



Glad Tidings



Congregational United Church of Christ Neenah / Menasha

June 2011

We've all been there... the new kid on the block; the new face on the elevator; the person invited to the party because the person giving the party has all these friends and you're one of them but you don't know any of the other friends; the new person in the pews. We've all been there the stranger in the midst of people who know each other and know each other well. The person who steps into an ongoing story and doesn't know the inside jokes, the events of "previous episodes", the secret handshake or even the way to the bathroom.

And, we've all been on the other side as well... the kid that's been on the block for years; the face on the elevator that knows everyone as they come and go; the person with all the friends giving the party; the person that's been in the pews (probably the same pew) for years; part of the "in" crowd that speaks the language and knows the history. We engage and live in the beloved community with which we are a part and not only know the way to the bathroom but know how many times it has been painted and what colors.

A blog I was reading recently made reference to a television show that was very good at bringing new viewers up to speed – making new kids on the blocks feel like long-time residents. They do it by running a full 60-90 second clip of scenes from previous episodes. We've all seen it: the program begins with the voice of one of the main characters saying "Previously on...." and then there are snippets from past episodes that go back weeks, months perhaps into the previous season or seasons. It's all a way of helping the viewer engage the story so they'll stay tuned. It's a way of helping them belong. It's how the new kids on the block are welcomed and helped to feel at home. It's how they are given a place in the pews. It's how they are brought into the story and made to feel part of the beloved community.

Every time we worship, we step into the convergence of tradition and exploration. Every time we come together in fellowship, we abide on the block in which new kid and old kid walk together. Every time we gather to learn and serve, we join the party where friends and strangers are one in community. It's a community that has been around for years as well as one that is yet forming. Ours is to continue to tell the story of "previous episodes" so we can welcome new folks. But ours is also to bring new insights into the stories of faith, life and culture. Ours is to be aware of those that have stepped into the community and welcome them as well as to discover new ways in which community can be formed and shaped. Ours is to be the hands of Christ that invite and serve as well as those who are served.

Continued on next page

It sounds a little daunting and confusing, but it really isn't. It just takes a little work and internationality. It takes remembering those simple little words that Jesus spoke to his disciples from so long ago: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." (Luke 10:27)

As you step into the summer and all its offerings, may you always know that you are welcome in Christ's beloved community... No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey... you are welcome.

Lynne



Alan Gear will be on vacation May 25- June 5th.

Kristin Underwood will be on vacation June 6th- June 13 th.

Lynne Spencer-Smith will be at the Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting at Green Lake June 10th-12th. And a Continuing Education seminar and General Synod in Tampa FL June 27th-July 6th.




*Joined in
Marriage*

Congratulations to **Jean Blank and Mark Marek** on their marriage on May 21st.



Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers: Bernice Krug, Steve Furstenberg, Shirley Breening, Adeline Miller, George Fucik, Bernie Stieg, Ruth Anderson, Russ and Marilyn Corning, Laurel Mueller, Dorothy Blohm, Barbara Tungate. Judy Doornbos, Pat Jaegar, and Erv Hemb



<p style="text-align: center;"><u>June 6th</u> Joel and Susan Toepler</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>June 10th</u> Russ and Sharon Oestriech</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>June 12th</u> Betty and Dean Curtis</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 13th Rose and Walter Finch</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>June 14th</u> Pat and Kathy Mahoney</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>June 17th</u> Bev and Joe McCaughey</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>June 16th</u> Paul and La Vern Franke</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>June 18th</u> Denise and Jeff Burkett</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>June 22th</u> Marty and Jenn Abing</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>June 24th</u> Bob and Melanie Nault</p>	<p>06/04 Marilyn Corning Steve Stoll Sue Toepler</p> <p>06/09 Adam McAfee Crystal Hibbs-Magruder</p> <p>06/10 Clo Shumann</p> <p>06/11 Kayla Jischke</p> <p>06/12 Stephani Katzman</p> <p>06/13 Max Kofnetka Rock Siewert</p> <p>06/14 Lois Prosser</p> <p>06/15 Wes Urch Jeff Harding</p> <p>06/17 Jerry Pozolinski</p> <p>06/18 Carol Nickels Joe Meyer</p> <p>06/21 Tiffany Mauritz</p> <p>06/22 Gary Zurbuchen Joe McCaughey Alanna Smith Wyatt Brown</p> <p>06/23 Marilyn Kostrzak</p> <p>06/26 George Fucik Wayne Dickson Steve Ellisen</p> <p>06/28 Jessica Rogoff</p> <p>06/30 Julie Fahrenkrug Pete Suechting Adam Burkett</p>
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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 the church office.

Spiritual Life

Musical Greetings and Happy Summer!

Well, summer is now here and the choir is officially on a much needed vacation. I want to again thank our very dedicated choir for another fun year of singing, laughing and praising God.



My only request for the summer is to find people willing to share their special talents during the summer church services. If you are interested in singing or playing during the summer, please feel free to call me at home 722-9010 or Melanie at church 725-4873.

Thank you for considering sharing your talents at church. It is always a blessing to share and see all of our church's many talents.

Enjoy your summer and keep on singing. Use your sunscreen and may God bless all your summer adventures in this beautiful world.

God's Blessings, Sherri Jischke, Music Coordinator

June Lectionary

June 5, 2011

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

June 12, 2011

Acts 2:1-21 or
Numbers 11:24-30
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or
Acts 2:1-21
John 20:19-23 or
John 7:37-39

June 19, 2011

Genesis 1:1-2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

June 26, 2011

Genesis 22:1-14
Psalm 13
Jeremiah 28:5-9
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
Romans 6:12-23
Matthew 10:40-42

Summer Outdoor Services



The soothing warmth of the sun. A gentle breeze rustling through the leaves of the trees overhead. Birds singing an aria of praise to the creator of summer mornings. Lighthearted fellowship and an atmosphere of joy and gratitude.

These are all elements that make up the outdoor services held each summer at CUCCNM. This year we will be holding three services in the outdoor worship area located on the west side of the church property. Our outdoor services will be:

June 19

July 17

August 14

Mark your calendars, bring along your lawn chairs (but we'll have some regular church chairs set up, too), stay for some summer fellowship and invite a friend or two.



Summer Church Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

8:30 am-11:30 am



Glad Tidings

Deadline

June 15th

Spiritual Life



Permanent Hearing Loop Coming to CUCCNM!

Sometime during the week of June 13, a hearing loop will be installed in our sanctuary, making our services more accessible to those with hearing loss. Anyone who has a hearing aid with a t-coil will be able to utilize the hearing loop by engaging the t-coil. If you have a hearing aid with a t-coil but don't know how to engage it, contact your audiologist for instructions. Likewise, if you are not sure if your hearing aid has a t-coil, contact your audiologist.

The hearing loop will cost about \$6,500 - \$7,000 dollars to install. We have half of the cost already committed in donations. If you would like to make a contribution towards the purchase and installation of this important outreach to the hearing impaired, you can do so by making a contribution to the church and indicate "hearing loop." It would be a great way to make a memorial contribution or a contribution in honor of someone.

New Members



New Members

Welcome New Members!!

We welcomed 6 new members into our fellowship in March. We want to introduce them to all of you, so you may greet them by name at worship and our activities.

Julie Loberg and her daughter, **Chloe**, became acquainted with the church through Chloe's enrollment in our LakeEdge PreSchool. The rest of the family is comprised of husband, Tod and 2 year old son, Jacob. Julie is a RN at Parkview Health Center and enjoys her family, gardening, cooking and shopping for antiques.

Mary Kruschke and Craig Keberlein will be married this summer. Wanting a church home, they chose to join our congregation. Mary, a Customer Service Manager at Valley Bakers, is the mother of James, aged 6, and enjoys reading, baking, taking walks and spending time with family and friends. She is also attending FVTC's Business Management Program and will graduate in spring of 2012. Craig is the Store Manager at Matthews Tire & Auto in Menasha, and enjoys fishing and hunting, camping and outdoor activities, auto sports such as drag-racing, off-road truck, and cars in general.

John Hacker is married to **Cory** and the father of **Mackenzie** and **Michael**. He was a Corrections Officer until medical problems forced an early retirement. John is a family man and his family means a lot to him, however he is also an outdoor man and enjoys hunting and fishing, the family cabin, watching football and spending time in church and at church activities.

Jodie Eisch and Mario Mercado were new to the area and wanted to find a church, so Jodie let her fingers do the walking and found us in the phone book. Mario is a Long Haul Trucker with three children; Cheyenne - 13, Brandon - 8 and Serenity - 17. He enjoys spending time with family. Jodie enjoys cooking, WARM weather(80+), church, and her dog, Lucy.

Faith Development



As many of you know I have begun to pursue my certification in the area of Youth Ministry and Theology with Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey. My most recent trip this past month has left me with new ideas, knowledge and my heart filled to the brim with encouragement. The challenge of keeping the practice of this kind of study is maintaining it in the pace and challenge of everyday life.

Time for growth and learning are very important to me. There is something wonderful about having a period of time to absorb, muddle through and come to an internalization of concepts. Having that time and space helps for things to settle and the learning to not only become information that you know, but something that truly becomes a part of you. It's like coming up for a deep breath of air and feeling the positive effects of the oxygen throughout your entire being!

One of the best questions I heard being asked during my last session at PTS, was: "Who's on your bus?" Rebecca Hart, a Pastor, retreat leader and presenter and the Forum asked her group of assembled students. "Who is on your bus?" She took out a piece of scrap paper and said, "Take a paper and write down the people in your life that are Godly, supportive, and caring. Don't just write down "Jesus" or "God". While we all understand that God is always present with us; it's important to recognize who -in the flesh - is present in your everyday life."

I thought about all the people that are supportive in my life. There are the ones that I see every day: family and friends and there are people that I've discovered or chosen as sources of encouragement and learning: an author, musicians, peers, and so on.

While it was encouraging to see all these bus members, Rebecca challenged us to think if there was anyone missing from our groups. She said for us to thoughtfully consider who we might need in our lives, or who we might even want to ask to be on our bus as we prepared to head home.

Everyone that participated in this class was reminded of where they are being supported in their lives as well as where they might need to seek out some new bus members. We also had a chance to consider that each one of us may need to be on someone else's bus and that our life could be a source of encouragement to someone or many others!

In the book of Hebrews chapter 11, the authors (whom some feel was Paul, but scholars are not able to provide a definitive answer.) list the historical lineage of Christians. Following this long explanation is verse Hebrews 12:12 (The Message)

Do you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!

When we consider the "faith pioneers" that led the way in living out Christian faith we are reminded of the many people that are on all our buses! We are not alone in our journey of faith.

So, now it's my turn to ask you, "Who is on your bus?" Do you know who you can call on in your time of need, joy, sadness, fear, peace, frustration, rest, anxiety, discernment, leadership, **hope, grief, or abundance?**

Once you name who those people are, I encourage you to let them know what they mean to you. Even though they are on your bus, take the time to thank them for being there and ask if they would continue to do so.

Faith Development

Continued from previous page

If you need some more bus members, look to the people that surround your every day and ask those that exemplify characteristics you admire or desire to emulate; if they would be on your bus.

Before you know it, your bus will be very full with people that you know and that know you and who are willing to support, pray and share a Christian faith life together. Even sooner you may hear someone asking you. "Would you be on MY bus?"

As Disciples of Christ we are a part of the great cloud of witnesses that are called to be available, affirming and authentically present on each other's buses. *Whose bus are you on? Who do you need on your bus?*

May God bless you and your bus full of people for whatever journeys you take this summer!

Kristin

Camp Scholarship Update!

Congratulations! Thanks to our generous congregation we raised over \$5000 to support our youth and families with camp fees this summer. Without your help, generosity, and support this could not be possible. Whether you were moved by a Camp Moment, donated an item for the Silent Auction, contributed to the food pantry challenge, or were the highest bidder; your support of the UCC camp program and our youth has not gone unnoticed. Please look for Thank You letters from the scholarship recipients in early September.



High School Mission Trip

(for students completing 7th grade through 12th grade)
August 21-27 at Moon Beach Camp in St. Germaine, WI

This year the CUCCNM youth will be experiencing their first mission trip right here in Wisconsin at one of our very own church camps. For a lovely week in August our youth will be assisting with the Autism Spectrum Family Camp in the morning by "playing" with the children. Their afternoons will be packed full with cabin restoration projects such as, painting, cleaning, washing windows, and general maintenance. Cost of this trip is \$195.00. A \$25.00 non-refundable deposit to hold your spot (there are still a few spots open) is due to Kristin ASAP.



Summer CE office hours

Kristin can be found physically in the building Monday – Friday from 11:00 – 3:00. Please note that this does not reflect the number of hours worked during the week just the hours she is available to be contacted.

Vacation



Kristin will be out of the office
Monday, June 6 – Monday, June 13.



Save the date!

Vacation Bible school (VBS) is scheduled for Sunday, August 7 through Thursday, August 11th from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Our culture is embracing all things culinary, including vacation Bible school. Jesus calls us to "shake up" our lives and become his followers. The Bible gives us the recipe: be ready for God's call, give happily to God and to others, believe fully in Jesus as God's Son, remember Jesus' life and teachings, and celebrate God forever. *Shake It Up Café* introduces your children to stories of biblical festivals that reveal these ingredients and link the Old Testament, the New Testament, and our lives today. Mark your calendars today and be a part of this tasty journey through the Bible.

Ministry of Service



The Ministry of Service team wants to thank everyone for contributing to our special offering in March, One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). We committed \$1500 from the Good Samaritan Fund to kick off the fundraising, and the congregation donations totaled \$2075, exceeding last year's donations by \$575. Matching funds were at 50% for the first \$1500, and 100% for the additional \$575. In total we will donate \$4900 to OGHS, which includes relief for the tsunami in Japan. Thank you everyone!!!

Church



Great news! Jeff Puhlmann-Becker, Managing Director, has informed the church that enough money has been raised through various sources to accommodate the youth campers from Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Thank you to all who donated!

Camp Scholarship / Food Pantry Challenge June 5th



We are only 291 cans away from the \$1000 challenge for our camp scholarship fund. Just a reminder that for every item donated to the food pantry on June 5th an anonymous donor has agreed to contribute \$1 up to \$1000. Let's all pull together and help two worthy causes. Items collected now through June 5th will be counted toward the challenge.

ADVOCAP Needs: When you are looking at what you could bring for the camp scholarship / food Pantry challenge there are many needs other than non-perishables. They are in need of personal items such a toothbrush/ paste, deodorant, disposable diapers, feminine products, paper products or any other basic personal needs.

Spiritual Life

Summer Mid-Week Worship

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

Beginning June 15



Perhaps your summer schedule takes you away from town for the weekends. Perhaps your Summer weekends are filled with wonderful activities outdoors or with friends and family. Perhaps you would like an extra opportunity to gather with friends for worship and prayer. For all those who find themselves say yes to these or other summer "perhaps's", we will be offering a mid-week worship opportunity. Beginning June 15th and continuing through August 31st, we will be offering a casual worship service on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. We hope you will be able to be in worship at CUCCNM throughout the summer – whether it be on Sunday morning or Wednesday evening. Blessings!

Ministry Highlights

Highlights of the April 28, 2011 Ministry Council Meeting

Ministry Coordinators reported on their various responsibilities and upcoming events. All the information from the Church Chats regarding feedback about the reorganization will be compiled and the Council will then take a look at where we are. Using this information we hope to define what we need to do to be the church our congregation wants us to be. New officers will be installed May 15. Informational Ministry Moments will be provided on various Sundays after that to help the congregation understand what each Ministry does. Church members will be urged to sign up for the Ministry that fits their passion.

Yours in Christ, Kathy Mahoney, Ministry Council Secretary

2013 RUAH FUND UPDATE

An application from Sherri Jischke in the amount of \$5000.00 to establish a Scholarship Fund for Lake Edge to assist families with tuition was approved by the Ministry Council and Ministry of Service. There continue to be Ruah funds available. The Ruah Application forms and box are in the Narthex just waiting for your ideas for ministries of outreach and mission! Or you can give them to members of the Ministry Council, Ministry of Service, or Ministry of Stewardship.

God Bless, Kathy Mahoney, Ministry Council Secretary

Ministry of Stewardship



The end of second quarter of the church year is coming up. I will have the financial statements ready by Sunday, July 3rd. Statements will be held until July 12th then will be mailed. Any questions contact Melanie in the church office.

Treasures Report

	April	Year to Date
Giving Income	\$33,536	\$79,577
Interest + Rents	1,216	4,954
Vi Smith Income	1,008	4,033
Total Income	\$35,761	\$88,564
Expenses	27,591	90,429
Difference	\$8,170	\$(1,865)

Church information:

1511 Nicolet Blvd.
Neenah WI 54956
920-725-4873

Website: www.cuccnm.org

Church office
office@cuccnm.org

Pastor Lynne Spencer-Smith
pastor@cuccnm.org

Christian Education Director
ce@cuccnm.org

Communication Coordinator:
communications@cuccnm.org

Time & Talent Coordinator:
volunteers@cuccnm.org

Time and Talent

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 at office@cuccnm.org and Clo Shuman at volunteer@cuccnm.org with the schedule change

Task	06/05/2011	06/12/2011	06/19/2011	06/26/2011
Host	Laurie Kleist	Barb Meier	Pat Bezella	Gay Dickson
Liturgist	Don Kleist	Mary Leisch	Kathy Mahoney	Bob Nault
Greeter 1	Linda Stoll	Carol Sweet	Carol Sweet	Don Kleist
Greeter 2	Steve Stoll	Sharon Swatscheno	Erv Wegner	Laurie Kleist
Head Usher	Erv Hemb	Denise Burkett	Ruth Kobinsky	Steve Stoll
Usher 2	Dolores Gear	Kerry Fox		Connie Wadleigh
Usher 3	Alan Gear	Jenn Abing		Carol Sweet
Usher 4	Alison Heiser	Marty Abing	Sherri Jischke	Dar Schuff
Depositor	Roy Rosenberger	Ann Pabst	Dave Peperkorn	Roy Rosenberger
Communion Preparation	Cindy Wolf	n/a	n/a	n/a
Projectionist	Kevin Katzman	Kevin Katzman		Kevin Katzman

MEDICINES FOR HONDURAS



The members of the mission trip to Honduras are collecting unused and expired prescription and over the counter medicines which will be sent to Honduras on the next mission trip.

Over the counter medications that are helpful include aspirin, acetaminophen (Tylenol), and ibuprofen (Advil), multivitamins (for children and adults) and pre-natal vitamins.

If you donate prescription medicines, please mark out your name on the label but leave all other information. Also, if you have the prescription drug data sheet, please include it.

Donations can be placed in the plastic tote near the lost and found in the center hallway. Prescription medicines will be collected and stored for safe keeping.

Fellowship



Book club will be discussing *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*,” by Rebecca Skloot . We will meet on Tuesday, July 19 at 6:30 in the church lounge.



Pie on the Porch
Saturday mornings
June 11 and June 25
9am-noon

**Enjoy home-baked pies and support
the Church Camp Scholarship Fund.**

And.....

Pie on the Porch is a fund-raising event for the Church Camp Scholarship Fund. You can help by donating or loaning your vintage tablecloths, napkins, teacups, saucers and dessert plates. Individual pieces and sets are welcome. Home baked pies are also needed. They can be delivered to the church by 8am on either day. Help send kids and families to church camp.



FOX VALLEY WARMING SHELTER



The Fox Valley Warming Shelter is located in Appleton and their mission is to provide temporary shelter to homeless individuals.

Homelessness in the Fox Valley is a problem that needs our awareness and as caring Christians we have an opportunity to serve by helping to provide and serve a meal at the Warming Shelter. A warm meal, a kind smile and to be treated with dignity and respect is something we all deserve. By just spending a few hours a month you could make it a very special day for these men and women. The Morning Rotary Club has offered us the opportunity to help them with the evening meal on June 22nd, Aug 13th and Oct. 13th. If you feel called to help with this type of outreach project please contact Gay Dickson at 486-1871 for more information

Congratulate all of our High school Graduates!



Ian Bertschausen - Appleton East
Tyler Ellisen- Neenah
Teagan Janness- Jording- Menasha
Kristen Meier - Appleton West
Brittany Rabe- Appleton East
Peter Suechting - Neenah



Church Leadership

2011

Ministry Council

Moderator:

Marilyn Kostrzak

Vice Moderator:

Wayne Dickson

Secretary: Kathy Mahoney

Treasurer: Dave Zernicke

Ministry of Spiritual Life:

Mary Janness

Ministry of Faith Development:

Alanna Smith & Denise Stewart

Ministry of Service:

Laurie Kleist

Ministry of Stewardship:

Ann Pabst

At Large : Kris Anderson,

Kerry Fox and Jim Heiser

Communication Coordinator:

Barbara & John Meier

Church Historian: Dar Schuff

Time and Talent Coordinators:

Clo Shumann



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry knitting group will meet at **1:00 on Wednesday, June 15th** in the lounge. Would you like to learn to knit or crochet? Or are you currently working on a project? All are welcome to join us! For more information contact Barbara Meier .

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:30-11:30 Church office Open	2	3 5:00pm Kruschke/ Keberlein Wedding Rehearsal	4 3:00pm Kruschke/ Keberlein Wedding
5 9:30 Worship 10:30 am Pastoral Relations	6 8:30-11:30 Church office Open	7 7:00 am Discussion Group 11:00 am Bible Study	8 8:30-11:30 Church office Open	9 8:30-11:30 Church office Open	10	11 9:00-12noon Pie on the Porch 
12 9:30 Worship	13 8:30-11:30 Church office Open	14 7:00 am Discussion Group 11:00 am Bible Study	15 8:30-11:30 Church office Open 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00 pm Summer Worship	16 8:30-11:30 Church office Open 6:30 pm Finance Committee	17 Stoll/Blakenfeld Wedding Rehearsal	18 Stoll/Blakenfeld Wedding
19 9:30 Outside Worship 	20 8:30-11:30 Church office Open	21 7:00 am Discussion Group 11:00 am Bible Study	22 8:30-11:30 Church office Open 6:00 pm Summer Worship	23 8:30-11:30 Church office Open 6:15 pm Ministry Council	24	25 9:00-12noon Pie on the Porch 
26 9:30 Worship	27 8:30-11:30 Church office Open	28 7:00 am Discussion Group 11:00 am Bible Study	29 8:30-11:30 Church office Open 6:00 pm Summer Worship	30 8:30-11:30 Church office Open		

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***Summer Worship
Opportunities***

**Sundays at 9:30 am
Begin on May 29th**

**Wednesdays at 6:00pm
Starting June 15th**