

**Grace United
Methodist Church**
318 N Center Street
Geneseo, IL 61254
309-944-4208
geneseogumc@gmail.com
geneseograce.org



What Is God Like?

Legend has it that during Marco Polo's trip to the Orient, he was taken before the great and fearsome ruler, Genghis Khan, the mighty pagan conqueror. One false move could cost him his life.

He decided to tell the story of Jesus as it is recorded in the gospels. It is said that when Marco Polo related the events of Holy Week, and described Jesus' betrayal, his trial, his scourging and crucifixion, Genghis Khan became more and more agitated, more engrossed in the story, and more tense. At last, when Marco Polo pronounced the words, "Then Jesus bowed his head and yielded up his spirit," Genghis Khan could no longer contain himself. He interrupted, bellowing, "What did the Christian's God do then? Did he send thousands of angels from heaven to smite and destroy those who killed his Son?

No. He watched his beloved Son die, that's what the Christian's God did then. For that was the way Jesus chose to ascend the throne of his kingdom and to establish his Lordship for all time. Not at all the way we would expect God to demonstrate his might and power, but that's the way it was and that is how we know what our God is like. He did that for you and me. Praise God for His amazing love.

In Christ,
Pastor Dan



VBS 2025



June 9 - 13

9:00 - 11:30am

3 yrs old - 4th Grade ('24-'25 school year)

Invite your friends & family to join the fun!

We need YOU to help make our VBS a success!

“Train up a child in the way he should go...”

Proverbs 22:6



Where can you help?

Leader/Helper - Music/Skit - Games

Arts/Crafts - Kitchen/Snacks - Decorations

If you're willing to help, please sign up in the lobby

or by contacting Director, Molly Hamer

mollyhamer23@gmail.com / cell 309-945-6934

or the office geneseogumc@gmail.com / 309-944-4208

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN ON OUR WEBSITE:

geneseograce.com

or pick up copies in the lobby



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Church Council met on March 23, 2025. SPRC Chair George Farley explained the church survey's anonymity and evaluation process.

Missions Chair Karen Doy reported that the Food Pantry appreciated the donation of the church van that will aid in its collection and distribution. The Mission's Blood Drive resulted in the collection of ten units, with the next drive scheduled for June 26. The committee voted to send \$2,000 to Alma & Richard Navarro, our missionaries in Taiwan; \$500 to Red Bird; \$500 to Heifer International & \$500 to Royal Kids. Mission Sunday will be celebrated in early fall with a food-packing mission. Also, Karen will inquire about the possibility of collecting school supplies as VBS.

Finance Chair Mark Mosbarger reported that Linda Flatt will complete the audit and forward it to the West District. He discussed the financial statements, reporting that the church giving during the last quarter in 2024 was strong and expenses were less than budgeted.

Trustees Chair Brian Humphries complimented Mark Stoneberger for the snow removal. He also reported that the State Fire Marshall did an inspection of the elevator, smoke detectors, etc. VanOpdorp Electric will replace south parking lot lights. Wirth, Inc. is scheduled to do an inspection of the air conditioners. A clean-up of the parsonage yard will be scheduled soon. An estimate for the Otterbein ceiling tiles is being sought. Randy Rutherford will inspect the parsonage and rental roofs. Also, the parsonage garage door was repaired. Brian acknowledged the Sigwalt Family's memorial, received in Glenn's memory.

Worship Committee Chair Tom Hitzhusen reported that the purchase of a new Christmas tree was discussed. The church's nativity/creche was relocated to the church garage. Thank you to the Dwayne Blank family for storing and setting it up for 50+ years! Also, feedback on having liturgists during the service has been positive.

Evangelism Committee is seeking co-chairs.

Gayle Barnes encouraged members to send updates/corrections for the church directory to Coral at any time. Lynne Haars passed along compliments regarding the music program at the Men's Lenten Breakfast presented by Seth Daniels, Tom Daniels, Steve Scherer & Brad Toone.

Lay Leader Mark Lohman provided a handout with the Bishops' preaching and town hall schedules. Dave & LaVon Swanson will attend the annual conference in June.

Pastor Seibert reported that there are three confirmands. He was please with the 80+ who attended the Men's Lenten breakfast at Grace and thanked those who worked. He was also please that Molly Hamer & others have stepped forward to provide VBS, scheduled for June 9 - 13.

Church Council met with SPRC members in a special meeting on April 3 to hear the survey's results. Church Council accepted the SPRC report and assigned tasks to the appropriate committees

Next Council Meeting will be May 19, 2025 at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Orton, Council Chair



Pastor Dan Seibert
revseibert@gmail.com

318 N Center Street
Geneseo, IL

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

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

stayCONNECTED



309 944-4208



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Geneseo Grace



**2025 Offering Needed to
meet Monthly Budget**

\$31,800.00

Received March 30 - April 27

\$33,840.41

General Fund



Maj. & Mrs. Karl Flynn are the proud parents of a baby girl born on March 9. She was 8 lb.3oz, 20.5 inches. Her name is Arielle Christine. Grandparents are Paul & Diane Flynn. Karl & his wife are both Majors in the Marine Corps.

Prayer Requests

Anonymous Requests
Brenna Betcher
Joseph Titus Countryman
Joey Eaker
Family Member
Lyn Gradert
Hannika
Cameron Hodgson
Norma Lodge
Jane Massey
Bev Radue
Gloria Shoemaker
Ginny Simon
Taylor
Pat Ufkin
Steve & Charlotte Powell's Brother

Bishop Frank J. Beard
Kim Brake
John Davis
Ruth Ann Eaker
Cathy Gaudet
Nikki Haars
Margaret Hitzhusen
Bob James
Andrew Lord
Clarice Massingill
Ellen Rubino
Barb Sigwalt
Nancy Stoneberger
Todd
Dean Yoder

Those in Assisted Living & Nursing Home:

Joyce Criddle Mary Lou Deane John Riggs
Connie Ryner Sarah Stees Carolyn Stenzel
Rita Webb



Food needs:

cereal, granola bars, 100% juice, pancake mix, syrup

Non-food needs:

shampoo, conditioner, body wash, bar soap, lotion

Clothing Room needs:

children's clothing (all sizes), socks, underwear, sheet sets, towels

easter

AT GRACE



MAUNDY THURSDAY



EASTER Egg Hunt





I would like to thank all of my church family for your prayers and support. Traveling to Northwestern definitely relieved my mind. The tests I had done were all in the excellent range. I will continue to move forward with cardio rehab and medication. The doctor advised returning for a check up in a year. God is good.

Pat Ufkin

CHARTER CERTIFICATE 2025

The men of this church have shared in the ministries of the United Methodist Men and are recognized as an organized unit. This charter authorized by the General Commission on United Methodist Men, Nashville, TN, in accordance with the Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church.

James E. Swanson, Sr.

Bishop James Swanson, Sr.
General Secretary



We are pleased to inform you that our records indicate that your church has successfully recertified for the year 2025, and we appreciate your continued commitment and support of the United Methodist Men's & Scouting Ministries.

**General
Commission on
UMMen**

MAY
Birthdays

- 03 - Gordon Bodeen, Greg Bodeen
- 05 - Devonne Brock, Elizabeth Yost, Emily Yost
- 06 - Zachary Yoder
- 08 - Ty Johnson
- 09 - Hazel Curcuru
- 12 - John Tank
- 13 - Tami Monier
- 15 - Olivia Mosbarger
- 19 - Elaine Call
- 22 - Pamela Betcher, Lauren Orton
- 25 - Sharon Campbell, Ellen Rubino, Addison Smith, Easton Smith
- 26 - Rod Magerkurth
- 28 - Addison Dykstra, Courtney Morrison, Hanna Pace
- 29 - Ariel French
- 30 - Jacob Koster



OWLS Lunch
Thursday, May 15
at 11:30am

Jennifer Temple, owner & creator of *Harvest Bakery & More* in Erie, will be here to share her dream of creating *Harvest Bakery*. This business has excellent & tasty meals, plus a marvelous bakery. Our dessert for the OWLS gathering will be provided by *Harvest Bakery*. The door is open to those wanting to have an enjoyable luncheon with friends & sample very special desserts. Please sign up in the lobby or by calling the church office.

MAY
Anniversaries

- 01 - Jeff & Mary Orton (49)
- 02 - Dick & Lyn Gradert (61)
- 07 - Kevin & Jody Akers (37)
- 11 - Steve & Paula Schulte (34)
- 14 - Doug & Shelly Emerick (37)
- 28 - **Dean & Shalee Johnson (30)**
- 29 - Cody & Rachel Sheffler (4)
- 30 - Tom & Diane Birmingham (38)
- 31 - Larry & Sharon Campbell (17)
- Brett & Lynda Yoder (28)



FAREWAY
ECONOMICAL FOOD STORES

Friday, May 16
11:00am - 1:00pm

COOKOUT
Served by Opal Circle

Stop by for a quick lunch!

Proceeds go to
Opal Circle

pageborders.org

Book Club



Grace Book Club had an enjoyable time on April 1 discussing the book, "The Only Way Home" by Jeanette Minitti. Our May read will be "Once You Were Mine" by Elizabeth Langston. Attending on April 1 were Pat, LaVon, Sharon H, Sandy, Joy, & Sharon C. We welcome new members anytime. Next meeting is Tuesday, May 6 at 1:00pm.

Opal Circle would like to thank all who made Palm Sunday's Brunch possible. Blessings to all who set up, cleaned up, contributed, served, and/or attended.



Breakfast



JOIN OUR COMMUNITY CHOIR

The Community Choir of Geneseo will be celebrating their 17th Annual Concert entitled "Hope" on Wednesday, June 25 at 7:00pm in the Geneseo HS Concert Hall. The Community Choir includes those entering 8th grade and older adults. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00pm. beginning Wednesday May 28 thru June 18 in the Geneseo HS Concert Hall. If you are interested in singing, please call Pam Edwards, the director at 309-944-6641 or email: singplay53@gmail.com by May 2.

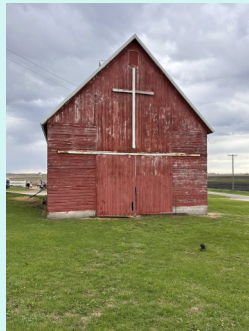
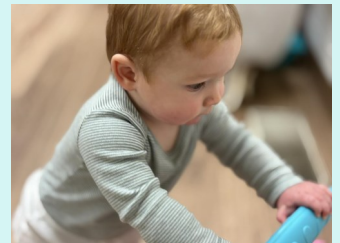
Students entering grades 4-7 are invited to sing in the Children's Choir. They will rehearse June 19,20,23,24,25. Registration forms are available through the Geneseo elementary and middle school choir instructors or contact Pam Edwards. The deadline to register is May 9.



Sunday, May 11

We honor & celebrate
all mothers - past, present,
& future and all women!

We celebrate the women
who've taught us the
true meaning of
unconditional love.





May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	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>				1	2	3
<p>4</p> <p>Regular Sunday Events</p> <p>10:00am - Confirmation Class</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00am - Prayer Group, Library</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1:00pm - Book Club, Library</p>	7	8	9	10
<p>11</p> <p>HAPPY Mother's Day</p> <p>Regular Sunday Events</p> <p>10:00am - Confirmation Class</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00am - Prayer Group, Library</p> <p>6:00pm - Opal Circle, Chapel</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00am - Pearl Circle, Library</p>	14	<p>15</p> <p>11:30am - OWLS Lunch, Otterbein</p> <p>6:00pm - Staff Parish Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Fareway Cook Our served by Opal Circle 11:00am - 1:00pm</p> 	17
<p>18</p> <p>Regular Sunday Events</p> <p>Confirmation Sunday</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:00am - Prayer Group, Library</p> <p>6:00pm - Church Council Meeting</p>	20	21	22	23	24
<p>25</p> <p>Regular Sunday Events</p>	<p>26 CLOSED</p> 	27	28	29	30	31