



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

SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Six Gestures of the Morning Praise

1. Offering the creator praise and gratitude:

Stretch your arms high and wide above your head.

I thank you, Holy One, for the gift of another day of life.

2. Intentionally being aware of my spiritual bond with all creation:

Hold arms out from your sides, a little below the shoulder height.

Move (pivot) to the left and to the right with your arms stretching outward toward the cosmos.

I reach out in compassion to my sisters and brothers throughout the universe.

3. Offering my life to the Holy One:

Stretch your arms out straight in front of you, slightly part, palms up.

I give to you all I am and all I have.

4. Opening to accept what the Holy One offers me this day:

Pull your hands together and cup them as a container.

I open my entire being to receive the gift that you have waiting for me this new day.

5. Remembering to be kind to our planet Earth:

Bend over, reach down.

I touch this planet, Earth, with awe, reverence, and gratitude, promising to care well for her today.

6. Awareness of the indwelling presence of the Holy One:

Stand up, cross hands over your heart, and bow to the waist.

May I be united with you throughout this day, aware of your love strengthening me and shining through me.



NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Neighbors in need
“NIN” is one of the
“five for five”
missions of the

United Church of Christ. In 2023 the “BEHOLD” theme continues. “BEHOLD” is used 1,298 times in the King James version of the Bible. It is derived from the Greek word ‘eido’, which has the literal translation of: be sure to see or “don’t miss this”.

One third of the NIN funds support the council for American Indian Ministries. Two thirds of this offering is used by the UCC church justice and witness ministries to provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts and direct projects to their communities.

This year’s focus is environmental justice. Plastics, electronics, and other non-compostable wastes are being shipped across or even tossed in to our waterways, launched into space as well as buried in landfills. As people of faith we believe these egregious acts are sinful and unholy.

Psalm 24:1 “The earth is the LORD’S and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.

Grants are available to UCC churches that have programs to address the environmental crisis. We must step forward and answer the call.

This offering is typically taken along with World Wide communion Sunday in October. However you may donate at any time by dropping your donation at church, through our website or VANCO on line.

Stewardship Scripture Quotes

Proverbs 3: 9-10

**Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first
fruits of all your crops;
then your barns will be overflowing and
your vats will brim over with new wine.**

Attend "Thank You" Sunday , Oct. 22nd!

The Stewardship Committee invites you to meet the Ukrainian family we supported as part of the "Unifying for Ukraine" efforts earlier this year. They will attend our church service along with their host family on Sunday, October 22th. Besides finding out how the family is adjusting to Clark County, you'll have an opportunity to sample some of their favorite Ukrainian foods following the church service. Please plan to attend this special Sunday service.

Cooks and/or Bakers Needed for Oct. 22nd

The stewardship committee is in need of some cooks and/or bakers to help prepare some Ukrainian foods for sampling after church on October 22nd. Recipes and money to defray cost of supplies will be provided. If you are willing to help contact :

JoAnn Voss at 715-255-9295

or

M.E. Sjolín at 715-743-4200

by Sunday, Sept 27th.

Free Community Picnic



September 17, 2023

11:15 am - 12:00 Noon

United Church of Christ-Neillsville

515 West 2nd Street

Fellowship Hall

Take-Outs will be available

*****Christian Education Update*****

On **Sunday, September 10**, immediately following the church service, UCC will give an update on plans to combine confirmation and church school with Calvary Lutheran for the 2023-24 school year. All parents, members and friends are welcome.

Search Committee Update

The Search Committee has received a pastoral profile. This particular Pastor has requested that his profile be sent to specific churches in the Northwest area and UCC-Neillsville was one of those churches. We are currently in conversation with this Pastor. We are thankful for this profile as there are still 36 pastoral vacancies in the Wisconsin conference.

We request that you continue to pray for the pastoral profile whose gifts match those identified in our profile. Another aspect we are looking for in this journey is to call a pastor that can foster and grow a healthy relationship between the pastor, the congregation, and the community.



† Continuing the following in our thoughts and prayers.

Janet Harrington	Dave Beck
Lisa Schermitzler	Carol Struensee
Gayle Schermitzler	Berdella Carl
Marge Goetsch	

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



† Our deepest Sympathy goes out to **Emile & Dan Miller** on the death of her brother, John Raine.

† Our condolences also go out to the family of Kai Moseid;

Cindy, Kaia, Ellie and Cali Moseid.

We are deeply saddened by your loss. We pray that God will give you strength and grant you comfort in your time of bereavement.



Sunday, August 6, the radio broadcast was sponsored by a “faithful listener”.

Sunday, August 13, the radio broadcast was sponsored by John and Lori Shaw in loving memory of their parents. Bob & Lorraine Shaw on their heavenly 75th wedding anniversary.

Sunday, August 20, the radio broadcast was sponsored by Byrl & Sharon Buddenhagen in honor of their son, Brad & Natalie Buddenhagen’s 29th wedding anniversary.

Sunday, August 27, the radio broadcast was sponsored by Wallace & Patricia Garbisch in honor of their 65th wedding anniversary.

OFFERINGS FOR AUGUST 2023

August 7, 2023

General Offering	\$3,629.00
Circle of Friends	62.50
MISC	145.00
Radio Broadcast Fund	<u>75.00</u>
	\$3,911.50

August 28, 2023

General Offering	\$3,408.00
Meal Give Away	1,125.00
Holiday Fair	10.00
Radio Broadcast Fund	<u>750.00</u>
	\$5,293.00

VANCO for August	\$ 633.40
------------------	-----------

Facts and Figures of August 2023

Attendance for In-Person Worship

August 6	online 4	Sunday 37
August 13	Clark County Fair Service	
August 20	online 6	Sunday 30
August 27	online 3	Sunday 41

Congratulations to parents- Erik & Jenna Sigurdson and grandparents- Craig & Wendy Sigurdson on the birth of Crue Steven Sigurdson who was born on July 31,



2023. Crue weighed 8# 8 ounce, 21 in. and joins a brother, Haakon at home.

- 1- Logan Erickson
Rosemary Opelt
Jerry Quicker
- 2- Fritz Hediger
- 3- M.E. Sjolin
- 5- Hannah Erickson
Donita Follen
Joel Raine
Cheryl Steinbach
- 6- Crispin Hediger
Audrey Vradenburg
- 10- Karlene Wallace
- 11- Mike Perkl
- 12- John Vornholt
- 14- JoAnn Wren
- 16- Iris Vine
- 17- Mary Finney
- 19- Wendy Sigurdson
- 20- Kristine Anderson
- 22- Linette Kuhn
Leah Wilson
- 23- Carole Romens
William Ziegler
- 24- Michelle Kranz
- 25- Rosie Repinski
- 26- Mackenzie Keller
- 28- Ruth Zwieg



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



- 6- Bruce & Margaret Rakestraw
- 8- Carla & Mickey Marty
Craig & Stephanie Heck
- 12- Ashley & Travis Vine
- 13- Guy & Sue Jodarski
- 14- Deon & Jim Spangler
- 16- Barb & Ken Shoemaker
Craig & Wendy Sigurdson
- 20- Jill & Scott Williams
- 23- Mitchell & Casidhe Erickson
Crispin & Lisa Hediger

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



OCTOBER 1-9

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

October 1-9 Birthdays

- 3- Tim Steinbach
- 4- Jake Keller
Mickey Marty
Alex Northup
- 7- Brian Eddy
Joe Felser
Corliss Fields

October 1-9 Anniversaries

- 4- Michelle & Lucas Bergemann
Jim & Rosie Repinski
- 5- Erik & Jenna Sigurdson
- 7- Fritz & Dixie Hediger
Joe & Debbie Holman
- 8- Darwin & Ruth Zwieg
- 9- Clinton & Julie Woods

CELEBRATING OUR CHURCH CAMPS ON SEPTEMBER 17



During morning worship on September 17 all are invited to make believe we are at church camp! Worshipers are welcome to wear their "camp cloths," (particularly if they have shirts with a camp logo), sing some camp songs, learn

about "FruitFULL Faith" (the camp theme from Galatians 5:22) and meet some of our campers, in person or via photos and videos.

Thanks to a generous bequest received from Marian and Sam Ray NUCC has provided scholarships to anyone wishing to attend Moon Beach near St. Germain and Daycholah (formerly called Pilgrim Center) on Green Lake. On September 17 those who benefited from this gift will have the opportunity to say a big THANK YOU! During 2023 members and friends of our church were able to attend both youth and family camps as well as retreats at our camp sites. It was a special joy for several of us to introduce our grandchildren to church camp and help them grow in their Christian faith!

A picnic lunch will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Join us on September 17 for a morning of faithful fun!

THANKS
FROM THE
HEART

Dearest members of the U.C.C. Church of Neillsville, A heartfelt THANK YOU for wonderful Moon Beach camp scholarship. Moon Beach is such a very special place and one that I greatly treasure.

My week at the Mohr Family camp was healing and rejuvenating. I enjoyed reconnecting and laughing, swimming, and singing. As my friend Liz once described it ... "Moon Beach is magical"

I am sorry I won't be able to come to your "Camp Sunday" in September. I'm sure it will be a lot of fun!

Thanks again  Jenny Friedel

2023 Holiday Fair

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

Let's Get Ready for Our Annual Holiday Fair

It's that time of year again to prepare for our annual Holiday Fair. This will be our 59th Holiday Fair and it will be held on Saturday, November 11, 2023, from 9 AM to 1 PM; with lunch serving from 11 AM to 1 PM. The lunch will consist of chicken salad on a croissant, baked potato soup, and dessert. Carry-outs will be available.

Our sales departments are as follows:

- GIFT BOUTIQUE
 - Indoor & Outdoor Decorations
 - Quilts, Knitted, and Crocheted Items
- GREETING CARDS
 - All Occasions
- KITCHEN CUPBOARD
 - Sweets & Bakery
- NEW TO YOU TREASURES
 - Collectibles from Grandma's Attic

We need all crafters, sewers, bakers to think of what you can supply for this annual event. Also, if you have any good items that you no longer use but could be sold in the New to You Treasures department, please bring them to the church. NO CLOTHES PLEASE.

If you have any questions regarding the Holiday Fair or would like to help with donations or with sales the day of the fair, please contact the appropriate chairman of each department:

- Gift Boutique – Carla Marty at 715-937-0077
- Greeting Cards – Susie Karl at 715-937-3506 or Carole Romens at 651-359-5196
- Kitchen Cupboard – Susie Karl at 715-937-3506 or Carole Romens at 651-359-5196
- New to You Treasures – Debbie Perkl at 715-797-6290
- Luncheon – Emile Miller at 715-937-4626

Thank you!

- Em Miller

Hello Parents!

We hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the blessings of the seasons as we kick off the 2023-2024 school year! We are excited to introduce a new and enriching opportunity for our children that we believe will enhance their spiritual growth and foster a sense of community within our congregations. We are pleased to announce the launch of the Jesus and Me (J.A.M.) Club for youth ages 3-years-old to 6th grade, a joint faith instruction program, combining the resources and teachings of the United Church of Christ (UCC) and Calvary Lutheran Church. Our youth in ages 7th & 8th grade will be combined as well as they prepare for Confirmation.

All our youth will meet every other Wednesday night, from 5:00 PM until 5:45 PM, either at Calvary or UCC (see schedule below). Every Wednesday, starting in September, there is a short church service at Calvary following class at 6 PM and lasts about 30 minutes or so. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The class breakdown will be similar to how we have been doing them in the past. We have some great teachers and helpers each week for the J.A.M. kids. If parents want to come and help, feel free to come in and join in the fun.

Our plan for class breakdown is:

- 3-year-old – 3rd grade age students
- 4th – 6th grade students
- 7th graders & 8th grade students led by Pastor Chad and Cheryl Steinbach. Please try to make sure your kids attend each week in this class, otherwise they risk getting behind.

We plan to try to sing once a month for the kids in J.A.M., at each church. All kids are welcome to sing at both churches. We will let you know the song as we have that information available.

In December we will be having two Christmas programs, one at each church, and the kids are welcome to join in one or both of the programs. More information will be coming later.

Here is the schedule for this fall:

Fall 2023 J.A.M. CLUB Schedule	
Date	LOCATION
9/13/2023	Calvary--lesson & fun night
9/27/2023	UCC
10/11/2023	Calvary--kids sing at church service
10/25/2023	UCC
11/8/2023	UCC--start practicing for Christmas program
11/29/2023	Calvary--continue to practice for the Christmas program
12/13/2023	Calvary--Christmas Rehearsal & Program
12/17/2023	UCC--Christmas Rehearsal & Program (Arrive at 9 am and church service at 10 AM)
12/20/2023	Calvary-Christmas Story & party

If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask one of the committee members. Your input is valuable as we work together to make this a truly meaningful experience for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment of our children. We are looking forward to a great year of bringing our youth together to strengthen their faith in Jesus!

Blessings,

Karen Gaier, Julie Bechtel, Diane Diestler, Lacey Erickson, Linda Stalsberg, Cheryl Steinbach, and Stephanie Heck



2023

United Church of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Starting Sept 10 - 10 AM Worship					1	2
3 Fourteenth Sunday <u>after Pentecost</u> 9 AM Worship Communion	4 LABOR DAY 9:00 am Card Making	5 1:00 pm Bible Study to be determined / bring bible	6 1 PM Stewardship Mtg	7 12 PM - T&C Quilters	8	9
10 Fifteenth Sunday <u>after Pentecost</u>	11 PATRIOT DAY 6 PM - PEO	12 1:00 pm Bible Study to be determined / bring bible 5:30 pm Council Mtg	13 5 pm Deacon's Mtg 5 pm J.A.M. Club @ Calvary *Meal Prep	14 1 PM – Circle of Friends Picnic Mtg *Meal Prep	15	16
17 Sixteenth Sunday <u>after Pentecost</u> Camp Sunday *Food Give Away	18 9:00 am Card Making 9 AM - T&C Quilters	19 1:00 pm Bible Study to be determined / bring bible 5 PM – Trustees Mtg 5:30 PM – Council Mtg	20	21	22	23 1st day of Autumn
24 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	25 6:30 PM - HCE	26 1:00 pm Bible Study to be determined / bring bible	27 5 pm J.A.M. Club @ UCC	28	29	30