

Old Stone Church - October 2026



Welcome to October

It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood!
A beautiful day in the neighborhood—would you be mine?
Could you be mine?

The late Rev. Dr. Fred Rogers, an ordained Presbyterian minister, better known to the children of the late 1960's—1980's as Mr. Rogers, wrote that catchy tune and memorable lines as the opening of his children's program called, Mr. Rogers Neighborhood.

To be ordained in the Presbyterian Church, one must have a calling with which to serve. For most pastors, that calling is an invitation to be a church's pastor. For others, it might be a chaplain. Two of my favorite college professors were also pastors—their calling was to serve as educators. Fred Rogers had to fight and defend his calling as a creator, producer, puppeteer, and star of his own children's program. Some in the wider church didn't feel this was a calling. Years later, many people would be disappointed in that attitude. His ministry was a vital to many, many children—your pastor included.

During my recent trip to Iowa to visit my dad, I managed to hit a pot hole so hard that it caused a rip in my tire. Though I was able to nurse the car into a nearby parking lot, I knew I would need to use the spare to get going again to a tire store. The parking lot happened to be a Farm and Fleet store. I wasn't out of my car 10 minutes when a fellow about my age comes over from his pickup truck and says, "Can I give you a hand?" Long story short, we had the tire removed, the spare installed, and I was ready to be on my way. The tire store, it happened was right across the street. He followed me over there to make certain I was okay. He got out of his truck, waved at one of the mechanics, who responded, "How are you doing Rod?" It was then that I realized I'd never asked him his name. While the new front tires were being readied, I stuck out my hand and said, "My name is Randy. Turns out that, after small talk, we both played in the marching band at the University of Northern Iowa, Small World!

As I was putting the spare back into the trunk, he noticed the cross I had whittled and made for the church picnic the day before. He said, "did you make that?" I explained that I did because I was a pastor, and I felt we needed a cross in the shelter house to remind us why we were there. Nice, Rod Said. "Could I have it?" "Of course I said, but what can I do to pay you back for your help?" He said, "You just did"

This month I challenge each of you to be a neighbor to someone in need. You may just be that neighbor someone needs!

Fall 2026 Bible Study

Friday October 9th at 12:30 pm our fall Bible Study begins. This study is titled: Me, Myself, and Lies by Jennifer Rothschild. We have 15 people signed up at this time . If interested call the church office at 815-624-6212 to reserve your place in the group.



Shared Sunday Service Picnic

On September 27th, we gathered at the Pecatonica River Forest Preserve in Pecatonica, IL. What a perfect beautiful day to share God's word and great food together. Thank you to those attending and making the morning memorable.



Pantry News

In November, the Old Stone Church Food Pantry will be distributing Turkey Baskets to just about 100 area families. Again this year we are asking the congregation to help us with donations. **Each Sunday before the distribution date, we are asking if you could donate items according to the chart below:**

October 5th	Canned Soup or Canned Fruit
October 12th	Boxed Cereal or Canned Vegetables
October 19th	Pasta or Canned Beans
October 26th	Boxed Potatoes

Your help is greatly needed this year to make Thanksgiving a happy one for our Patron's. Whether you donate one can or 100 can's, we appreciate all that you do!

Donations can be put on the table outside the kitchen or left in the narthex when you come in.

Thank you so much for your generosity!

Donn and Pantry Volunteers



Make a Difference, Pledge Your Support for 2027

Thank you to everyone in our OSC family who contributed to our Annual Stewardship Drive. We received 32 pledge cards back and are thankful for your support.

By pledging your financial support for 2027, in whatever amount God called you to share, you are helping to provide a comfortable place for worship, and contributing to important ministries **The good works we accomplish as a congregation depend almost entirely on the success of our annual pledge drive.**

If you haven't already, please "give thought and take action" on what you feel God calls you to share. If needed, extra pledge cards are available in our office.



It's Coming

The Annual Veteran's
Day Turkey Dinner!

November 7th 2026



**Old Stone Church,
Veteran's Day Turkey Dinner!
November 7th 2026**

It's coming and will be here before we know it. Each year we ask for volunteers to bring in items and or work during the week of the dinner. A sign up sheet will be located in the entrance way by the parking lot.

To accommodate the Health Department's rules we will have only one seating for the open public at 6:00 pm, carry outs will be available beginning at 4:30 pm.

The First seating is by reservation only with a cost of \$20.00, and \$15.00 for carry out's with an offer of \$14.00 for 5 or more carry out dinners. Reservations can be made through the church office by calling 815-624-6212.

A second seating will be held for all those who have helped with food, time, money, etc.. This second seating is an opportunity for our church family to enjoy a well earned fellowship meal.

Postcards will also be mailed to those people in our community who have joined us for years. The annual Veteran's Day Turkey dinner has a long history, both in our church and in the community.

Looking forward to making this the best year ever!!



October

Anniversaries

5th- Shane & Megan Stutzel

12th—LeRoy & Kathy Dearth



A Huge Thank-you to Bob and Joan Plessner for all the work they have done and are doing with organizing our church Rentals. We have a patron renting storage shelf space, Two separate food trucks are renting space for clean up, We have had funerals, Weddings, baby showers and birthday parties. The Lord provides. We are blessed! Thank—you Bob and Joan!! You are appreciated!!

October

Birthdays

1st- Kevin Rudy

2nd- Joan Plessner

7th- Andrea Gantz

12th- Becky Stutzel

17th- Karin Bohr

17th—Jerry Pratt

18th- Lilly Halom

19th - Sandy Eck

22nd- Pat Insko

23rd— Calvin Cox

23rd- Katherine Plessner

28th- Jeannie Truman

29th- Karen Herdklotz

30th- Eirik Huff



It's Coming!!

Annual Veterans Turkey Dinner
November 7th 2026



October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Pantry—9-11		3
4	5	6	7 Grief Group 10:30	8 Pantry 9-11	9 Bible Study—12:30	10
11	12	13 Council Meeting 7:00	14 Bells—6:00	15 Pantry—9-11	16 Bible Study—12:30	17
18 Mary's Market 11:00	19	20	21 Grief Group 10:30 Bells 6	22 Pantry—9 Woman's Club	23 Bible Study—12:30	24
25 Shared Service - OSC	26	27	28 Bells—6:00	29 Pantry 9-11	30 Bible Study—12:30	31

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