

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

JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER

PASTOR'S MESSAGE JUNE 2023 – NUCC

One of the factors that brought us to Neillsville back in 2000 was the church's connection to Sunburst and the former Winnebago Indian School. Way back in 1950 I can remember the Stucki's visit to my father's church in Waukegan, Illinois. "Mr. Ben" and his wife Ella were dressed in the traditional Native American clothes they had been given by the Winnebago Nation, and I was awe struck while also feeling the warmth and friendliness of this impressive couple. A while later when our family moved from Waukegan to my father's next church in St. Paul, Minnesota we stopped for lunch at the Indian School before heading west in a snowstorm to our new home.



After the Winnebago Indian School became Sunburst Youth Homes my father served on the Board of Directors when the new "space age" residences were built, even with a genuine astronaut in attendance at the dedication. When I became a minister, I was happy that the church I served in Ripon had a close connection to Sunburst and regularly sent quilts and other items for the residents. When we interviewed here in Neillsville a fellow named Don Quicker, a genuine Neillsville promotor, gave us a tour of Sunburst and the community and convinced us that this would be a good place to live. Naturally I was disappointed when Sunburst closed its doors and the original main building where I had enjoyed lunch as a five-year-old had to be demolished.



During my ministry here we often took the confirmation class down to Black River Falls to visit Ho-chunk United Church of Christ as guests of Rev. Roger and Frances Wentz. More recently Karen and I have enjoyed visits to the church and just yesterday I greeted Hochunk member Larry Littlegeorge at the Pow Wow grounds where he and his wife were "manning" the church's food stand.

In various ways Neillsville UCC has connected with Ho-chunk folks and the mission with which the Stucki family was so crucial. That is one of the reasons I did some investigating on behalf of my Wisconsin Conference Historical Committee in the Benjamin Stucki Collection located in the Wisconsin Historical Society branch at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire library last week. With a sense of awe, I opened the boxes of materials and began reading documents dating back to the 19th century.

Of particular interest was an appeal written by Jacob Stucki, Benjamin's father, to the United States government in 1909, 'An Appeal for the Alleviation of the Distress of the Winnebago Indians in Jackson County, Wisconsin,' in which the elder Stucki asked that land be set aside for the Winnebago Indians so they could live better lives. In this document

Stucki also criticized government boarding schools for destroying the culture of the Native Americans. Unfortunately, this appeal was denied by the government at that time.

One of the promotional pieces for “Strengthening the Church” on Sunday told of the work now being done to rectify past injustices for Native Americans and particularly noted the rededication of Pilgrim Center on Green Lake as the Daycholah Center to celebrate the Ho-chunk heritage of our United Church Camps Inc. site on the south shore of Green Lake, which in Ho-chunk is “Daycholah.” So, the good work begun by the Stuckis in helping Ho-chunk folks has continued through the efforts of our Wisconsin Conference leadership together with Ho-chunk leaders like Larry Littlegeorge.

As you may know the Wisconsin Conference offices have moved from De Forest to Green Lake and are now located in one of the buildings on the Daycholah campus. When we attend the Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Conference on June 9-11 we look forward to spending Sunday morning at Daycholah and recalling our Neillsville connection to important ministry.

In the future I look forward to examining the documents in Eau Claire, particularly new items just discovered at the Conference Office, and learning more about our connection with the Ho-chunk Nation through the ministry of Jacob and Benjamin Stucki and their family.

In God’s grace,

Pastor Jim



REMINDER –
starting on
Memorial Sunday,
May 28th we will
begin our summer
worship hours at 9
AM. This time
change is in effect
through Labor Day
Sunday,
September 3rd.

Stewardship Scripture Quotes

Romans 12:13
Give to support the church

Darlene Celar- Mueller, a dear long-time member of our church passed away on May 29, 2023 at the Clark County Rehabilitation & Living Center in Owen. Darlene was past president and member of the Circle of Friends & Card Making group and also served as the coordinator for the Holiday Fair Bake Shop for many years. She also was active with literacy in the community. Our sympathy to her family and friends. No services are planned.



Continuing the following in our thoughts and prayers.

Janet Harrington

Dolores Johnson

Lisa Schermitzler

Gayle Schermitzler

Dave Beck

Carol Struensee

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

UCC and Calvary Lutheran Update

As many of you know Neillsville UCC and Calvary have shared in Lenten services as well as the Clark County Fair church service. In the past month leaders from both churches initiated discussions on how our churches can share resources and staff to better serve our members and families.

At this time we are exploring opportunities to combine the 2023-2024 confirmation classes. In the near future Christian Education representatives from both churches will be meeting to work on the details and logistics.

We are excited to work cooperatively with our friends and neighbors to seek opportunities to better serve our members. Stay tuned for more details in upcoming newsletters.

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.



Marge Goetsch will be hosting a Bible Study Class at her home, every Tuesday at 1 PM

510 W Fourteenth Street, Neillsville

THIS SATURDAY

“Jesus Lights the Way through the Cave”

Vacation Bible School will be held this Saturday,
June 3rd from 9 AM - 2 PM
(3K – 6th grade)



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

OFFERINGS FOR MAY 2023

May 8, 2023

General Offering	\$4,102.00
Meal Give Away	30.00
Ukraine Family	100.00
Lenten Offering	80.50
Parking Lot	220.00
Strengthen the Church	<u>20.00</u>
	\$4,382.00

May 22, 2023

General Offering	\$2,819.00
Meal Give Away	1,575.00
Ukraine Family Fund	100.00
MISC	300.00
Radio Broadcast Fund	75.00
Parking Lot	475.00
Strengthen the Church	<u>240.00</u>
	\$5,884.00

(Online Automatic Giving for May)
VANCO – General Offering \$628.49

Facts and Figures of May 2023
Attendance for In-Person Worship

May 7	*online 5	Sunday 54
May 14	*online 5	Sunday 84
May 21	*online 4	Sunday 71
May 28	*online 2	Sunday 35



Sunday, May 7, the radio broadcast was sponsored by Frances Short & family in memory of Kenneth Short and our parents.

Sunday, May 14, the radio broadcast was sponsored by Byrl & Sharon Buddenhagen in honoring all mothers on Mother's Day and May birthdays.

Sunday, May 21, the radio broadcast was sponsored by Jim & Rosie Repinski "in Praise of Jesus Christ".

Sunday, May 28, the radio broadcast was sponsored by a "faithful listener".



A special thank you to all my church friends for the caring and kindness you have given me thru cards, hugs & prayers. With family concerns, you have been there for me. It is all greatly appreciated.

Philippians 4:13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

God Bless, JoAnn Wren

JUNE 18, 2023
FARM TO TABLE GIVEAWAY

10:00-10:15 A.M.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NEILLSVILLE

515 WEST 2ND STREET

SUMMER SERVICES 9:00 A.M.

DONATIONS FROM
 GRASSLAND DAIRY PRODUCTS INC.
 NASONVILLE DAIRY
 LYNN DAIRY

ALL ARE WELCOME



For many years we have been recycling aluminum cans for our church and we are appreciative to those who bring their cans in and to Rick Buchsteiner for taking them into the recycling center.

He has been made aware that the recycling center wants only clean aluminum cans, ABSOLUTELY NO other types of aluminum should be put in with these cans. They have found aluminum siding, misc. aluminum and glass bottles in among the aluminum cans this not allowed.



- 3- Barb Miller
Karen Northup
- 8- Lois Lonning
- 12- Corinne Armitage
- 14- Julie Woods
- 15- June Thompson
- 17- Doris Bakker
Lars Woods
- 18- David Fields
- 20- Zoey Hediger
Barb Petkovsek
- 22- Ellie Moseid
Kaia Moseid
- 23- Carolyn Lewis
- 25- Ellie Keller
Margi Rakestraw
- 26- Lennon Erickson
Lois Kren
- 27- Debbie Perkl
Claire Ziegler
- 29- Marjorie Felser
Linda Stalsberg
Colton Williams
- 30- Phil Follen

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



- 3- Jim & M.E. Sjolín
- 8- Tim & Cheryl Steinbach
- 11- Larry & Kathy Marshall
- 13- Joey & Michelle Kranz
- 15- Mike & Sherrie Holub
- 17- Wayne & JoAnn Voss
- 21- John & Sue Vornholt

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



JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES JULY 1 -9

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

July 1-9 Birthdays

- 1- Ben Fields
Tyler Williams
Brennan Wilson
- 2- Pam Stitt
- 3- Arianna Rochester
- 4- Gary Anding
- 5- Donna Erickson
- 9- Sophie Heck
Sandra Schmidt
JoAnn Voss

July 1-9 Anniversaries
none

MESSAGE FROM ADRC

Hoping to ask for some help with a project. It is with great sadness that we are seeing a rise in homelessness in our communities. It is affecting all ages. The Clark County Housing Coalition is looking for backpacks and other small items that we help to provide to people in need.

With School year ending we are hoping that people would consider re-purposing backpacks rather than throwing them away. We would very much appreciate if you would consider asking members if they would be willing to contribute. You may drop them off at the UCC church and we also have a box outside the ADRC office at the courthouse.

Other items needed include:

Toothbrushes/toothpaste
Deodorant
Lightly used towels
Bottled water

Water bottles
Sleeping bags
Rain poncho

Any little bit helps us in the interim while we try and re-house people for a more permanent solution.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lynne L. McDonald
Director, ADRC of Clark County
517 Court Street Room 201
Neillsville, WI 54456
PH: 715.743.5166

Our Mission and Outreach Committee received this great news May 10th:



It is my pleasure to inform you that at its meeting on May 8, 2023, the Catalyst Team of the Wisconsin Conference UCC voted, yet again, to fund your grant request at an amount of **\$1,500** in support of your congregation's **"Feeding the Hungry"** effort. More importantly we want you to know how impressed we were with your proposal and how excited we are to see where this journey takes you.

The Catalyst Team,
Mary Gross

"Feeding the Hungry" has been funded in part by a Catalyst Grant from the Wisconsin Conference, UCC in 2022 and 2023. The grant money will provide two months of meals for our third Sunday of the month giveaway. We are very thankful for this support.

Catalyst Grants are enthusiastically and generously supported by the people of the Wisconsin Conference. Catalyst Grant funding is provided through the Catalyst team of the Wisconsin Conference and is an example of our Our Churches Wider Mission dollars at work.

Uniting for Ukraine-Update

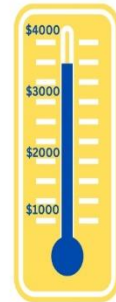
from Max & Bryce Luchterhand

The Hnatiuk family is happy to see the snow has finally ended. Mykola and Olesia planted a garden this past week. They did not have a garden in the city and Olesia has never had one, but Mykola remembers helping his mother plant vegetables where he grew up in the country. They are happy to be watering and weeding watching their plants grow as their boys run and play on the surrounding lawn.



\$4000 is our Goal

Our Church
Has Raised
\$3545



The six of us are invited to the premier of the documentary filmed here on our farm in March. It will be shown at the Tribeca film festival in New York. Unfortunately, Bryce and I have a vacation planned that cannot be changed, but the Hnatiuk's will be making the trip. The production company is paying for their travel, room, and meals for 3 days. It will be very exciting for them. The interpreter that was at the filming on our farm will serve as their guide and is scheduling some time at a museum. Roman loves dinosaurs and has only seen dinosaurs in books. Olesia found a museum the family will enjoy.

A generous neighbor provided a car for Mykola, and Olesia continues to drive our Toyota Corolla, so they each have a car to drive to work. Olesia took the written driver's test last week and will take the road test in June. Mykola will do the same soon.

Roman is excited that school is almost over for the year. He and Dmytro will be accompanying Olesia to the daycare where she works over the summer. Mykola now has 4 hives of bees that he is managing and closely monitoring. He left 20 hives in Ukraine so is happy to have bees here, but is learning that the available nectar for bees is much different here than in Ukraine. It will continue to be an interesting project for all of us.

They have been interested in watching and experiencing the changes in the landscape as winter moved into spring and summer is approaching. Living in the serenity of the Wisconsin countryside presents something new almost every day. They were very excited to have cattle grazing right next to the lawn and separated with a single strand of wire. Mowing the lawn is a new experience and they are looking forward to driving our riding lawn mower. The family often goes for a walk down the road or across the field soaking in the quiet and the sun. Olesia shares these new activities with her mother via daily phone calls and her mom shares the news from Ukraine. The war is never far from their minds.

Thank you for your help in providing the family a future with hope and peace.



2023 United Church Of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Each Sunday - Summer schedule 9 AM Worship				1	2	3 Vacation Bible School 9AM-2PM
4 <u>Trinity Sunday</u> Communion	5 9:00 am Card Making	6 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible	7	8 1:30 pm Circle of Friends Meeting	9	10
11 <u>Second Sunday</u> <u>after Pentecost</u>	12	13 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible	14 5:00 pm Deacons Mtg FLAG DAY	15	16	17
18 <u>Third Sunday after</u> <u>Pentecost</u> <u>Father's Day</u> Food Give Away	19 9:00 am Card Making	20 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible	20	22	23	24
25 <u>Fourth Sunday</u> <u>after Pentecost</u>	26	27 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible	28 Stewardship Mtg tbd	29	30	NO COUNCIL OR TRUSTEE MEETINGS THIS MONTH