

**Grace United
Methodist
Church**

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CONNECTED



SEPTEMBER 2024

God Sees Inside

In Psalm 139, David says...

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way.

David is not looking up nor around; instead he looks within. He wants to be God's man completely no matter the cost. So, he invites the Lord to make a thorough examination of him down deep inside. The word "search" in its basic Hebrew form means "to dig or explore or probe." David invites God to penetrate his outer shell and search deeply within him. That is what God looks at – the heart.

David asks the Lord to test him and try him to discover any distracting thoughts. In other words, he is saying, "I want you to see that my heart is following after you, O God. Find and remove anything that is keeping me from being entirely exposed to your will. Please God, hear me as I cry out to you."

Now, the desired result of this divine probing is that David will use any available means necessary to draw closer to God. Clearly this was the desire of his heart. See friend, when you open yourself to the scrutiny of the Lord God almighty, the very first place he wants to look is at your heart.

But sometimes it's hard to expose ourselves to that degree. We humans don't always like to make ourselves that vulnerable. In David's case, the "everlasting way," means the path of righteousness. He wanted to be a man of God, regardless of the cost.

What about you? Do you want to intimately walk with God in close fellowship? Do you want to be like David in your pursuit of a holy life? Has the power of Christ's love so captivated you that the very desire of your heart is to follow after him? That is what he wants of us.

Becoming a godly person is neither fast nor easy... it takes time and effort, but along the way it includes occasions when your heart is blessed and filled with peace and joy. If that sounds good then you can have that for yourself. Just open your heart to God's searching and wait for his love to bless you.

In Christ,

Participate In Mission Sunday, September 15



#SERVINGSUNDAY MIDWESTMISSION.ORG/MMSUNDAY @MIDWESTMISSION

Grace United Methodist Church, along with Midwest Mission, is celebrating Mission Sunday on September 15. The GUMC Mission Committee is inviting you to participate by assembling a student kit as you leave church. Our goal is to assemble 100 kits. Supplies will be purchased by the Mission Committee and available on September 15. Midwest Mission and GUMC Mission

Committee goals align well: to serve people around the world and around the corner. Midwest Mission distributed 23,670 student kits to 299 domestic and 44 international locations in 2023.

Enjoy a donut when you help assemble a student kit for Midwest Mission on your way out of church on Mission Sunday, September 15.



Celebrate World Communion Sunday on October 6

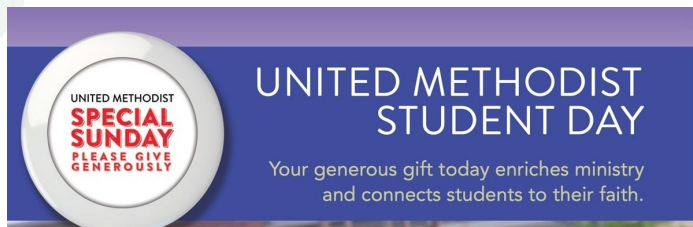
What is World Communion Sunday? World Communion Sunday is one of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church. World Communion Sunday calls the church to reach out to all people and model diversity among God's children. The special offering provides World Communion Scholarships, the Ethnic Scholarship Program and the Ethnic In-Service Training Program. How does The United Methodist Church distribute the offerings received on World Communion Sunday? The treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration distributes net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, to the administering agencies: World Communion Scholarships: 50 percent (General Board of Global Ministries), with at least one-half of the annual amount for ministries beyond the United States Ethnic Scholarship Program: 35 percent (General Board of Higher Education and Ministry) Ethnic In-Service Training Program: 15 percent (General Board of Higher Education and Ministry)



Celebrate United Methodist Student Day on November 24

What is United Methodist Student Day? United Methodist Student Day is one of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church. United Methodist Student Day calls

the church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge. The special offering provides scholarships for qualified United Methodist applicants. How does The United Methodist Church distribute the offerings received on United Methodist Student Day? The treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration distributes net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry for United Methodist Student Day scholarships. How does one apply for a United Methodist Student Day scholarship? To apply for a United Methodist Student Day scholarship, visit the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry website.





Pastor Dan Seibert
revseibert@gmail.com

318 N Center Street
Geneseo, IL

Sunday School:
Adult Classes at 8:00am
Ladies Bible Study at 10:00am

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

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Geneseo Grace

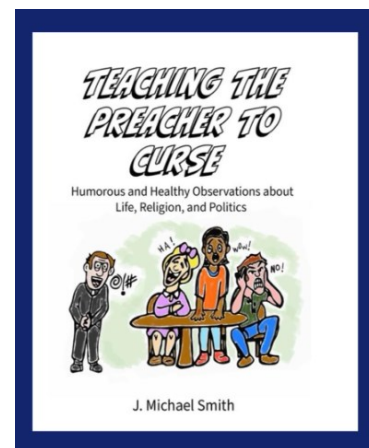
PRAYER list

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Ashley | Brenna Betcher Callahan |
| Aunt Chris | Sam Curcuru |
| Joey Eaker | Ruth Ann Eaker |
| Family Members | Cathy Gaudet |
| Nikki Haars | Cameron Hodgson |
| John | Kerry |
| Kevin Ketterman | Andrew Lord |
| Tia Mariman | Ellen Rubino |
| Jan Seibert | Sigwalt Family |
| Mark Stoneberger | Matt Swanson |
| Sally Swanson | Paula Venema |
| Steve & Charlotte Powell's Brother | |

Those in Assisted Living & Nursing Home:

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| Betty Bowman | Joyce Criddle | Mary Lou Deane |
| John Riggs | Connie Ryner | Sarah Stees |
| Rita Webb | | |

Sunday, September 8
Pastor Mike Smith will join us for worship & will have copies of his book available to purchase following service.



2024 Offering Needed to meet Monthly Budget

\$31,000.00

Received August 4 - 25

\$33,130.39

General Fund



Food needs:

cereal, ready to eat soups, chips, crackers, shredded cheese, milk

Non-food needs:

cleaning supplies, toilet paper, paper towels, toothpaste, body wash, shampoo, conditioner

Clothing Room needs:

men's clothing (all sizes), women's XS clothing, sheet sets, socks, new underclothes, starting in September accepting fall & cooler weather clothing

WITH DEEPEST Sympathy

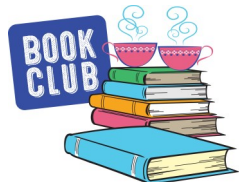
To the Family of Jeanette Klavine
who passed away on August 5

Our thoughts & prayers are with you all.

OWLS Lunch Thursday, September 19 11:30am



Join us for lunch, followed by Dee & Bian Humphries who will share about their travels through Europe this past summer. This is going to be very interesting so, you won't want to miss out! Please sign up in the lobby.



Our book club returned on August 2 with vigorous discussions of our two summer reads, *Eleanor Oliphant* and *One Puzzling Afternoon*. Attendees included Gayle,

Sandy, Pat, Joy, & Sharon. Our next reads for September 3 will be *The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride* and the sequel, *The Final Wish of Mr. Murray McBride* written by Joe Siple. Newcomers are always welcome to join us in the church library at 1:00pm.

Violet Circle Fall Meetings Begin

Join us on the first Tuesday of the Month. We will be meeting on Tuesday, September 3 at the Sunrise Cafe at 11:30am. Violet Circle contact is Jackie Mickley.



- 02 - Mark Mosbarger
- 03 - Jack Mickley
- 04 - Micah Nicke
- 05 - Brad Monier, Paula Schulte
- 06 - Jane Scherer
- 07 - Andy Radue
- 11 - Traci Sigwalt, Sue Vroman
- 12 - Cooper Humphries
- 13 - Paisley Junis, Lori Johnson
- 14 - Jillian Curcuro
- 15 - Wyatt Neumann, Estes Pauley
- 16 - Cole Toone, Judy VanDeWoestyne
- 17 - Mike Gorman
- 18 - Rosemary Boardman, Bennett Mickley
- 19 - Joseph Mickley
- 20 - Sam Mosbarger, **Millie Scales (97)**
- 22 - Marty Anderson, David DeBrock
- 24 - Tom Daniels
- 25 - Tom Gorman, Dathan Kerber, Claire Toone
- 27 - Betty Kerber
- 28 - Isabella Curcuro, Julie Davison
- 30 - Todd Ashpole, Emily DeJohn, Matt Lohman, Milla Stewart



- 04 - Duane & Lynne Haars (60)**
- 11 - Dave & Betty Ernst (42)
- 15 - Tom & Cindy Hudson (40)**
- 18 - Michael & Chrissy Weir (16)**
Jason & Crystal Yost (25)



AUGUST 11TH



Blessing of the Backpacks



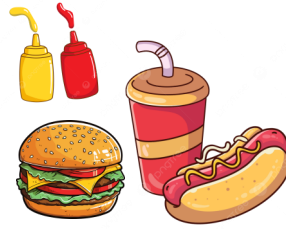
BREAKFAST

AUGUST 11TH - SERVED BY GRACE MEN



AUGUST 15TH
DWLS LUNCH





THANK YOU!



Opal Circle would like to thank everyone who supported the Fareway Cookout on August 23. Whether you stopped by for a sandwich; passed the word around about the cookout; and/or lifted the event up in prayer, you were a blessing! Proceeds from the cookout will go towards local missions.

YOUTH GROUP

**GRACE YOUTH GROUP IS FIRED UP FOR FALL!
WEINER ROAST & GAMES
JAMES AND AVERY MICKLEY'S FARM
24903 IL HWY 82, GENESEO
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 @ 5:30 PM**



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 10:00am - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>2</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>★ Happy ★ LABOR DAY</p>	<p>3</p> <p>11:30am - Violet Circle, Meet at Sunrise Cafe</p> <p>1:00pm - Book Club, Library</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Regular Sunday Events</p> <p>Pastor Mike Smith will be here</p> <p>Breakfast following Worship</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:00am - Prayer Group, Library</p> <p>6:00pm - Opal Circle, Chapel 6:30pm - Trustees Meeting, Albright</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00am - Pearl Circle, Library</p>	<p>11</p> <p>WELCOME BACK, CHOIR</p> <p>7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Regular Sunday Events</p> <p>Special Missions Sunday</p> <p>5:30pm - Youth Weiner Roast, James Mickley Farm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:00am - Prayer Group, Library</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19</p> <p>11:30am - OWLS Lunch, Otterbein</p> 	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Regular Sunday Events</p> <p>Autumn Begins</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:00am - Prayer Group, Library</p> <p>6:00pm - Church Council, Albright</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:15am - GUMDROPS, Albright</p> <p>7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Regular Sunday Events</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:00am - Prayer Group, Library</p>					