

# STONE CHURCH NEWS

DECEMBER 2019



Let's be honest for a minute. Christmas can be hard. Don't

## From the Pastor's Desk

get me wrong! It's wonderful and it's magical. The trees and the lights. Christmas cookies, Christmas music, Christmas presents. It's amazing. But it can take a lot of work to make all that magic and wonder a reality. Garrison

Keillor in his *News from Lake Wobegon* used to tell about the Christmas routine of Pastor Ingqvist's wife Judy. Each year at Christmastime, Judy would go around visiting, checking in with the women of the church one by one - and offering *absolution*. She would go around offering grace - as the realities of their lives meant they could never quite live up to the towering memories of Christmas from their childhood. Working jobs, caring for their own children - or for their own parents... Judy would go around each year letting them know that it was OK - it was enough.

Because *it is* enough. *Christ is born*. The light is shining in the darkness! It's so easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of *creating* the moment, that we can find ourselves *missing* the moment altogether. Children help me to see it. Do you remember the pure unadulterated joy of the Christmas season when you were a child?

Seeing Christmas through their eyes - at home and together as a church family. The wonder of the sanctuary transformed with greens and lights. Singing those beloved carols together in church and out in the community, bringing love and good cheer into the homes of folks who aren't able to get out as easily anymore. The Christmas pageant with little ones dressed up as sheep and shepherds and angels proclaiming good tidings of great joy for all the people. And Christmas Eve - when the magic of this season of anticipation and hope reaches its climax, as we sing songs and raise candles into the night...

This Christmas season our theme is ***Rise Up, Shepherd!*** It's the name of an old African-American spiritual. Luke Powery, in his book of the same name, connects these liberation songs - these cries for deliverance - into the Christmas story. The story of a child of hope who would one day set us all free. We'll follow these songs as we live the story together this Christmas.

If you're looking for ways to step back from the busy-ness, to refocus as you start your days, Mary Garvey will be offering **Morning Advent Meditations** here at the church throughout the season. Join us for the **Christmas Pageant** on the 15th, and for **Caroling** on the 22nd. Maybe 2019 has been a hard year all the way around. Maybe this Christmas season reminds you of the struggle and loss. Join us for the **Longest Night Service** on the evening of the 15th, as we seek the light that shines in the darkness together. And we will gather together with song and candlelight on **Christmas Eve** to celebrate the magic and the wonder of it all.

It is enough. It is *more* than enough. *Christ is born*. You are set free. The world is changed forever. Light shines in the darkness.

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> — A Time of Advent Centering, at 8:10am on Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays**



As the hectic holiday season unfolds, we invite you to a time of quiet reflection in the mornings. Beginning December 2 and continuing until December 18, we will gather at 8:10 a.m. Monday through Wednesday in the sanctuary to listen to music and readings, followed by moments of silence and finishing with prayer to begin our days. We will finish by 8:30 a.m. each morning, in time to go forth with a renewed sense of joyful expectation. Please join us as you are able!

**Sunday, the 15<sup>th</sup> — Longest Night Service, at 6pm**



The Holiday Season is certainly one of hope and joy - but for many it can also be a time of sadness, pain, and loneliness. Many of us miss loved ones, have worries about the future, experience painful conflict in our families, or simply develop the winter blues. Sometimes we are left searching for healing and wholeness in the midst of parties and presents. A *Longest Night Christmas Service* is a time of worship aimed at creating that space to acknowledge that there is often darkness and hurt at this time of year, mixed in with the hope and joy. It is a time where we recognize that we need God to come among us - we need God to *be* Emmanuel, God with us - in our fear, loneliness and pain, as well as in our celebration. On **Sunday, December 15 - at 6pm** we will gather in the Sanctuary as a community of faith for a *Longest Night Service*. All are welcome. The service will be simple in format, allowing for prayer, reflection, and singing. We will gather in the evening darkness, trusting that with the advent of Emmanuel, light can truly shine into all of our lives.

**Sunday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> — Christmas Caroling, at 3pm**



At **3pm** we meet at the church to split into groups and head out into the community to spread Christmas cheer, bringing Christmas carols and cookies to members of our church family who don't get out much. Afterwards, at **5pm**, we return to the church to share stories, and warm up with soup and cookies!

**Tuesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> — Christmas Eve Service, at 7pm**



We invite you to join us Christmas Eve as we celebrate together - with story, song, and candlelight - the birth of Emmanuel, God with us! We hope that your entire family can be a part of this holy and beautiful time. We will begin at 7pm in the Sanctuary.



**2019 Middle Pennsylvania  
District Conference  
October 12  
New Enterprise Church of the Brethren**

**2019 Delegates:**

**Marty Keeney  
Jeannie Lashlee  
Carolyn Lidston**

Once a year, representatives from churches of the Middle PA District gather for District Conference. It is an opportunity to hear about the church of the Brethren as a whole and about ministries supported by Middle District. Delegates vote to approve submitted reports detailing the work of those ministries and to affirm the nomination of various officers.

This year it was a one-day-only conference held on October 12<sup>th</sup> at the New Enterprise Church of the Brethren. According to delegate Carolyn Lidston, the new one day format worked surprising well! In part because advance materials were provided so delegates were able to read up on voting issues; and in part because Moderator Deb Gary, along with Moderator-Designate Rock Manges, set a steady and fairly quick pace. Our own Pastors Ben and Cindy offered a powerful and engaging sermon focused on the scripture "One day Jesus was praying. When He finished, one of His disciples said to Him, 'Lord, teach us to pray...'" Luke 11:1 (NIV).

New Enterprise Church members filled the space with seasonal decorations and went all out to make us feel welcomed. The day was rich with fellowship and inspirational reports of how God is working in Middle Pennsylvania and beyond. Reports were given by our District Executive Minister David Banaszak, and at least one delegate was a little fearful of what the reports would bring based on discussions from Annual Conference. But David encouraged members of the district, because of our ability to get along with others and accept the viewpoints of others despite the desire of some to split from the church. Such an outlook allows us to work together on our common concerns: our ministry as followers of Jesus here at home and elsewhere in the world. David went on to highlight various ministries in Middle PA by portraying a treasure hunter during an amusing skit. Those present heard from The Coordinating Team, Standing Committee, Ministers' Calling & Credentialing Team, Ministers' Education & Support Team, Ministry Formation, Shalom Team, Women's Programs, Youth Ministry, Disaster Response, Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center, Chaplain in the Park Ministry, Centre Peace and Trucker Traveler Ministries.

Our own Loren Rhodes gave a report in his role as a member of Standing Committee for Annual Conference. We are fortunate to have his thoughtful presence in that group which has a tremendous amount of influence on the decision making of our denomination as a whole. Loren shared the important concern that it has become increasingly challenging to find individuals in the denomination to serve in leadership roles at the denominational level. He encouraged us to take a moment during his report to think about volunteering or suggesting people to fill such roles. Anyone can do that by contacting him or the district office. I encourage all of the Stone Church folks to consider this very seriously as well. Nominations are being sought for Moderator-elect (3 year term), Program and Arrangements Committee (3 year term), Mission and Ministry Board (5 year term and Middle PA District has not had a representative since 2015). There are other positions as well, which can be found at <http://www.brethren.org/ac/nominations/> This web page is in fact where you can place those



nominations yourself. We have a wonderful collection of capable people here at Stone, so I am hopeful that you will take this opportunity quite seriously.

Additionally, the 2019 Camp Blue Diamond Annual Meeting was held as part of District Conference during which attendees heard about the success of Camp's Capital Campaign. Donna Rhodes' report of SVMC was especially well written and informative! She invited those who have participated in SVMC's program to stand—making visible the wide reaching impact it has had in training ministers throughout our district.

It is useful for all of us to be aware that there is a movement with some traction in the Church of the Brethren (especially in neighboring districts) for some churches to separate from the denomination. It has become more than just a possibility. We learned about this in part of the District Executive report from David Banaszak. The exact form that this would take, how it would affect denominational structure and congregations, and when such a thing might occur are not clear. The claim by these churches is that this is over a difference surrounding questions of "Biblical authority." The movement has crystallized around differences of opinion concerning the role and acceptance of LGBTQ individuals in the church. At the same time, while this challenge may be threatening to tear the denomination apart, David was actually quite encouraged about how our district remains unified and functional despite significant differences of opinion from congregation to congregation and person to person. Indeed he was grateful and encouraged that our district stays together on more central issues of following the example of Jesus. It is good for all of us to be prayerfully mindful of this challenge that is weighing heavily upon our denomination.

Generosity and compassion was shown by all those present. Our District Conference Offering Emphasis was to collect money to purchase a **SARA-Flex Lift** for the Village at Morrison's Cove. Our offering total was \$2,920.00, and Middle PA District paid the balance of the cost. This device will greatly benefit patients and staff alike.

In addition, Stone Church presented the change members had been donating for **Pennies for Witness**, an offering emphasis on our outreach ministries: Trucker Traveler, CentrePeace, Prince Gallitzin Park Ministry, Small Church Fund, Outreach Ministry Matching Grants, Global Outreach. This year we collected \$112 to donate to this cause.

This report offers only a glimpse of this informative, social, and spiritual gathering and we encourage each of you to be a part of next year's District Conference. Gathering together is one way to maintain the spirit of goodwill and connection. To paraphrase a favorite hymn, *let's continue to be strangers no more but part of one big family* here in Middle PA!



**Stone Church of the Brethren**  
**Alternative Christmas Gift Bazaar**  
**Saturday, December 7th, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**



***GIVE A GIFT THAT HAS A LOCAL AND GLOBAL IMPACT.***

As this community of faith joins together for the Alternative Christmas Gift Bazaar, we welcome your participation and encourage all to be involved with this great December day!

**We will again have nativity stable animals during the bazaar!**

**A new extension of the bazaar: Stone Church will be hosting  
a *BLOOD DRIVE* at the church on Friday, Dec. 13**



## Miguel Angel Asturias Academy | A Fair Start

November 19, 2019

As our faithful friends and partners at the Asturias Academy are completing their 24<sup>th</sup> year of providing an empowering education to their students, I write to thank you for your ongoing support of the school and to ask that you make as generous a financial contribution as you can so they can continue to offer their students the gift of a transformative education in the coming year. Several obstacles surfaced during the 2019 school year, but our partners always persevere and with limited resources achieve amazing results, summarized briefly below:

- 216 students enrolled this year, with a nearly equal gender distribution (52% male and 48% female), and all students successfully completed their grade, with the exception of six elementary students who were withdrawn from school by their families and taken illegally to the U.S. as part of the mass migration movement earlier this year
- 161 of the students received half scholarships and 55 were awarded full scholarships, making it possible for them to study at the school
- All students received computer software training in the school's two computer labs
- Four after-school clubs were created to provide support for a total of 100 students in the areas of math, science, art, music, and chess
- The school's medical and dental clinics, staffed by daughters Laura and Paty Chojolán, treated 120 and 150 patients respectively over the school year, including both students and their family members
- The school was able to enlist the support of a parent who is a psychologist at the end of the school year, who conducted interviews with 37 incoming new students to determine their capacities and needs as they start their studies at the Asturias Academy in January

Nearly 90% of our partner school's students come from low-income families, and without scholarship assistance, they would be unable to experience the life-changing education offered at the school. Tuition payments make up less than half of the \$120,000 annual operating budget that covers all the operating expenses of a pre-K through grade 11 education for over 200 students. That is only about \$50 a month to pay all the educational expenses for each student at the school!

In order to continue empowering Guatemalan youth to break the cycle of poverty and to build a more just and inclusive society, the Asturias Academy needs our support. As you consider year-end charitable contributions, remember that your monetary gift will have an extraordinary impact at the school. How many organizations can say that virtually 100% of donations go directly to program expenses? For only \$50 per month, under \$2 a day, you can provide a deserving child a full scholarship that covers tuition, all necessary school supplies, and a school uniform. A half scholarship costs less than \$1 per day, but any amount you can contribute will go a long way to help our partners accomplish their worthy mission.

The Guatemala Circle will once again participate in Stone Church's Alternative Christmas Gifts Bazaar on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. We will have a table there for alternative gift shoppers who wish to purchase scholarship gift cards to give a loved one for Christmas or to provide financial support for other needs at the school.



## Miguel Angel Asturias Academy | A Fair Start

Included below is the necessary information if you would prefer to mail your contribution, or Huntingdon residents can drop off the completed form with your check at the Stone Church office or bring it to the Alternative Christmas Gifts Bazaar. The school's priorities for the coming year continue to be student scholarships, funds to build an endowment and improve teachers' salaries, and undesignated funds to meet general operating expenses and occasional unexpected, urgent needs.

On behalf of our friends at the Asturias Academy, *un millón de gracias* for any support you can offer to make possible the transformative and empowering gift of education for Guatemalan children and youth.

Best wishes for a joyous holiday season,

Henry Thurston-Griswold  
Coordinator, Stone Church of the Brethren Guatemala Circle

P.S. Remember that **100%** of your tax-deductible contribution goes directly to the Asturias Academy.

Donor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \_\_\_\_\_ Full Academy Scholarship (\$600)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Half Academy Scholarship (\$300),  
\_\_\_\_\_ Endowment (\$\_\_\_\_/mth)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Teachers' Compensation (\$\_\_\_\_/mth)  
\_\_\_\_\_ General Operating Budget (\$\_\_\_\_/mth)  
\_\_\_\_\_ New Technical Institute Startup Expenses  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other (please indicate the purpose for which you wish to designate your gift:  
\_\_\_\_\_)

Payment Plan: \_\_\_\_\_ monthly \_\_\_\_\_ quarterly \_\_\_\_\_ semi-annually \_\_\_\_\_ annually

**\*\*Please mail completed form to Stone Church of the Brethren, 1623 Moore St. Huntingdon, PA 16652**  
Checks should be made payable to Stone Church of the Brethren,  
with Guatemala Partnership on the memo line.

For additional information, contact Henry Thurston-Griswold (thurston@juniata.edu).



## **Summer Camp 2020**

It's never too early to start dreaming about summer camp! The 2020 Camp Blue Diamond summer schedule has been published. In case you're looking to make vacation plans or decide in advance which camp will fit into your schedule best, take a look and think happy CBD thoughts. <>

*More info on the church bulletin board and at [www.campbluediamond.org](http://www.campbluediamond.org).*

## **Hiring Summer Staff--Apply Now!**

Might you or someone you know be interested in joining the summer staff? Camp is hiring counselors, lifeguard, ropes/tower director, naturalist, crafts director, and maintenance workers. Program Staff must be at least 18 yrs. Old, and maintenance workers must be at least 16. Staff members must be committed Christians, enjoy children and youth, and live in harmony with others. Besides being fun, being on camp staff is a great learning experience too. Staff members grow in faith as well as leadership and communication skills. For those interested in teaching, ministry, social work or just being a parent, it's terrific on the job training! Pay is based on experience and ranges from \$200-\$250/week + room and board. Applications for 2020 summer positions are now available at [www.campbluediamond.org](http://www.campbluediamond.org).

## **District Youth Retreat – Growing Together in Faithfulness**

Kick off the year right by coming to the Youth Retreat, **January 10-12!** Join Camp and the Middle PA District as we welcome David Fehr. David has been on staff at CBD and graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary. Together we will look at the parable of the mustard seed and other scriptures, exploring how we can grow the Kingdom of God in ourselves and each other. Don't miss this awesome weekend full of your camp favorites: friends, games, singing, worship, group building activities, sledding/tubing and more. All youth in grades 9-12 are invited. Cost is \$70 (\$80 after Jan. 1). To register, complete a registration form or register online at [www.campbluediamond.org](http://www.campbluediamond.org).

## **Jr. High Retreat – Serve One Another**

Enjoy a weekend at CBD with your friends and favorite summer camp counselors, **February 7-9.** Together we will look at the many forms of service we can do for one another, and we'll explore the Brethren's long history of service, including BVS. Don't miss this awesome weekend full of your camp favorites: friends, games, singing, worship, group building activities, sledding/tubing and much more! All youth in grades 6-8 are invited. Cost is \$60 (\$65 after Feb. 1). To register, complete a registration form or register online at [www.campbluediamond.org](http://www.campbluediamond.org).

## **Upcoming Events**

Youth Retreat for grades 9-12	January 10-12
Jr. High Retreat for grades 6-8	February 7-9
Junior Retreat for grades 3-5	March 6-7
Annual Dinners	March 27-28
Spring Work Day	April 4
Quilt & Craft Camp	April 17-19
Father/Son Retreat	May 1-2

## **Have questions?**

Contact your Camp Representative, David Meadows, at 814-599-6017 or [meadowd@juniata.edu](mailto:meadowd@juniata.edu).





## 2019 Buck Season Wrap-Up

The Farmers' Market Bucks program, launched in 2010, had another successful year in 2019. Now under the auspices of the Huntingdon County Local Food Association, the Market Bucks program is a collaboration among Stone Church, the Huntingdon Area Forum of Churches, the Farmers' Market and a number of area community-service agencies. It involves locally-issued "market bucks" purchased for one's personal use at the market, for gift-giving, or for donating on behalf of low-income members of our community. Its purposes include encouraging us all to eat more fresh, locally-grown food; supporting local, environmentally-responsible farmers and our region's economy; and increasing access to the market for folks who otherwise couldn't afford to shop there. Donated Market Bucks (or "Bonus Bucks") are distributed to recipients of SNAP benefits (Food Stamps) when they shop at the market; they receive \$1 in Bonus Bucks for every \$2 of SNAP money they spend, extending their purchasing power.



### Noteworthy in 2019:

- The Bonus Bucks matching program was extended to include senior citizens and mothers of young children using Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) produce vouchers; for each \$5 voucher used, customers received \$3 in Bonus Bucks.
- 5% of the value of all Market Bucks sold was donated to PRIDE. PRIDE used these proceeds to purchase \$235-worth of Market Bucks for distribution to its elderly clients.
- 51 SNAP recipients patronized the market, 34 of whom were new SNAP customers.
- A vegetable encyclopedia with information on using 36 different kinds of produce was distributed free-of-charge to SNAP and FMNP customers at the market. Thanks to Stone Church for helping to sponsor the printing of this guide!
- The market hosted monthly cooking demonstrations by local chefs – with free samples!

**Market Bucks for the 2020 season will be available for purchase in the spring.** Details will follow in later newsletters. To all who participated in the Market Bucks / Bonus Bucks project this past season, many thanks on behalf of all of the partner organizations. Special thanks to Kim Roth, for helping out with sales, card-processing, and Bonus Bucks distribution. We welcome your feedback and/or your offers of assistance as we plan for 2020. (Contact Laura White: [laura.jamie@gmail.com](mailto:laura.jamie@gmail.com), 814-251-4363)

	2019 season	2010-19
Market Bucks purchased	\$ 4,455.00	\$ 36,144.00
Market Bucks donated to PRIDE	\$ 235.00	\$ 1,507.00
Bonus Bucks donated	\$ 1,674.00	\$ 11,937.25
Bonus Bucks distributed	\$ 1,628.00	\$ 11,403.00
Bonus Bucks redeemed	\$ 1,375.00	\$ 9,805.00
# households using SNAP benefits	51 (34 new)	349
Value of SNAP benefits used	\$ 1,476.45	\$ 17,372.59





## *Gene's Jottings*

### *"COLORING CHRISTMAS"*



Santa Claus—that supreme symbol of Christmas gift-giving, that jolly, round, bearded fellow bright in red and white – was inspired in large part by Clement Moore's 1822 poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas."

In 1931, to build winter sales, the Coca-Cola Company hired a talented commercial illustrator, Haddon Sundblom, who created the portly Cola-shaped Santa we know today under the Coke slogan "The Pause that Refreshes."

I'm writing these words this December to tell the story of why RED and GREEN today are the worldwide colors for our Christian celebration of CHRISTMAS.

Back in the 1300s, Adam and Eve's Day was celebrated on Christmas Eve. Churches presented a lot of plays because most people were illiterate. These religious plays were called the "Paradise Play" and portrayed what happened in the Garden of Eden. No apple trees were available in the winter, so apples were tied to a pine tree and it served as the tree that bore the forbidden fruit. This pine tree with the red apples eventually became a tradition in all churches.

Another explanation is that green symbolizes the hope Jesus gave us through his sacrifice and is the color of evergreens which stay alive all year. Red symbolizes the blood of Christ -- shed by Jesus so that people could be saved; and when combined with Green expresses the hope of our redemption through Christ's Sacrifice.

— Gene Goshorn —

## **A pageant is coming...**

### ***'Making Room'***



On Dec 15th, during the worship service, Stone's pageant – through scripture, tradition, and music – will ask all of us to make room for Jesus in our hearts during this coming advent season of hope and love. **... Join us!**

## **December Birthdays**

5—Mario Grugan  
6—Bill Martin  
8—Virginia Biber  
9—Zilla Wagner \*80!  
9—Dennis Plane  
9—Shepherd Miller  
11—Alex Gibboney  
14—Tyler Hall  
14—Rick Laabs

15—Terry Murray  
17—Jerriann Heiser Wenger  
17—Geoff Clarke  
17—Jeff Cloz  
18—Emily Elder  
18—Joanna White  
18—Max Hosler  
19—Martin Berger

20—Meredith Widman  
21—Aislin Wright  
22—Terri Krabill  
24—Brenda Quarry  
24—Sally Stewart  
26—Nora Roth  
28—Olivia Grugan  
30—Cora Dickey

## **December Anniversaries**

3—Barb & Max Moyer  
6—Betty & David Quarry

31—Tinka & Henrik Berger



## **Food Pantry for December**

We will ask the children to collect your items as they come forward for our young peoples' time on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. The December item for the Huntingdon Food Pantry is **SOUP**, 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 NOVEMBER**, the item was Hand Soap and 62 bars and 21 bottles of soap, along with 2 boxes pasta, 1 box of crackers, 1 can of vegetables, 2 jars of jelly, and \$233 in cash were donated to this local ministry during the third Sunday monthly offering!!



## **Grocery Gift Cards— Every card helps our church!**

*Is a grocery gift card a possible gift idea for someone on your list?*

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

**Use them for your holiday grocery shopping  
or as gifts!!**

# We Remember.....



## **Howard Hayes Crouch**

June 24, 1924 – November 3, 2019

### **Remembering Howard**

Howard Hayes Crouch, 95, was a resident of Huntingdon for more than 50 years. He was born in Warren, OH and married Hazel E. Black on June 15, 1947, in Columbus, OH. Hazel preceded him in death on March 8, 2017, after nearly 70 years of marriage. He is survived by his children, Marc, Eric and Marsha; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren. Dr. Crouch participated in local choral groups and in productions at the McConnellstown Playhouse.

He served stateside in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the Korean War and was employed for 12 years as a public school teacher and administrator and then served as a professor at Juniata College, Huntingdon, for 28 years until his retirement in 1989. Dr. Crouch will be best remembered for his support of and participation in the performing arts in each community in which he resided; as well as his staunch support and advocacy for public education.

### **A Tribute to Howard**      - Richard Landrum

Howard came into my church office and asked for an appointment. He introduced himself, saying that I *had been recommended* by other college faculty. I welcomed Howard, and after a few introductory words he began to share his life story and his feelings. Our conversations continued for weeks. He began feeling better and joined the Stone Church with his wife Hazel. It is especially meaningful to have baptized Howard and received Hazel into membership with the Stone Church of the Brethren. Howard faithfully loved and helped care for his dear wife until her death in 2017.

They lived a few years in Florida, but returned to their home in Huntingdon for several good years. After Hazel's death and Howard's failing health he moved to Arista Care. He continued to minister to people around him, both residents and staff as well as to me personally. I grieve and miss my dear friend and peer in ministry as I compose these words, which cannot do justice to my admiration and love for Howard Crouch. I miss you Howard!

*A memorial service will be held at Stone Church on Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 10am.*



## "With us in spirit..."



This is a list of those members of our church family who, though not often physically able to join us in worship, remain with us in spirit. Remember them in your prayers. Cards and visits are always appreciated. Contact the church office (814-643-3390 or [stonechurch@verizon.net](mailto:stonechurch@verizon.net)) to add others you know.

DeLois Fluke  
11325 Raystown Rd.  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Jean Prendergast  
930 Mifflin St.  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

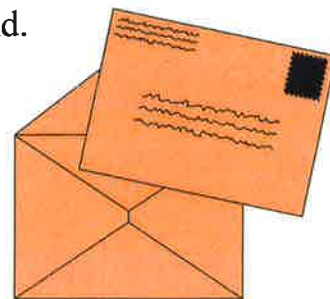
Thelma Wallace  
5754 Wallace Dr.  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Gene Goshorn  
14155 Hill Valley Rd.  
Mt. Union PA 17066

Lydia Price  
c/o Charla and Greg Chiapelli  
597 Sechler Rd.  
Somerset, Pa 15501

Joyce Keiper  
Rest Assured Living Center  
1137 Shirleys Hollow Rd.  
Meyersdale, PA 15552

John Keiper  
Pennknoll Village  
208 Pennknoll Rd.  
Everett, PA 15537



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

If you have an address, phone, or email change, or a new individual or family photo you'd like to use, be sure to notify the church office **by January 15** so they are included in the 2020 directories! You can send updates to the church office, write them on the weekly Sunday attendance pad, or write them in the large directory binder at the back of the sanctuary.





# December 2019

December 2019

January 2020

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Dec 1</b> Advent begins 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 4:00pm Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall) 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	<b>2</b> Youth Pretzel baking 8:10am Advent Centering (Sanctuary)	<b>3</b> 8:10am Advent Centering (Sanctuary) 12:00pm Worship Team (Room 201) 7:00pm Witness Team (Room 201)	<b>4</b> 8:10am Advent Centering (Sanctuary) 10:00am Crouch Memorial Service (Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall) 10:00am Staff Meeting	<b>5</b> 8:45am Christian Ed. (Room 201) 5:00pm ACGB Setup (Downstairs) 5:30pm B.B.S. (Fellowship 6:00pm Prayer Shawl Minis 7:16pm Choir Rehearsal (S	<b>6</b> ACGB Setup OFFICE CLOSED	<b>7</b> 9:00am Alternative Christmas Gifts Bazaar (Basement)
<b>8</b> 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service w/Handbells 2:00pm Westminster Woods Service (Westmi 4:00pm Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall)	<b>9</b> 8:10am Advent Centering (Sanctuary) 9:00am JC Honors Recital Rehearsals (Sanctuary) 9:00am Cookie baking (Kitc 1:30pm JC performance se 7:30pm Dress Rehearsal (F	<b>10</b> 8:10am Advent Centering (Sanctuary) 9:00am JC Honors Recital Rehearsals (Sanctuary) 5:30pm Habitat for Humanity 7:30pm JC "A Christmas C	<b>11</b> 8:10am Advent Centering (Sanctuary) 1:30pm JC performance cleanup (Fellowship Hal 4:00pm JC Honors Recital (H 6:00pm Deacon Dessert (R 7:00pm Leadership Team (	<b>12</b> 8:00am JC Facilities Holiday Party (Fellowship Hall & Kitch 5:30pm B.B.S. (Fellowship Hall) 7:16pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	<b>13</b> OFFICE CLOSED 12:00pm Blood Drive!	<b>14</b> Youth Lock-in -tentative
<b>15</b> Food Pantry Sunday (Sou 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service w/Pageant 4:00pm Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm Longest Night Serv	<b>16</b> Newsletter Deadline 8:10am Advent Centering (Sanctuary)	<b>17</b> 8:10am Advent Centering (Sanctuary) 12:00pm Older Adult Luncheon (Room 102)	<b>18</b> 8:10am Advent Centering (Sanctuary) 7:00pm Finance Team (Room 201)	<b>19</b> 7:16pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	<b>20</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>21</b> 8:00am Men's Monthly Breakfast (Donna's Family Restaurant, 9048 William Penn Hwy # 6, Huntingdon, PA 16652, USA)
<b>22</b> 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 3:00pm Caroling! 4:00pm Cub Scouts 5:00pm Caroling meal (Fellowship Hall & Kitchen)	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7:00pm Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)	<b>25</b> OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Property Team	<b>26</b> 7:16pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	<b>27</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10:45am Worship Service 4:00pm Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall)	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Jan 1, 20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

**Stone Church of the Brethren**  
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# STONE CHURCH NEWS

**December 2019**



**Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 9am~2pm —Alternative Christmas Gift Bazaar**

- Gifts with a local and global impact
- Tea, coffee and cocoa all day, free and fair trade!
- Homemade soup and bread

**Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> — Advent begins!**

- Event details and dates inside!

