

The WORD



Nekoosa United Church of Christ

(the church by the bridge)
Rev. Timothy Miller,
Pastor

205 Market street
Nekoosa, WI 54457
715 886-3371

Sunday Worship: 9:30 am
www.nekoosaucc.org

Office Hours: Mon – Thur
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
FRI – Closed

Pastor's Hours: Mon
12:00 noon – 6:00 pm
Tues – Thur
9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Email:
office@nekoosaucc.com
pastor@nekoosaucc.com

Web Site:
www.nekoosaucc.org



June 2020

Happy Pentecost to you!

I've admitted before that Pentecost is my favorite church holiday, yes even over Christmas and Easter! This year we had to miss Easter and now Pentecost. Well, that is not entirely true. Easter and Pentecost have happened, they just happened differently than what we are used to and differently than we would like them to be. Many of us "attended" worship service online and even communed virtually together. I have to admit that it was my first-time giving communion and my first-time taking communion myself online. It was different, yet it still was moving and special for me. By taking it seriously and eating the bread and drinking the wine or juice I still felt connected; both with all of you and with God.

Things will be "different" for a while longer yet according to predictions and by watching covid virus infected numbers in places that have "opened up". Some churches have started services already and we will be watching how that goes as well. Our main goal is to start in-church worship as soon as it is safe for our church to do so. Our main priority is the health and well-being of our entire congregation and families. Until then we will have to allow God to come to us where we are. God is able to do that and has done it many times before. **John 20:19** "When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." **Welcome Jesus! We weren't expecting you!** One more visit comes on my favorite Holiday; **Acts 2:1-4a**, "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit", **Welcome Holy Spirit! We weren't expecting you here!**

You see, even while safer at home is what we need to continue for a while yet as a church, we still can connect with God. Throughout the entire story of the Bible **God has made house calls!** Even with doing at home communion I believe God is with us in it. Maybe even

(con't)

more so now seeing as we are not just going through the motions like we always have done, but by making a real individual effort to open ourselves to receiving God's Spirit within our souls where we are at, however we can.

Invite the Holy presence into your life no matter what is going on, where you are or how you do it; seek and you will find, knock and God will answer. **Welcome God! We are glad that you are here with us...we were expecting you!**

Peace and Love,

Pastor Tim

Easy steps to give to the church online

- 1.) Go to www.nekoosaucc.com
- 2.) On the right side click on create profile
- 3.) Enter email and a password.
- 4.) Fill in answers to questions (have your bank account# routing# handy)
- 5.) Then fill in the amount you want to give; How often you want it to come out (weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or yearly)
- 6.) The date you want it to start coming out.
- 7.) When you want it to stop. If you leave this blank it will continue until you stop it.


The example below would take out \$50.00 every month on the 20th until you stop it.


Recurring Donations

Weekly/Monthly/Annually

-Local Expenses Sunday Offering: Amount:

Frequency:

Start Date: 

End Date:  (optional)



- 8 Karen McLean
- 8 Zoe Sorenson
- 10 Lindsey Taylor Schider
- 12 Fayde Sorenson
- 13 Sandy Dicks
- 13 Hayden Kaberle
- 18 Zeke Kraft
- 22 Frances Ostrum
- 24 Cindy Dorr
- 24 Edie Behm
- 27 Herb Carlson
- 27 Terre Forbes
- 27 Jacqui Hoffman
- 27 Robin Walrath



- 6 Tom and Karen McLean
- 10 Ryan and Alyssa Wilhorn
- 18 Renny and Linda Sorenson
- 24 Tom and Cindy Dorr
- 27 Deb and Tim Martin

SHOUT OUTS

SHOUT to Kevin Clark and Tom Pangburn for painting the lines on the parking lot.

SHOUT OUT to Mark Johnson for helping in the flower garden.

SHOUT OUT.

SHOUT OUT to Care Ministry Team & Others for sending cards and making phone calls to check up on our members who are alone or at risk..

*A **SHOUT OUT** does not begin to express our gratitude to **anyone** and **everyone** who made contributions to the CoVID-19 Fund. You will never know how many people you helped or the thanks you received. This is a Christian Church in it's true form.*



Even though the church is closed, we are still here if you need us. There is someone in the office from 9:00am – noon

Monday thru Thursday to answer the phone and pick up the mail. If you need anything at all just call 715 886-3371 or Pastor Tim's cell 715 204-4103



CHANGES

If you are moving or have a change of address or if you are **dropping your land line** and just going with a cellphone, please contact the church office! .



DID YOU KNOW??

New tax law changes.

--Starting in 2020, taxpayers who do not itemize deductions may take a special deduction up to \$300 for money contributed to qualifying charities. This is a permanent change.

--The requirement to take an RMD from retirement accounts for 2020 is waived.



Sit'n Stitch will not meet in person until the state's restrictions for CoVid-

19 are lifted.



**DO YOU MISS
PASTOR TIM'S
SERMONS??**

**GO TO THE
NEKOOSA UCC WEBPAGE
(WWW.NEKOOSA.UCC.ORG) AND YOU
CAN HEAR THEM WHILE YOU SIT IN
YOUR EASY CHAIR AND HAVE YOUR
COFFEE.**

**VIDEOS OF CHURCH SERVICES
ALONG WITH HYMNS, CHILDREN'S
MESSAGES AND SPECIAL MUSIC CAN
BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE (WHICH
HAS RECENTLY CHANGED) SO PLEASE
UPDATE TO THE NEW LOCATION:
nekoosaucc.org**

**IF YOU DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO A
COMPUTER AND WOULD LIKE A
COPY OF THE SERMON, JUST CALL
THE OFFICE AND WE WILL GET YOU
A COPY. IN THE MEANTIME WE ARE
LOOKING AT WAYS TO HAVE
WORSHIP AIRED ON PUBLIC ACCESS
AND/OR THE RADIO.**



**Miss your committee??? Need to
get some communication
going?? Well Pastor Tim can help you. We
have our own subscription to ZOOM now
which means that Pastor can set up an online
meeting that you can all attend. If you are
interested in setting up any type of meeting,
just call the office or Pastor Tim**

ONLINE CHURCH SERVICE VOLUNTEERS:

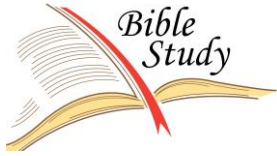
IT WOULD BE GREAT TO GET VIDEOS OF
PEOPLE READING THE SCRIPTURE OR
SINGING A SOLO SONG, PLAYING MUSIC, OR
LEADING THE LORD'S PRAYER AND SUCH.
THE BEST WAY TO DO IT IS TO RECORD IT
AND THEN UPLOAD IT TO YOU TUBE AND
THEN SEND ME THE LINK. THE VIDEO
USUALLY GETS TOO LARGE TO SEND BY
MESSENGER OR E-MAIL IF YOU RECORD
AND TRY TO SEND IT. IT CAN BE
ARRANGED FOR ME TO VIDEO IT AT THE
CHURCH IF WE SET A DATE AND TIME.
EMAIL ME IF INTERESTED.

uccpastortim@aol.com

SWEPS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Volunteer at SWEPS:(The Food Pantry)
We will be looking for volunteers to help out at
SWEPS the week of July 13-17th. Please check
your schedules coming up and see if you might
be able to help out. The schedule needs to be in
2 weeks ahead of time, to sign up early if you
can. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
the hours are 11:45 AM to 4 PM. Tuesday
hours are 3:45 pm to 7 pm. The work is not
hard. The reward is fulfilling. The company is
fun. The help is appreciated. If you have not
worked there before, give it a try. We will
welcome you.

If you can help out July 13-17, just give a call to
the office (715-886-3371) and let them know
when you can help out. We will sign you up.
Thanks in advance.



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY!

STARTING TUESDAY APRIL 28TH, FROM 6:00 – 7:00 WE WILL DISCUSS SCRIPTURES FOR THE COMING SUNDAY VIA ZOOM. WE HAD A NICE GROUP THAT MET IN PERSON BEFORE THE SAFER AT HOME PROGRAM AND IT WAS VERY INFORMATIONAL. EVERYONE IN THE CHURCH IS WELCOME TO JOIN AND YOU NEED NO BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE. IF WE GET TOO LARGE WE WILL SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS AT DIFFERENT TIMES. EMAIL ME (uccpastortim@aol.com) AND I'LL SEND YOU THE LINK TO JOIN THE GROUP BEFORE TUESDAY'S MEETING AND INCLUDE THE SCRIPTURE READINGS WITH QUESTIONS. IF YOU DON'T HAVE A BIBLE THAT'S OK, I CAN EMAIL YOU THE SCRIPTURES AHEAD OF TIME OR GO TO BIBLEGATEWAY.COM AND PRINT THEM OFF.



It is through the anonymous generosity of many people in our church that our Wish List needs have been and continue to be met.

WISH LIST

Thank you to the many wonderful individuals in our church family who continue to provide when the need is there. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.



OUR CARE MINISTRY HAS BEEN REACHING OUT TO ALL CHURCH MEMBERS TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE DOING ALRIGHT DURING THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES. WITH BUSINESSES CLOSING AND RESTAURANTS ONLY SERVING CARRY OUTS, MONETARY ISSUES COULD BECOME A PROBLEM. IF YOU ARE, OR KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS, HAVING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE. ALL REQUESTS WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.

ON THE OTHER HAND, IF YOU ARE FINANCIALLY ABLE, WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS. WE HAVE ESTABLISHED A FUND WITH MONIES AND STIMULUS CHECKS THAT HAVE BEEN DONATED. THE MONEY WILL GO INTO THE BOOK OF GOLDEN MEMORY COVID-19 RELIEF FUND AND DISBURSED FROM THE SAME. ANY DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

ANY LEFTOVER MONIES WILL BE DONATED TO SWEPS, THE NEIGHBORHOOD TABLE, OR NEKOOSA BACKPACK PROGRAM. GOD BLESS ALL!!



MEET OUR GRADUATES

May 31, 2020 was supposed to be the traditional Nekoosa High School graduation day. As a proud parent of two of these grads this year I looked forward to church celebration in the morning, most likely with Pastor Tim reading his traditional Dr. Suess book, holding back tears while singing in choir and of course cake afterwards at fellowship! Since this is not a possibility this year, I wanted to take the time to tell you all a little bit about my twin Nekoosa High 2020 graduates Bret and Megan McKeel and thank you all for your support of these two throughout the years. Megan Rose McKeel was involved in many ways at NHS. She was a state Future Business Leader qualifier, a board member of Student government and also joined the Law enforcement club. Track, Cross Country and Volleyball were sports she participated in. She also was in three of the high school musicals. Megan was very involved in music in high school and excelled in vocal competitions. She earned many awards at state solo ensemble through the years for her performances and especially in musical theatre. She has held different part-time jobs during high school and currently is employed at Wal-Mart in Plover. Megan will be attending Mid-State Technical College in Stevens Point in the fall.

Bret Wayne McKeel loves sports and that was obvious throughout his time at NHS. Bret was a Varsity Track, Basketball, Football and Soccer player. This year he was all-conference for Football and Soccer playing those sports simultaneously. Bret also played Rapids Kickers competitive soccer. He was also involved in Band and FBLA. Throughout his time at NHS he worked at Rafter's and for the past two years he has spent his summer's working at Sand Valley where he is currently employed. He put his all into everything he

did at NHS and was accepted to his first choice University. Bret will be attending UW-Madison next year.

Carl and I would like to thank everyone at Nekoosa UCC for supporting Bret and Megan throughout their school years. Whether it was their Sunday school teachers, Youth group leaders, Pastor Tim teaching confirmation, great times at Moon Beach retreats, helping support them through school related fundraisers, or a handshake and a smile it all means so much!

submitted by Cindy Saylor (mom)

Megan



Bret

Bret and Megan were also the recipients of the Winifred Taylor Scholarships that are given out every year at the discretion of the Diaconate.





(Some excerpts from a letter Nekoosa UCC received from SWEPS.)

The South Wood Emerging Pantry Shelf gratefully acknowledges and thanks you for your generous donation. We appreciate your gift and your concern for the hungry members of our community especially during these uncertain times. SWEPS has been blessed by the generosity of so many in our community.

In 2019 SWEPS served more than 1330 people each month in more than 510 households with similar numbers served in the previous two years. Each family may use the pantry once every 30 days and receives a 7 day supply of food each time they visit.

In addition to our normal food supply in 2019 we collected and provided 262,656 pounds from local grocery and convenience stores through Feeding America's Direct connect Program. We are excited that 150,686 pounds of food from this program was fresh which provides a healthier option for our clients. We also collected and distributed 112,221 pound of food from our community food drives. Your donation helps make this possible.

Even with these generous food donations, we continue to need financial donations to fund our operating costs. For 2020, we had to make the difficult choice to only provide personal hygiene items to our clients from items donated as we could no longer afford to purchase these items for our clients. We hope you continue to support our local food pantry operations.

Sincerely,

Dale Bikowski - Treasurer

UPDATE ON CHURCH CLOSING
Per the recommendation of the Wisconsin Conference and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the church will remain closed for all meetings and worship until things settle down. Someone will be in the office from 9:00am till noon Monday thru Thursday to answer the phone and get the mail. If you have any questions or concerns don't hesitate to call. Pastor Tim will also be checking messages on his cell phone if you have an emergency or need to speak to him.




Anyone wishing to donate to the final Engineers Without Borders Collection, please do so by the end of June as that is when the monies will be sent to them. Thank you!



NEKOOSA UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

205 Market St., Nekoosa WI 54457
 715 886-3371 ..office@nekoosaucc.com
 Minister: pastor@nekoosaucc.com
 Webpage: nekoosa-ucc.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Wis Conf Annual Mtg...ZOOM
On-line Worship nekoosaucc.org 7	8	9 6:00pm...ZOOM Bible Study	10	11	12	13
14 On-line Worship nekoosaucc.org	15	16 6:00pm...ZOOM Bible Study	17 7:00pm...ZOOM Council Mtg	18	19	20
21 On-line Worship nekoosauc c.org 	22	23 6:00pm...ZOOM Bible Study	24	25	26	27
28 On-line Worship nekoosaucc.org	29	30 6:00pm...ZOOM Bible Study				

