

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

www.neillsvilleucc.org
November 2019

Jacoba's jottings.... These last three weeks, we have been hearing the story of Naomi, Ruth and Boaz from the book of Ruth. Our themes have centered on Extravagant Generosity and seeking our deepest hopes, taking faithful risks and holding our enduring values (October 27). In this issue of the Jottings, I want to share my own hopes, values and risks in the ministry of the church.

My deepest hopes include, of course growth in faith and numbers. The numbers are less important to me than that those of us in the church grow in our relationship with God and Jesus Christ. My hope is that we know we can call on and rely on God in the various experiences of our lives. In all things God's love never ends and the life, death and resurrection of Jesus means that we each are granted new life, not only at the end of our lives, but also each and every day. In addition, my hope is that we will follow Jesus out into the community.

Ever since living through the flood of 1993 and the hope we experienced as UCC churches in Pennsylvania came to Iowa/Illinois to help with clean-up, I have valued the ministry of mission beyond the community where I have lived. I also value the ministry of laying a foundation of faith and mission in our children and youth. My ministry over the years has also caused me to value the time I spend with older adults, supporting them as aging changes their lives. I do not take it for granted when someone invites me into their homes, rooms and lives; in other words, I value relationships within and beyond the church and will do what I can to help us connect to one another. We have so much to give to each other. I value that God has brought us together, each with our own gifts to share among each other.

Taking risks is not my strength; yet that may be a definition of taking a risk. Faithful risks mean doing our best while knowing we might fail and being ok with whatever the outcome. Sometimes, I take a risk in preaching, hoping that I am still being faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ as I offer a word that might divide us or cause some discomfort. I wish more often I would take risks in naming and becoming involved in issues of justice that gnaw at my heart. There is of course a risk each time the church tries something new such as when we invited farm families to a free appreciation lunch – not knowing who would help or who would come. There is a risk when we change a tradition and sometimes when we refuse to change. Faithful risks are worth the attempt, as long as we remain true to our hopes and values.

What are the hopes you seek, your enduring values, and what faithful risks are you willing to attempt? What causes you to give of your time, talent and treasure to support the ministry of the church? I give of my time, talent and treasure because I want the love of God in Jesus Christ to be shared in the multitude of ways UCC does. I am willing to risk my gifts of time, talent and money because I trust that together we will serve God faithfully to the best of our abilities. May we each be extravagantly generous with what God has entrusted to us.

Jacoba's second page... I want to say thank you to our scripture readers these last couple of weeks. Sue Voigt, Paige Voigt and Sydney Subke read on

October 13 the first chapter of Ruth. On October 20, our confirmands, Cali Moseid, Paige Voigt, Sydney Subke, Parker Voigt, Brody Bergemann, and Kole Miller read Ruth 2. Craig

Sigurdson, Bryce Erickson and Parker Voigt will be our readers this coming Sunday reading Ruth 4. The readings have been long – having the different voices has helped us to hear more clearly the stories of Ruth.

I also want to thank Wendy and Craig for preparing and serving supper (and doing the dishes) for our confirmands, their mentors and parents. Betty Opelt brought some cookies and we enjoyed some of Michelle Grap's pumpkin bars. This was an opportunity for the mentors, parents, and confirmands to get to know each other. An additional bonus for me and the kids – Butch Subke was volunteered to go to the Faith Formation Retreat at Pilgrim Center with us. Thanks Butch.

As Audrey mentions, lots of work going on in the church right now for the Holiday Fair. Wendy is working to get the New to You Treasures organized – and people keep bring in more stuff – thank you to all who donated items. Also, regularly there are four or five folks making items on Wednesday nights for the Gift Boutique.

ALL SAINTS DAY November 3, 2019

10 am Worship (set clocks back)

We will remember church members who died (and those for whom Pastor Jacoba was asked to do a service) in the past year; honoring their



memory and lifting them up to God and before the congregation. Families will light candles and be invited to share a brief memory.

After those who died in the past year have been remembered, all in the congregation who would like to name someone they grieve, are welcome to light a candle in their memory. The worship service will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion served at the altar.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

The class has been busy; we have class each week and to make up some missed classes, we also met

on Oct 18 10am-2pm. (Thank you Karen Mohr, Wendy Sigurdson and M.E. Sjolin for assisting me). On that day, the confirmands used scripture readings to pray and learn

how to use their Study Bibles. We then spent some time washing down all the orange chairs and tables in the Fellowship Hall and sorting and



organizing the books in the cry room. (there are books to be donated – if you want any children's books – speak to me or the Board of Christian Education.) In the afternoon we played Jenga with Bible Ouestions.

The Class Schedule is as follows

October 30 –Raking leaves for the Interfaith Care-Givers (We usually rake the leaves of church members)

November 6 –Help set-up for Holiday Fair

November 8-10 – Faith Formation Retreat,

Pilgrim Center, Ripon Bonnie Weyer. Butch Subke and I chaperoning

November 13, 20 Class

November 27 – Thanksgiving Break

December 4 – Decorating the Sanctuary Christmas Tree December 12, 19 Class

SECOND-HALF

On October 15, Kirk Rodman presented a talk about Veterans while also honoring the Veterans who were among us. The eleven of us who heard Kirk's stories gleaned from his experiences at the Highground, had our hearts touched.



All of us were well-fed by Jenna Sigurdson of M & M Catering.

On November 19, I will present the program at 2nd-Half on my trip to Greece. The title of the program is "Ephesus, Thessaloniki, Philippi, Corinth and Athens: The Communities of the Early Christian Churches." Jenna will again serve our meal – so reservations are needed. We meet at noon to eat with the program following. I will present a similar program for the "Sun Catchers" on November 21 at 10 am.

November Newsletter 2019

Hi Everyone, Jim and I are back from our vacation to New York City. We had a great time! I thought September went fast but when you go away for 9 days in the month and come back you find out that October is almost done and its time for the November Newsletter. Our busy time of year is here and lots of activity has been going on here at the church. The Holiday Fair worknights have been busy and from what I see we will have some nice things to purchase at our Holiday Fair on Saturday, November 9. We had an October 5 wedding; the "pie auction" on October 6 was a success, the 2nd Half Group met on October 15, the Sun Catcher's Café met on October 17, the 3rd Quarterly meeting of our church will meet on Sunday, October 27 and the Confirmation class are planning on raking leaves on Wednesday, October 30. Be sure to look at the November calendar for the dates and times of our many activities coming up. Lots going on in November as well. See you in church! Audrey

Our Volunteers for November

Acolytes

Sunday, November 3

Haylee Erickson Dottie Holm

Sunday, November 10

Colton Williams

Sunday, November 17

Iris Vine

Reese Ziegler

Sunday, November 24

Haylee Erickson Dottie Holm

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.

Note: There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board and downstairs for Acolyte Training. Watch for a date and time when this will be taking place.

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.

Ushers for November

November 3

Neil Armitage, Dave Harnisch Don Quicker, Jerry Quicker

November 10 & 17

Deb Perkl, Bonnie Weyer Karlene Wallace, Janice Miller

November 24 & December 1

Deb Holman, Arlene Stark Carla Marty, Substitute

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 November

Sunday, November 3

Emile Miller & Janet Meredith

Sunday, November 10

Lydia Schumacher & Karen Northup

Sunday, November 17

Bonnie Shaw & Audrey Vradenburg

Sunday, November 24

Janice Miller & Sally Sadowska
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 November

Sunday, November 3 – Altar Communion

Team 1- Betty Barr, Mitchell Erickson, Kathy

Mathis, Paul Schmidt, Substitute

Bread: Paul Schmidt

.Deacons/Deaconesses Hosting for

November

Sunday, November 3

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

Sunday, November 10

Substitute

Sunday, November 17

Jim Vradenburg......715-937-3881

Sunday, November 24

Betty Barr.....715-743-3283

Coffee Hour for November

Would you like to host Coffee Hour sometime in November? We could use some volunteers for November 10 and 24. 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!

Facts & Figures Attendance for October

Sunday, October 6	71
Sunday, October 13	103
Sunday, October 20	66
Sunday, October 27	

Sunday, October 6

General Offering	\$1744.00
Radio Fund	150.00
Neighbors In Need	155.00
Pie Auction	25.00
Sunday, October 13	
General Offering	\$1230.00
Radio Fund	375.00
Pie Auction	270.00
Use of Church (Quilters Guild).	180.00
Sunday, October 20	
Cananal Offerina	¢1125 00

General Offering......\$1135.00.

Sunday, October 27

General Offering.....

October 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, October 6* the radio broadcast portion of the worship service was sponsored by Ruth and

Bob Schmidt in memory of sister-in-law, Pat Mohr and dad, Albert Mohr.

On *Sunday, October 13* our radio broadcast was sponsored by Jim and Jim John Filitz in remembrance of Jim and Anne's Wedding Anniversary.

On Sunday, *October 20* the radio broadcast was sponsored by Mary Finney. "Happy Birthday Michael."

Offerings

(Radio Broadcast sponsors continued)

And on *Sunday, October 27* the radio broadcast was sponsored by Marcia and Ruth Van Gorden in memory of son/brother, Scot and husband/father, Pink Van Gorden.

Thank you to our October 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 One Third Broadcast. We feel that our radio ministry is very important to our church and community. 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.

Note: the following Sunday's are still available to sponsor:

January – 19, 26 March – 1, 22 April – 5, 26 May – 3, 24, 31 July – 5, 12, 19, 26 August – 2, 30 September 13, 20 October – 18 November 22, 29,

December 6, 20. 27Thank you for your continued support!



Remember Our Shut In's

Our Homebound Members 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

Shut-In's continued)

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 when we serve communion at our Assisted living facilities. For the month of November communion will be served at the Neillsville Retirement Community on Sunday, November 3. Our shut-ins enjoy it when you come.

For your information Phyllis Embke is now residing at the Neillsville Retirement Community. She is in Rm. M 7. If you have a chance, go and visit her or send her a card. I'm sure she would enjoy hearing from you.



Need a Bible?

The Christian Ed Board wants the Sunday School families 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, November 21.

Change of Season - Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of Clark County along with ADRC office will be having their "Fall Change of Season" on Saturday, November 2. Meet at St. Mary's at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast. Lunch will be served when the work is completed. We will be raking for the elderly and disabled. Bring rakes and gloves. Men are especially needed to clean eaves. If you are a senior and need your yard taken care of please call Judy Morrow at 715-743-2885

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Pie/Baked Goods Auction

2019 Baked Goods Fundraiser Summary

Well as usual, the church members did not let this fundraising event

down; we had 16 bakers making 61 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 of \$3,440 was raised by 24 successful bidders and a donation of \$37 from the coffee hour for a grand total of \$3,477! This year's money will go into the fundraising line of the budget and will be used later. Thanks again for another successful year for the pie fundraiser!

The breakdown over the years is as follows:

- \rightarrow 2007, 49 pies = \$2,043
- \rightarrow 2008, 50 pies = \$2,408
- → 2009, 49 pies = \$3,960
- \rightarrow 2010, 50 pies = \$5,200
- \rightarrow 2011, 52 pies = \$5,385
- \rightarrow 2012, 54 pies = \$5,065
- \rightarrow 2013, 41 pies = \$4,325
- \rightarrow 2014, 53 pies = \$4,775
- \rightarrow 2015, 40 pies = \$3,445
- → 2016, 36 baked goods = \$3425
- → 2018, 59 baked goods = \$5,595
- → 2019, 61 baked goods = \$3,440 (plus \$37 from the coffee hour)

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

- our two baked goods displayers
 - Hap Eddy
 - DeWayne Seelow
- those who donated the 61 wonderful baked goods

all bidders((whether you were

successful

or not)

- my wonderful co-workers
 - o Carla Marty
 - Linda Stalsberg
 - Susie Karl

Again, thanks for helping with this fundraiser and your continued support with the church.

-Emile Miller



Wedding in our Church

On Saturday, October 5, 2019 Jenna Hilke and Erik Sigurdson were united in marriage here at the United Church of Christ in Neillsville. Pastor Jacoba officiated at their wedding. Our

prayers and congratulations go to Jenna and Erik.

Offering Envelopes for 2020

I will be working on the 2020 Offering Envelopes that will be offered to those that want them. If you do not have envelopes and wish to have them, please let Audrey know. These envelopes are very helpful to the money counters so if you have them please use them. Some of them did not get picked up last year. It's easier for the counters because your number is on the envelope. There is a line for your special offering if you give and if you give cash we have a record on your envelope. They will be issued in December. Watch for them.



Daylight Saving Time

ENDS Just a reminder don't forget to turn your clocks BACK on Sunday, November 3.

Neighbors In Need Special Offering

Thank you to all that donated to our special Neighbors In Need Offering. \$290.00 was collected this year. Our next special offering will be the Christmas Fund.



Mark Your Calendars

On Sunday, November 24 following worship volunteers are needed to decorate our church for the Advent and Christmas season. It won't take

long if we have many hands to help.

Advent Folders – The Advent Folders will be out on the table in the Narthex for those that like to use them. Our Advent offerings are very important – these monies are used for the missions we support in our local areas.



Stewardship Campaign: Because of you, Our Church Changes Lives."

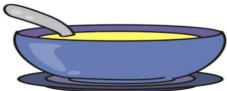
What we do as a church makes a difference in people's lives and in the Neillsville community. To allow our church to carry out their work and missions, we are in need of cooperation from our members. The stewardship committee is asking every member to consider how you may share your time, talent and treasures. Please complete a 2020 Faith Promise card and turn it in on Stewardship Sunday, November 17th or mail it to the church prior to the 17th. Your Faith Promise card is below. More cards are in the pews and available from the church office. Last year only 27 Promise cards were returned. Our goal this year is have more involvement by church members. Our Faith Promises will be dedicated during worship on the 17th.

Inspirational Service on Sunday, November 10

The Stewardship committee will lead the service and share how "our church and members have changed lives" by donating their time, talent, and treasures.

Soup Luncheon Invitation

The congregation is invited to a soup luncheon hosted by the Stewardship Committee on November 17 following the service. The soup luncheon serves as "Thank You"



and a way to show appreciation for the time, talent, and treasures that our members share to help our church help those in need.

-The Stewardship Committee (Emile Miller, M.E. Sjolin, Sue Voigt, Dave Harnish, Marge Goetsch

2020 Neillsville UCC Faith Promise Card

Name(s)

Address
Town
LandlineCell
For 2020 I/we will gift \$
WeeklyMonthlyAnnually
Using the following method(s)
Automatic givingStock transfer
Offering envelopes I understand the commitment can be altered & will be used for general budget development. (Due to UCC, 515 W. 2nd, Box 6, Neillsville, WI 54456 by Nov. 17)

OUR CHURCH CHANGES LIVES

Please consider how you would like to contribute your time and/or talents (Greeter, Committee member, Sunday School, Fellowship Time Server, Usher, Choir, Funeral luncheons, Scripture Reader, Quilter, etc.)

- Tulino	
Time /Talent Offered:	
•	

God bless this church, so we can continue to serve those in need!!!

-----clip & save-----

Your Reminder
Faith Promise Amount _____
Talent/time Offered_____

Name

Holiday Fair News

Kitchen Cupboard — This popular shop is run by the Circle of Friends. Darlene Mueller of the Circle would like to see the tables in the "bake shop' filled with lots of cookies, bars, pies and quick breads, rolls, doughnuts or whatever your favorite recipe is. Other items that are popular are jams, jellies, pickles, honey, maple syrup and produce. We need your help in filling our tables for a nice display.

Please bring in your items early on the morning of the Holiday Fair Saturday, November 9 if possible, between 7:30 a.m. -8:30 a.m. Remember – please do not cut the bars. We will do that. It helps if you cut the bars around the edge of the pan while they are warm for easier removal.

Needed: Paper/plastic bags and volunteer HELP in the shop. If you can help out the day of the sale please, come downstairs to the Fellowship Hall any time after 8:00 If you have any questions call Darlene Mueller 715-743-2357.

Don't forget to look for the "greeting cards" that will be for sale at the Holiday Fair

"New to you Treasures" - Thank you to all that have donated to this shop. Please NO MORE items (save them for next year.) We are busy getting things sorted and priced. Be sure to check out this shop. Lots of nice items to choose from. HELP is also needed in this shop.

Gift Boutique — The Wednesday night workshop has been very busy. I have had a sneak preview and I see some really nice crafts. We are also looking for your donations of craft items, sewing items, art work, etc. If you could bring those items to the church as soon as possible we will be able to price and sort and get them ready for the fair. Thank you for your support and help.

Lunch – Lunch will be served form 11:00 -12:30 p.m. (Chicken Salad on a Croissant - Bowl of Baked Potato Soup – Dessert and Beverage) We have a list of items that are needed for this lunch hanging up on the bulletin board. We hope you can help us out. Monetary help is also appreciated. Please have your donated items here to the church by **Wednesday, November 6.** Thank you for you for your help. If you have any questions, please call:

Carla Marty 715-937-0077.



November

- 2- Deb Holman
- 3- Merrill Brunette
- 9-Betty Opelt
- 10-Travis Vine
- 13-Deon Spangler
- 14-Roberta Gaier James Marshall

Kelly Mathis

- 15-Hanna Opelt
- 16-Sue Gurney
 - Neil Armitage
- 18-Chad Erickson
- 19-Hap Eddy
- 21-Anita Lulloff
- 22-Theamore Vine
- 24-Mackenzie Keller
- 25- Joe Kranz

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

November Wedding Anniversaries

- 5- Phil & Donita Follen
- 6- Ben & Leah Wilson
- 12-Mark & Merrill Brunette
- 13-Brenda & Mark Wilson
- 14-Emile & Dan Miller
- 19-Darlene & Herman Mueller
- 29-Tom & Betty Barr

Happy Anniversary to all of you! Did we miss your Anniversary or have the wrong date?



Gift Boutique, Greeting Cards,

Kitchen Cupboard, & New to You Treasures

Lunch from 11 AM - 12:30 PM Chicken Salad on a Croissant Bowl of Baked Potato Soup Dessert & Beverage Adults - \$7; Kids Under 10- \$5



November 2019 December ▶							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1	7 am UCC Men's Club Breakfast 8:30 am Change of Seasons (Raking Leaves) Meet at St. Mary's for breakfast	
3 All Saints Day 9 am Sunday School 9 am Choir practice 10 am All Saints Day Worship Service Communion Fellowship/Coffee 3 pm Communion served at Neills. Retir. Community Daylight Saving Time ENDS	4 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	5	6 3:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Holiday Fair Worknight	7	8 Confirmation Retreat	9 HOLIDAY FAIR 9 AM-1 PM Lunch 11 am-12:30 pm Confirmation Retreat	
9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Stewardship Committeel leading Worship Fellowship/Coffee Confiirmation Retreat	11 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	12 10 am Ministerial Alliance meeting At Gesche Funeral Home	13 3:30 pm Confirmation	1.30 pm Circle of Friends	15	16	
9 a.m. Sunday School 10 am Worship Stewardship Sunday Lucheon following Service	18 Newsletter Week 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	19 12 Noon 2nd Half Group – Pastor Jacoba- Program 5:30 pm Trustees 6:30 pm Deacon & Deaconesses 7:30 pm Church Council	20 3:30 pm Confirmation	21 10-11:30 am. Sun Catchers Cafe	22	23	
9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Fellowship Coffee Decorating Church For Advent Following Worship	25 6:30-7:30 pm Nar-Anon	26 Pastor - Vacation	NO Confirmation Pastor -Vacation Office Closed Pastor -Vacation	THANKSGIVING (Office Closed) Pastor- Vacation	(Office Closed) Pastor- Vacation	30 Pastor- Vacation	