

STONE CHURCH NEWS

MAY 2019



From the Pastor's Desk

On my first day we fixed a toilet. On my second day we mopped up a leak in the attic. At the time, I had no idea how accurate this initial introduction to being a pastor really was! I had signed up for a summer where I could explore what ministry was like just in case I was being called in that direction - and I got more than I bargained for. The program is called Ministry Summer Service. It pairs college students who are interested in ministry with a mentor and sets them free to DO ministry in partnership - using an action-reflection model to learn. Ministry settings include churches, camps, and denominational programs.

It's been 18 years since that summer in Northern Virginia. I'm still in touch with several folks from the church. I talked to my mentor - who is now also a friend - just last week. That summer remains one of the most formative experiences of my life. And I'm pleased to say that we at Stone Church have the opportunity to support and mentor another young person, just like me, this coming summer. Connor Ladd, a sophomore at Manchester University, will be joining us as a Ministry Summer Service intern beginning in June. Pastor Ben will serve as his primary mentor, but all of us have the opportunity to commit to making sure his exploration is meaningful.

Leadership Team has already made the commitment to help the pastors find a way to house and feed him. Witness Team is budgeting a stipend for him. But those are the nuts and bolts - and we will all lose out if those are the only commitments we make. The gifts and graces of this community are abundant. The knowledge, experience, and stories are amazing. We have a lot to share. And some of the easiest things we have to give could be the most meaningful.

When I was an intern, one family made sure I had a fun place to spend July 4th - a picnic by a pond with a whole gaggle of neighbors and friends. Someone else took me canoeing and opened up a conversation about how they discerned their vocation as a teacher. I got treated to so much good food! People talked to me at church, invested in learning to know me, and let me know them too!

I needed my mentor that summer. I don't know what I'd do, even now, without that relationship in my life. I'm so grateful a pastor took the time to mentor me. We all need those people in our lives. But I cannot overstate how important that particular congregation was in forming my experience of what full time ministry can be like. It was a huge gift to be part of a wonderful community. Churches are necessary - whole churches - not just individuals, in the work of discerning a call to the ministry. This Body - Stone Church - has a vital role to play in equipping, supporting, nourishing, and empowering Connor.

So as we prepare, how might you engage in that work? Will you offer a meal? An engaging conversation? An invitation to a family gathering? Will you invest in knowing someone new? And letting yourself be known?

This community is incredible! It is a great place to learn and grow. I can't wait to see how we do it together with this new face...and to learn of the impact further down the road.



From our Treasurer.....

2019 First Quarter Finances (Jan 1 – Mar 31, 2019)

Income	Actual to 3/31	Budget	% of Budget
Pledged	\$55,158	\$229,148	24%
Not Pledged	\$6,924	\$30,200	17%
Trust Income	\$0	\$5,400	0%
Dividends	\$295	\$1,200	25%
Interest	\$1		
Endowment	\$0	\$1,000	
Rental Income	-\$40	\$1,000	-4%
Total Income	\$62,338	\$267,948	23%

Expense	Actual to 3/31	Budget	% of Budget
Christian Ed.	\$52	\$6,775	1%
Property	\$6,732	\$39,700	17%
Hospitality	\$302	\$675	45%
Deacons	\$5	\$1,550	1%
P&A	\$45,843	\$200,268	23%
Witness	\$9,387	\$46,960	20%
Worship	\$1,148	\$6,560	18%
Total Expenses	\$63,469	\$302,488	21%

Income	Actual	Budget
Total Income	\$62,338	\$267,948
Total Expenses	\$63,469	\$302,488
Net Income	-\$1,131	-\$34,540

For detailed financial reports, see the March 2019 folder at <http://tinyurl.com/stonechurchleadership>
 Please seek out a member of the finance team if you have any questions: Bob McMinn, Daisy Decker, Jeff Cloz, John Wright



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.

Baker Institute for Peace & Conflict Studies

hosts

Samuel Munderere

May 2, 7:00 PM at Stone Church



On Thursday, May 2, the Baker Institute for Peace & Conflict Studies will host Rwandan genocide survivors advocate Samuel Munderere for a talk titled "The life of Rwanda genocide survivors 25 years on" beginning 7 PM at Stone Church, in the downstairs gathering space.

Munderere is chief executive of Survivors Fund (SURF) in Kigali, Rwanda, where he has worked for more than 13 years to improve the lives of vulnerable people. He has a profound understanding of the issues facing women and children in Rwanda and extensive experience with programs that seek to empower them and transform their lives. His expertise is in managing educational and counseling projects, and he has supported 850 youth born of genocidal rape, as well as their mothers. Munderere holds a Master's degree in International Development Management from the University of Westminster (London, UK) and a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and Social Administration from Bugema University.

Munderere's talk will explore how the consequences of the genocide are changing with time, as well as what is being done and needs to be done to support survivors.

Juniata Peace & Conflict Studies student and Rwandan genocide survivor Liliane Pari Umuhoza interned for three consecutive summers with SURF, and will be present as well.

The talk, sponsored by the Baker Institute for Peace & Conflict Studies, is free and open to the public. For more information, please email bakerins@juniata.edu.



District Women's Spring Retreat ***Friday and Saturday*** ***May 3-4***



District Women's Retreat: May 3-4 at Laurel Lodge, Halbritter Estates. Gather with other women to explore types of prayer, prayer stations an Emmaus Walk, journaling, ... Eleanor Fix (Everett COB) believes our very lives are a prayer, and will lead us in this adventure. She currently teaches Sunday School and leads a Bible study at Everett's weekly Free Community meal. After 12 years as pastor at Cherry Lane COB, Eleanor held several interim positions in the Middle PA and is a Spiritual Director with training through Oasis Ministries.

The setting is picturesque, located in the woods of Laurel Highlands, and there will be opportunities to enjoy the peace and beauty of your surroundings.

There are enough beds so you may have your own room if you prefer. There are plenty of bathrooms and bedding and towels are provided.

Come for the entire event or just part of it. Newcomers pay nothing to attend, and confidential scholarships are available upon request. **Info/Registration: 814-643-0601.**

Ministerial Candidate's Corner

Several people have been asking me lately when I will be finishing up my seminary education, so I thought I would give you all an update. If all goes well, I should be finished in two years, mostly because I still have to do my two ministry formation placements (similar to an internship). One, I am happy to say, will be right here at Stone Church starting in the fall. I still haven't finalized plans for my second placement, but I should be firming up those plans in the next few months.



I can't tell you what a joyful, transforming experience this has been for me, and I thank you all for your love and support. I would not have been able to do it without my Stone Church family. Being able to plan worship and preach here at Stone in order to fulfill class requirements has been a tremendous help to me. I continue to feel incredibly blessed to be a part of this faith community.

I have learned a lot and discovered even more about myself and my call in this process. The classes I have taken, and the people with whom I have developed relationships, have helped to propel me forward on this journey. Everything from the standard academic classes to the incredible inter-faith pilgrimage through India has confirmed to me that this is indeed the right path for me to be on.

I am excited to learn what it is God has in store for me as I continue to grow in knowledge and faith, knowing that I will be better equipped to serve as a result of this experience.

Thank you all for coming with me on this journey, and for your continued support.

Mary Garvey
Masters of Divinity student
Bethany Theological Seminary



MAY 12

10:45am Sunday Musical Worship
With Stone Church Ringers & Chancel Choir!

JOIN US!!!



Come join the celebration on June 2!

We will host a "Lisa Lunch" following church to honor all the Sunday School teachers and helpers of this past year, as well as our graduating seniors.

If you know anyone in the Stone Church family who is graduating from high school, college, or graduate school this year (or if you are!), please contact Mary Garvey at hpa1227mag@hotmail.com or 814-643-9281. We don't want to miss anyone inadvertently!

..... **Hope to see you there.**





Farmers' Market Bucks Are Back

What are Huntingdon County Farmers' Market Bucks? They're "fake money" that can be used like cash at the Huntingdon and Mount Union 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 increasing 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, for every \$20 of Market Bucks sold, \$1 in Market Bucks will be given to Huntingdon County PRIDE, 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 (7 April - 19 May; see Kim Roth)
- at the Stone Church office Mon-Fri mornings (April through October; see Debbie)
- at the farmers' markets (all season – May through October)
- at the PRIDE office, 1301 Mt. Vernon Ave., Huntingdon (Smithfield Twp.), Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30 (April through October)

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.

Originating at Stone Church, the Market Bucks/ Bonus Bucks program is a cooperative project involving the Huntingdon Forum of Churches, the nonprofit Huntingdon County Local Food Association, the Huntingdon & Mt. Union farmers' markets, and area social-services agencies.



Huntingdon Farmers' Market opens Thursday, May 2nd

Noon – 5 pm, Portstown Park pavilion (across from Laney's; 842 Penn St)



Mount Union Farmers' Market opens Friday, May 3rd

Noon – 6 pm, Riverside Park (tentative dates, times & location)



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.

"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) 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

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

Arista Care (814-643-4210)
1229 Warm Springs Ave, Huntingdon 16652
Howard Crouch – Room 265
Orpha Hearn – **Room 168**

Floyd McDowell
Olney Assisted Living
16940 Georgia Ave.
Olney, MD 20832

(814-447-5563)
Woodlands/Arista Care
18889 Coghlan Pike, Orbisonia 17243
Gene Goshorn – Room 104





Summer Camp 2019 – Peace Works

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 covers 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 Conference Room and back of the Sanctuary; online registration at www.campbluediamond.org.**

Senior Adult Day – May 31

Join us for a day full of fellowship, inspiration, adventure, and fun as we gather to hear the story of Peggy Ann Bradnick. On a warm spring afternoon in 1966, Peggy Ann was dragged into the mountains near her home in Shade Gap by a disturbed kidnapper. Peggy Ann will share how her faith saw her through the ordeal and continues to shape who she is, as a child of God, today. Check-in begins at 9:00am and the day will conclude at 3:30pm. Cost is \$10, 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.**

Hoss's Fundraiser – June 9

After successfully raising \$2,000 last year, CBD is teaming up with Hoss's Steak & Sea House again in 2019. Join us for a meal at the Huntingdon, Bedford, Duncansville, or Lewistown Hoss's and 20 - 25% of your check will help to replace the Heritage House at Camp. *A flier will be included in the June newsletter that **MUST** be presented when ordering for your donation to benefit CBD.*

Brethren Open Golf Tournament – August 13

Bring your friends and enjoy a great day of golf while helping to raise funds for Middle PA District and Camp Blue Diamond. Sign-in at Iron Masters Country Club is from 11:30am – 12:30pm for a 1:00pm start. Cost is \$80 per golfer, which includes 18 holes, cart, and dinner at 6:00pm. *Registration deadline is August 5. **More info on the church bulletin board and at www.campbluediamond.org.***

Heritage Fair Quilt Patch – THANK YOU to Jill Keeney!

Many thanks to Jill Keeney for creating the Stone Church patch that will be part of the 2020 Heritage Fair quilt. Jill explained, "Seeking justice and growing in grace is part of our mission. Seeking justice is in rainbow colors to represent our welcoming statement to all. The razor wire around it represents our involvement in prison ministry. Growing in grace is green with a vine to represent the church's commitment and activities to take care of God's creation. The notes at the top recognize the importance of music in worship." We're grateful to Jill for the care and creativity she put into the project on behalf of Stone Church!



Upcoming Events

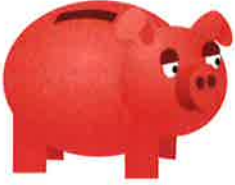
National Young Adult Conf. at CBD	May 24-26
Senior Adult Day with Peggy Ann Bradnick	May 31
Hoss's Fundraiser	June 9
Brethren Open Golf Tournament	August 13
Family Camp	August 16-18
Heritage Fair	September 21

Have questions?

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

Upcoming Conferences and Events!

Pennies for Witness



The Coordinating Team of Middle PA District is collecting your spare change to support the budget of our local outreach ministries. So we'll be collecting your spare change each Sunday until October when we take it to our **District Conference!**



2019 Young Adult Conference

May 24-26

Camp Blue Diamond

Open to ages 18-35.

Enjoy fellowship, worship, recreation, Bible study, service projects and more. Registration is \$150 and includes food, lodging, and programming. Sign up at:

<http://www.brethren.org/yac/>.

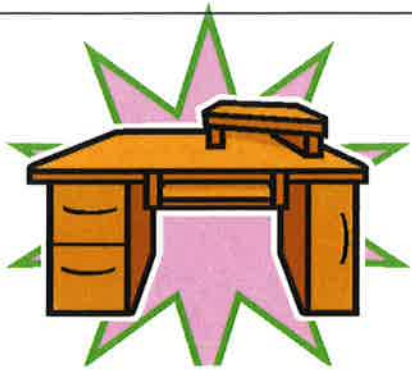


Senior Adult Day

May 31

Camp Blue Diamond

It's a day full of fellowship, inspiration, adventure and fun, as we gather to hear the story of Peggy Ann Bradnick. On a warm spring afternoon in 1966, Peggy Ann was dragged into the mountains near her home in Shade Gap by a disturbed kidnapper. Fifty plus years later she continues to tell the story of the weeklong horror that changed her life, and how her faith saw her through the ordeal and continues to shape who she is as a child of God. Cost is \$10, which includes a morning snack, programming and lunch. A craft, camp tours and climbing tower with zipline will be available too. A take home, brown bag supper is also available for \$3. To register, complete the registration form at www.campbluediamond.org and mail it to CBD; or call 814-667-2355 for more information.



Around the Horn with Gene Goshorn!



Death is scary. It always seems to surprise us. Yet, we begin dying the moment we take our first breath at birth. Christianity tells us that, through death, we can gain new life; that, through the pain of life, we can be born again.

After birth, and before death, Christianity teaches us to live a good life. A popular 1949 song, sings about "Ghosts Riders in the Sky," ; ghosts cowboys chasing a herd of the Devil's cows but never catching them:

"Ghosts riders in the sky...their faces gaunt, their eyes were blurred, their shirts all soaked with sweat They're riding hard to catch that herd, but they ain't caught 'em yet. Cause they got to ride forever on that range up in the sky..."

"As the riders loped on by him, he heard one call his name: "If you wanna save your soul from Hell ariding on our range, then, cowboy, change your ways today or with us you will ride trying to catch the Devil's herd across these and less skies."

Trying to catch the Devil tells the story of a prominent sinner whose name you will know.

During a raging storm at sea, slave ship owner, John Newton, feared for his life, and the lives of his crew.

John cried out to God for help. Miraculously, the storm calmed, and John and his crew were spared.

John renounced slavery; left the sea and slaving. John spent the next 16 years preparing for the ministry.

John entered the ministry at age 39. And, while pastor at Olney, England. John wrote, "Amazing Grace,"; his tribute to the loving God who had saved him.

"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me.

"I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now, I see."



Men's Breakfast

Saturday, May 4

8am

Donna's Family Restaurant
(backroom)

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

Food Pantry Sunday—May 19

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.



IN April, the item was green beans and 121 cans, along with 3 baked beans, 2 black bean, 3 peanut butter, 14 cans of vegetables, 29 fruit, 6 soups & 2 cake mixes were donated during the third Sunday monthly offering to this local ministry. \$407.25 in cash was collected in April, and was donated to Huntingdon House as part of our Lenten focus. During the months of May through October monetary contributions will be donated to the Farmers' Market Bonus Bucks program.

Older Adult Lunch



Lunch Time

Tuesday, May 21 at 12 noon in room 102.

If you know someone within Stone Church or a neighbor or friend who might enjoy this time of gathering, invite them!! Let us know you're coming by Monday, May 20 (643-3390 or stonechurch@verizon.net).

May Birthdays

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1—Leah Lashlee | 10—Jeannie Lashlee | 14—Pam Grugan |
| 1—Brooke Meadows | 10—Anne Siems | 16—Jason Boyer |
| 3—Jill Keeney | 12—Donald Mitchell | 17—Melodee Wingate |
| 3—Landon Meadows | 13—Henrik Berger | 20—Joyce Keiper |
| 5—Cathy Closz | 13—Jack Wagner | 23—Sharon Bookhamer |
| 5—Beth Williams | 14—DeLois Fluke | 25—Rosemary Plane |
| 7—Ginny Sandifer | | |

May Anniversaries

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

May 2019

June 2019

May 2019

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

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Apr 28	29	30	May 1	2	3	4
			10:15am Christian Ed Meeting (Room 201) 12:00pm Fellowship Team (Room 201)	3:30pm J.C. SURF Event (Fellowship Hall & Kitchen) 6:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Room 201) 7:16pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	District Women's Retreat (Laurel Lodge, 2319 Sugar Run Rd) OFFICE CLOSED	Mulching Party 8:00am Men's Breakfast (Donna's Family Restaurant, 9048 William Penn Hwy # 6, Huntingdon, PA 16652,
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 4:00pm Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall or upstairs) 7:00pm Bell Rehearsal (Sanctuary)		5:00pm ACGB Meeting (Room 201) 7:00pm Witness Team (Room 201)	7:00pm Leadership Team (Room 201)	6:00pm Democratic Committee (Rm 102) 7:00pm Democratic Committee (Fellowship Hall) 7:16pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	OFFICE CLOSED	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service w/Handbells (Fellowship Hall or upstairs)		7:00pm Habitat for Humanity	7:00pm Finance Team (Room 201)		OFFICE CLOSED	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Food Pantry Sunday (Noon) 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 12:00pm Lemonade on the Lawn 4:00pm Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall or upstairs)	Newsletter Deadline 7:30pm Beekeepers Meeting (Room 201)	Municipal Primary 12:00pm Older Adult Luncheon (Room 102)	10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Property Team		Young Adult Conf (Camp Blue Diamond, 4013 Blue Diamond) OFFICE CLOSED	
26	27	28	29	30	31	Jun 1
Young Adult Conf (Camp Bl.) 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 4:00pm Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall or upstairs)		6:30pm Deacons (Room 102)			OFFICE CLOSED	

Apr 28 - May 4

May 5 - 11

May 12 - 18

May 19 - 25

May 26 - Jun 1

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

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STONE CHURCH NEWS

MAY 2019

Fellowship and Hospitality will be hosting...

Lemonade on The Lawn

3rd Sunday of each month from May through September!!

Plan to spend a few extra minutes after church to get to know those you worship with!!!

Those dates are: May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, and September 15.

