

STONE CHURCH NEWSBRIEF

JANUARY 2018

This abbreviated version of the Stone Church newsletter comes to you to highlight the most important January events.



CONGREGATIONAL FORUM Sunday, January 21 at 8:45 a.m.

Please plan to join us in Fellowship Hall.
Coffee and pastries served at 8:45 a.m..
The meeting begins at 9:00 a.m.

It's a new year, and we need to approve a **new budget!** We will receive **annual reports** and hear from **our new pastors.** Please plan to join us for this important time. Activities for our young people are planned during the Forum (Room 102).

JANUARY SUNDAYS!

The first month of 2018 begins with variety! Join us as we begin a new year!
(Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.; Worship at 10:45 a.m.)

- January 7 – Jim Tuten and Joe Krabill
Mark 1:4-11 – The Lobster Shell
- January 14 – Donna M. Rhodes
Psalms 139 – Woven Together... So That...
- January 21 – Ben Lattimer
Mark 1:12-19 - Jesus Beginning Ministry (Wilderness, Good News, and Calling the first Disciples)
And Taizé at 6:00 p.m.!
- January 28 – Cindy Lattimer
Mark 1:40 - 2:12 - Jesus Beginning Ministry (Miracles)

Instagram

Stone Church now has an Instagram account!
If you have picture submissions from events at Stone Church
that you would like to be posted, send them to
dantejordanfisher@gmail.com.



You can follow us **@stonechurchofthebrethren**



Anna Lisa and Phillip delve into their next adventures with your prayers, companionship and very generous gifts - the money tree donations were over \$900! You'll get them to Mexico with that gas money! Pictures and stories will come your way.

A final farewell and thank-you



As a sweet silent farewell gesture, the congregation wore flowers in their hair (*similar to her signature adornment*) during Interim Pastor Anna Lisa's final worship service Christmas Eve.

Your Deacons



During worship on December 17th, Mary Garvey, Andy Murray, and Sally Stewart answered the call and were commissioned into the Stone Church Deacon Ministry. Deacons serve the congregation by establishing connections with its members and friends, and reinforcing the caring community of the church. We thank all our deacons for their care and commitment!

Sandy Brechbiel
Jeff & Daisy Decker
Carol Fultz
Mary Garvey
Joanne Krugh
Carolyn & Bruce Lidston

Andy Murray
Barbara Parlett
Barbara Purdy
Cheryl Ritchey
Sally Stewart

Deacon Co-Chairs—Daisy Decker & Barbara Purdy
Secretaries—Joanne Krugh & Carolyn Lidston



Choir.... We're on hiatus the first weeks of January. Join us when we return to weekly rehearsals beginning **Thursday, January 25th at 7:16 p.m.**

Youth Ministries

Heifer Project's Read to Feed program was our intergenerational faith formation event this Advent. Youth, up to 7th grade, were sponsored for the reading they did between November 12 and December 17. Those past 7th grade were sponsored to read to the youngest ones. **The \$2008 collected by this is read-a-thon was used to purchase 13 llamas, one bearded goat, and 3 bee colonies.** What a great way to celebrate the birth of Christ and begin a new year. Thank you to our readers: Quinera Bumgardner, Sam Cloz, Rowan and Cora Dickey, CC and Henry Elder, Landon and Nina Meadows, Holden McBrayer, Rosemary Plane, Nora Roth, Jordan Soliday, Finley and Maddix Uhrich, Elliott and Owen Wetzel, and Emily Yohn.



The 2018 Youth Conference "Bound Together: Clothed in Christ" is July 21st-26th in Fort Collins, CO. The youth have been busy hosting fundraisers to help cover the expenses involved in the conference and other youth activities.

- **Chocolate covered pretzels**, made by the youth November 27, brought in a total of \$890.
- **A Taco Bar Luncheon**, held after worship on November 5, brought in donations totaling \$1377.

Older Adult Ministries

The Older Adult Luncheon gathering will meet Tuesday, **January 16 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, be sure to invite them.



Reservations are requested in the church office (643-3390 or stonechurch@verizon.net) by Monday morning, January 15th!

Men's Ministry

The Monthly Breakfast - If you haven't attended before, give it a try! You will experience wonderful caring fellowship, laughter from corny joke-telling, excellent food at a reasonable price, and a thought-provoking reflection topic. Your friends and out-of-town guests are welcome. The next gathering is Saturday, **January 20, 8am** in the back room at Donna's Restaurant. Contact Rick Laabs, rlaabs@mutualbenefitgroup.com, for more info or to RSVP.



Alternative Christmas Gift Bazaar Wrap-Up

The 10th annual Alternative Christmas Gift Bazaar at Stone Church was a huge success! Thank you to each of you that helped in many different ways to make this such a special day. We had fun welcoming David Radcliff from New Community Project, as well as new vendors from Johns Way Medical Equipment Ministry and GreenSpace. Each purchase/donation made at the ACGB makes such a difference in people's lives. **It is great to share and this year we distributed more than \$16,300 to both local and global vendors/artisans!!**



Thank you!! And, if you were not able to help out this year, there will be an opportunity in 2018! So, everyone, stay tuned so you can save the 2018 date which will be decided very soon. It is such a heartwarming day and wonderful experience that continues to draw both young and old to Stone Church as we continue to share the Christmas spirit with each other and the world.

Food Pantry Sunday—January 21

We will ask the children to collect your items as they come forward for the children's time. The item of this month for the Huntingdon Food Pantry is **Mac & Cheese** 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.)



In December, the item was Soup and 80 cans of soup, 12 cans of assorted vegetables (green beans, pumpkin, cranberry, potatoes, beans and tomatoes), 2 cans of meat (tuna & Spam), peanut butter and jelly, 13 bags of noodles, a box of graham crackers and a bar of soap were collected. In addition, **\$199.00 in cash** was donated toward Heifer International.

Grocery Gift Cards— Every card helps our church! (We get 5% to use in our ministries!)



Purchase a Stone Church Grocery Gift Card on Sundays at the back of the sanctuary or in the church office – and Stone Church gets 5% of your grocery receipt total when you buy your everyday groceries – at either Weis or Giant! Over the past years, proceeds from this fund have provided refreshments and decorations for our celebration events, occasional committee meeting lunches, and special in-house projects.

MESSENGER MUSINGS



By Eugene R.
Goshorn

What do you call a deer with no eyes? (I have) no eye deer.

What do you call a deer with no legs and no eyes? (Still) no eye deer.

There are those of us humorists (?) who hold that PUNS are the very highest forms of humor. When I worked in a Public Television station in Upstate New York some years ago, we who gathered at the lunch table, including the Production Manager and Yours Truly, spent quality time in search of the funniest pun. Surely, those of my readers who remember the movie "Singing in the Rain" fondly, remember Donald O'Connor and Gene Kelly singing how "Moses supposes his toeses are roses, but Moses supposes erroneously." Remember, this is a religious publication.

Those of you who know me from my writing in Messenger Musings know how sensitive I am. I'm sure you will be shocked to learn what my mate, my sweet Alberta, my sensitive cowriter who shares these brief writings, calls me. She says I'm a Nuisance. Can you believe this? The woman I give shelter. The woman I care for religiously and for whom I support... not one, not two, but three cats. Do you know how much cat food and litter cost today?

I consulted a dictionary and discovered what Mr. Webster says a nuisance is? ONE WHO IS ANNOYING, UNPLEASANT OR OBNOXIOUS: A PEST. Do you know the meaning of obnoxious? In astrology, I am a Pisces. A Pisces often suffers from sore feet and will often walk a mile to see a sad movie. Years ago, when I saw "The Wizard of OZ," the Tin Man, the Scarecrow and the Cowardly Lion brought tears to my eyes.

When I was a boy, growing up in Mount Union, pet parades were held in which the proud owners of cats and dogs paraded their prized pets, expecting recognition, fame and prizes. As I prepared for puberty and eventual manhood, I had a number of pet dogs and cats. I lost one of these cats to a neighbor who feared for the lives of his chickens, if you can make sense of that. One night my father brought me a very lovable puppy. Being a puppy, I gave him a name - Mitzi. He cried and cried until my Dad placed a wristwatch in Mitzi's box, explaining to me that the watch sounded to Mitzi like the heartbeat of a companion dog, helping Mitzi to stop crying.

But... getting back to the pet parade. My poor kitty was scared to death by the many dogs that were entered by children without regard to the feelings of my poor kitty. Needless to say, these unfeeling dogs totally broke up the parade, chasing my kitty mercilessly.

Later, my love for Mitzi enabled me to spend a cold night in the doghouse with numerous burlap bags. To this day, I have a picture on my living room wall of one of the world's most handsome dogs, a German Shepherd. I don't have to walk him, feed him or listen to his barking. I can enjoy admiring his picture.

Speaking of enjoyment, have you been reading the *Messenger*? If not, this new year of 2018 is a good time to start - AND IT'S TIME FOR RENEWALS! Talk to Debbie at the church office!

Taizé Worship



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

January 21, 6:00 p.m.

A quiet and meditative time of worship using scripture, silence, prayer, and repeated phrases of simple, beautiful music to create a transcendent and peaceful worship experience. **All are welcome!**

January Birthdays -

3—Emma Santos	12—Katherine Swigart	22—Ryan Wetzel
4—Jeff Decker	13—Sabin Fisher	23—Celia Cook-Huffman
6—Orpha Hearn	14—Lois Harbaugh	25—Robert Lamey
6—Sandy Loughlin	14—David Quarry	25—Will Thurston-Griswold
8—Ashlee Fultz	15—Robert Ritchey	27—Cecelia Grugan
9—Christy Dowdy	18—Robin Paterson	28—Heather Rice
9—Charles Swigart	20—Guen Porcelli	30—Jean Corbin
11—John Bowser	21—Cindy Clarke	31—Tinka Berger
11—Bob Biber		

January Anniversary - 11—Belle & Jim Tuten

Testimony from June Peters



Many of you have heard parts, or all, of my story, but some have heard nothing. For those who've heard it already, bear with me! I'll try to briefly cover the main points.

On January 4, 2015, I had a serious car accident that left me with a broken neck and back, laceration of the head, nerve damage, and many bruises. Following surgeries, hospital stays, and physical therapy at two PT facilities, I came home early in July and continued PT at home through the end of the year. In 2016, I had some good days, but mostly I had to cope with on-going pain. In 2017, I had four good summer months and was able to attend church and many other activities. Then the pain hit hard again. Since then, I have seen many doctors, and had tests and treatments; but nothing helped.

Early this month, December 5, I hit rock bottom. I lost all hope, had no desire to do anything or see anyone. I lost all purpose for living. I just gave up. I couldn't understand why God was keeping me here to suffer such pain for so long. Over a period of several weeks prior to this, I had two injections that didn't work at the time, two chiropractic treatments and a medication change. The next day, on December 6, I was decorating a small Christmas tree and suddenly realized that I had no pain! Maybe all three of those treatments had helped at that time, but the loss of pain was instant. God found me at the bottom. ...To me, it's my Christmas Miracle! I give God the glory, as well as my family, my friends of Stone Church Community and many other friends, near and far, who have been praying. I'm sometimes stiff, sore, a bit off-balance, and uncomfortable, but I again have hope that I will gain strength and stability. And good results have continued through the time of this writing, December 20!

Thanks for all your cards, phone calls, caring spirit and past/continued prayers.

God's Blessings to all! June

January 2018

February 2018

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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			

January 2018

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	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	31			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 31	Jan 1, 18 OFFICE CLOSED	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service/Jim Tuten & Joe Krabill 4:00pm Boy Scouts 4:00pm Cub Scouts	8 Dante on vacation	9 Dante on vacation 4:00pm Gifts Discernment	10 Dante on vacation 7:00pm Leadership Team (Room 201)	11 Dante on vacation 6:15pm Democratic Comm. (Rm 102)	12 Dante on vacation	13 Dante on vacation
14 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service/Donna Rhodes 4:00pm Boy Scouts 4:00pm Cub Scouts	15 9:00am Ben and Cindy Lattimer start 6:00pm Kindermusik (Rm 203) 7:00pm Bee Keepers Assn (Rm 201) 7:00pm SURJ (Fellowship H)	16 12:00pm Older Adult Luncheon (Room 102) 1:00pm Christian Ed.	17	18 Youth Conf registration 8:45am Local Food Assn (Rm 201) 5:30pm B.B.B.S. (Fellowship Hall)	19	20 8:00am Men's Breakfast (Donna' Restaurant)
21 9:00am Congregational Forum (Fellowship Hall) 10:45am Worship Service 4:00pm Boy Scouts 4:00pm Cub Scouts 6:00pm Taize (Sanctuary)	22 6:00pm Kindermusik (Rm 203)	23	24	25 5:30pm B.B.B.S. (Fellowship Hall) 7:16pm Choir Rehearsal	26	27
28 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 4:00pm Boy Scouts 4:00pm Cub Scouts	29 6:00pm Kindermusik (Rm 203)	30 6:30pm Deacons (Room 201)	31	Feb 1	2	3

Dec 31 - Jan 6

Jan 7 - 13

Jan 14 - 20

Jan 21 - 27

Jan 28 - Feb 3

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STONE CHURCH NEWS

January 2018

New Pastors

Ben & Cindy Lattimer join Stone Church
Monday, January 15th.

Congregational Forum

Sunday, January 21 – 8:45 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

For all members and friends of Stone Church!

2018