

Old Stone Church - June 2023



Words From Wang – *June is Busting Out All Over*

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...A time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted...A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

These familiar words from an Ecclesiastical biblical text continue to provide inspiration to persons of faith and can be applied in just about any situation or context. This is my second to last opportunity to share *Words From Wang* in this format and I am hoping to keep it pretty upbeat; to literally reflect on the times to laugh and the times to dance. Of course, to dance is less about particular moves with our hands and feet, and more about the ways we celebrate and express our joys and loves.

It is those joys and loves that I want to direct our time and attention to in the roughly eight weeks we have together. I heard it once said, “next to prayer, laughter is the most important thing we can do” as not only a way to humorously express ourselves, but also in how we exude the happiness we feel when living in the holy moments; be it individually, or more importantly, in the ways that we relate to each other and the communities in which we exist, dance, move, and love.

We have much to celebrate and dance about as we celebrate our accomplishments, new programs, and new friendships. Yes, we’ve said goodbye to some very special people, but our lives are forever changed by all the saints, living and deceased. Summer is such a great time to reflect on the richness that we are so blessed with; and even the tough challenges we’ve had to deal with and ultimately, learned to overcome.

These are still great times to be the church. So, let’s take the time to laugh together and to dance to the beat of the life pulse inside each and every one of us; as well as the pounding of the Holy Spirit. It’s a strong pulse and beat and it needs to be a part of our “movement” in every sense of the word. I say we even sing “Joy to the World” as a song meant to express the joy welling up in us; and it doesn’t even have to include decking the halls or shopping. For at the heart of it all, the joy that we sing of is for the blessings and gifts given as a result of God’s presence in our lives and the master teacher and healer, Jesus Christ.

July 22nd is my last Saturday with you and will include a trip with many of you to see the musical and magical story of Mary Poppins. And if that isn’t the *spoonful of sugar* we need, then let’s just *Step in time* to the resounding symphony that is God’s creation. July 23rd is my last official Sunday as the pastor of Crooked River Ministries. The Rev. Kathy Lawes (my friend of 35+) will bring greetings and joys from the Illinois Conference UCC and deliver a special message that day. One last time for us to laugh and dance together. In the meantime, see ya’ in church.

Pastor Bob

Worship Opportunities (June)

June 4: The 1st Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13, Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon Theme: *The Ministry of Presence*

Note: The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be served

THE MINISTRY
OF PRESENCE



June 11: The 2nd Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Romans 5:1-8

Sermon Theme: *Hope Products, Inc.*

Note: Worship will take place outdoors by the fireplace (weather permitting)*

June 18: The 3rd Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Galatians 3: 26-28

Sermon Theme: *TBD*

Pastor Bob is away for his son's wedding, so the Rev. Bob Hildebrand will be filling in.



June 25: The 4th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Matthew 10:24-39

Sermon Theme: *Conspiracy Theories*

Note: This is a "fellowship first" Sunday and will take place in fellowship hall.

July 2: The 5th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Matthew 10:40-42

Sermon Theme: *Remotely Hospitable*

Note: The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be served



* See outdoor service options on the next page





Rockton Outdoor Service (Option 1)

The Old Stone Church Worship Support Committee is again pleased to be making plans for outdoor worship services once a month throughout the summer. In June we're to worship outside on Sunday, **June 11th at 9:00 a.m.** All are welcome to bring lawn chairs as we will set up near the fireplace like we have in the past. Let's hope for nice weather day! But, if OSC members would rather sleep late that day, they have the option of heading over to Pecatonica to experience the same worship service during the 11:00 hour. (See below)

Pecatonica Outdoor Service (Option 2)

1st Congregational Church is also pleased to announce an outdoor service/picnic which will also take place on **June 11th at 11:00 a.m.** We have reserved the Arrowhead Shelter house located inside the Pecatonica Wetlands Forest Preserve located at 5750 Best Rd. - in the eastern section which is the section a little further north on Best Rd.

Following the 11:00 service all are welcome to stick around for a joint church picnic. And it is a do-it-yourself picnic meaning that everyone should pack and bring their own picnic basket with all the food, beverage, and utensils you'll need to feed yourself and/or your family. If you want to bring a dessert to share, that is an option. There will be yard games and some good old-fashioned fun and plenty of time to explore the forest preserve. Stay as long as you want, we have the shelter for several hours.



"Crooked River Ministries is a collaboration between First Congregational Church of Pecatonica and the Old Stone Church of Rockton. Our Mission is to work together to expand ministries beyond the walls of our churches and includes forming community partnerships."

The Search Process

In April we celebrated the ratification of the shared ministry covenant allowing us to move forward with a joint search for a settled pastor to serve the Crooked River Ministries. We are happy to report that a search committee has been named with representation from both churches.

They are:

OSC: Steve Herdklotz, Jason Plessner, Chelsea Dorr, and Karin Bohr (alternate: Betty Anderson)

Pec: Dawn Lucas, Becky Mitchell, and Kathy Spataro-McGinty (alternate: TBD)

The committee is planning its first meeting for early in June. Many meetings will take place via zoom which is standard for most search committees with in-person meetings being reserved for follow up interviews with candidates later in the process. The first steps are to establish roles, discuss goals and objectives, and revising and/or developing church profiles for each church.

Very soon, we hope to have the new Associate Conference Minister for Pastoral Transitions available to provide guidance and denominational direction to the process. Her name is Rev. Shernell Edney Stilley and she will be joining the Illinois Conference staff some time this spring or early summer.

At any point during the process we will welcome any questions or suggestions. Once a chair person and corresponding secretary are named to our committee we will provide their contact information. As we will throughout the whole process, we ask for continued prayers for the work of the committee that God will bless and inspire those who work on behalf of both churches.

We remain excited about the possibilities that exist as we explore and envision opportunities that our shared ministry provides. Please feel free to approach any members of the team with ideas or questions on our shared ministry.

Shared Ministry Advisory Committee (SMAC)

For 1st Cong. – Kathy Spataro McGinty, Dawn Lucas, and Sally Landin

For OSC – Jason Plessner, Chelsea Dorr, and Steve Herdklotz

And Pastor Bob, of course.

Next Crooked River Sponsored Event: MARY POPPINS AT THE FIRESIDE

We are excited to share that we have a date chosen for our joint trip to the Fireside Theatre in Ft. Atkinson for lunch together and to see a performance of the beloved musical, *Mary Poppins*. We have a group reservation for Saturday, July 22 for a midday dinner in the dining room followed by a 1:30 matinee performance. Arrival time is 10:30 and the meals are served between 11:15 and noon. All participants are responsible for their own transportation however prearranged carpooling is always an option. The discounted group rate is \$80.00 (dinner, show, and gratuity) per person. (Kids meal option available at a reduced rate of about 10% off of posted \$80 ticket price - this is an estimate, and will be confirmed closer to registration date.) Checks can be made out to The Old Stone Church.

We currently have a group reservation for 35 people so it is crucial to make your reservations by contacting the Old Stone Church office asap. **The deadline is June 24.** When you call (815-624-6212) or email (oldstonechurch@oldstonechurch.net) Lindsey, please include your contact information as well as your meal choice (see * below). If emailing or calling, please indicate how you will be making payment which should be made by the June 24 deadline (i.e. dropping off or mailing in. For their convenience, Pecatonica people can hand their payment to Pastor Bob on a Sunday if they so choose). Note: This event is open to anyone in either church but feel free to invite a guest.

Summer Salad

Raspberries, Mangoes, Candied Pecans, and Sartori's Montamore Cheddar Cheese on a mix of greens, glazed with a Raspberry Vinaigrette

Freshly Baked Breads from our Artisan Bakery

*CHICKEN ALFREDO

Skinless Breast of Chicken dipped in egg, lightly breaded and sautéed to a golden brown, served on a bed of Linguine with our homemade Alfredo Sauce. Accompanied by Fresh Asparagus.

*GRILLED PORK LOIN

Center Cut Pork Loin grilled to lock in the flavor, then slowly roasted to perfection. Complemented by a side of our Traditional Teriyaki Sauce. Served with Fresh Asparagus and Grilled Cheesy Polenta.

*SEARED ATLANTIC SALMON

A seasoned, pan seared Filet of Fresh Atlantic Salmon accompanied by our creamy Lemon Velouté Sauce. Served with Fresh Asparagus and Grilled Cheesy Polenta.

*GLOBAL VEGETARIAN MEDLEY

Farm Fresh Vegetables, Mushrooms, Grains, and Pasta.

Peanut Butter Pie

Topped with Chocolate Ganache.

Coffee, Tea, and Milk

Fireside Theatre is located at 1131 Janesville Ave. Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Summer Music

The Old Stone Church is seeking musicians for summer music. If you, or anyone you know would be interested in providing some special music this summer, please reach out to Jenny, or leave a message with Lindsey in the church office.

WORSHIP AND PRAYER

AN INVITATION TO GATHER AND PRAY
FOR OUR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, SCHOOLS AND NATION

ALL ARE WELCOME!

COME EXPERIENCE CORPORATE PRAYER AND
SOOTHING WORSHIP AS WE UNITE MAKING
OUR REQUESTS KNOWN TO GOD.

Beginning Wednesday June 7
Live Worship and Prayer

1st, 2nd & 4th Wednesday
of Every Month

7 P.M. - 8:15 P.M.

THE OLD STONE CHURCH
101 East Union Street
Rockton, Illinois 61072



We are unto God a sweet fragrance of Christ and
the prayers of the saints rise to God, in His
sight and in His presence.

June Birthdays

1st- Timothy Lancaster
2nd- Gavin Bailor
6th- Callista Newmes
8th- Reeve Franklin
18th- Jeff Halom
21st- Neil Cuthbertson
21st- Chelsea Dorr
24th- Bev Peters
25th- Sandy Lynch
30th- Eric Butler



June Anniversaries

3rd- Jan & Erik (Barth)
Huff
18th- Jeff & Vickie Halom
18th- Jason & Katherine Plessner
21st- Tim & Nadine Slocum
24th- Steve & DeeDee Balsley
24th- Bob & Bonnie Estrada
24th- Ken & Bev Peters



June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Food Pantry 9-11	2	3
4 communion	5	6 Worship 7pm	7 Grief Group 10:30 Prayer Group 7pm	8 Food Pantry 9-11	9	10
11	12	13	14 Prayer Group 7pm	15 Food Pantry 9-11	16	17
18	19	20 Council 7pm	21 Grief Group 10:30	22 Food Pantry 9-11	23	24 Mary Poppins RSVP DUE
25	26	27	Prayer Group 7pm	29 Food Pantry 9-11	30	

Old Stone Church
 101 E. Union St
 Rockton, IL 61072
 (815) 624-6212
 Email: oldstonechurch@oldstonechurch.net
Oldstonechurch.net



Old Stone Church Staff:

Pastor Bob Wang: (262) 945-8475
Lindsey Lancaster: Office Administrator
Bob Estrada: Custodian

