

# Old Stone Church - June 2026



## Welcome To June

Periodically, I welcome folks from the Jehovah's Witness. I welcome them because, frankly, I'm smarter than them. Once seated on my porch last week, I let them begin their sales pitch. After a few minutes, I took out my Greek Bible and pointed out their translation errors. They made a quick exit. One of their talking points is that the Trinity is a human-created term and does not appear in the Bible. In their view, God is God, and Jesus is not. They translate John 1:1 as follows: "In the beginning was the word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was A God." That added article A separates God from Jesus. That it doesn't appear in the Greek is something they've never understood.

While it may be difficult to generate anxiety about this issue, a mad gallop through church history shows us that trinitarian theology and the specific naming of the Trinity were large issues in the church's first centuries. Questions about Jesus Christ and his place in the Godhead resulted in various heresies among those calling themselves Christian. Was Jesus Christ equal to God? Was he equal but existing independently of God and the Holy Spirit? As time passed, believers were divided into groups by the way they answered these questions. Eventually creedal formulations, such as the Apostle's Creed and the Nicene Creed, became the litmus test of Christian orthodoxy.

Contemporary alternative worship services and seeker services too rarely present a trinitarian God to worshipers. Inclusivity, an issue we have often come to through the revision of hymn texts, has also impacted our worship lives. Some no longer pray for "thy kingdom come", in the Lord's Prayer, but substitute "kin-dom come". Heaven forbid we might reference a male oriented hope for the future. We need to become sensitive to the need for the Trinity to be named in the ritual life of the believing community. Then we must move beyond ritualized speech to integrate trinitarian theology into our personal and corporate faith. Most people like someone to be in charge. Unlike our society, which chooses leaders by the ultimate claims of strong over weak, God has refused a hierarchical ordering of the three persons of the Trinity. God's way works just fine. The Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit are all equal within the Godhead. When we talk about the Trinity, we are talking about God, not merely a concept. Trinity matters. Rekindling our capacity to receive this gift to the church begins by knowing and using the vocabulary of the triune God.

~~ Pastor Randy ~~

## Pantry News

### **Reminder:**

**The Pantry is closed on the 5th Thursday of the month. This happens a couple times of year—  
Thank you Donn and crew for all your hard work!!**



## Fathers Day

Fathers Day is June 21st this year.  
Celebrate the fact that we have the greatest  
Father ever!!!



# Baptism

On March 8th 2026 during our Sunday service we welcomed Max and Luke Dorr sons of Mitch and Chelsea Dorr, into God's holy family.



# Spring Clean Up

A huge **Thank You** to Robin Schroeder , her Friend and Bob Plessner for their Spring Clean Up efforts — We appreciate you!!!



# Fellowship News

## Spring Tea Party 2026—Our Founding Mother's

What a wonderful Day — A huge thank you to the Tea Party planning committee for their huge success again this year. 80 chairs were full with members, family and friends. Raffle prizes exceeded expectations due to Bob Plessner 's acquaintances with Rockton business owners who responded warmly to his requests for raffle items. Thank you Bob!! Estimated profit for this years Tea Party is \$2300.00 . What a great fundraiser!! Thank you Karin Bohr and all the committee volunteers! You did a great job! You're the best!



## June Birthdays

**1st- Timothy Lancaster**

**2nd- Gavin Bailor**

**6th- Callista Newmes**

**11th- Pastor Randy Nicholas**

**18th- Jeff Halom**

**21st- Neil Cuthbertson**

**21st- Chelsea Dorr**

**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**



## Crooked River Ministries

Shared Sunday Service with our sister church , United Church of Christ , Pecatonica , will be held June 28th at the Old Stone with service starting at 10:00 am. Come celebrate Jesus with the congregation from Pecatonica and create new friendships



# June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Council—10:00 Bells—6:00	2 Tea Meeting 1:00	3 Grief Group 10:30	4 Pantry 9-11 GA—6:00	5	6
7 Communion	8 Bells—6:00	9	10	11 Pantry 9-11 GA—6:00	12	13
14 Fellowship Meeting—8	15 Bells—6:00	16	17 Grief Group 10:30	18 Pantry 9-11 GA—6:00	19	20
21 Mary's Market 11	22 Bells—6:00	23	24	25 Pantry 9-11 Woman's Club GA—6:00	26	27
28 OSC Shared Sunday	29 Bells—6:00	30				

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Old Stone Church Staff:

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

