

THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Today:	11:30 a.m.	Deacons' meeting
Monday:	7:00 p.m.	Session meeting
Wednesday:	5:00 p.m.	Game Night
Thursday:	8:30 a.m.	Clinton Area Ministerium – Lutheran Care
Next Sunday:	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Choir rehearsal Worship

LITURGIST: Lora Schilder

THIS MORNING'S HOSTS/USHERS: Sue & Dick Raitt

We have 16 slots available for **THE FALL CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT** for members and friends of Stone Church to be held at Christ the King Spiritual Life Center (<http://www.christ-the-king-center.org/>) in Greenwich, New York (North of Albany) Friday, October 22 through Saturday, October 23. This overnight experience is *not* meant to be a planning meeting, but rather a **time of fellowship and spiritual renewal**. The cost of \$50/person is based on double occupancy and includes lodging, snacks Friday evening and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. (If you would like a single room, the cost is \$65.) **Please make your reservation for the retreat by September 15 by contacting the church office.**

The program will consist simply of the "liturgy of the hours," coming together several times during the day for the "offices" of prayer—short services of scripture, prayers and silence.

For vespers on Saturday, we'll go to the New Skete Monastery (<http://www.newsketemonks.com/>) and then have dinner at Buca di Beppo Italian Ristorante (<http://www.bucadibeppo.com/about/>) before heading home. The time between the short daily prayer offices will be given to informal conversation, games and strolling about the beautiful grounds of the retreat center.

If you have questions, please speak with Linda Rance or with Dennis. Don't miss this opportunity for a fall get-away and time of renewal and fellowship with Stone Church friends!



WELCOME to the worship of God at Stone Presbyterian Church, a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in the Presbytery of Utica. Please make use of the pew cards to indicate any prayer concerns, pastoral needs or suggestions for improvement.



BUILDING STONES MISSION SHOP: You are invited to visit our Building Stones Mission Shop, located in the narthex, to see our wonderful selection of Fair Trade teas, coffees, chocolates, soups, and clothes which are all for sale.

WWW.STONEPRES.ORG: If you have pictures or features you'd like to include in the Stone Church website, contact Ceil Gilbert at 853-8289 or at ceilgilbert@yahoo.com.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you would like to add someone to our prayer list or would like to receive the prayer list for daily prayer, please contact the church office at 853-2933 or stonepres@verizon.net or Sarah Rosenstein at 859-1037 or sprosens@hamilton.edu. Please note that we will remove names after 6 weeks if we haven't received an update or request to keep them on.

Lori Sherwood
Doris Locke
Eleanor Palmer
Elaine Schmidt and Family
Allen Solomon
Kurt Whittemore
Marius Thomassen
Lori Chamberlain and Family
Ginny Francis and Family
Marilyn Wood's Family

Members/Friends of the Week:
David Kolb & Katrina Schell
First Presbyterian Church,
Springfield
Victims of Pakistan's floods
Rosalie Lauber
Lester Bretch
Fred Windecker
Peter Forrester's Family

THE COUNTRY PANTRY NEEDS: The Pantry food bank is requesting donations of crackers, granola or cereal bars, canned spaghetti or ravioli, canned fruit, and shampoo. We also hope to add some small toys for the children. These include playing cards, jump ropes, bubbles, crayons, activity books, and sidewalk chalk. Please leave items in the basket in the narthex.

NAME TAGS: If yours is missing or your name is wrong, please let an usher know, and we will supply you with a temporary tag until a replacement is made. If you're visiting, an usher will be glad to make you a name tag.

A REST ROOM (wheelchair accessible) is located off the narthex to your left as you enter the church. More restrooms may be found downstairs in the hall that parallels Williams St.

THE NURSERY is located off the narthex to your right as you enter the church. A diaper-changing table is there for your convenience.

HOPE HOUSE is in need of the following items: lunch bags, individual size snacks, fruit, paper supplies, and leftover food.

If you are having a party and have plenty of leftover food or paper supplies, remember Hope House. If the cooked food is kept properly iced or warm, they can accept it and actually need it for the growing number of guests they are seeing at lunchtime. Paper plates, napkins and utensils are one of their biggest expenses, not covered by any grants.

PRIDE ALONG THE MOHAWK will hold a festival in Utica the weekend of September 17-19. Please note that there will be an ecumenical spiritual celebration at 3 p.m. on Sunday, September 19 at 412 Rutger Street in Utica. A potluck supper will be served at 5 p.m. All are welcome.

HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE needs volunteers to work with patients and families, participate in bereavement support activities, help in the Siegenthaler Center, and assist in the office. Training dates: Thursdays, October 7 – November 11 from 6:50 to 9:15 p.m. Contact Kate Doran, 735-6487, ext. 240 to pre-register.

NEARLY NEW SALE: Lutheran Home, Friday, September 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, September 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please drop off items in good repair – clothing, jewelry, small appliances, and household items – at the Arntsen Building reception desk from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on September 13-17 only.

Welcome Back, Friend

"No longer do I call you servants...but friends." — John 15:15

Dennis Dewey, 2007

PARK AVENUE
Dennis Dewey, 1985

1. Wel - come back, Friend: please come in. Make your-self at home.
2. Peace I give you, my own peace; take it, hold it fast.
3. Meet my dear friends; greet them well. Share the kiss of peace.
4. Come a - gain, please; I'll be here, wel - com - ing the lost.

Have a seat here; stay a - while. There'll be time for you to roam.
Peace I give; it's yours to keep. Share it free - ly; it will last.
They are your com - pan - ions now. Pray with them and nev - er cease.
Hos - pi - tal - i - ty for all, giv - en al - ways at no cost.

Hear a sto - ry; break some bread; share a cup of wine.

You are al - ways wel - come here, friends of mine.



**An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day
Stone Presbyterian Church
A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation**

We Gather to Worship God

PRELUDE

St. Denio

John Jordan

WELCOME, JOYS, CONCERNS AND INVITATIONS OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT & POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER

CALL TO WORSHIP

+HYMN #263 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* ST. DENIO
(+Those who are able may stand.)

CONFESSION OF SIN (together)

Gracious God:

We confess our sin to one another and to you.

We often think of ourselves as deserving more than we have.

We sometimes count ourselves among the righteous.

We forget that it is by your grace that we are made whole.

**We forget that forgiveness is to be our way of life
because we have so freely been forgiven.**

**Help us be a people changed, a people different,
a people set apart for love and service.**

Let us not grumble and complain,

but rejoice at being found, saved, made whole

for service to you and to others;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



THE PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear, believe the good news of the gospel...

in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

+A DOXOLOGY #578 *Glory Be to the Father* OLD SCOTTISH CHANT

+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

We Listen for the Word of the Lord

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

LESSON FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 – *The hot wind of God's judgment blows.*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalter - Psalm 14 (read responsively)

Fools say in their hearts, 'There is no God.'

They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is no one who does good.

The Lord looks down from heaven on humanity

to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God.

They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse;

there is no one who does good, no, not one.

Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers

who eat up my people as they eat bread,

and do not call upon the Lord?

There they shall be in great terror,

for God is with the company of the righteous.

You would confound the plans of the poor,

but the Lord is their refuge.

O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!

When the Lord restores the fortunes of his people,

Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.

1 Timothy 1:12-17 – *Paul expresses gratitude for God's great mercy.*

Luke 15:1-10 – *parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin*



SERMON

Welcome Back, Sinner!

We Respond in Faith with Thanksgiving

September 12, 2010 ~ 24th Sunday in Ordinary ~ 10:30 a.m.

+AFFIRMING OUR FAITH (together) From *The Westminster Confession*, 1646

By grace through faith, we believe that salvation is the work of the Spirit of Christ in our lives. This work is nurtured and strengthened by the ministry of the Word and sacraments and prayer. Through faith we respond to the truth and authority of the Word of God with changed lives. We stand in awe of God's judgment, and we embrace God's promises for this life and for the life to come. We accept Christ, receive Christ, and rely upon Christ alone to set us right with God, and to give us abundant new life in the covenant of grace. Our faith is a journey which passes over high peaks and through deep valleys. Though our way be threatened, and though we become lost, Christ will prevail, and we shall be found!

+HYMN *Welcome Back, Friend* PARK AVENUE
(Please see announcements insert.)

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* James Hopkins

+A DOXOLOGY #592 *The Old Hundredth*

THE LORD'S SUPPER (Presbyterian Hymnal, p. 13)

SUNG RESPONSES: #581 – “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord” and #582 – “Dying You Destroyed Our Death”

We Go to Live and Serve in the Name of Christ

+HYMN #2241 *The Spirit Sends Us Forth* LAND OF REST

+CHARGE, BENEDICTION & CHORAL RESPONSE

+POSTLUDE



The purpose of Stone Church is to be an inviting, spiritual community of Christ, engaging in worship that inspires and challenges us to learn and grow as we reach out in caring and service, trusting in the love of God.

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Gerald G. Platz, Pastor Emeritus
Peggy Weldon, Office Administrator
Cros Harvey, Sexton
All the People, Ministers

STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP