

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

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

Sometimes I sit on our deck listening to the birds and enjoying the quiet. But then a big truck roars up the hill on our front street which is also a highway, or someone starts to mow the lawn, or a dog begins to incessantly bark. At times like that I remember with fondness mornings on the second floor porch nestled in the trees at our condo-for-the-week north of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico where a cacophony of birds surrounds my ears and no humans can be heard and I look forward with anticipation to the few days we will spend in mid-August at a wilderness campground on the shore of Clark Lake in northern Michigan and my only companions are the loons calling from the distance.

Sometimes we need silence and solitude. Both my extrovert daughter and her introvert husband need their time away from it all. This year our son-in-law decided to skip a sociable week at Moon Beach family camp and headed to the Porcupine Mountains for hiking and camping by himself and then after camp our sociable daughter confessed that even she was worn out from all the socializing she had done at camp and just wanted to be alone for a while.

Jesus also had such times. Mark reports that at the beginning of his ministry "very early in the morning while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed." (Mark 1:36) Later on when he was surrounded by a crowd of needy people he urged his disciples, "come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." (Mark 6:31) And toward the end of his ministry Jesus prayed alone in a garden.

It seems that each of us, no matter how sociable or solitary we are, needs some time apart for rest, recuperation, reflection, and prayer. Jesus needed it and so do we. On this first day of August as we continue to enjoy the escape of summer just before hints of fall involvement surface in pre-school sales and practice for the coming football season, I invite you to take some time for silence and solitude wherever you can find it. Then join the rest of us in the adventure called life.

In God's grace,

Pastor Jim

Confirmation and Sunday School Update

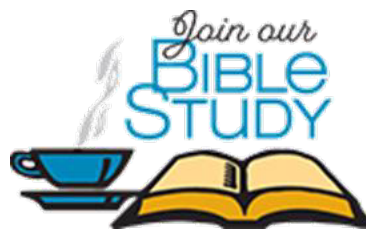
As many of you know, in the past couple of months UCC and Calvary Lutheran members have continued discussions on ways our churches can collaborate and work together. As part of this effort UCC Christian Ed committee members, Stephanie Heck, Lacey Erickson, Linda Stalsberg, and Jenna Ziegler met with Calvary Lutheran Christian Education committee members and discussed options to collaborate on confirmation and Sunday school. In the past year, (2022-23 school year) Calvary held Sunday School and Confirmation classes after school on every other Wednesday and experienced increased student and family participation.

It has been agreed, for this school year, UCC will combine the confirmation and Sunday school classes with Calvary. Both groups will meet on every other Wednesday. Class locations will again alternate between Calvary and UCC.

Sunday School for kids in 3K to 6th grade from both churches will meet on Wednesday afternoons from 5:00PM to 5:45PM.

Confirmation classes for kids in 7th and 8th grades will also meet on every other Wednesday, This will now be a two-year curriculum with 8th graders continuing to be confirmed each spring at their respective churches.

Parents, we would welcome more kids joining in both groups. If you know anyone who may be interested please have them reach out to Christian Ed. Chairperson, Stephanie Heck at 920-948-7783 or email at sspence68@yahoo.com Details are still being worked out, so stay tuned for more information in the upcoming weeks and September newsletter.



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

510 W Fourteenth Street, Neillsville

Stewardship Scripture Quotes

2 Corinthians 8:3

**For I testify that according to their ability,
and beyond their ability,
they give of their own accord.**



Continuing the following in our thoughts and prayers.

Janet Harrington

Dave Beck

Lisa Schermitzler

Carol Struensee

Gayle Schermitzler

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



Sunday, July 2, the radio broadcast was sponsored in memory of Paul Quicker and Mike Quicker.

Sunday, July 9, the radio broadcast was sponsored anonymously in memory of Darlene Celar-Mueller.

Sunday, July 16, the radio broadcast was sponsored by "a faithful listener".

Sunday, July 23, the radio broadcast was sponsored by Glenna Rhoades in honor of her daughters and their families.

Sunday, July 30, the radio broadcast was sponsored anonymously "In Praise of Jesus Christ".

Facts and Figures of July 2023

Attendance for In-Person Worship

July 2	online	23	Sunday	36
July 9	online	*	Sunday	43
July 16	online	*	Sunday	35
July 23	online	*	Sunday	50
July 30	online	3	Sunday	40

*Technical issues



OFFERINGS FOR JULY 2023

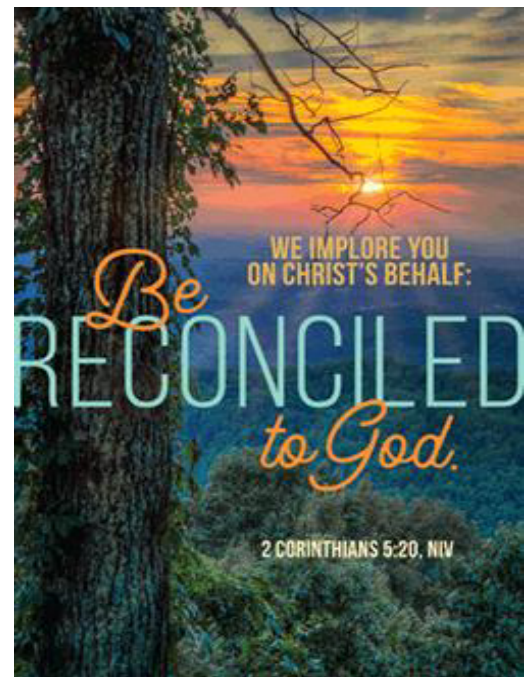
July 10, 2023

General Offering	\$4,002.00
Meal Give Away	73.00
Ukraine Family Fund	200.00
Radio Broadcast Fund	<u>25.00</u>
	\$4,300.00

July 24, 2023

General Offering	\$1,969.00
Meal Give Away	120.00
Radio Broadcast Fund	<u>150.00</u>
	\$2,239.00

VANCO for July \$ 633.40





- 1- Ruth Schmidt
Sue Voigt
- 3- Delaney Rochester
- 9- Elsbeth Johnson
- 12- Mark Garbisch
- 19- Nicole Keller
- 21- Karen Mohr
Patricia Wall
- 23- Craig Heck
Cole Hediger
- 27- Kathy Marshall
- 28- Sandy Bieneck
- 29- Nancy Boon
Casidhe Erickson
James Repinski

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



- 9- Linette & Wendell Kuhn
- 11- Howard & Kathy Mathis
- 14- Mike & Debbie Perkl
- 15- Paul & Sandy Schmidt
- 18- Francis (Butch) & Kathy Carl
- 19- James & Karen Mohr
- 20- Barb & Steve Miller
- 22- Neil Czarnecki & Kellie Murphy
Craig & Stephanie Heck
- 28- Sandy & Roy Bieneck
Jerry & Judy Quicker
Linda & John Stalsberg
- 30- Wallace & Patricia Garbisch

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



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER 1 -9

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

September 1-9 Birthdays

- 1- Logan Erickson
Rosemary Opelt
Jerry Quicker
- 2- Fritz Hediger
- 3- M.E. Sjolín
- 5- Hannah Erickson
Donita Follen
Joel Raine
Cheryl Steinbach
- 6- Crispin Hediger
Audrey Vradenburg

September 1-9 Anniversaries

- 6- Bruce & Margaret Rakestraw
- 8- Carla & Mickey Marty



Sunday Worship at the Clark County Fair

9 AM – enter from the south and tell the gate keepers you are going to the Church Service.

2023 Holiday Fair

HOLIDAY FAIR WORKSHOP
begins on September 5 & 6
Every Tuesday and Wednesday
from 5:30-8:00 PM

It's August and just a reminder when you are out and about at garage sales or cleaning out your own garage/house, think about our crafts for the Holiday Fair. Do you have any of the following that you are willing to donate to us:

- Old pails
- Pallets
- Old and/or new pine or barn boards
- Shutters
- Old wooden framed screen doors
- Old wooden kitchen chairs
- Old milk cans
- Old wooden sleds
- Old license plates
- Any metal containers

If you have or know where we can obtain any of the above items to be donated, please contact Carla Marty at 715-937-0077 or Emile Miller at 715-937-4626. Thanks!

If you have ideas that you would like us to try to incorporate with the Holiday Fair, please let us know.

Oh, and yes, mark your calendar for Saturday, November 11, 2023 for our 59th annual Holiday Fair!

Thank you for your support, both in the past and for the future of our church.

Em and Carla

Ukraine Family



Dear UCC Congregation,

Thank you again for your generosity in helping in support of the Hnatiuk family. They are grateful to all of you. So many people have offered to help them and have shown them nothing but kindness. It has been so difficult for them to leave their country and their entire way of life behind. They are adjusting very well and appreciate your help.

Sincerely, Maxine Luchterhand

UCC,
I would like to thank you for your cards, kind words, text and keeping me in your prayers. Thank you for the gas cards which are being used for my many trips to Eau Claire. I have to go every day for treatments until August 23rd, almost to the finish line. Thank you all so much.

Carol Struensee

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO –



Bob Petkovsek for cutting trees & cleanup north of our lower parking lot.

Kevin Erickson for raking up & reseeded the lawn.

ALSO for mowing & trimming our lawn area many times during the growing season.

Thank you to the **Holiday Fair Group** – for donating funds for the new round tables in our Fellowship Hall and the new hand towel dispensers for our restrooms and kitchen. Also, for providing and planting the flowers under the bell tower. Thanks to **Dan Miller, Mickey Marty**, for assisting with set up and installation. We don't want to forget anyone so let us know if & when we miss someone.



The Baptism of Eleanor Fox and Lainey Fox was held on Sunday, July 23, 2023 with Pastor Mohr officiating.





2023 United Church Of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Each Sunday - Summer schedule 9 AM Worship		1	2 1 pm - Stewardship Mtg at Marge Goetsch's	3	4	5
6 Tenth Sunday after <u>Pentecost</u> Communion	7 9:00 am Card Making	8 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible	9 5 pm Deacon's Mtg	10 1:30 pm Circle of Friends Meeting	11	12
13 Eleventh Sunday after <u>Pentecost</u> 9 AM – Church at the Clark County Fair	14	15 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible 5:30 pm Council Mtg	16 *Meal Prep	17 *Meal Prep	18	19
20 Twelfth Sunday after <u>Pentecost</u> *Food Give Away	21 9:00 am Card Making	22 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible	23	24	25	26
27 Thirteenth Sunday after <u>Pentecost</u>	28	29 1:00 pm Bible Study at Marge Goetsch's home/bring bible	30	31		