

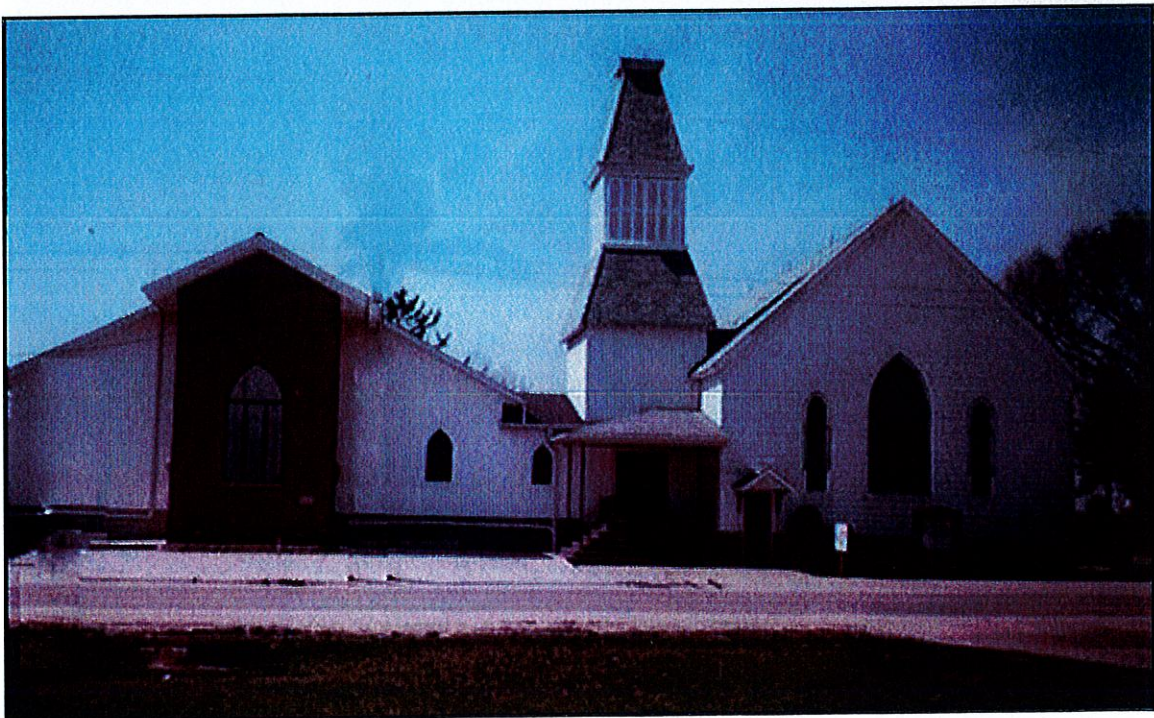
Seward Congregational Church
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The Chimes

October 2026 Church News



Seward Congregational Church Chimes
October Announcements

DIACONATE: Will meet on October 14, at 1:30 p.m. **We have an open seat on the Diaconate. If anyone is interested please see one of the Diaconate members. Please take a minute to prayerfully consider volunteering.**

TRUSTEE'S: The Trustee's will meet on October 21, at 6:30 p.m.

ADVENT CALENDARS: We are starting to work on this year's calendars and we are missing 10. If you have one of the missing ones could you please return it to the church.

BEARS/PACKERS/VIKING SUNDAY: will be Oct. 11th. For the next two Sundays, bring your paper products, we prefer paper towels, kleenex, paper plates as they already get toilet paper donated, to place in the bin of your favorite team. Donations will be distributed to Pecatonica and German Valley Food pantries. Wear your favorite team apparel that day.

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE: The Pastoral Search Committee would like to provide a brief update to the congregation. We remain confident that, in His perfect timing, God will provide exactly the pastor our church needs. We appreciate your continued prayers, patience, and encouragement as we faithfully continue this important process. Please reach out to Teresa or Tari with any questions or suggestions. We would love to hear your thoughts. Thank you for keeping the committee and our future pastor in your prayers.

PULPIT FILL: On October 4, Bob Freedlund, October 11, Pending, October 18, Cecil Chambers, October 25 Dr. Carroll Smith

RECEPTION: Hudson Insko-Eagle Scout Court of Honor reception will be on Oct. 4th in Fellowship Hall at 2:00pm. All are invited to attend.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: The Board of Trustees is looking for a person to assume the role of Treasurer. This job is a paid position responsible for paying church invoices, managing payroll distribution, and handling required legal filings. Please get in touch with Char Remer (815-315-3455) if interested.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: The Board of Trustees is looking for a church member to assist with the Financial Investment team. This person is responsible for reviewing church investments with Investment Agents and promoting financial stability for our members. Please get in touch with Maury Daubs at 815 262 8307 if interested.

THANK YOU: There are not enough word to fully express our heartfelt gratitude for the sympathy, love and support you have extended to our family during this time of loss. Thank you Jim and Karleen

REMINDER: All contributions for the CHIMES newsletter are due to the Office by the 3rd Friday of every month.

MONTHLY SUMMARY

	August
General Fund	Income \$6,497.00
	Expense 4,426.78

Monthly Budget \$6,856.25

January -August
\$53,788.40
\$49,397.52

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

2—Karleen Merchant
5—Judy Beuth
6--Brody Hilton
11- Effie Hoppe
13-Randy Gobeli
17-Barb Daubs;
23-Colin Viel
25- Peggy Whitney
31-Alvie Myers

Anniversaries

6-Chuck & Theresa Ackerman

Seward Congregational Church
- Trustee meeting minutes from August 12, 2026

Char called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and opened with prayer.

Present: Char Remer, Jean Mennenga, Brenda Van Hauen, Matt Cowman, Tari Woods and Nancy Kirby.

Tari Read the minutes of the meeting from the July 15th meeting. Matt made a motion to approve. Brenda second. Motion passed.

Financial reports were given by Jean, Brenda, Tari, Char (for Maury). Matt motion to accept the reports Tari second motion passed.

Old Business:

Matt is ordering parking blocks to be installed in the coming weeks.

Parsonage remodel is complete until a new Pastor is moving in.

Search committee update- Several applicants are being reviewed. North Grove Church has offered to assist in the search.

New Business:

Dick and Char worked on cleaning up the landscaping. The Church should find a landscaper for the spring.

Matt motioned to adjourn.. Second by Jean. Meeting adjourned at 7:16.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 16th.

Nancy Kirby, Secretary

September 16, 2026 Diaconate meeting

Meeting called to order by chairman Teresa Gobeli at 1:30 pm. Members present were Teresa, Barb Daubs, Bev W, Bev H, and Delores Poppen. Excused: Karleen.

Bev H. opened in prayer.

August 10, 2026 minutes were read and a motion to approve was made by Bev H and seconded by Delores.

Motion approved

Bev W gave treasurer's report of \$528.70. Motion to approve by Barb, seconded by Bev W. Motion approved.

Old business

Greeters are needed and a signup sheet was passed. Barb is sending notes to those visitors who attend and welcome them to visit us again.

The shut-in list and visits made were reviewed.

Pulpit fill was discussed. It was discussed that it would be nice to ask Amanda Rahm and Kristen Hollister to speak again when we have openings in the schedule.

Pulpit fill

Sept 20 Cecil Chambers	Oct. 11 possibly Pastor Ryan Howell
Sept 27 Conner Howell	Oct. 18 Cecil Chambers
Oct. 4, Bob Freedlund	Oct. 25 Dr. Carol Smith

A recent initial interview for a pastor was discussed. Plans are in place for a second interview with the Pastoral Search Committee.

Sunday School had 4 children this past Sunday. The new curriculum for Sunday school is Pursue God's Kids. Since we don't have Sunday School in the summer, it was suggested that we could use the summer program for our Vacation Bible school. There was discussion of possibly adding a light breakfast for the children. No action taken.

We have an opening for a Diaconate member, pray for an additional member to fill the role.

NEW BUSINESS

There is interest in Confirmation class and there is an instructor who has volunteered to teach the students. Letters will be sent to parents to see if any more would be able to attend. We will be asking Char to review the content before moving forward.

We are collecting until Sunday, October 11, 2026 items for the football challenge to see which team collects the donations and fills the tubs for the Pecatonica food pantry. There is a need for paper towels, napkins, and Kleenex items. They are receiving regular donations of toilet tissue.

Women's Fellowship is planning an outing to visit Vernice Klinger for her birthday on Sept. 22.

On October 4, 2026 Hudson Insko would like to use the Fellowship Hall for the Eagle Scout honors ceremony. The group approves this use.

Gwen Heimindinger, Winnebago's FFA advisor asked for names of shut-ins to have flowers delivered by the students. Four names were given and if they live too far for the students to deliver the flowers will be left at the church for us to get out to them.

The Pancake breakfast on September 12 netted \$681 and there are more pledges to come yet. Very successful morning. Thank you to all that participated in any way.

It was discussed that we need to schedule a cleaning work day to do some of the fall cleaning that is needed. We will check with Jessica to make a list of what is needed.

Make Your Meal Matter will be held at Culver's in Rockford on Sept. 22

Twenty per cent of the proceeds will be given to River Bluff Dementia unit but you must tell them when you order your meal.

At 2:36 meeting was adjourned. Motion by Bev W and seconded by Bev H.
Next meeting is October 14, 2026 @ 1:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Delores Poppen, pro tem

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship following the service	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship following the service	12	13	14 Diaconate 1:30 p.m.	15	16	17
18 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship following the service	19	20 Women's Fellowship 9 a.m.	21 Trustees 6:30 p.m.	22	23	24
25 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship following the service	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sunday School News

October

October 4 - Cain and Abel

Memory verse - Psalm 145:17 The Lord is righteous and everything he does he is filled with kindness

October 11 - Noah and the flood

Memory verse - Genesis 6:22 So Noah did everything exactly as God had commanded him.

October 18 - Noah and the rainbow

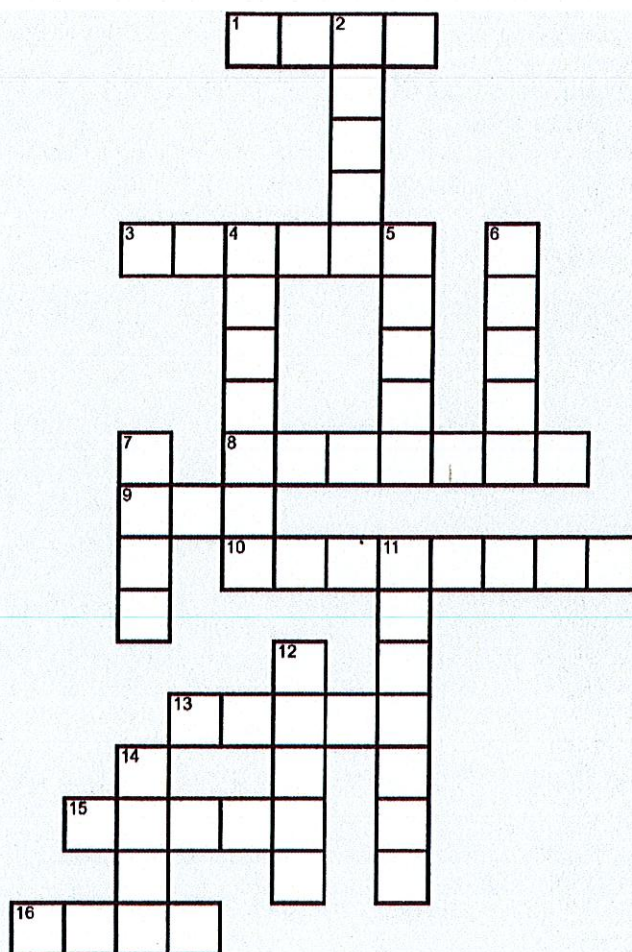
Memory verse - When I see the rainbow in the clouds, I will remember the covenant between God and every living creature on earth.

October 25 - Tower of Babel

Memory verse - John 3:30 He must become greater and greater and I must become less and less

Animals of the Bible

Author: Peg Gifford



Across

- 1 Jesus fed 5000 with 2 ____ and 5 loaves of bread
- 3 Beware those in sheep's clothing as they are ravenous ____
- 8 Eden tempter
- 9 Insect of Proverbs
- 10 You are of more value than many ____
- 13 Jesus' parable of the sheep and ____
- 15 White animal in Revelation
- 16 As the ____ pants for streams of water....

Down

- 2nor cast your pearls before ____
- 4 Food of John the Baptist
- 5 Most frequently mentioned animal in the Bible
- 6 First bird released by Noah
- 7 ____ of God who takes away the sins of the world
- 11 Before the ____ crows you will disown me 3 times
- 12 Easier for a ____ to go through the eye of a needle
- 14 The Holy Spirit appeared at Jesus' baptism as this animal

