

This Sunday, is the first Sunday of Advent, the season when our worship and prayers emphasize our relationship with real people and our responsibilities to help care for them. During Advent, to highlight our willingness to care for others we offer special collections. For this Sunday, designated **HOPE** Sunday, our special collection will be sent to Hope House in Utica. Hope House is a non-referral agency, meaning anyone who walks through its doors, whether homeless or in need of stretching meager dollars, is welcomed with open arms to share in a meal. Visitors to Hope House come from all walks of life. As is our custom, this Advent offering will be separate from our regular giving. Your generosity in support of Hope House is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

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 today. 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 West Bank Palestinians whose livelihoods have been devastated, we are offering you the opportunity. We have dishes—bowls, appetizer plates, dipping bowls— and olive wood nativity sets that are made in the West Bank. We also have olive oil and za’atar mix that are made by a group of Israeli and Palestinian women working together 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



Thursday – **12/07/23:** 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 Saturday – **12/09/23:** 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday – **12/10/23:** 10:30 a.m.
 Monday – **12/11/23:** 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Fair Trade Shoppe
Fair Trade Shoppe
Worship
Session Meeting



Want to see what else is on the calendar? Go to our Web page – Stonepres.org & click on the “CALENDAR ICON”

Greeter & Host: Emily Hughes

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 and click on “Prayer Request”

Members/Friends of the Week:

John & Mary Ann Stiefvater
 Joyce Wilbur
 Jay Williams

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.