

# STONE CHURCH NEWS

MARCH 2020



## From the Pastor's Desk

Warm cup of coffee in everyone's hands. Bellies full from breakfast. Still in pajamas. Gathered around the kitchen table at my parent's house. The BEST conversations in my family happen here. We can be in that space for hours (assuming Ben is willing to watch the kids alone that long). We share memories, tell stories, talk politics, discuss religion,

share about our work, get the scoop on the neighbors' lives, find out what's been meaningful to folks since we last gathered. There is always laughter, sometimes there are tears. Often there is quiet reflection, certainly there is intimacy and love. I cherish these conversations - they root me, make me better, inspire me, fill me up.

The first Sunday of Lent is March 1. We will begin a worship series to carry us through this season - preparing us for Easter. The series is called, "Conversations with Jesus." Each week we will hear the story of a conversation Jesus had with someone. People sought Jesus out with their questions, their desire for healing, their curiosity on who he might be and were often met with surprising attentiveness and engagement. The conversations we will look at happen variously at night, at noon, in gardens, and courtyards: all throughout the rhythms of life. Jesus invests in people where he meets them; often challenging and exhorting, always loving them. These conversations are intimate and beautiful.

They are also an invitation for us to reflect on what Jesus might say to *us* in the places within our lives where we meet: what question might we want to ask, what ministry may be called out in us, to what healing may we need to open our eyes? Lent is a wonderful time to pause and reflect; to allow space for conversations that can challenge us, root us, make us better, inspire us, and fill us up.

In addition to our worship time, we hope you will take advantage of these other opportunities for fellowship and conversation with one another. On March 1, the Deacons are hosting a time of fellowship to encourage community building and conversation. This will happen before Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall with snacks and coffee. Sunday School remains a place of meaningful and deep conversation - and everyone is welcome.

You are also invited to create your own spaces for conversation with those around you. Who might you invite to lunch after a service? Or go on a walk with? Or grab a cup of coffee? There are endless opportunities for us to connect with one another and engage each other in these deep, meaningful, hopeful conversations. Use Lent as your excuse to commit to making it happen.

John O'Donohue writes, "Human presence is a creative and turbulent sacrament, a visible sign of invisible grace. Nowhere else is there such intimate and frightening access to the mysterium. Friendship is the sweet grace that liberates us to approach, recognize, and inhabit this adventure."

May our conversations with one another and with God, as friends and family, be holy and mysterious. May they connect us and challenge us as we inhabit this adventure of faith together.

**Stone Church**  
**Leadership Team Report**  
**February 2020**



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

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The natural world is full of symbiotic relationships – organisms living close to one another and interacting together. These relationships may be harmful (parasitism), neutral (commensalism), or beneficial (mutualism). I was reminded at the February Leadership Team meeting that these relationships exist not only between different species, but also among humans, including within our church.

Pastor Ben shared early in the meeting how grateful he is that they do not have to be responsible for all of the pastoral care of the congregation. He described how all of us act as ministers to each other, and that none of us are working alone. This theme continued to be apparent as the meeting continued.

During our time together, each team took time to describe what they are working on and events they are planning, and we built a communal calendar to make sure that events and activities would support each other (mutualism) rather than compete or interfere with each other (commensalism or parasitism).

This time of collaboration and coordination reminded me of the importance of each of our roles and brought to me the vision of a functioning ecosystem. Just like an ecosystem, each of our actions has an impact on others, and we, in turn, cannot help but be effected by those around us.

What is the lesson that I took away from all of this? You don't have to be married to a biologist to understand that we are all part of an interconnected web of relationships. We are so fortunate to be a part of a community where we do not have to work or walk alone in our faith journey.

—Sharon Yohn, Vice-Chair

In response to the discussion around budget at the January Congregational Forum, the **Witness Team** was tasked with prioritizing ministries for us to further support in the event resources beyond the current expectation become available. The list they created is as follows:

1. Middle Pennsylvania District
2. Bethany Theological Seminary
3. Mission and Ministry Board
4. Village at Morrison's Cove



Thank you for the ways your generosity allows Stone Church to minister far beyond the four walls of our church!

**10:45am Sunday Worship**

*MARCH 1*

*APRIL 26*

*MAY 10*

**Stone Church Ringers**



For those who enjoy the stirring sounds of handbells during worship, the Stone Church Ringers will be part of the 10:45am worship experience one Sunday per month for the next three months! Be sure to join us these Sundays to share in this ministry!

*And... Sunday, April 19,* they join the **Juniata College Wind Symphony** at the Rosenburg Auditorium for a 2:30pm performance.

**6:00 PM SUNDAY EVENING**  
*MARCH 22*



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.

***LOVE FEAST***

*April 9 at 6:30pm*



**Maundy  
Thursday**

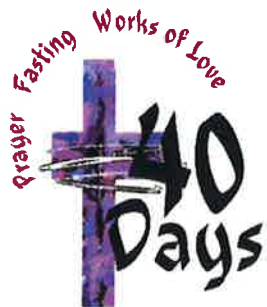
The love feast is regarded as one of God's means of grace. It is a time when community gathers for feet-washing, a fellowship meal, worship, and communion. Join us as we examine our own lives, and in community discuss our conflicts, joys, and dreams; strengthening and deepening our sense of community 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, and together.

## ***Lenten Music for Meditation***

**Lent** is a time to reflect as we journey alongside Jesus to the cross and beyond. Take pause during this Lenten season and listen to meditative music provided by an area musician. These meditations offer a time for personal contemplation as you listen to music performed on the pipe organ and piano. The doors open at noon to allow you a time of silence in preparation, with the service beginning at 12:15.

*All are invited.*



March 4: Marian Sue McElwee - Presbyterian Church  
March 18: Anthony Bullett - Presbyterian Church  
April 1: **Loren & Donna Rhodes - Stone 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 when the weather is cold.

## **"With us in spirit..."**

Below are members of our church family who, though they are not often physically able to 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](mailto:stonechurch@verizon.net)) to add others you know.

DeLois Fluke  
11325 Raystown Rd.  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Jean Prendergast  
Arista Care, Room 173  
1229 Warm Springs Ave  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Thelma Wallace  
5754 Wallace Dr.  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

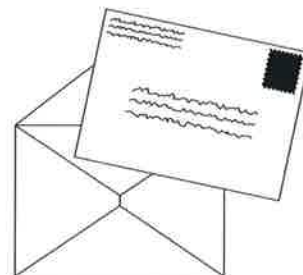
Gene & Alberta Goshorn  
14155 Hill Valley Rd.  
Mt. Union PA 17066

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

John Keiper  
PO Box 121  
Bedford, PA 15522  
[jdkjak@gmail.com](mailto:jdkjak@gmail.com)

### Westminster Woods

John Bowser  
Sue Martin (& Bill @the Oaks)  
Yvonne McKenzie (@the Oaks)  
Denny Rock





## UNDER 5 MINUTES!! By Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>!

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

- enter this link address: <https://forms.gle/8pNqBxZPRBUDiqT98>
- or go to our **website**: [www.HuntingdonStoneChurch.org](http://www.HuntingdonStoneChurch.org).

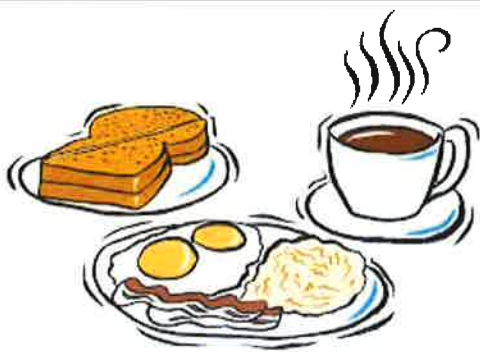
The survey allows you to indicate areas where you would *consider* serving (the survey is NOT LEGALLY BINDING!) should the need arise. This information is crucial for the Gifts Discernment Team as it seeks to identify willing hearts and hands to do the work of Stone Church. In particular, there are a number of ministry teams such as **Worship, Christian Education, and Fellowship/Hospitality** that would like to expand their membership. 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.

## Older Adult Lunch

Tuesday, **March 17 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](mailto:stonechurch@verizon.net)) by Monday, March 18.

Lunch.  
Feed your curiosity™



## Men's Breakfast

8am - Saturday, March 21

*This time of food and fellowship is open to  
all men - Please Join Us!*

Donna's Family Restaurant  
(backroom)



## Summer Camp 2020 – This Is Our Prayer

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 pays 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 back of the Sanctuary and in the Conference Room; online registration 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. Pay is based on experience and ranges from \$200-\$250/week + room and board. **Applications for 2020 summer positions are available at [www.campbluediamond.org](http://www.campbluediamond.org).**



### Camp Blue Diamond Annual Dinners – Supporting ministry at CBD!

Friday, March 27 – Appetizers 6:00pm; Dinner 6:30pm

Saturday, March 28 – Appetizers 5:00pm; Dinner 5:30pm

Enjoy friends and a fabulous dinner, discover what's new at CBD, and be a part of a Camp Coffeehouse emceed by summer song leader Gabe Imler and featuring Spring Run's Tim and Duane Show! **Tickets are \$50 per person and can be purchased from our Stone Church waiters: Pastor Ben Lattimer (Friday) and David Meadows (Saturday). Payment can also be made in the Stone Church Office.**

### Spring Cooking Camp for Grades 7 & 8 – April 3-5

If you enjoy cooking, and want to learn how to do it better, this is the camp for you! Camp's Food Service Director Shawnee Rupert will teach campers basic and more advanced cooking skills, recipes they can repeat at home, food presentation, and food safety. **Info and online registration at [www.campbluediamond.org](http://www.campbluediamond.org).**

### Upcoming Events

|                                    |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Junior Retreat for grades 3-5      | March 6-7    |
| Annual Dinners                     | March 27-28  |
| Spring Cooking Camp for grades 7-8 | April 3-5    |
| Spring Work Day                    | April 4      |
| Quilt & Craft Camp                 | April 17-19  |
| Father/Son Retreat                 | May 1-2      |
| Senior Adult Day                   | June 5       |
| Hoss's Restaurant Fundraiser       | June 14      |
| Brethren Open Golf Tournament      | August 11    |
| Heritage Fair                      | September 19 |

### Have questions?

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



## *Gene's Jottings*

### **"WHO'S IN CHARGE?"**



Ever hear of Corrie Ten Boom?

I never did until I started studying Scripture to understand how I'm supposed to measure what is fair and just – my conscience.

In Romans 13, St Paul writes, "Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities..." There are those who argue that Christians have to be subservient and obey the state. But he was making the point that rulers were presumed to be on the side of promoting good and punishing evil, as God intended. I've been wrestling with this. What happens when government itself violates its charge and turns evil?

In 1937, Adolph Hitler declared that Christianity "is ripe for destruction" and that the churches must yield to "the primacy of the state."

Corrie Ten Boom was a Dutch watchmaker who followed her conscience instead. In defiance of the law, she hid Jews in a secret room in her home until Nazis found out and sent her family to the infamous Ravensbruck Concentration Camp, where her sister Betsie died.

An article I read says that "reason would dictate, all being equal, there are limits to our submission in such [cases]." In fact, a 1943 article on "civil obedience" says "inherent in the idea of conscience is the responsibility of the Christian to obey 'just' authority and to choose righteousness and God over the state should the two conflict."

"Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on their fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters." – Abraham Lincoln

## **Coffee Fellowship**



Everyone is invited to join the deacons for a time of fellowship on **Sunday, March 1 from 8:45-9:30 a.m.** for coffee and light refreshments in the fellowship hall. This is a time to visit and catch up with your friends. We hope to see you!

# We Remember.....



## **Joyce Keiper**

May 20, 1942 – January 14, 2020

Life is a gift! Joyce was a person who respected and lived meaningfully the life that was given to her in her birth, both physically and through her baptism in a creek near the Koontz Church of the Brethren.

Some examples of her respect for the gift she lived and the values of her Christian and Brethren beliefs are as follows:

- She expressed a warm smile, reflecting her kindness to all whom she met.
- She lived hospitality in her greetings to those who visited her and John in their home.
- Singing the songs of faith reflected the joy of her faith and gratitude for life.
- Creative cooking, using recipes from her favorite collected cookbooks was a part of the joy and her hospitality (Anyone who had the privilege of eating her fried oysters or cheese potatoes will remember both the wonderful taste and kindness as she set a-not- to- be forgotten feast before them.)
- A love for nature—care, respect and enjoyment-- whether raking the leaves, gardening her favorite vegetables, or enjoying a ride taking in the beauty of the mountains and landscapes of nature. A favorite opportunity was getting in the car and saying, “Let’s go for a ride” or camping at favorite spots that she and John had discovered that brought peace and comfort.
- A strong faith was nurtured by her attendance in church for worship and especially enjoying hymns sung and played on a pipe organ.
- Her prayer life included many people and issues facing them in their lives. We remember her regularly telling us, “I am praying for both of you.”
- Brethren Beliefs and Values were not something to just talk about but rather were reflected in her life lived Simply. Peacefully. Together with her beloved husband and faith community.

Joyce (Baker) Keiper will be remembered as a beautiful person who lived life meaningfully. Thank God for her gift of life! *(Written by Peg and Randy Yoder)*

Nurse Joyce (Baker) Keiper, 77, died of her dementia at Rest Assured Living Center near Meyersdale, She married Pastor John Keiper on October 20, 1963 at the New Enterprise Church of the Brethren. Joyce was the daughter of Ted and Anna (Fluke) Baker of New Enterprise and a graduate of the Harrisburg Hospital School of Nursing. Joyce is survived by her husband John and was preceded in death by her sister Jane Sollenberger (Husband Ellis). A Remembrance of Life Service will be held at the New Enterprise Church of the Brethren on Saturday, April 18th at 3pm. Randy Yoder and Pastor Ben will co-officiate. Interment will be in Dry Hill Cemetery.



# We Remember.....



## **Joanne Dolnikowski**

September 17, 1927 – February 2, 2020

*Betty Ann Cherry recalls...* George and Joanne were married a year before Ron and I were, which was two years before we came back to Juniata to teach. And Ron had known George when Ron had been a student at Juniata. They lived on the same block and I walked by their house MANY times, watching Greg grow up! Her interest in genealogy, and her accompanying work at the Historical Society, is well known and was much appreciated. As the first residents in Westminster Woods, she and George were well loved, and her insistence on a sense of humor to make life livable and enjoyable was a treat. Interest in books and the arts permeated her life. A long-time member of Stone Church, quiet and helpful, many of us remember her presence with appreciation and love. We miss her.

Joanne P. Dolnikowski, 92, a long-time resident of Westminster Woods, was a daughter of the late William C. and Essie W. (Tilley) Phillips, married to George T. Dolnikowski on September 1, 1956, at the Alexandria Presbyterian Church, and had a son, Gregory G. Dolnikowski who lives with his wife, Edith in Quincy, MA. Joanne was also a long-time member of Stone Church and our church choir.

Joanne graduated from Alexandria High School in 1945 and then attended the former Traphagen School of Fashion in New York City. After her completion of fashion school, she became employed as an artist at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia and then as a fashion designer in New York City.

Her love of art and fashion remained throughout her life as she continued to draw and paint. She also enjoyed genealogy research and family history and was a member of the Huntingdon County Historical Society. She was an avid reader and loved listening to classical music.

Services were held at Stone Church on Friday, February 7; followed by a gathering of friends and family at The Terrace Fellowship Room at Westminster Woods,

## **2020 Easter Flowers**



### **Celebrate the joy of Easter with beautiful Easter tulips!**

Tulips are \$10.00 each, and are in 6" pots. If you would like to order tulips for the Easter service, contact the office by March 30<sup>th</sup> 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 Monday.

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.*

## March Birthdays

2—Chuck Yohn  
6—Paul Elder  
7—Lydia Price  
12—Oscar Tuten  
14—Barb Zanylo  
15—Seppi Grugan  
16—Sarah Worley

17—Tim Launtz  
23—Lori Fagan  
24—Shelby Anders  
25—Brandon Conaway  
26—Knox Boyer  
26—Taylor Boyer  
26—Carol Oldring

26—Kate Thurston-Griswold  
26—Kim Witkovsky  
27—Chris Gibboney  
27—Charlie Paterson  
29—MaryIn Ignath  
30—Anita Soliday

## March Anniversaries

24—Patti & Phil Paterson



We will ask the young people to collect your items as they come for the Young People Gathering time. The March item for the Huntingdon Food Pantry is **CANNED FRUIT**, 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 February, the item was Beans. We collected 73 cans of beans as well as 3 tuna, 8 mac-n-cheese, 3 pasta, 1 fruit, 1 cornbread mix, 12 corn, 1 juice and 1 soup. This offering, plus \$175.00 in cash, was donated to this local ministry during the third Sunday monthly offering.

## Grocery Gift Cards

### 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 Monday-Thursday.

You get full value, and the grocery store gives Stone Church 5% back to support the ministries of Stone Church!

Coordinators are Barb Purdy and Cheryl Ritchey.



# March 2020

| March 2020 |    |    |    |    |    |    | April 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 |    |    |
| 29         | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    | 27         | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday   |
|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Mar 1</b><br>8:30am Deacon Coffee<br>Fellowship (Fellowship H<br>9:30am Sunday School<br>10:45am Worship Service<br>1:00pm Pinewood Derby (F<br>4:00pm Cub Scouts (Fellow<br>7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b><br>12:00pm Worship Team<br>(Room 201)   | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b><br>8:45am C.E. Meeting<br>(Room 201)<br>5:30pm B.B.S. (Fellowship<br>Hall)<br>6:00pm Prayer Shawl<br>Ministry (Room 201)<br>7:16pm Choir Rehearsal (S | <b>6</b><br>12:00pm Memorial Service prep (Sanctuary & Fell)<br>OFFICE CLOSED<br>1:00pm H-CLTA (Room 201) | <b>7</b><br>Kaylor Memorial Service  |
| <b>8</b><br>9:30am Sunday School<br>10:45am Worship Service<br>4:00pm Cub Scouts<br>(Fellowship Hall)   | <b>9</b>   | <b>10</b><br>5:30pm Habitat for<br>Humanity  | <b>11</b><br>7:00pm Leadership Team<br>(Room 201)                             | <b>12</b><br>6:00pm Democratic Comm.<br>Board (Room 102)<br>7:00pm Democratic<br>Committee (Fellowship<br>Hall)<br>7:16pm Choir Rehearsal<br>(Sanctuary)       | <b>13</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED  | <b>14</b>  |
| <b>15</b><br>Food Pantry Sunday<br>9:30am Sunday School<br>10:45am Worship Service<br>4:00pm Cub Scouts<br>(Fellowship Hall)<br>7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal<br>(Sanctuary)                                  | <b>16</b><br>Newsletter Deadline<br>7:30pm Beekeepers Assoc.<br>(Room 201) | <b>17</b><br>12:00pm Older Adult<br>Luncheon (Room 102)<br>7:00pm Finance Team<br>(Room 201) | <b>18</b><br>5:15pm Mary Meeting<br>(Library)<br>6:30pm Deacons (Room<br>102) | <b>19</b><br>5:30pm B.B.S. (Fellowship<br>Hall)<br>7:16pm Choir Rehearsal<br>(Sanctuary)   | <b>20</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED<br>3:00pm JC Dinner Set-up<br>(Fellowship<br>Hall/Kitchen)                     | <b>21</b><br>8:00am JC Dinner Set-up<br>(Fellowship<br>Hall/Kitchen)<br>8:00am Men's Breakfast<br>(Donna's Family Restaur<br>6:30pm JC Burmese Dinner<br>(Fellowship Hall/Kitchen) |
| <b>22</b><br>9:30am Sunday School<br>10:45am Worship Service<br>4:00pm Cub Scouts<br>(Fellowship Hall)<br>6:00pm Taize Service<br>(Sanctuary)<br>7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal                                | <b>23</b>  | <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b><br>10:00am Staff Meeting<br>7:00pm Property Team                    | <b>26</b><br>5:30pm B.B.S. (Fellowship<br>Hall)<br>7:16pm Choir Rehearsal<br>(Sanctuary)   | <b>27</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED  | <b>28</b>  |
| <b>29</b><br>9:30am Sunday School<br>10:45am Worship Service<br>4:00pm Cub Scouts<br>(Fellowship Hall)<br>7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal<br>(Sanctuary)  | <b>30</b>  | <b>31</b>  | <b>Apr 1</b>  | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>   |

Mar 29 - Apr 4

Mar 22 - 28

Mar 15 - 21

Mar 8 - 14

Mar 1 - 7

**Stone Church of the Brethren**  
1623 Moore Street  
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www.huntingdonstonechurch.org  
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# STONE CHURCH NEWS



March 2020

**Lenten Music Meditations – Wednesdays,**  
March 4, March 18 & April 1 @ 12:15  
**Taizé Worship Service**  
March 24 @ 6pm

**\*\*It's Congregational Gifts Survey time!\*\***

