Glad Tidings

Congregational United Church of Christ Neenah / Menasha **April 2011**

The difference the moon makes. You may have heard the news. You may have even seen it. Supposedly, the full moon that took place on March 19 has been referred to as a "super moon." Super because it looked bigger up in the sky than most full moons. That's because the moon was closer to the earth in its full state on March 19th than usual. So it appeared bigger… super bigger.

I missed actually seeing it on the horizon when it supposedly looked biggest, but I did get a glimpse of it farther up the nighttime sky before the clouds rolled in. It was big. It was beautiful (a full moon always is!). But, quite frankly, I couldn't see that much difference in this super moon than other regular full moons.

Nonetheless, this super moon has made a difference in the life of the church. Not because it was super but because it showed up on March 19 – just before the vernal equinox – the first day of spring. That timing has caused Easter to be very late this year.

Many, many years ago, when the church was young and growing and needed to have some uniformity in celebrations and festivals, the folks who were making those kinds of decisions determined that the celebration of the resurrection of Christ should be held on the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after the vernal equinox. This year, this super full moon came in just under the wire before the vernal equinox which means we get to wait a whole month more to celebrate the resurrection of Christ with our Alleluias and white shoes and new dresses and cheers of "Christ is Risen!"

By the time Easter gets here this year (April 24), the daffodils and tulips will most likely have already come and gone, the days will be pleasantly warm and our minds may be turned more towards lake flies and summer vacation than Easter bunnies and Spring break. We will have already lived through many of the things that we associate with Easter. We will have already been surrounded by resurrection as the world around us rises from the cold tomb of winter.

It will be a bit of a challenge to keep from joining creation in rejoicing in new life – and I'm not sure that anything we should. Because if God and the resurrection have taught us anything it is that nothing can keep new life from happening. Not death, not the grave, not injustice, not tyrants, not disaster or even war can hold the love of God at bay. Resurrection reveals the reality of the power of love that is at the heart of the God of creation. A power that will not be held back by winter's cold or hatred's shackles or even a moon that will take a whole month to be full again.

Continued on next page

So… come April 24th, the first Sunday after the first full moon after (or on) the vernal equinox…. we will celebrate Easter. We will indeed sing our Alleluias and proclaim "Christ is Risen!" But let us also recognize that even in the solemn days of Lent, God's love is already being ushered in with a brand new day.

God bless you all!

Lynne

Pastor Lynne will be out of the office April 14th through April 16th. She will be back in the office April 17th. If you are in need of pastorial assistance please call the church office or call Rev. Robin Reed at 740-8780.

Church office will be closed April 25th.

4/01 Paula Botten
4/02 Jim Heiser
4/05 Lynn Heldt
4/06 Tim Montour
4/08 Eli Oestriech
4/13 Emily Nault
Craig Keberlein
4/14 Joyce Forman
Walter Finch
4/15 Kristin Underwood
4/16 Jacob Loberg
4/17 Sharon Swatscheno
4/17 John Meier
4/18 Gary Bezella
4/18 Emily Ugoretz
4/19 Dolores Gear
4/19 Sharon Oestriech
4/21 Christina Brahe
4/24 Ginny Stutzman
4/24 Cadey Katzman
4/26 Adeline Miller
4/26 Jack Fry
4/28 Pat Katzman
4/29 Christopher Meyer
4/30 Russ Corning

April 4th
Jim and Alison Heiser
April 11th
Don and Julie Fahrenkrug
April 13th
Don and Laurie Kleist
Wayde and Amy Rogoff
April 18th
Wes and Diane Urch
April 19th
Lee and Dar Schuff
April 23rd
Greg Smith &
Lynne Spencer-Smith

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.

Jeff Doornbos, son of Bob and Judy Doornbos, who joined our congregation in November, died on March 8th in Milwaukee. A memorial service celebrating his life was held on Sunday March 13th. Please keep Bob and Judy and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

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. Bob and Judy Doornbos.

Spiritual Life

Easter Musical Greetings,

April will bring some new music to the choir and will also continue to bring us to Easter. Our time of waiting and reflection is drawing to a close as we look forward to Christ's resurrection.

**Choir Rehearsals For April 6 & 13: 5:00 pm on Wednesday

**Wed. April 20th Choir rehearsal back at 6:30 pm. This is a busy month for the choir with lots of special music and services.

Palm Sunday is April 17th There will lots of special Palm Sunday music as well as the church children singing.

Maundy Thursday: Is Thursday April 21st. There will be a special service at 7:00 pm. Please plan to attend this service.

Easter Sunday : Is Sunday, April 24th . The Adult choir will be singing at the 10:15 am service and we hope to bring joy and celebration to the service.

Keep singing and praising God with all of your best. Happy Easter!

God's Blessings,

Sherri Jischke, Music Coordinator

Wednesdays in Lent
Basic Schedule
5:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
6:00 pm Dinner
6:45 pm Lenten Service

GladTidings

DeadLine

April 15th

April Lectionary

April 3rd
1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

April 10th
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8: 6-11
Johns 11:1-45

April 17th
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Matthew 21: 1-11

April 24th
Acts 10:34-43 or
Jeremiah 31:1-6
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4 or
Acts 10:34-43
John 20: 1-18 or
Matthew 28: 1-10

Daily Devotionals

Looking for a faithful, Biblically based daily devotion? You can have one sent to your email box every day from the United Church of Christ. Go to ucc.org and click on "Daily Devotional" under "Feed Your Spirit." Fill out the registration information and just like magic (or God's amazing refreshing Spirit) a new devotional will be delivered to your in box very early every day.

Spiritual Life

Holy Week at CUCCNM

It all begins on April 17 – Palm Sunday!

Of course, we'll have palms and sing Hosannas as we commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday – April 21, 7:00 pm

We will have a "tasty" interactive experience as we gather around tables in Fellowship Hall and explore some of the ways our service of Holy Communion evolved from the Pentecost meal. (Although we'll have food, you should still eat supper before coming.)

Good Friday – April 22, 7:00 pm

Along with our brothers and sisters from Immanuel UCC in Neenah, we will spend a time of quiet reflection as we recall Jesus' trial and crucifixion.

Easter Sunday – April 24

8:00 am – Early service "By the Lake"…. Really, we'll worship at the end of Nicolet Boulevard by the Lake. (If it rains, we'll worship indoors)

8:45 – 9:30 am – Breakfast! Be sure to make your reservations and consider helping out by bringing some food. (See the article about the breakfast in this edition of the Glad Tidings)

9:30 am – Choir Rehearsal

10:15 am – Indoor worship with lots of Alleluias! and communion.

Please note there will not be any Sunday School or Children's Choir on Easter Sunday. The nursery will be open but will not be staffed.

Lent… 2011 Style

Who is Jesus to you? Friend? Savior? Mystery? Prophet? God's Son? Not quite sure?

Our Wednesday Night Lenten services are an opportunity to consider, explore and share who Jesus is to each of us. We are using reflections from the new book "The Jesus Diaries: Who Jesus is to Me." from the UCC Writer's Group. There will be discussion, prayer, interaction, visual images and singing.

We are also be collecting a special offering during Lenten services. This year's offering is designed to help both the church and our community. Recognizing that we are working with a deficit budget the offering itself will be used to support the ministries of the church. HOWEVER... There's more.. Every dollar that is received in the Lenten Offering will be matched with 2013 Ruah funds to be given to the ADVOCAP food pantry. Your Lenten gift to the church will also feed the hungry in our community.

Faith Development

Camp Sunday, April 3rd!

Join Jeff Puhlmann-Becker, director of Pilgrim Center, as he takes us on a journey through our UCC summer camp programs. We will gather in Fellowship Hall after worship for a good old camp meal. A free will donation will be taken with the hope of raising enough money to sponsor one camper. Come and sing camp songs, have a chance to visit with Jeff, and hear stories from our very own campers. Don't forget to wear your favorite camp T shirt!

Camp Scholarship Fund!

Our congregation has been challenged to raise $2000 for the camp scholarship fund. These generous contributors are willing to match the funds collected by the congregation up to $2000. CUCCNM has such a strong camp attendance due to the success of our camp scholarship fund; our church is responsible for sending the second largest number of campers to camp in the state. Last year we sent 35 campers to various family and individual camps, costing us approximately $3500; all through generous donations made by our congregation. Now through the end of May we will be collecting money for the scholarship program with the hopes of making that $2000 match. Keep up the great work! Watch the camp bulletin board (near the Narthex) to see who will be attending camp this summer.

Silent Auction to benefit Camp Scholarship fund!

Do you have a hidden talent or a skill that you are willing to share with others? If you answered yes to either of these questions than the Camp Scholarship sub ministry is looking for you!

As part of Camp Scholarship Fund month we will be offering a Silent Auction to help raise money for our campers. We are currently looking for people to donate items to be auctioned off. Maybe you make jewelry or are willing to prepare a meal for 4; maybe you make dolls or pottery; maybe you could babysit or act as a consultant on something you're good at. The sky is the limit. If you wish to donate something please see Kristin, Jim Heifer or Mary Janness with your donation.

Camp Scholarship Policy

Congregational United Church of Christ Neenah/Menasha (CUCCNM) Camp Scholarship program adopted by the Board of Christian Education in January 2010 states that all campers will receive a minimum camp scholarship of 25% of camp fees (after all conference scholarship money has been applied). **Due to financial limitations CUCCNM will award scholarships to only one camp experience each per summer session (scholarships for weekend retreats throughout the year are subject to available funds and will be at the discretion of the Camp Scholarship Fund sub-ministry).** Campers may earn up to 50% of scholarship money if they are active stewards in the life of the church. Active stewards in the life of the church includes, but is not limited to: regular attendance at Sunday school, worship, and youth group, singing in the choir, lighting the candles, providing special music, ushering, or participating in the outreach and mission projects of the church.

In order to be considered for a camp scholarship applicants must turn in a copy of their registration form to the Christian Education Director; it will be assumed that if no application is turned in the camper wishes to not receive a scholarship

It is also the expectation of the Camp Scholarship sub-ministry (which fall under the umbrella of the Ministry of Faith Development) that a summary of the camper's experience in the form of a letter, drawing, or a collection of pictures be sent to or dropped off at the church to show the camper's appreciation for the scholarship money received through the generous donations of the members of CUCCNM.

Faith Development

Teachers NEEDED!

The Sunday school program needs you! We are in need of a couple of teachers and a youth leader (for the 3rd – 7th grade youth group that meets on Wednesdays) in order to complete our 2011-2012 Sunday school program year. A completed application form and background check is required for teaching Sunday school. If this is a ministry that sounds like fun to you – you're right! Join our teaching team today! See Kristin for details

CUCCNM Youth Shed build for Habitat for Humanity.

Saturday, May 14

9:00 - 1:00

Calling all youth who can swing a hammer or use a screwdriver, even those who can't! If you are under the age of 18 you are invited to participate in building 2 sheds for Habitat for Humanity! Extra hammers (and tools) are welcome but adults are not. Chuck, Jim, Lynne, and Kristin have graciously agreed to assist the youth in their building tasks. Come join the fun, watch your bulletin for details.

Out of the Office

Kristin will be out of the office from Tuesday, April 26 to Sunday, May 1st attending her first group of classes at Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey. This is the first of several classes needed to obtain her Certificate in Theology and Youth Ministry.

High School Youth 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 is due by Sunday, May 1, 2011. An informational meeting for interested students and their parents will be held on Sunday, April 17th following worship. Please plan to attend, this is an awesome opportunity.

Confirmation News
Confirmation Sunday
May 1 - 10:15 am

We have had the privilege of walking with 7 young people through this year's confirmation program. On Sunday, May 1, we will rejoice in the journey they have taken as we worship together. Please plan to join with these amazing young people and their families and mentors in the celebration. Following the service, a reception will be given in their honor.

Important Dates

1. Youth group resumes on **Wednesday, May 4.**

2. **No Sunday school classes on Easter Sunday.** Please use this time to enjoy breakfast at church and then worship as a family.

3. Family mini putt day to celebrate the end of Sunday school season on **Sunday, May 22**.

4.Shake it up! CafÈ Vacation Bible School 2011 **Sunday, August 7 – Thursday, August 11th 5:00 – 8:00**.

5. High school youth group mission trip **Sunday, August 21 – Saturday, August 27.**

Ministry Council

Reorganization Church Chats

It's been almost a year since we stepped into our new organizational structure and started to live into it. That means it's time to put our heads together and get a sense of how things are going. There are multiple ways you can be a part of that and we hope you will consider doing all three.

1. Attend a church chat and be part of the face-to-face conversation

Church chats will be held on:

Sunday, April 3 at 9:00 am (during the Sunday School Hour)

Monday, April 4 at 6:30 pm

Sunday, April 10 at 11:30 am (right after worship)

2. Complete a survey. Online surveys can be accessed through Survey Monkey by going to http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SQ2XHLB and completing the survey online.

If you would prefer or don't have internet access, the surveys are available at the church office. Those who do not typically use the internet, surveys have been mailed to your homes. If you've misplaced yours or would like another one, pick one up at church – we've got plenty!

3. Have a conversation with any of the members of the ministry council:

Denise Burkett, Marilyn Kostrzak, Kathy Mahoney, Dave Zernicke, Ann Pabst, Laurie Kleist, Shirl Alix, Denise Stewart, Alanna Smith, Kerry Fox, Kris Anderson, or Jim Heiser.

Thanks! With everyone's helpful guidance we can keep adjusting our structure so that it helps us go forward in ministry and service to God.

Ministry of Service

Church Camp

Help A High School Youth from

Pine Ridge Go to Camp!

Several members of our congregation have been on work trips to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and have seen that children there have very few opportunities. Pilgrim Center has received a grant to cover the cost of transportation and chaperone expenses for 12 Oglala Lakota high school youth from Pine Ridge so they can attend camp here in Wisconsin this summer. An additional $400 per camper will be needed to cover the remaining costs.

Through your generous contributions to the camp scholarship fund, we have been able to provide awesome camp experiences for many of our own church youth. We have drawn on some of those resources already to sponsor two Pine Ridge campers. We are asking for additional sponsorship from you. Are you willing to help with this special effort? If so, please contact Kristin Underwood (725-4873) ce@cuccnm.org or Laurie Kleist (725-9427) dlkleist@tds.net for more information.

Ministry of Service

Camp Scholarship / Food Pantry Challenge
April 3rd

A win/win challenge is being presented to the congregation. An anonymous donor is challenging the congregation to help two worthy causes. The two causes are the Food Pantry we support on the first Sunday of each month and our Camp Scholarship Fund. The challenge is this : for every item donated to the ADVOCAP Food Pantry $1 will be donated to the Camp Scholarship Fund up to $1,000. The challenge will run from January to June 2011. So don't forget to donate your non-perishable food items at the beginning of each month!

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, diapers, feminine products, paper

Ministry of Stewardship

Stewardship report was unavailable at the time of printing.

Quarterly contribution statements will be available April 3rd. They will be located outside the church office . Those that are not picked up within a week will be mailed. Please pick up your statement to save on postage. If you have any questions please call Melanie (725-4873) in the church office

Ministry Highlights

2013 RUAH FUND UPDATE

An application from David Peperkorn in the amount of $2000.00 to fully sponsor the event was received and approved by the Ministry Council and Ministry of Stewardship.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

Spring Clean Up
May 7th
8:00am- 12:00pm

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	4/3/11	4/10/11	4/17/11	4/24/11
Host	Shirl Alix	Betty Curtis	Liz MacKelvie	Barbara Meier
Liturgist	Dave Day	Jack Fry	Pam Zielinski	Pat Day
Greeter 1	Stephanie Groom	Bret Underwood	Julie Fahrenkrug	Wendy Remmel
Greeter 2	Kevin Shumann	Jakob Underwood	Don Fahrenkrug	Noah Jones
Head Usher	Ruth Kobinsky	Lee Schuff	Ginny Stutzman	Dean Curtis
Usher 2	Dolores Gear	Dean Curtis	Cheryl Humleker	Jack Fry
Usher 3	Alan Gear	Pat Jaeger	Marty Suechting	Marcy Fry
Usher 4	Erv Hemb	Otto Jaeger	Ferry Fox	Alison Heiser
Depositor	Roy Rosenberger	Ann Pabst	Dave Peperkorn	Roy Rosenberger
Acolyte	Adam Aderson	Max Kofnetka	Chloe Abing	Sarah Ugoretz
Nursery 1	Alanna Smith	Tiffany Mauritz	Jenn Abing	N/A
Nursery 2	Marty Abing	Cindy Wolf	Audra Libertoski	**N/A**
Communion Preparation	Terri Flesburg	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**
Projectionist	Kevin Katzman	Jerry Pozolinski	Kevin Shumann	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.

A suitcase will be set up in the lounge for medicine donations. Prescription medicines will be collected and stored for safe keeping.

Fellowship

Book Selection was not available at the time of printing. Please contact Mary Janness for the next book club discussion.

Lake Edge Preschool is now accepting registrations for 2011-2012 school year. Our classes accept children ages 2-5 years of age.

We offer 3 classes:
Bees: 2/3 yr. olds - One day a week
Bunnies: 3/4 yr. olds – Two days a week
Bears: 4/5 yr. olds – Three days a week

Our preschool is state licensed and has a wonderful staff. All church members receive a 10% discount off tuition. Please contact Sherri Jischke if you have any further questions about the school and I'd be happy to answer them.
School phone number is 725-6135
Sherri Home phone number 722-9010

EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST COMMUNITY STYLE

Easter morning is a time for rejoicing! Come join many of your fellow members in a community breakfast prepared by our excellent volunteer cooks. To make this a scrumptious success, we need everyone's assistance.

A **sign-up board** will be available the first week of April so each of you can select how to make this a SUCCESS! P.S. A free-will offering will be taken to offset the basics that must be purchased; the balance will go to the Camp Scholarship fund for everyone to enjoy.

The meal will include: juice, coffee, milk, baked egg dish (the cooks favorite), pastry, breads, and muffins.

Date: Sunday, April 24
Time: 8:45 – 9:30 a.m.

Reservations requested by Monday, April 18. Please contact the church or Barb Peperkorn (729-1651) or complete a RSVP slip in the morning's bulletin.

2011
Ministry Council

Moderator: Denise Burkett

Vice Moderator:
Marilyn Kostrzak

Secretary: Kathy Mahoney

Treasurer: Dave Zernicke

Ministry of Spiritual Life:
Shirl Alix-Eck

Ministry of Faith Development:
Alanna Smith & Denise Stewart

Ministry of Service:
Laurie Kleist

Ministry of Stewardship:
Ann Pabst

Communication Coordinator:
Barbara & John Meier

At Large : Kris Anderson,
Kerry Fox and Jim Heiser

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, April 13th** 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 .

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 **Camp Sunday** **Pantry Sunday** **8:30 am** Children Choir **9:00 am** Christian Education H.S. @ Church **9:00 am** Church Chat **10:15 am** Worship	4 **11:30 am** Staff Meeting **6:30 pm** Church Chat	5 **7:00 am** Discussion Group **11:00 am** Bible Study	6 **5:00 pm** Adult choir **6:00 pm** Lenten Dinner **6:45 pm** Lenten Service	7 **12:00 pm** Clergy Study	8	9
10 **8:30 am** Children Choir **9:00 am** Christian Education H.S. @ Generations **10:15 am** Worship	11 **11:30 am** Staff Meeting	12 **7:00 am** Discussion Group **11:00 am** Bible Study	13 **1:00 pm** Prayer Shawl **5:00 pm** Adult choir **6:00 pm** Lenten Dinner **6:45 pm** Lenten Service	14	15 **Glad Tidings Deadline**	16
17 **8:30 am** Children Choir **9:00 am** Christian Education H.S. @ Generations **10:15 am** Worship	18 **11:30 am** Staff Meeting	19 **7:00 am** Discussion Group **11:00 am** Bible Study	20 **NO Dinner** **6:30 pm** Adult Choir	21 **Maundy Thursday** **7:00 pm** Service	22 **Good Friday** **7:00 pm** Service	23
24 **NO** Children's choir or Sunday School **8:00 am** Early Service by the lake **8:45 am** Breakfast **9:30 am** Adult Choir **10:15 am** Worship **EASTER**	25 **Church Office Closed**	26 **7:00 am** Discussion Group **11:00 am** Bible Study	27 **NO Dinner** **6:30 pm** Adult Choir Confirmation	28 **6:15 pm** Ministry Council	29	30 **Northeast Association Annual Meeting at 1st Cong, Appleton**

Congregational
United Church of Christ
of Neenah Menasha
1511 Nicolet Blvd.
Neenah, Wi 54956
920-725-4873
www.cuccnm.org
office@cuccnm.org

Holy Week Services

Sunday, April 17th	Palm Sunday	10:15 am
Thursday, April 21st	Maundy Thursday	7:00 pm
Friday, April 22nd	Good Friday	7:00 pm
Sunday, April 24th	Easter	
	Worship by the lake	8:00 am
	Community Easter Breakfast	8:45-9:30 am
	Worship in the Sanctuary	10:15 am