STONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 140 CHESTNUT STREET WATERTOWN, NY 13601

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Stone Presbyterian Church January 2022 Newsletter



Stone Presbyterian Church

140 Chestnut Street Watertown NY 13601

January 2021 Newsletter

Pastor's Pondering...

"...Where can we find and pay homage to the newborn King of the Jews? We observed a star in the eastern sky that signaled his birth. We're on pilgrimage to worship him." (Matthew 2:3)

The gospel of Matthew tells us that three magi traveled from afar to meet the new born king, The Messiah. They each brought a gift to give the child; gold, frankincense, myrrh. Each of these gifts was a symbol of the fact that they recognized that Jesus was the truth King. Frankincense was incense that was used in the most holy place of the tabernacle. Myrrh was oil used for anointing. Gold was considered a symbol of kingship.

This reminds me of the song *The Friendly Beasts*. Each animal has a gift they offered the baby Jesus. All acknowledged that Jesus was a special child. The donkey carried the unborn child. The cow gave hay to be a pillow. The sheep gave wool to be a blanket. The dove sang to comfort.

It makes me think that each one of us, no matter who we are have a gift to share. I would suggest that we ponder how we can share it in the coming year in a way that will let people know that we believe and recognize that Jesus Christ is the King of Kings, the Messiah, the Savior.

The Gifts of the Magi

O Lord, I'd like to go to the stable this night!

I'd run even through the dark to lay my gifts at your feet!

Lord, why couldn't I have been there?

I needn't have been a king, perhaps just a shepherd child or someone sent from the Inn to check on the progress of the birth...

Or are you waiting this night in other stables for me to bring my gift?

Are you waiting for me to run even through the dark and cold of night?

By Ann Weems

May 2022 be filled with many ways we acknowledge that Jesus is King and honor Him.

Peace and Grace, Pastor Libby

CHURCH ELDERS

Session Update

The Session met on December 14, 2021 at

Maxine Perkins house. The meeting was opened with a devotion and a prayer led by Pastor Libby. The following was discussed and decided.

- Minutes from the November meeting were approved as were the financial reports.
- The current Covid situation was discussed. We will continue to ask people to wear masks when in the building. Once in the sanctuary for worship and seated masks can be removed. Of course, those who are not vaccinated are asked to continue to wear a mask.
- Orvis, on behalf of the Personnel Committee, reported on 2022 agreements.
- It was decided that the sanctuary will be undecorated after worship on Sunday, January 2, 2022.

- January communion will be moved from the first to the second week in January (Jan. 9, 2022).
- Two building requests were approved; one for a Quilting Group and another for Northern Blend.
- Dedication Sunday for 2022 Pledge will be on December 19, 2021.
- Rev. Barb Schmitz will be preaching on January 2, 2022 and Rev. Andrew Long will be providing pastoral care while Rev. Elizabeth Moses is on vacation, December 27, 2021 January 3, 2022.
- After prayer the Session adjourned to a time of fellowship. Thank you Maxine for hosting the Session.

Rev. Libby Moses

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New Year's Day

Saturday, January 1, 2022

While Pastor Libby is on vacation on Sunday, <u>January 2, 2022</u>, the worship service will have a supply pastor.



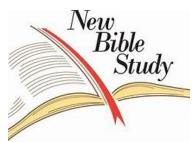


Barb Schmitz will be preaching January 2nd, Sunday at worship.

This day volunteers will take down the church Advent/Christmas decorations to put away for the next year.



The Bible Study group will celebrate Epiphany with Lunch out at the Olive Garden on Wednesday, January 5th.



A new Bible study will start January 12, 2022. Further information to come.

Be on the watch out.

January Dates

January 5

January 12

January 19

January 26

Wednesdays from

5-6 pm



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January Meetings & Events



Epiphany of the Lord is Thursday, January 6th.



The Baptism of the Lord is the feature on Sunday, January 9th.

On this Sunday the Lord's Supper will be celebrated.





We will have a **Session Meeting** on Tuesday, **January 18th, at 6:30 pm.**





The Annual
PER CAPITA

amount will not change for the year 2022. It will remain at \$31.00

Keep in mind when you are making your stewardship giving.

January Lectionary Lessons to the Corinthians



January 2

2nd Sunday of Christmas

Psalm 84:1-4

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

January 9

Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22



January 16

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Psalm 36:5-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-11



January 23

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

January 30

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Psalm 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13



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Randall J. Bell, Jr. **January 6** January 12 Ian Olley **Carrie Hall January 16 Nell Moses January 16** Jon Hall **January 18** Andrew Varga January 22 Elizabeth Hall January 23 Faye Babineau **January 31**



Donald & Chris Dear

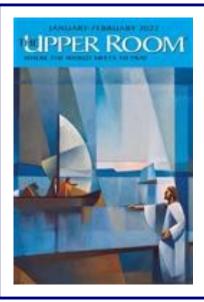
January 18

UPDATED ADDRESSES:

Two people at Samaritan Summit Village, 22691 Campus Drive, Watertown, NY

Cynthia Rarick - Room T 33

Jean Woolsey - Room 11 Skilled



THE PPER ROOM PRAYER BOOKLETS

contain inspiring stories of people, with bible readings, thoughts of the day, written by authors in the US and around the world. These stories you'll find relevant to your daily lives.

They are available at the church and we are offering you the mailing of the January/February 2022 issue of The Upper Room booklet. If you wish to have one mailed to your address, call this request to the office, 315-788-5630.

CURRENT STONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH POLICY DURING WORSHIP



The current Covid situation was discussed at the last church Session meeting. It was decided that we will continue to ask people to wear masks when in the building. Once in the sanctuary for worship and seated, masks can be removed. Of course, those who are not vaccinated are asked to continue to wear a mask.





The Flower Memorial Library

is accepting winter apparel donations. At the library, a large box is in the lobby is there to put your items in. Coats, hats, gloves, mittens, etc. may be dropped off, and they are given out free!

Mission & Outreach Committee



Stone Presbyterian Church 140 Chestnut Street Watertown NY 13601

Office 315-788-5630

Email Stonep@centralny.twcbc.com

Facebook StonePresbyterianChurch

Website www.stonepreschurch.com

Office Hours 9:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M. Tuesday - Friday

Caring for the Congregation

The Pastor and the spiritual leaders place a priority on visiting hospitalized members of the congregation. While Samaritan Medical Center Chaplain calls when he knows someone from Stone Presbyterian Church is in this facility, as a general rule hospitals no longer provide information on admissions and dismissals.

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 Libby 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.com), or place a note in the collection plate on Sunday.

Worship Ministers

Pastor The Reverend Elizabeth (Libby) Moses

Organists Chris Hyde-Hall and Ghilyana Dordzhieva

Choir Director Jeannie Greenwood

Handbell Choir Director Nancy Boynton

Church Staff

Secretary Linda White Sexton Francis Conti

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Prayer Calendar

REMINDER: Our monthly Newsletter Deadline for your articles is the

15th of the month.



Ruling Elders on the Session

Class of 2021

Orvis Calhoun Chris Dear Maxine Perkins

Class of 2022 Kathie Strader

Class of 2023Bob Siver

Roxanne Young

Clerk of Session

Chris Dear

