

Faith First

Congregational United Church of Christ

624 Park Street, PO Box 425, Genoa City, WI 53128

Website: gcucc.org Email: church@gcucc.org



The Carillon

**Join us for
Worship each Sunday**
9 am—Traditional
10:30 am—Contemporary

Connect with us!

Worship Leader

Pastor Nicole Werth
pastornicole@gcucc.org

Church Secretary

Kitty Popenhagen
church@gcucc.org

262-279-5547

Church Office Hours:
Tuesdays 10 am - 2 pm
Thursdays 10 am - 2 pm



February 2026

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <u>Worship</u> 9 am 10:30 am Sunday School <u>Youth Group</u> <u>Bake Sale!</u>	2	3 AA Meeting: 7 pm	4 GS: 3-5 pm H&E: 6-7:30 PM BF: 6:30-8 pm	5 Outreach Team Meeting: 6 pm PowWows: 6 pm	6	7 Finding Hope in Crisis: 9:30 - 11:30 am
8 <u>Worship</u> 9 am 10:30 am Sunday School	9 4-H Meeting: 7 pm	10 WOMEN'S DINNER: 6 pm AA Meeting: 7 pm	11 H&E: 6-7:30 PM BF: 6:30-8 pm	12 Council Meeting: 2 pm PowWows: 6 pm	13	14 Men's Breakfast: 8 am
15 Susan B Anthony Day <u>Worship</u> 9 am 10:30 am Sunday School	16 President's Day	17 AA Meeting: 7 pm	18 LL: 11 am - 1 pm GS: 3-5 pm Ash Wed. Service: 6 pm	19 PowWows: 6 pm	20	21
22 <u>Worship</u> 9 am 10:30 am Sunday School	23	24 AA Meeting: 7 pm	25 LL: 11 am - 1 pm SW: 6 pm BF: 6:30-8 pm	26 PowWows: 6 pm	27	28
					REVIVE RETREAT	
						BF = Bonfires Youth Group H&E = Heaven & Earth Bible Study SW = Seven Wonders Bible Study LL = Lenten Lunches GS = Girl Scouts

February Ministry Volunteer Schedule

	1st	8th	15th	22nd
9:00 - Greeter 10:30 - Greeter	Claudia J. Gwen E./Gerry S.	OPEN Gerry S.	Sarah A. Gerry S./Gwen E.	John A. Gerry S.
9:00 - Liturgist 10:30 - Reader	Connie B. Gwen E.	OPEN Santina H.	Claudia J. Gwen E.	OPEN OPEN
9:00 Candles 10:30 - Candles	Claudia J. Bill P.	Pat H. OPEN	OPEN OPEN	OPEN OPEN
9:00 - Projector 10:30 - Projector	Sarah A. Jerad W.	Sarah A. OPEN	OPEN OPEN	OPEN OPEN
9:00 - Communion 10:30 - Communion	Peg S. Santina H.		Peg S. Jack & Krissy	

Birthdays



- 3rd Pastor Nicole Werth
Debby Miller
- 4th Cheryl Rinda
- 5th Cindy Metke
- 9th Matt Brill
Will Hulina
- 14th David Robinson
- 16th Alyssa Montes De Oca
- 17th Colleen Nelson
- 19th Kelly Dougherty-Morgan
- 20th Diane Krause
Aaron Montes De Oca
- 21st Chase Koenig
- 22nd Isabella Thornburgh
Darwin Nelson
Erin Marks
- 28th Carl Torstenson



WOMEN'S DINNER

Join us for a heartfelt evening with dinner,
meaningful conversation, and
encouragement for our walk with Jesus.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH
6:00 PM

From Pastor Nicole

As we step into February—a month often associated with love and quiet renewal—I've been reflecting on the gentle ways God moves in this in-between season. Winter still lingers, yet hints of new life are already stirring beneath the surface. It reminds us that God is at work even when the world feels slow and still.

I found this poem, from an unknown author. May it help us notice the subtle graces God plants in the cold and the hope He is preparing to bloom.

With gratitude for each of you,
Pastor Nicole

*February moves quietly,
a soft-spoken guest at winter's table—
yet beneath the frost,
God is already whispering spring.*

*In the hush of shorter days,
He teaches hearts to listen.
In the slow drip of melting snow,
He reminds us that nothing stays frozen forever.*

*Love grows here—
not only the dreamy kind,
but the steady, covenant love
that holds us when the world feels brittle.*

*February faith is small but brave:
a candle in a cold window,
a prayer breathed into crisp morning air,
a hope that refuses to hibernate.*

*And God, patient as ever,
walks with us through this in-between—
warming the soil of our souls,
preparing us for the bloom to come.*

Love
grows
here



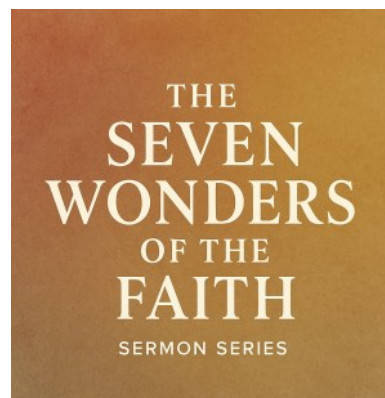
WORSHIP ATTENDANCE AND RECEIPTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>OFFERINGS</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>	<u>AHEAD/BEHIND</u>
12/7/2025	83	\$ 4916.29	\$ 2,806.29	\$ 9,498.58
12/14/2025	135	\$ 1,055.00	- \$ 1,055.00	\$ 8,443.58
12/21/2025	107	\$ 3,952.76	\$ 1,842.76	\$10,286.34
12/24/2025	122	\$ 581.52	- \$ 1,528.48	\$ 8,757.86
12/28/2025	96	\$ 5,602.00	\$ 3,492.00	\$13,778.34

*It takes \$2110.00 to MAINTAIN our expenses every week.

We all carry big questions—about God, suffering, purpose, and what it really means to trust. Instead of hiding our doubts, what if we saw them as invitations to deeper faith?

Join us on **Wednesdays, beginning February 25th, at 6:00 PM** where Pastor Nicole, Matt Monroe and Kevin Smith will lead the series “The Seven Wonders of Faith.” This is a sermon series for anyone who’s ever wrestled with spiritual questions. We will take the seven of the most common and meaningful questions people ask God and explore how they can lead us toward truth, hope, and a stronger relationship with Him.



Our time will begin with a prayer and a potluck meal. We will then listen to a message about these common questions, followed by small group discussions.



SHARING HOPE IN CRISIS

Have you ever tried to help someone going through an extremely difficult time or a crisis? Whether it's past or present trauma, grief or suffering? How do you recognize they need help? What do you say to them? Or what shouldn't you say? What do you do? How do you bring the love of Christ to the situation?

Wes and I would love to invite you to a workshop that we're facilitating! It's called Sharing Hope in Crisis. It will be **Saturday, February 7 from 9:30-11:30** here at Faith First UCC. There is a sign up in the back of church and there is no cost. Wes and I will take some of what we learned in our chaplain training; plus years of ministry and life experiences to present an engaging workshop. You'll learn a lot and have fun!



Lenten Lunches

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - ALL ARE WELCOME!

MEN AND WOMEN ARE INVITED TO HELP WITH OUR UPCOMING OUTREACH LUNCHES. WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO PROVIDE OR HELP WITH:



- SOUPS
- SANDWICH FILLINGS
- DESSERTS
- WORKERS/SERVERS



Wednesdays: Feb. 18 – April 1.
Sign-up sheets available in the Narthex.

IF YOU FEEL CALLED TO HELP, PLEASE CONTACT
RANDY SHANAHAN, OUTREACH COORDINATOR
☎ 815-236-8063

Council Meeting—Dec. 11, 2025

Called to Order—2:01 p.m.—Pastor Nicole opened in prayer.

Members Present—Claudia Jurewicz, Bob Brick, Cindy Brick, Tyler Woosley, Sally Torstenson, Jeff Jurewicz, Monica Woosley, and Pastor Nicole Werth.

Guests—Jamie Elguera expressed gratitude for growth and action in the congregation. Member of the Pastoral Relations committee, Maggie Fosdick, reported later in the meeting.

Pastor's Report—Seeing ways new teams can begin contributing efforts. Recently, there's been special emphasis on the children's Christmas program.

*Motion to contribute \$475 from Pennies From Heaven collection towards congregational family in need made by Tyler, 2 nd by Bob, MC.

Moderator's Report—Moved sign-ups and collection box out of the sanctuary and into the narthex to preserve sacredness of worship space and improve traffic flow.

Vice Moderator's Report—Met with Randy Shanahan, Outreach Coordinator.

Financial Secretary/Treasurer—

*Motion made to accept financial reports by Tyler, 2 nd by Sally. MC

Stewardship Report—None.

Worship—Worship Team met Dec. 2 to discuss coming quarter. Good reviews on the all-in-one bulletin.

Properties—Shed is being constructed. Changed some sanctuary light bulbs. Removed a coat rack from Narthex. Considering a new sanctuary thermostat. Next project is cleaning out storage closet.

Membership—Missed a couple of weeks of love letters because of outdoor service and snow day. Always entertaining ideas for recipients.

Christian Ed—None.

Women's Groups—Women's Fellowship disbanded after its November meeting. Many activities (and volunteer opportunities!) will shift to Outreach Team.

Nominating Committee—

*Motion to extend terms of current Moderator and Vice Moderator through the end of 2026 made by Monica, 2nd by Cindy, MC.

*Nominations for Clerk and Treasurer, the other two congregational council positions, for the 2026-2027 terms will be accepted through 12/28.

Pastoral Relations Committee—Maggie Fosdick reported this committee met in August and November.

Old Business—Council members' annual reports due by 12/28.

New Business—

*Motion to accept resignation of Bill Thornberg as member and auditor made by Monica, 2 nd by Bob, MC.

*Motion to terminate current cleaning service and hire a new service made by Tyler, 2 nd by Jeff. MC.

*Motion to approve 2026 budget as presented made by Tyler, 2 nd by Sally, MC.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026 at 2 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 3:52 p.m. was made by Jeff, 2 nd by Cindy. MC

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Lee Woosley

Stewardship Chair



The Carillon



Faith First

Congregational United Church of Christ
Genoa City, WI

*"Growing in Faith and
Serving in Christ's Love."*

SUNDAY WORSHIP
9:00 AM—TRADITIONAL
10:30 AM—CONTEMPORARY

SEPT—MAY
SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:30 AM
Nursery available!

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

First Congregational UCC
PO Box 425
624 Park Street
Genoa City, WI 53128

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE