

Established 1869

The Village of Minooka

www.minooka.com

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



st. patrick's celebration!



CORNER BEEF DINNER

SCHOLARSHIP
FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY MARCH 2, 2025

Great food & desserts,
LOCAL CRAFT BEER,
WINE & BOTTLED WATER AVAILABLE FOR DONATION

SERVING FROM NOON - 6:00PM @ THE PARISH CENTER
300 W. ST. MARY'S ST, MINOOKA, IL, 60447

QUILTERS' RAFFLE

\$1 per ticket 6 for \$5

"St. Mary's gift from a friend"

Great line up of Irish Music and entertainment all afternoon!



Special Thank You To:

Jewel-Osco



INSIDE FEATURES

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Issue 72
March - April 2025

To Serve You Better Welcome to Your Newsletter

Mayor's Message

Hi Everybody,

When you receive this, there should be about 19 days until spring. Baseball's spring training will be in full swing, and some early buds on trees and bushes should be showing—hopefully. In years past, we always figured on at least one snowfall in March, but the weather seems to be changing to be warmer. March and April, of course, are when most everything in nature starts to pop. Have you turned over your garden soil yet? No? Me neither. Come on, spring!

Respectfully,
Ric Offerman



The Village Administrator Dan Duffy, Village Administrator

Minooka
State of the Village
Luncheon

April 3, 2025

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Minooka Village Hall
121 E. McEvilly Road,
Minooka



Join the Chamber and the Village of Minooka for the annual State of the Village Address. Mayor Ric Offerman will speak on Minooka's recent successes, plans for the future, and share why so many call Minooka a great place to call home!

The cost is \$30, please RSVP to Chamber Events & Marketing Director Lena Wickens at Lena@grundychamber.com, 815-942-0113 or at grundychamber.com.

CHANNAHON
MINOOKA
Chamber
A Division of Grundy County Chamber of Commerce

GRUNDY COUNTY
Chamber
of COMMERCE

CTRL-ALT-FIX

menchie's
frozen yogurt

New Business Spotlight PRO-CFC

The Village of Minooka is excited to welcome PRO-CFC – Professional Cabinets, Flooring & Countertops to our community!



Owners Marc Hirschman and Michael Giandonato bring 40+ years of combined experience in kitchen and bath design, specializing in high-quality cabinetry, flooring, and countertops. Their expertise and dedication to craftsmanship provide local homeowners and businesses with top-tier design and installation services.

Marc and his family have proudly called Minooka home since 2013. An active community member, he serves as a board member of the Minooka Lions and enjoys watching his daughter participate in the Channahon Park District's theater program.

Mike, a South Plainfield resident since 2013, is also deeply involved in the Minooka community. He spends much of his time at MVP Sports in downtown Minooka, supporting his children in their athletic pursuits—his two daughters playing softball for Illinois Select and his son playing youth football for the Tri-City Wolverines.

We are thrilled to have PRO-CFC as part of our growing business community and look forward to their positive impact in Minooka!

Visit PRO-CFC for all your cabinetry, flooring, and countertop needs!

**Attention
Volunteers!**



The Village of Minooka Presents:
COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY
April 26, 2025

Registration begins at 9:30 am
Lunch will be provided at 12:00 pm
Event kickoff at 121 E. McEvilly Rd., Minooka, IL 60447

Sponsored by:
GRAINGER



Scan the QR code or visit: minooka.com/earthday

In celebration of Earth Day, join us in making our beautiful community just a bit more beautiful.

Village of Minooka • Pg. 3

Visit the library's events calendar at trpld.org/events to view the full range of events and to register for library programs. The library district is closed April 20 for Easter.



Youth Programs:

Bits & Bobs: 10 years+

Sunday, March 9, 1:30pm at Minooka Branch

What can you make from the random items in a junk drawer? Turn those forgotten odds and ends into unique works of art! *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Storytime: 0-5 years

Tuesdays, March 11-March 25 & April 8-29, 10:30am

at Channahon Library

Thursdays, March 13-March 27 & April 10-May 1, 10:30am

at Minooka Branch

Enjoy books, fingerplays, songs, and a take-home craft each week! Registration for each 3 week session opens on the first of each month. *Registration is required for these in-person programs.*

Graphic Novel Club: 7-11 years

Saturdays, March 16 & April 19, 2pm at Minooka Branch

Hang out to talk about your favorite graphic novels, learn about new ones, draw popular characters, and more. Copies of the selection are available for pick up at Minooka Branch.. *Registration is required for these in-person programs.*

Anime Club: 12-17 years

Tuesdays, March 18 & April 8, 6pm

at Channahon Library

Meet with fellow fans once per month to watch and discuss your favorite series, share fan art, cosplay and more. *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Read with Fin: 0 years+ w/caregiver

Tuesdays, March 25 & April 29, 5-6pm

at Minooka Branch

Fin loves to listen to readers of all ages and abilities. Sign up for a 15 minute session to read with Fin! Limit one session per child, per date. *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

The Great Egg Hunt: 1-12 years

Saturday April 12, 10am at Channahon Library

Bring your baskets and your best searching skills to uncover hidden treasures at the Great Egg Hunt! *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Adult Programs:

Movie Mondays: Adults 18+

Mondays, March 3 & April 7, 1pm at Minooka Branch

Drop in to enjoy a free popcorn and a matinee. *No registration is required.* March: Civil War, April: Wicked

Great Seed Giveaway: Adults 18+

March 3-March 31, All day at Channahon Library

Get a jump on spring and garden planning with our seed giveaway! Select up to 5 free seed packets while supplies last. *No registration is required.*

The Women Who Built Hollywood: Adults 18+

Tuesday, March 4, 6pm at Minooka Branch

Discover the lives and legacies of some of Hollywood's incredible female directors and stars during the early days of the film industry. *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Craft Supply Swap: Adults 18+

Craft Supply Drop-Off

March 24-April 1, All day at Minooka Branch

Earn early entry to the Craft Supply Swap by donating new and gently used crafting items. Your donation receipt allows you entry at 10am on the day of the Swap! Please see our website for donation guidelines.

Craft Supply Swap

Saturday, April 5, 11am-2pm at Minooka Branch

Find a new hobby or something you didn't know you needed at the Craft Supply Swap! *No registration is required for this in-person program.*

Home Purchasing Seminar: Adults 18+

Thursday, April 3, 6pm at Village of Minooka Board Room

New and seasoned homebuyers are invited to an informative evening to walk you through the home-buying process and answer your questions. The panel will consist of four local professionals: Wendy McSteen, Realtor with Keller Williams, David Holmes, Senior Mortgage Loan Originator, Nick Forzley, Real Estate attorney with Klunk & Forzley, Doug Spires, Home Inspector with Home Inspections by DSI. *Registration is required for this in-person program.*

Citizens Utility Board Drop-in: Adults 18+

Friday, April 18, 11am-1pm at Minooka Branch

Need help navigating your gas and electricity bills? Drop in and have a member of the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) help you understand your bill and find ways you can save. *No registration is required for this in-person program.*

2025 Annual Street Maintenance

The 2025 Street Maintenance Program will be completed this summer. The program includes resurfacing, along with various crack sealing locations, patching and a limited amount of curb replacement throughout the Village. These areas will also have sidewalk ramps updated to the latest revisions of ADA compliance standards. The streets for the 2025 program are still being finalized, but these are a few tentative locations for this year's program.

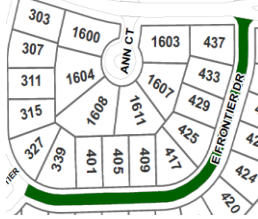
Wildy Road – west of Ridge Road
Kettleson Drive – Wildy to 1606 Kettleson



Wabena Ct



E Frontier Drive – Misty Creek to 339 Frontier



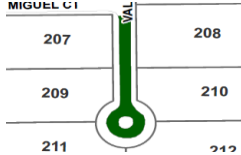
Long Ridge Trail – Edgewater to High Grove
High Grove Drive – Long Ridge Trail to 710 High Grove



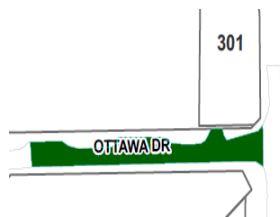
Prairie Ridge Dr
(including Aster Ct & Prairie Ridge Ct)
south to 280 Prairie Ridge



Valle Vista Ct – south of Miguel Ct



Ottawa Drive



Zapata Lane



S Wabena Avenue -Aster to Prairie Ridge



Hannigan Drive -Flanagan to Feeney



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

2021 International Fire Code 505.1 Address Identification

It is important to have a visible address on your home or business to ensure that Police/Fire/Ambulance services can quickly come to aid in an emergency. International Fire Code 505.1 requires all new and existing buildings to display address identification.

The identification must:

- Be legible.
- Be placed in a position visible from the street/road fronting the property.
- Contrast with their background.
- Shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters, numbers shall not be spelled out.
- Shall not be less than four (4) inches high, with a minimum stroke width of ½ inch.

For more information, please call the Village of Minooka Building Department at 815-467-2151.

First Construction Contract Awarded

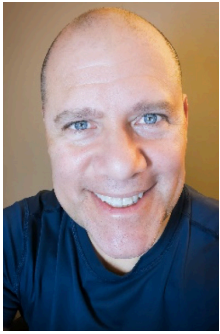
The work to bring Lake Michigan water to the Grand Prairie Water Commission (GPWC) communities is progressing with the design work and gearing up for construction. The GPWC Board of Commissioners approved a contract for the first construction project. Michels Trenchless, Inc. was selected from three bids received and has been awarded a contract in the amount of \$31.3 million.



GRAND PRAIRIE
WATER COMMISSION

The work they will perform includes a tunnel extension that will connect the Chicago water system to a new pump station. This will allow water to be transported to the Grand Prairie Water Commission communities. The 520-foot-long tunnel consists of a 10-foot diameter pipe and this work is expected to begin soon.

The mission of the Grand Prairie Water Commission is to provide a sustainable, reliable, and high-quality water supply for the member communities by 2030 and beyond in order to support public health, safety, economic interests, and quality of life. We will keep you updated on the GPWC and what it means to your community. You can also learn more at the commission website at www.gpwc-il.org.



Chaplain's Corner

Can We Talk About Self-Awareness?

If my life were a YouTube video, I fear there would be many times that, if you were viewing the video, you would wonder, "How could someone be so lacking in self-awareness?"

Like that time I lost it heading north on I-55 because my dear wife made a few comments on my driving. (Some of you know that story. If you do, you have my permission to laugh!) Basically, I drive like "grandpa" (I am a grandpa, so I can say that) in the neighborhood. But once on the highway, it's Nascar time! (Disclaimer: that is not a confession and speeds in excess of posted limits may or may not have been reached.)

During the drive Ruth made some comments on my driving that I chose to interpret as critical and negative. I responded with... well... let's say I was not the best version of myself. After a few exits passed by, somewhere near the 294 interchange, my frustration culminated with me yelling at her, saying, "Do you want to drive? DO. YOU. WANT. TO. DRIVE? This is A LEGITIMATE QUESTION!" (Caps added because I was yelling.)

I was blaming her for my feelings. I was choosing to react instead of choosing to listen to her concerns. In other words, I did not pause long enough to ask: "How is my wife experiencing me? How do my words, my attitude, my chosen response to whatever she brings to my attention make her feel? And what does all of that say about me?" Are you willing to ask those questions? Not married? Instead of wife, then sub in what fits: son, brother, co-worker, friend, daughter, neighbor, uncle, etc. It is humbling to ask. It might even be painful to receive the answers to those questions. But, it will go a long way toward bringing peace, understanding and health to you and your relationships. The Gospel writer Luke put it this way, "Do for others just what you want them to do for you." (Luke 6:31). I would be glad to treat you to a cup of coffee if you want to talk about this, or anything else on your mind: carlogarcia@missionbible.church

Carlos Garcia, Chaplain

**DO TO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD
HAVE THEM DO TO YOU**

Luke 6:31

NEWS FROM WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT



March 2 – World Teen Mental Wellness Day:

World Teen Mental Wellness Day is observed across the globe on March 2 every year. It is a day that aims to raise awareness about the mental health issues that teenagers deal with. This day is about making efforts to educate everyone and destigmatize something that is becoming increasingly common.

St. Patrick's Day

This St. Patrick's Day — Monday, March 17, 2024 — don't forget to wear your green to avoid getting pinched, and leave the driving to a sober driver. While there are many St. Paddy's Day traditions to embrace and sham-rockin' activities to partake in, it's critical to remember that Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving.



April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Thousands of people are killed and hundreds of thousands more are seriously injured in distracted driving crashes each year. Distracted driving has become a deadly epidemic on our roads. Cell phone use — specifically, texting, talking, and social media use — has become the most common distraction.

Follow us to stay up to date!

Don't forget to follow the Minooka Police Department on Facebook and Instagram to stay up-to-date with events and news happening in our area.



NEWS FROM LOCAL CHURCHES

THE VILLAGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sundays at The Village Christian Church

You're welcome to join us for In-Person church at 8965 South Bell Road in Minooka. Service times are 8, 9 and 10:30am. **Kid Village** and **Pulse classes** are open during 9 & 10:30 services only.

You can also view online, check out thevillagechristianchurch.com for more information.

Helping Feed Hungry Families In Minooka

The Village Christian Church is partnering with Northern Illinois Food Bank and will host a Mobile Food Pantry at 8965 South Bell Road in Minooka on Monday, March 31, 5pm.

Distribution will be first come first served and usually lasts about an hour or until all the food has been distributed. There is no registration, proof of income or I.D. required. **Future Mobile Food Pantries: 5/5, 6/9**

 thevillagechristianchurch.com  [TheVillageChristianChurch](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVillageChristianChurch)  [The Village Christian Church](https://www.facebook.com/TheVillageChristianChurch)  8965 South Bell Road, Minooka Illinois 60447

Celebrate Easter At The Village Christian Church

Spring is coming and we are looking forward to it! Bring your family to Easter Services at The Village Christian Church, 8965 South Bell Road in Minooka.

This year we will celebrate Easter services on 2 days. All services will be the same. You can choose which day and time will be better for you and your family.

Saturday, April 19 at 5pm will be a service for the whole family, Kid Village will be closed during this service.

On Sunday, April 20 at 8, 9 or 10:30am all the Kid Village rooms will be open for 9 & 10:30 services.

Dance The Night Away

The Village Christian Church loves to celebrate our community! Dance The Night Away, a free prom for guests with special-needs will be hosted at the church, 8965 South Bell Road in Minooka on Friday, April 4 from 4:30-9pm.

Spots are limited so don't wait to sign up! For registration details go to: thevillagechristianchurch.com

MINOOKA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Minooka United Methodist Church Is On Ridge Road

Our new building is at 1210 S. Ridge Road, next to the water tower. Worship experiences are Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome! Learn more about our welcoming and affirming congregation at www.minookaumc.com

Online maps still don't always get our new address correct, so your GPS may take you slightly off-course. Our church is on the east side of Ridge Road, next door to the Minooka water tower, south of Prairie Ridge Drive and north of Misty Creek Drive (in-between the Lakewood Trails and Prairie Ridge subdivisions).

Weekly Sunday School & Youth Group

Sunday School for children in Preschool-5th grade meets at 10:45am following our worship service.

Youth Group for students in 6th-12th grades meets Wednesday evenings 7:00-8:00pm.

All our Sunday School teachers and Youth Group leaders complete Safe Gathering training and a background check

Grief Support Group

Our Grief Support Group meets March 13th and April 10th, the second Thursday of each month, at 12:00noon. It is open to anyone grieving a death. There is no cost and a light lunch is provided.

The Skeptic's Circle

Questions about faith and the meaning of life can sometimes feel overwhelming. We offer a welcoming space for open, honest conversation about the emotions, doubts, and ideas about faith, God, and life you might have been taught not to question. Meets at the Starbucks located at Route 6 and Yellow Pine Drive in Channahon the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm: March 11th and April 8th.

 1210 S. Ridge Rd., Minooka, 60447  minookaumc.com  [Minooka United Methodist Church](https://www.facebook.com/MinookaUnitedMethodistChurch)

Ash Wednesday Worship Experience

March 5th, 7:00pm "From stardust we are created and to stardust we shall return." This youth-planned-and-led worship experience includes contemplative music, time for reflective silent prayer, and imposition of ashes. All are welcome.

Holy Week Worship Experiences

Sunday, April 13 — Palm/Passion Sunday, 9:30am

Thursday, April 17 — Maundy Thursday, 7:00pm

Friday, April 18 — Good Friday, 7:00pm

Saturday, April 19 — Holy Saturday, 7:00pm

Sunday, April 20 — Easter, 9:30am

Chair Yoga

Join us for gentle movement and mindfulness in this accessible, no cost yoga class, perfect for all ages and fitness levels. Chair Yoga meets each week on Mondays from 11:15am to 12:00noon, and Thursdays from 5:15pm to 6:00pm.

Senior Luncheon

"Forever Young" Senior Luncheon is a free lunch for those 55+ years old. It is held at St. Mary's Parish and is a delightful joint venture between our two congregations. Senior Luncheon is offered March 19th and April 16th, the third Wednesday each month, at 11:30am. Please reserve your spot by calling our church office: 815.467.2322.

Just For Fun Gathering

This monthly gathering welcomes everyone who would like to socialize, share snacks, coffee or tea, and make new friends. Meets the fourth Thursday of the month 9:00am to 12:00noon. No cost; bring a craft to work on or a board game to play, or just show up.

ST. MARY'S PARISH **Weekday Mass** - Monday - Friday 8:30am **Weekday Adoration/Confession** - Thursday, 7:30am **Saturday Adoration/Confession** - 4:00pm
Saturday Mass - 5:00pm **Sunday Mass** - 7:30am, 9:00am, and 11:00am **Youth Group Ministry (Thrive)** - Tuesdays; 7:00 - 8:30pm

March 5th - Ash Wednesday Masses: 6:30am & 8:30am Ash distribution at 5:00pm

March 19th - Senior Luncheon/Must have reservation; call 815 467-2322

March 23th - Breakfast sponsored by the Knights of Columbus • 8am - 11am

March 15th - Euchre in Parish Center 6:00pm

 stmarysminooka.com  303 W. St Mary's Street, Po Box 456, Minooka IL 60447

March 16th - 18th - Parish Mission - On Prayer Presented by: Fr. John Honiotes

April 19th - Euchre in Parish Center 6:00pm

April 16th - Senior Luncheon/Must have reservation; call 815 467-2322

April 19th - Easter Vigil Mass 8:00pm

April 20th - Easter Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00am

April 27th - Breakfast sponsored by the Knights of Columbus • 8am - 11am

CHRIST FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship:

8:30am Morning Worship Service

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Main Worship Service

    Christ First Baptist Church

 christfirst.church

 4295 Van Dyke Rd., Minooka, IL 60447

AWANA Clubs **Sunday nights from 4:30 - 6:00pm through March 30.** AWANA Clubs offer a FREE fun, exciting environment where kids, 3 years old through 12th grade, are disciplined using a proven Scripture-based program. Our awesome team of workers keep the children engaged through games and music while promoting spiritual growth through biblical teaching. Our goal is to lead children and families to Christ and develop a lifelong faith in God.


Good Friday Service Friday, April 18 @ 7pm. From Jesus's entrance into Jerusalem, a sampling of the Passover meal he shared with his disciples, arrest, trial, crucifixion, and death, join us for a spiritual journey reflecting the events leading up to Jesus's death.

Easter Sunday April 20

Worship Service: 8:30am & 11am Easter Breakfast Fellowship 10am

Easter Egg Hunt: Immediately following the 11am service for toddlers - 8th grade

MISSION BIBLE CHURCH

 We are excited to invite you to Mission Bible Church where we believe in being Real with God, Real with Each Other and Real in the World.

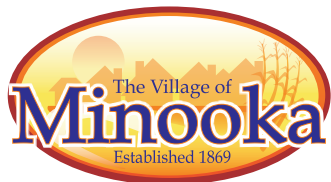
Good Friday Experience On April 18th, from 4-7pm, our Minooka campus will host an immersive Good Friday experience. This family-friendly event will feature tours starting every 30 minutes (last tour at 6:30pm) and will guide attendees through a contemplation of Jesus's sacrifice on the Cross

 missionbible.church  Mission Bible Church  Mission Bible Church  412 N Wabena Ave, Minooka, IL 60447

Mission Minooka 412 N. Wabena in Minooka

Saturday - 5:30pm Sunday - 8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30am (Spanish translation available at this service)

Mission Morris (meeting at Saratoga School) 4040 N. Division St, Morris - Door #16 Sunday 9:30am



121 E. McEVILLY ROAD
MINOOKA, ILLINOIS 60447

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VILLAGE INFORMATION

The Village of Minooka encourages all residents to visit and participate in the Village Board and Committee meetings. Regular meetings of the Village Board are held the 4th Tuesday of each month. They are scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Hall. Committee of the Whole meetings also take place at the Village Hall on the Wednesday before the Village Board Meeting. To verify a meeting date, please call the Village Hall at (815) 467-2151.

Village President

Ric Offerman (815) 258-5270

Village Administrator

Dan Duffy (815) 467-2151

Village Trustees

Terry Houchens	(815) 467-4605	Barry Thompson	(815) 353-9188
Dennis Martin	(815) 693-6596	Gabriela Martinez	(815) 216-7000
Ray Mason	(815) 954-0762	Robin White	(815) 671-6008

Getting You Where You Need to Go!



PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ANYWHERE IN GRUNDY COUNTY AND PORTIONS OF JOLIET

Service Available

Monday—Friday, 6:00 AM—6:00 PM

****Rides must be scheduled 2—3 business day in advance****

To schedule your ride, give us a call at (888) 786-0862

Bus service is for **ALL** Grundy County residents of **ALL** ages.

All buses are ADA compliant and equipped with wheelchair lifts.

Children under the age of 5 ride for **FREE**.

GTS travels to Joliet 3 times daily.

Fares are \$4.00 each way in-county and \$6.00 each way to or from Joliet.

**We are now a Non-Emergency Medicaid
Transportation Provider, call us today
for more information!**



EVERBRIDGE MOBILE APP

*New Way to Receive FREE
Village of Minooka Alerts!*



Aim your camera at the QR code to download the Mobile App from Google Play or iOS App Store.

By downloading the Everbridge Mobile App, you can select to receive notifications concerning community events, time-sensitive alerts and/or emergency info that may impact your area.

- Allow Everbridge to send Push Notifications
- Select "Find an Organization or Subscription"
- Search "Minooka"
- Select "Village of Minooka"
- Log in with your Everbridge username and password. If you don't have credentials, create them now.

ONE DELIVERY METHOD MUST BE PROVIDED (PHONE OR EMAIL) IN ORDER TO RECEIVE ALERTS



Get the Everbridge App!



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dental van · application immunizations · **SENIOR PROGRAMS** · case management

GRUNDY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SERVICES



815.941.3404

community care program · choices for care screenings · home delivered meals ·
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH · mental health and substance abuse treatment · individual and group therapy · mental health and drug court services · medication management · case management · DUI evaluations and risk education

· mandated evaluations · psychological evaluations · **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH** · food protection program · potable water program · private sewage disposal program · tanning program · body art program · vector control program · smoke free Illinois · certified food protection management courses · **OUTREACH AND EDUCATION** · CPR certification course · community education · wellness seminars · community support · ANYBODY 5k · Medical Reserve Corps

Our Mission: To Preserve, Protect and Promote the Health and Well-Being of Grundy County