



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

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**THE UNFOLDING PROMISE**  
*THE FAITH STORY OF ABRAHAM*  
*Sermon Series*

**Sunday, May 3, 2026 – 10:45am Worship**



# Welcome to Neelsville!

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Welcome to Neelsville Presbyterian Church! We are so thrilled that you are visiting 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](mailto:pastorjeff@neelsville.org)

## First Time Here?

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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

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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 – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**Join us for Classes for All Ages at 9:30am Sunday. We have offerings for everyone from preschoolers to adults. Learn more on page 11.**

# Order of Service

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Corporate worship at Neelsville Presbyterian Church is our shared heartfelt response to God as a multi-ethnic, multi-generational family in Christ. Rooted in Scripture and centered on the gospel, we gather as one body to pray, sing, hear God’s Word, and be formed together into Christ’s likeness for the sake of our community, our neighborhood, and the world.

– Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

## Prelude

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

## Welcome & Announcements

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Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

\* = please rise if you are able

## \*Call to Worship

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Connie Barnes

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

**Leader:** Come, let us worship the Lord, who provided for Abraham, and who gave His only Son for the world.

**All:** Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the true Sacrificial Lamb and our Perfect Provision.

**Leader:** The Lord who sees to it and who provides calls us to trust Him in every circumstance.

**All:** We come to worship Jehovah Jireh, “the Lord our Provider.”

## \*Hymn

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*Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (Chisholm/Runyan)

**#595**

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;  
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain:* Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *(Refrain)*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *(Refrain)*

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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**

*Lord, I Need You*  
(Carson/Maher/Nockels/Reeves/Stanfill)

**#439**

Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.  
And without you, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

*Chorus:* Lord, I need you, oh, I need you. Every hour I need you.  
My one defense, my righteousness; oh God, how I need you.

Where sin runs deep, your grace is more. Where grace is found, is where you are.  
And where you are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.  
Where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me. *(Chorus)*

So teach my song to rise to you when temptation comes my way.  
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, you're my hope and stay.  
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, you're my hope and stay. *(Chorus 2x)*

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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.*

Merciful Father, we confess that we often doubt Your provision and struggle to trust You when the path is confusing or the cost is high. Forgive us for relying on our own understanding and failing to walk by faith. We acknowledge our need for Your grace and the forgiveness found only in Jesus, our true Substitute. 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 Romans 8:32

*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 promise of God: Because He did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, we can trust Him to forgive our sins, restore our faith, and provide for all our needs. In Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we are welcomed as beloved children. The Lord will provide.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

## \*Confession of Faith

New City Catechism  
Questions 33, 34, 35 and 37

*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:** Let us confess together what we as Christians believe. Should those who have faith in Christ seek their salvation through their own works, or anywhere else?

**All:** No, they should not, as everything necessary to salvation is found in Christ. To seek salvation through good works is a denial that Christ is the only Redeemer and Savior.

**Leader:** Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through Christ alone, must we still do good works and obey God's word?

**All:** Yes, because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, also renews us by his Spirit; so that our lives may show love and gratitude to God; so that we may be assured of our faith by the fruits; and so that by our godly behavior others may be won to Christ.

**Leader:** Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through faith alone, where does this faith come from?

**All:** All the gifts we receive from Christ we receive through the Holy Spirit, including faith itself.

**Leader:** How does the Holy Spirit help us?

**All:** The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin, comforts us, guides us, gives us spiritual gifts and the desire to obey God; and he enables us to pray and to understand God's Word.

## Time of Offering

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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** *Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)* Praise Band  
(Houston/Crocker/Lighthelm)

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*"Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us." – Martin Luther*

## \*Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

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*A song of praise used by Christians since the early 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

## The Lord's Prayer

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*Jesus said: "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do... for your Father know what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this:"*

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.

**Children's Message** Melissa Evans

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*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 message.**

**Hymn** *Jesus, Strong and Kind* #362  
(Buchanan/Robinson/Farren/Thompson)

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Jesus said that if I thirst, I should come to him.  
No one else can satisfy, I should come to him.

**Chorus:** For the Lord is good and faithful. He will keep us day and night.  
We can always run to Jesus. Jesus, strong and kind.

*Please turn in the pew Bible to page 16 or flip ahead in the bulletin to page 9 to follow the text as it is read.*

## Sermon

### *Faith Faces the Perplexity 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.**

## \*Praise Song

### *Way Maker (Egbu)*

You are here, moving in our midst; I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, working in this place; I worship You, I worship You. *(Repeat)*

*Chorus:* (You are) Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,  
Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are. *(2x)*

You are here, touching ev'ry heart; I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, healing ev'ry heart; I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, turning lives around; I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, mending ev'ry heart; I worship You, I worship You.

*(Chorus 2x)*

*Bridge:* Even when I don't see it, You're working.

Even when I don't feel it, You're working.

You never stop, You never stop working.

You never stop, You never stop working. *(2x)*

*(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

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

## After Worship Today!

**NPC Ladies! Join us for lunch at 12:30-ish at Panera (Seneca Meadows) for a nice time of fellowship. Bring a friend!**

**Choir Rehearsal will begin at 12:30pm in the Sanctuary. All are welcome!**

## Financial Update

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	<b>March Actual</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>
<b>Income (\$K)</b>	\$ 80.3 K	\$ 204.6 K	\$ 191.8 K	\$ 827.9 K
<b>Expenses (\$K)</b>	\$ 71.2 K	\$ 182.8 K	\$ 221.7 K	\$ 859.4 K
<b>Quarterly Mission Expense (\$K)</b>	\$ 16.4 K	\$ 16.4 K		



[neelsville.org/give](https://neelsville.org/give)

<b>Excess Income/Expenses</b>	-\$ 7.3 K	\$ 5.4 K
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### *The Unfolding Promise: The Faith Story of Abraham*

- A Faith Tested (Gen. 22:1-8)
  - The Problem of God's way (vv. 1-2)
  - The Pathway of God's servant (vv.3-8)
- The Provision Provided (Gen. 22:9-14)
  - The Relief of God's provision
- The Upside-Down Gospel (Gen. 22:15-24)
  - The Ordinariness of God's People
- Final Remarks – The Better Sacrifice (comparing Gen. 22:12 with Romans 8:32)

**Next Week: *Mourning & Moving Forward* (Genesis 23)**

<sup>1</sup> After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.”

<sup>2</sup> He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup> So Abraham

rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup> Then

Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” <sup>6</sup> And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on

Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together.

<sup>7</sup> And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” <sup>8</sup> Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup> When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup> Then

Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup> But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>12</sup> He said,

“Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup> And Abraham lifted up his eyes and

looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup> So Abraham called the

name of that place, “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

<sup>15</sup> And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup> and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your

only son, <sup>17</sup> I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies,

<sup>18</sup> and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.” <sup>19</sup> So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba.

And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

<sup>20</sup> Now after these things it was told to Abraham, “Behold, Milcah also has borne children to your brother Nahor: <sup>21</sup> Uz his firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel the father of Aram, <sup>22</sup> Chesed, Hazo,

Pildash, Jidlaph, and Bethuel.” <sup>23</sup> (Bethuel fathered Rebekah.) These eight Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham’s brother. <sup>24</sup> Moreover, his concubine, whose name was Reumah, bore Tebah, Gaham,

Tahash, and Maacah.

## Something to think about . . .

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

1. How did Abraham respond to God's test? What is the difference between tests and temptations?
2. What similarities are there between Isaac and Jesus? In what way is Jesus' sacrifice different from that of Isaac?
3. From Gen. 22:15-18, what were the results of Abraham's faith and obedience? What were the results of God's decision not to withhold his only Son?
4. Are you ever afraid that God might ask too much of you? How does knowing that God provides or sees to it in Christ help you trust him in difficult times?

# Grow and Go with Us!

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Opportunities are offered for all ages, to grow in our relationship with God, impacting our lives.

## Next Generation Ministry

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Ages: Birth – 5th grade

Contact: [kids@neelsville.org](mailto:kids@neelsville.org)

**Sunday School at 9:30am** (Ed Wing for PreK - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)



Ages: 6th – 12th grade

Contact: [students@neelsville.org](mailto:students@neelsville.org)

**Sunday School at 9:30am** (Youth Room / Andrew Small Room)

**Wednesday Night Youth Group** meets at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall.

## Adult Ministry

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

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



**Sundays at 9:15am – Life Lessons from 1&2 Peter** (Parlor)

Contact: Adam Condrick ([acondrick@segalco.com](mailto:acondrick@segalco.com))

**Sundays at 9:30am – The Imperfect Disciple** (Room 1)

Contact: Pastor Jeff ([pastorjeff@neelsville.org](mailto:pastorjeff@neelsville.org))

**Sundays at 9:30am – Basics of Christian Beliefs** (Conf Rm & Online)

Contacts: Craig Wilson & Bill Kroah ([cdw6@msn.com](mailto:cdw6@msn.com))

**Sundays at 7:00pm – Ezekiel Bible Study** (Online)

Contact: Craig Wilson ([cdw6@msn.com](mailto:cdw6@msn.com))

**Wednesdays at 7:00pm – Women’s Bible Study** (Online)

Contact: Kim Evans & Joanne Wilson ([joannelwilson@gmail.com](mailto:joannelwilson@gmail.com))

**Wednesdays at 7:15pm – Men’s Bible Study on Psalms** (Online)

Contact: Brian Farrell ([bpf3356@gmail.com](mailto:bpf3356@gmail.com))

**Fridays at 9:30am – Women’s Bible Study on Joshua** (Parlor)

Contact: Sue Farrell ([bfarrell01@aol.com](mailto:bfarrell01@aol.com))

# This Week at Neelsville

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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.



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Sunday 5/3	12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	12:30pm	Women's Ministry Lunch at Panera (Seneca Meadows)
	7:00pm	Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)
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Monday 5/4		
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Tuesday 5/5		<b>Office Closed for Staff Retreat</b>
	10:00am	MomCo Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
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Wednesday 5/6	7:00pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	7:00pm	Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00pm	Women's Bible Study – <i>Sermon on the Mount</i> (Online)
	7:15pm	Men's Bible Study – <i>Psalms: Prayers of the Heart</i> (Online)
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Thursday 5/7		
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Friday 5/8	9:30am	Women's Bible Study – <i>Joshua</i> (Parlor)
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Saturday 5/9	9:00am	ESOL Classes (Fellowship Hall Entrance)
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Sunday 5/10	9:15am	Sunday Morning Small Group – <i>Life Lessons</i> (Parlor)
<b>Happy</b>	9:30am	Classes for All Ages!
<b>Mother's Day!</b>	<b>10:45am</b>	<b>Worship Service (Sanctuary) *with the Lord's Supper</b>
	<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>2nd Sunday Fellowship for Mother's Day (Welcome Ctr)</b>
	7:00pm	Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)

# Announcements

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

**Please note the Lord's Supper will be served on the 2nd and 4th Sundays in May.**

**The church office will be closed THIS Tuesday, May 5 for a staff retreat.**

**Support the Rockville Women's Center Baby Bottle Campaign from 4/26 to 5/10 and make a meaningful impact.** There are two ways to make a donation (1) Please pick up an empty baby bottle in the Narthex, fill it with coins, cash, and/or check (payable to **NPC with a memo to RWC**), return it **NEXT SUN 5/10** – OR – (2) Prepare cash or check payable to **NPC with RWC in the memo** to be collected during offering time now through 5/10. **Questions?** Contact Jaimie Bement, Mercy Muna, Lena Shirley or Joanne Wilson.

**Serving is where Christians find fulfillment and joy and where they walk most closely with Christ. Please help support the mission team traveling to the Dominican Republic this June!** Support with your prayers that they carry the gospel forward and with financial donations through this QR code or at our **Car Wash Fundraiser on Sat 5/16 from 12 - 2 pm**. Thank you to all who came to our breakfast fundraiser this morning!



**Join us for the next 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Fellowship event! We will celebrate Mother's Day NEXT SUN 5/10 after worship in the Welcome Center!** We are honoring all women who help raise all our children and make our lives richer with their caring ways.

**It's almost time to celebrate and bless our NPC graduates!** If your child is graduating this year from high school or college, please send to NPC Students ([students@neelsville.org](mailto:students@neelsville.org)) his/her full name, a baby picture and recent picture, name of the school they are graduating from, and if a college graduate, their major(s). **Photo and info is due by Mon 6/1.**

**Women's Tea in England - You're invited to our annual Tea on Sat 6/6 from 10am to 12:30pm** where we will enjoy English cuisine and culture. You don't want to miss this fun, faith-filled fellowship event! Childcare is provided for those who pre-register. It's also great opportunity to invite a friend! We'd love to see you! You may register at this QR code or at [www.neelsville.org](http://www.neelsville.org). Any questions or if you want to help, please contact Gerry Davis at ([gerry.davis@outlook.com](mailto:gerry.davis@outlook.com)) or Cathy Brown at ([ccbrown8488@gmail.com](mailto:ccbrown8488@gmail.com)).



**Sign up now as a Vacation Bible School volunteer or participant August 3-7 from 9am-12pm.** Registration is flourishing and we're already 1/3 full! The Rainforest Falls theme provides beautiful scenery to remind us of God's glorious creation. While we explore the nature of God, we're also pointing our campers to living as a follower of Christ through praise songs, scripture lessons, recreational games, hands-on science, and more! We look forward to your involvement. **Register your children through the QR Code.** Contact Pastor SeongSu ([seongsu@neelsville.org](mailto:seongsu@neelsville.org)) if you would like to volunteer.



# Stay Connected with Neelsville

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## CONTACT INFO

### Questions?

office@neelsville.org

### Website

www.neelsville.org

### Phone

301-972-3916

### Office Hours

Tues-Thurs 10am-4pm

Mon & Fri 10am-1pm

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Email [office@neelsville.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastorjeff@neelsville.org)

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

[seongsu@neelsville.org](mailto:seongsu@neelsville.org)

**Natalia Suwuh Angkuw** – *Interim Director of Worship Music*

[nsuwuh@gmail.com](mailto:nsuwuh@gmail.com)

**Michelle Nelson** – *Director of Ministry Support*

[office@neelsville.org](mailto:office@neelsville.org)

**Melissa Evans** – *Children's Coordinator*

[melissa@neelsville.org](mailto: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](mailto:session@neelsville.org)

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

Co-Moderators – Vangie Fletcher, Carol Harris, & Lynn Kroah

[deacons@neelsville.org](mailto:deacons@neelsville.org)

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

Moderator – Jason Craft

[trustees@neelsville.org](mailto:trustees@neelsville.org)

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## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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