GLAD TIDINGS!

July 2025

Gathered by the lake,
we are
Embraced by God
to **grow**
Empowered by Christ
to **care,**
Enriched by the Holy Spirit
to **celebrate**



Congregational United Church of Christ Neenah / Menasha

Hello Church!

I have a dream. A dream of a warm, sunny, comfortable Sunday morning that stretches into the early afternoon. A dream with the smells of fresh cut grass, fried chicken, watermelon, and tater salad. A dream that is filled with a few light hymns, heartfelt prayers, and the occasional amen. A dream that has us playing corn hole and throwing a foot ball around after worship, simply enjoying the beautiful churchyard we are blessed with that our many dedicated volunteers take such good care of.

This month, our outdoor worship on Sunday July 20th at 10:15 AM is going to also be a church picnic of sorts. If all goes well, we will worship outside in the front facing Nicolet Blvd. and eat out back on the pavement (parking area) in front of the garage.

- Connie Ragazzi is coordinating the details for this effort. If you have any questions or want to help, contact Connie call the church office and we will have Connie reach out to you
- Do you have a friend or family you have been wanting to invite to church, todays the day to do that. Go ahead. Let's have some fun.
- If the weather does not cooperate, we will bring everything indoors, and we will still have some fun.
- All you need to bring is yourself and the church provides all the food.
- We are doing our best to make sure this is a nut and shellfish free event.

I believe that a healthy faith community needs to share a common meal on a regular basis, that we need to break bread in more than the sacramental sense the 1st Sunday of the month, that we need to sit down and eat together. Imagine, we simply spend time with one another, just being ourselves, enjoying each other's company, getting to know one another, appreciating each other, supporting one another, being the family of God, we are called to be. Every family needs to be intentional about spending time together, stopping everything else that competes for our time, and devoting time to be focused on and with each other, and I believe our faith family needs to do the same.

I propose powerful worship to feed our spirits, a nice picnic to feed our bodies, and some joyful fellowship, simple games and easy, laid-back conversations. Join us, won't you?

Amen & alleluia,

R. E. Van Ess

Rev. Rob Van Ess





Pastor Rob will be at camp July 27th–Aug 1st . He will be available by cell phone.



Member **Jim Sell** passed away June 28th. Arraignments were not available at the time pf printing. Please keep Jim's family and friends in your prayers.



07/02 Hal Harding
Sue Dollhopf
07/03 Ava N.
Natalie H.
07/04 Madalyn Boehnlein
Norah H.
07/06 Nick Nelson
07/12 Jeff Stewart
Henry L.
07/11 Dave Zernicke
07/14 Leah C.
07/17 Amy Rogoff
07/20 Tom Hobart
07/21 Patty Hoehne
07/23 Laurie Kleist
07/24 Colin S.
07/25 Pam Klockzien
07/28 Kelsey Wadleigh
Jeff Nichols
Ce Ce L.
07/29 Mike Vrabec

July Wedding Anniversaries

July 6th
Art & Paige Puguh
July 16th
Adam and Sam Chaffin
July 29th
Dan and Sherri Jischke
July 30th
Steve and Linda Stoll

We would like to wish all a happy birthday or anniversary. If your birthday or anniversary was omitted , or you would rather not have it published, please contact church office.



Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Ongoing Prayers:

Ann Luebke, Sherri Jischke, Connie Regazzi, Gay Dickson, Jill Rosenthal, Alanna Smith, Crystal Lingenhag, Larry Olson, Shirl Alix, Tiffany Williams, Dar Schuff, Jerry Hupe.

Homebound:

Judy Doornbos in California, and Carol Wilcox.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Outdoor Worship

will be

July 20th

All church Picnic

***Aug* 17th**

Pet Blessing

Outdoor worship will be held by the Narthex doors. Please bring a lawn chair.

Folding chairs will be available .



July 20th

ALL CHURCH PICNIC

Church will provide all the food.
If you are wanting to help

please contact

Connie Regazzi or church office



Church office Summer Hours

Monday–Thursday

8:45am-12:30pm



CUCCNM is responsible for the Community Table on 3rd Tuesday every other month

August 19th *is our next Community* Table Date

Please see Sign up Board for more details.

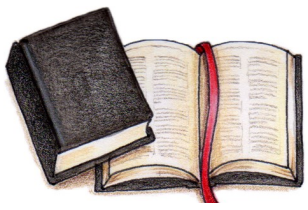
SUNDAY SCRIPTURES FOR JULY

July 6
Luke 2: 1-20 - Christmas in July!

July 13
Luke 10:25-37 - The Good Samaritan

July 20
Luke 10: 38-42 - Choosing the Better Part
(Outdoor service and church picnic July 20th)

July 27
Luke 11:1-13 - Jesus Teaches Prayer



A New Chapter: Embracing Change and Building Our Future Together!



It's an honor to serve as your new **Moderator** since June! I'm thrilled to share that our first **Ministry Council** meeting with the new group was productive and inspiring. Our theme is clear: **leaning into change, open communication, and transparency**.

We're in a season of exciting growth and opportunity. The council is focused on **looking to the future** while enhancing our current work. We're eagerly preparing for our **175th anniversary** early next year, forming a committee for the "401" house, transitioning to a new accounting firm, continuing building improvements, and creating a shared calendar for all activities, fundraisers, and events.

Perhaps most exciting is the **appreciative inquiry process** starting this fall, which will help us reimagine our church's future.

To our dedicated **Ministry Council members**: I'm so excited for this new chapter with you. Thank you for your unwavering dedication to our church's mission.

Signa Meyers, Moderator

DIFFERENT WAYS TO GIVE TO CUCCNM

1.Cash or check in the offering plate or by mailing it to the church.

2. Have your bank send an electronic check. (Bill Pay)

3. Use our QR Code that is linked to our website. Your giving will be taken through Pay Pal were you will use your credit card. *This option charges a fee to the church.*

If you have any questions, please contact Melanie in the church office. office@cuccnm.org or 920-725-4873

Accountant's Corner

	May	Year to Date
Giving Income	$ 12,851	$ 72,508
Interest + Rents	3,500	17,602
Other Income	8	97
Total Income	$ 16,359	$ 90,208
Expenses	18,533	104,277
Difference	**$ (2,174)**	**$ (14,070)**



We were in the **RED** at the end of the month, and in the **RED** for the Year.
Thank you to everyone who has contributed**!**

Church Information
1511 Nicolet Blvd.
Neenah Wi 54956
920-725-4873

Website: www.cuccnm.org

Pastor
pastor@cuccnm.org

Church Office
office@cuccnm.org

Christian Education Director
ce@cuccnm.org

Wider Church Contacts:

www.ucc.org
(United Church of Christ)

www.neaucc.org
(Northeast Association)

www.wcucc.org
Wisconsin Conference

FUNDRAISING WEEKEND RESULTS

Inquiring minds have been asking "where do you go with all the leftovers from the rummage sale?" After selling over $5,000 in donated items the leftovers go to: AAUW Book Sale, Community Clothes Closet, Riverview Gardens, Casa Hispana, Habitat Restore, Fox Valley Thrift Store, and Fair Market Thrift Store. This money is part of the line-item budget for fundraising and goes to support the programs and mission of our church, including support for the building maintenance and staff.



The plants that were donated raised $105 (included in the above amount) and Faith Development raised just over $3,000 for mission trips and camp scholarships. Brat Fry ran out of meat by 12:30pm!





It was a truly amazing weekend, lots of hands helped in making it all a huge success Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered , the bakers who made such delicious goodies, Kevin Katzman & Jacob's Meat for donating the meat and supported this effort.



We have new sidewalks at all of our entrance doors.
This will eliminate tripping hazard & replace our old broken concrete.
What a great improvement!





Mark Your Calendar:

Pizza Ranch-Oshkosh

Monday, July 14th the youth will be serving pizza and bussing tables at Pizza Ranch in Oshkosh from 4-8pm. Come and enjoy some delicious pizza or chicken and help support our youth!

SUMMER CAMP
Hey Campers of ALL ages!
Summer Camp



It is not too late to register for Summer Camp, go to https://ucci.org/ to find the perfect camp for you, your child, or your family. Camp is for ALL ages, so hurry up and register now! If you need help or have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Just a reminder, if your child is interested in receiving a camp scholarship a copy of your registration form or receipt must be turned into the Christian Education office. If this is not done it will be assumed by the Camp Scholarship sub ministry that your child does not wish to receive a scholarship award. Most scholarships are 50% of camp cost per recipient. Please email the registration to ce@cuccnm.org

SUMMER CHURCH CAMP

This year we have 14 campers going to Daycholah Center for Night Owl, Nighthawk & Nightengale Camp, & Me Family Camp, and Tenderfoot Camp. We also have 2 campers volunteering at Camp AweSum and a family (3) attending a family camp at Moon Beach. For a total of 19 campers enjoying our awesome church camps with UCCI!

Please keep these kids (and parents) in your prayers as they are reunited with friends at their favorite camp this summer, or going to camp for the first time. Claudia A., Kerrington A., Annabeth H, Diana & Jon Hintz, Lars H., Lenny H., Evie J., Sue Knuth & Camryn R., Matthew K., Tyler M., Sophie R., Cassie S., Colin S., Christopher S., and Carmen T. We also have 1 past members, who have moved to Maryland (Tautm V.) Attending with these campers as well. Even moving away from Wisconsin can't stop these kids from coming back to their favorite camp!

Ethan Meylink and Quinn Smith are excited to be working as Camp Counselors at Daycholah Center this summer! We wish them luck with their adventures but know they will have fun as they are working at their favorite summer place!

Mission Trip

We hosted our very first HomeTown Mission Trip June 10-12 and it was a HUGE success, with15 volunteers joining us! (See Facebook for pictures.) This was a Cross-Generational Mission Trip, youth ages 12+ and adults were all invited to join us to serve our own community. We had a great time while giving back to our community at Habitat For Humanity and Community Clothes Closet.

In June 2026 the YOUTH will be heading to Colorado Springs, CO for ta Youth Mission Trip and then in Summer of 2027 we will be hosting our 2nd HomeTown Mission Trip- Cross Generational- so everyone ages 12+ can join us! If you or your youth are interested in joining us on either of these Mission Trips, please contact Alanna now. Registration for Colorado Springs, CO is happening now!

Colorado Springs, CO Mission Trip- Summer 2026 for High School Youth

Any youth, currently in 8th grade- or above , who are interested in going to the Colorado Springs, CO mission trip **June 13th-20th, 2026** needs to be in touch with Alanna Please contact Alanna at ce@cuccnm.org. We are very excited to serve the community in Colorado Springs, CO!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

First Congregation Appleton has invited our youth to join their VBS, Galactic Blast, **July 7-11 from 9:00am-12:00pm OR August 25-28.** The youth will hear scripture, sing songs, have snacks, read stories, do a science project, play games, and more while learning about God and this amazing world! Scan the QR code or email rsalvia@uccappleton.org to register for VBS. (see poster)





CUCCNM: THE CHURCH BY THE LAKE
CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW
OCTOBER 25TH

If you or anyone you know would be interested in being a crafter/ vendor for the church by the lake show please contact Amy at Amyboehnlein@gmail.com (put craft show in subject bar)

$25 for an 8 foot table/ Event is on **Saturday, October 25 from 9am to 2pm** Or just mark your calendars and support our crafters / vendors-while getting a start on your holiday shopping!

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Upon receiving the schedule, please review it to ensure you are available when scheduled. If you are unavailable, please use the contact information to find a replacement for yourself. Please notify the church office **office@cuccnm.org** with the schedule change. Thanks to all for your continued support and service as volunteers! **If you would like to be added to the schedule please contact the church office. We are always looking for substitutes !**

Task	7-6-2025	7-13-2025	7-20-2025	7-27-2025
LITURGIST	Mary Janness	Kathy Mahoney	Pat Rosenak	Wayne Dickson
HEAD USHER	Terri Flesburg	Gay Dickson	Sherri Jischke	Connie Regazzi
USHER 2	Kerry Fox	Mary Liesch	Laura Kleist	Kerry Fox
USHER 3	Bonnie Pozolinski	Wayne Dickson	Pat Mahoney	Bonnie Pozolinski
USHER 4	Alan Gear	Wendy Remmel	Sue Knuth	Alan Gear
REFRESHMENTS	Laurie Kleist	Sue Dollhopf & John Williams	Mary Janness	John La Prairie
COMMUNION PREP	Terri Flesburg			

<u>YOU</u> CAN HELP SERVE!



Ministry of Spiritual Life would like to continue to offer a time for fellowship and snacks after worship to bring in 1 dozen cookies, bars (need not be homemade) or a gallon of juice sometime during the month you are assigned. Label the item "Fellowship" and take to the kitchen freezer/or bring them to the lounge .Your contribution is much appreciated! Watch for your turn to share as your "letter" comes up! Questions contact Terri Flesburg . Here is the schedule:





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 **8:30 am** Discussion Group **11:00 am** Bible Study	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5** **7-8:30pm** Horizon II AA
6 **10:15 am** Worship	**7**	**8** **8:30 am** Discussion Group **11:00 am** Bible Study	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12** **7-8:30pm** Horizon II AA
13 **10:15 am** Worship	**14** **4-8:00pm** **Pizza Ranch** Fundraiser. Oshkosh	**15** **8:30 am** Discussion Group **11:00 am** Bible Study	**16**	**17** **12 –2:00pm** **Bags to Benches**	**18**	**19** **7-8:30pm** Horizon II AA
20 **10:15 am** Outdoor Worship **11:15 am** **All church Picnic**	**21**	**22** **8:30 am** Discussion Group **11:00 am** Bible Study	**23**	**24** **11:30am** **Grief Group**	**25**	**26** **7-8:30pm** Horizon II AA
27 **10:15 am** Worship	**28**	**29** **8:30 am** Discussion Group **11:00 am** Bible Study	**30**	**31**		



DISCUSSION GROUP
Tuesdays at 8:30-9:30 am
We meet at Four Seasons Restaurant in Neenah for breakfast and lively discussion about current events and faith trends
1104 South Commercial Street, Neenah
Everyone is Welcome!



NEEDLERS

Share Fellowship and do Needlework
All who like to do (or learn to do) any type of needlework.

Needlers are taking the summer off!
We will resume in the fall.

Sunday Worship is in person.
Services will be broadcast **live on FB** every Sunday morning and later put on our website.

Click below to find our FB page
https://facebook.com/CongregationalUCCNeenahMenasha/
It will be posted on the church website later in the day.



BOOK CLUB
HOMECOMING
BY KATE MORTON
AUGUST 10TH
at Sweet Lair after Church

BAGS FOR BENCHES
3rd Thursday of month
July 17th
12:00-2:00 PM



Want to be a part of our recycling program and have fun at the same time? Come and fellowship while we sort plastic bags for our next bench. Questions contact Alanna at ce@cuccnm.org





Ministry Council

Moderator:
Signa Meyers

Vice Moderator:
Sue Knuth

Secretary:
Chris Parson

Accountant:
Dave Zernicke

Ministry of Faith Development
Becky Nichols

Ministry of Service:
Mary Janness

Ministry of Spiritual Life
Terri Flesburg

Ministry of Stewardship
Jeff Nichols

At Large:
Connie Regazzi
Sherri Jischke
Chuck Luebke

Church Historian:
Mowry Smith

Communication Coordinator
Marilyn Kostrzak

Time and Talent Coordinator:

Personnel Committee
Scott Olson
Marilyn Kostrzak

Pastoral Relations Committee
Kerry Fox, Patty Hoehne,
Bob Nault

Rev. Rob Van Ess Pastor,
pastor@cuccnm.org
Melanie Nault, Admin. Assistant,
office@cuccnm.org
Alanna Smith, Christian Ed. Dir.,
ce@cuccnm.org

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of Neenah / Menasha
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Neenah, Wi 54956
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JULY 14TH
PIZZA RANCH FUNDRAISER

JULY 17TH
12:00 -2:00
BAGS TO BENCHES

JULY 20TH
OUTDOOR SERVICE
ALL CHURCH PICNIC

JULY 24TH
11:30 AM GRIEF GROUP

MORE INFORMATION INSIDE