

STONE CHURCH NEWS

APRIL 2019



From the Pastor's Desk

Not every idea that we come up with during Bible Study makes it into the sermon. This is for the best. Last year, Easter came on April 1st - April Fools' day. The opportunities for Easter reflections were opening up: I pictured Jesus rising up and saying, "Fooled you! I was dead, but now I'm not. I can't believe you fell for that!" (Cindy wisely suggested this might not be the best take I'd ever had on the resurrection story.)

But there is something about it. Eugene Peterson translates 1 Corinthians 1:18, like this: "The Message that points to Christ on the Cross seems like sheer [foolishness] to those hell-bent on destruction, but... this is the way God works, and most powerfully as it turns out." (from *The Message*)

April is full of stories. We continue reading the stories of Jesus in Sunday School, and telling the story of our church in the membership class. We continue our series in worship on Jesus' stories, Jesus' parables teaching us what the Kingdom of God is like. Our Lenten book club is carrying on as well. (Pick up a story in the back after worship!) And of course, Holy week is coming, when we do more than retell the story - we *enter into it*, we relive it. We wave Palms on Palm Sunday, and wash feet at Love Feast. We follow the cross, keeping vigil on Good Friday, and make a journey in the dark like the women at the tomb on Easter Morning. Then we join together and sing Hallelujah in Easter worship. We enter into the story - because we are a part of the story. This is our chapter - the great story continues on, with us, as God continues to work.

We are shaped by the stories we choose to believe, and so we embrace the audacity of *this* story - Jesus' teaching about a new way of living, that lets go of the grasping for money and power, things the world holds onto so tightly - and in the letting go finds that we have taken hold of life abundant. We become "we are fools for Christ," as Paul says, and embrace the audacity of this story - this claim that in and through Jesus, even Death itself has been overcome and no longer holds the final say.

Palm Sunday - April 14th, worship at 10:45am (baptisms & Handbells)

Taizé - April 14th at 6:00pm in the sanctuary

Love Feast (Maundy Thursday) - April 18th at 6:30pm (*childcare is provided*)

Good Friday - a Community Service, April 19th at Noon, beginning at the Abbey Church.

Pastor Cindy will be preaching at 1:40pm at First UMC on Mifflin St.

Easter Sunrise - at the Peace Chapel, April 21st at 6:00am

Easter Worship - April 21st at 10:45am



HUNTINGDON AREA FORUM OF CHURCHES
COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

April 19, 2019
Noon – 3:00 p.m.

“The Seven Last Words of Christ”



The First Word Noon – 12:20 p.m.	“Father, Forgive Them...” - Luke 23:24 Abbey Reformed United Church of Christ	Preacher: Pastor Ann Foor (6 th & Church Streets)
The Second Word 12:25 – 12:45 p.m.	“Truly, I tell you...” - Luke 23:43 First Regular Baptist Church	Preacher: The Rev. Charles Cruikshank (6 th & Mifflin Streets)
The Third Word 12:50 – 1:10 p.m.	“Woman, here is your son...” - John 19:26-27 Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church	Preacher: The Rev. Fred E. Hickok (534 Mifflin Street)
The Fourth Word 1:15 – 1:35 p.m.	“My God, My God...” - Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34 St. James Lutheran Church	Preacher: The Rev. Donna Jarrell (525 Mifflin Street)
The Fifth Word 1:40 – 2:00 p.m.	“I am thirsty...” - John 19:28 First United Methodist Church	Preacher: The Rev. Cindy Lattimer (427 Mifflin Street)
The Sixth Word 2:05 – 2:25 p.m.	“It is finished...” - John 19:30 Huntingdon Presbyterian Church	Preacher: Pastor John Staje, Jr. (508 Mifflin Street)
The Seventh Word 2:35 – 2:55 p.m.	“Father, into your hands...” - Luke 23:46 St. John’s Episcopal Church	Preacher: The Rev. Brandon Cian (212 Penn Street)

2019 Easter Flowers



Celebrate the joy of Easter with beautiful Easter tulips!

Tulips are \$10.00 each, and are in 6.5" pots. If you would like to order tulips for the Easter service, contact the office by April 14 with the information indicated below. Tulips will be displayed on the Worship Center during Easter and may be taken home following the 10:45am Easter worship service, or on the following Tuesday. **Happy Easter!!**

Forms are available at the church, or you may email/call the office with:
Your Name (as you'd like it to appear in the bulletin) and contact information (should we need to reach you), the number of tulips being ordered and the name(s) of those you are remembering/honoring (please specify which).
You may contact the office if you have any questions.

Lenten Community Series

Lenten Music for Meditation

Lent, March 6 through April 18, the time to reflect as we journey alongside Jesus to the cross and beyond; and each Wednesday at noon we have an opportunity to take pause to reflect on how Christ's journey impacts the world, and our lives. You are invited to join the Huntingdon church community as a local musician provides us with meditative music. Each 45-minute service of *Lenten Music for Meditation* is led by an area musician. The doors open at noon to allow a time of silence in preparation with the services beginning at 12:15.

All are invited.

April 3: Mim Slicker - Abbey Church

April 10: **Loren & Donna Rhodes - Stone Church**

April 17: **Keith Sutton - Presbyterian Church**



Baskets will be available at the door should you wish to leave a donation toward the Huntingdon Area Forum of Churches Emergency Fuel Fund, helping those in the community weather the Winter's cold.



Lenten Supper Series Thursday 4/4 at 6pm



At the start of Lent, St John's Episcopal, 15th Street United Methodist & St James Lutheran Churches in Huntingdon united to provide a mid-Lenten Supper Series with Study based on the theme "Lost". Don't miss the last supper on April 4th at the 15th St. United Methodist Church (1500 Moore St.). All are invited to gather at 6:00pm for the final offering in this series, which includes a light supper provided by the host church, a study and a brief closing worship.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Study Leader</u>	<u>Worship Leader</u>	<u>Topic</u>
4/4	15 th St	Rev Brandon Cian	Fr. Gene Tucker	Grieving Loss

HOLY WEEK EVENTS

LOVE FEAST

April 18 6:30pm



The love feast is regarded as one of God's means of grace. It is a time when community gathers for feet-washing, a fellowship meal, worship, and communion. Join us as we examine our own lives, and in community discuss our conflicts, joys, and dreams; strengthening and deepening our sense of community as we seek to be a Christ-centered community where all are spiritually nourished, equipped and empowered to continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply, together.

PALM SUNDAY!

APRIL 14



10:45am Sunday Worship
With Stone Church Ringers
And Baptisms!



For those who enjoy the stirring sounds of handbells during worship, the Stone Church Ringers will be part of the 10:45am worship experience on Palm Sunday (and again on May 5)!

Those from our Baptism/Membership Class who wish to join the church will be baptized!

6:00pm Taizé Worship Service



All are invited to attend this casual 45 minute service of music, prayers, and silence. A small group of instrumentalists accompany songs which are prayerfully repetitive. A Taizé service is an excellent opportunity to find some stillness and quiet in our busy world. Come, join us, and experience rest and peace for your spirit.

EASTER SUNDAY!

APRIL 21



6:00am – Sunrise Service at the Peace Chapel

Gather with community members and family at the outside Peace Chapel for this reflective service remembering the empty tomb at dawn, and celebrating the resurrection of Jesus. The Peace Chapel is located off Warm Springs Avenue on Peace Chapel Road. Rides will be available in the trail parking lot at 6:15 for those in need. (Rain location: Stone Church Sanctuary.) This service is hosted by the Forum of Churches.

9:30am – There is NO Sunday School

10:45am – Worship in Stone Church Sanctuary

Everyone is invited!! Come join us as we celebrate our risen Lord! Our service will include singing the Hallelujah Chorus!



Sunday School Spotlight

By Jeannie Lashlee

This month we'll wrap up my recent email interviews with our Church Sunday School teachers. As you remember, we regularly offer five classes: Pre-school and Early Elementary class taught by Jeannie Lashlee, Llamacats led by Pam Grugan, Senior High Class with Rick Laabs, Sojourners led by different teachers but coordinated by Henry Thurston-Griswold and a Bible Study class taught by Pastor Ben.

Here is what our adult class teachers had to say about their classes:

Question (Q): What Sunday School class do you teach? Who is the class for?

Henry: My Sunday School class is the Sojourners Class. It's for adults (young and old alike, although we're a little heavy on the gray scale) seeking spiritual nourishment and to be equipped and empowered to continue the work of Jesus: peacefully, simply, together.

Pastor Ben: This spring our class is called "Jesus Stories" - a Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke. The class is for adults.

Q: What is something you would like others to know about your Sunday School class?

Henry: Our class sessions are discussion based and structured around study of a book that focuses on some aspect of Christian faith and/or witness and involve typically a weekly reading assignment that takes anywhere from fifteen minutes to an hour to complete. Teaching is shared among a group currently of five people (Dick Landrum, Harriet Kaylor, Carolyn Lidston, Andy Murray, Henry Thurston-Griswold), who facilitate the discussion on the dates they have chosen to teach.

Pastor Ben: Sometimes we feel so familiar with these Bible Stories – we've been reading them since we were kids. But I am consistently amazed by how the stories come alive as we read them together, discovering them anew and finding (surprise!) that Jesus continues to be relevant – and continues to push us – even now.

Q: Do you have upcoming plans for your Sunday School class?

Henry: We will be continuing our study of Rev. Bill Wylie-Kellerman's most recent book, *Principalities in Particular: A Practical Theology of the Powers that Be*. The chapters are self-contained articles on diverse topics related to the theological notion of "principalities and powers," their ordained purpose to worship God and serve humankind, and the need for Christians to confront and conquer fallen powers that serve death rather than life. You don't need to be a theologian, just someone curious about this somewhat different way to frame forces that shape the world in which we live and decisions we make.

Pastor Ben: I love reading the stories about Jesus. In all the talking we do about Jesus, and with all the things people say they are doing in the name of Jesus, I find it refreshing - and humbling - to read through the stories again, and wrestle with the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Lent is such a great time to read these stories, as we journey with Jesus to the cross.

Q: Do you have anything else to add?

Henry: There is a copy of the book we are studying in the Conference Room. Feel free to take a look at it to decide if you would like to give the class a shot, and please speak with any of the teachers listed if you need any further information.

Pastor Ben: Worship on Sunday mornings with music and preaching is such an important part of this community of faith. But studying these stories together in Sunday School, where we can ask questions together and interact is so important. It allows us to engage the scripture differently and really complements the worship that follows. We hope you'll join us!



District Women's Spring Retreat
Friday and Saturday
May 3-4



District Women's Retreat: will be held on May 3-4, 2019 at Laurel Lodge, Halbritter Estates. You are invited to gather with other women to explore types of prayer, prayer stations an Emmaus Walk, journaling, and more. Eleanor Fix (Everett COB) believes our very lives are a prayer, and will lead us in this adventure. She currently teaches Sunday School and leads a Bible study at Everett's weekly Free Community meal. After serving 12 years as pastor at the Cherry Lane COB, Eleanor has held several interim positions in the Middle PA District and is a Spiritual Director with training through Oasis Ministries.

The setting is picturesque, located in the woods of Laurel Highlands, and there will be opportunities to enjoy the peace and beauty of your surroundings.

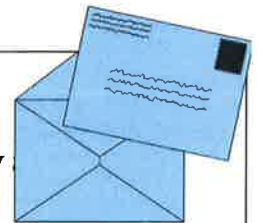
There are enough beds so you may have your own room if you prefer. There are plenty of bathrooms and bedding and towels are provided.

Come for the entire event or just part of it. Newcomers pay nothing to attend, and confidential scholarships are available upon request.

Keep an eye peeled for the Retreat flyer on the church bulletin board.

"With us in spirit..."

Below are members of our church family who, though they are not often physically join us in worship, remain with us in spirit. Remember them in your prayers, and with cards and visits! Please contact the church office (814-643-3390 or stonechurch@verizon.net) to add others you know.



DeLois Fluke
 11325 Raystown Rd.
 Huntingdon, PA 16652

Jean Prendergast
 930 Mifflin St.
 Huntingdon, PA 16652

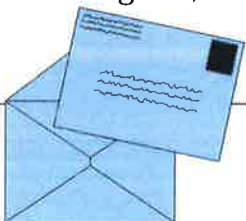
Thelma Wallace
 5754 Wallace Dr.
 Huntingdon, PA 16652

Westminster Woods
 John Bowser
 Joanne Dolnikowski
 Sue Martin (& Bill @the Oaks#106)
 Yvonne McKensie
 Denny Rock

Arista Care (814-643-4210)
 1229 Warm Springs Ave, Huntingdon 16652
 Howard Crouch - Room 265
 Orpha Hearn - Room 251
 Dale McClure - Room #254B

Floyd McDowell
 Olney Assisted Living
 16940 Georgia Ave.
 Olney, MD 20832

(814-447-5563)
Woodlands/Arista Care
 18889 Cohan Pike, Orbisonia 17243
 Gene Goshorn - Room 104





Summer Camp 2019 – Peace Works

Don't miss out on summer camps for children and youth ranging from 5 years to HS seniors, and families too! Registration is open through June 1. Stone Church covers half of the fee for our children and youth. Families – check out the *Sibling* discount. If finances stand in the way of a child going to camp, look for scholarship information in the brochure and consider applying. **Brochures are available in the Conference Room and back of the Sanctuary; online registration at www.campbluediamond.org.**

Camp Work Day – April 6

Help Camp get ready for summer! Projects include: wood cutting, splitting and stacking, staining, carpentry, raking, repairing, cleaning, and more... Breakfast served 7:30 - 8am. Jobs will be assigned at 8am, and a lunch will be served at noon. If you have a splitter, chainsaw or truck for hauling, please bring them. **Please let Camp know you're coming by calling the office at 814-667-2355, or email campbluediamond@verizon.net.**

Father/Son Retreat: Joseph and His Brothers – April 12-13

The Father/Son Retreat is a terrific time for sons and dads (grandpas) to spend time together. The retreat begins at 6:30pm Friday and closes at 3pm Saturday. Join us as we explore the Bible story of 'Joseph & His Brothers', a fascinating tale about sibling rivalry, danger, forgiveness, and love. We'll also play games, go on a night-hike, fish and canoe, cook over a fire, do pine cone crafts, make walking sticks, and ride the Giant Swing. Cost is \$35 for adults, \$25 for boys grades K-8. Register by April 8. **More info on the church bulletin board and at www.campbluediamond.org.**

Quilt & Craft Camp: Sew Peace – April 26-28

Join friends old and new for a weekend of creativity, laughter, and inspiration. Bring your quilt work, cross stitch, knitting, scrap booking, etc... and join the fun! New this year – a trip to Mary Lee's Fabric Shop in Belleville before the retreat. **More info on the church bulletin board and at www.campbluediamond.org.**

Senior Adult Day – May 31

Join us for a day full of fellowship, inspiration, adventure, and fun as we gather to hear the story of Peggy Ann Bradnick. On a warm spring afternoon in 1966, Peggy Ann was dragged into the mountains near her home in Shade Gap by a disturbed kidnapper. Fifty plus years later she continues to tell the story of the weeklong horror that changed her life. Peggy Ann will share how her faith saw her through the ordeal and continues to shape who she is, as a child of God, today. Check-in begins at 9:00am and the day will conclude at 3:30pm. Cost is \$10, which includes morning refreshments and lunch. Supper-to-go will be available for \$3. **More info on the church bulletin board and at www.campbluediamond.org.**



Upcoming Events

Camp Work Day	April 6
Father/Son Retreat	April 12-13
Quilt & Craft Camp	April 26-28
National Young Adult Conf. at CBD	May 24-26
Senior Adult Day with Peggy Ann Bradnick	May 31
Hoss's Fundraiser	June 9
Family Camp	August 16-18
Heritage Fair	September 21

Have questions?

Contact your Camp Representative, David Meadows, at 814-599-6017 or meadowd@juniata.edu.



Farmers' Market Bucks Are Back

What are Huntingdon County Farmers' Market Bucks? They're "fake money" that can be used like cash at the Huntingdon and Mount Union farmers' markets. They come in \$1 and \$10 denominations.

Why purchase Market Bucks? To commit...

- to eating more fresh, nutritious, locally-grown food
- to supporting and strengthening the market, its environmentally-responsible farmers and our local economy
- to increasing access to the market for folks who otherwise couldn't afford it
- to enhancing our sense of our community



How will Market Bucks help folks otherwise unable to afford shopping at the market?

Donations may be made toward the purchase of Market Bucks for use by persons who get government food assistance (*i.e.* SNAP benefits, formerly known as Food Stamps, now on EBT cards). When folks use their EBT cards at the market, they'll receive \$1 of "Bonus Bucks" (donated Market Bucks) for each \$2 they spend. Additionally, for every \$20 of Market Bucks sold, \$1 in Market Bucks will be given to Huntingdon County PRIDE, for distribution to its elderly clients.

How can one buy Market Bucks and/or make donations to support the "Bonus Bucks" program?

Market Bucks purchases and donations may be made using cash or check:

- in the back of the sanctuary following worship (7 April - 19 May; see Kim Roth)
- at the Stone Church office Mon-Fri mornings (April through October; see Debbie)
- at the farmers' markets (all season – May through October)
- at the PRIDE office, 1301 Mt. Vernon Ave., Huntingdon (Smithfield Twp.), Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30 (April through October)

Other questions? Interested in helping out with the project? We're seeking volunteers! Please contact Laura White at laura.jamie@gmail.com or 814-251-4363.

Originating at Stone Church, the Market Bucks/ Bonus Bucks program is a cooperative project involving the Huntingdon Forum of Churches, the nonprofit Huntingdon County Local Food Association, the Huntingdon & Mt. Union farmers' markets, and area social-services agencies.



Huntingdon Farmers' Market opens Thursday, May 2nd

Noon – 5 pm, Portstown Park pavilion (across from Laney's; 842 Penn St)



Mount Union Farmers' Market opens Friday, May 3rd

Noon – 6 pm, Riverside Park (tentative dates, times & location)



Dolorosa

-Eugene R. Goshorn



The road Jesus traveled to the Cross through the streets of Jerusalem is known as the Way of Sorrows, or the "Via Dolorosa."

But the book of Hebrews said the Via Dolorosa really was a "new and living way into the presence of God for us." Hebrews 10:20.

For centuries, the Jewish people had sought to come into God's presence through animal sacrifice and by seeking to keep the law. But the laws are "only a shadow of the good things that are coming, for it impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins." (Hebrews 9:12).

Hebrews 10:22 declares that because of Jesus' journey down the Via Dolorosa to his death, we saw that he makes us holy when we trust in him for the forgiveness of our sins. Christ's way of sorrow opened a new way to God.

God's love lights our way and warms the deepest places of our hearts.

"Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus; to reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus."



**Enjoy fun and fellowship
while serving our neighbors!**

You are invited to join Stone Church members and friends as we prepare and serve a meal at Huntingdon's Community Soup Kitchen on **Thursday, April 25th** at the Huntingdon Presbyterian Church, 508 Mifflin Street. You are welcome to participate ANY time between 3:00 and 7:30. **Thank you!!**

Mark your calendars for all of 2019!

April 25

June 27

August 22

October 24

Contact Pam Grugan at **814-386-7435** or grugan2@gmail.com
to sign up for February 28, to learn more about this ministry,
or to volunteer your time or talents for future dates!

April Birthdays

1—Cory Buterbaugh
5—Emma Janelle Musser
6—Joanne Krugh
7—James Ake
7—Melissa McBrayer
9—Robert Beck
9—Amanda Helfrich
11—Katie Dickey
11—Mark Meckstroth

13—Brenda Furry
13—Meghan Wright
13—Olivia Ghaner
14—Betty Ann Cherry
14—Rose Rahman
14—Kim Roth
16—Denny Rock
19—Carolyn Lidston
21—William Berrier

22—Samuel Cloz
22—Dean Wenger
22—Sara White
26—Martha Swigart
27—Eddie Rice
27—Natalie Buterbaugh
30—John Keiper
30—Seneca Miller

April Anniversaries

1—Joan & Stephen Engle
5—Dottie & Ken Steele
15—Sylvia & Tom McDowell

16—Donna & Kenneth Evans
22—Greg & Yvonne Stein

Older Adult Lunch

Tuesday, April 23 (*after Easter*) at 12 noon in room 102.

If you know someone 65 or older who might enjoy this time of gathering, invite them!! Reservations are requested in the church office (643-3390 or stonechurch@verizon.net) by Monday, April 22.

There is no Men's Breakfast this month.

Happy Easter! — We will resume in May!

Food Pantry Sunday—April 21st



We will ask the young people to collect your items as they come for the Young People Gathering time. The April item for the Huntingdon Food Pantry is **Green Beans**, but any items may be brought for the cause of helping alleviate hunger in our community. Donations at other times may be placed in the wagon outside the sanctuary doors by the organ. **Cash contributions will be donated to the Forum of Churches Emergency Fuel Fund.**

In March, the item was Canned Fruit. We collected 55 cans of fruit, as well as 14 Mac&Cheese, 6 Pasta, 1 pasta sauce, and 1 cans of beans were donated to this local ministry during the third Sunday monthly offering. Plus \$129 in cash was collected and donated to the Food Bank.



Grocery Gift Card—Every card helps our church!

Purchase a Stone Church Grocery Gift Card on Sundays at the back of the sanctuary or in the church office. Coordinators are Barb Purdy and Cheryl Ritchey.

Stone Church gets 5% of the total receipt purchase!

Stone Church of the Brethren
1623 Moore Street
Huntingdon, PA 16652
www.huntingdonstonechurch.org
814-643-3390 • stonechurch@verizon.net

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STONE CHURCH NEWS

April 2019



Details inside!

HE IS RISEN
the Lord is risen indeed