The Christian Church exists to demonstrate the grace and mercy of God. We do this by using the full range of our gifts in God's service and on behalf of the common good. As we live deeply into our purpose, we experience and model true love.

It is unlikely that any of us clearly envisioned the experience of trying to be faithful to the call of God while living through a pandemic. It has for most of us been disorienting and disconcerting and, occasionally, dispiriting. Even so, it is possible and important for us to embrace new gifts in this time. To be as faithful as we can to God and to our own values, for awhile we will need to let go of some things we like and enjoy. At times, that will feel unnatural and like loss, and it will call up grief for some, but if we can be open to the Spirit, we will be guided to goodness and renewal. That is a promise—not from me but from God.

As the current body of Christ on earth, Christians are resilient because the resurrection power of God is at work within us. God gives us the resources we need to discover new creation within the fragility of the present world.

Right now, in Wisconsin, the pandemic is not evidently diminishing to a rate that safely warrants the unmitigated reopening of anything—and certainly not of churches. Not yet, at least. Nevertheless, we are moving forward as best we can.

Church Council has decided to reopen the building on a strictly limited basis to outside groups that have previously used our facility. Because Lake Edge Learning Center must maintain very stringent health and sanitation precautions to keep staff, children, and parents safe, no one beside Lake Edge staff and children will be allowed in the education wing for the foreseeable future. Other groups meeting inside the building will enter through the south entrance (nearest the garage), use only the bathroom beside the kitchen, abide by a ten-person limit, wear masks, use only the south end of fellowship hall or the choir room, and disinfect every surface they touch prior to leaving the building. Ministry teams, and regular church groups like the Bible study and the knitters may resume use of the lounge if they desire, provided that they observe at least six foot distancing and wear masks. If congregational groups still wish to use zoom for meetings, the congregation will still provide that tool. Ministry of Faith Development will be meeting soon to make a decision about Vacation Bible School.
Council has given me permission to explore the possibility of holding outdoor services in July and August. We will proceed with that possibility only if we determine that outdoor services can be adequately live-streamed to Facebook and recorded for website viewing. By continuing to present a video version of the service, worship will still be available to our friends who do not feel safe venturing out. More information will be forthcoming about this opportunity once we understand our technological capability. If we end up not meeting outside, Sunday worship will continue in the same format we have been using in March, April, and May--live-streamed from the sanctuary with a very small group presenting the service.

Council will continue to monitor the rate of coronavirus infection in Winnebago and our neighboring counties and in Wisconsin generally. Building requirements and guidelines will be modified when and if conditions warrant.

Thanks for your good faith and patience as we discern the nature of our new normal. We all know that we are deeply blessed to have each other as friends and companions on the way. God is good.

in time with hope,
Pastor Dave

Wedding Anniversaries

June 1st
Amy and Dave Kufahl

June 6th
Joel and Susan Toeppler

June 14th
Pat and Kathy Mahoney

June 16th
Paul and LaVerne Franke

June 18th
Jenny and Eric Blankenfeld

June 21
Connie and Tom Regazzi

June 22th
Marty and Jenn Abing

June 24th
Bob and Melanie Nault

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.
Summer is here! It's been a very strange Spring for everyone! And while the calendar may not claim it's officially Summer yet, the weather is getting warmer and we are past Memorial Day. Hopefully we will be able to worship together soon. When we do, I am looking forward to continuing to share music and help deepen your worship and praise. Over the Summer I would love to have you enhance our worship by sharing your musical talents! No matter, what your level of experience is, we welcome you! If you, or your kids, would like to share your talents, let me know! I hope to hear from you soon. Until then, have a great June!

Spencer Jones

Join Pastor Dave and Spencer on Sundays at 10:15 am for worship until we are able to worship together

Click below to find our FB page
https://www.facebook.com/
CONGREGATIONALUCCNEENAHMENASHA

It will be posted on the church website later in the day.

Www.cuccnm.org.

PANTRY SUNDAY
LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Free lunches are available at the Fox Valley Community Table (200 N Commercial St Neenah) Tuesdays and Saturdays from 11:30am -12:30pm in the church parking lot. Thank you to the private donor who makes this possible.

CUCCNM provided the bagged lunches on June 2nd.

If anyone still wants to help the mission of the FVCT, St Paul's has graciously allowed us to fill the "Blessing Box", which is located on 200 N Commercial Street, right in front of the church. You are welcome to put any non-perishable items into the box you might like, keeping in mind there is no temperature control.

June Lectionary
June 7th
Genesis 1:1-2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

June 14th
Genesis 18-15(21:1-7)
Psalm;1-2,12-19 or
EX 19; 2-8a Ps 100
Rom 5:1-8
Matt9:35-10:8, (9-23)

June 21th
Genesis 21:8-21
Psalm 86:1-10,16-17 or
Jeremiah 20:7-13
Psalm 69:7-10,(11-15),16-18
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

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

Upcoming DEADLINES
June 15th
Glad Tidings Deadline
Meet the Kufahls!

Amy and Dave have lived in Neenah for the past 16 years. Amy is a nurse at Ascension and does home health visits. She visits patients recently released from the hospital and helps them adjust to treatment at home. Dave works for Nabisco in food distribution, so they are both very busy.

Amy and Dave were married in 2002 in Appleton. They stumbled upon CUCCNM because they had wanted to find a church closer to home offering Christian education for their girls, Bailey and Caiti. They loved the tightness of the congregation and felt CUCCNM was a great fit! It helped that their girls have a number of friends here too. Dave says, “We have enjoyed our time here ever since!”

Dave is a passionate sports fan. Amy can tell you anything you want to know about The Walking Dead, and enjoys traveling (ok, not the traveling, but the vacation part!) Mason (22 years old) is going to college part-time and works at the Fox Valley Humane Association. Bailey (15 years old) was confirmed last fall at CUCCNM and is finishing her freshman year as a Neenah Rocket. Her favorite song is Piano Man by Billy Joel. Caiti is in 7th grade at Shattuck in Neenah. She participates in Cross Country and Track and hopes to Moonwalk as well as Michael Jackson someday! They also have 2 dogs., Barkley a 7 yr old Red Fox Lab who can eat 6 boxes of girl scout cookies in one sitting! Roo is a 1 yr old Black Lab.

As a family we like to play games together and spend time playing with our dogs. We also like to travel. We have been to 9 countries and are hoping to hit a tenth this summer Dave plays any sport, Amy (Katniss) shoots recurve bow, Mason is training to run a marathon, Bailey is an avid artist, and Caiti is trying to become a YouTube sensation by ”busting a move!”

Meet the Hobarts

Tom and Katie are both from Door County, but didn’t really know each other until in their twenties. They moved from Denver back to the Midwest because they wanted to put roots down closer to family. After visiting different churches and synods for a few years (yes, years!) they attended a service at CUCCNM and knew it would become their church home. The values and beliefs of CUCCNM aligned most with their own and they felt very welcome here.

Norah (4) makes the funniest faces and is the one who can make Nina (7 months) laugh the hardest. Natalie is our middle child (2) and is incredibly empathetic for a two year-old. Nina Joy crawled as soon as she could sit upright! She was named after the happiness Tom and Katie had upon learning she would be joining the family!

The Hobarts love taking walks around Doty Island where they live, camping and swimming in Door County and playing games together. Norah especially enjoys swimming, Natalie is the family ballerina and Nina is looking forward to taking lessons at the Y to see what she likes.

Tom works for a medical safety company and Katie is a chemist with Encapsys in Appleton, splitting time between the lab and working from home.
Ministry Of Service

PLANT GIVE AWAY MAY 20th

Thanks to Carol Wilcox, Sue Dollhopf, Mary Liesch, and Marilyn Kostrzak about 20 plants were dug, divided, potted and labeled from the church gardens on May 19. The original plan to start digging on May 15 was delayed because of the big hatch of lake flies. Then the rains came.

A special thank you to Amy Boehnlein for creating yard signs. Marilyn Kostrzak set up ads on Facebook and the church website.

Those people I know added plants from their yards were Ann Luebke, Becky Brown, Carol Wilcox, Pat Rosenak, Pastor Dave’s household and me. There were around 100 plants total given to “beautify the neighborhood” and “add flavor to food”. There may have been others who contributed after May 19th; if so a big thank you to you also.

An envelope was included with each plant to explain our gift as follows:

“The world is different this year and so is our plant sale. The plants are free. Pay it forward and help a friend or stranger.

Watch us on Facebook at 10:15 on Sunday. Visit us at https:cuccnm.org. or on Facebook.

Donations: Habitat or Congregational United Church of Christ Neenah-Menasha.”

Thank you to Mary Janness for help with wording.

On the inside was information about the church and some of the programming as well as info about our labyrinth. I’m sure all the plants will brighten their homes.

Laurie Kleist

Plant Give Away included over 100 plants that were all picked up the first day, May 20.

What to do with the kids during this unusual time?

1. Break into the Take Out Church boxes that are delivered weekly to your home.
2. Take Out Church will be delivered every 2 weeks throughout summer until we can join together as a group.
3. Chalk you Walk; write some happy or inspirational messages in chalk on your driveway, sidewalk, local park trail, etc, to help put a smile on those who walk by.
4. Dinner questions or bedtime questions:
5. Where did you see God today?
6. What was your high for the day?
7. What was your low for the day?
8. Ask God to help with our lows and praise God for our highs.
9. Take a look at this website, he has some great ways to help your kids through this challenging time, and beyond. https://faithink.com/the-faith5-steps
**Confirmation Class**

Confirmation class began May 7th via Zoom. They will be confirmed in May 2021. We have 7 awesome youth participating in confirmation this year, and we hope to get together with them in person soon.

**Camp Scholarship Silent Auction!**

The Silent Auction is up and ready for bidding. We will keep the Silent Auction up until further notice. At this time all camps at Pilgrim Center (youth camp) and Moon Beach camps (Camp AweSum and family camps) have been cancelled. Thank you all for your support with Camp Scholarships!

**Sunday School Teachers are Needed for next school year!!**

Do you enjoy spending time with kids? Would like to be a part of our youth’s education? Our two PreK-1st grade teachers are moving on to college and will not be available to teach. We are looking for 3 or more people to fill their shoes. If you like hearing the laughter of children and would like to teach God’s love, please talk to Bridget Balogh or Alanna Smith today! ce@cuccnm.org

**PILGRIM CENTER & MOON BEACH CAMPERS**

This year we had 15 campers who were ready to go to Pilgrim Center and 3 campers were ready to go to Moon Beach for Camp AweSum this summer. Please keep these kids (and parent) in your prayers as they will all miss going to their favorite place this summer.


**BRAT FRY**

Unfortunately, the Brat Fry, along with all Doty Island rummage sales, will be canceled this year. Thank you for your support in the past, look for us next year!

**A NOTE FROM YOUR “KIDS”**

Hi, Ms. Alanna, how are you?
Thanks for bringing us things to do.
We miss our time in church, oh yes,
But being safe right now is best.

Jesus loves us, that we know,
And you are helping us learn and grow.
So thank you lots for all you do,
We really miss you, and our teachers, too.

from the CUCCNM Sunday School Children

Alanna Smith, our Christian Education Director, has worked very hard to keep the children connected to church during the past few months. Every Friday, she has delivered to their homes a “Take Home Church” packet containing things to learn and fun things to do. With the help of Marilyn Kostrzak and a team of dedicated teachers, the kids have been able to attend Sunday School on a Zoom connection and that has been available on the church website later on Sunday as well. A special thanks to all of them for their commitment to our children.
**Ministry of Faith Development**

**GRADUATES!!!**

We have **6** High School Graduates; Chloe Abing, Cadey Katzman, Maya Jamrock, Abigail Jischke, Brandon Oakley-Janness & Kelsey Wadleigh.

We have **2** College Graduates; Noah Jones & Lucy Pabst.

We also had an **honorary High School Graduate** we had to say goodbye to early; Erjon Ravolli; Sharon Oestreich’ foreign exchange student who was with us this year.

They all will receive a card and a journal with the UCC comma on the front. We are SO proud of you all!

Those who were able, told us a little bit about what their plans are after graduation.

**CHLOE ABING**
Neenah High School

**What you plan to do next:** I will be attending Edgewood College for elementary education and Spanish

**Favorite memories of childhood:** My favorite memories of childhood are camping with all of my family and visiting my grandparents’ farm.

**Favorite memories of church:** My favorite memories of church are the lock-in we did for confirmation and going to Camp AweSum.

**What will you miss most about your school:** I think I’m definitely going to miss seeing all of my friends everyday the most. Also there are so many amazing teachers at Neenah that I will definitely miss seeing.

---

**ABIGAIL JISCHKE**
Neenah high school.

I will be attending UW Milwaukee in the fall to study sonography and Pursue a career as an ultrasound technician.

**My favorite childhood memory** is going to Disney with my family and being able to be at the happiest place in the world with the people I love the most.

**My favorite memories of church** are going to camp each summer. I loved being able to meet new church friends, make craft projects and explore outside all while strengthening my faith.

**After graduating** I will miss seeing all of my friends everyday.

---

**CADEY KATZMAN**
Appleton West HS

**What you plan to do next:** Study criminology at UW-Whitewater

**Favorite memories of childhood:** going to Disney World

**Favorite memories of church:** Christmas services

**What will you miss most about your school:** Friends and playing softball

---

**BRANDON OAKLEY-JANNES**
Sheboygan South High School

**What you plan to do next:** Technical College for Food Service Management

**Favorite memories of childhood:** Family vacations

**Favorite memories of church:** Camp and my Confirmation mentor, Steve Ware

**What will you miss most about your school:** Friends

---

**KELSEY WADLEIGH**
Menasha High School

**What you plan to do next:** I am planning on going on to school for Biology and pre-veterinary at Saint Cloud State University.

**Favorite memories of childhood:** Hanging out with lots of friends and going on lots of trips oh and camp! (And coffee with Dave)

**Favorite memories of church:** Getting to know two of my best friends and going to camp and the church lock in!

**What will you miss most about your school:** I will miss my friends and my teachers and just about everything!

---

**NOAH JONES**
UW Madison

**Degree:** Major is BA in Journalism and Mass Communications

**Minor** is Afro American Studies

**Plans:** Find a job! (hopefully in my field & use my degree!)

**Favorite memories of childhood:** Going to Seattle & seeing the troll under the bridge holding the Volkswagen sculpture & visiting Boston when I was 5 yrs old with family & giving directions back to the correct subway when the adults couldn’t navigate it themselves! LOL

**Favorite church memory:** Visiting Barack Obama’s church in Illinois with Confirmation class (Trinity UCC)

**What will you miss about school:** My roommates & the beautiful campus
3 WAYS TO SEND IN YOUR PLEDGE OR CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHURCH:

1. Yes, the "Donate" button on the website goes through your credit card or PayPal. PayPal charges 2.2% plus $.30 a transaction. Credit cards vary in charges depending on what kind they use. If you feel the church should not absorb this cost, simply add the fee to your amount being sent to cover the fee.

2. To have the bank send a check you need to go to your bank website and set up a payment. You can do a onetime payment or reoccurring. These checks will go directly to the Church (Congregational UCC, 1511 Nicolet Blvd, Neenah, WI 54956). The church does not use a form for withdrawing, but rather individuals work with their bank to "push" a payment to the church.

3. You can mail the check yourself directly to the church.

Thank you to all of you that have already sent in your pledges. Now more than ever, we have witnessed that the church is not just the building in which we gather on Sunday morning, but the church is the people who are called to Christ’s mission in the world!

NEW TAX BREAK FOR CHARITABLE GIVERS:
The CARE Act of 2020 gives each taxpayer an additional $300 tax deduction for charitable donations even if they use the Standard Deduction (do not itemize) for 2020. It is another way to give a little extra boost to your giving to CUCCNM in addition to your regular donations or giving from your IRA and experience additional tax savings.

Accountant’s Corner

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<tr>
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<th>April</th>
<th>Year to Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Giving Income</td>
<td>$ 13,177</td>
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<td>Interest + Rents</td>
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<td>5,394</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
<td>$ 13,227</td>
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<td>Expenses</td>
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<td>Difference</td>
<td>(1,425)</td>
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We are still in the BLACK in April!! Thank you everyone who has contributed!

Moderator Moment

It’s going to be awhile I’m afraid till I can say “See you in church.” As I write this in the middle of May, the stay at home rules have been lifted. Fortunately, most places, including our church, are maintaining safe practices and limiting contact. Nobody has all the answers about returning to a “normal” routing, so we’ll proceed with caution. Pastor Dave, Stephanie Vrabec, and Dan Jischke are working together to determine the best practices for going forward. The health and safety of you and your families is our prime concern.

The Council continues to meet virtually and attends to the ongoing business of the church. Any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Yours in Christ,
Kathy Mahoney, Moderator
For anyone feeling overwhelmed and in need of professional help:  
Samaritan Counseling Center of the Fox Cities

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!
SCHEDULE YOUR
TELEHEALTH APPOINTMENT
(920)886-9319

Telemental health sessions are proven to be as effective as in-person counseling.
All you need is access to the internet and a computer, tablet, or smart phone with audio and/or video capabilities.
You can meet with your counselor from the comfort of your own home.

We are taking new clients!
We are all in this together and will continue to meet your needs in the safest way!

BOOK CLUB
Our current selection is
The Only Woman in the Room by Marie Benedick
We will discuss this in the future when we it is safe to do so.

LAKE EDGE NEEDS:
Old pots, pans, lids, skillets, cooking utensils, Upraised planter beds, 4-6 foot tree branches: About, old wood planks 1-3 feet for building: 15, tree logs( 3 feet long)-lots: 20, Slate Chalk Board–from a school, Outdoor Mirror – Shatterproof, Outdoor cushions, Tarps: 3 Large for Cozy/Library Tree area, Old wooden door for a rock climbing.

Contact Robin if you can donate any of the items
lakeedgelearningcenter@gmail.com.
MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP

MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP

The coronavirus pandemic has affected all our lives, your Ministry of Stewardship included. We are unaware directly of members who have lost jobs or hours but suspect family finances are being monitored more closely, at least. A sincere THANK YOU to all of you who have continued to honor your pledges and contributions as closely as you are able, especially as you must go out of your way to send them online or through the mail while we can only meet virtually.

Your Finance Committee has had to monitor the church’s finances more closely as well. We planned significant facilities improvements for this year with the increased values of our Forever Facilities Fund at year end. The stock market drop has erased those increases, however, and has us hoping to delay redeeming shares until the values return closer to where they were. With the church virtually empty, the timing is great for projects to be completed, but we must closely follow our cash flow.

That said, as of this letter, new flooring has been installed in Rooms 4 and 7 and the LELC hallway, a handicapped ramp in the sanctuary is completed, a handicapped accessible bathroom is nearly complete, the first 2 of 3 phases of an A/V upgrade in the sanctuary are complete, and an outside door in Room 3, allowing LELC to accept more toddlers, with dollars from a very generous donation, is being planned for installation by summer’s end. A big THANK YOU to Dan Jischke for most of this work, as well as to Kevin Katzman for coordinating and monitoring the A/V upgrade.

Lake Edge Learning Center had to close in April due to the loss of nearly all students and related revenue, but has reopened in May with the help of a Paycheck Protection Loan. This was achieved through many hours of research and communication by Linda Stoll, LELC’s Board Chair, negotiating vague and changing rules and requirements until relative certainty of loan forgiveness was ensured. Another big THANK YOU goes out to Linda. In addition, Erv Wegner took it upon himself to resurface the playground paths, recruiting help from several neighbors. THANK YOU Erv.

Don Kleist and Erv Wegner continue to quietly handle the great majority of building and grounds maintenance, spending countless hours at church. I’m not sure words alone can say THANK YOU enough to these men for the years of dedication they have given this church. I ask that all members consider how they might set aside some regular time to assist with maintenance of our facility.

Finally, I’d like to say THANK YOU to the members of the Ad Hoc Stewardship committee on GENEROSITY: Chair Kent Mosebach, Marilyn Kostrzak, Pam Zielsinski, Chuck Luebke, and Bryan Engelhardt. Over the next year, you will hopefully see new ways to think about generosity.

Steve Stoll
Coordinator, Ministry of Stewardship

Greeting Cards (Envelopes)

As you were cleaning in the past several weeks, did you come across greeting card envelopes with no cards to match? And you wondered what to do with them? Well, wonder no more! The Congregational Care Ministry Team would like you to set those aside for us and bring them to church when we are able to gather again. Why? We received a very large donation of greeting cards, but not all of them have matching envelopes. Perhaps with your help we will be able to salvage those cards to use as we make connections with the members of the congregation. Thanks for your help!
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HOW STAY IN CONTACT WITH MY CHURCH FAMILY
DURING THE SAFE AT HOME ORDER:

• Have you given the church office your current email address and or current phone number?
• If you have not been getting church emails?
  Please contact the church office (office@cuccnm.org) to make sure your address is correct.
• Give a church member a call, email or text to check on how they are doing.
• Start an small email chat group

Contact church office if you need an updated directory
office@cuccnm.org