



*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 24, 2026 – 10:45am Worship**  
**Pentecost Sunday**



# 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 10.**

# 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

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## Prelude

*Who He Is* (Holt/Davis/MacDonald)

Natalia Suwuh Angkuw  
Ulung Tanoto

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

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## Welcome & Announcements

Pastor SeongSu Hong

\* = please rise if you are able

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## \*Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 90

Eric Shirley

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

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**All:** Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Leader: We come to worship the God whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**All:** We remember Your promises, O Lord — promises fulfilled, promises unfolding, promises yet to come.

Leader: Let us worship the God who keeps His covenant promises forever through Christ.

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## \*Hymn

*10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)*  
(Myrin/Redman)

#38

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**Chorus:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,  
It's time to sing Your song again.  
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes. (*Chorus*)

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.  
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *(Chorus)*

And on that day, when my strength is failing,  
the end draws near, and my time has come;  
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore! *(Chorus 2x)*

Worship Your holy name, Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul;  
I'll worship Your holy name, worship Your holy name, worship Your holy name.

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## **\*Prayer of Adoration**

Pastor Jeffrey Rickett

*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.*

## **\*Praise Song**

*Here I Am to Worship*

Hughes

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness. Opened my eyes let me see.  
Beauty that made this heart adore you, hope of a life spent with you.

*Chorus:* And here I am to worship, Here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that you're my God,  
You're altogether lovely, Altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh, so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly You came to the earth You created; all for love's sake became poor. *(Chorus)*

I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross. *(2x) (Chorus)*

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## **Confession of Sin**

*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.*

**Leader:** Faithful God, You have shown Your goodness to Your people in every generation. Yet, like Abraham, we confess that we often struggle to trust You.

**All:** Lord, have mercy on us.

Leader: You have begun to fulfill Your promises in our lives, but we grow impatient with what we cannot yet see. We cling to control and rely on our own strength.

**All:** Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: You call us to walk by faith, but we are easily discouraged by the brokenness of this world and the limits of our own hearts.

**All:** Cleanse us and renew us. Teach us to trust You in the reality gap—to rest in what You have already done for us in Christ and to hope in what You have promised to do in Christ. Amen.

## Silent Confession

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*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

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*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! Abraham “died in a good old age... and was gathered to his people.” In Christ, God has given us an even greater promise: that all who trust in Him are forgiven and gathered into His family forever.

In Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

**All:** Thanks be to God!

## Receiving of New Covenant Partners

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Rich & Kaby Gray, Marji Harbeck,  
Peter Njuki Muriuki & Catherine Njuki  
Cedric Wilson & Murielle Abissi

*Covenant Partners commit to be in a covenant relationship with Jesus Christ and with the body of believers, walking together in love, remembering one another in prayer, helping one another in times of need, faithfully participating in worship, sharing our gifts, and spreading the gospel to the world.*

**Would you like to learn more about becoming a Covenant Partner at Neelsville? If so, please reach out to Pastor Jeff or Brian Farrell ( [bpf3356@gmail.com](mailto:bpf3356@gmail.com) ) for more info.**

## Baptism

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Amari Adjete Wilson

*Baptism is a sign and seal of the covenant of grace, a mark of entrance into the visible church, and it is the Holy Spirit who makes this sacrament efficacious in God's time to those whom God has called. At Neelsville both infant and adult baptisms are practiced, requiring either a profession of faith or a parents' faith for infants.*

## \*Confession of Faith

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*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:** Church, what do we believe about the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob?

**All:** We believe in the God who keeps His promises from generation to generation. We believe that His purposes continue even when our strength fades. We believe that He is faithful in life and faithful in death. We believe that His plans do not fail, and His covenant steadfast love does not end. We believe that in Christ Jesus all God's promises are "Yes" and "Amen." We believe that the Spirit is given to us as a guarantee of the world to come. We believe that nothing—not even death—can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is our faith, and in this faith we stand.

## 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

*You Keep Your Promises* (Kinner/Kinner/Slay/Tierce)

Praise Band

*"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 Blessing

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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 blessing.**

### Hymn

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

#362

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.

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### Scripture Reading

Genesis 25:1-18

**Please turn in the pew Bible to page 17 or refer to page 9 to follow the text as it is read.**

### Sermon

*The End of the Road*

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.**

### Celebration of the Lord's Supper

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*The Lord's Supper was instituted by Jesus on the night before He was crucified. He blessed bread and wine to remind us of his sacrifice - the bread is the sign of his broken body and the juice we use is the sign of his shed blood.*

Minister: Let us boldly proclaim the mystery of faith.

**People:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

**People:** Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

**The congregation will be invited by rows to receive bread and juice. When returning to your seat, please wait for us to take the elements together.**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

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*God's promises are confirmed as we partake in faith – spiritual nourishment enabling our growth in grace, affirmation of our union with God, and gratitude for our fellowship with other believers.*

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace. By our communion, keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel, preserve us from all sin and strengthen us for life as your ambassadors in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## \*Praise Song *Holy Forever* (Tomlin/Wickham/Johnson/Johnson/Ingram)

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A thousand generations falling down in worship; To sing the song of ages to the Lamb.  
And all who've gone before us; and all who will believe Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb.

*Pre-Chorus:* (Jesus) Your name is the highest; Your name is the greatest.  
Your name stands above them all.  
All thrones and dominions; all powers and positions,  
Your name stands above them all.

*Chorus 1:* And the angels cry Holy; all creation cries Holy.  
You are lifted high Holy; Holy forever.

If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed; Sing the song forever to the Lamb.  
If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name; Sing the song forever to the Lamb.  
We'll sing the song forever and Amen.

*Chorus 2:* And the angels cry Holy; all creation cries Holy.  
You are lifted high Holy; Holy forever.  
Hear Your people sing Holy; To the King of Kings Holy  
You will always be Holy; Holy forever (*Pre-Chorus 2x*) (*Chorus 2*)

You will always be Holy; Holy forever

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## \*Charge & Benediction

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*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

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



<sup>1</sup> Abraham took another wife, whose name was Keturah. <sup>2</sup> She bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. <sup>3</sup> Jokshan fathered Sheba and Dedan. The sons of Dedan were Asshurim, Letushim, and Leummim. <sup>4</sup> The sons of Midian were Ephah, Epher, Hanoah, Abida, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah. <sup>5</sup> Abraham gave all he had to Isaac. <sup>6</sup> But to the sons of his concubines Abraham gave gifts, and while he was still living he sent them away from his son Isaac, eastward to the east country. <sup>7</sup> These are the days of the years of Abraham's life, 175 years. <sup>8</sup> Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people. <sup>9</sup> Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, east of Mamre, <sup>10</sup> the field that Abraham purchased from the Hittites. There Abraham was buried, with Sarah his wife. <sup>11</sup> After the death of Abraham, God blessed Isaac his son. And Isaac settled at Beer-lahai-roi. <sup>12</sup> These are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's servant, bore to Abraham. <sup>13</sup> These are the names of the sons of Ishmael, named in the order of their birth: Nebaioth, the firstborn of Ishmael; and Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, <sup>14</sup> Mishma, Dumah, Massa, <sup>15</sup> Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. <sup>16</sup> These are the sons of Ishmael and these are their names, by their villages and by their encampments, twelve princes according to their tribes. <sup>17</sup> (These are the years of the life of Ishmael: 137 years. He breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his people.) <sup>18</sup> They settled from Havilah to Shur, which is opposite Egypt in the direction of Assyria. He settled over against all his kinsmen.

## Something to think about . . .

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

1. Read Hebrews 11. What did Abraham have in common with the other men and women described in this passage? How did it make a difference in the way they lived?
2. Which promises did Abraham live to see fulfilled? Which did he hold only by faith when he died?
3. Which of God's promises to you will be fulfilled while you are alive and which will you inherit when you die?
4. Describe the various ways in which Abraham dealt with his reality gaps. What are your reality gaps? How will you deal with them differently because of what you have learned from our study on Abraham?
5. List the three most important truths from the life of Abraham that have made an impact on you.

# Grow and Go with Us! \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Next Generation Ministry

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👉 **June 14 will be the last day of Sunday School for both NPC Kids and Students before they break for the summer.**



Ages: Birth – 5th grade

Contact: kids@neelsville.org

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



👉 **VBS Registration is filling up!** Register today at this QR code.



Ages: 6th – 12th grade

Contact: students@neelsville.org

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

**Wednesday Night Youth Group** meets at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. Youth Group will continue to meet throughout the summer.

## 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)

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

Contact: Pastor Jeff (pastorjeff@neelsville.org)

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

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

**Sundays at 7:00pm – Ezekiel Bible Study** (Online) *\*not mtg 5/24*

Contact: Craig Wilson (cdw6@msn.com)

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

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

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

Contact: Brian Farrell (bpf3356@gmail.com)

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

Contact: Sue Farrell (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.



Sunday 5/24

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Monday 5/25

Happy Memorial Day! **Church Office closed**

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Tuesday 5/26

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Wednesday 5/27

7:00pm

Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)

7:00pm

Praise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

7:00pm

Women's Bible Study – *Sermon on the Mount* (Online)

7:15pm

Men's Bible Study – *Psalms: Prayers of the Heart* (Online)

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Thursday 5/28

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Friday 5/29

9:30am

Women's Bible Study – *Joshua* (Parlor)

**12:00pm**

**Celebration of Life for Beverley Stevenson**

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Saturday 5/30

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Sunday 5/31

9:15am

Sunday Morning Small Group – *Life Lessons* (Parlor)

9:30am

Classes for All Ages!

**10:45am**

**Worship Service (Sanctuary)**

7:00pm

Ezekiel Bible Study (Online)

# Financial Update

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	<b>April Actual</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>
<b>Income (\$K)</b>	\$ 59.3 K	\$ 264.8 K	\$ 253.1 K	\$ 827.9 K
<b>Expenses (\$K)</b>	\$ 68.4 K	\$ 268.7 K	\$ 294.5 K	\$ 859.4 K



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

<b>Excess Income/Expenses</b>	-\$ 9.1 K	-\$ 4.0 K
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# 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.

**The church office will be closed for Memorial Day tomorrow, 5/25.**

**A Celebration of Life for Beverley Stevenson will be held this Fri 5/29 at 12 noon.** The service will start in the Sanctuary, followed by interment in the cemetery and a reception in the Fellowship Hall. Beverley was a longtime member at Neelsville and a friend to many.

**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)).



**Every generation can invest in the next!** We are seeking a few more Vacation Bible School volunteers who want to help behind-the-scenes in shopping, organizing, prepping, & praying. VBS decoration days are scheduled for late July and early August so much of the work can be done on your own time before then. Connect with Pastor SeongSu or Melissa Evans for a list of tasks.

**NPC will host a Red Cross Blood Drive in memory of Hugh Smith on Sat 6/20 from 9am – 1:30pm.** Visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and search for "NeelsvillePresbyterian" (no spaces) to sign up to support this life-giving program. Questions? Contact Karen Clark at [2karclark@gmail.com](mailto:2karclark@gmail.com). You can also sign up using this QR Code



**It's not too late to support the 2026 Baby Bottle Campaign!** Please place your cash or check in an envelope marked "RWC" to be collected during the offering time. Make checks payable to NPC and note RWC in the memo. Specific RWC envelopes are available in the Narthex & include a QR code to donated online. Contact Jaimie Bement, Mercy Muna, Lena Shirley or Joanne Wilson.

**Sign up now as a Vacation Bible School participant August 3-7 from 9am-12pm.** Registration is flourishing and we're now 2/3 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! **Register your children through the QR Code.**



# 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)

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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