

OCTOBER 2023

CONNECTED



Grace United  
Methodist  
Church

318 N Center Street  
Geneseo, IL 61254  
309-944-4208

geneseogumc@gmail.com  
geneseograce.org



## About Prayer...

Someone said, Our God is our loving Father, our parent, who doesn't give us everything we ask for. After all, sometimes what we most want is the furthest thing from what we most need. But our Father in heaven will always give us his love.

In case you doubt or have trouble seeing God as your loving parent, remember that "Jesus invites his disciples into a deeply personal relationship with God."

Power... God's power, accompanies prayer. Thoughts and prayers, when actually thought and prayed, carry the heft of the Holy Spirit and the power of the Holy Spirit speaks, intercedes, accompanies, advocates.... for us.

God's answer to our prayers is love. God gives his whole self as Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. "...How much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

In the gift of the Holy Spirit there is strength, there is comfort, there is clarity, there is peace.

In the gift of the Holy Spirit there is energy, there is inspiration, there is motivation, there is guidance.

In the gift of the Holy Spirit, there is the very presence of our Father God who promises to never leave us or forsake us.

Unless you're making deals with the devil, our heavenly Father will answer every door upon which you knock with "GOOD GIFTS." So keep asking and know that you will receive daily bread, keep searching and believe that you will find forgiveness, keep knocking with confidence that the door to God's kingdom will be opened... to the glory of God and His incredible love. AMEN.

Encouraging you in Christ,  
Pastor Dan



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# CHURCH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES

**September 18, 2023 - 6:00pm**

**In Attendance:** Pastor Dan Siebert, Jeff Orton, Todd Davison, Traci Sigwalt, George Farley, Mark Lohman, Karen Doy, Lynne Haars, Brian Humphries, Gayle Barnes, Sharon Campbell

### **Committee Updates:**

**Staff Parish:** Reported by George Farley

\*Staff evaluations coming soon. Future meeting to be scheduled soon.

**Missions:** Reported by Karen Doy

\*Added \$200 to Backpacks, bringing the total to \$500. No meeting will be held until 2024. Thanksgiving offering will be given to Heifer International. Christmas Offering will be divided between Baby Fold & Chaddock. A carload of supplies was collected at the August Food Pantry Collection.

**Finance:** Reported by Todd Davison

\* Audit has been completed. Letters were sent out concerning giving for the first six months of 2023. The General Fund continues to be low. A replacement for Treasurer, Robbie Rushing is continuing. An outside firm is being considered. Next meeting will be held on Monday, October 13 at 6:00pm.

**Trustees:** Reported by Brian Humphries

\*Parking lot asphalt, sealing and painting stripes - a bid of \$22,000 was submitted. Trustees will continue to look for other bids. Parsonage plumbing issues were repaired. A small area of concrete on the driveway was replaced. Steps in parsonage garage were rebuilt by Art & Sandy French. An electrician has been contacted concerning wires that connect the rental house and the garage. New copier in the office is working out well. Security cameras have been ordered for the lobby, and Landon Neumann will install them when they arrive. Randy Rutherford will come in and investigate leaks in the foyer the next time it rains. Altar Guild has requested new flooring in Otterbein. They are to get quotes to Trustees. Sharon Campbell reported that she has gotten an estimate from Village Home Store for a new stove. The estimate is \$9494.00 for a 48" stove/oven.

**Annual Conference Lay Member Report** - Mark Lohman:

\*Mark handed out resources:

\*Communications Learning Week 2023

\*Crash Course on Youth Ministry

\*Bishop's Clergywomen Retreat

**Membership:** Reported by Gayle Barnes

\*91 membership letters were sent out. We received 13 replies. -- 6 request to keep membership, 5 request to have membership removed, 2 memberships transferred to other church.

**Worship/Music:** Reported by Lynne Haars

\*New sound system is being installed and should be completed in time for Worship on September 24.

**Pastor's Report:** Reported by Pastor Dan Siebert

\*Confirmation Classes have begun with six students attending. Youth Group met on Sunday, September 17 for dinner and student lead Bible Study. It was a great success with 13 youth attending. Charge Conference Reports are due by October 6. GUMDROPS Fall Session begins on Wednesday, September 20. Nomination Committee will be meeting on Thursday, September 21. Charge Conference will meet on October 23 at 1:30pm at Colona United Methodist Church.

Next Council Meeting: November 13 at 6:00pm

**Submitted by Jeff Orton, Chairman**



# fall breakfast

Sunday, October 8  
following Worship Service  
Served by Opal Circle

If you can donate an egg casserole or  
coffee cake, please contact  
Paula Schulte 309-945-2964



- 01 - Paul Flynn
- 04 - Wendy Boone, John DuBois
- 05 - Nash Verbeck
- 08 - Jody Rathman
- 09 - Kirk Hodgson, Evie Junior
- 10 - Shaina Lohman, Drake VerStraete
- 12 - Allison Boone, Jerry Scott
- 13 - Daniel Lohman
- 16 - Megan VerStraete
- 17 - Perry Farley
- 19 - Wyatt Mickley
- 21 - Eliza Shoemaker
- 22 - Brad Dunker, Joy Dwyer, Dean Johnson,  
Nancy Koster
- 23 - Claudia Loucks, Claire Rushing, Diana Scherer
- 27 - Deanna Cleary
- 28 - Harold Johnson
- 29 - Lyla Gorman
- 30 - Amanda Neumann, Cindy Pippin
- 31 - Adam Orton



- 05 - Brian & Emily DeJohn (21)
- 07 - Bronson & Allison Good (6)
- 10 - Tyler & Hilary Junis
- 14 - Ed & Tari Kneen (55)**
- 15 - Barry & Lorrie Snodgrass (46)
- 20 - Jimmy & Evan Hill (16)
- 27 - Marty & Libby Anderson (33)
- 30 - Gordon & Betty Bodeen (52)

## OWLS LUNCH

Thursday,  
October 19  
at 11:30am



Hammond Henry Hospital's Physical Therapy Department will provide OWLS with a program on improving and maintaining our flexibility as we get older. We look forward to hearing this important information. **Sign up in the lobby or by calling the office.**



Ladies of Grace,  
Thank you so very much  
for the beautiful & bountiful  
lunch for my & Clarke's  
family & friends.

**Gayle Barnes**

I would like to thank my Grace Church Family for the prayers, love and concern you have shown me after my detached retina surgery in Iowa City. God is trying to teach me patience in the healing process. Also, a huge thank you for the cards, food, texts, phone calls, visits and taking me out of the house for a break. I appreciate continued prayer for complete recovery with my vision. There are no better prayer warriors than all of you. Thank you!!!!

**Helen Akers**

Thank you for the cards, words of sympathy and the memorial gifts sent to us for Daryl's brother, Donald Rice, Jr.

**Daryl & Linda Rice**



**Pastor Dan Seibert**  
revseibert@gmail.com

318 N Center Street  
Geneseo, IL

**Worship Sunday at 9:00am**  
**Kids Worship (Ages 4-11)**  
**Sunday at 9:00am**

**Sunday School:**  
**Adult Classes at 8:00am**

# stayCONNECTED



309 944-4208



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Geneseo Grace

## prayer is powerful

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction,  
faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12 NIV

- |                                    |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Brant Betcher                      | Mathew Bodeen        |
| Cara & Zane                        | John Carlson         |
| Joey Eaker                         | Ruth Ann Eaker       |
| Jon Espenses                       | Evelyn               |
| Family Member                      | Wayne Goodwiin       |
| Revs. Mike & Beth Fender           | Nikki Haars          |
| Cameron Hodgson                    | Brenna Betcher Holke |
| Jeanette Klavine                   | John & JoAnn Knox    |
| Mary James                         | Verla Lohman         |
| Andrew Lord & Wife                 | Niece, Mary          |
| Bev Radue                          | Tony Simon           |
| Steve Scherer's Parents            | Sally Swanson        |
| Steve & Charlotte Powell's Brother |                      |

Those in Assisted Living & Nursing Home:

- |              |               |                |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| Greta Baugh  | Joyce Criddle | Mary Lou Deane |
| Phyllis Keag | John Riggs    | Connie Ryner   |
| Sarah Stees  | Rita Webb     |                |

**Please contact Julie Dahlquist**  
**with prayer updates.**

**2023 Offering Needed to**  
**meet Monthly Budget**

**\$31,000.00**

**Received in SEPTEMBER**

**\$37,943.88**

**General Fund**



*Thoughts*  
In your time of sorrow, my  
**ARE WITH YOU**

### Our Love & Sympathy to...

**The Family of Donald Rice**  
who passed away on August 30, 2023  
Brother of Amie (Dwayne) Blank,  
Daryl (Linda) Rice & Elaine Call

We will meet on  
October 3 at 1:00pm  
**(NOTE the new time).**  
If you enjoy reading,  
come join our friendly  
group.



**Food needs:** cooking oil, salt,  
egg noodles, crackers, 100% juice

**Non-food needs:** toilet paper,  
dish soap, lotion, conditioner,  
band aids

**Clothing room needs:**  
men's smaller size casual clothes,  
shoes, towels, sheets





# TRUNK OR TREAT

AT GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**OCT 15**  
3pm to 5pm

318 N Center St  
Geneseo, IL  
geneseogumc@gmail.com



## TRUNKS NEEDED!

**Bring your decorated trunk  
& lots of candy to share!  
Be in the parking lot on  
Sunday, October 15 by 2:30pm**



# Halloween FUN!

**We need volunteers to  
help at  
TRUNK OR TREAT  
Please contact  
Audrey Toone  
(audgem21@gmail.com)  
if you can help!**

**Now  
Accepting  
Donations of  
Cookies & Candy  
(unopened bags,  
individually wrapped)**



**Drop Off by  
October 11  
in the Lobby  
or Office**



GUMDROPS kicked off the Fall with a field trip to Tom & Margaret Hitzhusen's farm. There was riding toys, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, corn shucking & a scavenger hunt to do. A book about visiting Grandpa's farm was read and homemade cookies from Margaret's kitchen were served as a treat.

Thank you Tom & Margaret for this wonderful day at the farm!

More than **40** little ones are signed up for our Fall Session!!



# OCTOBER



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <b>Regular Sunday Events</b> 8:00am - Adult Sunday School 9:00am - Worship 9:00am - KIDS Worship 6:00pm - Confirmation Class	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 1:00pm - Book Club, Library 	<b>4</b> 9:15am - GUMDROPS, Otterbein  7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal, Chapel	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <b>Regular Sunday Events</b> Breakfast following Worship 6:00pm - Confirmation Class, Albright	<b>9</b> 8:00am - Prayer Group, Chapel 9:00am - Library Committee, Library 6:00pm - Opal Circle, Chapel	<b>10</b> 9:00am - Pearl Circle, Otterbein 12:30pm - Violet Circle, Albright	<b>11</b> 9:15am - GUMDROPS, Otterbein 7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal, Chapel	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <b>Regular Sunday Events</b> 3:00pm - 5:00pm TRUNK OR TREAT 4:30pm - Youth Dinner Prep 5:30pm - Youth Dinner 6:00pm - Youth Bible Study	<b>16</b> 8:00am - Prayer Group, Chapel	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9:15am - GUMDROPS, Otterbein 7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal, Chapel	<b>19</b> 11:30am - OWLS Lunch, Otterbein 	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>Regular Sunday Events</b> 1:30pm - Charge Conference, Colona UMC 6:00pm - Confirmation Class, Albright	<b>23</b> 8:00am - Prayer Group, Chapel 6:00pm - Finance Committee Meeting	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 9:15am - GUMDROPS, Otterbein 7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal, Chapel	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>Regular Sunday Events</b> 6:00pm - Confirmation Class, Albright	<b>30</b> 8:00am - Prayer Group, Chapel	<b>31</b> 				