

Reaching UP in our LOVE for God!
Reaching IN in our LOVE for one another!
Reaching OUT in our LOVE for the world!

Uniquely & Wonderfully Made Women's Retreat

Ladies, you are invited to the Wellness Committee's 12th Annual Uniquely & Wonderfully Made Women's Retreat on Tuesday, November 3. We trust that the family will be okay with you being gone for the evening.

Our guest speaker this year is author, Jeanine Murk. She will be speaking to us from the perspective of..."It's not as important what happens to us in life, as how we respond to it". She will be sharing some of her own experiences, while addressing the tough topic "If God is such a loving God, why does He allow so much suffering"?

In the midst of her own pain, Jeanine has experienced miracle after miracle. One of the most hope-filled and amazing of these unexpected gifts has been experiencing the

miracle of "perfect peace in the midst of total turmoil". Jeanine has found, "That same peace is available to every one of us—no matter what we are going through".

Please come, and bring a friend to learn what the **Secret of Contentment** is!

Advanced registration is a necessity and seating is limited. Cost of the evening is \$15 per person. Cost includes a delicious catered meal by Riefe's with assorted salads/rolls, baked ham, stuffed breast of chicken with broccoli and cheese, new potatoes with snow peas, green beans, glazed carrots, iced tea, lemonade, coffee and dessert.

Registration and fees will be accepted through October 25 or maximum capacity.

Focus Groups

If you've been in an Adult Bible Fellowship anytime in the last year, you have felt the pain of cramped space. The great reality is that we have pushed the limit on our building space during our Sunday School and ABF hour. We only have one ABF space with room to grow. This is a God-ordained opportunity and challenge. Would you come to one of two focus groups to discuss this issue and the options that we might pursue? Sunday, October 4 after 2nd service we'll rap over pizza. On Sunday, October 18 @ 6pm we'll rap over dessert. Pick your poison – pizza or dessert – and bring your thoughts.

Pastor Appreciation

October is designated as Pastor Appreciation month. If you would like to honor our pastors, who serve us so faithfully, we ask you to do so individually with monetary or material gifts during the month. Beginning on October 4 we will have a basket in the foyer for you to use for cards or other notes. We would request your recognition of them be done by the final Sunday of the month, October. Of course, all through the year is also appropriate!"



NEW Women's Ministry 'TIME-OUT'



Ladies, would you like to take some 'time-out' from daily busyness and have some fun? Six times a year we will be meeting and enjoying a homemade program of sorts...it may be a cooking demo, spa night, jewelry exchange or whatever our imaginations lead us to invent!

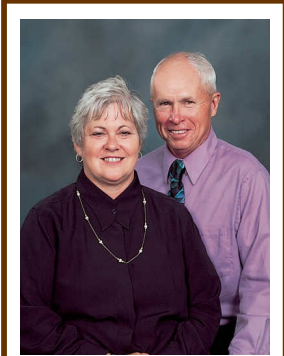
We invite you to join us for the kick-off fun with **Apple Night** at Sue Chenoweth's (416 W. Palace Row) on Monday, October 5 at 6:30 pm. Charlotte Brinkmann will demonstrate how to make an apple pastry and Rita Ford will teach us how to make applesauce. And of course there will be lots of girl-talk and laughter. We hope to see you and a friend there!

If you have an idea for a future Time-Out contact De Kosman at 944-6622 or dkosman@geneseo.net.



Mission Focus

submitted by Debbie Rogers



Steve & Debbie
Rogers

“Keep this school alive! More than anything we desire a strong beacon of light in this community.”

The hard economic times have affected some of our missionaries and mission projects. Many are finding themselves needing to add to their support to keep going. Thanks to all of you and the blessing from our great God, we have been able to help out several that have needed extra funds.

One of those that has been hit hard is Salem Christian School in Chicago. Salem Christian School has been doing wonderful work among some of the most needy children in the Chicago area. Here is what we heard from them earlier this year:

This year has presented many challenges as a result of the difficult economy. Throughout the year, we've reached out to all constituents to help us look ahead at all of our possibilities; all the opportunities for growth and change. The consistent message we heard from our parents, our students, and our donors was, “Keep

this school alive! More than anything, we desire a strong beacon of light in this community.” This support of our work and the faith in us encouraged us to attempt to find support in many ways. The Lord did answer us and has provided us with His solution to our predicament: we have been acquired by New Life Covenant Ministries to continue our mission and provide bright light to the Humboldt Park/ Logan Square community.

For the next year, we will remain Salem Christian School. Our mission and vision will not be altered; neither will the rigorous curriculum or our dedicated faculty. The new Board of Directors, which includes two of our previous members, will begin to analyze our strengths and weaknesses and will commit to making this school the strongest and most reputable Christian school in this vicinity.

A church with approximately 106 current

ministries, we are proud to join their efforts to “transform the community into a New Life.” As Pastor Wilfredo De Jes`us suggests in his welcome on their website, their goal is to “be contagious Christianity that can influence and encourage the entire community, one life at a time.” (See www.mynewlife.org)

To continue fulfilling our mission, your continued commitment is vitally important. If Salem Christian School is to continue to be a beacon of hope, we must count on your renewed support. There is often a silver lining in hard economic times. They challenge us to be absolutely clear about our mission, and they draw us back to the truth that our strength comes from our dependence on God and each other. I am confident that if we continue to walk forward together, maintaining unity of the Spirit, we can continue to create a more hopeful and secure educational environment for God's children even in these challenging times.

This letter was from Cindi Di Iorio and we looked into the New Life Covenant Ministries and did decide to continue to support Salem through this change. You can trust that we on the missions committee will continue to follow this change and check to be sure the mission of Salem continues to meet the requirements of our missions purpose, vision and objectives. If you see a name change listed on the missions list you will have a better idea of where that change comes from. ☪

Annual Budget Meeting Monday, October 26 7:00 pm

The proposed budget will be available to the congregation for review by October 18. Please pick up a copy to study. If you have any questions please contact the appropriate Coordinator by phone or email prior to the meeting to discuss your concerns. You do not need to be a member to attend!





Alma Lavine

June 10, 1928 - Sept. 15, 2009



Alma M. Lavine, 81, of Geneseo died Tuesday, September 15, 2009 at Hammond-Henry Hospital, Geneseo.

Alma Doubler was born June, 10, 1928 in Annawan Township, the daughter of Frank & Philomena (DeCrane) Doubler. She married Robert S. Lavine on Oct. 2, 1947 in Geneseo. He died on March 1, 1999. Alma retired from Hammond-Henry Hospital Dietary Dept. and had also done seamstress work for many years. She attended the Geneseo Evangelical Free Church, was a member of the Quad Cities African Violet Society, and enjoyed gardening, especially flowers.

Survivors include sons, Jim, Kewanee and Robert, Geneseo and a daughter Mary Ann McHaney, Autrain, Michigan; grandchildren, Eric, Andrea, Abby, and Adam Lavine and Tara and Darren DeJaeger; and a sister Rita Williams, Geneseo. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and a daughter, Jane.

Answer to prayer: God showed up Double

Don't you just love watching our Heavenly Father take care of us!

Three of us ladies (Karen Burress, Robbin Danielson and I) preview the Bible lesson a couple days before the women meet on Thursday to study the book of Esther. There are just over 50 women who attend. As we were viewing the DVD of Beth Moore teaching the 2nd lesson in Esther, it began to skip, then stop. We took it out to see what the problem was – it was a glob of glue. We tried to get it off but couldn't. This was Tuesday and our groups meet on Thursday.

Catherine, our administrative assistant, called Lifeway where we had purchased the Bible study and told them about the "opportunity" (for God to show up). They told her they would send a whole new kit (worth \$199).

Thinking it probably wouldn't get here in time for the Thursday AM study, I remembered that at a friend's church they were going to be doing the same study this fall so contacted her to see if they had begun. They don't start until September 21 so she offered to let us borrow their set of DVDs for Thursday.

We picked them up Wednesday morning and when we returned home, there was an e-mail from Catherine saying the new set had arrived at the church. God had showed up double. He wanted those 50+ women to hear from Him on Thursday.

For those of you who have prayed for our ladies' Bible study, thank you! Your prayers moved our great God to have the answer to our "opportunity" in hand before it ever became one.



**ANSWERED
PRAYERS**

"Don't you just love watching our Heavenly Father take care of us!"

CPC Pregnancy Resources FALL VOLUNTEER TRAINING

The word "investment" is a scary word in these times, but let's not forget that even in times of recession we can make sound investments that pay us back dividends for the rest of our lives.

When we invest our time with CPC we do three things:

- We strengthen our own spiritual lives as we reach out to others
- We build a ministry that is saving lives and changing hearts.

- We create a new, life-affirming culture in our next generation

If you are looking for great returns on your investment of time, call the CPC and sign up for the October seminar.

Davenport Center
2706 W, Central Park Ave.
October 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

To help defray the expense of the seminar, a \$30 donation is suggested with scholarships available.



What are you reading?

by Pastor Michael Mauriello



Pastor Michael
Mauriello

“What are you reading? What’s shaping you these days?”



Every month, as Free News time roles around, it's often hard to figure out exactly what to talk about. Do I inform you about the youth, do I take on an issue in our current culture, do I tell you how I'm doing? What to write, what to say, what to do?

So, this month, I've decided to let you know a little bit about what I'm reading. If you didn't know, (I don't know how you couldn't), I love reading. Some recent titles I've been slowly digesting are:

Echoes of Scripture in the Letters of Paul, by Richard Hays. This is a book about “intertextuality”, or how writers of Scripture deal with earlier and other writers of Scripture and what they wrote. Here the focus is on Paul, and how he interprets the Old Testament in light of the incarnation and crosswork of Jesus Christ.

The God Who Is There, and He is There, and He is Not Silent, both by Francis Schaeffer. I spoke about these books last month. I've read the first at least three times, and I'm going to reread the second. Great books about presuppositional apologetics. Fantastic introduction to how our philosophy and worldview impact what we believe and how we evangelize. The second is especially easy to read.

The Logic of the Spirit, by James Loder. I've only just cracked this one, but it's about the intersection of childhood development and

theology. I'm not sure how much I'll agree, but it should be a great perspective on how all of our understanding needs to inform and be informed by Scripture. Very excited to really get into it.

Culture Making, by Andy Couch. This book won an award from Christianity Today last year. It's a book about how Christians ought to be the creators of culture, not simply the critics or consumers of culture. It takes the work of Francis Schaeffer just a step further. Loved it.

2 Corinthians, by Paul. I'm slowly digesting this book of Scripture in quiet times and personal study. Paul, in his most personal and at his most exposed, demonstrates the intersection of pastoral care, theology, and his own emotional passion.

What are you reading? What's shaping you these days? I would love to know. Drop me an email and tell me. ☞

Everyone can serve

Look for opportunities to serve; **don't wait to be asked!** Remember: You can serve without being a part of an “official” ministry. We all can:

- Extend the word of welcome, whether or not we are official greeters;
- Be listening, caring friends, whether or not we are official lay counselors;
- Be ready to give reason for the hope that is in us, whether or not we are on an evangelism team
- Be enthusiastic participants and ready to give a hand, whether or not we are on the planning or cleanup committees.

An Ordination Service & You're Invited

Please join us for the Ordination of Michael Mauriello, Sunday, October 11, 2009 at 5:00 pm at Geneseo Evangelical Free Church. A cake and punch reception immediately following the service. Please, NO GIFTS!. ☞

Praying for our college students

by Teri Walters

Have you checked out the prayer bulletin board? Our college students' names and addresses are posted there as provided by their parents. There are encouragement cards available on the board so we can jot our young people a note. Would you do that? And, while you have a student on your heart, would you also pray for him/her.

Pray for:

- Salvation
- Growth in grace
- Honesty & Integrity
- The ability to learn
- Self-control
- Joy
- Purity
- A love for God's word
- Friendships
- Protection
- A heart of gratitude
- Hope
- Confidence in and a passion for God
- Responsibility
- A growing faith ☞

College Student Addresses

Editors Note: A very wise woman (Cheryl White) told me when my kids went to college not to forget to send them 'real' mail. I soon found out that she was correct. They love to get regular mail from home. Please take a moment and drop them a note of encouragement.

Christy Brewer
750 W. Hampton Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Laurel Donaldson
Purdue University
Shreve Hall Rm. 588
1275 3rd St.
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Brett & Krista Ford
4017 El Paso Dr.
Iowa City, IA 52246

Craig Ford
1320 David Ross Road
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Brennan Fox
#302 Dobson Hall
1200 Greenwood Ave.
Platteville, WI 53818-3097

Taylor Price
406 A Southard Place
South Roxana, IL 62087

Dayna Sommers
One University Ave.
#8455
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Laurel Whitford
518 W. Locust St.
Davenport, IA 52803



If it sounds to good to be true, it probably is.

Be wary of scams!

Submitted by Geneseo Police Department

Be wary of scams, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Recently, the Geneseo Police were advised of a telephone call a citizen had received. The citizen was advised they had won a "PRIZE", and the caller wanted to work out the details to deliver this "PRIZE". This citizen was uncomfortable with the call and hung up. They contacted the Police to report the call. The Police determined that the citizen shared no personal information with the caller. These offers can come by mail, phone calls and by the internet, offering a "PRIZE" or financial reward. If it sounds too good to be true, it

probably is.

Although senior citizens may be the preferred target group for such scams, anyone can be a victim of a con artist, regardless of age.

The best prevention is to talk with a trusted family member or friend before making any financial investments. Ask your attorney or bank questions about requests you receive to forward money. Never give out your bank account numbers, credit card numbers or other personal information to anyone you don't know or haven't checked out.

Contact the Geneseo Police Department at 944-5141 if you have any questions.



Just for KIDS!

Cookies for Friends

Autumn is the perfect time of the year to sow kindness and reap a "harvest" full of friendships. Make this special treat to share with someone.

What you need:

- An adult to help
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 cup cooked or canned pumpkin
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 1/2 cups diced, roasted almonds
- 1 cup chocolate pieces
- Raffia or fall-colored ribbon (optional)

What you do:

1. Cream butter and sugar together until light and fluffy.
2. Beat in egg, pumpkin and vanilla.
3. In separate bowl, mix flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, nutmeg and cinnamon.
4. Add dry mix to creamed mixture.
5. Add almonds and chocolate pieces; mix thoroughly.
6. Drop by teaspoons onto well-greased cookie sheets.
7. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes or until lightly browned.
8. Cool on racks. Makes about six dozen.
9. Stack two cookies on top of each other. Then tie them like a present with the raffia or ribbon. Give the cookies to friends and family to thank them for their friendship.



Autumn brings many visible changes. God makes lots of foods and grains ready for harvest. He also tells us that if we sow in peace, we, too, can raise a harvest.

Find and circle the bold (dark) words from James 3:17-18, NIV.

"But the **WISDOM** that comes from **HEAVEN** is first of all **PURE**; then **PEACELOVING**, **CONSIDERATE**, **SUBMISSIVE**, full of **MERCY** and **GOOD FRUIT**, **IMPARTIAL** and **SINCERE**. **PEACEMAKERS** who **SOW** in **PEACE** raise a **HARVEST** of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**."

C	S	P	E	A	C	E	L	O	V	I	N	G	F
O	U	E	U	X	W	C	E	Y	T	P	R	W	R
N	B	A	U	L	T	J	C	O	R	E	I	I	U
S	M	C	P	R	X	K	F	W	I	A	G	S	I
I	I	E	M	E	R	C	Y	I	I	C	H	D	T
D	S	T	C	E	R	U	D	M	Z	E	T	O	S
E	S	I	V	X	J	C	U	P	W	M	E	M	D
R	I	H	E	A	V	E	N	A	W	A	O	H	P
A	V	M	P	J	M	K	L	R	T	K	U	V	W
T	E	O	C	G	O	O	D	T	G	E	S	S	L
E	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	I	B	R	N	Y	O
X	H	D	D	R	Q	Q	E	A	Z	S	E	D	B
S	I	N	C	E	R	E	E	L	S	Y	S	O	W
G	I	P	U	R	E	S	O	Y	C	E	S	E	F





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>* HSG = Homeschool Group ** PIP = Partners in Prayer *** FPU = Financial Peace University</p>				1 Women's Bible Study 9 am & 7 pm	2 * HSG 1-3 pm Connected Together @ Svendsen's 7 pm	3
4 **PIP 7:45 am Focus Group Noon Dodgeball Tournament 1 pm Sr. High Scavenger Hunt 6:30 pm	5 Time Out @ Chenoweth's 6:30 pm	6 Women's Reading Connection 10 am ***FPU 6pm Men's Group 7 pm	7 Awana 6:25 pm Jr. High 6:30 pm	8 Women's Bible Study 9 am & 7 pm	9 Homeschool Group 1-3 pm 5th Quarter @ The Rock following football game	10 Deadline for November Free News Submission
11 ** PIP7:45 am Mauriello Ordination Service 5 pm	12 Missions Team meeting 7 pm	13 *** FPU 6 pm Elder's Meeting 7 pm	14 MOPS 9 am Awana 6:25 pm Jr. High 6:30 pm	15 Women's Bible Study 9 am & 7 pm	16 *HSG 1-3 pm Crafting at Mauriello's 7 pm	17 Date Night 4 pm
18 ** PIP 7:45 am Focus Group 5:30 pm Sr. High 6:30 pm	19 Administrative Council Meeting 7 pm	20 Nursery Steering Team Mtg. 9 am *** FPU 6 pm MOPS 6:30 pm	21 Prayer Shawl Ministry 1:30 pm Awana 6:25 pm Jr. High 6:30 pm	22 Women's Bible Study 9 am & 7 pm	23 *HSG 1-3 pm Connected Together @ Svendsen's 7 pm 5th Quarter @ the Rock	24 Dining Out 5:30 pm
25 ** PIP7:45 am Truthseekers ABF luncheon Noon Sr. High 6:30 pm	26 Budget Meeting 7:00 pm	27 *** FPU 6pm MOPS 6:30 pm Elder's Meeting 7 pm	28 Awana 6:25 pm Jr. High 6:30 pm	29 Women's Bible Study 9 am & 7 pm	30 *HSG 1-3 pm	31

Great Lakes District Conference

MOPS Photography Project

Reaching UP Reaching IN Reaching OUT

Free News

October 2009 Volume 14, Issue 9

Geneseo Evangelical Free Church
914 N. Chicago St.

Phone: 309-944-4667

Fax: 309-944-4668

E-mail: gefc@gefc.org

Sunday Worship Services

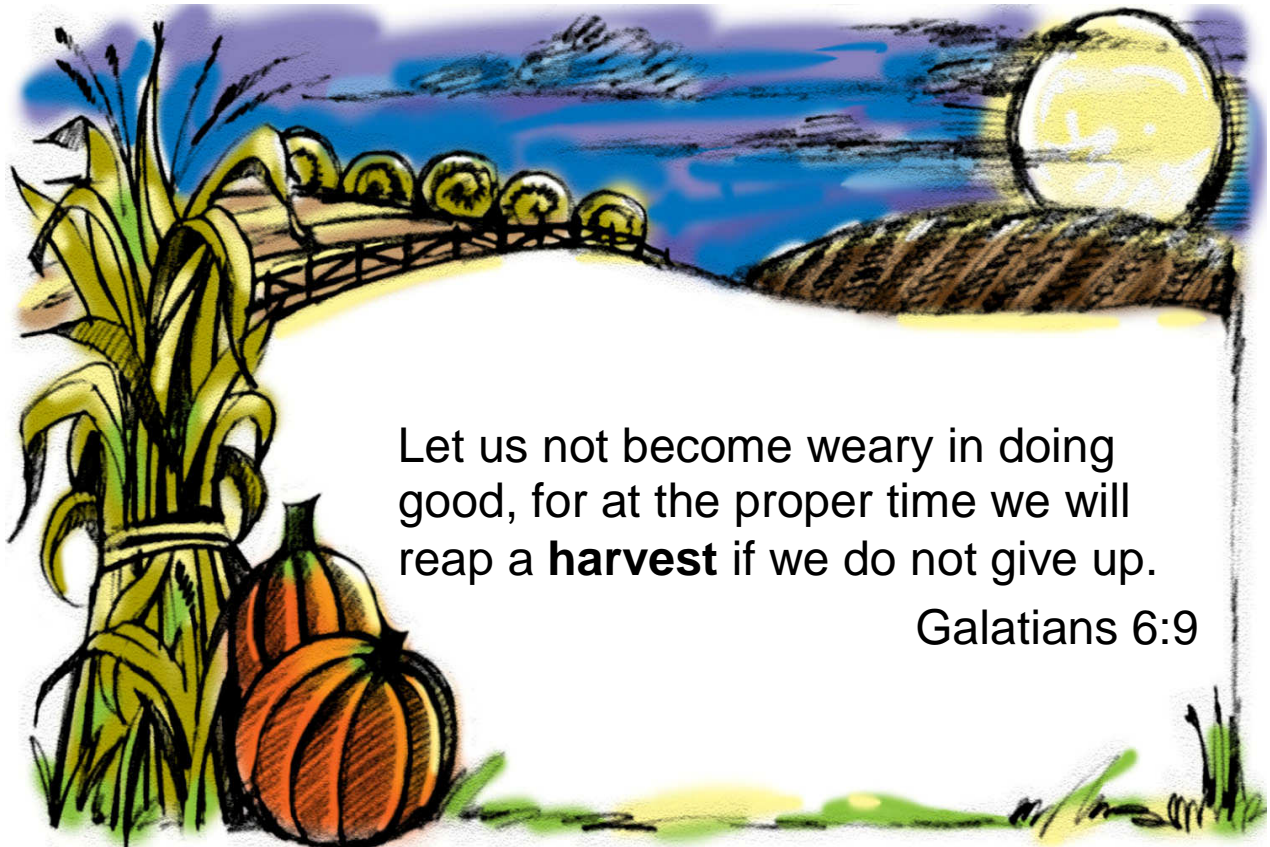
- Conventional Service - 8:15 am
- Contemporary Service - 10:45 am

Christian Education - 9:30-10:30 am

Senior Pastor - Greg Chenoweth
Student Pastor - Michael Mauriello
Worship Director - AJ Reynolds

The FREE NEWS

Is published monthly by
Geneseo Evangelical Free Church



Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a **harvest** if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:9