

STONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
140 CHESTNUT STREET
WATERTOWN, NY 13601

Address Service Requested



Stone Presbyterian Church
October 2023 Newsletter



Stone Presbyterian Church

140 Chestnut Street Watertown, NY 13601

Worship Service 10:45 am

October 2023 Newsletter

Pastor's Pondering,

There is a story from a book about a monkey and a fish who were best friends.

One day, a flood came, and the monkey witnessed his dearest friend, the fish, being swept away by the rushing waters. The monkey, desperate to save the fish, managed to rescue it and carefully placed it on a tree branch. Despite the monkey's heroic efforts, the fish eventually succumbed to its ordeal.

Don't ask me how these unlikely friends came together, but this story reminds us not to insist that our way is the only way. When we stubbornly stick to our own methods, our passion and efforts may prove futile. Similarly, we should avoid serving God and others solely from our narrow perspective. These situations often arise in our lives and even within our church community.

We must transition from "my way" to "Jesus' way." Jesus came to grant us abundant life and emphasized that He came not to be served but to serve. If Jesus, our model, arrived to serve, why should we expect to be served?

We believe that the church represents hope for the world, but the world does not always share this belief. Many people are primarily concerned with their own security and satisfaction. Some claim that Christians talk about heaven but fail to demonstrate it in their lives.

I once met a person in a grocery store who mentioned she doesn't attend church but watches worship services and sermons on YouTube that make her feel comfortable. I responded, "That's good, but how can you serve God and others through online media services?" I encouraged her to actively engage in serving God and others within the church while still appreciating online sermons.

I believe that this generation is in search of nurturing leaders, akin to good shepherds. Just as parents sacrifice for their children, our church leaders, saints, deacons, elders, and the pastor should invest their lives in the sacrificial mission of bringing people back.

The church possesses limitless power to aid, heal, guide, and positively transform individuals and the world unconditionally. Only the church can counteract evil with goodness. The church stands as the world's hope, and it hinges on those who obey God to make a difference. Giving one's life to the Lord is not an extravagance; it's a waste if we don't.

Regular worship of God, studying the Bible, and consistent prayer will rejuvenate our sacrificial service. Remember the words, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back" (Luke 6:38). May it be so for you and me. Amen.

Pastor Sarah Lee

Session Meeting Review

The session met on September 20, 2023 at 3:00 P.M.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 2023 meeting were approved.

Financial: The profit and loss statement for August 2023 was presented by Angelo Guarino. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. Motion carried.

Music & Worship: The average attendance for August was 26. The last communion was on September 3rd; 21 people received communion. The next communion will be served on October 1st (World Communion Sunday). The new handbells have been ordered. Jeannie will have a choir on October 1st. As Rev. Lee will be away for three weeks in October, our guest preachers will be: Gail Parsons on October 8th & 15th, and Toby Schilling on October 22nd.

Building & Grounds: The Knox Box has been installed near the sanctuary entrance doors. This box contains access keys to our building in the event of fire. Thanks to Bob for coordinating with the fire department.

Nurture: There will be a fellowship hour after worship on October 29th. Bible study is ongoing and has been well attended. A ham dinner is scheduled following worship on November 19th. There will be a sign-up sheet for this. Bring your appetite and a dish to pass!

Mission/Outreach: A quilt show will be held here on October 14th from 1-4:00 PM. This will take place in Friendship Hall. We will also have raffle baskets for all to bid on. Set up and prep will be on Friday the 13th. A light brunch for church members and quilters will be served prior to the show at 11:00, and doors will be open to the public at 1:00. Sign-up sheets for the brunch and raffle baskets will be on the counter in Friendship Hall. Election Day is not far away (November 7) so mark your calendar and bake some goodies to donate !

Stewardship: Bob Siver distributed the church contribution breakdown through September 17th, along with an overview of the invested funds. Bob has ordered offering envelopes for 2024.

Pastoral Care: Kathie Strader visited and delivered flowers to Shirley Fay, Esther Branche, Doug Howland, and Christine Visscher. A card was sent to Camden Siver from the church. Camden was thrilled to see so many birthday wishes! Remember that a card brightens up the day for anyone, but especially those in assisted living or skilled nursing. Keep those mailboxes full!

Pastor's Report: Rev. Lee mails bulletins and copies of her sermons to members who missed services, does hospital and home visits, and also visits residents of Summit Village. She mails birthday cards from our members & friends list. Please say prayers for our church's continued outreach for new visitors, families and children. We would like to see our Sunday School thrive and be part of our weekly worship! Children are vital to the future of our church!

The next meeting will be on November 15, 2023 at 3:00 PM.

Clerk of Session, Christine Dear

October Happenings



October 1— World Communion Sunday Peace and Global Witness Offering



Find giving envelopes and flyers with your bulletins.



**Communion will be Sunday, October 1, 2023
during our 10:45 am worship service.
Communion is the first Sunday of each month.**

October Sunday Worship Pulpit Supply

While Pastor Sarah Lee is on vacation/study leave in October, while she travels to Korea, the following will be the Sunday Worship Services Pulpit Supply schedule:



**October 8th—Rev. Gail Parsons
October 15th—Rev. Gail Parsons
October 22nd—Rev. Leon “Toby” Schilling**

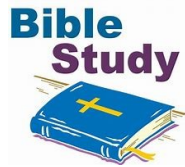
Let’s welcome them both!

**For pastoral needs Kathie Strader 315-782-2347
will accept your concerns during this period.**

October 2023 Meetings & Events



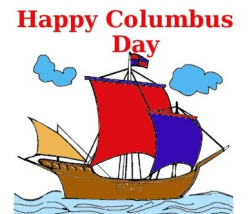
Stone Presbyterian Church Choir will rehearse at 10:00 am on October 1st, Sunday and will sing during worship. There will be one more rehearsal in October. It will be on October 29th at 10:00 am.



The Bible Study

The month of October we will be having at home studies. Our regular Bible study group will resume on November 8th.

October 9, Monday—Columbus Day



There will not be a Session meeting in the month of October. The next meeting will be November 15th at 3:00 pm.

October 29
Reformation Sunday
Sunday Worship time 10:45 am.



Fellowship Hour will follow the worship service October 29. Pastor Sarah Lee will be back at church this Sunday.



"Something Completely Different"

The Nature Committee got a little adventurous lately—wanted to take a chance by promoting a **Quilt Show** at our church.

So we'll be hosting the North Country Quilting Guild.

They will display some of their beautiful handi-work, an art form all its own that becomes a passion. **The Schedule:**



SAVE THE DATE!

**At Stone Presbyterian Church
140 Chestnut Street, Watertown, NY**



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023 at 11:00 A.M.

We'll share **a brunch with the quilters**, get to know them. We encourage our church members to attend. (Bring a friend and a dish to share.) Now a social hour has been created.

At 1:00 p.m. the public will be admitted to this grown up show and tell program. Admire, marvel, exclaim over these testaments to patience, tenacity, skill and creativity—But please do not touch any of the quilts!!



But WAIT! There's more—a selection of uniquely themed **gift baskets waiting to be raffled off** (tickets at the door.) The lucky winners will be called to congratulate them.

There is no admission fee—simply bring a canned or non-perishable item to donate to the Urban Missions' Food Pantry. Thank you.

Note: If you're a church member wishing to attend you must sign up by October 10th. Please include your friend in this head count. The sign-up sheet will be in Friendship Hall on the kitchen counter.

Questions?? Call Kathie Strader 315-782-2347

Hope to see you at the show!





Lectionary for October 2023

October 1

**World Communion Sunday
Peace & Global Witness Offering**

Semicontinuous:

Exodus 17:1-7 and Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16;

Complimentary:

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 and Psalm 25:1-9;
Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

October 8

Semicontinuous:

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Psalm 19;

Complimentary:

Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:7-15;
Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

October 15

Semicontinuous:

Exodus 32:1-14, and Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23;

Complimentary:

Isaiah 25:1-9 and Psalm 23;
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

October 22

Semicontinuous:

Exodus 33:12-23 and Psalm 99;

Complimentary:

Isaiah 45:1-7 and Psalm 96:1-9 (10-13);
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

October 29

Reformation Sunday

Semicontinuous:

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

Complimentary:

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 and Psalm 1;
Thessaonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

Birthdays in October 2023

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Lori Robinson	October 3
Jean Woolsey	October 3
Randall Bell III	October 8
Kathleen Compeau	October 12
John Murray	October 13
Jim Lewis	October 17
Miles Lewis	October 17
Kylie Bell	October 21
Angel Marie Bell	October 25
Pat Conti	October 28
Barry Jennison	October 28
Katherine Anne Newby	October 29
William Daniel Newby	October 29
Shelly Reed	October 30
Dan Woodward	October 30

Anniversaries in October 2023



Brian & Alice Draper
October 8

Roger & Roxanne Young
October 8

Jim & Jen Lewis
October 31

F.R.O.G.

Fully Rely On God



REMINDER— LADIES RETREAT SATURDAY, October 21, 2023

The deadline is fast approaching—
Sunday, 10/1/2023—to get your
registration form and payment in for the Ladies Retreat on
Saturday, 10/21/2023, beginning at 9 a.m. with registration at
8:30 a.m. at the Life Church of the Nazarene, 535 Thompson
Boulevard, Watertown, NY 13601. Become a Frog and take a
“Leap into Faith” by joining us. Please send your registration
form with payment to Grace Wesleyan Church, 311 Prospect
Street, Watertown, NY 13601. We hope to see you there!
Bring a Friend!

**For more information,
contact Kim Mackey, F.R.O.G. Facilitator (315) 420-2271
COST: \$20 Pre-Registration \$30 at the Door
(Cost Non-refundable)**

This is a casual event, so wear comfortable clothing. We will be
doing some artistic activities. Lunch will be provided. All ladies
are welcome to attend. Bring a Friend!

“The Offerings”

We provide tithes, offerings, and
donations during Sunday worship.

You can contribute via mail or
electronically using this QR code.



November Dates to Remember

All Saints' Day—Wednesday, November 1

Daylight saving time ends—Sunday, November 5

Election Day/Bake Sale—Tuesday, November 7

Veterans Day—Saturday, November 11

HAM DINNER AFTER

WORSHIP NOVEMBER 19TH

**Thanksgiving Day—Thursday,
November 23**



Sanctuary Flowers



SANCTUARY FLOWER SIGN-UP

\$12.00 is the COST for the flowers

Please turn fee and "in honor/memory of" for bulletins into office – Thank you!

Flower sign-ups are available for:

**November 26
December 3, 10**



Flower Cartons Need

We use your donations of cleaned milk or juice 1/2 gallon cartons for our Sunday flower deliveries from the Sanctuary. Thank you for your contributions.



Handbell Choir Rehearsals

The Handbell Choir will rehearse from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 pm. each Wednesday.

It's Sunday morning and the handbell choir is playing the postlude. Have you ever had an uncontrollable urge to run up and ring a bell or shake a handchime??? Restrain yourself no longer!!!

The Stone Church Handbell Choir (the Ding-a-Lings) rehearse for an hour each week and play for worship at least once a month from September through June. This is a wonderful opportunity to share fellowship and a love of music. So come join Lorraine Caramanna, Chrissy Dear, Jeannie Greenwood, Michaela Schied and me, Nancy Boynton, and ring your praises to the Lord. No experience is necessary.

Make a
Joyful noise
Unto The
Lord!

???QUESTIONS??? Call Nancy Boynton (Head Ding-a-Ling): 315-782-3934.

Election Day Bake Sale— November 7, 2023



Voting is from
6 a.m. until 9 p.m.



BAKE SALE is from
7 a.m. until sold out.

Donations of home made or store bought goodies such as pies, brownies, cookies, muffins, quick breads, doughnuts, chex mix, popcorn, candy, etc. are needed.

They can be dropped off at the church between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023, or from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Election day.

Volunteer Workers are also needed from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Election Day. Sign-up Sheets will be in Friendship Hall on Sunday, October 22nd until Sunday November 5th. Contact Max Perkins, Chrissy Dear, or Pat Conti with questions. Thank you all for your help!



Outside Church Groups October Meetings

Tai Chi, Fall prevention program will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays in October in Friendship Hall from **10:30 to 11:30 am**



It is designed for beginners with gentle exercise/stretching for adults 60 years old plus.



Quilting Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 3rd,
on Zoom at 6:30 pm
QUILT SHOW!
At Stone Presbyterian
Church Saturday,
October 14th (see
enclosed flyer)



Garden Club
Meeting
Wednesday,
October 4th,
6:30 pm



Bird Club Meeting
Wednesday,
October 11th,
7:00 pm



Quilting Guild
Meetings:
Tuesday,
October 17th,
6:00—9:00 pm
and
Saturday,
October 21st
from 9:00 am
to 4:00 pm



The Northern Blend
Chorus Rehearsal
Schedule for October

- Monday, October 2nd from 6:45-9:45 pm.**
- Monday, October 9th from 12:30-3:30 pm.**
- Monday, October 16th from 6:45-9:45 pm.**
- Monday, October 23rd from 6:45-9:45 pm.**
- Monday, October 30th from 6:45-9:45 pm.**

Worship Ministers

Pastor The Reverend
Sarah Lee

Organists
Chris Hyde-Hall and
Ghilyana Dordzhieva

Choir Director
Jeannie Greenwood

Hand bell Choir Director
Nancy Boynton

Church Staff

Secretary Linda White
Sexton Francis Conti



Stone Presbyterian Church

140 Chestnut Street
Watertown NY 13601

Sunday Worship 10:45 am
Office 315-788-5630

Email
Stonep@centralny.twcbc.com

Facebook
[StonePresbyterianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/StonePresbyterianChurch)

Website
www.stonepreschurch.com

Office Hours
Tues—Friday
9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

**Ruling Elders
on the Session**

Class of 2024

Chris Dear
Max Perkins

Class of 2025

Kathie Strader
Jeannie Greenwood
Stuart Price

Clerk of Session

Chris Dear

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**NOTICE:
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

**Our monthly
Newsletter Deadline
for your articles is the
15th of the month to
be turned in.**



**Caring for the
Congregation**

*The Pastor and the
spiritual leaders place a
priority on visiting
hospitalized members of
the congregation.*

*Please notify the church
office if someone you
know should be visited in
the hospital or while
recovering at home or at a
care center. Also, if you
or someone you know
would enjoy a visit from
Pastor Sarah Lee or a
Ruling Elder, or would
appreciate receiving
communion at home,
please phone the church
office*

(788-5630),

*e-mail the church office
(Stonep@centralny.twcbc.co
m), or place a note in the
collection plate on Sunday.*