

STONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
140 CHESTNUT STREET
WATERTOWN, NY 13601
Sunday Worship 10:45 A.M.

Address Service Requested



STONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 2024 Newsletter



Stone Presbyterian Church
140 Chestnut Street Watertown NY 13601
Worship Service 10:45 am
September 2024 Newsletter

Pastor's Pondering

I once had a conversation with someone who had stopped attending church. His struggle centered on a particular passage from the Bible, specifically the verse in Exodus where Moses implores Pharaoh to let the Israelites go. He was deeply troubled by the idea that God repeatedly hardened Pharaoh's heart, seemingly preventing him from releasing the Israelites until the final calamity struck. This led him to a disturbing conclusion: why would God harden someone's heart? Was God, in some way, responsible for their disbelief?

In response, I offered him an analogy. When we invite someone to church, and they consistently refuse, their heart may become more resistant each time. It's as though, with each rejection, their heart hardens a little more. The more God's grace is extended, the more some may choose to turn away from it, even to the point of cursing us, especially if they do not belong to God. The Bible describes this as God hardening their hearts—not as an act of divine cruelty, but as a reflection of their own persistent rejection of God's love.

It's important to remember that questioning can deepen our faith. Without the Holy Spirit's guidance, we cannot fully understand or accept Jesus' teachings. The answers we seek are found in Jesus Christ. I prayed fervently for my friend to return to church and to seek the truth in Jesus Christ, where true understanding and peace are found. Jesus reminds us that no one can come to Him unless drawn by God. God's grace is more boundless and powerful than we can ever fully comprehend.

Following Jesus has never been an easy path for His followers. Yet, it is our sacred duty to share the good news of Jesus, who meets us in our brokenness and transforms our lives with His love. We must continue to pray for those who have strayed and persist in inviting them to encounter Jesus, who alone offers the words of eternal life. Amen.

from Pastor Sarah Lee

September Meetings & Events

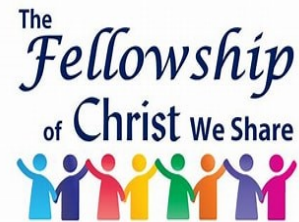


On Sunday, September 1st, during 10:45 am Worship Service we will have Communion.



We celebrate Labor Day on Monday, September 2nd. The church office will be closed Tuesday, September 3rd.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR will be on September 8th after Sunday Worship



You may bring a dish to share, but it's not required. Just bring your family and friends!



SESSION MEETING

We will have a Session Meeting on Monday, September 9th, at 3:00 pm.



Choir Practice

Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Sundays—September 8th and 29th.

All ages and voice parts are invited to join us!! Come, bring your voice and joy in praising God!! The Women's Choir will sing on October 6th.



Handbell Choir rehearsals will resume on September 18th at 5:00 pm.

September Meetings & Events



The Wednesday Noon Bible Study

will recommence on October 9th after the pastor's vacation. During this interlude, we encourage everyone to delve into the enlightening text, "In the Beginning God," alongside the foundational books of the Bible, also known as the Torah or the Pentateuch: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.



PRESBYTERY OF NNY RETREAT

Will be held in Saranac Lake, NY from September 5th to September 7th. Pastor Lee will be attending on the 6th and 7th.



PASTOR VACATION TIME

Rev. Sarah Lee will be on vacation from September 10th to October 4th. She will lead the World Communion Sunday service on October 6th. We wish her happy vacation.

Pulpit Supply Pastors in September

While Pastor Lee is on vacation, the guest preachers will be for the following Sunday Worship days:

September 15th—Rev. Gail Parsons

September 22nd—Rev. Gail Parsons

September 29th—TBA

Welcome them when you come to Sunday worship.



Birthdays & Anniversaries in September



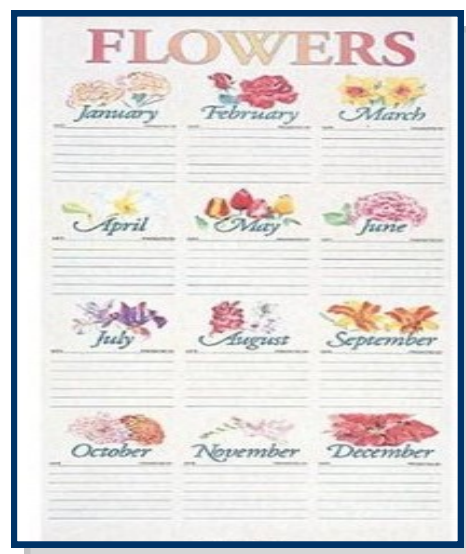
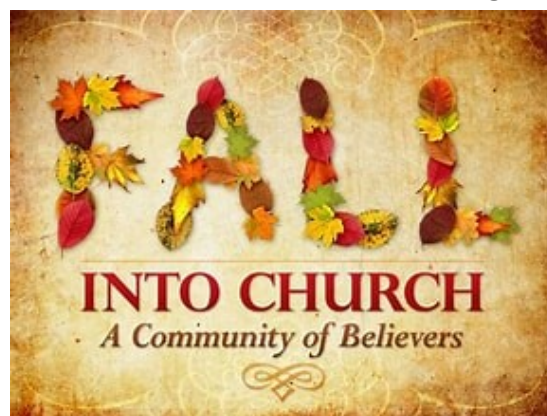
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Emily Purvines	September 1
Roxanne Young	September 2
David Lee	September 3
Jane Tabolt	September 14
Debra Siver	September 14
Stuart Price	September 16
Elizabeth Alice Newby	September 21
Camden Siver	September 21
Murray Kim	September 26
Barbara Williams	September 28



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Justin & Elizabeth Reed	September 3
Justin & Andrea Hall	September 14



**Sanctuary
Flowers—
\$12.00**

**Hall sign-up for open
Sundays available.**

They are delivered to those not able to attend Sunday worship.

After making your choice, let the office know who you'd like to remember/honor for print in that Sunday's bulletin, with the fee.

Outside Church Groups Meetings



The Northern Blend Chorus

rehearsal times for September are:



6:45-9:45 pm.....Monday, September 9
12:30-3:30 pm....Sunday, September 15
6:45-9:45 pm.....Monday, September 23
6:45-9:45 pm.....Monday, September 30



Garden Club

Will meet Wednesday, September 4th from
6:15—8:30 pm



Bird Club

Will meet Wednesday, September 11th at
7:00 pm



Quilting Groups Meetings

in September



QUILTERS—Saturday, September 7th 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

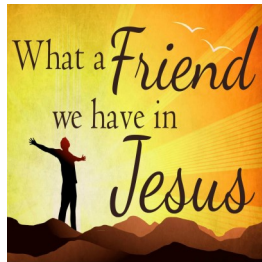
QUILTERS—Saturday, September 14th 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

QUILTING CLASS—Tuesday, September 17th 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

QUILTING GUILD —Tuesday, September 17th 6:15 pm to 9:00 pm

QUILTING GUILD —Saturday, September 21st 8:30 am to Noon

**LADIES
RETREAT
SATURDAY,
10/5/2024**



Focusing on—

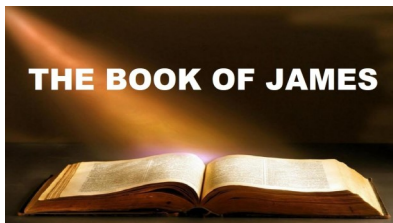
"What A Friend We Have in Jesus"

Registration, 10/5/24 8:30 am.,
Event 9:00 am to 1:30 pm.

Pre-registration is \$20
by September 21, 2024,
or Pay at the Door \$30

More information, contact
Kim Mackey, Friend Facilitator—
315-420-2271

Sponsor/Host: Grace Wesleyan Church
Place: Stone Presbyterian Church
140 Chestnut Street



SEPTEMBER LECTIONARY

September 15

Proverbs 1:20-33 and Psalm 19;
Isaiah 50:4-9a and Psalm 116:1-9;
James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

September 1

Song of Solomon 2:8-13 and
Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9;
Deuteronomy 4:2, 6-9 and
Psalm 15; James 1:17-27;
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 22

Proverbs 31:10-31 and Psalm 1;
Jeremiah 11:18-20 and Psalm 54;
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a;
Mark 9:30-37

September 8

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 and
Psalm 125; Isaiah 35:4-7a and
Psalm 146;
James 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17;
Mark 7:24-37

September 29

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 and
Psalm 124;
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 and
Psalm 19:7-14; James 5:13-20;
Mark 9:38-50

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



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

Website
www.stonepreschurch.com

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

**Ruling Elders
on the Session**

Class of 2025
Kathie Strader
Jeannie Greenwood
Stuart Price

Class of 2027
Robert Siver Jr.
Roxanne Young

**Clerk of
Session**
Chris Dear

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

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**NOTICE:
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

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

