

STONE CHURCH NEWS

OCTOBER 2018

1...2...3...4...5...20...50...100...Switch hands...1...2...3...4...5...20...50...100...Switch hands. It's hard to estimate how many hours I spent in my basement as a young teen, sitting on a bucket with my eyes closed, dribbling a basketball. When it was too cold to shoot outside, when I wanted to be alone, when I didn't want to do my homework, I would go practice dribbling. I loved it - the feel of the leather in my hand, the consistency of how it would return over and over to my fingertips. It wasn't just learning to dribble without looking; I wanted to learn to dribble without thinking. I had other things to think about: the set of the defense, which play to call, what the coach was telling me from the sideline, where the open spot on the floor was going to be. And so I practiced, eyes shut on that bucket, I practiced a lot. And loved it.

We began our worship series, "The Life You've Always Wanted" in September, but it will continue throughout October and into November. Our hope is that we can re-frame spiritual disciplines (I like to call them spiritual practices) from being dry, boring, shaming things into being life-giving, soul-lifting, fruitful choices that bring us closer to the people (and church) we want to be.

We all know how awful it is to be told to do one more thing in our already busy lives. We also know what it's like to be told that things will just get better if we do this other truly miserable thing. (On a side note - that's why I'm not in the WNBA - while I loved dribbling, weight lifting was truly miserable to me which eliminated shooting well, boxing out, and other necessary parts of the sport! Also, I'm short.) The reality is we just don't do those practices that we find miserable or boring or shaming.

At the same time, most of us also know what it is to not quite be living as our best selves or to not be quite as connected to God or the people around us as we wish. We have so many things to think about in our lives, it would be nice if we had rhythms in place that helped us do it without it feeling like a burden or a huge extra task.

And so while we are spending several weeks looking at particular spiritual disciplines - I hope you hear an invitation to experiment. What practices give you life? What's something new to you? What did you try and hate? How are the choices you are making helping (or working against) you becoming your best self?

I know that I am not always as disciplined as I think I should be. I'm not as patient or joyful as I want to be. I certainly could be more present and centered. And I know I can't just try harder and become those things. So, I'm doing some experiments. I'm just going to start doing some things differently. I'm not going to overanalyze where to start or how - I'm choosing to just start and see what happens. Maybe some of those practices will stick and I'll surprise myself with some growth.

I know you don't need one more thing to do. But I wonder if you'll come tell me about the experiments you have during this season. I'd love to hear - and to have some practice partners on the way!

Stone Church seeks to be a Christ-centered community where all are spiritually nourished, equipped and empowered to continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply, together.

Fall Worship Series: *The Life You've Always Wanted*

My Life Jar



9/23	Discipline: Celebrating	Nehemiah 8:1-10
9/30	Discipline: Slowing	Matthew 6: 25-34
10/7	Discipline: Confession	Proverbs 28:13, Matthew 7:1-5
10/14	Discipline: Giving	Matthew 5:38-6:4
10/21	Discipline: Gratitude	Philippians 4:4-7, 12-13
10/28	Guest Preacher: Mary Garvey along with Stone Church Ringers!	
11/04	Discipline: Serving	Philippians 2: 5-11
	Guest Preacher: Steve Schweitzer	
11/11	Discipline: Study	Philippians 4: 8-9
11/18	Discipline: Fellowship	Hebrews 10: 19-25

Special Sunday School offerings:

October 14: Dan Ulrich, New Testament professor at Bethany Seminary
Professor Ulrich has worked with a class in Nigeria in a study of 1st Corinthians.

November 4: Steve Schweitzer, Old Testament professor Bethany Seminary



The Sunday worship series, *The Life You've Always Wanted*, provides a great opportunity for us to consider our giving as a part of our connection with the mission of Stone Church and our own relationship with God. A letter and a 2019 commitment card were mailed in late September so you might have them during this season of stewardship to prayerfully consider your commitments for the upcoming fiscal year.

If you did not receive this material, please pick them up at the back of the sanctuary, visit the Stone Church website (www.huntingdonstonechurch.org), or contact the church office (814-643-3390).

Remember to complete your pledge and bring it to worship on Sunday, October 21st or return it to the church office by Friday, October 19th.

If you have questions or suggestions, feel free to contact any member of the Finance Team.

Thank you! -- *Bob McMinn, John Wright, Daisy Decker, and Jeff Cloz*

**Stone Church
Leadership Team Report
September 2018**



“Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.”

Submitted by Dennis Plane

“A Pebble in the Shoe of Society”

Ben started our last Leadership Team meeting by asking what we thought the calling of Stone Church was. We discussed the importance of being a witness for the college and for college students. We praised our welcoming attitude, especially toward those who might not be welcome elsewhere. Some churches only want “true believers”; indeed, 86% of Christians in a recent Pew survey said that “believing in God” was “an essential part of what it means to be a Christian.”* But Stone Church opens our arms to all regardless of their current relationship with God. A member of Leadership Team said that the world is too busy trying to put Christians in a box, and the Stone Church was called to boldly demonstrate that Christianity cannot be boxed—that there are too many faces of Christianity as to defy labels. We are called to prison ministry. We are called to make justice a central part of the conversation—to righting injustice in the world, to tackling prejudice and bigotry, to educating about environmental degradation.

And, according to one Leadership Team member, we are called to be the “pebble in the shoe of society.” We are called to be that annoying bit of stone that sometimes makes trouble in an otherwise smooth stride. We are called to be irksome when necessary. We are called to be discomforting when the ways of the world need to be changed. We are called to be agitators when we see injustice. And we are called to be noticed as we spread the love of God and the good news of Jesus.

Only 14% of Christians believe that the buying from companies that pay fair wage is an essential part of being a Christian. We at Stone Church are called to host the Alternative Gifts Bazaar. Only 22% of Christians believe it important to work to protect the environment. Stone Church feels called to support climate change awareness. We are, indeed, called to be pebbles.

So as you go about being a pebble, think about which apple carts need to be upset. Think about where Christ is calling you. Is He calling you to help out with Christian Education? Is He calling you to spread the word about global warming? Is He calling you to be a receptive ear for a friend or neighbor? Is he calling you to help with Hospitality? Is he calling you to civil disobedience? Is He calling you to civic volunteerism? Is He calling you to spend more quality time with those you love?

There are lots of pebbles on the beach. What sort of pebble is God calling you to be?

* Pew Research Center. 2016. “Religion in Everyday Life.”

<http://www.pewforum.org/2016/04/12/religion-in-everyday-life/>

2018 DISTRICT CONFERENCE – October 12-13, 2017

Roaring Springs First Church of the Brethren

Moderator – Janet Sell

*All are welcome,
Carpooling encouraged.*



Theme: “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

Psalm 119:105. We live in a world of darkness. A world where many do not know where to turn for help. We as Christians know the answer. What is our responsibility for those who do not? Are we in Middle PA doing what God calls us to do?

Friday evening: guest speaker -Donita Keister, 2019 AC Moderator.

Saturday: a Ministry Moment followed by business.

At lunch times, the Compelling Vision Process will be introduced.

Our delegate/attendees are Jeff Decker, Henry Thurston-Griswold, Dean Wenger, Mary Garvey, Rick Laabs, and Pastors Ben and Cindy Lattimer.

Pennies for Witness –There’s still time to be part of this longstanding Middle PA project. Collect your spare change (pennies to dollars) and add it to the Pennies for Witness offering bucket at the back (in the church office during the week). **October 7 is the deadline** to supports these outreach ministries: Trucker Traveler Ministries • CentrePeace • Prince Gallitzin Park Ministry (Chaplains in the Park) • Small Church Fund • Outreach Ministry Matching Grant.

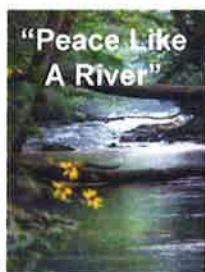
COMPELLING VISION

At Annual Conference, we as a denomination embarked on the “Compelling Vision” journey to rediscover our Christ-centered mission. What is it that Jesus Christ would have us be and do as a people of faith and action? Next year’s Annual Conference will continue that process. Until then, all congregations from all 24 districts will take extended time to give their insights into who we are, what we believe, and what we are called to do as the people of God. Two sessions have been scheduled here in the Middle Pennsylvania District, where everyone is urged and invited to participate and join the conversation:

- **Saturday, November 10** from 3-5 pm at Memorial COB in Martinsburg
- **Sunday, November 11** from 2-4 pm at Maitland COB in Lewistown.

District Women’s Fall Brunch

Saturday, November 3, 10:00 am, Hollidaysburg Church of the Brethren



Sometimes the river is raging; sometimes the river is dry, and yet peace in Christ can be the constant. Women of all ages are invited to come together to enjoy a delicious brunch, rich fellowship, and a wonderful story from guest speaker, Jerri Heiser Wenger. Since 1991, Jerri has been Executive Co-Director at Camp Blue Diamond along with her husband, Dean. Tickets for the event are \$7.00. Contact Kris Shunk (814-643-0601 or kshunk@midpacob.org) by October 25 to make your reservations.

Taizé Worship



"Be still, and know that I am God." ~Psalm 46:10

For those who enjoy quiet and meditative worship, Stone Church offers Taize. This is a style of worship using scripture, silence, prayer, and repeated phrases of simple, beautiful music to create a transcendent and peaceful worship experience.

Many in the Huntingdon community have been joining the Stone Church community to enjoy this growing gathering of contemplative worshippers.

Sunday Evening
6PM

October 21st

All are welcome!



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, October 27th

8am

Donna's Restaurant

-Back room-

All men are welcome!

Older Adult Lunch

The Older Adult Lunch gathering will meet Tuesday, **October 16th at 12 noon**, in room 102. If you know someone within Stone Church or a neighbor or friend who might enjoy this time of gathering, be sure to invite them. Reservations are requested in the church office (643-3390 or stonechurch@verizon.net) by Monday, October 15th.

See you on October 16th!!

Lunch.
Feed your curiosity™

**SOUP
KITCHEN**

**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, October 25th at the Huntingdon Presbyterian Church on 508 Mifflin Street. You are welcome to participate ANY time between 3:00 and 7:30. Please contact Pam Grugan at 814-386-7435 or grugan2@gmail.com. Thank you.



Alternative Christmas Gift Bazaar



Saturday, December 1st
9am to 2pm

Mark your calendar for the Alternative Christmas Gift Bazaar!!!

The 2018 planning committee: Emily Elder; Jon and Roxann Yon; Becky Plane; Jeff and Daisy Decker have been securing vendors and preparing the SERRV order.

How will you help make this day a success?

- Bazaar volunteer slips will be in the church bulletins starting October 7 and ending October 21. You can complete them and place them in the offering plate (or contact Emily Elder at elanel18@yahoo.com or 814-599-6483 to volunteer or for more information!)
- Check your cupboards and, if willing, donate any regular mouth pint jars to the Alternative Christmas Gifts Bazaar. Leave the jars in the box outside the church office or contact Emily Elder if you need pick up.
- *Come share the spirit of Christmas with your local and global neighbors!*



♥🌍 Please prayerfully consider joining to help make this event a success! This event runs off Stone Church energy (which is a renewable source of power every year)! Thank you in advance for signing up to volunteer your time and gifts! ♥🌍

— Free beverages, music and good fellowship for all!! —

Progress on Climate Change in DC: The Untold Story

Monday, October 29th, 7 -8 PM

Neff Lecture Hall, von Liebig Center for Science



Citizens' Climate Lobby

Last year, Stone Church endorsed a using a revenue-neutral fee on fossil carbon as a positive approach to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Yohn family, along with hundreds of other members of Citizens' Climate Lobby, have been using endorsements such as this to create political will for federal legislation. Has it done any good? Is there hope for changing policies in Washington DC? Dr. Danny Richter, Vice President of Government Affairs of the international non-profit Citizens' Climate Lobby, will give a behind the scenes look at the surprising and hopeful progress on climate change in DC. Please join us for an evening of information and hope!

This talk is sponsored by the Juniata Climate Advocates with support from the Stone Church Sustainability Circle. The Juniata Climate Advocates are both a student club and a chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby. The Juniata Climate Advocates are working with over 450 other chapters in the United States and around the world to build the political will for a livable future. If you are interested in learning more or getting involved (as a middle school, high school, or college student or a community member), contact Sharon Yohn at yohns@juniata.edu and check out www.citizensclimatelobby.org.

News From CAMP

Little Juniata River Canoe Float – October 6

Enjoy the serenity of the river, the beauty of autumn colors, and the fellowship of brothers and sisters while paddling down the Juniata River. Meet the Staff at Camp Blue Diamond at 10:00 a.m. to load up. The float will begin at Spruce Creek and end before 4:00 p.m. at Petersburg – about 7 miles. Cost is \$15, which includes lunch, canoe and gear, lifeguard, and transportation to and from the river. **Call Camp at 814-667-2355 to register by Sept. 28.**

Junior Retreat – October 26-27

3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are invited to this fall's Junior Retreat at Camp Blue Diamond. The retreat will start at 7 p.m. on Friday, and end at 7 p.m. on Saturday. Come and explore what Jesus meant when he spoke about giving us 'water' to drink that will forever quench our thirst. And enjoy all of your camp favorites like games, singing, a campfire, the giant swing, arts and crafts, and your camp friends and counselors. Cost is \$30 before Oct. 15 and \$35 after. **More info on the church bulletin board and at www.campbluediamond.org.**

Upcoming Events

Canoe Float	October 6
Junior Retreat	October 26-27
Youth Retreat for grades 9-12	January 9-11
Jr. High Retreat for grades 6-8	February 8-10

Have questions?

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

Congregational Forum



**November 11
8:45am start**

Join us for the unveiling of pledge commitments and confirmation of Team chair appointments.



AED (automated external defibrillator)

Now Available for Emergency Use

The church has purchased an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for use in the case of a heart related emergency within the building. The AED is a device that automatically analyzes the heart rhythm and, if it detects a problem that may respond to an electrical shock, it delivers a shock to restore a normal heart rhythm.

The good news is that the AED makes it simple for nearly anyone to use in an emergency by providing both verbal directions to the user as well as built-in safety protocols to prevent its use in situations that may not be appropriate for an AED.

The Stone Church AED is located in the office area just to the right of the elevator. A time to learn about the AED will be scheduled in the near future for those who would like to understand it better.

October Birthdays

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 4—Molly Biddle | 12—Quinera Bumgardner | 23—Henry Elder |
| 4—Harry Biddle | *13—Jean Prendergast (102) | 23—Barb Moyer |
| 4—Evan Peters | 15—Zeb Evans | 23—Chip Gibboney |
| 5—Melissa Trout | 16—Mark Quarry | 26—Kathryn Beck |
| 6—Marty Keeney | 17—Thomas Tuten | 27—Dante Fisher |
| 6—Dale McClure | 17—Jamie White | 27—Alberta Goshorn |
| 9—Myrna Landrum | 18—Janis Jones | 27—Sue Martin |
| 9—Maxwell Paterson | 19—Gavin Musser | 29—Thelma Wallace |
| 9—Yvonne Stein | 19—Peg Yoder | 30—Laurie McMinn |
| 12—Donna Rhodes | 20—Heather Fisher-Sneath | 30—Judy Pheasant |
| 12—Jim Tuten | 20—Maylin Musser | 31—Maggie Lashlee |
| 12—Joanne Laabs | 21—Karen Beck | |

October Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 6—Joanne & Rick Laabs | |
| 13—Roxann & Jon Yon | |
| 13—Karen & Garry Beck, Jr. | |
| 17—Sarah Worley & Ryan Wetzel | |
| | *20—Joyce & John Keiper (55) |
| | *21—Brenda & Monte Furry (40) |
| | 26—Lori Schoupe-Wright & John Wright |



Food Pantry Sunday—October 21st

We will ask the children to collect your items as they come for the young people gathering time. The October item of the month for the Huntingdon Food Pantry is PEANUT BUTTER, 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.

IN SEPTEMBER, the item was Toilet Paper and 116 rolls of TP, along with jars of Peanut Butter and 8 cans of veggies were donated during the third Sunday monthly offering to this local ministry; and \$125.00 in cash was donated toward Farmer's Market Bonus Bucks, which support fresh veggie and fruit purchases for families who receive SNAP.



Grocery Gift Cards— Every card helps our church! (We get 5% to use in our ministries!)

Purchase a Stone Church Grocery Gift Card on Sundays at the back of the sanctuary or in the church office – and Stone Church gets 5% of your grocery receipt total when you buy your everyday groceries!

Over the past years, proceeds from this fund have provided refreshments and decorations for 4 celebration events (including a donation to the Wildlife Society in the name of the Juniata College students doing clean-up after the Dowdy's Farewell event), 2 committee meeting lunches, updated photos for the photo wall, our new website, thank-you gifts for special guests, church signage, and special church repair projects. ...What a GREAT ministry!

October 2018

October 2018							November 2018						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6		4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	29	30	
28	29	30	31										

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sep 30	Oct 1	2	3	4	5	6
9:30am 10:30am Sunday School 10:45am 11:45am Worship 3:00pm 5:30pm Boy Scouts 4:00pm 5:00pm Cub Scout 4:30pm 7:00pm NYC Reuni 7:00pm 8:30pm Bell Rehear	5:00pm 7:00pm Discovery Team (Room 201) 7:00pm 8:30pm Witness Team (Room 201)	5:30pm 6:30pm J.C. Pasta Dinner (Fellowship Hall & Kitchen)	6:00pm 6:30pm Prayer Shawl (Room 201) 7:16pm 8:46pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	5:30pm 7:00pm B.B.B.S. (Fellowship Hall) 7:16pm 8:46pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	OFFICE CLOSED 5:30pm 7:00pm Culp Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	8:00am 3:30pm Wedding prep (Room 102) 3:30pm 5:00pm Culp Wedding (Sanctuary)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:30am 10:30am Sunday School 10:45am 11:45am Worship 3:00pm 5:30pm Boy Scouts 4:00pm 5:00pm Cub Scout 4:30pm 7:00pm NYC Reuni 7:00pm 8:30pm Bell Rehear	12:00pm 1:30pm Worship Team (Room 201) 7:00pm 8:00pm Habitat for Humanity	7:00pm 9:00pm Leadership Team (Room 201)	5:30pm 7:00pm B.B.B.S. (Fellowship Hall) 7:16pm 8:46pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	District Conference (Roaring Spring Church) OFFICE CLOSED		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:30am 10:30am Sunday School 10:45am 11:45am Worship Service 4:00pm 5:00pm Cub Scouts (3rd Floor) 7:00pm 8:30pm Bell Rehear	1:30pm 3:00pm Christian Ed. (Room 201) 3:45pm 5:15pm Gifts Discernment (Room 201) 7:00pm 9:30pm Beekeepers Meetings (R)	12:00pm 1:30pm Older Adult Luncheon (Room 102)	4:30pm 7:00pm Prison Fellowship (Room 102) 5:30pm 7:00pm B.B.B.S. (Fellowship Hall) 7:16pm 8:46pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	OFFICE CLOSED 3:00pm 5:00pm JC Japanese Dinner setup	OFFICE CLOSED 5:00pm 11:00pm JC Japanese Dinner (Fellowship Hall & Kitchen)	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Food Pantry, Sunday (Pear) 9:30am 10:30am Sunday Sc 10:45am 11:45am Worship 4:00pm 5:00pm Cub Scout 6:00pm 6:45pm Taize Servi 7:00pm 8:30pm Bell Rehear 7:00pm 8:00pm JC Contem	Pastors on vacation	Pastors on vacation	Pastors on vacation	5:30pm 7:00pm B.B.B.S. (Fellowship Hall) 7:00pm 9:00pm Community Soup Kitch 7:16pm 8:46pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	OFFICE CLOSED	8:00am 10:00am Men's Breakfast (Donna's Family Restaurant, 9048 William Penn Hwy # 6, Huntingdon, PA 16652, USA)
28	29	30	31	Nov 1	2	3
9:30am 10:30am Sunday Sc 10:45am 11:45am Worship 12:00pm 5:00pm ACG Tea 3:30pm 7:00pm Boy Scout 3:30pm 5:30pm Cub Scout 6:00pm 9:00pm JC History	Pastors on vacation	6:30pm 8:00pm Deacons (Room 102)	10:00am 10:30am Staff Meeting			

Sep 30 - Oct 6
Oct 7 - 13
Oct 14 - 20
Oct 21 - 27
Oct 28 - Nov 3

Stone Church of the Brethren
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BULK RATE
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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Or Current Occupant

STONE CHURCH NEWS

October 2018

Worship Series –September 23-November 18
The Life That You've Always Wanted



District Conference – October 12-13
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.
(Psalm 119:105)

Stewardship Sunday – October 21
We receive stewardship pledge cards and give thanks for our shared commitments to the work of Stone Church.