

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Neillsville, Wisconsin

Church 715-743-2147

Pastor Jacoba Koppert

Pastor's Office 715-743-2117

www.neillsvilleucc.org

Mid-October 2019

Jacoba's jottings.... Because of You Our Church Changes Lives. UCC, Neillsville makes a difference in the lives of many. And it is your gifts of time, talent and treasure that bring about changes within the lives of our members, in the community and yes, even in the world. Today, I name three places where ***Because of You Our Church Changes Lives*** each Sunday morning.

Because of You Our Church Changes Lives ... In Sunday School, (and at Vacation Bible School and through CD's and Confirmation), our children and youth learn that Jesus loves them; how to follow Jesus; and how to love our neighbors. They study the stories of the Bible and they meet adults and other children who believe in God and Jesus. Our children realize they are loved. And yes, they love us! They sing of their faith, they run into the church, they cry, they laugh, they mature and their lives and our lives are changed. In giving your gifts and support you pay for their curriculum and Bibles; you make sure there is heat and light in the building; you encourage our teachers and you welcome our children. **Because of You Our Church Changes Lives.**

Because of You, Our Church Changes Lives... last Sunday, in my silence, I listened and heard you proclaim your faith. At that moment, I was able to worship and feel the presence of God and our love for one another. The Choir music touched my heart. Their song reminded me we are "One Body" as a church and in unity with Christ around the world. We prayed for one another and you told me I preached powerfully as I encouraged us to support one another on the challenging journey of being a faithful follower of Jesus (you can hear that sermon on neillsvilleucc.org). We welcomed one another; offered each other the peace of Christ; dedicated our gifts; and received Christ's Meal. Your financial gifts cover the costs of the bulletins; choir music, office equipment, the technology we use, radio broadcasts, and staff salaries. In addition, you offer your time and gifts as you run our sound system and projector; prepare the power points; and put our services on the internet. You, who are of all ages, made time in your busy schedules to raise your voices and hearts in prayer and song as together we worshipped God preparing to return to the world to love and serve God and our neighbors. **Because of You Our Church Changes Lives** – including our own.

Because of You Our Church Changes Lives. Each Sunday morning a few of us gather for coffee and fellowship. The treats are a side item – the conversations with each other – talking about how it is for us, what is going on in the community, our country and the world, how the Packers are doing, the laughter and reflections among members and friends of all ages is what touches lives. Some members may think this time of fellowship is unnecessary, yet who does not need to know someone cares about what is going on in their lives and what they think and hope. We need each other in order to be faithful in this world where it is much harder today to be a follower of Jesus. Our relationships with other Christians support us on our faith journeys. We practice being Christians as we talk with those who might have different outlooks and personalities. Yes, being together matters. I know our schedules are full and we have things to do and places to go, yet we are responsible not only for our own faith journey; we are also called to help each other be the best Christians we can be. **Because of You, Our Church Changes Lives.**

I invite you to consider how you will support the ministry of our church with your time, talent and treasure. It is through your gifts, blessed and multiplied by God, that **Our Church Changes Lives.**

Jacoba's second page... I do not want to repeat these two and half weeks of being sick, much of it without voice...yet, if it was because I was traveling from Greece to Neillsville for 24 hours, I would not have wanted to miss my experience in Greece either. It was amazing to walk in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul. The challenges to early church were more evident to me- harsh terrain to cross from one community to the next; stormy seas, and working hard to be faithful to the One God of Jesus Christ while worshipping in the shadow of the many gods of their Greek and Roman neighbors and rulers. The early Christians were dependent on one another to be followers of Jesus. So it is for us again- we need each other. Again we are worshipping in a world where there are many gods to tempt us from being faithful. I thank Sue Voigt, Jenny Romens-Erickson, Paul Vine and Wendy Sigurdson for leading the worship service on the 29th. And I thank Pastor Jim Mohr for covering for me while I was gone and the congregation for giving me the time and continuing ed funds to take this trip. I am planning to share a few more of my pictures at 2nd Half, November 19 at noon. You will also hear more about my experiences in worship services early next year.

While I was in Greece, our Confirmation Class with the assistance of Sue Voigt and Cindy Moseid served a meal at Hope Lodge, (a place for



patients who are in treatment at Marshfield and their families to sleep and

have meals together). The kids did a fantastic job preparing the meal, serving it, and being in relationship with the Hope Lodge guests. I am proud of our Confirmands!



In short order several members worked very hard and fast to clean, remove wallpaper and paint the sanctuary walls and the heat registers.

The heat registers over the years had stained the wall-papered walls. I want to add my thanks to the crew that did the work – men and women I saw or saw pictures of working were – Hap Eddy, Bob Petkovsek, Dave Harnisch, Mike and Deb Perkl, Wendy Sigurdson and Kevin and Chad Erickson.

SERMON SERIES

I am participating in a Webinar where several clergy colleagues are working together on a sermon series, "Extravagant Generosity as a Spiritual Practice." Our scripture readings come from the book of Ruth. On October 13 we will hear about Naomi who seeks hope while facing scarcity. On October 20, we turn to Ruth who takes risks and on October 27, we hear from Boaz who acts out of his values. On November 3, we will turn to Jesus as he speaks in the Gospel of John of an abundant life.

**ALL SAINTS DAY
NOVEMBER 3
We Will Remember
Members and Church Friends
Who Have Died in the Last Year
Please Invite Your Family
and Friends to This Service
of Remembrance and Hope**

October Newsletter 2019

Hi Everyone, I don't know about you, but I want to know where September went? It was a busy month. School has started, Sunday School has begun, we are back to our regular 10 a.m. worship service, the new Confirmation class has started, the Holiday Fair Workshop is meeting every week and Pastor Jacoba is back from her Greece trip. Now we are thinking October. This will be a busy month as well. Neighbors In Need special offering, World Communion on Sunday, and the Annual Pie/Baked Good Auction will be taking place right after worship service on Sunday, October 6. Pastor Jacoba will be attending a Minister's Retreat the 6th, 7th and 8th of October up at Moon Beach. Jim, my son and I will be on vacation beginning October 10 through the 18. We will be back in church on Sunday, October 20. The 3rd Quarterly Congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, October 27 following worship service. Be sure to check out the October Calendar for dates and times of all our activities.

See you in church! Audrey

Our Volunteers for October

Acolytes

Sunday, October 6

Iris Vine
Reese Ziegler

Sunday, October 13

Haylee Erickson
Dottie Holm

Sunday, October 20

Colton Williams
Landon Bergemann

Sunday, October 27

Iris Vine
Reese Ziegler

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. Now that fall is here, we are hoping that we will get some more volunteers to help with lighting of the candles. If you are interested, please let Pastor Jacoba know and we will help you get trained.

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 October

October 6

Cris Hediger, (Substitute)
Larry Marshall, Jim Marshall

October 13 & 20

Tom Barr, Tim Voigt
Joel Raine, Jeff Raine

October 27 & November 3

Neil Armitage, Dave Harnisch
Don Quicker, Jerry Quicker

Ushers Note: *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 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. We are looking for a **Head Usher** that could help us out on Sundays. (The Head usher would 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?*

Greeters for October

Sunday, October 6

Ellie & Mackenzie Keller

Sunday, October 13

Sandra Bieneck & Michelle Bergemann

Sunday, October 20

Tom & Karlene Wallace

Sunday, October 27

Darlene Mueller & Substitute

(Greeters continued)

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 October

Sunday, October 6 (World Communion

Sunday) – Pew Communion

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

Bread: Volunteers – variety of breads

Deacons/Deaconesses Hosting for October

Sunday, October 6

Kathy Mathis.....715-937-0690

Sunday, October 13

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

Sunday, October 20

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

Sunday, October 25

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

Coffee Hour for October

Would you like to host Coffee Hour sometime in October? Sign-up on the bulletin board or call and let us know if you can help out.

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 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!

QUESTION? How do you feel about Fellowship/Coffee Hour? Should we continue it? Please let the Deacons/Deaconesses know how you feel about it. Is it important to you? Will you help serve if we continue it? We need your input.

Facts & Figures

Sunday, September 1	58
Sunday, September 8.....	64
Sunday, September 15.....	77
Sunday, September 22.....	60

Offerings

Sunday, September 1

General Offering.....	\$2415.00
Kitchen Fund.....	100.00
Strengthen the Church.....	200.00

Sunday, September 8

General Offering.....	\$1235.00
Radio Fund.....	1350.00

Sunday, September 15

General Offering.....	\$1072.00
Memorial Fund.....	20.00
Audio Visual Fund.....	50.00
Confirmation.....	150.00
Radio Fund.....	150.00

Sunday, September 22

General Offering.....	\$1877.00
Radio Fund	450.00
Neighbors In Need.....	10.00
Confirmation.....	75.00

September 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, September 1* the radio broadcast portion of the worship service was sponsored by Doris Bakker in memory of her father, Arnold.

On *Sunday, September 8, Sunday, September 15 and Sunday, September 22* these radio broadcasts were sponsored anonymously by a faithful radio listener.

And on *Sunday, September 29* the radio broadcast is sponsored by Dolores Johnson and family in loving memory of daughter June Feely.

Thank you to our September 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 still in need of 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 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? 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.



Let's not forget our shut-in's at home, those in nursing homes and in assisted living facilities. 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

Remember Our Shut In's

Let's not forget our shut-in's at home,

our shut-in's let her know. We can always use extra hands when we serve communion at our Assisted living facilities. For the month of October communion will be served at the Neillsville Retirement Community on Sunday, October 13. Our shut-ins enjoy it when you come.

For your information Charlotte Gress is now residing at the Neillsville Retirement Community. If you have a chance, go and visit her or send here a card. I'm sure she would enjoy hearing from you.



Need a Bible?

The Christian Ed Board wants you to know that if you are in need of age appropriate Bible(s) for your family to contact one of the Christian Ed Board members.

"Sun Catchers Café" – 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.-11- a.m. here at our church. Refreshments are provided. The next Sun Catchers Café will meet on Thursday, October 17. The October program will be "Measles" by Kelsey Wussow, RN and Rebecca Rosendick from the Clark County Health Department. The history, vaccine development, Measles elimination, mode of transmission, signs/symptoms, common complications, and treatment. In addition, a discussion on the Measles vaccine recommendations in adults, and review commonly asked questions. To wrap up, we'll touch on 2019 reported Measles Outbreaks occurring in the U.S.



PIE/BAKED GOODS AUCTION!!!

You do not want to miss the Annual Pie/Baked Goods Auction on Sunday, October 6.

Join us following worship downstairs in Fellowship Hall ...get your bidding number and get ready for a fun-filled time with your church family. It will be interesting to see what new items will show up this year. Look for Pies, Bars, Casseroles, Hot Dishes and who knows what else? Hope to see you there!! Thank you for your continued support.

Emile Miller & Carla Marty

Note: Bakers/Cooks please sign-up on the bulletin board if you know what you are bringing. Thank you for your support!



Stewardship News

The Steward Committee met in full on August 29, 2019. Committee

members heard reviews from members that attended recent training opportunities, including the “*Annual Campaigns 101 Training*” webinar held August 7 at UCC, and the “*From Good to Great Annual Campaigns: A Stewardship Bootcamp*” workshop held in Eau Claire on August 11.

During the recent meeting, committee members voted to establish “Because of You, Our Church Changes Lives” for this year’s Stewardship Campaign theme. Committee members are deeply interested in discovering greater insight into why members of the congregation provide donations to our church and if expectations are being met.

The Stewardship Campaign is being designed to better inform members of the congregation of past and current activities through written, spoken, and visual campaign elements. It is the hope of the committee that these planned campaign elements will help members of the congregation discover that donations are changing lives and, more

(Stewardship News continued)

importantly, invite the question: Are the church’s activities meeting the individual’s mission expectations, deepest hopes, and enduring values?

If you wish to share your insight as to why you donate and how our church has changed lives, or if our church has---or could better meet---your personal expectations, please write to or speak with Pastor Jacoba or any of the Stewardship Committee members listed below. The Stewardship Committee would truly appreciate receiving your thoughts.

Members continue to seek photos for the Stewardship Campaign’s visual element that show individuals or groups providing time, talent, and treasures in their efforts to change lives and reach hearts. Contact Emile Miller at emilejmiller@yahoo.com or bring photos into the church office.

Another project recently implemented by the committee is the upcoming *Neighbors in Need* offering.

Committee Members: Marge Goetsch, Dave Harnisch, Emile Miller, M.E. Sjolín, and Sue Voigt.

The Stewardship Committee scheduled its next meeting for September 25.



Thank You’s

From Lorraine and Family – We extend our heartfelt thanks to our Church Family, especially Pastor Jacoba and all who were able to attend or help in any way for the very meaningful Memorial Service for our husband, father, grandfather, and friend Henry Robert “Bob” Shaw. Thank you for all your kindnesses and caring, cards and contributions which will always be remembered.

From Jim & Rosie Repinski – We would like to thank our UCC family for all the cards, prayers and thoughts with the death of our daughter Diane Pichler. A long seven-year battle against cancer is complete along with the earthly things. She will rest in peace until that day we all rejoice in and that God promises us. You lift us up, and we are thankful.

From the Family of Jerry Johnson – We want to thank everyone who helped serve the lunch, clean up etc. for our dad's funeral. There were many in the kitchen doing dishes also you all did a wonderful job and it was much appreciated!

During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us. Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered.

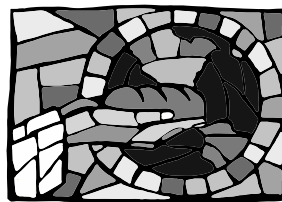
From Hope Lodge Guests – United Church of Christ Confirmation Class...thank you for the wonderful meal! The bars were the best. Thank you for Volunteering with Cooking up Hope. Your Contribution Helps to Provide a Home Away From Home for Cancer Patients.

From Audrey – Thank you so very much for the beautiful birthday cards and wishes. Is was very much appreciated. I am truly blessed by my church family.

Neighbors In Need

Sunday October 6th Neighbors In Need Special Offering

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ 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 this 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 UCC 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. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities. Please consider supporting this special offering. You will find the special NIN special offering envelopes in the pew racks. Thank you for supporting Neighbors In Need!



World Communion Sunday

World Communion Sunday, October 6

Communion will be served in the pews on Sunday, October 6. Look for the different variety of breads that will be served.

Committee Pictures Needed for Stewardship

On behalf of the Stewardship of the 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 me 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. Thanks!

Emile Miller Co-Chair of Stewardship Committee

Holiday Fair News – *It's that time of year when we are getting ready for our Holiday Fair. **Saturday, November 9** is the date to put on your calendar. From what it looks like as I walk through the work room where the girls are working, I see they have been busy working on their many projects. I'm sure they could use some more help. If you like to work on crafts come and join them on Wednesdays starting at 6:30 p.m. Come and do some painting, bring your ideas and enjoy some social time with us. Everyone is welcome!*

If you cannot come and help out at the church, you know that we hope you are working on your projects at home. We always look forward to your contributions to our Holiday Fair. This includes you men too. We know you are just as crafty and we welcome your contributions as well.

(Holiday Fair News continued)

NOTE if anyone has any plywood, pine boards, pallet boards or even barn boards that you would like to donate to our projects, we could really use any of these items. We could also use metal buckets and milk cans. We are willing to pay up to \$20.00 for milk cans. **And a new item we are looking for, "old hand saws."** If you have any questions, contact Carla Marty at 715-937-0077

The New to You Treasures Shop will also offer some nice items this year. We will soon be ready to sort, clean and price and will need your help. Give Wendy Sigurdson or Deb Perkl a call and let them know you can help out. Also, we will need help the day of the Holiday Fair. All hands are needed.

The Kitchen Cupboard is a popular place to visit as well. Get those recipes out and start thinking what delicious baked items you can bring us. Also candies, canned goods, garden produce, anything that can be found in your kitchen cupboard. We want to fill up our shop.

Remember again, we need lots of volunteers to help out on the day of the Holiday Fair.

Oh yes, don't forget the Lunch that will be served from 11 am-12:30 p.m. This year's menu features Chicken Salad on a Croissant a Bowl of Baked Potato Soup, Dessert and Beverage. Plan ahead mark your calendar NOW!

55th Holiday Fair
United Church of Christ
Saturday, November 9
9:00a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Gift Boutique Greeting Cards
Kitchen Cupboard
New to You Treasures
Lunch from 11:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.
Adults - \$7.00 – Kids under 10 - \$5.00



October Birthdays

- 1- Kayla Ratsch
 - 3- Tim Steinbach
 - 4- Mickey Marty
Alex Northup
Tammy Holm
Jacob Keller
 - 7- Brian Eddy
Hannah Raine
Corliss Fields
 - 10- Luke Erickson
 - 11- Tim Voigt
 - 12- Clarissa Rochester
 - 16- Avery Marshall
 - 17- Dante Erickson
 - 19- Todd Averill
 - 21- Dolores Johnson
Marian Vornholt
 - 22- Brenda Wilson
 - 25- Natalie Hauge
David Harnisch
 - 26- Kim Stetzer
 - 27- Erick Sadowska
 - 30- Derek Zschernitz
- Happy Birthday to all of you with an October Birthday! Did we miss your birthday or have the wrong date? Let us know if we did.***



October Anniversaries

- 4- Michelle & Lucas
Bergemann
 - 4- James & Rosanne Repinski
 - 7- Fred & Dixie Hediger
 - 7- Joe & Deb Holman
 - 8- Darwin & Ruth Zwieg
 - 9- Clinton & Julie Woods
 - 13- Randy & Natalie Hauge
 - 14- Karen & David Northup
 - 16- Tim & Sue Voigt
 - 17- Kevin & Jennifer Romens Erickson
 - 18- Byrl & Sharon Buddenhagen
 - 20- David & Carol Harnisch
- Happy Anniversary to all of You!! Did we miss your Anniversary or have the wrong date? Let us know if we did.***

<div> <div>◀ Sep 2019</div> <div>October 2019</div> <div>Nov 2019 ▶</div> </div>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 3:30 pm. Confirmation 6:30 pm Holiday Fair Workshop	3	4 5:30 pm Wedding Rehearsal	5 7 am UCC Men's Club Breakfast 2:30 pm Jenna Hilke & Erik Sigurdson Wedding
6 WORLD COMMUNION 9 am Sunday School 9 am Choir Practice 10 am Worship – Communion (Pews) NIN Special Offering Pie/Baked Goods Auction Following worship Fellowship/Coffee Hour Pastor Jacoba (Retreat)	7 (Pastor Jacoba Retreat) 6:30-7:30 pm Nar Anon	8 (Pastor Jacoba Retreat)	9 3:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Holiday Fair Workshop	10 1:30 pm Circle of Friends Audrey/Jim Vacation	11 Audrey/Jim Vacation	12 Audrey/Jim Vacation
13 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Fellowship/Coffee Hour 3 pm Communion served at Neillsville Retirement Community Audrey/Jim Vacation	14 6:30-7:30 pm Nar Anon Audrey/Jim Vacation	15 5:30 pm Trustees meet 6:30 pm Deacons and Deaconesses meet 7:30 pm Church Council Audrey/Jim Vacation	16 3:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Holiday Fair Workshop Audrey/Jim Vacation	17 10-11:30 am Sun Catchers Café Audrey/Jim Vacation	18 10 am -2 pm Confirmation Audrey/Jim Vacation	19
20 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Fellowship/Coffee Hour	21 6:30-7:30 pm Nar Anon	22	23 3:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Holiday Fair Workshop	24	25	26
27 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worshiip 3rd Congregational Quarterly meeting Following worship	28 6:30-7:30 pm Nar Anon	29	30 3:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Holiday Fair Workshop	31		