

CONNECTED

SEPTEMBER 2023

**Grace United
Methodist
Church**

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

geneseogumc@gmail.com
geneseograce.org



Author, Maurice A. Fetty, of The Divine Advocacy writes: "Very few people are expert in anything all by themselves. They need a supporting community... some folks that will share struggles and successes from their life."

Do you know a good musician who was not trained, nurtured, and sustained by the music community? I challenge you to show me an athlete who achieves excellence all alone, apart from others in the athletic community.

Very few wise people become so without the accumulated wisdom of the centuries as expressed in colleges and universities and libraries. Medical people are more like ensembles and symphonies than soloists.

What business tycoon does it all on his own without dedicated experts in finance, engineering, personnel, and marketing? Excellence requires participation in, and support, of a community of like-minded people.

Likewise, in the church – a forerunner of the new kingdom, very few achieve Christian maturity all by themselves. Seldom is the Bible studied diligently without the aid of scholars and teachers. Rarely are people led to practice generosity by their own impulses."

The Church is a cross-section of people from life all around us. It is from the sampling of society that we find ourselves enriched by other like-minded souls who have named themselves with the name of Christ. We all are learning how to mature in him as we continue on in the journey of faith.

Each of us have an important role to play in the development and maturity of faith with the other Christians who are around us. Namely, these are our sisters and brothers in Christ who we worship, and serve, and fellowship with.

Please bear in mind that God never intended for us to go it alone when it comes to living out our faith in Jesus. So when the invitation is spread to you to be involved with some aspect of service in the life and ministry of the church, be prepared to say "yes." Yes, for God's kingdom and God's glory.

Encouraging you in Christ,

Pastor Dan



COUNCIL MINUTES

The Church Council met on Monday, July 24, 2023 at 7:00pm. Jeff Orton opened the meeting with devotion and prayer.

Annual Conference - Mark Lohman gave a report on the Annual Conference, held June 6-8. There was no voting at Annual Conference, but a report was given on the disaffiliation status. Summary reports from Annual Conference can be found on the Grace UMC website.

Staff/Parish - George Farley reported that job descriptions are nearly completed. Discussion on the feasibility of a youth pastor is on-going.

Missions Committee - Karen Doy reported that August 13 has been designated as Missions Sunday. Missions will be doing a Food Pantry Collection August 26-27. Informational flyers are available in the Church lobby, on Grace Facebook, the weekly e-mail, and August's "Connected" newsletter.

Finance Committee - Todd Davison reported that the General Fund balance is \$7,358, down \$40,000 from a year ago. It was approved to use the Anderson Home Fund to cover funds, if needed. Finance Secretary Traci Sigwalt will be sending out the members' statement letters for the first half of the year. Further discussion was held on the possibility of a youth pastor. The committee is also searching for new a treasurer. Rob Rushing will graciously help during this transition.

Trustees - A leak at the parsonage was fixed, resulting in some concrete work on the driveway. One bid for \$22,000 was received for the church parking lot's sealing and striping. Trustees will continue to search for other bids.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Dan reported on the Men's group gathering in June. The Wednesday Evening Bible Study is going well, with 15+ members in attendance. Nominations Committee will be meeting in August. Confirmation classes will begin September 10, and will go through January 14. Confirmation Sunday will be on January 21. Letters were sent to the First United Methodist Church's former members. Reception of new members will be on August 20.

Others in attendance were Lynne Haars, Coral Minge, Mark Mosbarger, Rob Rushing, Traci Sigwalt, and Brad Toone.



Sunday, September 10
following Worship Service
Served by Pearl Circle

If you can donate an egg casserole or
coffee cake, please contact
Gayle Barnes 309-944-3674



In your time
of sorrow, my
Thoughts
ARE WITH YOU

Our Love & Sympathy to...

The Family of Phyllis Wiese
who passed away on August 12, 2023

The Family of Jim Ufkin
who passed away on August 14, 2023
Husband of Pat Ufkin



- 02 - Mark Mosbarger
- 03 - Jack Mickley
- 04 - Micah Nicke
- 05 - Brad Monier, Paula Schulte
- 06 - Jane Scherer
- 07 - Andy Radue
- 11 - Traci Sigwalt
- 12 - Sue Vroman
- 13 - Paisley Junis
- 15 - Wyatt Neumann
- 16 - Judy VanDeWoestyne
- 17 - Mike Gorman,
- 18 - Rosemary Boardman, Tari DeBois,
Bennett Mickley
- 20 - Sam Mosbarger, Millie Scales
- 22 - Marty Anderson, David DeBrock
- 24 - Tom Daniels, Betty Kerber
- 25 - Brooke Boone, Dathan Kerber,
Claire Toone
- 28 - Julie Davison
- 30 - Todd Ashpole, Emily DeJohn,
Milla Stewart



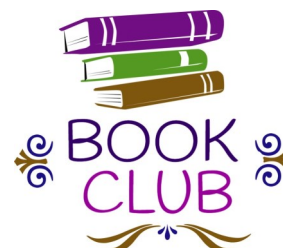
- 04 - Duane & Lynne Haars (59)
- 11 - Dave & Betty Ernst (41)
- 15 - Tom & Cindy Hudson (39)
- 16 - Jim & Pam Davison (56)
- Steve & Lisa Depies (17)



OWLS LUNCH
Thursday,
September 21
at 11:30am



Program will be presented by John Puentes,
creator & owner of the In-A-Godda-Da-Vida
music store in Geneseo. John will entertain
us with many musical renditions of various
time periods with his guitar. We are excited
to have him as our program. We look
forward to seeing old and new friends
attend. **Sign up in the lobby or by calling
the office.**



We will meet on
September 5, at 1:00pm
(**NOTE** the new time). We
will discuss *The Four
Winds* by Kristin Hannah
and *The Messy Lives of
Book People* by Phraeda
Patrick. If you enjoy
reading, come join our
friendly group.

Thank you

Thank you for my friends, visits, cards and the visit from Pastor Dan. I'm thankful for my Grace Church family.

Yours in Christ,
Phyllis Wiese
(This was written by Phyllis just before her passing ♥)

Dear Women of Grace,
Many thanks for the wonderful and delicious luncheon for our mother's memorial. She greatly loved Grace UMC and would have been very happy you fed her family.

Blessings Always,
Family of Helen Holcomb
William Pobanz, Mark Pobanz, & Lynne Davis

Grace Church Family,
Thank you so much for the beautiful floral arrangement, memorials, lovely cards, hugs, thoughts & prayers shared with me during this time of great sadness upon the loss of my beloved mother, Johanne Meyer. I am so blessed to have your love & support.

God Bless you all,
Coral Minge

Thank you to all of you for your prayers, support, hugs & love. Jim is at peace now and our family feels blessed to have had him in our lives. Our Church family is awesome! Thank you doesn't begin to express our deep appreciation for all that we have felt.

Pat Ufkin, Mike Ufkin, & Kim Felson

To Our Grace Church Family,

Thank you so very much for all of the love, prayers, and support you have given to us during Clarke's last days, the special service by Pastor Dan, the lovely luncheon, and continuing on. The Barnes Family feels so blessed by so much love and care.

Gayle, Carrie, Patrick & Family



Choir Rehearsal resumes
Wednesday, September 6
7:00pm in the Chapel



Welcome
New Members
Sunday, August 20

New members were welcomed to our Church family. God bless you as you begin your journey with us!

Lavon Swanson, Dave Swanson,
& Steve Depies





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



geneseograce.org



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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
Cara & Zane
Joey Eaker
Jon Espenses
Family Member
Lyn Gradert
Cameron Hodgson
Jeanette Klavine
Andrew Lord
Niece Mary
Powell's Brother
Tony Simon
Family of Jim Ufkin
Wayne's friend Kim

Mathew Bodeen
John Carlson
Ruth Ann Eaker
Evelyn
Wayne Goodwin
Nikki Haars
Brenna Betcher Holke
John & JoAnn Knox
Andrew Lord
Bev Radue
Steve Scherer's Parents
Sally Swanson
Kelly Veltrot
Family of Phyllis Wiese

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 AUGUST

\$25,696.15

General Fund



Maud Depies participated in a long-standing Grace Church Children's Department tradition of adding pennies to the birthday cake for her birthday. Maud's Grandma Joy Dwyer helped her!



Food needs: tuna, low sodium chunky-style soups, pasta sauce, pasta, baked beans

Non-food needs: toilet paper, dish soap, laundry detergent, lotion, and body wash

Clothing room needs: King size sheets, plus size comfortable clothing, and new or like new underwear





CONFIRMATION

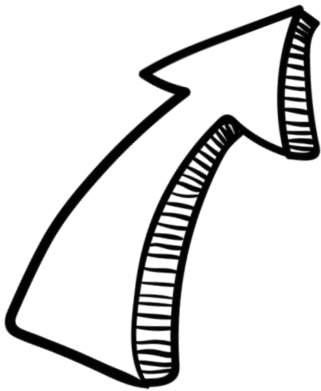
Dear Parents,

We are excited to be starting our Confirmation class where our young people will be on a journey of exploring their faith and growing in their awareness of God's activity in their lives. Confirmation is where your young person will study and work toward taking hold of the Christian faith for themselves.

Here is the Confirmation info for 7th & 8th Grade Students which will begin on September 10, 2023 at Grace Church. Classes are scheduled for Sundays at 6:00pm in Albright. Students are asked to contact a Grace Church member to act as their mentor. Please contact Jackie Mickley if you need suggestions for a mentor.

Here is the schedule of the 13 Sundays that Confirmation will be meeting:

Sep	10 th	24 th		
Oct	1 st	8 th	22 nd	29 th
Nov	5 th	12 th	26 th	
Dec	3 rd	10 th		
Jan	7 th	14 th		



YOUTH GROUP

Sep	17 th
Oct	15 th
Nov	19 th
Dec	17 th
Jan	21 st

On the 3rd Sunday of the month a non-denominational, student led Bible study for grades 6 - 12 will be held. This event starts with students helping to prepare dinner from 4:30pm-5:30pm, eat dinner at 5:30pm, with a Bible study to follow. All family members are welcome to join us for dinner.

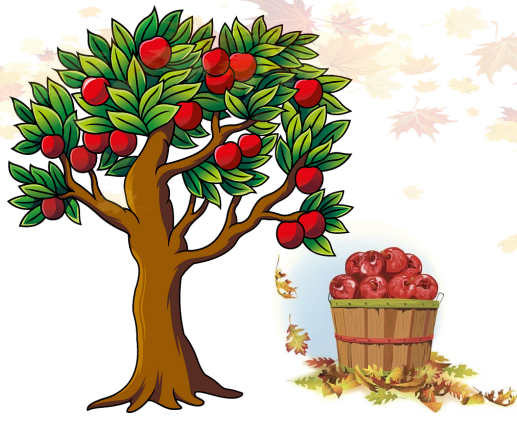
Students are encouraged to invite friends. Please review the attached schedule. Thank you for your prayers and support at we reach out and minister to our Youth.



August 26 & 27
Food Pantry
Collection

Thank you to everyone
who donated
much needed items!





September

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