

Old Stone Church - July 2026



Welcome to July 2026

On July 4, 2026, America marks a quarter-millennium of self governance and liberty, including the freedom to worship God and live out our Christian faith.

Church leaders can celebrate freedom and patriotism without becoming too nationalistic. This is especially important when political divisions are high. When churches celebrate Independence Day, people can thank God for his blessings, enjoy patriotic music or pray for their leaders. Most importantly, they can hear the good news of freedom and salvation through Jesus Christ alone.

Like the cracked Liberty Bell near Independence Hall, American liberty is imperfect. And, as we're reminded every Memorial Day, freedom comes at a great cost. But as we mark 250 years of the United States of America, we can rejoice that God continues to guide and "shed his grace" on us.

The First Amendment's guarantee that Congress shall make no law "prohibiting the free exercise" of religion isn't the global norm. In many countries, Christians are silenced, persecuted, imprisoned or even killed.

All people "are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights," according to the Declaration of Independence. On the 250th anniversary of those words, our church can point to their Creator and show what it looks like to live in Christ's freedom.

Thanks to the Bill of Rights and God's grace, Americans can worship in public, livestream our services and conduct outreach. We can plant churches and serve our communities using the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

So let us be grateful for America and our God—given freedoms without engaging in over-the-top partisanship. This Independence Day is an opportunity to thank God for our nation, flaws and all, and to commit to its good.

~~ Pastor Randy ~~

Pantry News

This Summer the Y Care kids from the Rockton facility have been helping on Thursdays mornings to carry out groceries for the Pantry patrons. What a great way to teach the kid's about people less fortunate and that it is our job to help them. We appreciate their smiling faces and hard work. They will be missed when school starts up in the fall.



Crooked River Ministries

July Shared Sunday Service:

The Month of July will find the Shared Sunday Service with our Pecatonica church friends at the Hoo Haven outdoor grounds on July 26, 2026. at 10:00 am. Hoo Haven's address is 10823 Cleveland Rd. Durand, IL. 61024. Please join us after church for a fellowship lunch. Don't forget that the service starts at 10:00 am on all Shared Sunday's.



Building and Grounds Committee

As always the Building and Grounds committee is looking for new members. The building and the outside grounds are always in need of repair and clean up. Look deep and see if you can commit to helping on this committee. Your service is appreciated and needed!!

Worship Support News

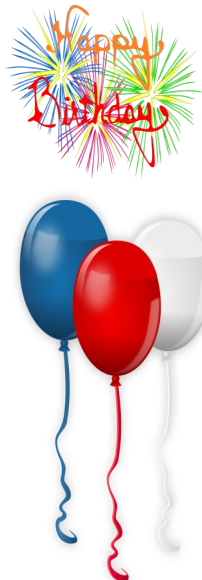
Mary's Market fundraiser yielded 103.00 for the month of May. Thank you to all those who participated. July's Mary's Market date is July 19th from 11:00 to 2:00. Bring your family and friends during this time and the church receives 15% of the total sales.

Marks Pizza vouchers and Candy Bar sales are still available—See Joan Plessner.

Thank you to Jan Barth-Huff for continuing to change the paraments every time it's needed!

July Birthdays

2nd- Howard Harshbarger
6th- Dick Truman
6th- Darrell Williams
7th- Bonnie Estrada
10th- Barb James
11th- Jordan Plessner
12th- Jennifer Bode
14th Jake Piper
14th- Jason Plessner
14th- Alex Heumiller
17th- George Rupert
18th- Marilyn Kiefer
24th- Jeannie Williams
29th- Theresa Barefield78
29th- Jack Eck, Jr.



July Anniversaries



9th- Kevin & Lisa Rudy
13th- Larry & Barb Anderson
23rd- Russ & Barb James



July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Grief Group—10:30	2 Pantry 9—11	3	4 4th of the July
5 Communion	6 Bells—6:00	7	8	9 Food Pantry 9-11	10	11
12	13 Bells—6:00	14 Council 7:00	15 Grief Group—10:30	16 Food Pantry 9-11	17	18
19	20 Bells—6:00	21	22	23 Food Pantry 9-11 Woman's Club—6	24	25
26 Hoo Have Shared Service 10:00	27 Bells—6:00	28	29	30 Food Pantry 9-11	31	

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



Old Stone Church Staff:

Pastor Randy Nicholas
 Sheli Funk-Bright - Secretary
 Tonya Reefer—Custodian

