

**Next Sunday** is the first Sunday of Advent, the season when we at Stone Church start our worship service with the lighting of our Advent wreath. Advent is a time of anticipation and preparation: it heralds the marvelous celebration of Christ's birth and the Christmas season. Throughout the Advent season, we at Stone Church will be challenged to prepare, to reflect and to consider our own relationships to God's people throughout the world. As each candle in the Advent wreath is lighted, the ceremonial words and prayers seek to emphasize our relationship with REAL people and our responsibilities to help care for them. Our first candle, lit on December 3, will be the **HOPE** Candle. As is our practice, this Advent offering at the beginning of worship will be separate from our regular giving.

**Fund-Raising Campaign** to replace the roof on our church. As part of that campaign, we are selling a book titled *A View from the Steeple*, written by Midge Bakos. Her wonderful book is available at the Fair Trade Shoppe. The book costs \$19.95 plus tax. The final cost is \$21.70. If you want to purchase a book (or more than one) when the Fair Trade Shoppe is not open, Janice does have books in the church office. You will have to give her cash or check for \$21.70 per book and she will give the money to the Fair Trade Shoppe during shop hours. The book is also available from Almost Local (on Park Row) and at the Historical Society. You also can buy it on Amazon, but their cost is \$24.95 plus tax for each book. Thank you.

**Christmas Families:** We will be adopting 1 or possibly 2 small families through the Neighborhood Center again this year. Tags with their wants and needs will be on the tree December 3th. All unwrapped gifts with the tags attached need to be in the church by December 17th. We will have our wrapping party after church service that same day. We have plenty of wrapping paper but do NEED large boxes for coats, robes & blankets. The gifts need to be delivered on the 18th. Thank you all in advance for your generosity!

**Hope House:** has a special request for dinner plates and dry cereal. Please contact Ceil Gilbert (853-8289) if you have any questions.

**The Fair Trade Shoppe:** If anyone feels moved to support the West Bank Palestinian Christians whose livelihoods have been devastated, we are offering you the opportunity. We have the olive oil and za'atar mix that are made by a group of Israeli and Palestinian women working together in Israel. We also have dishes, bowls, appetizer plates, dipping bowls, olive wood creches and nativity sets that are made in Israel. Our cold-pressed extra virgin olive oil is made from organic olives in Israel. It was the winner of the Gold medal at the Premo Biol competition in Italy, making it one of the best organic extra virgin olive oils in the world! Our traditional za'atar spice mixture is made with sea salt and can be used as a bread dip with olive oil, or on meats, vegetables, or hummus. Each purchase supports a model for peace between Arabs and Jews.



## CALENDAR



Mon/Tues – **11/27-11/28/23:**

Office Closed

Thursday – **11/30/23:**

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday – **12/03/23:**

10:30 a.m.

**Fair Trade Shoppe  
Worship**



Want to see what else is on the calendar? Go to our Web page – [Stonepres.org](http://Stonepres.org) & click on the “CALENDAR ICON”

**Greeter & Host:** Mary Chamberlain

**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 go to our website [www.stonepres.org](http://www.stonepres.org) and click on “Prayer Request”

### Members/Friends of the Week:

Elizabeth Smith  
Peggy & Doug Weldon  
David & Carol White

### Prayer Request:

Edith Rubin  
Kristina  
Kathy  
Mike Brittan & Family  
Ralph Sherman  
Larry Beasley  
Grace & Frank Whittemore  
Erik Jones  
Emily Massi & Family  
Mary Chamberlain & Family  
Linda & Hal Rance  
The LaFont Family  
Patsy Glista & Family  
Trish Harris & Family  
Andrew Bering  
Louise Wrate  
Daniel Kolb and Family  
Sue Raitt



**The Country Pantry:** The Country Pantry will be collecting foods needed for the holidays; boxed stuffing, boxed potatoes, cranberry sauce, vegetables, canned yams, turkey, gravy, canned veggies or whatever you wish to donate. Monetary donations will be used for eggs, bread and cheese. Please mark the check as “holiday food”. Remember the 3rd Sunday is collection day at the church, **however**, feel free to donate anytime.