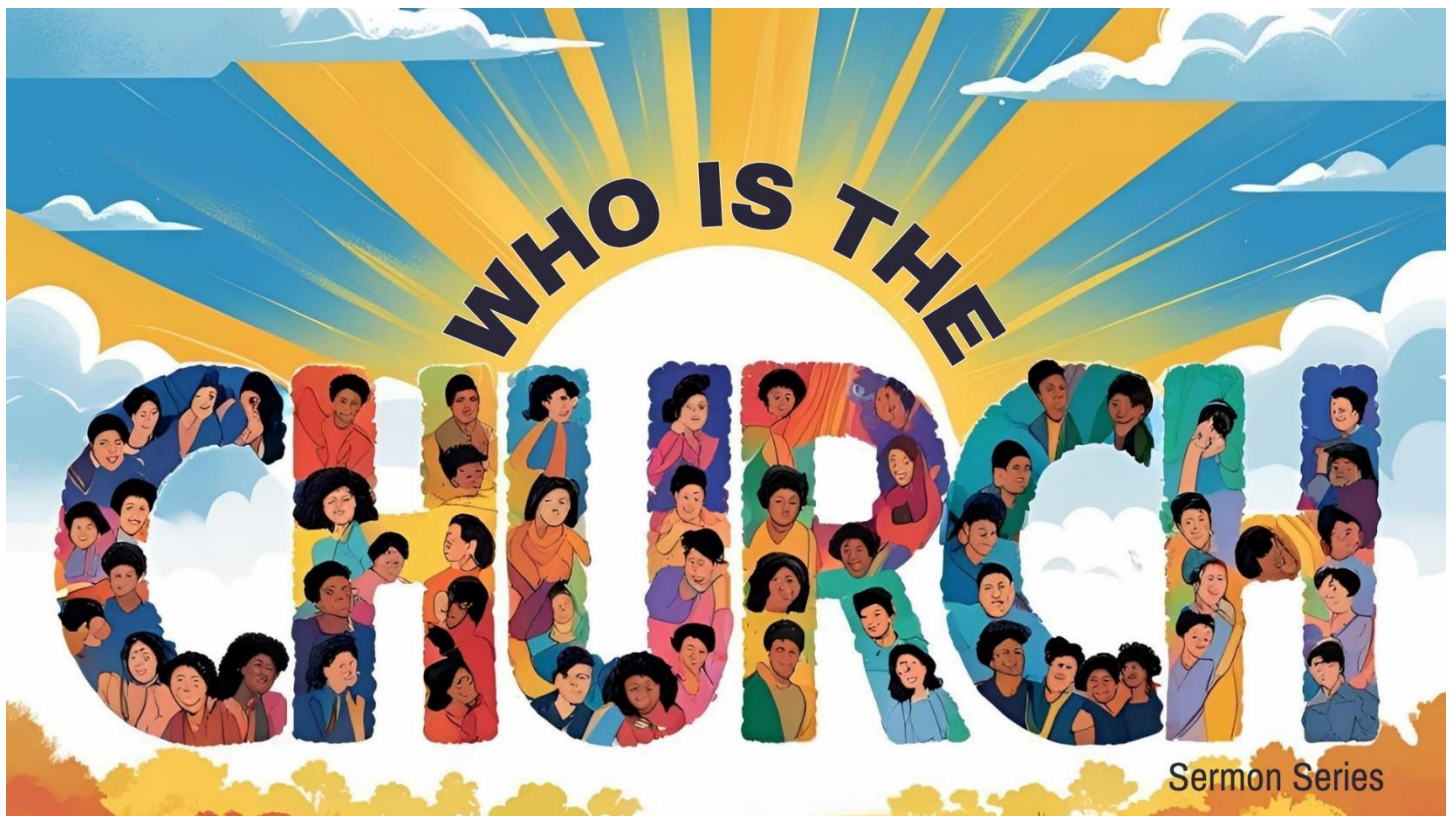




NPC strives to be an intercultural church of believers in Jesus Christ who delight to share the good news in Germantown and beyond.



Sunday, August 10, 2025 – 10:45am Worship

Welcome VBS Families!

Welcome and thank you to all the families that participated in our Neelsville Vacation Bible School this week! We loved hosting and serving you all and hope the children had a blessed time. Our hope is that you see who we are and what we do, and in that, you will see the love of Christ in us. If you have not found a church home, we welcome you to join us. If you have questions about our faith, please talk to us and we would love to share. Once again, thank you!

In Christ,

Pastor SeongSu Hong

Next Generation Ministries

seongsu@neelsville.org

Welcome to Neelsville!

Welcome to Neelsville Presbyterian Church! We are so thrilled that you have visited with us today. We are a church that is growing more and more captivated by Jesus Christ, delighting to glorify and serve Him in every area of our lives. Wherever you are in your walk with God, we have resources for you and your family. Please contact me if you have any questions or desire additional information. Thanks for visiting and I hope you experience the welcome of Christ during your time with us!

Warmly in Christ,

Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

pastorjeff@neelsville.org

First Time Here?

We're so glad you've joined us! Please fill out a green guest card in the pew and hand it to a Welcome Team member for a small gift. They can help connect you with our various ministries and answer any questions you may have.

When you join us again, please take a moment each Sunday to sign in with our Welcome Team. This helps us to stay connected and to reach out to ensure you are well if we haven't seen you in a while.

Tips for Families

We are a church who believes in the value of families worshipping together, and we welcome the wiggles & giggles of little ones in the pews.

Look for the  station outside the Sanctuary to learn more about...

- **Nursery Care** – Available for children 2 years and under during the service.
- **Worship & Praise Zone** – Children ages 3 – 3rd grade are invited to a Bible Story & crafts during the sermon. Please check-in before worship at the kids' station.
- **Worship Activity Bags** – Feel free to grab one for your child to use during the service.

Our Classes for All Ages will be back in September at 9:30am on Sundays. We have offerings for everyone from preschoolers to adults. Learn more on page 10.

Order of Service

Worship is seeing what God is worth and giving him what he's worth. Worship is pulling our affections off our idols and putting them on God. Worship is treasuring God. – Tim Keller

Prelude

O Worship The King (Haydn, arr. Bober)

Christine Gormley, piano

We invite you to let the music quiet your mind and heart to prepare for worship.

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

* = please rise if you are able

*Call to Worship

Pastor SeongSu Hong

God's words in scripture remind us that He is the one who calls us to gather.

Leader: Come, beloved children of God—gathered by grace,
embraced by love.

All: Let us enter this sacred space as one family, united not by blood but by the Spirit who calls us to worship.

Leader: Lift your hearts, for our Creator and Sustainer invites us to fellowship as brothers and sisters in Christ, adopted into the household of faith.

All: Let us worship our God, who is our Abba, Father and who gathers us beneath everlasting arms and calls us personally by name.

***Hymn**

Oh How Good It Is

Getty/Getty/Holmes/Townend

Oh how good it is when the family of God
Dwells together in spirit, in faith and unity
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love
Are the fruit of His presence here among us

Chorus: So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord
And with one heart we'll live out His word
Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come
For He dwells in the presence of His people

Oh how good it is on this journey we share
To rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn
For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace
When we offer the blessing of belonging *(Chorus)*

Oh how good it is to embrace His command
To prefer one another, forgive as He forgives
When we live as one, we all share in the love,
Of the Son with the Father and the Spirit *(Chorus)*

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Prayer of Adoration

Pastor Jeff

Our Pastor leads a prayer in which we lift our hearts to praise God for who He is and to express our deep love for Him.

*Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

Kocher/Pierpoint

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies
For the love which from our birth, over and around us lies

Chorus: Lord of all to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise

For the wonder of each hour, of the day and of the night
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light *(Chorus)*

For the joy of human love – brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild *(Chorus)*

For Thy Church that evermore, lifteth holy hands above
Offering up on every shore, her pure sacrifice of love *(Chorus)*

For Thyself best gift divine, to the world so freely given
For that great great love of Thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven *(Chorus)*

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Confession of Sin (unison)

Seeing how great and good God is, we are reminded that we have, more often than we wish, failed to live as God has designed.

Most merciful God, our Father, You have made us one family in Christ, yet we confess how easily we forget Your calling and our adoption in Christ. We have not always welcomed one another as brothers or sisters, harboring division, pride, or indifference. We have withheld love where you have asked us to extend it and failed to bear each other's burdens as our own. Forgive us, we pray. Restore in us the joy and responsibility of belonging to your family. Jesus, help us to see one another with your eyes, to embrace with your arms, to serve with your heart. In your mercy, hear our confession. Amen!

Silent Confession

Written words can never reflect exactly what is in each individual's heart, so this is a time for us to consider our own waywardness and speak it silently to God.

*Assurance of Pardon

Based on 1 John 1, Gal. 4 & Romans 8

When we confess our sins, seeking God's help to turn away from them, we are assured that He will extend grace, mercy and forgiveness. He is willing to do this because Jesus paid the penalty for our sins on the cross.

Leader: Hear the good news: The God who calls us family is faithful and just, delighting to forgive and restore. Through Christ our Brother, we are reconciled not only to God but to one another, adopted as beloved children and heirs of grace. Friends, believe the promise—In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, welcomed, and cherished forever in the family of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Confession of Faith

The Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar

(Derived from the 1958 Statement of Faith approved in Madagascar in 1968)

Since the earliest years when disciples gathered, Christians have formulated statements to summarize what we believe. These creeds help remind us of the richness of our faith and can help answer the questions of those who may be wondering about Christianity.

Leader: The Church is deeply aware that its central emphasis throughout must be:

All: Jesus Christ, The Son of God, is Lord and Savior.

Leader: It confesses this faith in communion with the Christian Church throughout the world.

All: In this faith the Church worships the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit; one God in Trinity.

Leader: Its faith is in Almighty God, Father of Jesus Christ, and Father of all men in Jesus Christ.

All: He is the Creator and Ruler of the universe, who sustains and provides for our lives in His everlasting love. He is the holy God.

Leader: Its faith is in Jesus Christ, the Lord, the only-begotten Son of God.

All: There is one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all. Jesus alone is our hope and through him we await the final victory.

Leader: It is a faith in the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of the Father and the Son.

All: He brings about faith unto the new birth through which salvation is received. He is the teacher, who explains God's word to us and he enables us to bring forth good works to the glory of God. Amen!

Time of Offering

We have an opportunity to give financially to support the work of the local and global church, offering what we are able with cheerful hearts, grateful for God's blessings. Giving also includes generously sharing our time and talents to care for one another and the community around us.



Please take the plate and pass it down the pew to the usher. To give online, scan the QR code.

Offertory

Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

VBS Children & Leaders

"The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul." – Johann Sebastian Bach

*Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

A song of praise used by Christians since the early 18th century.

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

VBS Praise Song

Let's Trust in Jesus

VBS Children & Leaders

Throughout the week, the VBS children learned that God is their unmovable, unshakable True North and Jesus is a faithful friend who they can always trust.

Children's Blessing

Melissa Evans

On alternate Sundays, the young children receive a blessing or they gather to hear a mini-message, often sharing a point from the upcoming sermon in a relational way with the children.

Children ages 3-3rd grade will be dismissed to the Worship & Praise Zone following the blessing.

Scripture Reading

Gen. 12:1-2; John 1:12-13; Gal 4:4-7

Please turn in the pew Bible to page 8, 886, & 974 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 9 to follow the text as it is read.

Sermon

The Family of God

Pastor Jeff

A pastor or an elder of the church gives this extended message explaining the scripture passage, what it meant to the original readers, and how it applies to us today. Our pastor often preaches through a book of the Bible, using a selection of verses each week.

Space for Sermon Notes is provided on page 8.

Congregational Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

At this time, the Pastor may pray for the needs of individuals, the church, the community or nation. We join in with the words Jesus taught us to pray.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn

Lift High the Name of Jesus

Cash/DeBarra/Getty/Getty

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our King
Make known the power of His grace, the beauty of His peace
Remember how His mercy reached and we cried out to Him
He lifted us to solid ground to freedom from our sin

Chorus: Oh sing my soul and tell all He's done
'Til the earth and heavens are filled with His glory

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Lord
His pow'r in us is greater than, is greater than this world
To share the reason for our hope, to serve with love and grace
That all who see Him shine through us might bring the Father praise (*Chorus*)

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Light
No other name on earth can save, can raise a soul to life
He opens up our eyes to see the harvest He has grown
We labor in His fields of grace as He leads sinners home (*Chorus 2x*)

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*Charge & Benediction

The pastor gives a charge to go into the world in Jesus' name, living and serving in ways that give witness to God's love. He then raises his hands, giving a blessing for the congregation to receive.

*Postlude

The Church's One Foundation
(Wesley, arr. Berry)

Christine Gormley, piano

We close with another instrumental piece, carrying praise to God out of the church and into the world.

After Worship Today!

Join us in the Welcome Center for refreshments and fellowship with VBS families!

- Old Testament _____ : The _____ Family
- The New Testament _____ : _____ Through Christ
- Living as the Family of God: Unity, _____, and Forgiveness
- _____ Expressions of God's Family
- _____ and Hope: When Family _____
- The Family's _____ : A Living Testimony

Next Week: *The Vineyard of the Lord* (Isaiah 5:1-7 & John 15:5)

Scripture

Genesis 12:1-2

¹ Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

John 1:12-13

¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Something to think about . . .

Use these questions for your own personal reflection and study at home.

1. What does the OT say about church being the family of God?
2. How does the NT describe the church as the family of God?
3. What are the marks of living as a family of God?
4. What are some practical expressions of being part of God's family? What practical expressions do you need to work on as a family member at NPC?
5. What are some challenges in living as a family of God within our church? What hope do we have to face and work through the challenges and failures of living as God's family?
6. What is God's family mission?

Grow and Go with Us! _____

Next Generation Ministry

Our 4th – 12th Graders meet TODAY after VBS Fellowship for Summer Sundays!

*Join us in the Fellowship Hall from 12:30-2pm for lunch, games, activities and Bible Studies!
We will also meet on Sun 8/17 and on Sun 8/24.*



Ages: Birth – 5th grade

Contact: kids@neelsville.org

Sunday School returns on Sept 7 at 9:30am!

We meet in the Ed Wing (lower entrance) for PreK – 5th Grade.



Ages: 6th – 12th grade

Contact: students@neelsville.org

★ **Pastor SeongSu has some outings planned for our middle & high school students!** Reach out to him to join the fun!

Young Adult Ministry

*A place for those aged
18-40ish to grow in
Christ & community.*



Contact: youngadults@neelsville.org

Thursdays at 7:30pm – Weekly Gathering (Andrew Small Room)

Join our Group app! Scan the QR code to stay informed of upcoming events and service opportunities.

Adult Ministry

*Join a class or small
group that meets
throughout the week!*

*Scan the QR code for
more details and
descriptions.*



Sundays at 9:30am – Attributes of God and God's Love (Conf Rm)

Contact: Jason Evans (evans@vika.com)

New Small Groups in the Fall! Learn more about
Discipleship Explored and sign up for a Small Group at
this QR Code or at the paper sign-up in the Narthex.



This Week at Neelsville

More details of this week’s schedule and upcoming events can be found in our weekly e-letter. Scan this QR code for last Friday’s edition.



Sunday 8/10	12:00pm	VBS Fellowship (Welcome Center)
	12:30pm	Next Gen Summer Sundays (Fellowship Hall)

Monday 8/11

Tuesday 8/12

Wednesday 8/13

Thursday 8/14	7:30pm	Young Adults Gathering (Andrew Small Room)
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Friday 8/15

Saturday 8/16

Sunday 8/17	9:30am	Adult Ministry Class (Conf. Rm.)
	10:45am	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	12:30pm	Next Gen Summer Sundays (Fellowship Hall)

Financial Update

	June Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income (\$K)	\$102.0 K	\$ 417.8 K	\$ 366.6 K	\$ 784.0 K
Expenses (\$K)*	\$ 51.6 K	\$ 408.4 K	\$ 420.4 K	\$ 824.8 K



neelsville.org/give

Excess Income/Expenses	\$ 50.4 K	\$ 9.4 K
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*Adjusted expense includes mortgage principal

June Income reflects 5 weeks of Offering contributions, plus a large amount of rental income for summer programs at NPC, creating an excess of Income over Expense. In addition, June Expense ran lighter than usual.

Important Information About Your Offering

In order to protect individuals from fraud, our bank has gotten more particular with what they will accept regarding hand-written checks. When writing a check for your offering, please follow these guidelines from the bank:

- Use blue or black ink.
- Check must be written to “NPC” or “Neelsville Presbyterian Church”.
- The written amount must match the numeric amount *exactly*, which means dollars and cents are both required.

Examples: \$25.00 is written “Twenty-five and 00/100”

\$50.50 is written “Fifty and 50/100”

Announcements

Please send your announcements to office@neelsville.org by Tuesday at Noon for next week's bulletin & e-letter.

Neelsville Membership - Would you like to learn more about becoming a Covenant Partner (member) of NPC? The first step is to attend two brief sessions to learn more about our church, our denomination, and our beliefs. Then you can decide if you would like to join. The sessions can be scheduled when convenient for you – on Sunday mornings, weekday evenings, or even remotely. For more info contact Pastor Jeff or Brian Farrell (bpf3356@gmail.com).

After over 18 years of dedicated and sacrificial service, our staff Treasurer, Wendy Couillard, will be retiring on 8/31. I encourage you to thank her for serving with humility and distinction in this essential role for our church. **Due to her retirement, we will be looking for a new part-time staff Treasurer.** If interested in finding out more about this position, please contact Pastor Jeff at pastorjeff@neelsville.org. The job description will be available soon.

Germantown HELP is seeking donations for its food pantry supply. Please drop off your canned and boxed nonperishable items in our Narthex bin and we will transport. **Specific requests are canned chicken/salmon/tuna, boxed cereal, canned tomatoes, and spaghetti sauce.** Please see Kim Evans (kyejohn316@gmail.com) for more info. Thank you!

Backpacks for McAuliffe Elementary School – This month we are helping Christa McAuliffe Elementary (a Title 1 school in Germantown) prepare for the school year. We have been asked to donate **NEW EMPTY PLAIN COLORED BACKPACKS**. The school asks for plain backpacks in different colors for girls and boys so the children don't compare them. They have other supplies, so they are requesting the backpacks be empty. **Please place your backpack donation in the Local Missions box in the Narthex by Sun 8/17.**

NPC will host a Red Cross Blood Drive on Sat 8/30 from 9am – 2pm. Scan the QR Code or visit redcrossblood.org and search for "NeelsvillePresbyterian" (no spaces) to sign up to support this life-giving program. Questions? Contact Hugh Smith at hugh3smith@comcast.net.



ESOL Classes Start in September – Know anyone who would like to be in an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) class? We will be starting classes on Sat 9/13. Students of all ages, and levels of English proficiency are welcome. There are flyers in the Narthex to give to friends, co-workers and others you may come in contact with. Flyers direct the student to the online registration at this QR code. Take some to share!



Men's Ministry is planning a "cool" October overnight backpacking trip on the Appalachian Trail in MD. **Date is confirmed for 10/18 – 10/19.** If interested or have questions, contact Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com).

Stay Connected with Neelsville

CONTACT INFO

Questions?

office@neelsville.org

Website

www.neelsville.org

Phone

301-972-3916

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 10am-4pm

Fri 10am – 1pm

PRAYER REQUESTS

Email office@neelsville.org to join the prayer chain.



E-LETTER SIGNUP

The Weekly Neelsville News is delivered each Friday at 10am.



MINISTRY STAFF

Rev. Jeffrey Rickett – *Lead Pastor*

pastorjeff@neelsville.org

Rev. SeongSu Hong – *Pastor of Next Generation Ministries*

seongsu@neelsville.org

Dr. Janna Leigh Ryon – *Director of Worship Music*

janna@neelsville.org

Michelle Nelson – *Director of Ministry Support*

office@neelsville.org

Melissa Evans – *Children's Coordinator*

melissa@neelsville.org

LAY LEADERSHIP

Elders – *Oversee the spiritual health of the congregation as well as the congregation's faithfulness to God's mission.*

Clerk of Session – Eileen Bauer

session@neelsville.org

Deacons – *Nurture fellowship and caregiving within and beyond the congregation.*

Moderator – Peggy Hurkett

deacons@neelsville.org

Trustees – *Provide care and oversight for Neelsville's buildings and grounds.*

Moderator – Jason Craft

trustees@neelsville.org

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