Voss, Jake Ratsch, Karlene Wallace

Bread: Jake Ratsch

Deacons/Deaconesses Hosting for

August

Sunday, August 4

Paul Schmidt.....715-743-6656

Sunday, August 11

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

Sunday, August 18

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

Sunday, August 25

Karlene Wallace.....715-743-6723

Coffee Hour for August

I see that nobody has signed up to host coffee hour for August at this time. Please sign-up.

Note: For our Fair Service on Sunday, August 11 we will need some donation of bars/cookies. There will be a sign-up on the bulletin board. Please bring your bars to the WCCN tent at the fairgrounds. (Please have them cut – thank you)

We do have the coffee hour schedule on the bulletin board for the whole year. Look at the dates and see if there is a Sunday(s) you can volunteer to serve. Find a friend and sign up together (No need to put on a full meal (just one thing is all you need to serve) some bars/cookies or some cheese/crackers or some fruit. If you have

(coffee hour continued)

any questions give us a call. The coffee, lemonade, plates, napkins are all provided. Some volunteers like to serve more than one thing; we let them decide what they want to serve...we are all satisfied with **one** thing being served. We are just happy to have some volunteers serve. Thank you for your help and support ! Fellowship/Coffee Hour is a fun time to spend some time together with of our church family. Come and join us!

Facts & Figures

Sunday, July 7.....	71
Sunday, July 14.....	50
Sunday, July 21.....	36
Sunday, July 28.....	62

Offerings

Sunday, July 7

General Offering.....	\$2779.00
Strengthen the Church	10.00

Sunday, July 14

General Offering.....	\$1400.00
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Sunday, July 21

General Offering.....	\$694.75
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Sunday, June 28

General Offering.....	\$1880.00
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July Automatic Giving.....\$2175.00

Automatic Giving – Are you interested in giving to your church by “Automatic Giving?” If you are, stop by the church office and we will help you with the forms that need to be filled out. Very easy to do. You decide how much you want to give monthly and about the 10th of every month that amount will be taken out of your account. Another option you can do to give to your church is to set the church up on your automatic bill pay through your bank. With the busy schedules that many of you have and if you are unable to make it to church Automatic Giving would be a way to keep up with your *faith promise* to your church. Please consider giving this way.

Radio Broadcast Sponsors



On Sunday, July 7, July 14 and July 21 the radio broadcast portion of our worship services were

sponsored by a faithful radio listener.

On Sunday, June 28 the radio broadcast was sponsored by Glenna Rhoades Marg in honor of the Rhoades girls and their families.

Thank you to our July radio broadcast sponsors.

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

2020 Radio Broadcast Sponsors We are looking for Radio Broadcast sponsors for 2020. Now is the time to sign-up. The cost is the same. \$75.00 Full Broadcast - \$37.50 Half Broadcast \$25.00 Third Broadcast. We have lots of Sundays to fill. We feel that our radio ministry is very important to our church and community. Are we going to have the support to keep our radio ministry on WCCN? Sign-up NOW! Give in memory of someone; in honor of someone or for any other reason you may have. This is not a budgeted item of our church, so we ask you to please have your monies in by the end of 2019.



Remember Our Homebound Members Let's not forget our shut-in's at home, those in nursing homes and in assisted living this summer. Send a card, give them a call, or go visit them. We know that many of you do send cards, call and visit and even do clinic runs. We *thank you!* If you know of anyone needing a visit from Pastor Jacoba, please call her or the church office and we will set up a time to visit. If you would like to help Pastor Jacoba serve communion to our shut-in's let her know. We can always use extra hands. Our shut-ins enjoy it when you come

"Sun Catchers Café" – The Sun Catcher's Café met on Thursday, July 17 here at the United

Church of Christ. The group this month brought with them an item from their childhood or a childhood memory. What a fun time remembering some of these childhood memories.

The Sun Catchers Café is sponsored by the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Clark County. Sun Catchers Café is a get together for people interested in lifelong learning, brain-healthy activities, and interesting, positive discussion. It is free and meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 10 a.m.-11³⁰ a.m. Refreshments are provided. The next Sun Catchers Café will meet on August 15.



The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

The Sacrament of Holy

Baptism was observed on Sunday, July 7 for Emilia Kathleen Mathis, daughter of Benjamin and Kelly Mathis. Pastor Jacoba Koppert officiated at Emilia's baptism. Sponsors for Emilia are Abigail Mathis and Mitchell Sigurdson. Emilia's name will be added to our Cradle Roll list. We welcome Emilia and look forward to getting to know her.

Circle of Friends News – What happens in August? The Annual Circle of Friends picnic. You are invited to join them on Thursday, August 8 at 12 noon here at the church. Bring a dish to pass and enjoy some fun time with the Circle of Friends.

Remember their recycled cards downstairs in the card room for sale. They have a nice variety of different cards already for you.

Doorbells – As many of you have noticed doorbells have been installed by our front door (main entrance) and downstairs by the kitchen (east door.) We still want you to be sure to lock the door behind you if you use your key to get in. This system seems to be working just fine at this time.

Committee Pictures Needed for Stewardship

On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, I would like to request that all chairpersons of each committee, organization, or church group, please send me pictures of your group's activities. It could be of just your committee members or it could be action pictures of the different events that you host throughout the year. We would like to develop a Power Point presentation sharing the UCC talents that our members have.

If you have them in a digital format, please send to as an attachment to me at emilejmiller@yahoo.com. If you do not have a digital format, please drop your pictures off by Audrey and I'll pick them up there.

If you could have them to me by the end of August, that would be greatly appreciated; thanks!

Emile Miller, Co-Chair of Stewardship Committee

Clean Up Team Leader for Funerals Still Needed

Have you been wondering how you could volunteer your talents for the church but just don't want to commit to a monthly or quarterly meeting or don't want to open your wallet for another fundraiser? Why not consider helping with the church funerals; this talent you don't even have to physically leave your home!

We are still in need of a "Clean Up" Team Leader. This person would be responsible for contacting the "Clean Up" crew members, when we have a funeral, to see if they would be available to help clean up the dishes after a funeral. We just need someone to be willing to coordinate workers for this by calling volunteers via the telephone.

Please think about this opportunity and let me know if you are willing to help us out. Thank you for considering this way to use your talents for the church!

Emile Miller, Luncheon Funeral Coordinator

FROM THE INTERFAITH CAREGIVERS OF CLARK COUNTY

Interfaith Volunteer of Clark County needs your help.

Our mission is:

"The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program brings together volunteers of many faiths to help elderly neighbors enhance their quality of life by providing assistance with daily activities that allow them to maintain independence"

In June of 1992 when members of the Neillsville Ministerial Alliance noticed an increasing amount of unmet needs coming in from various areas of Clark County, they began the groundwork for Interfaith Volunteers.

After years planning and organizing the group of churches and organizations, began the work of Interfaith. This revolved with the help of volunteers from many churches in Clark County. When the need arrived, the director would inform the churches and a volunteer would come forward and help the elderly person with their needs. This could be long term or a one-time event.

As the years have passed Interfaith has struggled to answer the many calls of the elderly and disabled. A few good volunteers have carried on the mission of helping to answer the calls of the elderly. Interfaith could do so much more if we could reach more volunteers.

The requests range from a ride to the grocery store, beauty parlor or some place else as they no longer have a car. Some families just need a volunteer to visit with their elderly loved one as they live in a different town. Some folks need some light house cleaning done or other chores the senior citizen no longer can do. There is no charge to the receiver of these services.

If you would like to learn more or volunteer your help call Judy Morrow, Director of Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers Clark County – 715-743-2885 judydonmorro@hotmail.com

God Bless,

Judy Morrow, Director of Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of Clark Count



Thank You from the Patty Steele family

The Patty Steele family wish to thank Barb Petkovsek and her wonderful crew of workers who

helped serve the funeral luncheon on Saturday, July 6 for their family and friends of Patty Steele. Thank you too for the flowers that were on each of the tables. Special thanks to Pastor Jacoba for her prayers and support. It was greatly appreciated by our family.



Thank You – Thank You!

Have you noticed how nice the front of our church looks? The shrubbery has been trimmed, the dead/broken greens have been

removed and replaced. The stones have all been cleaned of weeds and rearranged. This was a lot of work. A BIG THANK YOU to Dave Harnisch and his wife Carol who helped too. We also want to thank Tom and Karlene Wallace for the donation of the new shrubs. Good Job Guys!!!



QUILTING GROUP

Word from the Quilter Ladies

We are looking for some more people to help tie quilts. You do not need to be an expert at this job. We will train you (it is not hard.) Watch for our next quilting date! If you have any questions...see Doris Bakker or Nancy Boon.



August Birthdays

1- Ruth Schmidt
Sue Voigt
3-Delaney Rochester

5- Jerry Johnson
Layne Woods
7-Morgan Erickson
8-Sydney Subke
12-Alexis Bergemann
Quinn Sexauer
Mark Garbisch
Lisa Schermitzler
17-Bill Sisson
18-Jameson Bennett

August Birthday (continued)

19-Ben Mathis
Nicole Keller
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 Birthdays! Did we miss your birthday or have the wrong date? Let us know if we did.

OOPS we missed a very special birthday last month and we are sorry!!! Tyler Williams had a birthday on July 1 Happy Belated Birthday Tyler!



August Wedding Anniversaries

9-Wendell & Linett Kuhn

11-Howard & Kathy Mathis
13-Marilyn & Bob Marty
14-Bob & Lorraine Shaw
Mike & Deb Perkl
15-Paul & Sandra Schmidt
18- Butch & Kathy Carl
19-Jim & Karen Mohr
20-Barb & Steve Miller
22- Kellie Murphy & Neil Czarnecki
Craig & Stephanie Heck
28-Sandra & Roy Bieneck
Linda & John Stalsberg
Jerry & Judtih Quicker
29-Cynthia & Nathaniel Craig
30-Wallace & Pat Garbisch

Happy Anniversary to all of You!! Did we miss your Anniversary or have the wrong date? Let us know if we did.

August 2019						
◀ Jul 2019						Sep 2019 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9 am Worship Communion (Pews) Fellowship/Coffee Hour 10 am Christian Ed Board 3 pm Communion served at N Neillsville Retirement Community	5 6:30-7:30 Nar-Anon	6 2:30 pm Neillsville Care & Rehab Worship service – Pastor Jacoba leading 6 pm Pastor/Parish meeting	7 5:30-7:30 pm Stewardship Committee – Bootcamp Webinar Clark County Fair	8 12 Noon Circle of Friends Annual Picnic here at the Church Clark County Fair	9 Clark County Fair	10 Clark County Fair
11 9 am WORSHIP AT THE FAIR UCC/Calvary Fellowship/Coffee Hour following the service 3:30-7:30 pm Stewardship Committee meeting (Eau Claire)	12 6:30-7:30 Nar-Anon	13	14	15 10-11:30 am Sun Catchers Cafe	16	17
18 9 am Worship Fellowship/Coffee Hour GATHERING/SUPPER At Pastor Jacoba's Home Sunday, August 18 – 5:00 pm	19 6:30-7:30 Nar-Anon	20 5:30 pm Trustee meeting 6:30 pm Deacon and Deaconesses meeting 7:30 pm Church Council	21 7 pm Confirmation Orientation Meeting	22	23	24
25 9 am Worship Fellowship Coffee Hour	26 Newsletter Week 6:30-7:30 Nar-Anon	27	28 5 pm Stewardship Committee	29	30	31