

STONE CHURCH NEWS

MAY 2017



Come for
Celebration Lunch on May 21st
following worship

We will give thanks and honor our graduating seniors,
our 2016-17 Sunday school teachers,
and the music ministry of Marty Keeney.

This is a "Lisa lunch" so you know the food will be delicious! Hilarious and heartfelt shildeshows and thanks are in store. The Worship team and choir will also bid Music Program Coordinator Marty Keeney farewell, as he takes his leave of absence.
(A \$5 donation for each meal for those not being honored will be appreciated)

WE GIVE THANKS!

for Marty Keeney and his work with the choir,
orchestra, and Taize since January 2009;

and we celebrate with Jill and Marty Keeney as she takes a sabbatical from her Juniata microbiology faculty position for the upcoming school year. Thus, our music program coordinator, Marty (Jill's spouse) will be taking a leave of absence beginning May 22, 2017 to join her in Montana where he'll explore the fishing...
We have been blessed by Marty's music leadership and ministering presence!



Mother's Day

A Special Mother's Day Offering for the Mothers of Nigeria on May 14

*Bring a special monetary gift to share with our sisters of Nigeria!
Or, send your gift to Stone Church designated for Nigeria.
And, you can designate your gift to honor a special mother you know.*

The needs are great and the Church of the Brethren giving to Nigeria has declined significantly in the last year. A report from the church reports: "The determination, resiliency and faith of the Nigeria families is courageous and inspiring. Even in the midst of continued violence families from EYN (Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria) have started the long journey to recovery and return of self sufficiency."

(See the last page of the newsletter for more Nigeria information.)

April Leadership Team Meeting

“Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.”
Respectfully submitted by Dennis Plane



As I contemplate the most recent Leadership Team meeting on April 12, I am once again reminded of that timeless hymn, “We Are the Church.” The church is, indeed, the people.

This month’s Leadership Team was chaired by the multitalented Brooke Meadows, as both the Chair, Jeff Decker, and I were out of town.

As we prepare to transition from one set of ministers to another, the Leadership Team is reminded of what truly wonderful people we have had to serve as our spiritual guides in recent years. Dale and Christy Dowdy, and now Anna Lisa Gross, have been such an asset to the people of Stone Church. And while it is not yet time to say goodbye to these wonderful people as they embark on the next stage of their journeys, we are also acutely aware that such a time is approaching. So we continue to revel in the moment and to feel blessed by their presence and guiding hands, yet we also eagerly anticipate who the next people to serve in this role will be. How will these people impact the direction that Stone Church will take in the years ahead?

Leadership Team’s thoughts also turned to the wonderful people who work for the Church, as Debbie Barrette attended the Leadership Team meeting and continues to deepen and widen her relationship with the people of Stone Church. We also discussed the recent hiring of Rena Bumgardner as the new custodian of the building that serves as the “meeting place”—to return to the hymn—for the people of Stone Church. And we eagerly anticipate the return of Dante Fisher in his new role as Interim Music Coordinator while Marty Keeney takes some time to explore other passions.

Two people who are integral to Stone Church are Jim and Sharon Bookhamer, yet Leadership Team was without Jim who was where he needed to be—with Sharon as they continue to grapple with Sharon’s cancer diagnosis. As the people of the Church, we continue to surround the Bookhamers with God’s love, as we do for all of those who are dealing with pain in their lives. May we continue to be a messenger for love and peace for all of His people, especially during their times of greatest need.

Leadership Team was also blessed to have fond memories of people who have recently passed on to the next life or are approaching this milestone.

Leadership Team was frequently reminded of all the people who make up Stone Church—from those of us who broke bread together on Palm Sunday, to those who serve others at the Soup Kitchen and prepare for worship, to those who audit the books and discern our gifts, to those who work to make Christian education meaningful for both our children and our adults. The Church is the people. We are blessed to have so many people—too numerous to name here—as part of our Church family.

Thank you, God, for the people who comprise Stone Church.

Mulching Party..... Saturday, May 6
(come when you can!) 9:30am until ?



The Landscape Volunteers and Church Property Team will be mulching the property and need help! So, all who are able are invited to come join the fun, start time is 9:30am.

Additional shovels and wheelbarrows are also needed!

Work will continue until the job is finished – many hands make light and quick work! Contact Becky Mitchell or Bruce Lidston with questions. Thank you!

We celebrate Stone's high school graduates!

Chloe Soliday: This summer Chloe is going on a Church of the Brethren workcamp to Lybrook Ministries in New Mexico and also work at the Ice Box in Saxton. One highlight from her senior year at Tussey Mountain High School was the lead role in their musical. She also went to the Church of the Brethren's Christian Citizenship Seminar in NYC and DC. We wish Chloe well as she plans to study environmental science and communications this fall. Brethren Volunteer Service is also in her future.



Eddie Rice: This summer Eddie will be a counselor at Camp Blue Diamond. In the fall he plans to put together a chemistry and religious studies Program of Emphasis at Juniata. Eddie has thoroughly enjoyed being a part of Stone's youth group, going to CBD youth retreats, working as summer staff at CBD, serving on Middle District Youth Cabinet, going on Middle District Soup Kitchen trips, attending "Explore Your Call" at Bethany, and playing on the Huntingdon Area High School volleyball team.

Leah Lashlee: This summer Leah will return to lifeguarding at Delgrossos and then she'll study social work at California University of Pennsylvania in the fall. One highlight of her senior year at Huntingdon Area High School was fierce swimming – another was playing Sleeping Beauty in the annual musical. She has been in Girl Scouts and this year was President of the local Rotary Interact Club.



Madison Troha: Madison's senior year at Huntingdon Area High School was overflowing with Backyard Ministries, Champs, Student Council, even working with the Huntingdon Borough Council. She hasn't decided on a college for the fall and we wish her the best wherever she goes!

And we celebrate college grads too!

Meg Beamer: Meg has been part of Stone Church since moving here from Japan in 2010. After she graduates from Juniata College (with a degree in K-4th grade) in May she'll move with her family to California – we'll miss you Meg!

Thank you for sharing your time and Cody with us!



Daniel Santos: Daniel graduates with a bachelor's degree in Economics from Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. After college he plans to take the CFE in order to become a Certified Financial Analyst. One of Daniel's favorite things about college/life is playing volleyball – he was sorry to have missed playing with the Stone Church Volleyball team this year!

Logan Fultz: Logan says "I will graduate with a Bachelors degree in nursing. After college I plan on preparing to take the NCLEX this summer and after I hope to secure a position on a medical-surgical unit. Some of my favorite things are spending time with my friends, various outdoor activities like hiking, biking, and running, and I enjoyed being able to learn and practice nursing in my clinical rotations." Logan won a Church of the Brethren Nursing Scholarship this year – congratulations Logan!



We'll honor high school and college grads in worship on May 21 – read more on the front page!

Pastoral Search Committee



The Pastoral Search Committee for Stone Church is hard at work! We resumed our task of profile development in March following our year pause as the Discovery Team worked. The Stone Church Congregational Profile is nearing completion as we reviewed our previous work considering the information developed by the Discovery Team. We have updated our information, and the profile will soon be reviewed by the district executive. Following that review, the Stone Church profile will be placed into the pastoral search system for the denomination.

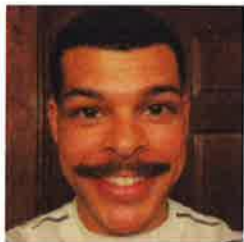
There are many things to hold in prayer:

- The Search Committee as we continue our work of calling a pastoral candidate
- Our congregation as we journey through a time of transition
- Pastor Christy as she experiences transitional endings and beginnings
- Pastor Anna Lisa as she continues the interim ministry
- The person(s) who will come to us as the new pastor

The search team members are: Doris Comerford, Roxann Deike, Emily Lane, Donna Rhodes, Henry Thurston-Griswold, David Witkovsky, and Chuck Yohn.

If you have any questions, please contact me or another member of the committee.
Donna Rhodes, Chair

Stone Church welcomes our new Interim Music Coordinator, Dante Fisher.



Dante graduated from Middlebury College in Vermont in 2016 with a degree in International and Global Studies. While there, he studied Japanese, spent time abroad in Japan in Mitaka-shi, Tokyo, and aspires to attend graduate school for Ethnomusicology. During college, Dante was a member of *The Dissipated Eight*, an all-male acapella group, holding various leadership roles including Music Director.

As Interim Music Coordinator, Dante looks forward to inviting deeper worship by complementing the service with meaningful musical selections. When he's not preparing for Sunday worship, Dante also works at Standing Stone Coffee as a roaster and at the Inn at Solvang as an assistant innkeeper.

Dante is the son of Heather Fisher and attended Stone Church throughout high school. You may recall seeing him in the choir loft from time to time. Please join us in welcoming Dante in his new role!



District Women's Spring Retreat, May 5-6, 2017, at Laurel Lodge-Halbritter Estates. ***Put A Little "Fling" Back In Your Spring!***

Laurie Stiles is the retreat leader. Spiritual seasons are as common to our human experience as the four seasons are to God's Creation. It is Christ's desire that we discover and claim, through the leading of His Holy Spirit, a season of perpetual spring. Laurie will lead us in Scriptural study, discussion, sensory experiences, quiet reflection, and crazy fun! Together, we will shake off the blanket of spiritual winter, rediscover our internal blossom, and burst forth in celebration and worship! \$35 for full retreat (first time attendees can come for free!)

Contact Carolyn Lidston for more information: 599-9894; binocular2@comcast.net.

Church of the Brethren Listening Sessions



David Steele, the new General Secretary of the Church of the Brethren, is holding listening sessions around the denomination. This is a way for David to listen closely to people within the church. It's a good way for you to meet our new General Secretary. Two listening sessions will be held in Middle Pennsylvania District. The first will be held at Village at Morrison's Cove, Willows Room, on Wednesday, May 3 at 2:00 p.m. The second listening session will be held at the Spring Run Church of the Brethren on Thursday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend!

Benefit Concert for The Huntingdon Regional Fire Department

Friday, May 5, 7:00pm
at Abbey Reformed U.C.C.



Performances include Adam Bucynski; The Singing Doctors; the Abbey Trio; and Music, Music, Music. The evening will end with two very special selections by a joint choir of community singers to honor our volunteer fire fighters and EMS First Responders. The concert is free, however donations will be accepted. Please plan to join us for a wonderful evening of music!



Community Soup Kitchen

Chris Gibboney and Carolyn Lidston
would like to thank everyone who
helped with April's Soup Kitchen!

The Salvation Army/Kiwanis of Huntingdon
is selling **Blueberries!**

To place your order, call The Salvation Army
at 814-643-1430.

The cost is \$27.00 for a 10lb box.





Annual Conference 2017

June 28 – July 2

Grand Rapids, MI - DeVos Convention Center

General registration is open through June 5. The theme is "Risk Hope." We live in times that challenge us in our quest to be a faithful people. Strife and uncertainty permeate our society and invade our churches, and we grow disheartened and discouraged. Yet Scripture teaches that troubled times can be times when God's blessing is most evident in the midst of God's people. **We are not to fear the instability of our time, for our hope rests in the rock of our salvation.** As we face the various storms of our times we gain strength and hope from the stories of God's people in exile in Babylon. Robbed of the Land, the Temple, and the City of God, and hauled away to a foreign land, the People of God had little hope for survival. And yet, the promises of God would not die.

Isaiah prophesied: "And this shall be a sign for you: This year eat what grows of itself, and in the second year what springs from that; then in the third year sow, reap, plant vineyards, and eat their fruit. The surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again **take root downward, and bear fruit upward**; for from Jerusalem a remnant shall go out, and from Mount Zion a band of survivors. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this." (Is. 37: 30-32)

And so the people gathered together the stories of their ancestors, the promises to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob, the call to Moses and the Covenant of the Law, and there in Babylon they were faithful.

In the same way, let us too be bold in this time of challenge – bold to turn aside from our despair, to step out in faith, to claim the promises that are ours in Christ Jesus, and to Risk Hope for the life and vitality of the Gospel. *"Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful."* Heb. 10:23

Our Stone Church delegates, Sara White and Betty Ann Cherry, Pastor Anna Lisa, and others will attend.

More detailed information and the registration link are available at www.brethren.org/ac.

Carpool, anyone?

Annual Conference Briefing

Thursday, May 25

at 7:00 pm

Stone Church, Fellowship Hall

2017 AC Moderator, Carol Scheppard will speak.

Older Adult Lunch

The Older Adult Lunch gathering will meet Tuesday, **May 16 at 12 noon** in room 102.

Lunch.
Feed your curiosity

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 Sunday, May 14. ...**See you on May 16!**



Chloe Soliday, along with help from the Stone youth, prepared a wholesome (and delicious!) to raise funds towards her June 21-27 workcamp expenses. Chloe will be joining a group of Sr. High youth this summer in Lybrook, New Mexico, as part of the 2017 Brethren workcamps. This workcamp will serve Navajo families through Lybrook Community Ministries, a Brethren Volunteer Service

project site called to revitalize the Lybrook Mission within the Navajo community, striving to create positive relationships and support the Navajo people. **Thank you** to all who attended and supported this event. Chloe raised \$508. (\$83 beyond her estimated goal!) Be sure to check the July newsletter for a report on her experiences in New Mexico!

We Remember.....



J. Fred King

January 29, 1929- April 14, 2017

J. Fred King, 88, was born in northern Indian County, where his family was part of the Montgomery Church of the Brethren. He attended Penn State, earning both his bachelors and masters degrees in Agricultural Education. Following several years of teaching Vo Ag in Maryland, and near his hometown, he accepted a position with the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) in Harrisburg, followed by a federal position in Washington, DC. In 1976, he returned to PA as the State Director of the FHA, and from 1984 to 1991, Fred served as the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture for the state dept of agriculture. Fred was married to spouse Nancy, who died of cancer at age 60. They were the parents of one son and 4 daughters. Following his retirement, Fred returned to his hometown to live and took amazing hunting trips to various places around the world, including Africa, Canada and the American west. He was an avid Penn State wrestling fan. He moved to Westminster Woods 3 years ago, and became a member of Stone Church of the Brethren. Much of Fred's life and story was not known to many of us at Stone Church, for he was a man of few words; quite humble and quiet and his recent health challenges prevented him from speaking with more than a whisper. He faced his health challenges with a matter of fact kind of attitude, and died peacefully on Good Friday morning.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, April 18 in Hillsdale, PA, officiated by Pastor Christy Dowdy.

Guest Speakers



On May 7th, Ben Wideman, pastor of the Penn State University 3rd Way Collective*, will be the guest preacher at Stone Church. Ben will be riding his bike for the third year in a row as part of the IPL (Interfaith Power and Light) bike ride to Washington DC in May. This ride's focus is to highlight climate change; the group of 20 riders will ride from State College, PA (leaving on Arbor Day) to Washington DC to meet with our PA legislators as part of IPL lobby day. The group will stop in Huntingdon on Saturday, May 20 and a special event will be held at Riverside Park at 1 pm.

Ben, the father of 3 young children, says: My life was shaped deeply through my time as a college student at Eastern Mennonite University, a grad student at Fuller Theological Seminary, and through my daily living in the various jobs that I've found myself in.



The May 7th service will also include a child dedication for twins, Knox and Taylor, daughter and son of Megan and Jason Boyer, grandchildren of Tim and Kristy Launtz.

Coming Sunday, June 4

Worship begins at 10 am

David Radcliff of New Community Project will share the message on June 4. David travels throughout the world building relationships of support and education with many cultures and people. Have you been on one of his Learning Tours? Or maybe you visited the New Community Project Sustainable Living Center in Harrisonburg last summer? Hear more from David in worship AND come early for breakfast and even more conversation at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall.



Hymn Singing

– led by Roberts-Gevalt and Elizabeth Laprelle - historians, storytellers, visual artists, and gifted, intuitive musicians

Sunday, May 28th from 8:45-9:45 at Stone Church of the Brethren!

Folk College, A 3-day musical teaching event will close with a good old-fashioned hymn sing, with focus on old-time hymns. Bring your instrument if you play. Song sheets with chords will be provided. (All levels singers; instruments welcome.) This workshop is free and open to the public.



SUMMER

HOURS START

JUNE 4TH

WORSHIP WILL START AT 10AM

**The ministry 3rd Way Collective, which Ben leads at Penn State, has created spaces for students to engage in real-life issues, wrestle with the teachings of Jesus, develop meaningful friendships, and explore what it might mean to take seriously a call toward peace and justice.*



Bird Walk – May 27

Join Gabe Imler, bird enthusiast and one of Camp Blue Diamond's best counselors, for a morning of sighting and learning about many different local birds. Meet at 7:00am for birding around Camp before traveling to a local Bald Eagle's nest and then Shaver's Creek. The day will conclude with a

picnic lunch back at Camp. Cost is \$10, which includes lunch. For questions or to register, please contact the Camp Blue Diamond office at (814) 667-2355 or campbluediamond@verizon.net. Please RSVP by May 21.

Senior Adult Day – June 3

Come join special guest, David Radcliffe, Director of New Community Project. David's passion for God's people and the created world inspires him to find ways to change the world by changing the way we relate to the planet and its people. Through photos and stories, you'll visit Burma, The Republic of Congo, the Ecuadorian Amazon, Denali, a Navajo Reservation in New Mexico, and more! Cost is \$10 for the day, which includes morning refreshments and lunch. Supper-to-go will be available for \$3. **More info on the church bulletin board and at www.campbluediamond.org.**

Upcoming Events

Bird Walk	May 27
Senior Adult Day	June 2
Hoss's Fundraiser	June 11
CBD Staff Alumni Reunion	July 22
Annual Golf Tournament	August 8
Family Camp	August 18 – 20
Heritage Fair	September 23

Have questions?

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

Dear Friend of Camp Blue Diamond:

We are excited to team up with Hoss's Steak and Sea House to raise money for a very worthy cause. Please consider visiting the Hoss's location(s) listed below on Sunday, 6/11/2017 to aid us in raising money to benefit Camp Blue Diamond.



Print this ticket and present it on 6/11/2017 at Hoss's in Huntingdon, Duncansville, Bedford, Lewistown, State College. Hoss's will then donate 20%* or 25%** of your total check paid to **Camp Blue Diamond**

*To qualify for the 20% payout, our group must have a minimum of \$300.00 in total pre-tax food and beverage sales.

**To qualify for the 25% payout, our group must have a minimum of \$1,200.00 in total pre-tax food and beverage sales. This applies to a one-day, single location, pre-scheduled event. The purchase of gift cards is not included as part of your organization's community fundraising totals.

DISTRIBUTING INVITATIONS ON HOSS'S PROPERTY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED AND WILL DISQUALIFY OUR ORGANIZATION! Thank you for your cooperation!

Group #54937

Please present this ticket when ordering.





MESSENGER MUSINGS

"What More Can We Ask?"



"Under the certainty of heaven, all we can be sure of is tomorrow. When yesterday is ours, what more can we ask?" Brother Cadfael spoke these words in *Monk's Hood*. Ellis Peters (pseudonym of the late Edith Pargeter) created this much-beloved character and used him in a series of twelfth-century murder mysteries.

Cadfael, a Welsh Benedictine monk, lived and worked as an herbalist at the Shrewsbury Abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul, in Shropshire. His duties included ministering to the sick and spending many hours in spiritual contemplation. And through it all he found time to solve murder mysteries. A busy person indeed! One whom I've enjoyed reading about for a number of years.

As for myself, I'm certainly no Brother Cadfael. These days I'm certain of one thing: I've forgotten more than I remember. No joking, I'm in earnest here. Right now I'm looking at a newspaper clipping from last year. Its title: "Someday lost memories may be recoverable" by Anthony L. Komaroff, M.D. He believes that when we forget something one day, then remember it later, that suggests "a memory really is still there, but that we just have trouble retrieving it sometimes."

I find that very comforting. And just now I am recalling the last time I visited Mother at the Morrison's Cove Nursing Home. When I walked through the front door into a hallway, the light was shining in my eyes and I could not see the faces in the group seated in the room ahead of me. But I heard Mother's voice! "That's my daughter!" On previous visits she had not seemed to know me. What more can we ask than to be remembered by those we love?

And please do remember to keep your subscription to *Messenger* current. Debbie will be pleased to help you do that. Just check with her at the church office. What more can we ask than that?

---Alberta H. Goshorn---
(May 2017)



Climate change: why your voice matters

Are you ready to take action on climate change? Learn how your voice can make a real difference. Together we will be inspired by the eighteen people (ages 14-72!) from Interfaith Power and Light who are riding their bicycles from State College to Washington, D.C. They are connecting communities, leading by example and, at the end they will be advocating for climate action with our legislators on Capitol Hill. Everyone will have the opportunity to take action by creating messages that will be hand delivered to Washington. Join us on **Saturday, May 20, 1-2 PM at Riverside Park**. Families are welcome - there will be activities for all ages. Around 2:00, the riders will be heading to Orbisonia and would welcome anyone who would like to bike with them as they travel along Rt. 22 east toward Mill Creek.



May is National Bike Month

- Consider riding your bike to Worship, as you're able.
- Get some exercise, reduce stress, have fun.
- Reconnect with your community and the natural world – the changing seasons and the weather.
- Slow your pace – open up time for reflection and listening for God's call in your life and for being mindful of your surroundings.
- Feel the empowerment that comes from travelling under your own steam.
- Inspire others to give their cars a rest – and perhaps make it a new habit for yourself whenever possible.
- Use less gasoline, give off less CO₂ and other pollutants, and live out your commitment to being a good steward of Creation. Every gallon of gasoline not used keeps 20 lbs. of CO₂ out of the atmosphere.
- Bike (or walk) in solidarity with all – human and nonhuman – who are paying the exorbitant price for our society's fossil-fuel addiction – victims of climate-change-induced flooding, drought or wildfires... victims of catastrophic oil spills... victims of mountain-top removal coal mining... victims of war or political repression in petroleum-producing regions....
- Bike to show we believe in another way of living.



Farmers' Market Bucks Are Back

Begun in 2010 in Huntingdon and extended in 2017 to include Mount Union, the Huntingdon County Farmers' Market Bucks Program is a cooperative project begun through Stone Church and involving area farmers, churches, and social-service agencies. It is sponsored by the nonprofit Huntingdon County Local Food Association.

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

Why purchase Market Bucks? To commit...

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



How will Market Bucks help folks otherwise unable to afford shopping at the market? Donations may be made toward the purchase of Market Bucks for use by persons who get government food assistance (*i.e.* SNAP benefits, formerly known as Food Stamps, now on EBT cards). When folks use their EBT cards at the market, they'll receive \$1 of "Bonus Bucks" (donated Market Bucks) for each \$2 they spend. Additionally, 5% of Market Bucks proceeds will be given to PRIDE, which uses those funds to purchase Market Bucks for distribution to its elderly clients.

How can one buy Market Bucks and/or make donations to support the "Bonus Bucks" program? Market Bucks purchases and donations may be made using cash or check:

- in the back of the sanctuary following worship on Sunday mornings through May
- at the Stone Church office Mon-Fri mornings (see Debbie)
- at the Huntingdon and Mount Union Farmers' Markets (all season)
- at the PRIDE office, 1301 Mt. Vernon Ave., Huntingdon (Smithfield Twp.), Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30 (all season)

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

Huntingdon Farmers' Market

Thursdays, noon-5, May-Oct, Portstown Park (by Laney's Feed Mill)

Mount Union Farmers' Market

Fridays, 11:30-3:30, June-Sept, Municipal Park (by the Little League fields)



Men's Breakfast

Saturday, May 20th

8am

Donna's Family Restaurant
(backroom)

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

Food Pantry Sunday—May 21

We will ask the children to collect your items as they come for the children's circle time. The May item of the month for the Huntingdon Food Pantry is noodles, but any items may be brought to assist needs in our community. Donations at other times may be placed in the wagon outside the sanctuary doors by the organ. (Please check for valid expiration dates.)



THE CHALLENGE WAS EXCEEDED!

IN April, the item was green beans/vegetables and 120 cans, plus 2 jars of PB, 2 pasta, 1 aerosol oil, 1 box of teabags and \$480.00 in cash were donated during the third Sunday monthly offering to this local ministry, which was Easter Sunday this year!



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. Coordinators, Barb Purdy and Cheryl Ritchey, have challenged everyone to purchase a card one week out of every month for the next year.

May Birthdays

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1—Stephen Engle | 10—Jeannie Lashlee | 16—Joseph Porcelli |
| 1—Leah Lashlee | 10—Anne Siems | 17—Mike Frandsen |
| 1—Brooke Meadows | 11—Andrew Wenger | 20—Joyce Keiper |
| 3—Jill Keeney | 12—Donald Mitchell | 22—Sarah Deike |
| 3—Landon Meadows | 13—Henrik Berger | 23—Sharon Bookhamer |
| 5—Beth Williams | 13—Jack Wagner | 25—Rosemary Plane |
| 7—Logan Fultz | 14—DeLois Fluke | 28—Greg Larson |
| 7—Ginny Sandifer | 14—Pam Grugan | 31—Amber Port |
| 7—Beth Williams | 15—Jacob Wenger | |

May Anniversaries

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 21—Peg Krolak & Todd Hammer | 27—Brooke & David Meadows |
| 24—Pat & Tom Kepple | |

UPDATE

From Nigeria



Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN), the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria, is the largest national body of the Church of the Brethren in the world. With a vibrant history of more than 90 years, EYN has placed a high emphasis on education, health, and agriculture. Today EYN is continued to be ravaged by attacks from the militant group Boko Haram. Before the destruction by insurgents, EYN had nearly a million people attending services and has carried out mission efforts in neighboring countries. The church's ministries include its peace witness, aid to those affected by the crisis, leadership development, Women's Fellowship (ZME), and youth programs. EYN is a member of the World Council of Churches and the Christian Association of Nigeria.

The response of the US Church has been amazing, though support has wained some since the initial emphasis. Working in partnership with EYN and other Nigerian groups, a major relief and recovery program has provided emergency food and supplies; drinking water; education for children; trauma recovery and peace building for all ages; seeds and fertilizer for agriculture; tools and resources for making a living; and supporting the Church leadership through this crisis. The crisis response has saved lives, helped avert starvation and supported the Nigerian people through this horrific time. Even with this progress, the **journey to recovery is still long and our support is desperately needed** to help families and the church recover. We have helped thousands of families, but the need is still incredible.

The US church has a 10 year financial plan to attempt to assist our sister church. Financial support is provided through the Core Ministries Fund. Emergency assistance is being provided through the Nigeria Crisis Fund.

In the last several years, nearly 70 percent of the EYN church buildings were lost (1,668 churches burned or abandoned), the EYN headquarters were overrun, more than 11,000 EYN members have been killed, thousands have been kidnapped including the Chibok girls, and hundreds of thousands are still displaced. Even with improved security in the second half of 2015, millions of both Christian and Muslim families are impacted and terrorized by this crisis

An excellent report on Nigerian response is available at:

<http://www.brethren.org/nigeriacrisis/response.html#info>

Check it out!

****Pam Reist**, pastor of the Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren, just arrived in Nigeria with her spouse, Dave, to work with EYN and the tractor program. Check out her blog at etowncob.org.

Share a Mother's Day gift with our Nigerian mothers this year!

(Bring your special offering to worship on May 14 or send to Stone Church)

May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Marty off Anna Lisa off	2 Marty off Anna Lisa off 7p Deacons-Rm 102	3 Marty off Anna Lisa off	4 Anna Lisa off 7:16p Choir	5 Anna Lisa off District Women's Conference	6 Anna Lisa off
7 10:45a Guest Preacher Ben Wideman; Child dedication 12:30p Boy Scouts	8	9 10a Hospitality Team 5:30p Witness-Rm 201 7p-Habitat Humanity -Rm 102	10 12p-Staff lunch 5-10p JC Spring Banquet-FH/Kitchen 7p Leadership Team-Rm 201	11 4p Gifts Discernment -Rm 201 6:30p-Democratic Committee-Rm 102 7:16p Choir	12 9a-12p Database training-Harrisburg	13 (JC graduation)
14 Mother's Day 4p Boy Scouts	15 7-9:30P Beekeepers Assoc.-Rm 201	16 Municipal Primary Election 12p Older Adult Luncheon-Rm 102 5:15p Worship Team -Rm 201	17 10:30a Staff Meeting 7p Finance Team-Rm 102	18 7:16p Choir	19	20 8a Men's Breakfast-Donna's Restaurant 10a IPL Bike Ride Lunch
21 Food Pantry Sunday 12:00 Graduate/teacher lunch-Fellowship Hall	22 Christy away Marty's last day	23 Christy away	24 Christy away	25 Christy away 7p Annual Conference Briefing-FH	26 Christy away (HAHS graduation)	27 Christy away 12:30 SURJ-FH
28 Christy away 8:45a Folk College Hymn Sing-Sanctuary	29 Christy away Memorial Day Office Closed	30 Christy away 6:30p Search Team-Rm 201	31 Christy away			

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

BULK RATE
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PERMIT NO. 116

Or Current Occupant

STONE CHURCH NEWS

MAY 2017



**Graduate
&
Sunday School Teacher
Appreciation Celebration
May 21**

following worship, in Fellowship Hall
Come for a "Lisa Lunch", and fellowship
as we congratulate our graduates, thank our teachers, and say adieu to Marty!