



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

May, 2022

May 2022 Newsletter



Dear Members and Friends of the United Church of Christ, Neillsville,

As I move into my fifth week with you, I must say that post- COVID (or so we hope) I was not expecting to see the church as active as it is.

Many churches are struggling to get their ministries up and running and especially to get those who drifted off during COVID back into the pews again. We have seen a drop off in attendance over the past two years due to the pandemic, but I am confident that will recover with an outreach from some of us in the near future. We will be talking more about this.

As many of you know, the Northwest Wisconsin Association of the UCC held their annual meeting this past Saturday (4/24). I am not a big fan of meetings, but I must admit that I found this one to be exceptional. You see, when it comes time for the nominations report and for filling open and often numerous officer slots and committee members, a noticeably high number of folks slouch way down in their chairs trying to be less visible or excusing themselves to use the rest rooms or get a drink or.... well, you get the picture. Not so this time! There were numerous openings on committees. When the call went out for nominations from the floor, hands shot up for every position. Not only that, persons attending via Zoom volunteered for positions via Zoom Chat. I have participated on average in about 3 or 4 of these types of meetings a year for several decades and had NEVER experienced anything like that. The Rev. Dr. Rob MacDougall, our Association Minister, mentioned how unusual this was as he closed the meeting.

As I reflected on that experience, it became clear to me that what I may have witnessed was a need many of us have to connect once again with and to meaningfully support the church of Christ. The feeling that we have been separated for far too long has us in search of meaningful engagement with God's creation and what better way to do that than through the vast array of ministries available to us through the greater church.

Post pandemic church folks around the country are wringing their hands about the health of the church universal. But I see hints, like this past Saturday, that the Spirit is working among us and that there is potential for the church to emerge from these times of isolation in better shape than going in.

Christ has risen, making all things new.

Pastor Gary



Search and Call Process Announcement

Thank you to all members who have helped welcome Pastor Gary Wilner. During the interim period our congregation will begin the search and call process for a full time pastor. A search for a new pastor is one of the most spiritual ministries in the church. This process is led by a search committee made up of Neillsville UCC members.

*The UCC Leadership council is in the process of seeking nominations for members to serve on the Search and Call Committee. A letter outlining the qualities, responsibilities, as well as a nomination form will be handed out at the Sunday May 1 regular service and/or mailed to all active UCC members. The deadline for receiving nominations is Sunday May 15. Please look for this letter and nomination form. **For specific questions please contact Paul Vine, Moderator at 715-651-5386** paulvine7@gmail.com*



In a follow up meeting to our recent church break in with local law enforcement a number of good suggestions were discussed. Trustees want to provide access to our church while still maintaining a necessary level of security. One action currently being implemented is to control building access through the rekeying of our downstairs entrances. Both doors will now use the same key. Old keys will no longer provide access. Those who have a need for a key are asked to obtain one from our church Administrative Assistant Janice. Your key

will be numbered and you are asked to not duplicate it. You will be asked to complete a form listing your responsibilities as a key holder.

Stewardship Meeting – Wednesday, May 4th – 10 AM

Stewardship Scripture Quotes

HEBREWS 13/16

**Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have,
for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.**



Thank you to those of you who ordered lilies. It was a beautiful addition to our Easter Morning Service.

Doris Bakker
Deb and Joe Holman
Karlene Wallace
Dave and Kim Wagner

- in honor of the church family
- in loving memory of family and friends
- in loving memory of husband, Tom Wallace
- in memory of parents, Edgar and Margaret Eddy
Fred and Lucille Wagner

Hap Eddy
Kevin Erickson Family
Russ and Suzie Karl
Gayle Schermitzler
Leslie Hemp Buchholz
Paul Vine
Pastor Jim and Karen Mohr
Pastor Gary and Dorry Wilner

- in loving memory of Cheryl Eddy
- in memory of loved ones
- in honor of eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren
- in memory of husband, John Schermitzler and sister, Arla Redmen
- in memory of Haddie Alyn Hemp
- in memory of parents, Gordon and Faith Vine
- in memory of our parents
- in memory of Dorry's parents, Harry and Dorothy Bujak
- in memory of Gary's parents, Clarence and Barbara Wilner
- in memory of brothers; Dennis, Gary, Charles
- in memory of Shirley Beck
- in memory of Phyllis Embke

Rick Buchsteiner
Dave Beck



to Barb & Steve Miller on the death of her mother, **Kathy Turner** who passed away April 19th. She had been residing at Riverside Assisted Living over the past year. Kathy was a long-time member of our church, in the past she served as a recording secretary, member of the Mission Committee and volunteering at the Holiday Bazaar. A memorial service is planned for June.

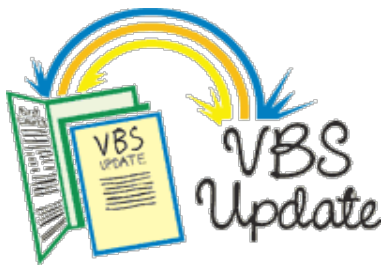


School News from Stephanie Heck

Christian Education
meeting Tuesday,
May 10th at 6 pm.
Zoom and in person.

We are looking for teachers for all age groups
for Sunday and possibly Wednesday nights
from September thru early May.
If interested, please contact Stephanie Heck at
920-948-7783.

Plans are being made for this Summer's
Vacation Bible School. **It is currently
scheduled for Saturday, June 4th.**



More information
to come as it gets
closer.

Church camps are still
accepting registrations.
If interested in
attending a church
camp the website is
www.UCCI.org.

Our church scholarship
deadline is fast approaching May 15th to have the
camp either fully or partially covered thru our
church website (on the main page under church
camp scholarships). Remember to not put any
down-payment when registering for a church
camp, but to put paying by check (the church will
make a check out),



Facts and Figures of April 2022 **Attendance for In-Person Worship**

April 3	*online 7	Sunday	53
April 10	*online not working	Sunday	64
April 17	Easter*online 17	Sunday	76
April 24	*online 9	Sunday	52

Offerings for April 2022

April 18, 2022

General Offering	\$3,070.00
OGHS	100.00
Lenten Offering	170.00
Meal Give-Away	50.00
Circle of Friends	20.00

VANCO – General Offering – March
\$633.44



Sunday, April 3, the radio broadcast was sponsored
by a “faithful listener”.

Sunday, April 10, the radio broadcast was
sponsored by Ruth and Bob Schmidt in memory of
sister, Joyce Schmidt.

Sunday, April 17, the radio broadcast was
sponsored by Jim and Rosie Repinski with a
message of, “He is Risen, Alleluia!”.

Sunday, April 24, the radio broadcast was
sponsored by a “faithful listener”.



- 1- Roberta & Bob Gaier
- 4- Ruth & Bob Schmidt
- 9- Ben & Kelly Mathis
- 11- Charlotte & David Tetzlaff
- 18- Don Quicker & Cindy Grota
- 23- Rick & Kay Buchsteiner

Happy Anniversary! Did we have the wrong date or miss your Anniversary?



- 1- Donald Quicker
- 3- Emily Voigt
Erin Voigt
- 5- Rachel Anderson
- 6- Sharon Buddenhagen
Ashley Vine
- 7- Jocelyn Vine
- 9- Haylee Erickson
- 12- Byrl Buddenhagen
Marguerite Goetsch
- 13- Lacey Erickson
Carol Harnisch
James Sjolín
- 15- Sue Jodarski
- 17- Bernard Walker
Delores Walker
- 21- Santana Subke
- 26- Arlene Stark
- 24- Jennifer Romens Erickson
- 27- Michelle Bergemann
Adelyn Sadowka
Cali Moseid
- 29- Paul Schmidt
- 30- Craig Sigurdson

Happy Birthday to all who have a May birthday! Did we miss your birthday or have the wrong date? Let us know if we did.

JUNE 1 -9



We are adding first days of June's birthdays and anniversaries so as not to miss any if the Newsletter is late.

June 1-9 Anniversaries

- 3- James & Mary Ellen Sjolín
- 8- Timothy & Cheryl Steinbach

June 1-9 Birthdays

- 3- Barb Miller
Karen Northup
- 8- Lois Lonning



Please let the church office know of any students (high school and/or college) that will be graduating this Spring.
Call Janice at 715-743-2147

We have been asked to let people know that Dolores Johnson has moved to Neillsville Retirement Community at 1211 Lloyd Street, room M2. Her family shares that she would welcome visits.



May Newsletter Meal Give-Away

May 16th will be our 16th meal give-away. This equates to 1,275 quarts of food, 1360 pounds of cheese, 1,400 loaves of bread. Our mission is to bring our community together through the giving of food.

Many great hours of fellowship have been spent in our kitchen preparing the food. We have combined forces with our faith communities and volunteer organizations. Calvary Lutheran, St. Mary's, the Optimist Club, PEO, Holy Family Parish-Willard, Living Hope, and Pine Valley Lutheran have all helped to prepare the meals. Home deliveries have also given us another avenue to spend time together with our church family. If you belong to a group that would like to help this mission please call the church office and let us know. Any individual interested in helping may also call the church office, 715-743-2147.

Donations started with our church Leadership Council voting to give us some seed money to start this project. We have received generous donations from members of our church and good will offerings given by recipients of the meals. Money in the form of grants have been received from the Northwest Association and the Clark County Community Foundation Inc. Anyone interested in funding this venture please write your checks to UCC and put meal give-away in the memo.

We would like to thank all those who have helped in any way to keep this mission going.

Needed Items:

- Brown Paper Bags
- People to help prepare meals-no special talent needed
- Money

Thanks,
Mission & Outreach

Kathy Mathis
Deb Perkl
Carole Romens
Carol Harnisch
Bonnie Weyer



Clark County is hosting Farm Technology Days July 12, 13, 14 at Roehl Acres. There are opportunities for non-profit groups to work in the food service tents and parking. There may be compensation to the non-profit organizations at the end of FTD. If there is money left it is divided to the non-profit groups based on the number of volunteer hours recorded for their group. If anyone is interested in working at FTD in food service and/or parking with hours allocated to the United Church of Christ please call Barb Petkovsek at 715 429-0486 to sign up. You must be signed up on-line.

Barb will also have her computer at church on Sunday, May 1 to sign you up in person after church, if that is your preference.

There are many different slots and opportunities so please give Barb a call.
Volunteer guidelines are as follows:

1. Volunteers in the listed areas must meet the following minimum age requirements:

- Food , beverage and dessert tents – 16 years
 Except that individuals age 12-15 may work in food tents but may not:
 Prepare food or handle money
- Parking – 14 years
- On-site vehicle operation(any vehicle) – 18 years
- On-site cleanup – 14 years

Thank you for considering this opportunity



Letter from Adam Van
Noord, Director
Ethiopian Community
Development Council,
Inc.

Dear United Church of Christ,

Thank you very much for your donation to ECDC. Your gift of \$4,000 dated 3/15/22, will make a big difference in our efforts to support newcomers to successfully integrate into their new communities. Your donation is directly supporting these efforts in Central Wisconsin. We rely on donors like you to carry out our mission and ECDC is incredibly grateful for your generosity.



Interfaith Volunteer
Caregivers of Clark County–
Change of Seasons

This event is looking for volunteers to assist with washing windows (& cleaning lower gutters if staff is available). If interested in volunteering please meet at St. Mary's Catholic church for breakfast on Saturday, May 21st at 8:30 AM. If you would like help with these tasks at your residence please call Judy Morrow, Program Director, at 1-715-743-2885 or the ADRC at 1-715-743-5166

From the Can Cage:

On April 11th three truck loads of cans were taken to be recycled. The total weight was 363 pounds, the price .65 per pound for a total of \$235.95. Thanks for your contribution and just a reminder clean cans only, no aluminum foil or pie pans.

Thanks to Rick Buchsteiner for his efforts in taking the cans in for recycling.



United Church Of Christ

May  2022

Each Sunday 9:15 Sunday School 10:00 Church Service 11:00 Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <u>Third Sunday of Easter</u> Service with Communion	2 9 am Card Making Group meeting	3	4 10 am Stewardship Meeting 10 am Pastor at Ministerial Alli. Mtg	5	6	7
8 <u>Fourth Sunday of Easter</u>	9	10 6 pm Christian Ed In person & Zoom 7 pm Deacons Mtg	11	12 1:30 Circle of Friends Mtg	13 8:30 am Constitution Mtg	14
15 <u>Fifth Sunday of Easter</u>	16 9 am Card Making Group meeting	17 5:30 pm Trustees Mtg 7 pm Leadership Mtg	18	19	20	21
22 <u>Sixth Sunday of Easter</u> 29 <u>Seventh Sunday of Easter</u>	23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28