

Greetings from Godfrey Congregational Church

Contact/Newsletter Issue Mar 2024
www.godfreycongregational.org



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Bible Verse of the Month



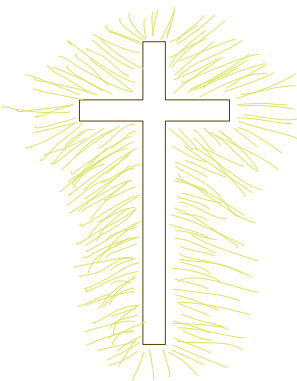
16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. 19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds

were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

27 To this John replied, "A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. 28 You yourselves can testify that I said, 'I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.' 29 The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. 31 The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks as one from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all. 32 He testifies to what he has seen and heard, but no one accepts his testimony. 33 Whoever has accepted it has certified that God is truthful. 34 For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God[i] gives the Spirit without limit. 35 The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands. 36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them.

John 3;16-21,27-29, 31-36

Message from the Moderator



Know that I am love, for I sacrificed my life to carry the burden of your sins. There is no greater love than to sacrifice your life for another. I physically died for three days and rose again. I suffered greatly at the hands of people going against God. I overcame temptation. I did my Father's will. I am the role model for people. I am the Savior for all believers. I am the perfect atonement for sin. - Jesus

Jesus is my confident, best friend, and my helper. Jesus is my rock, the foundation of truth. I'm nobody without Jesus. Jesus is my Savior. Without Jesus, I am a Satan follower. - Believer



These are the bold words of every believer who is on fire for Jesus. Don't know Jesus? Pray and ask for Him to come. Jesus is always waiting for you to knock at His door and is excited to receive you.

- Robert Ridenour

GODFREY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

6104 Godfrey Road
P.O. Box 214
Godfrey, IL 62035
Office phone: 618 466-3640

godfreyucc@gmail.com
www.godfreycongregational.org

Links on website: donate → 
watch service → 

Pastor Information

Pastor: Supply Pastors/Speakers
Call: Robert Ridenour (618-377-9096) or
Rose Mary Oglesby (618-216-2151)

Pastoral Needs

Call: Rose Mary Oglesby (618-216-2151) or
Robert Ridenour (618-377-9096).

To Add People to the Prayer List

Email: godfreyucc@gmail.com
Call/Text: 314-944-5336

MINISTRIES

CRISIS FOOD CENTER

Monetary donations to Crisis Food Center may be made on any Sunday by placing money in the offering plate or by making a notation to *Crisis Food Center* in the memo on your check.

SHAWL MINISTRY

The shawl ministry provides a warm blanket to those who are experiencing a time of distress in their life. This could be due to a health concern, a loss, or a crisis.

The blankets are blessed during a service at the church where all in the congregation are asked to touch the blanket to add their prayers for comfort and healing. If you know of anyone who should have a blanket, please contact Emma Brandt at 618 372-3730.

HANDS OF HOPE

Hands of Hope continues to help those in our community with food and clothing. Your donations are greatly appreciated!
Contact Susan Wright for more information.

*Free to Believe That All
May Be One*

Upcoming Special Events

Fri, Mar 15 @ 4:30 PM

Council Meeting (Council Members Only)

Sun, Mar 17 @ 10:30 AM

Scripture reading and songs worship service.

Calendar Corner (All Welcome)

Every Sunday (In Person)

10:30 AM Worship Service - led by supply pastors and lay speakers

After Children's Message in Worship Service - Children's Church and Nursery provided by Susan Wright

11:30 AM All invited to refreshments and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall downstairs.

Every Sunday (FaceBook live)

10:30 AM Worship Service - led by lay speakers and supply pastors.

Every Wednesday

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Quilter's Group Fellowship over quilting. All welcome from beginners to advanced.

Labyrinth Open Outside 24/7

All are welcome to enjoy the labyrinth for their own spiritual journey with God.

Articles for Contact Newsletter

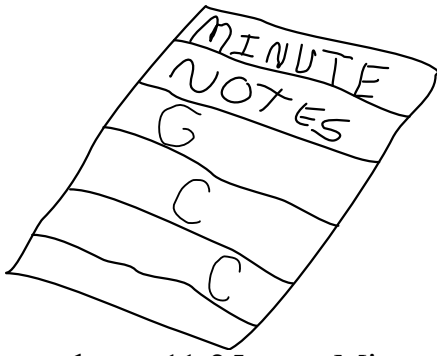
Submissions must be **received by the 18th** through email to godfreyucc@gmail.com (preferred method), put in the secretary's door office mailbox, or placed on the secretary's desk to guarantee to be in the upcoming "Contact" Newsletter. Thanks.

Secretary Hours

Every Monday and Thursday (12:30-3:00 PM) unless ill, back trouble, inclement weather, or a holiday.

GODFREY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, February 16, 2024



Members in Attendance: Bob Ridenour, Ferne Ridenour, Rose Mary Oglesby, Susan Wright, Carrie Paradine, Betty Norman, & Jamie Orban

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Susan Wright. Scripture was read by Bob Ridenour: Psalm 100:1-2. The meeting was called to order at 11:25 a.m. Minutes of January 19, 2024 were reviewed by the council. A motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Rose Mary Oglesby, seconded by Susan Wright. Motion carried.

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE: Chair Ferne Ridenour reported the following amounts as of January, 2024:

Reuter Trust: \$258,844.23 (up \$219.12) as of 1/31/24. The income received on February 1, 2024 was \$1,046.33 [The principal of the Reuter Trust Fund cannot be used until November 14, 2038.]

Line of Credit: \$4,600.00 (as of January, 2024)

Building Repair Fund: \$100.00 [This fund can only be spent on large building, grounds, and/or equipment repair or replacement costs, as approved by the Church Council.]

Total expenses for the month of January were \$3,545.32 and our total income was \$2,643.77. Expenses exceeded income by a total of \$901.55. Our monthly payment has gone up from \$787.62 to \$931.56; that is an extra \$143.62 per month— or \$1,584.00 per year. Also, we had to make payments on the Worker's Comp and the Umbrella policies this month so the total insurance payment in January was \$1,167.59.

FACILITIES & SUPPLIES: No report at this time.

PERSONNEL & NOMINATING: No report at this time.

CHURCH GROWTH & NURTURE: Susan Wright reported the following: We had a wonderful annual meeting with lots of fellowship and good food afterward. We mailed out 7 cards to our church family and friends of which 2 were birthdays, 4 get well, and 1 sympathy. On January 31st, we had a phone meeting with Rose Mary, Betty, and Susan on how many Easter Lilies to buy. It was decided to purchase 10 flowers.

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT: Susan Wright reported that the average adult Christian Education attendance was 0 and the average attendance for our children's classes was 1. Sunday School Bible Study was not held and will not be held unless someone shows an interest in attending. Jolene and Susan discussed Jesus with colored pictures that are on the nursery door. They talked about St. Valentine's Day, and what St. Valentine did for Jesus. Now they are working on a Lenten chain for Lent and what that means.

PASTOR'S REPORT: No report at this time.

DEACONESS: No report at this time.

ACA REPORT: Susan Wright reported that the American Christian Academy is doing so well that we canceled our Teacher's Workshop on March 1 and having school. Nathan is a great student and will have a report card coming out in March.

The ACA reported the following accomplishments: We decorated for Valentine’s Day and had a wonderful party with a movie, many snacks, games, and gifts. Plus, we celebrated Ash Wednesday with a commitment to give up ice cream for Lent; we are not planning our next holiday party for St. Patrick’s Day and moved our Easter party until after vacation, so we would not have two parties in the same month; ACA has 197 reaches, 74 posts, and 3 likes in the last week; and our field trip has been planned for the last school week in May to the St. Louis Zoo.

The ACA reported the following goals: File for a 501(C)3 with the IRS; design the sign and purchase posts; and have more students.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

None at this time.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Susan Wright, seconded by Ferne Ridenour. The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m. followed by a closing prayer by Susan Wright.

Respectfully Submitted, Jamie Orban



Prayers



- Abby. Has ongoing health problems. Connie Fair's daughter.
 - Ann Tolle. Having health issues. Would love cards and calls.
 - Barb. Had open heart surgery. Not doing well. Gerry Brown's friend.
 - Bob Gulovsen. Having heart problems. Irene's Gulovsen husband.
 - Cheyene. Having heart problems. Granddaughter of Cathy Schilling.
 - Don & Emma Brandt. Don has ongoing health issues. Cards are welcome.
 - Henrietta Kamp. Pray for continued healing and fast recovery time.
 - Irene Gulovsen. Had knee surgery.
 - Jared Brooks. Had surgery. Son of Debbie Kelly, a guest pastor.
 - Jerry Bates. Released from hospital and at home recovering from COVID.
 - Joyce Bates. Recovering from being ill.
 - Norman Hunt. Friend of Rose Mary Oglesby.
 - Shirley Beyers. Has cancer. Relative of Kathy Schilling.
 - Valerie Bates. Cancer returned. Wife of Derrick Bates, daughter-in-law to Jerry & Joyce Bates.
- Please submit prayer requests via email to godfreyucc@gmail.com or call/text 314-944-5336.



Birthday Blessings

- 3/3 Ann Tolle
- 3/8 Jamie Orban
- 3/13/2011 (Age: 12) Alina (Parent: Jamie Orban)
- 3/15 Susan Wright
- 3/22 Nicole Orban
- 3/27 John Pawloski



Anniversaries

3/18/1961 Rayford and Martha Raby

	Amount	FB
Attended	Views	
Jan 21	15	144
Jan 28	15	31
Feb 4	17	25
Feb 11	16	36

Music Schedule

Thanks to Rayford and Martha Raby for playing their wonderful music. Rayford and Martha playing 17 and 31. Martha playing 3, 10, and 24.

Galatians 2:20

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”
Paul's words still accurately describe any person on fire for Jesus today.



Easter Lily Order

Be part of the tradition of decorating our church with beautiful lilies! Celebrate, Honor or Remember your loved ones at Easter!

***Due by Sunday, March 17, 2024.**

Filled out orders can be mailed, placed in offering plate, or put in mailbox on the office door. Payments must be with order forms. Make checks out to GCC - Growth & Nurture.

Mailing Address: Godfrey Congregational Church, PO Box 214, Godfrey, IL 62035

of : _____ Lily(s) _____ In Memory _____ In Honor _____ In Celebration
(Please, print names as you would like to see them in the bulletin)

For:

Relationship:

Given By:

Address for Delivery:

Orders must be turned in with payment.

Number of Lilies _____ x \$ 15.50 each = \$ _____.

Total Amount paid \$ _____.

Pick up/delivery will be Sunday, March 31.

Upcoming Guests

Mar 3 Rev. Randy Cheatham

Mar 10 Rev. Irene Gulovsen

Mar 17 Rose Mary Oglesby

Mar 24 Rev. Susan Wright

Mar 31 *Rev. Gary Kniepkamp

***Communion Service**

Directory Update

It's time to update your phone numbers and addresses for the upcoming directory. Please, let the secretary know of any changes. Expect a copy in the upcoming weeks.

A priest is walking down the street when a man pushes him into an alleyway and points a gun at him.

"Give me all your money or I'll shoot you."

The priest opens his jacket to grab his wallet and the man sees his collar.

"Oh, I'm sorry Father, I wouldn't have robbed you if I knew you were a priest."

The priest then asks, "I'm sorry, I don't have any money, but may I offer you a cigarette?"

The man shakes his head and replies, "No, thank you. I gave up cigarettes for Lent."

Happy Easter!

Celebrate one man's three day death and Him rising the third day! As we observe Easter, let us be reminded

of the great glory of the Lord. There is no greater love than Jesus being a willing sacrifice to atone for our sins so we can get into heaven.

Godfrey Congregational Church

Mar 2024 Calendar

<https://www.godfreycongregational.org/calendar-2>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 St. David's Day	2
3 10:30A-11:30A Music by Martha Raby 10:30A-11:30A Traditional Worship, Rev. Randy Cheatham	4	5	6 9A-11:30A Quilters Group	7	8	9
10 10:30A-11:30A Music by Martha Raby 10:30A-11:30A Traditional Worship, Irene Gulovsen	11	12	13 9A-11:30A Quilters Group	14	15 4:30P-5:30P Council Meeting (council members only)	16
17 St. Patrick's Day 10:30A-11:30A Music by Rayford and Martha Raby 10:30A-11:30A Worship, Rose Mary Oglesby Easter Lily Orders due	18 Contact Newsletter Articles Due	19	20 9A-11:30A Quilters Group	21	22	23
24 Palm Sunday 10:30A-11:30A Music by Martha Raby 10:30A-11:30A Worship, Rev. Susan Wright	25	26	27 9A-11:30A Quilters Group	28 Maundy Thursday	29 Good Friday	30 Holy Saturday
31 Easter Sunday 10:30A-11:30A Communion 10:30A-11:30A Music by Rayford and Martha Raby 10:30A-11:30A Traditional Worship, Rev. Gary Kniepkamp						