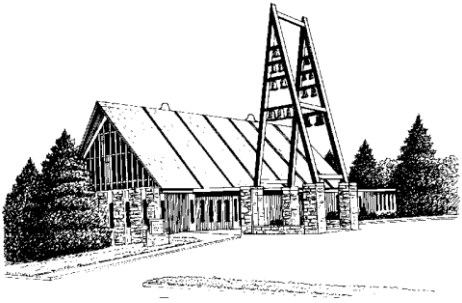




THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Neillsville, Wisconsin
Church 715-743-2147
Pastor Julie Ruegsegger
Pastor's Office 715-743-2117
Cell Phone 608-558-2397
www.neillsvilleucc.org

NOVEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

There's a season for everything and a time for every matter under the heavens: a time for crying and a time for laughing, a time for mourning and a time for dancing, (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 4)

Five-hundred-twenty-five-thousand-six-hundred minutes: How do you measure, measure a year? In daylights, in sunsets, in midnights, in cups of coffee, in inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife in five-hundred-twenty-five-thousand-six-hundred minutes: How do you measure a year in the life? How about love? ("Seasons of Love" by Jonathan Larson for the Broadway musical "Rent")

There's a grief that can't be spoken; There's a pain goes on and on; Empty chairs at empty tables; Now my friends are dead and gone ("Empty Chairs at Empty Tables" by Claude-Michel Schönberg, Herbert Kretzmer & Alain Boublil for the Broadway musical "Les Miserables")

Dear Friends,

As I write this, it is a gray and rainy day, which invites melancholy and introspection. I face the window, looking out at my favorite tree, a beautiful maple with leaves that turn a radiant autumn gold early in the fall. When the sun shines just right through the leaves and into the window, it bathes the whole room in a golden glow. The gold has long ago transitioned to brown. So my favorite tree is now pretty barren, just a few straggling leaves still stubbornly hanging on. One leaf near the window caught my attention and spurred my imagination. Just a lonely brown leaf still barely clinging to the otherwise bare branch, dancing in the breeze, moving ever so gently as the raindrops shower it, but that leaf is persistent and its stem holds tight to the branch, refusing to drop to the ground below with all the other leaves. I know that it will eventually fall, just like the others, and the tree will be completely bare before long. This dance of nature, the change of seasons, has left me even more melancholy, and I think about how nature works: the leaves need to fall: trees cannot survive through the winter if leaves continue to sap them of valuable nutrients, and the leaves on the ground decay and become nutrients for the soil, offering a protective layer for grass and plants when the snow inevitably falls. The new life of spring blossomed into the growth and beauty of summer, until we reach the autumn harvest and the transition to the long and cold winter when everything goes dormant until the cycle begins again next spring.

I am also working on the All Saints Day service and thinking about the dear ones we have loved and lost over the years. While I was working, I had Broadway music playing in the background, and it played the song "Empty Chairs at Empty Tables" from "Les Miserables" That musical is quite dark and has many poignant moments to pull on the heart-strings and make the tears flow, but that song in particular always makes me cry. Marius sings

this song when he returns to the cafe where he and his friends had earlier sung about the promise of freedom and revolution, and his friends all died in that battle. He feels guilty for having survived and is heart-broken to look around this cafe where you can almost hear the ghosts of their voices still singing their song of revolution, even as you see the empty chairs and empty tables, making their absence all the more heart-breaking.

We have been talking about when and where we will celebrate Thanksgiving this year. Naturally all of these things together made me think of all of us who will sit down at family meals and notice the empty chairs around the table or at least acknowledge that the chairs' occupants have changed. Part of me wants to try to find a way to be more positive and upbeat, and then I remember that grief and mourning and lament is an honest and faithful part of life. Even Jesus grieved. There is an entire book of the Bible devoted to lament, and many of the Psalms (about 40%) are songs of lament. Sometimes it's good to be gloomy and have a good cry. There is a time for everything, including crying and mourning. All this introspection has made me miss my loved ones all the more, these dear saints who made me who I am today and are now a part of the great cloud of witnesses. It is good to remember, to speak of them, to mourn, to cry, to face the empty chairs that have been filled with the next generation - a good reminder of the unending circle of life. Autumn comes, and the last leaf eventually lets go of the branch, making way for winter, until spring comes again with new life and beauty, and the cycle continues. How do we measure the seasons of our lives? Hopefully through the love we have received and the love we have given away.

So my friends, my prayer for you this month is this: *May you fondly remember all those you have loved and lost. Speak their names and share the memories, good and bad. May you smile through your tears when you remember them. May you offer your tears and lamentations to God as a tribute to your loved ones. Do not fear the tears, but let them flow and give them to God and allow the Spirit to comfort you and give you peace.*

Love,

Pastor Julie

JAM – Children's Christmas Program

practice will be held on Wednesdays, November 11 & 18 from 5-5:45 pm here at our church and again on Sunday, December 13 from 10:30-11:15 am after worship service.



Confirmation Class



Will be held on Wednesday, November 11 & 18 at Pastor Julie's home from 3:30 – 5:30. For questions please contact Pastor Julie at 608-558-2397 or NUCCpastor@gmail.com.



Gayle Schermitzler	Fritz Hediger
Lisa Schermitzler	Fran Ormond
Duane Marty	Mike & Sherrie Holub
Brian Eddy	Nancy Boon
Pastor Julie Ruegsegger	Brooks Sigurdson
Earnie Ruegsegger	Sandy Bieneck

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

A special **Thank-You** goes out to the **Holiday Fair Group** who have agreed to offer funds to replace the hot water heater in the lounge. It will be much appreciated by those who are hosting a small gathering, washing dishes or those cleaning up after crafts to have hot water once again in the lounge.

Our heartfelt condolences to James & Rosanne Repinski on the loss of Jim's sister, Loretta Ganski (91) who passed away on October 12th.



Sunday, October 4, the radio broadcast was sponsored anonymously by James & Rosanne Repinski in celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary.

Sunday, October 11, the radio broadcast in loving memory of Kenneth & Darlene Eddy (parents) and Sandy Henseler (sister) was sponsored by Deb Holman, Duane & Brian Eddy, Sue Gurney, and Lisa Rendmeister.

Sunday, October 18, the radio broadcast was sponsored by Byrl & Sharon Buddenhagen in celebration of their 63rd wedding anniversary.

Sunday, October 25, the radio broadcast was sponsored by Phil & Donita Follen in praise of the church family.

October 2026

Attendance for In-Person Worship

October 4	online	2	Sunday	66
October 11	online	6	Sunday	54
October 18	online	6	Sunday	66
October 25	online	n/a	Sunday	78



- 2- Debra Holman
- 4- Alexander Vine
- 10- Travis Vine
- 13- Deon Spangler
- 14 Roberta Gaier
Kelly Mathis
- 16- Neil Armitage
Sue Gurney
- 17- Brynn Heck
- 19- Harold Eddy
Julie Ruegsegger
- 22- Theamore Vine
- 24- MacKenzie Keller
- 25- Joey Kranz

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



- 5- Phil & Donita Follen
- 14- Emile & Dan Miller



DECEMBER 1 -9

We are adding the first days of **DECEMBER** birthdays and anniversaries so as not to miss any if the newsletter comes out late.

Birthdays

- 1- Lydia Schumacher
- 3- Jeff Raine
- 6- Steve Buchholz
Marla Raine

Anniversaries

- 8- Bob & Barb Petkovsek



Fall back, not behind!
CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS and
join us on time for worship.

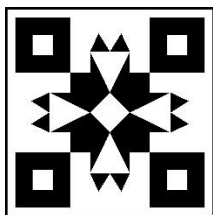
on November 1st



Annual Budget and Committee Congregational Meeting

On **Sunday, December 13th, 2026** the Neillsville United Church of Christ will hold the 2027 Budget and Committee congregational meeting. This meeting will be held at approximately 10:30AM, in the sanctuary immediately following the regular worship service.

At this meeting the congregation members present will review and vote on the proposed 2027 budget as well as the committee representatives. All are invited to attend.



ATTENTION QUILTERS – we have fabric pieces to use for pieced quilts. If you are interested please contact Janice in the office.

Volunteers Needed for Sunday Worship

November – December 2026

We are looking for volunteers to assist with Sunday worship by **reading the scriptures and/or leading the children's message**. Pastor Julie will choose the scripture readings, and volunteers will prepare and lead the children's message. Pastor Julie has online resources available and is happy to discuss ideas or offer guidance.

If you feel called to help, please add your name to the schedule below. For more specifics of questions please contact Sally Sadowska or Janice Miller.

Thank you for serving!

Sunday	Scripture	Children's message
Nov 1	Donita Follen	Sue Vornholt
Nov 8	Barb Shoemaker	Barb Shoemaker
Nov 15		
Nov 22		
Nov 29		
Dec 6		
Dec 13		
Dec 20		
Dec 27		



On **Sunday, November 1, 2026**, we will be celebrating All Saints' Day, honoring the saints of the church, the ones who have gone before us leaving marks on our hearts and lives that will never be forgotten. If you or someone you know lost a loved one this past year and would like to

have them honored during our service, please contact the church office at [715-743-2147](tel:715-743-2147) or neillsvilleuccoffice@gmail.com. Please provide the name of the person to be memorialized, dates of birth and death and a photograph (if available). The family of the deceased will be invited to come forward and light a candle when their loved one's name is read and given a moment to share a brief memory. If no one is able to attend the service, we will light a candle for you. For all who are missing a loved one, whether they passed in the last year or last decade or even longer ago, we offer our deepest condolences and prayers of healing and comfort.

Neillsville UCC Celebrates Approval of HVAC Project

There is exciting news at Neillsville United Church of Christ! On Sunday, October 18, the congregation members unanimously approved moving forward with our church HVAC project. This is an important step toward making our sanctuary more comfortable and welcoming for everyone who gathers here for worship and fellowship.

We are grateful to everyone who has already pledged a donation toward this project. Your generosity, commitment, and support are helping make this improvement possible. Thank you for investing in the future of our congregation and helping care for our church home.

Our goal is to have the new HVAC system installed within the next two months. While we look forward to enjoying a cooler sanctuary during the summer months, the system will also provide heat during the spring and fall, helping keep our worship space comfortable throughout the year.

For those who donated please make your check payable to **Neillsville United Church of Christ (noted to HVAC Project Donation)**. Checks may be given to Janice or mailed to: Neillsville United Church of Christ, 515 W. 2nd Street, Neillsville, WI 54456

Every gift is appreciated, and we are thankful for the many ways our congregation comes together to support the life and ministry of Neillsville UCC.

As we look ahead to this improvement, let us celebrate what we can accomplish together. Thank you for your generosity, your enthusiasm, and your continued commitment to our church community!

Reminder to Vote on November 3! Your Voice Matters!

There are three constitutional amendments on the November 2026 ballot. While we as a church do not preach politics or ever tell anyone how to vote, we do recognize that informed voting is a privilege that should never be taken for granted, and our faith plays an important role in helping us decide how to vote for candidates and for issues. We recognize that while Jesus was not partisan, he was most definitely political, and we are called to follow Jesus in his quest for justice and liberty for all people, especially the most vulnerable. Part of that calling for us as American citizens is to exercise our privilege and right to vote. To that end, we felt it would be wise to offer some faithful resources to provide a little education around issues on the upcoming ballot.

There are three Constitutional Amendments on the November 3, 2026 ballot in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Council of Churches' (WCC) membership approaches these ballot measures in divergent ways. Their website offers opinions from a variety of sources on each ballot measure to help you prayerfully discern how you vote. The WCC has taken no stand on how to vote, but offers these resources for your prayerful discernment. They do not offer opinions on specific candidates, only the constitutional amendments on the ballot.

A constitution requires a longer view. Governors change. Legislatures change. Political parties gain power and lose it. Constitutional provisions remain long after the personalities and controversies that produced them have passed. Constitutional amendments on ballots are quite often strangely worded and difficult to discern meaning, intent and therefore choose how to vote to best relate your values and understanding of what your faith requires.

The Presbyterian and Reformed traditions (which is part of the history of the United Church of Christ) offer a useful discipline in this regard. We do not assume that political authority becomes righteous simply because someone we trust possesses it. Our theology takes human limitation and self-interest seriously. The Confession of 1967 reminds us that individuals and institutions remain entangled in sin even when pursuing causes they consider just (Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) 9.13)

A useful question for Christian voters, therefore, is this: Would I still believe this power was appropriate if it were exercised by someone whose politics I strongly opposed?

For more information about the proposed amendments and theological reflections to help you with this important decision, please go to the Wisconsin Council of Churches' (WCC) website, <https://www.wichurches.org/amendments2026>, where they share opinions from a variety of sources on each ballot measure to help you prayerfully discern how you vote. If you are unable to access the website information and would like a printed copy, please contact Pastor Julie at 608-558-2397.

The Wisconsin Council of Churches (WCC) is a network of Christian churches and faith-based organizations committed to working together across our many differences. Exercising holy imagination, we help one another make courageous choices that lead toward peacemaking, social and economic justice for Wisconsin's most vulnerable residents, the vitality of the church, and the well-being of our neighbors. The Council connects 23 Christian traditions, which have within them approximately 2,000 congregations and over one million church members. Join with us as we pray and work together for the unity and renewal of the church and the healing and reconciliation of the world.



A Blessing for Uncertain Times

Bless you when you cannot see far ahead.
May you do the next faithful thing.
Kate Bowler

*Bless you who do not know what happens next,
who worry about the world we are walking toward.
May uncertainty reminds you that you
still have choices to make.*

*Bless you with courage
for the small, faithful thing that is yours to do:
to vote, pay attention, tell the truth,
care for your neighbors and keep showing up.*

*Bless you who cannot carry the whole future.
May you carry what is yours:
a responsibility, a neighbor,
a small corner of this beautiful, terrible world.*

*Bless you when you cannot see far ahead.
May you do the next faithful thing,
and then the next,
until our small acts make a path
where none was visible before.*



Heavenly Father,
We thank You for the men and women who have served
with courage, honor, and love for this nation. Thank You
for the freedom we enjoy today—bought with their
sacrifice and covered by Your grace.

Lord, bless every veteran who still carries
unseen battles within.

Surround them with peace that heals, strength that
renews, and hope that never fades. Comfort the families
who stood beside them—the quiet heroes who prayed,
waited, and believed.

May we never take freedom for granted, and may we
live in a way that honors both their service and Your
sacrifice for us all. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Approved Special Congregational Meeting Minutes

Kitchen Countertop Replacement

Neillsville United Church of Christ

The meeting was held on Sunday, April 19, 2026 in the Sanctuary at the Neillsville United Church of Christ.

Moderator Vine called the meeting to order at 10:28 AM.

Attendance

Those in Attendance: The following 35 people were in attendance: Susie Karl, Ken Shoemaker, Barb Shoemaker, Hap Eddy, Jenny Romens Erickson, Kevin Erickson, Sue Vornholt, Kathy Mathis, Howard Mathis, Nancy Boon, Doris Bakker, Crispin Hediger, Lisa Hediger, Paul Vine, Karlene Wallace, Wayne Voss, JoAnn Voss, Kelley Burch, Jerry Quicker, Don Quicker, Bob Petkovsek, Barb Petkovsek, Mike Perkl, Dorothy Steiger, Debbie Holman, Carla Marty, Joel Raine, Bonnie Weyer, Byrl Buddenhagen, James Vradenburg, Audrey Vradenburg, Roseanne Repinski, James Repinski, Janice Miller, and Emile Miller. (see sign in sheet).

Replacement of Kitchen Countertops

Moderator Vine shared the reason for this special congregation meeting is that the Trustees are looking into replacing the kitchen countertops and the estimate is over \$2,500, therefore, approval is needed by the congregation. Moderator Vine yielded the floor to Trustee Representatives Doris Bakker and Kevin Erickson to answer any questions and/or concerns.

Mike Perkl, Trustee representative, shared that the current set up with the three (3) stainless steel compartments for the sink will be maintained.

Bonnie Weyer shared that there are issues currently with the faucet and this may need to be addressed once the sinks are hooked back up. If there is an issue with this, the Trustees will address this.

Deb Holman commented that the kitchen gets a lot of use from multiple people, not just those in the church, and recommended to purchase countertops that will last. Kevin Erickson stated that the estimate from Sav-Rite is for Formica countertops, which is what is in the kitchen currently.

Kathy Mathis asked if there were any other estimates besides Erickson Construction were looked at. Moderator Vine stated that we only have one (1) estimate for this project, but in the future, they will be getting more than estimates for other projects.

Motion by Mike Perkl, seconded by Rosie Repinski to approve the replacement of kitchen countertops. Voice vote taken with all "aye"; motion carried.

MORE →

Replacement of Kitchen Countertops (continued)

Motion by Carla Marty, seconded by Kathy Mathis to approve the estimate of \$3,601.89 from Sav-Rite Building Center and Ace Hardware dated March 17, 2026 for the cost of the new countertops with standard edges and with the noted eased and capped ends, which is minus the tax, and the estimate of \$1,200 from Erickson Construction dated April 5, 2026 for the cost of labor for removing and installing the new countertops and the estimate of \$500 from Robert Schoen Plumbing dated April 5, 2026 for associated plumbing cost with unhooking and hooking up the kitchen sink and faucet, not to exceed \$5,500 from the Holiday Fair funds. Voice vote taken with all “aye”; motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Hap Eddy, seconded by Howie Mathis to adjourn. Voice vote taken with all “aye”; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:39 AM.

Submitted by:

Emile J Miller

Neillsville UCC Council Secretary

Approved Minutes
Neillsville United Church of Christ Council
September 23, 2026

The meeting was held on Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at Pastor Julie's home

Moderator Vine Called the meeting to order at 5:05PM

Attendance: Trustee representative, Doris Bakker, Christian Ed. Representative Stephanie Heck, Vice Moderator Barb Petkovsek, Karlene Wallace, Deacons, Moderator Paul Vine, and Treasurer Bonnie Weyer.

Prayer: Pastor Julie shared a prayer.

Minutes: Motion by Doris Bakker seconded by Karlene Wallace to approve the August 24, meeting minutes. Voice vote and all present voting "aye", motion carried.

Financial Report: Motion by Stephanie Heck seconded by Barb Petovsek to approve the financial report as presented. Voice vote taken with all present voting "aye", motion carried.

- A. Publication of treasurers report: Barb P motion and Stephanie Heck seconded that we put the monthly treasurers report to be placed in the monthly newsletter. Voice vote and all present voting "aye", motion carried.

New Business:

- A. **HVAC fundraising update:** Motion by Doris Bakker seconded by Karlene Wallace to move forward with purchasing the HVAC from the Ductless dude as we have pledges of \$14,400. Voice vote and all present voting "aye", motion carried.

1. Recently The Greater Green Bay Area Foundation gave Neillsville UCC \$2500. This was made by an anonymous person affiliated with the foundation. In August the council approved \$500 to purchase a laptop for the church. Barb Petkovsek motioned and Doris Bakker seconded that we apply the remaining \$2000 towards the HVAC project. By voice vote all present voting "aye", motion carried.
2. Congregational Meeting: UCC by-laws require that expenditures exceeding \$2500 require a vote by the congregation. By consensus the council approved a congregational meeting immediately following the Sunday, October 18 2026 regular service. The purpose to vote on the purchase and installation of HVAC equipment in the UCC sanctuary.

B. Budget and Committee meeting: DEC 13, 2026 after service

- C. **September 20 Co worship service with Calvary:** Motion by Bonnie Weyer and seconded by Barb P. pay \$1000 total to Calvary \$200 from Education fund and \$800 from Connections. Voice vote all present voting "yes". Motion carried.

Old Business:

- A. Kings Conquest concert, August 30:** (8 people attended and approximately 80 people enjoyed the potato bar. Free will donations of \$810.
- B. Chili Contest September 19:** \$1000 donated. Kathy Mathis first, Kelley Burch second, Schmittys third. Lions best presentation

Pastor Report:

The Wisconsin Conference representatives are requesting an opportunity to meet with representatives from UCC. Pastor is recommending we schedule a date in October. Agreed to meet at 5PM October 21 at UCC.

Sunday October 4 Pastor and confirmands will be serving commune to children.

Committee Reports:

- A. Christian Ed:** JAM kickoff Sunday Sept. 20. Jam will start on Wed. Sept. 30
- B. Trustees:** Collecting donations for the HVAC. Reminder for committees to get the budget for 2027.
- C. Deacons:** Will have world communion on Oct 4.

Next Agenda items: Budget, Committee Assignments

Next meeting date: Monday October 26, at 5PM Pastor Julie's home.

Adjourn: Motion by Stephanie Heck and seconded by Bonnie Weyer to adjourn at 6:45PM. By voice vote all present voted "aye", motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Paul Vine

62ND
HOLIDAY FAIR
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
515 W. 2ND STREET, NEILLSVILLE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2026
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

LUNCH MENU

- CHICKEN SALAD ON A CROISSANT
- BAKED POTATO SOUP
- DESSERT

SERVING 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

COST -
\$8 for ADULTS
\$5 for CHILDREN UNDER 10

VISIT OUR

"GIFT BOUTIQUE" • **"GREETING CARDS"** • **"KITCHEN CUPBOARD"** • **"NEW to YOU TREASURES"**

— HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! —

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

UCC Committee Membership for 2027

Neillsville UCC is blessed with many talented and caring individuals who donate their time and talents to make our church a vibrant and welcoming place. Annually each December committees are asked to review their membership and seek additional members or replace members who are no longer able to serve.

Below is a list of the committees, a brief description of their responsibilities and chairperson who are currently serving Neillsville UCC. We are inviting any members or friends of UCC who are interested in helping and serving on any of these committees to consider joining. Some committees meet monthly, others on an as-needed basis. Most do not meet in June, July or August. If you are interested in getting involved and/or helping please contact the committee chairperson, Paul Vine or Pastor Julie.

1. Auditing Committee, Chairperson, Michelle Kranz, Annual meetings.
Duties: *Complete an internal audit of the treasurer's books at the close of the year and make known their findings to the congregation.*
2. Christian Education: Chairperson, Stephanie Heck. Meetings as needed. Duties: *In partnership with the Pastor, are responsible for Christian Education of the Church including Sunday School, Bible School, Confirmation and Adult Education.*
3. Deacons, Chairperson, Karlene Wallace Monthly meetings. Duties: *Cooperate with the pastor to minister the spiritual needs of the church and community. Assist in administering the sacraments, membership, pulpit supply, ushers, greeters, hosts and other aspects of the church service.*
4. Mission & Outreach, Chairperson Bonnie Weyer. Meetings as needed.
Duties: *Carry out the activities related to the church missions both local and on state, national or world level.*
5. Music, Chairperson, Corinne Armitage, Meetings as needed, Duties: *In cooperation with the pastor, provide and organize the music program of the church.*
6. Stewardship, Co-Chairpersons, M.E. Sjolín & JoAnne Voss Monthly meetings. Duties: *Provide the principles of stewardship in the congregation by every available means including the planning and implementation of the One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, Christmas Fund.*
7. Trustees, Chairperson, Hap Eddy, Monthly meetings. Duties: Care & custody of the church buildings and grounds as well as all financial transactions and affairs of the church.

Approved Minutes
Neillsville United Church of Christ Council
August 24, 2026

The meeting was held on Monday, August 24, 2026 at Pastor Julie's home

Moderator Vine Called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM

Attendance: Trustee representative, Doris Bakker, Christian Ed. Representative Stephanie Heck, Vice Moderator Barb Petkovsek, Moderator Paul Vine, and Treasurer Bonnie Weyer.

Prayer: Pastor Julie shared a prayer.

Minutes: Motion by Barb Petkovsek seconded by Doris Bakker to approve the July 20 meeting minutes. Voice vote and all present voting "aye", motion carried.

Financial Report: Motion by Stephanie Heck seconded by Barb Petkovsek to approve the financial report as presented. Voice vote taken with all present voting "aye", motion carried.

New Business:

- A. Camp Scholarship Update:** In May 2026 a member donated \$1000 to the UCC Scholarship fund. The donor requested this money to only be used by UCC youth/children and not adults. Motion by Doris Bakker seconded by Bonnie Weyer to utilize available camp scholarship funds for Neillsville UCC youth to attend camp. Voice vote taken with all "aye", motion carried.
- B. September 20 service with Calvary:** Calvary Lutheran church will host a special service with music on Sunday September 20. UCC will join them. Pastor is working with the Calvary to have greeters, ushers, scripture readers from both congregations. This is also the kickoff for JAM. Following the 9:00AM service there will be a food truck offering lunch. It was agreed by consensus that if needed UCC would provide some funds with the amount TBD.
- C. \$2500 Anonymous donation to UCC from Greater Green Bay Area Foundation: in care of Barb Petkovsek:** This donation was made anonymously. By consensus the council agreed to use up to \$600 for the purchase of a new laptop for the power point. Bonnie will purchase. The remainder of the donation will be determined by the council. Barb will send a thank you note highlighting how the funds are being used.
- D. Christmas Fund Allotment:** In early August council members agreed via email to give \$500 to a member who recently went through a significant surgery. Motion by Barb Petkovsek seconded by Bonnie Weyer formally approve \$500 from the Christmas fund to the member. Voice vote taken with all present voting "aye", motion carried.

(Karlene Wallace entered the meeting at 6:00PM)

Old Business:

- A. Kings Conquest concert, August 30:** On Sunday, August 30, 2026 UCC will host a Kings Conquest concert and offer a potato bar. JoAnn Voss is coordinating the concert and Emile Miller and Carla Marty are coordinating the "food". The concert will be in the sanctuary and the meal will be downstairs.

- B. Chili Contest September 19:** Kirk and Nancy Rodman continue to plan details for the Saturday, September 19 Chili contest. Proceeds will go towards the local food pantry.

Pastor Report:

Pastor Julie met with confirmands and their parents. Confirmation will start on WED September 30.

Committee Reports:

A. Christian Ed:

Confirmation: Six students and possibly seven will participate. Students will be asked to help choose a mentor. Meetings will be on WED every other week and Pastor's home.

JAM: This will start on WED. September 30. UCC staff will help coordinate the Sunday Sept. 20 service. On this day a bouncy house will be rented for approximately \$400. By consensus it was agreed UCC will help share in the cost of the bouncy house.
(Stephanie left the meeting at 6:15PM)

B. Trustees:

HVAC Update: The Trustees reviewed two bids for air conditioning the sanctuary. Custom heating submitted a bid to not exceed \$25,800. The Ductless Dudes (Kyle Weyer submitted a bid of \$17,600. The council discussed the bids and agreed if UCC proceeds it should be with the low bid. They also discussed how to proceed. It was agreed prior to final approval the Trustees should assist in seeking and confirming the amount of donations received using pledge cards. UCC members should be made aware of the opportunity to donate.

Fair Service Update: Doris has discussed with current county board members the future of holding a service at future fairs.

C. Deacons:

Letter to members: The deacons discussed sending a letter to members asking them what UCC can do to help and support them. No final decision has been made at this time.

Sept. 6 Communion: Agreed will use single chalice with wine and bread.

Next Agenda items:

Next meeting date: 5PM Wednesday, September 23 at Pastor Julie's home.

Adjourn: Motion by Barb Petkovsek and seconded by Bonnie Weyer to adjourn at 7:45PM. By voice vote all present voted "aye", motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Paul Vine

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE
November 1, 2026 – December 27, 2026

	Deacon/ host	Greeter(s)	Usher(s)	Power Point / AV
Sunday, Nov. 1, 2026	Byrl Buddenhagen	Jim & Rosie Repinski	Roger Carl	Barb Petkovsek
			Paul Schmidt	/Emile Miller
Sunday, Nov. 8, 2026	Barb Shoemaker	Kirk & Nancy Rodman	Jim Sjolin	Barb Petkovsek
			Ken Shoemaker	/Bonnie Weyer
Sunday, Nov. 15, 2026	Sally Sadowska	Howie & Kathy Mathis	Craig Heck	Brynn or Calvin Heck
			Kalvin Heck	/Stephanie Heck
Sunday, Nov. 22, 2026	Karlene Wallace	Byrl & Sharon Buddenhagen	Don Quicker	Janice Miller
			Jerry Quicker	/Lydia Schumacher
Sunday, Nov. 29, 2026	Janice Miller	Lydia Schumacher	Jerry Hamm	Jennifer Erickson
		Karen Northup	Ray Weyer	/Crispin Hediger
Sunday, Dec. 6, 2026	JoAnn Wren	Susie Karl	Mike Perkl	
		Carole Romens	Debbie Perkl	/Emile Miller
Sunday, Dec. 13, 2026	Wayne Voss	Janet Meredith	Neil Armitage	
		Barb Miller	Corinne Armitage	/Bonnie Weyer
Sunday, Dec. 20, 2026	Byrl Buddenhagen	Ellie Golembiewski	Jenny	Paul Vine
		Doris Bakker	& Kevin Erickson	/Crispin Hediger
Sunday, Dec. 27, 2026	Barb Shoemaker	Jim & Rosie Repinski	Paul Vine	
			Kelley Burch	/Lydia Schumacher

 NOVEMBER 2026 **United Church of Christ**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <u>Twenty-Third</u> Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 AM Worship All Saints Day observed	2	3 1 PM Bible Study	4 7 PM NA	5 Noon- T&C Quilters	6	7 7 PM NA
8 <u>Twenty-Fourth</u> Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 AM Worship Communion served	9	10 1 PM Bible Study 4 PM – Deacons Mtg	11 <u>Veteran's Day</u> 3:30 -5:30 pm Confirmation @ Julie's 5-5:45 pm Christmas Program Practice 7 PM NA	12 1:30 PM Circle of Friends Meeting	13	14 7 PM NA
15 <u>Twenty-Fifth Sunday</u> after Pentecost 9:30 Worship	16 9 AM Card Making 9 AM- T& C Quilters	17 1 PM Bible Study 5:30 PM- Trustees Mtg	18 3:30 -5:30 pm Confirmation @ Julie's 5-5:45 pm Christmas Program Practice 6 PM Council Meeting at Pastor Julie's home 7 PM NA	19	20	21 7 PM NA
22 <u>Twenty-Sixth</u> Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship <i>Reign of Christ</i> <i>Decorate Sanctuary</i> <i>for Advent Season</i>	23	24 1 PM Bible Study 6 PM – HCE Homemakers	25 7 PM NA	26 	27	28 7 PM NA
29 <u>First Sunday of</u> Advent 9:30 Worship	30		7 PM NA			