

STONE CHURCH NEWS

FEBRUARY 2018

We Welcome

Pastors Ben & Cindy – and Everett (4 yrs), and twins Cyrus and Ezra (2 yrs)

January 21st



Prayer Shawl
presentation,
and
Children's
Time



Installation Service

January 28, 2018 during worship
(Luncheon following worship)

Connie Maclay will represent Middle PA District to lead the service of installation.



Souper Bowl 2018

Sunday, February 4

following worship!

This year's Heritage Fair fundraiser will feature a scrumptious variety of homemade soups, homemade bread and jam, and desserts. Although there is no cost for the meal, your generous donations will support Middle PA District and the life-changing ministries of Camp Blue Diamond. Everyone is invited to share in this joyful time of fellowship. Many thanks to our volunteer chefs, crew, and donors for helping to make this event possible!

If you aren't able to partake, but wish to make a donation to Heritage Fair, you may do so through the Church Office. Checks should be payable to Stone Church of the Brethren with Souper Bowl in the memo line.

Join us for an Ash Wednesday Service!

On February 14 at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary we will mark the beginning of the season of Lent with an Ash Wednesday service. This service is being planned in cooperation with Juniata College Campus Ministry. It is a time to be reminded of God's faithfulness. We remember that we are made from dust - AND God loves us! That is good news!



If you have never started Lent this way, we encourage you to try it. It can be very powerful to reflect with the Psalmist:

As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.
For he knows how we were made;
he remembers that we are dust.

As for mortals, their days are like grass;
they flourish like a flower of the field;
for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.

But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting
on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.



Lent Worship Series: A God of Covenant

Over the course of the Lenten season, we will focus on scriptures from the Old Testament in our worship services; specifically scriptures that speak about covenant. A covenant is simply an agreement between two parties. The idea that the God of the universe chooses to enter into covenant relationship with us is in itself remarkable. As Walter Brueggemann describes, "The covenant that God makes with Israel is perhaps the central and defining theological affirmation of the Old Testament. The covenant is at the same time a theological idea, a liturgic practice, and a durable public institution in Israel." Covenant is relational - always. And so the God with whom

we covenant is relational. We will reflect on God's faithfulness in relationship, our faithfulness, and sometimes our unfaithfulness. The season of Lent is intended to prepare us for Easter – the day we celebrate God's faithfulness in the resurrection of Jesus. We hope that looking together at how God has acted will help us more fully reflect on how God continues to act in our lives.

The Business End of Stone Church

~Submitted by Brooke Meadows, Moderator~

It's never too late to choose love.

By the grace of God, today stands before us with arms wide open.

All we have to do is grasp it.

—Rachel Macy Stafford, *Only Love Today*

2018 brings new opportunities to make meaningful connections. Let's choose to make the most of them. In the meantime, here are a few highlights from both Leadership Team (1/10) and Congregational Forum (1/21):

- Leadership Team has affirmed Mary Garvey's call to ministry, and the Middle PA District has been contacted regarding the next step on her journey toward licensing. Mary is currently a fulltime student of Bethany Seminary.
- The installation service on Jan. 28 for Pastors Cindy and Ben Lattimer will be planned by district representative Connie Maclay. Lisa Hosler has graciously agreed to serve the meal afterward. Ben and Cindy shared with forum their gratitude for the warm welcome to Stone Church and for the thoughtfulness of prepared meals. They plan to do a lot of listening in the days ahead, as they seek to get to know everyone...
- The budget for 2018 was approved as recommended. It does not include a carryover line, as past budgets have. It does include a pledge to contribute \$3,000 (per year for the next five years) toward Camp Blue Diamond's capital campaign. Many thanks to the Finance Team members for singing and laughing their way to a balanced and thoughtful budget!
- While all this church business was in progress, the young people had a surprise visit from Ms. Holmes. A newcomer to the congregation, she led an exploration of welcoming details about our church. The group rode the lift downstairs and reported to forum the exciting discovery that the men's restroom has a changing table in it!



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...



One of the most frequently read series of books in our home is, “The Pout-Pout Fish” by Debra Diesen. One of the joys of reading these particular books is creating silly voices for each of the sea-creature characters. In “The Pout-Pout Fish Goes to School,” the Pout-Pout Fish shows up for his very first day of school and quickly becomes frustrated with himself for all the things he can’t do: writing his name, identifying shapes, and arithmetic. His teacher comforts him by saying, “You don’t have to know things you haven’t learned yet.” This bit of wisdom has been playing on repeat in my head as I have faced all sorts of new things to learn. I’ve never bought a home before, so of course I don’t know all about it. I have to learn. I have never lived in Huntingdon, PA before, so of course I don’t know where to get the best cup of coffee. I have to learn. Reminding myself that I don’t have to know everything helps me feel the excitement of learning, rather than the shame of ignorance. There is a lot to learn about Stone Church of the Brethren and its people because there is a lot we don’t know yet. Why do you choose this church? Where do you see God at work? What is working within the community – and what structures may need some repair work?

Stone Church has a lot to learn about its new pastors and our family too. What gifts have been added to the community? What are the gaps in gifts? Which kid is which? Here’s the grace for our journey: None of us have to know things that we haven’t learned yet.

We are excited about all we get to learn: from you, about you, with you!

Onward we go!

Pastors Ben and Cindy

Church Directory Updates:

Pastor Ben: pastorbenlattimer@gmail.com

Pastor Cindy: pastorcindylattimer@gmail.com



SUNDAY EVENINGS
FEBRUARY 18
MARCH 25
APRIL 15
MAY 6
6:00 PM
Stone Church Sanctuary

Taizé Worship



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

For those who enjoy quiet and meditative worship, Stone Church offers Taizé worship services. 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.

All are welcome!

**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, February 22nd** 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

In 2018 Stone Church is doing the Community Soup Kitchen on:

February 22

April 26

June 28

August 23

October 25

Contact Pam Grugan at 814-386-7435 or grugan2@gmail.com
to sign up for February 22nd, to learn more about this ministry,
or to volunteer your time or talents for future dates!



JUST 5 MINUTES!! By Sunday, March 4th!

Stone Church friends and members: Please complete the **annual Congregational Gifts Survey** without delay! It will take no more than five minutes!! Just enter the following link address:

<https://goo.gl/forms/QYA7IVYkZpvGvKyb2>

The survey allows you to indicate areas where you currently serve as well as those where you would consider serving (the survey is NOT legally binding!) should the need arise. This information is crucial for the Gifts Discernment Team as it seeks to identify willing hearts and hands to do the work of Stone Church. Hard copies of the survey are available in the back of the sanctuary for those who would prefer to complete it on paper and submit it to the church office.

Saturday 8 AM - February 10th Fellowship Hall



MEN'S BREAKFAST

The February Men's Breakfast will be held on February 10, 2017 at 8am in the backroom of **Donna's Restaurant**. If you haven't attended before, we encourage you to give it a try. We require no commitments, come once, come when it is convenient or become a regular attender, we welcome you anytime. There is engaging and enjoyable fellowship conversation, joke telling and a light reflection. And the food is great and reasonably priced. ...If you have questions call Rick Laabs (814-599-8762 or laabsra55@gmail.com).

Older Adult Luncheon

The Older Adult Lunch gathering will meet Tuesday, **February 20 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, invite them!! Reservations are requested in the church office (643-3390 or stonechurch@verizon.net) by the Monday before. ...**See you there!**



Worship Center Flower Sign-Up — Commemorate a loved one, special event or season with a floral arrangement or focal piece! Please sign-up on the easel board located in the back of the sanctuary. Most florists in town have a key to the church and will deliver flowers right to the Worship Center for you (some suggestions: Mowers Flowers, Weaver the Florist, Colonial Florist). Or make your own arrangement, bring in a beloved sculpture, piece of pottery, or anything that inspires you!

If you have any questions, contact the Worship Center

Committee member listed by the Sunday(s) of your choice.



COLLEGE OF WOOSTER CHORUS PERFORMS AT STONE CHURCH -

Wednesday, March 21st, 7:00pm!!!

Host families sought to house choir

members. If you are willing to host

one or more choir members, please

contact housing coordinator Betty

Ann Cherry (cherrye@juniata.edu

or 643-2226). Hosts will take students home after the concert, provide bed and breakfast service, and return them to the church on Thursday morning at

approximately 8:00 a.m. Please provide Betty Ann the following information: 1)

number of students you can host; 2) preferences regarding gender of students; 3)

your contact information – telephone and email address.



Christmas Eve worship

News From CAMP

Jr. High Retreat – February 23-25, 2018

All 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are invited for a great weekend at Camp with special guest Kate Gandy, co-pastor of Sprin Run COB, who will lead sessions around the theme of “Knowledge & Wisdom”. See your camp friends and counselors, and enjoy games, a campfire, crafts, music, good food, and sled

riding! Cost is \$60 if you register by Feb. 14, or \$65 after. **More info on bulletin board outside church office.**

Summer Camp 2018 – Beyond Belief! The Universe of God

Don't miss out on summer camp opportunities for children and youth ranging from 5 years-old to high school seniors, and families too! Regular registration is open through June 1, with *early bird savings* available before March 1. Families should check out the *Multiple Sibling* discount. Don't forget that Stone Church pays half of the registration fee for our children and youth. 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 at the back of the Sanctuary and/or in the Conference Room; online registration at www.campbluediamond.org.**

Date	Camp	Grade ('17-'18 Schoolyear)
June 2 - 3	Kiddie Weekend	Age 5, 6 or 7 + Parent
June 2 - 3	CIT Camp	Grades 9-11
June 14 - 15	Kiddie Camp	Age 5 & 6 + Parent
June 14 - 15	Tenderfoot Camp	Grades 1-2
June 17 - 22	Junior 1	Grades 3-5
June 17 - 22	Jr. High 1	Grades 6-8
June 24 - 29	Creative Arts	Grades 5-8
June 24 - 29	Yough Adventure	Grades 7-9
June 24 - 29	Jr. Adventure 1	Grades 4-5
July 1 - 4	Caving Camp	Grades 5-7
July 1 - 4	Pioneer Camp	Grades 2-4
July 8 - 13	Bike Adventure	Grades 7-12, Adults
July 8 - 14	Youth Camp	Grades 8-12
July 15 - 20	Junior 2	Grades 3-5
July 15 - 20	Advanced OLS	Grades 9-12
July 22 - 27	Jr. Adventure 2	Grades 4-5
July 22 - 27	OLS	Grades 6-8
July 22 - 27	Jr. High 2	Grades 6-8
August 17 - 19	Family Camp	All Ages

Upcoming Events

Jr. High Retreat for Grades 6-8
Heritage Fair 2018

February 23 – 25
September 22

Have questions?

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

MESSENGER MUSINGS



By Eugene R.
Goshorn

“MOSES SUPPOSES “

Like yours truly, Clark Gable, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and a celebrated groundhog, February is an important birth month for many of us. So important that I have been given leave by my wife to compose the MESSENGER MUSING for February. Normally, since I composed one for January, my Sweet Alberta would compose one for February.

And, since my wife is a finer writer and has been paid for poetry she composed years ago, I will offer some literary finery as follows:

“Moses supposes his toeses are roses, but Moses supposes erroneously. For Moses he knowses his toeses aren’t roses, as Moses supposes his toeses to be.” Thank you, Donald O’Connor.

“Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear. But Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair. Fuzzy Wuzzy wasn’t as fuzzy as a bear like Fuzzy ought to be.” (Ha! Ha! I changed it! You could say I took poetic license with Fuzzy. After all, it has been cold outside. And poor Fuzzy has been suffering, as you would be too. And this is a Christian publication, after all.)

As some of you may know, my wife is a bright light in my firmament. She will tell you as much herself, even as modest and shy as she is. When I married Alberta so long ago (I think it was in 2008), she had five lovely cats, the last of a litter born to Mary Joseph behind Alberta’s house on 16th Street in Huntingdon . (When Mary Joseph moved in, Alberta identified her as “Joseph.” That name had to be revised soon after “Joseph’s arrival. When Alberta agreed to marry me, I had to also agree to take in all five of her children. A ceramic on our kitchen window sill reads “A bird is a bird, a dog is a dog, and a cat is a person.” You can see where that leaves me.

When I think of our cats, I think often of Martha, our Calico. When Martha manages to make eye contact with me, she immediately begins crying for something to eat, no matter the time of day or night. We’re negotiating a contract with Allied Vanlines to carry Martha’s belly. We can laugh at Martha, but world hunger is not a laughing matter. The leaflet of Daily Prayers for an End to Hunger states that “one in five children in the United States lives in a family that struggles to get enough to eat.” Hard to believe, isn’t it?

The Messenger publishes articles that tell of the needy in our world; and stories of how we are partnering with individuals and organizations to address these and other concerns. See Debbie in the Stone Church office if you don’t already subscribe.

Grocery Gift Cards

THE SEVEN YEAR ITCH? In 2010, Tan Hille, Martha Swigart, Cheryl Ritchey and Barb Purdy met at Martha's home to discuss the Grocery Gift Card program. They decided to take on this ministry and presented it to the congregation. Over the past 7 years they have seen a decline in participation, and they share the numbers listed below with you, so you know what can be, and has been accomplished.

These numbers represent the 5% we earn for every dollar spent at the register!

<u>Year</u>	<u>Weis</u>	<u>Giant</u>
2010	\$ 1275	\$ 1158
2011	\$ 1625	\$ 1425
2012	\$ 1850	\$ 1500
2013	\$ 2350	\$ 1500
2014	\$ 2685	\$ 1450
2015	\$ 2000	\$ 950
2016	\$ 2500	\$ 850
2017	\$ 2005	\$ 800



Totals: Weis \$16,290.00 & Giant \$7633.75. (**Total earned since 2010 is \$23,923.75!!**)

We have some very loyal gift card buyers but need the help of the congregation to keep the Grocery Gift Card Program alive. These funds are used for special events and needs, such as building signage, picnic tickets to support the town's 250th, Celebration Sundays, thank you gifts, Dale and Christy's farewell party, Anna Lisa's farewell party, and the new sanctuary doors.

LET'S RENEW OUR COMMITMENT TO THIS MINISTRY. Please consider starting the New Year by purchasing cards to use for your everyday shopping, or as gifts to others! They are available each Sunday at the back of the sanctuary, or from the church office during the week.

— Every card helps our church!

February Birthdays

3—Doris Comerford	14—Edward Biddle	18—Phil Paterson
4—Tara Biddle	14—Meta Meckstroth	19—Donna Evans
7—Anne Rice	14—Karen Morgan	21—Norm Navarro
7—Cheryl Ritchey	15—Monte Furry	21—Daniel Santos
7—Greg Stein	15—Laura White	23—Grace Braxton
7—Cheryl Ritchey	16—Sylvia McDowell	27—Gene Goshorn
7—Joanne Thurston-Griswold	17—Sophie Fisher-Sneath	28—Norman Siems
8—Robert Oldring	17—John Wright	28—William Meloy

February Anniversaries

3—Bill & Lori Fagan	14—Ed Biddle & Amber Port	19—Ron & Barbara Detwiler
4—Bob & Virginia Biber		



Food Pantry Sunday—February 18

We will ask the children to collect your items as they come for the Young People's time. The February item for the Huntingdon Food Pantry is **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. **IN January**, the item was Mac &

Cheese and a wagonload of Mac & Cheese, other items, and \$213.00 in cash were donated to this local ministry!!

February 2018

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan 28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3
				5:30pm B.B.B.S. (3rd Floor) 6:00pm Town Hall/Jodun (Fellowship Hall) 7:16pm Choir Rehearsal	6:00pm BSA Soup set-up (FH, Kitchen)	8:00am BSA Soup Day (Kitchen, FH)
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Boy Scout Sunday 10:45am Worship Service/Scout Sunday 12:00pm Souper Bowl Lunc 4:00pm Boy Scouts 4:00pm Cub Scouts (3rd flo	6:00pm Kindermusik (Rm 203)			5:30pm B.B.B.S. (Fellowship Hall) 6:30pm Democratic Committee (Room 102/F 6:30pm Finance Team (McMinn's) 7:16pm Choir Rehearsal		8:00am Men's Breakfast (Donna's Restuarant)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 1:00pm Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby (Fellowship Hall)	5:00pm CBD meeting (Room 102) 6:00pm Kindermusik (Rm 203) 6:00pm Prayer Shawl (Rm 201) 7:00pm SURJ (Fellowship H	11:45am Worship Team (Room 201)	Ash Wednesday 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary) 7:00pm Leadership Team (Room 201)	5:30pm B.B.B.S. (3rd Floor) 7:16pm Choir Rehearsal	Newsletter Deadline	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 3:00pm Cub Scout (3rd Floor) 4:00pm Boy Scouts 6:00pm Taize (Sanctuary)	6:00pm Kindermusik (Rm 203) 7:00pm Bee Keepers Assn (Rm 201)	12:00pm Older Adult Luncheon (Room 102)		5:30pm B.B.B.S. (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm Soup Kitchen (HPC) 7:16pm Choir Rehearsal		
25	26	27	28	Mar 1	2	3
9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 3:30pm BSA Court of Honor (FH) 4:00pm Boy Scouts 4:00pm Cub Scouts (3rd floor)	6:00pm Kindermusik (Rm 203)			Mar 1		

Jan 28 - Feb 3

Feb 4 - 10

Feb 11 - 17

Feb 18 - 24

Feb 25 - Mar 3

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

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Or Current Occupant

STONE CHURCH NEWS

February 2018



Souper Bowl 2018
Sunday, February 4



Ash Wednesday Service
February 14 at 6:30pm



Have you
completed
the Gifts
Survey?!