

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Neillsville, Wisconsin
Church 715-743-2147
Pastor James Mohr
Pastor Sue Vornholt
Pastor's Office 715-743-2117
www.neillsvilleucc.org

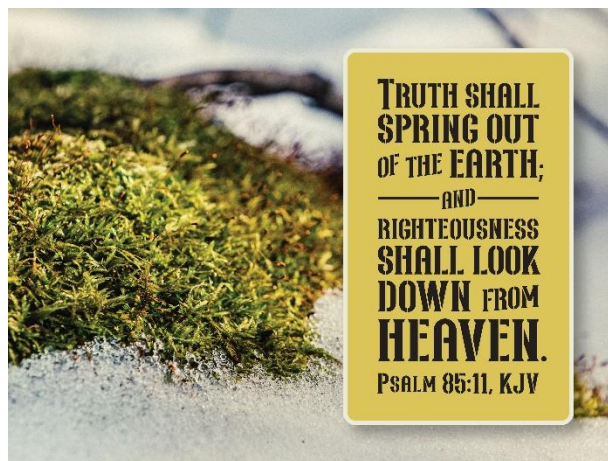
PASTOR'S MESSAGE FOR MARCH

Dear Friends,

I love a late Easter because it means that the earth itself echoes the joyful message of resurrection—the fresh smell of damp soil, and all the buds, and the birds, and the flowers lending a kind of emotional power to the mystery of new life that we proclaim. This may be wishful thinking that there will be some flowers by Easter; but perhaps our daffodils and crocuses will be peeking out of the ground. According to the ancient plan of the church, Lent begins in the cold and dark, then journeys slowly toward warmth and light. Our daylight is stretching later in the day! I realize it has been tradition to give up some item or some habit for Lent. I encourage each of us instead to focus on a closer relationship with Jesus. The season of Lent is intended to renew and deepen our relationship with Jesus as we again realize who he is, what he does, and teaches. This is the season to stir up the gifts of faith that God has planted inside each of us. This is the season of Lent.

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Sue



LENTEN SERIES TO FEATURE "SILENT WITNESSES"

This month our church will resume its practice of cooperatively sponsoring Wednesday mid-week Lenten services with Calvary Lutheran Church just down the street. The theme will be "Silent Witnesses to the Crucifixion" with services and soup suppers alternating at each church. Pastors Sue Vornholt and James Mohr will share responsibilities with Pastor Chad Anderson of Calvary Church. Soup suppers will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by worship at 7:00 p.m.

Throughout this Lenten Season we will have the imaginative, challenging, and faith-strengthening opportunity to hear several "Silent Witnesses" to the crucifixion speak to us.

Here is the schedule:

- March 1: "The Thorn" at UCC with Chad Anderson preaching.
- March 8: "The Nail" at Calvary with James Mohr preaching.
- March 15: "The Spear" at UCC with Chad Anderson preaching.
- March 22: "The Shroud" at Calvary with Susan Vornholt preaching.
- March 29: "The Stone" at UCC with James Mohr preaching.
- April 6 (Maundy Thursday): "The Cup and Loaf" at Calvary with preacher to be determined.
- April 7 (Good Friday): To be determined.



to Darlene Celar Mueller on the loss of her husband, Herman Mueller who died on February 20, 2023 at Clark County Rehabilitation Center.



Continuing the following in our thoughts and prayers.

Allan Hoesly	Glenna Rhoades
Darlene Mueller	Betty Opelt
Dolores Johnson	Graeme Williams
Dorothy Steiger	Janet Harrington
Gayle Schermitzler	Dave Beck

Please let us know if others not listed (with their permission of course) would like prayer requests.

2023 Radio Broadcast Sponsors Needed

Many dates are open - would you like to sponsor a 2023 radio broadcast? Please reserve your date with the church office. You may choose to honor or dedicate a particular service to someone. We believe our radio broadcast is a valued service and want to keep it on the air. The cost remains the same: \$75 for a full broadcast; \$37.50 for half broadcast.

Did you know that we have a following of individuals who regularly watch our Sunday service on YouTube? In addition, there is on average over 25 viewers each week who watch the service sometime during the following week. The radio broadcast which is an important outreach of our church and the audio in the sanctuary are also part of this process. Presently, we rely on only one person and a backup sub to manage the system each Sunday to make all this possible. Since the radio broadcasts began back in the 1960's, only two people, cousins Wayne Grap and Allan Hoesly have been responsible for this ministry. It would be nice to increase the pool of people who can do this, as we have done with the power-point presentation. If you are into playing video games, you might be interested in learning how to perform this service for our church. Please let Allan Hoesly or Emile Miller know. They would like very much to train additional people to fill this vital position.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing "IT'S TIME TO SHARE" part of our churches Wider Mission is a special mission offering that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. United Church of Christ works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education, health care and resettlement to refugees and displaced persons. One Great Hour of Sharing supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

Great Hour of Sharing is one of four special mission projects of the UCC church. This ecumenical project has been putting love in action for over 70 years. 95 cents of every dollar donated is used for this mission with 5 cents for interpretation material. Administration is covered by our churches Wider Mission.

OGHS is a special Lenten offering which is taken the fourth week in lent, March 19. Please donate to this special "IT'S TIME TO SHARE" project. Offering can be in person using the envelopes in the pew, mailed, using bill pay through your bank or on line through VANCO. Thank you for your donations to OGHS.

Thanks to all that brought in soup for the the Soup-er Bowl Challenge. Along with UCC, Calvary Lutheran and St. Mary's we replenished our local food banks.

UCC 351 items

Calvary 252 items

St. Mary's 359 lbs



Meal Giveaway

March 19, 2023

11:00-11:15 AM

United Church of Christ-Neillsville
515 West Second Street

Mission & Outreach Committee



THANKS
THRIVENT

\$250 WAS DONATED
FOR OUR FEBRUARY
MEAL GIVEAWAY
FROM THRIVENT

Church School News

from Stephanie Heck

We welcome children to join Sunday School classes at 9 AM each Sunday.

Please reach out to Stephanie at 920-948-7783 with any questions.



OFFERINGS FOR FEBRUARY 2023

February 6, 2023

General Offering	\$3,976.00
Radio	75.00
Ukraine Family Fund	400.00
Circle of Friends	10.00
	<u>\$4,461.00</u>

February 20, 2023

General Offering	\$2,425.00
Meal Give Away	37.00
Ukraine Family Fund	595.00
	<u>\$3,057.00</u>

Facts and Figures of February 2023

Attendance for In-Person Worship

February 5	*online 6	Sunday	47
February 12	*online 13	Sunday	52
February 19	*online 4	Sunday	60
February 26	*online 3	Sunday	52



Sunday, February 5, the radio broadcast was sponsored Dan Patey and family in loving memory of Elvira Patey.

Sunday, February 12, the radio broadcast was sponsored by "a faithful listener".

Sunday, February 19, the radio broadcast was sponsored by "a faithful listener".

Sunday, February 26, the radio broadcast was sponsored by "a faithful listener".

(Online Automatic Giving)

VANCO – General Offering \$736.20
Lent 50.50

Stewardship Scripture Quotes

I John 3:17

Giving is an expression of love.



for your prayers and positive thoughts. I am healing well and am using a walker to get around. Hoping to get back to Neillsville in the Spring.
God Bless You All, Glenna Rhoades



Bonnie Shaw for bringing treats for our coffee fellowships.



**Marge Goetsch will be hosting
a Bible Study Class at her home, every
Tuesday at 1 PM
510 W Fourteenth Street, Neillsville**



20- Patricia Acheson & Herman Seebandt
Lydia & Ron Schumacher

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



- 1- Rick Buchsteiner
Wendell Kuhn
Richard Lewis
- 2- Sarah Fields
- 4- Millie Mathis
- 5- James Mankowski
- 7- Dixie Hediger
- 8- Randy Hauge
- 10- Sherrie Holub
- 12- Larry Marshall
Lisa Schermitzler
- 13- Robert Petkovsek
Benjamin Wilson
- 16- Francis (Butch) Carl
- 17- Glenna Rhoades
- 20- Steven Barrette
Russell Karl
- 21- Howard Mathis
- 23- Frances Short
- 25- Wallace Garbisch
- 29- Lane Kranz
- 30- Kellie Murphy

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



APRIL 1 -9

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

April 1-9 Birthdays

- 4- Carla Marty
- 5- Tye Kranz
- 6- Bonnie Weyer
- 9- Ray Weyer

April 1-9 Anniversaries

- 2- Jenna & Joshua Ziegler
- 6- Neil & Corinne Armitage

HOSTING AFTER SERVICE FELLOWSHIP - Signup

When Covid 19 arrived in 2020, UCC like most churches, eliminated in person services as well as other in person activities. Traditionally Neillsville UCC members volunteer to assist in hosting after service fellowship. We are seeking your help to continue hosting fellowship.

Hosts need to pick up donut holes at IGA, ensure the coffee is on, have some cheese slices, water and/or lemonade, cups, plates and napkins as well as cleaning up. If you would be willing to help please review the possible dates listed below and either sign up on the bulletin board or call Janice at the church office.

For details, please contact Karlene Wallace or Doris Bakker. If you cannot serve the day you signed up to serve, please find someone to trade with or replace you for that week.

2023

Mar 5 Clarkson's	May 28
Mar 12	June 4
Mar 19 Mathis	June 11
Mar 26 Vine & Burch	June 18
Apr 2	June 25
April 9	July 2 Susie Karl
April 16	July 9 Barb Petkovsek
April 23 Nancy & Kirk Rodman	July 16
April 30 Susie Karl	July 23
May 7 Nancy & Kirk Rodman	July 30
May 14 Christian Ed	Aug 6
May 21	Aug 13

Update on Funeral Luncheon Teams

Can you give your time to help with the funeral luncheons that are held at our church? Below is a list of teams that we use for each funeral and their duties. We are also in need of a Team Leader for the Clean Up Team. As the team leader, you would be responsible for calling members on your team when there is a funeral to set up the appropriate number of workers; **YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE AT EVERY FUNERAL**. If you would like to volunteer for this position or to be on any of the other teams, please give let me know. We can always use the help, so the same people aren't always being asked.

Calling Tree Team: Members of this team will be calling church members asking for a donation of bars, cakes, and/or Jell-O salads. If you would like to be on the call list of church members donating these items, please call the church administrative assistant to be added to the list.

Setting Tables Team: Members of this team will be setting the tables with placemats, napkins, silverware, salt and pepper shakers, creamers, coffee cups, and water cups.

Preparing Food Team: Members of this team will be arranging the bars and/or cakes on platters and/or individual plates, getting water pitchers filled, and serving on the buffet table(s).

Waitress/Waiter Team: Members of this team will be serving coffee, lemonade, and/or milk, clearing off the tables, and/or serving on the buffet table(s).

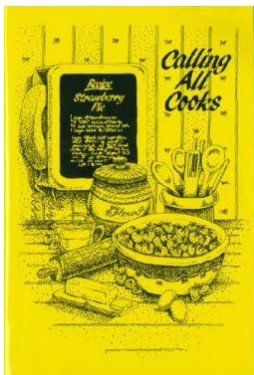
Clean Up Team: Members of this team will be washing (using the dishwasher) and drying dishes; mainly working in the kitchen.

Anywhere Needed Team: This is for those that are willing to help in any area that we would be short volunteers for.

If you could help, please give me a call. Thanks for considering to be a steward for your church.

Emile Miller
715-937-4626

Baked Goods Auction Scheduled



With COVID, we haven't been able to host our fun Baked Goods Auction since 2019 so ... calling all cooks, get ready, set, go!

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, April 30** right after church in the fellowship hall. Remember, it's just not pies, we will auction off bars, muffins, casseroles, hot dishes, or any other type of baked goods. Proceeds from this auction will go towards upgrading the church parking lot.

So now for the first step of this fundraiser, we need the help of our trusty bakers/cooks of the church. Please use the signup sheet in the narthex, if you are interested in making any items to be auction off. If you cannot make it to church to sign up for a baked good item, please call the church office and Janice will sign you up!

Bidders, if you have a favorite pie or baked goods, talk to the bakers/cooks so you get the one you want and a good donation to the church; what a deal!

Thanks for your continued support and get ready to bid!

Emile Miller & Carla Marty

Chili Feed



The UCC will hold a Chili Feed on Monday, March 27th from 11 AM to 1 PM and 4 to 7 PM for a suggested donation of \$8. Carry-outs and deliveries available.

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex for needed chili ingredients, bars, and other supplies. Along with supplies needed, we need helpers for that day. There is also a sign up sheet if you can volunteer your time for either the lunch or supper time, whichever works best for you!

Please contact the church office at 715-743-2417 or Bob Petkovsek at 715-937-0768 if you have any questions.

Proceeds from the Chili Feed will go towards the repairs on the parking lot. Thank you!

VANCO – Online Giving

Just a reminder that one way of donating to the church is by using our online program called VANCO. You can support your church with your weekly/monthly offering by writing a check, using your offering envelope, or giving online with VANCO (once you have this set up you are set to go!)

Visit the Neillsville UCC website <https://www.neillsvilleucc.org/> and click on the appropriate link or download the VANCO app for your smartphone.

If you have any questions or suggestions or need assistance with VANCO please contact Emile at 715-937-4626.

The online giving program is not only for your weekly/monthly offering ... you can also donate to any church activity through VANCO. Other activities you can donate to on the website are:

- One Great Hour of Sharing
 - Stewardship mission
- Lenten
- Memorial
- Mission and Outreach
 - Soup Give Away

Just a reminder to committees of our church, if there are any programs that you would like added to the VANCO website for online donations, please get a short write up for the webpage to Emile two (2) weeks prior to the date you need it posted.

Your generosity and continued support to the Neillsville UCC is greatly appreciated, whether it is by using your church envelope, a check, cash and/or using VANCO.


Thank you!
-Emile Miller





2023

United Church Of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Each Sunday 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship			1 Lenten Service 6 PM Soup Supper 7 PM Service at UCC	2	3 <i>World Day of Prayer</i>	4
5 <u>Second Sunday in Lent</u> Communion served	6 9:00 am Card Making	7 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible	8 Lenten Service 6 PM Soup Supper 7 PM Service at Calvary Lutheran	9 1:30 Circle of Friends Meeting	10	11
12 <u>Third Sunday in Lent</u> <i>DayLight Savings Time change</i>	13	14 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible 4:00 pm Deacons Mtg	15 Lenten Service 6 PM Soup Supper 7 PM Service at UCC	16	17 	18
19 <u>Fourth Sunday in Lent</u>	20 9:00 am Card Making <i>Spring Begins</i>	21 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible 5:00 pm Trustees Mtg	22 Lenten Service 6 PM Soup Supper 7 PM Service at Calvary Lutheran 5:00 pm Council Mtg	23	24	25
26 <u>Fifth Sunday in Lent</u>	27	28 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible	29 Lenten Service 6 PM Soup Supper 7 PM Service at UCC	30	31	