

# STONE CHURCH NEWS

DECEMBER 2017

## Advent Activities



**SUN, DEC 3, 10:45am** David Radcliff & Anna Lisa preach: *Laboring for Hope*

*What is God birthing into the world this Advent, through our labor? David Radcliff, founder of New Community Project, shares how God's justice and peace are born into our midst through partners and projects around the world that care for Creation, including women and girls.*

**“Hanging the Greens” after worship**, lunch provided. No decorating skills or experience necessary. We need able bodies and cheerful spirits! Let Patti Paterson know you're coming by Saturday, Dec 2, so she can order enough lunch.

**SUN, DEC 10, 10:45am** Bells play, Anna Lisa preaches: *Peace in the Chaos*

**“Chili, Cornbread & Caroling” after worship**. Bring your singing voice downstairs for chili and cornbread; then, once we're full of warm food, we'll share warm greetings with Stone friends and members who are homebound as we sing Christmas carols.

**SUN, DEC 17, 10:45am** Pageant: *A Joyous Story for All Ages*

*We have a beloved Stone Church tradition of a Christmastime pageant featuring all ages (especially the youngest and oldest among us). This year a new director has emerged – Mary Garvey. What will we find in this favorite, familiar story told anew?*

**“Farewell Party” after worship**. We celebrate the year-and-a-half we've spent with Interim Pastor Anna Lisa and her husband, Phillip, following worship over food and fellowship. See the flyer on page 10 for details!

**THUR DEC 21, 7:00pm** Longest Night Taizé worship

*Christmastime is festive, but amidst the holidays many of us feel our loss and loneliness most acutely. Bring your grief, sorrow and longing to this Longest Night of the year worship service in the simple Taizé style of music, prayer and scripture.*

**SUN, DEC 24, 10:45am** Anna Lisa preaches: *Six Angels*

*How many angels does it take to bring a baby into this world? At least six. What is God birthing into our world this Advent? Can we be angels, midwives and coaches for this labor?*

**SUN, DEC 24, 8:00pm** Scripture and songs, candlelit finale

*This year **Christmas Eve** is a Sunday, so we worship both in the morning and evening! (Note that the evening service is a little later than recent years.) Beloved traditions, such as the all-join-the-choir anthem “Lay Down Your Staffs” and candlelit finale of “Silent Night” return.*

and

You're invited to 15 minutes of **Meditation, Music and Prayer**  
at **5:00pm** on Mondays and Wednesdays  
in the sanctuary (Dec 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20)



## Read to Feed

The intergenerational faith formation this Advent is **Heifer International's Read to Feed** program. Sponsor one or more young people (up to 7th graders) for the reading they will do between November 12 (or now!) and December 17. This is a read-a-thon, so pick an amount you'll sponsor them *per book* and they'll collect from you on **December 17**. You can name a maximum donation amount so if you sponsor lots of serious readers you won't be daunted by your final contribution. Anyone past 7th grade is encouraged to read to the youngest ones so they can be part of Read to Feed! It's never too late to start! Readers can get the "Readers" kit from the church office.



**SOUP**  
KITCHEN

**Enjoy fun and fellowship  
while serving our neighbors!**

"Many thanks" to those who cheerfully contributed to preparing, serving and cleaning up after a community meal at the Community Soup Kitchen on Thursday, October 26, 2017.

Our collective efforts represented Stone Church of the Brethren, St. James Lutheran Church, Most Holy Trinity Church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Huntingdon Presbyterian Church, the Muslim faith tradition, Juniata College, & the JVSD Cross Country Team.

Thank you for putting the "community" into our Community Soup Kitchen!

Alice, Shelby Anders, Betty Ann Cherry, Cathy Closz, Mike Dick, Sue Docherty, Jim Foster, Carol Fultz, Dolores Gahagan, Chris Gibboney, Anna Lisa Gross, Pam Grugan, Kat Hopsicker, Rachelle Hopsicker, Kaileigh Johnson, JC Student #1, JC Student #2, JC Student #3, JC Student #4, Harriet Kaylor, Bob Lamey, Melissa McBrayer, Ella McCrum, Elyse McCrum, Eve McCrum, Krista McCrum, Melissa Trout, Becky Plane, Rose Rahman, Lexie Reed, Cheryl Richie, Michelle Rupert, Sam Rupert, Marshall Showalter, Sister Simpson, Louise Smith, Katie Sparr, Sally Stewart, Susan, Sister Tew, Belle Tuten, Jeremy Uhrig, Amy Yocum, Danny Young, Phillip Zink.



**God birthed Jesus into this world through Mary's labor**

## **What is God birthing through our labor this Advent?**

**We sing**  
**We call**  
**We read**  
**We give**  
**We eat**  
**We pray**

Light of the world, into our darkness come  
God be with us, Prince of Peace  
to feed the world through Heifer International\*  
treasures of time and compassion  
sweet fruits, treats of community and harvest  
for strength to build God's Kingdom of justice

*Worship at 10:45 (except 21<sup>st</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>)*

**Sat, Dec 2 9-2:** Alternative Christmas Gifts Bazaar:  
Gifts with local and global impact

**Sun, Dec 3:** David Radcliff & Anna Lisa preach:  
*Laboring for Hope*

*Hanging the Greens following worship, lunch provided*

**Sun, Dec 10:** Bells play, Anna Lisa preaches:  
*Peace in the Chaos*

*Caroling follow worship, lunch provided*

**Sun, Dec 17:** Pageant: *A Joyous Story for all ages*  
Celebrating our time with Anna Lisa &  
Phillip, lunch provided

**Thurs Dec 21 7pm:** Longest Night: Taizé worship

**Sun, Dec 24:** Anna Lisa preaches: *Six Angels*

**Sun, Dec 24 8pm:** Scripture and songs, candlelit finale

15 minutes of meditation, music and prayer  
Mondays and Wednesdays at 5pm

*in the sanctuary*

(Dec 4, 6, 11, 13, 18 and 20)

*\*Read to Feed: Sponsor young people to read books  
and raise money for Heifer International*

**Stone Church seeks to be a Christ-centered  
community where all are spiritually nourished,  
equipped and empowered to continue the work of  
Jesus, peacefully, simply, together.**

Stone Church of the Brethren

1623 Moore St, Huntingdon PA 16652

814-643-3390 [stonechurch@verizon.net](mailto:stonechurch@verizon.net)

[www.huntingdonstonechurch.org](http://www.huntingdonstonechurch.org)



## Summer Camp 2018

It's never too early to start dreaming about summer camp! The 2018 Camp Blue Diamond summer schedule has been published, brochures will be mailed in early January, and online registration begins January 8. 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. <>

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

## Upcoming Events in 2018

Youth Retreat for Grades 9-12

Jr. High Retreat for Grades 6-8

Heritage Fair 2018

January 12 – 14

February 23 – 25

September 22

## Have questions?

Contact your Camp Representative, David Meadows, at 814-599-6017 or [meadowd@juniata.edu](mailto:meadowd@juniata.edu). You can also visit the CBD website at [www.campbluediamond.org](http://www.campbluediamond.org).





## ~ Pastoral Updates ~

The start date for Pastors Cindy and Ben Lattimer has been pushed back to January 15, 2018. Please hold them and their boys close in prayer, as they tend to the countless details and the depth of emotion involved in moving.

The official last day for Pastor Anna Lisa Gross is December 24, 2017, when she'll lead not one, but two Christmas Eve services! Please surround Anna Lisa and Phillip with your prayers, as they spend their final days with our congregation and prepare for their next adventure.



You may have noticed that there's a three-week gap between Anna Lisa's conclusion and the Lattimers' beginning. Please pray for our administrative assistant, Debbie Barrette!! May we find ways to offer support and show gratitude for her work in the days ahead.

## ~ News from Congregational Forum ~

At our November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, Stone Church unanimously approved the endorsement of the Citizens' Climate Lobby Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy, a plan designed to reduce emissions and grow the economy. Thank you to Sharon Yohn for researching this topic thoroughly and explaining it concisely. She inspired us to follow the example of Jesus, to wade in the water, to advocate boldly for a climate solution! For more information about CCL and the Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy, please visit <https://citizensclimatelobby.org>, or simply ask Sharon for details.



A Christmas present from the church office and deacons – your **2018 directory with pictures!** We'll have a draft in worship Dec 10 and 17. Check that your information and face are present and correct, and pick up your brand-new photo directory Dec 24.



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

Thursday December 21<sup>st</sup>

7PM

*The Longest Night*

For those who enjoy quiet and meditative worship, Stone Church offers Taize. This is a style of worship using scripture, silence, prayer, and repeated phrases of simple, beautiful music to create a transcendent and peaceful worship experience.

*All are welcome!*



## *Called to serve!*

Below is the list of those who will be serving in "Called" positions in 2018. Those in bold type were affirmed during the November 12th Congregational Forum. We thank them for accepting this call and thank you for your commitment to support them.

### LEADERSHIP TEAM

### Term Expires

Jeff Decker, Chair of Leadership	2018
Dennis Plane, Vice Chair of Leadership	2019
<b>Brooke Meadows, Moderator</b>	<b>2020 (2<sup>nd</sup> term)</b>
<b>Cathy Closz, Clerk</b>	<b>2020</b>
John Wright, Treasurer	2019
Chuck Yohn, Chair of Christian Ed	2018
<b>David Witkovsky, Chair of Church Property</b>	<b>2020</b>
Barb Purdy, Vice-Chair of Deacons	2020
Bob McMinn, Chair of Finance	2019
<b>Henry Thurston-Griswold, Chair of Gifts Discernment</b>	<b>2020 (2<sup>nd</sup> term)</b>
<b>Sarah Worley, Co-Chair of Hospitality</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Roxann Yon, Co-Chair of Hospitality</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Andy Murray, Chair of Witness</b>	<b>2020</b>
Jim Tuten, Chair of Worship	2018
Chris Gibboney, Worship Team Representative	2018

### GIFTS DISCERNMENT TEAM

### Term

<b>Henry Thurston-Griswold – Chair</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> term – 2018-20</b>
Betty Ann Cherry	1 <sup>st</sup> term – 2016-18
<b>Emily Elder</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> term – 2018-20</b>
Jamie White	1 <sup>st</sup> term – 2017-19
Tara Yorke	2 <sup>nd</sup> term – 2017-19
Pastor	

### 2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES

**Mary Garvey**  
**Brooke Meadows**

### 2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE ALTERNATES

**Betty Ann Cherry**  
**Donna Rhodes**

### DISTRICT CONFERENCE DELEGATES

### Term

Henry Thurston-Griswold	2017-18
Dean Wenger	2017-18
<b>Mary Garvey</b>	<b>2018-19</b>
<b>Rick Laabs</b>	<b>2018-19</b>



## Stewardship Season: 2018 Pledges

As of Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, we have received 68 pledge cards with financial and prayerful commitments toward the vision and mission of Stone Church for the 2018 year. *If you haven't yet made your commitment, there is still time.* As your leadership team does planning for 2018, having a clear sense of what to expect in terms of giving helps us be responsible in building our budget. Pledge cards are available in the church office and at the back of the church. If you have questions or would like to discuss Stone Church finances, please don't hesitate to contact any member of the Finance Team.

Daisy Decker, John Wright, Jeff Closz, Bob McMinn and Pastor Anna Lisa (serving ex officio)

Peacefully, simply, together



	2018		2017		2016	
Range	Total \$ Pledged	# of Pledges	Total \$ Pledged	# of Pledges	Total \$ Pledged	# of Pledges
\$1-999	7,447	14	8,192	17	7,985	18
\$1000-2499	24,360	15	29,740	20	39,920	23
\$2500-4999	63,564	20	84,084	25	56,212	16
\$5000-9999	61,520	10	63,760	11	88,240	14
\$10,000+	73,340	5	60,700	5	38,420	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>230,231</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>246,476</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>230,777</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Average Pledge</b>	<b>3,597</b>		<b>3,160</b>		<b>3,119</b>	

Pledge Information	2018	2017
# new	4	6
# increased	25	44
# equal	31	18
# decreased	4	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>78</b>
# lapsed	24	11

## Stewardship Season: 2017 Budget

### How are we doing with the 2017 budget?

#### 2017 Budget Update (As of Nov. 11, 2017)

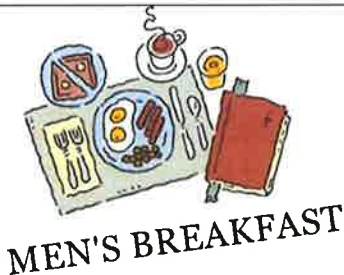
Income	As of 11/11	Budget
Pledged	209,406	246,400
Not Pledged	24,367	31,000
Trust Income	5,352	5,000
Dividends	1,185	1,200
Endowment	0	1,000
Rental Income	255	1,000
Carryover	0	32,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>240,565</b>	<b>317,600</b>

#### 2017 Budget Update (As of Nov. 11, 2017)

Expense	As of 11/11	Budget
Christian Ed	4,881	6,750
Church Property	29,961	34,800
Finance	153	200
Hospitality	527	1,000
Leadership	2,462	3,078
Older Adult	-56	200
Personnel & Admin	164,997	196,657
Witness	42,565	46,165
Worship	2,931	5,690
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>248,421</b>	<b>294,540</b>

#### 2017 Budget Update (As of Nov. 11, 2017)

	As of 11/11	Budget
Total (Income-Expenses)	-7,856	23,060



*Tentatively scheduled for*  
**Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup> @ 8 AM**

*Location -- to be determined*

Watch the church bulletin & Friday Flash for details.

Our monthly men's breakfast gathering is open to all Stone Church men, regardless of age, and their guests. Each gathering is its own distinct event, so come once, a couple of times a year or regularly; there is no obligation. We gather for fellowship and jokes each month at 8am; we enjoy a reasonably priced, delicious breakfast; and then discuss a light topical reflection. We typically wrap up about 9:15ish.

## Older Adult Luncheon

The Older Adult Lunch gathering will meet Tuesday,  
**December 19<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon, at Hoss's Steak and Sea House**

on Route 22, for an afternoon of holiday celebration! If you know someone within Stone Church or a neighbor or friend who might enjoy this time of gathering, be sure to invite them. Reservations are requested in the church office (stonechurch@verizon.net or 643-3390) by Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.





## Bearing fruit

As I write this note it's early November and even though we've had our first snow (ack!), the holidays seem far away. But by the time Phillip and I get back from India, we'll have one more month with you. The time feels suddenly too short, and we are sad to say goodbye to you. As it should be. This sort of sadness is the welcome, bittersweet signal that we mean something to one another.

When I joined you in May 2016 we couldn't predict how this interim time would unfold, how Christy's retirement would progress, and just how or when we would say goodbye to one another. Now we know that our celebration party will be Dec 17, and my last day with you will be Christmas Eve (when we gather twice for worship!). What a whirlwind time for our cups to overflow with gratitude and festivities. In case we don't get to say it face-to-face amidst all that merriment, I love you, I have loved being your interim pastor, and I am grateful that we came into each other's lives.

Our time in Pennsylvania includes challenge – we lost both our dog Oliver and (much less important) our car to Cold Springs Rd, but managed to bike safely along that beautiful and frightening stretch nearly every day. We've relished every green and yellow of spring, all those gorgeous summer days, and now the stunning fiery fall leaves. We won't miss the gloomy winter and will send you prayers of cheer.

I notice how well you listen to my sermons. I notice how easily you welcome my outgoing nature and Phillip's introverted ways. I notice how kind you are to one another, even in frustrating moments or when dealing with frustrating personalities. I notice how easily you trust each other – that is rare, even for churches!

This fall we've asked "How does our vision live?" and find the image of a tree speaks to the vitality of Stone Church:

- Spiritual nourishment and rooting
- Equipping, empowering and growing in community
- Bearing fruit as disciples, continuing the work of Jesus
- And then the cycle continues as fruit becomes seed and new life begins

*Stone Church seeks to be a Christ-centered community where all are spiritually nourished, equipped and empowered to continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply, together.*

rooting



growing



fruiting



It's November, and we are harvesting ripe and sweet fruit all around:

- bright-red, eye-catching apples of new members and attenders who find God's love and Christ's call at Stone Church
- pretty, plump, ripe pumpkins of 10 years of Alternative Christmas Gifts Bazaar, long years of educational partnership with the Farmers' Market and Asturias Academy
- subtle (yet delicious) avocados of phone calls and cards to people who are in pain, who are lonely; caregiving (like avocados) that may blend in with the tree but are nourishing fruit all the same
- slow-ripening tomatoes of stories and testimonies we bring to worship and other gatherings, as we learn together how God is at work in our lives, and find words to share this good news



Whether our fruit is tangy or sweet, showy or subtle, may we nourish one another, our community, and spread the seeds of God's love. Like fruit, may we practice trust as we fall into this world with no control over the seeds we bear. God is within us, among us and beyond us as we turn the seasons, yet again. – Anna Lisa

# Godspeed, Anna Lisa!



## Farewell Party

December 17, 2017 @ Noon

Please join us following the worship service for a time of celebration, as we recognize the blessing of Anna Lisa's interim ministry here at Stone Church. We'll say nice things about her husband Phillip too.

In the meantime, you may contribute to the goodbye gift for Anna Lisa and Phillip by connecting with Brooke Meadows.

RSVP for the meal/program no later than Dec. 8 to the church office: [stonechurch@verizon.net](mailto:stonechurch@verizon.net) or 814-643-3390.



## MESSENGER

## MUSINGS



### “WHEN MOTHER USED TO SAY”

I used to like to make lists of things. Just the other day I came across one entitled “When Mother Used to Say...” Here are a few of my favorites.

“It fits like the paper on the wall, and I wish your mother was here to see it.” I’ve no idea of its origin but it sounded good to a little girl.

“The hurrier I go, the behinder I get!” Sounds like a relative to “Haste makes waste!” Doesn’t it?

“It’s six of one and half a dozen of the other.” Could be a lesson in arithmetic, I suppose.

“Now if that don’t beat all!” Self-explanatory. It sounds pretty good to me.

“There always comes a break.” Said frequently to my father when he got stuck in traffic.

“No! I’m a Democrat!” little Clara Swartswelter explained when a schoolmate asked if she was a Protestant or a Catholic.

“Trust God, see all, nor be afraid.” Years later I discovered that line in Robert Browning’s poem “Rabbi Ben Ezra.”

Do you have any favorite sayings of your parents? I’ll bet you do! It’s good to remember them, especially during the holiday season. Another thing that’s good to remember is keeping your subscription to “Messenger” up to date. For questions about this, see Debbie at the church office.

----- Alberta H. Goshorn-----





## Miguel Angel Asturias Academy | A Fair Start

During this season of Thanksgiving and Christmas preparations, I am writing to say *muchísimas gracias* for your support of the Asturias Academy and to request that you make as generous a financial contribution as you can to our Guatemalan partners so they can continue to provide the gift of an empowering education to some very deserving children. The school just completed its 22<sup>nd</sup> successful year of operation, and Stone Church has accompanied them for eighteen of those years. As a study completed last year attests, 77% of the school's high school graduates have pursued a college education, whereas the national average is only 12%, one of the lowest rates in Latin America. 95% of the school's high school graduates are the first in their families to achieve that level of education, and the high school's level of female participation, 31%, is nearly double the national average.

Although it has taken longer than expected, the Asturias Academy is excited to announce that the school will extend its transformative educational model by opening a second school, a technical institute, in the village of San Juan La Laguna in February of 2018. The two initial programs offered will be health care promotion and entrepreneurship. The process has been slow due to the barriers of political bureaucracy and financial constraints. However, the Global Education Fund provided \$5,000 this year for a feasibility study and startup costs and has committed \$15,000 per year for the first three years of the new school. This expansion is a key part of founder Jorge Chojolán's dream to create an alternative educational model that can be replicated throughout Guatemala, but it will be a challenge to find the additional resources needed to sustain the new school while continuing to generate the funds needed by the Asturias Academy. A further challenge is the need to hire and train five new teachers for the coming year in the school's educational methodology, following a number of years with a stable teaching staff and little teacher turnover.

Approximately 90% of the school's students come from low-income families and without scholarship assistance they would be unable to receive the transformative education offered at the school. Tuition payments cover less than 50% of its \$120,000 annual operating budget, which is to say, all the operating expenses of a pre-K through grade 12 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 assistance. As you consider year-end charitable contributions, remember that your gift to the Asturias Academy will bear extraordinary fruits. How many organizations can say that virtually 100% of donations go directly to program expenses? For only \$50 per month, less than \$2 a day, you can provide a deserving child a full scholarship, which covers tuition, all necessary school supplies, and a school uniform. Please give whatever you can afford and rest assured that the money will be well spent on achieving the school's noble educational mission.

The Guatemala Circle will once again participate in Stone Church's Alternative Christmas Gift Bazaar on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will have a table there for alternative gift shoppers who wish to purchase

## Miguel Angel Asturias Academy | A Fair Start

scholarship gift cards to give a loved one for Christmas or to provide financial support for other needs at the school.

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 Gift Bazaar. The school's priorities for the coming year continue to be student scholarships, funds to build an endowment and improve teachers' salaries, undesignated funds to meet general operating expenses and occasional unexpected, urgent needs, as well as the resources to support the new technical school.

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.

Yours for peace, justice, and hope through education,

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).

## Stone Church Volunteers Ring Bell for Salvation Army

On November 10, volunteers from Stone Church took a turn ringing the bell for Salvation Army's Christmas Kettle Campaign. While a monetary tally has not yet been received, a lot of good will was collected!



Special thanks to our volunteers: Dajine Jones\*, Lily Formosa\*, Sally Stewart, Jeannie Lashlee, Laura White, Beth Williams, Melodee Wingate, Sarah Bierbower\*, Kayla Morrow\*, Emily Elder, Henry Elder, Kacey McFadden\*, Robert Lamey, Sue Lamey and Carolyn Lidston.

*\*JC student of Beth Williams*

### December Birthdays

5—Mario Grugan	15—Terry Murray	20—Meredith Widman
6—Bill Martin *90	17—Jerriann Heiser Wenger	21—Aislin Wright
7—Kendan Beck	17—Geoff Clarke	22—Terri Krabill
8—Virginia Biber	17—Jeff Closz	24—Brenda Quarry
9—Zilla Wagner	18—Emily Elder	24—Sally Stewart
9—Dennis Plane	18—Joanna White	26—Nora Roth
9—Shepherd Miller	18—Max Hosler	28—Olivia Grugan
11—Alex Gibboney	19—Martin Berger	30—Cora Dickey
13—Carol Grubb	20—Josh Porcelli	31—Garry Beck III
14—Rick Laabs		

### December Anniversaries

3—Barb & Max Moyer	31—Tinka & Henrik Berger
6—Betty & David Quarry	



## Food Pantry for December

We will ask the children to collect your items as they come forward for the children's story on Sunday, December 17<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 100 bars and 29 bottles of soap, along with 4 boxes of pasta, a bottle of dressing, one can each of beans, tomato paste and evaporated milk, and \$301 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!!**



# December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>Read to Feed through Dec. 17!</b>		<b>1</b> 5p ACGB set-up	<b>2</b> 9a-2p Alternative Christmas Bazaar
<b>3</b> 10:45a Deacon nominations 12p Hanging the Greens 3p Boy Scout Council 4p Boy Scouts 4p Cub Scouts 7p Bells	<b>4</b> 5p Advent Meditation 5:30p Deacons 6p Kindermusik-Rm 203 7p SURJ, FH/Rm 102	<b>5</b> 4-5p JC concert-Sanctuary 5p Christian Ed.	<b>6</b> Kitchen Reserved 12p Worship Team 5p Advent Meditation	<b>7</b> 5:30p Witness 5:30-7p B.B.B.S-FH 7:16p Choir	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Worship w/handbells 12p Chili & Caroling  4p Cub Scouts 4p Boy Scouts	<b>11</b> 5p Advent Meditation 5:30p Local Food Assn -Rm 201 6p Kindermusik-Rm 203	<b>12</b> 4p Gifts Discernment -Rm 201 7p-Habitat Humanity -Rm 102	<b>13</b>  5p Advent Meditation 7p Leadership Team	<b>14</b>  6:30p-Democratic Committee-Rm 102 7:16p Choir	<b>15</b> 11a-1p JC Facilities Party-FH/Kitchen	<b>16</b> 8a Men's Breakfast - Location TBD
<b>17</b> Food Pantry Sunday Pageant Read to Feed ends 12p Celebration meal with Interim Pastor Anna Lisa 4p Boy Scouts	<b>18</b>  5p Advent Meditation	<b>19</b> HAHS concert  12p Older Adult Luncheon-Hoss's	<b>20</b> 10a Staff Meeting  5p Advent Meditation 6:15 Finance Team 7:16p choir	<b>21</b>  7p Longest Night Taize Service-Sanctuary	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Anna Lisa's last day  8p Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b> CHRISTMAS Office Closed	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  7:16p Choir	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>						

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# STONE CHURCH NEWS

**December 2017**



**Dec 2<sup>nd</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. 3<sup>rd</sup> — Advent begins!**

Read all about it inside, and share the enclosed poster with a neighbor or friend!

