



Annual Reports for 2025

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

January 25, 2026



Stone Presbyterian Church

Clinton, New York

*The purpose of Stone Church is to be an inviting, spiritual community of Christ,
engaging in worship that inspires and challenges us to learn and grow
as we reach out in caring and service, trusting in the love of God.*

Presbytery of Utica ~ Synod of the Northeast ~ Presbyterian Church (USA)
All the People, Ministers

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Pastor's Report 2025

"All the nations are as nothing before him; they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness." – Isaiah 40:17

A quarter of a century into the 21st century, we seemed as a government and a country to have completely lost our moral grounding and principle. Racism, xenophobia, misogyny, heartlessness, authoritarianism all promoted and even institutionalized. For those who try to follow Christ in living our daily lives as he did, was and continues to be profoundly sad and disturbing.

For Stone Church, though, we continued with our indomitable spirit and gracious hospitality for our mission and activities, such as the Building Stones Fair Trade Shop, Hope House, The Country Pantry, and others. Also, our deacons and others again continue to be a light to others and live out their call of compassion, witness, and service to those in need, illness, and homebound.

As the Commissioned Pastor at Stone Presbyterian Church, I am proud to be a part of this loving community as we work as a community of faith for the community and world in which we live despite the maelstrom at that the national level. And I humbly acknowledge that I played only a supporting role in all these activities, which, frankly, is how it should be. The church—or a country—becomes endangered when it centers around one person, particularly if they are not accountable. We continue to show God's love to others in word and deed with our kindness, generosity, and faithfulness.

As we have for decades, we continue run a deficit, though have continued to be good stewards with our resources and are fortunate that our investments continue to do well. We also continue to be blessed with some unexpected extra donations now and again and this year is no exception. And all of you still support us financially as strong as ever. I have continued to try to provide meaningful worship services, moderate session meetings, provide pastoral care, and participate in presbytery and the community at large.

I continue my part-time arrangement, which includes me having one Sunday off a month from preaching plus four Sundays in the summer. This year it was mostly in July when I had all my family in town at different times but all together the first weekend: my mother, my three brothers and their families, and our four children and their families.

Unless I am traveling, on my weeks off I still attend worship, often as the videographer, and participate as any member. This has allowed me to spend that week off to get caught up or take care of other business, such as working on the monthly newsletter inputs.

In 2025 I preached 37 Sundays along with 7 special services for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunrise, Blessing of the Animals, Christmas Eve, and a special one for a baptism for a total of 44 worship services (I was out of town for our ecumenical Labor Day weekend and Longest Night services). Outside the time I spent preparing and conducting those services I averaged 8.6 hours per week over the year in my pastoral duties in addition to funerals that I conducted. My full-time day job as a proposal manager for a technology company continued to limit me somewhat, though I am looking forward to the time when I retire from that job and have more time.

I continue to have us stream our services on Facebook Live. Though the number of views is small, it has been appreciated by people who could attend services either out of illness, distance, or weather, and provides a link to our community for them.

Here is a compilation of my activities as I reported at our session meetings.

- Pastoral Care
 - Have talked and met with various people on their various concerns throughout the year. This included the Sue Raitt and her family before her passing, Frank and Grace Whittemore, John and Mary Ann Stiefvater, Ewa Lawrence, and others.
- Baptisms
 - Received a phone call 9/20/25 requesting a baptism for Saturday 9/27/25 for Sebastian James Blancovich. Had a special session meeting Sunday 9/21/25 and agreed to it provided it was public worship, which I conducted with Donna Goodfriend, Mary Chamberlain, and Pat Joseph also attending as members of Stone Church.
- Funerals
 - Conducted funeral service for Sue Raitt on Saturday 4/26/25 at Stone Church. The family planned to have a graveside service later. Sue was an active, though homebound, member of Stone Church.
 - Conducted memorial service for Jorge Hernandez on Saturday 6/7/25 at St. Mary's Cemetery. I knew the Hernandez family from Boy Scouts and his wife Carol asked me.
 - Conducted graveside service for Elisabeth Crouch on Friday 8/15/25 at Sunset Hill cemetery. Elisabeth had attended Stone Church many years ago.
 - Conducted funeral for Warren Evans on Friday 12/12/25 at Stone Church. Warren had attended Stone in years past and requested his service be done here.
- Weddings
 - Officiated wedding of Victoria Cardillo and Fran Barres 2:30 p.m., Wednesday 12/31/25 at Stone Church. This included snow shoveling 12/30/25 for the rehearsal along with Lee Kelso, John Menard, and Helen Leonard, and then again on 12/31/25. Also, Donna Goodfriend helping secured the 42 candles the couple had set up on the dais in addition to the dozen along the aisles. They contacted me on 12/10/25 after their other venue cancelled on them.
- Membership
 - Rosalie Wadsworth started attending 1/25/25, sang in the choir, was a liturgist, and asked to become a member. After I counseled with her and with session concurrence, we received her in worship as a new member 11/16/25.
 - As a result of their son Sebastian, Matthew and Brianna Blancovich and his mother Kay Blancovich and sister Emily Blancovich requested to have their membership transferred from First Presbyterian Church of Utica (in Whitesboro) to Stone Church. We received letter of transfer of for the memberships from First Presbyterian Church dated 12/8/25.
- Stone Storytellers
 - Donna Goodfriend and I continue to do storytelling most every Sunday in worship.
 - Donna Goodfriend and I did an hour of storytelling Thursday 10/23/25 for Zion Episcopal Church in Rome, NY at their annual Stewardship dinner. It went pretty well.
 - Have participated in NBS TOGETHER Central and Eastern online storytelling guilds, including a Zoom-recorded epic storytelling of Jonah on 11/13/25 for the Central Guild and will for the Eastern Guild on 1/15/26 with an in-person telling on 2/11/26 of Raising of Lazarus in Scotia, NY.
- Deacons
 - I attended all but one of the deacons' meetings.

- I continue to work with and rely heavily upon the deacons for the care our members, particularly the homebound, and for hosting our events. Though I do meet with people, the deacons provide care on a regular and consistent basis and through many thoughtful acts.
- We did plan and honored Ceil Gilbert on 9/22/25 for her 90th birthday (on 9/23/35) as well as a bon voyage for Bev Miller on 11/9/25 before she headed off to North Carolina to live close to one of her sons.
- Worship, Education, and Program (WEP) team
 - I continue to work with WEP for us to provide a quality and meaningful worship service and I rely upon Donna Goodfriend to get our pulpit supply, which has included her, Rob Kolb, and others, which has been a blessing.
 - We continued to have the Lord's Supper by self-serving for the most part. We were able to have a choir again (notwithstanding a summer hiatus) and with some additional voices for Christmas Eve. The choir adds immeasurably to our worship! I am deeply grateful to Rob Kolb, along with Lauralyn, for continuing to provide music and Sherry Robinson videographer with my wife Helen Leonard also helping out when we didn't have choir.
 - We worshipped in the Norton Room for January to save a bit on heat with the plus of a cozier atmosphere.
 - For the first time since 2015, on 2/2/25 we celebrated Scout Sunday as part of our worship service. Scouts from Troops 44 boys and girls in Clark Mills and Cub Scout Pack 9 in Clinton participated in the service with adult leaders Howie Schafer, Michael Dodson, John Nasci, Sarah Heitzmann Inserra, and Kristin Lange Reichert for initiating and coordinating the event. As an Eagle Scout myself and former Scoutmaster of the troop Stone Church sponsored, my sermon was a story about my first campout—a cold, wintry Klondike Derby in January 56 years ago!
 - Guest preachers we had in 2025 were Helen Tracy (two times), LaDana Clark (three times), Michelle Dolan (two times), Peg Ward (one time), Donna Goodfriend and Mary Ann Stiefvater (one time), and Rob Kolb (four times). Donna Goodfriend also conducted communion in my absence on a few occasions with assistance from Pat Joseph on some of them.
- Finance Committee
 - Continue to monitor our expenses and also continued to receive unexpected donations from various sources. We meet with Wells Fargo representatives to review our portfolio and make some adjustments. The returns on the investments continue to offset our deficit spending and allow us to continue our mission.
- Property Committee
 - Continued to work with the Property Committee on items as they arose.
- Mission, Stewardship, and Support (MSS)
 - Worked a bit with Mary Ann Stiefvater and Donna Goodfriend on stewardship campaign and Consecration Sunday.
- Presbytery
 - I continued to participate in presbytery weekly worship leaders' Zoom meetings when I could where we share experiences, ideas, and concerns and hear guest speakers.
 - Attended Presbytery meetings 1/28/25 at Presbyterian Home, 3/27/25 at New Hartford Presbyterian Church, (missed 5/27/25 at Three Steeples church), 9/23/25 at Whitesboro, and 11/18/25 by Zoom held at Springfield Presbyterian Church.

- Commissioned as Presbytery of Utica commission to the Synod Northeast and attended their special meeting 11/15/25 in Amsterdam, NY. We voted on the recommended changes the Synod and how it operates.
- Was appointed by Presbytery to be a reader for PC (USA) Northeast seminar exams (all online). After training the previous week, I evaluated exams Oct 6-7, 2025. Fairly intense.
- Clinton Area Ministerium (CAM)
 - We met in-person at Stone Church supplemented by Zoom on occasion for some. I continue as secretary/treasurer to chair of CAM, which comprises our local clergy. Our active participants are the Rev. Abel Roy (Clinton United Methodist Church (CUMC)); the Rev. Janet Griffiths (LutheranCare chaplain), Deacon Jean Skinner (Episcopal Church), the Rev. Dr. Mother (Mtr.) Joanne Benskin (St. James Episcopal Church), and we added. The Rev. Father Dan Caruso (new rector at St. Mary's Catholic Church) and Colleen Preuninger, the inaugural Dean of Spiritual and Religious Life at Hamilton College.
 - The activities were able to do this year include:
 - Lenten Study Series in person mostly in March hosted by Stone Church on spiritual practices; I did one on the labyrinth. We had a pretty good turnout of people, consistently over 30 people on average.
 - Ecumenical Good Friday service 4/18/25 in-person, planned by Mtr. Joanna and hosted by St. James. The worship leaders were Mtr Joanna Benskin, the Rev. Abel Roy, the Rev. Janet Griffiths, and Pastor Scott Leonard.
 - Ecumenical Easter Sunrise 4/20/25 service on the village green at the gazebo. The Rev. Abel Roy organized, CUMC provided the music. It was a bit brisk and cloudy, through dry. We had about 45 people, including about 17 Hamilton College students. The worship leaders included The Rev. Janet Griffiths, the Rev. Mtr Joanna Benskin and the Pastor Scott Leonard (who preached the message).
 - 10th Annual Community Collection Day 5/3/25. For the first time in our 10 years we had a low-level but steady rain all morning, which dampened the response but not our spirits! It is wonderful to have members of a community come together to help members of a community! As Mary Zimbler said, "The Pantry is serving many more families than last year. And everything the community does to support the mission of addressing hunger makes a difference." We received monetary donations of \$1602.15, which included \$401 from the bake sale at the church and we may have a bit more coming. In 2024 we collected \$2,826.50. Mary was still happy and wants to open up for other groups to participate next year.
 - Labor Day Weekend 8/31/25 ecumenical worship service on the village green. A wonderful ecumenical service on the green this morning with perfect weather and over 60 people! Thanks to Joanna for giving the message, Abel and Scott participating, Carol Klausner (CUMC) for the children's message and the CUMC band supplying the sound system and music with Rob Kolb (Stone) as a literal last-minute substitution on the keyboard.
 - Blessing of the Animals, 1:00 p.m. Sunday 10/5/25. On a warm, sunny afternoon in honor of St. Francis we had another ecumenical Blessing of the Animals in the Village of Clinton Green. We had about dozen people plus their companions (principally dogs and a few cats) many of whom thanked us for doing this every year. And as is our practice, we also collected some petfood and \$30 in cash for pet food for the Country Pantry because people who need food have animal companions who need food. Worship leaders were the Mtr. Joanna Benskin, the Rev. Janet Griffiths, and Pastor Scott Leonard.

- Longest Night Service (aka Blue Christmas) 12/21/25 in-person, hosted by the LutheranCare in Katherine Lutheran chapel. Worship leaders were Rev. Abel Roy, Mtr. Joanna Benskin (who coordinated and planned the service), and the Rev. Janet Griffiths (I was out of town.). We had a small turnout but those who came needed it. Thanks to St. James for supplying the electric candles (no flames allowed!) and set up!
- Clinton Chamber of Commerce –
 - Got Clinton Chamber Guide ads updated and submitted for Stone Church and the Fair Trade Shop.
 - Attended a Networking Breakfasts at Lumbard Hall on 4/2/25 and at Clinton Historical Society on 5/7/25.
 - Attended Clinton Chamber meeting 9/17/25 on CKIC and the updates on the construction.
 - Supported Shoppers Stroll (after helping to shovel over a foot of snow) 4 p.m. Carols with Rob Kolb, p.m. St. Mary’s Choir, and 6 p.m. performing “A Visit from St. Nicholas.”
- Media –
 - Continued posting weekly the bulletin and sermons on the web site and streaming our services on Facebook Live working with Liz Menard, our webmaster. Posted events on Facebook like storytelling, headstone dedication, Bev Miller sendoff, and Shoppers Stroll.
 - Kept our microphones and sound system maintained.
- Other – Some items include
 - Supported Kirk Petri, a senior at Hamilton College, who wanted to attend services and conduct interviews on how we use sacred music to influence liturgical worship for his honors thesis in religious studies. Kirk gave a lunch-and-learn presentation on 5/4/25 about his findings, which included Stone Church, St Matthew Temple Church of God In Christ Study; and Redeemer Church in Utica.
 - Supported Paul Buckley and MVCC Film students to do a film project at Stone Church on 2/10/25.
 - Supported Hamilton College student Make a Difference Day on 2/8/25 and sent in a press release to the Waterville Times who published an article.
 - Supported and attended, along with Jim Gavett, the Clinton Optimist Club Youth Oratorical Contest at Stone Church on 3/13/25.
 - Gave tour on 4/23/25 to Hamilton College religious studies professor SB Rodriguez-Plate’s “Imagining Religions” class as part of their annual tour of the Village of Clinton sacred spaces, including Stone Church. Once again, I used the 45 minutes of his 30-minute allotment and gave them a tour of Stone Church bolstered by all the research we did last year for our Sacred Sites Open House. The students were very engaged and enjoyed the visit—particularly since it ended up in the “old bowling alley”, now the Fair Trade Shoppe.
 - Sent information 9/14/25 on our CAM to Cheryl Barnes. Manager, U.S. Global Ecumenical Liaisons, and Rev. Ellen Sherby, Interim Unified Agency, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). I met them on a weekly presbytery call. She later emailed: “Ellen and I have been receiving requests from presbyteries to share information on what our vision of global engagement could represent in both the international and U.S. contexts. We both felt that the ministry involvement of Stone Church and the Ministerium would be an excellent example of how congregations could work both ecumenically and ecclesiastically with faith-based or community organizations.”
 - Saturday morning 11/8/25 I gave a prayer of dedication at a Clinton Historical Society (CHS) ceremony at the Clinton Old Burying Ground for the dedication of memorial

headstones for 14 Revolutionary War veterans (including Moses Foote, Hezekiah Gridley, Moses Bristol), a memorial boulder for three previously unrecognized Native Americans (one a Revolutionary War veteran, one a French and Indian War veteran, and one a Brothertown Indian (thus Christian), and a bench for six African Americans lying in unmarked plots (one of whom is a documented slave. CHS subsequently published part of the prayer in their newsletter.

Though we only have about 25 active congregants (and now 44 official members) and limited financial resources, we continue to forth in strong spirit because we focus on our mission as followers of Christ. We continue to seek no reward except to show by example what God expects from us. As “the Chronicler” wrote in 2 Chronicles 7:14, “If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

Shalom,



Pastor Scott Leonard

Clerk Of Session Report 2025

The session of the church is responsible for the mission and government of the church. Minutes and other Official records of the Session are the property of the Session and the Clerk is responsible for their preservation. The report is based on the minutes and other official records of Stone Presbyterian Church for the year 2025. All regular monthly meetings were held by Zoom set up by Pastor Scott Leonard.

The elders comprised Donna Goodfriend, Pat Joseph, Lora Schilder, John Menard, John Stiefvater and Mary Ann Stiefvater, and Commissioned Pastor Scott Leonard (Moderator). Also present for the monthly meetings were Christine Menard (Treasurer); Mary Chamberlain (Moderator of Deacons), Sherry Robinson (clerk of session) and John Menard (Property Committee). Sherry and John were not voting elders for the 2025 year.

For 2025 the session had many items of business, and continued on the strategy it set years ago. There was no annual retreat this year but we continued the growth of our mission and depth of our relationships while planning day to day week to week month to month.

Here are some highlights from 2025:

January – As Clerk of session I worked on the statistical report and submitted it on January 15, 2025 for the 2024 year as follows: Membership: 44 members – 32 females and 12 males; 2 between 26-40; 5 between 41-55; 14 between 56-70; 23 people 71 and over. Congregational Life Stat: 0 baptism, 26 average weekly worship attendance, 3 friends of the congregation. Number of Ruling Elders – 6. Christine Menard provided the financial data needed to complete the report. We had 44 active members; (0 net gains for 2024 year) and we pay our per capita based on this number. All this data was reported on the statistical report.

Our annual Congregational Meeting was held on January 26, 2025. I was not able to be in Church that day, so Scott Leonard took the meeting minutes.

February – We had our annual joint meeting with session and deacons on February 10, 2025. During this meeting we had our Officer Refresher Training provided by Pastor Scott Leonard. Our Mission Statement “The purpose of Stone Church is to be an inviting, spiritual community of Christ, engaging in worship that inspires and challenges us to learn and grow as we reach out in caring and service, trusting in the love of God”. Session voted to keep our wonderful treasurer, Christine Menard on as treasurer. She does an excellent job and goes above and beyond. Ordination and Installation of Officers was on February 9, 2025. Lora Schilder was installed as an Elder. Pat Joseph for Elder and Linda Rance for Deacon were not present for installation. Congregational meeting minutes were reviewed and minor corrections made.

Per a request, I distributed an email to all elders and deacons with texts, emails, phone numbers and how folks wanted to be contacted.

March – Session voted and accepted the February 10, 2025 meeting minutes. At this meeting the Memorial Funds were discussed. Research was going to be done for the definition on how that money is served and that proper plaques are made to represent folks as memorial also over a certain limit the session should approve.

April – Session voted and approved March 10, 2025 meeting minutes.

Clerk of Session was notified that there had been a power outage and the carillon had stopped playing. I was able to contact Emily Massis who was able to reprogram it on Thursday, April 3, 2025 and it should be all set for the year.

May – Session voted and approved April 14, 2025 meeting minutes.

June – Session voted and approved May 19, 2025 meeting minutes.

September – Session voted and approved June 9, 2025 meeting minutes.

We received a couple of thank-you notes from two folks who were home recuperating thanking the congregation for the flower arrangements and gifts from the Fair Trade Shop.

A special session meeting was held on September 21, 2025 to approve a baptism and service to be held on Saturday, September 27, 2025. This was the same day as our annual pie sale, so some members were able to attend the service. These same folks that had the baptism also requested to have membership transferred from First Presbyterian Church in Whitesboro to Stone Church.

October – Thank-you card received from Ceil Gilbert for the party we held for her after worship celebrating her 90th birthday. Email received from Michelle Dolan, Committee on Ministry (COM) liaison, asking if we had any joys or concerns any upcoming events or projects where Presbytery could offer any support or resources. Session did not have any at this time.

November – Session voted and approved the minutes of the session meeting October 13, 2025. We received notice that November 9th, 2025 would be our good friend Beverly Miller's last Sunday at church as she was moving to NC. We had a lovely send-off party for her after worship.

November 16, 2025 during worship we welcomed our newest member, Rosalie Wadsworth.

December – Session voted and approved the minutes of the session meeting on November 9, 2025.

The Session Voted to have the annual congregational Meeting January 25, 2026 and to have our annual informal budget review after worship on January 18, 2026. We are going into the New Year 2026 with 44 members.

Members:

In 2025 the deacons and congregation lost 1 member.

- Deaths: 1 member we mourn was the loss Sue Raitt, who passed away on 4/18/25 and served as a Deacon during her life time.
- Wedding: 1
- Baptism: 1

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Robinson, Clerk of Session

Property Committee Report 2025

The Property Committee was very busy in 2025 as is usually the case. Fortunately, there were no major issues that impacted the building but the maintenance and general upkeep of the church is a challenge and must be dealt with all year long. Fortunately we have a staff (i.e., Sexton, Lee Kelso and Church Secretary, Janice LeFrois) that are incredibly helpful in spotting problems with the building as they arise. We also have several contractors that we depend on for the roof, heating system, plumbing, electrical maintenance, etc. that we rely on. So, the work that keeps our building going truly is a collaborative effort and involves a significant number of people. That said, below is a month-to-month summary of our maintenance of Stone Church.

January

- With sexton Lee Kelso, the committee started the process of ascertaining how the electric panels are connected and which circuit breakers are connected to which outlets and devices. This was a daunting task that has been talked about for many years and will require many hours of research and study. The committee felt that it would be well worth the effort.
- Sunday services were held in the Norton Room to conserve heat.

February

- Hamilton College students came on February 8 and helped clean the church.
- Dwight Dibble repaired a cracked beam above the ceiling as part of the roof project.
- The weather was severe this month and a lot of effort was put into cleaning and salting the sidewalks and entrances.

March

- Continued evaluating the electrical circuits and made much progress.

April

- Mosher Roofing finished sealing some joints on the roof- this completed the roof restoration.
- Completed labelling all electrical outlets and switches.

May

- Started the process of cleaning and getting the attic in order. This is another task that has been talked about for years but we are finally tackling.

June

- The American flag and Church flag were dry cleaned.
- Dehumidifiers were set up in the dining room and kitchen; it was a very wet spring and there was much dampness in the basement. The dehumidifiers in the Fair Trade Shop were also turned on.
- Sample folding chairs for the Norton Room were obtained and evaluated for possible replacement.

July

- Bushes trimmed by Josh Wenzel.
- Dehumidifier in the Fair Trade Shop not draining properly; the situation was resolved.
- The Fair Trade Shop entrance was painted.

August

- No major activity.

September

- Dwight Dibble repaired broken plaster in the Sanctuary ceiling.
- Boilers and furnaces had yearly cleaning by Bentley Mechanical.
- Biannual inspection of the boiler was done by New York State.
- Air conditioner in Secretary's office removed by Zeke LeFrois.

October

- The dehumidifiers were turned off and stored for the winter.
- Dwight finished the ceiling repair in the sanctuary.

November

- A new Christmas tree was purchased and attached to a cart on wheels. It will be stored in the Narthex- this will be much easier than disassembling and reassembling the tree every year.
- There was a big storm at Thanksgiving this year and much shoveling was required for the Shopper's Stroll.

December

- Winter was here—early this year. Sidewalk salt was purchased and much shoveling and salting done.

In January 2026 the beams of the sanctuary will be scraped and repainted by Dwight. He will also repaint the "crying room" in the narthex, replace an outlet in the choir loft to a grounded outlet, and evaluate the outdoor light timer, which is malfunctioning. This will all be paid for by funds left over from the roof campaign.

A special shoutout goes to Lee Kelso, our church sexton. Lee is very diligent in his efforts to keep our building clean, functional and safe. He goes above and beyond and the committee is very appreciative for all that he does.

And as always, thanks to all who help in keeping our church working and beautiful.

The Property Committee

MaryAnn Stiefvater

John Stiefvater

John Menard

Finance Committee Report 2025

The church continues to enjoy a stable and consistent financial picture. The faithful payment of pledges is the cornerstone of our reliable income. We also receive money from visitors, community members and past members of the church. The Fair-Trade Shoppe provides rental income that is extremely helpful as well.

Wells Fargo Advisors:

We continue to have two longstanding accounts with Wells Fargo investments. These accounts have been very stable, despite our need to withdraw money every year to help manage operating costs. As of the end of 2025, we gained had a modest loss of \$3567.77 even after withdrawing \$35,000 earlier this year. We did not meet with the Wells Fargo representatives this year but plan to do so in 2026.

Capital Fund Account:

This account was established at NBT bank in 2023 to maintain a separate accounting for the roof campaign donations. The roof was fully paid for in 2024, leaving \$9129.78 for additional painting and repair of the sanctuary ceiling. This project began in January 2026.

Memorial Fund:

This year we established a Memorial Fund committee to help decide how to allocate donated funds. The purchase of new chairs for the Norton Room has been investigated but none were deemed satisfactory. Instead, the committee agreed to purchase a new Christmas tree for the sanctuary. The cost of 826.77 included an artificial twelve-foot tree, rolling stand and cover. It can be easily moved from the Narthex to the sanctuary.

Deacon's Fund:

The important work of the deacons is funded by loose change collections on the first Sunday of the month. We also receive donations periodically from individual donors.

Presbyterian Foundation:

These accounts are held with the Presbyterian Foundation are the Swarthout fund and the Memorial fund. This money is restricted, and we do not access the accounts. Interest from these accounts is deposited directly into our main NBT account on a quarterly basis. This year we received \$371.00.

NBT Principal Account for Operating Income and Expenses:

This account is used to manage our budgetary income and expenses: the operation of the church. Mission income and expenses are accounted for but not part of the budget. This year we changed to ADP payroll service for ease of doing the payroll and to maintain compliance with Federal and State reporting requirements. We will reevaluate this change at the end of 2026. The cost is \$80/month with four free months this year.

Thank you to everyone who helped this year and for the incredible generosity of our church community.

Christine Menard, Treasurer

Wells Fargo Investments Summary: 2018-2025

Date	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	12/31/2020	12/31/2021	12/31/2022	12/31/2023	12/31/2024	12/31/2025
Account #1	\$ 115,895.98	\$ 142,721.47	\$ 156,259.11	\$ 174,506.47	\$ 143,338.75	\$ 157,460.67	\$ 149,213.94	\$ 154,963.53
Account #2	\$ 208,466.50	\$ 232,658.11	\$ 222,597.85	\$ 231,635.00	\$ 166,551.46	\$ 157,052.74	\$ 167,613.16	\$ 158,295.80
Total	\$ 324,362.48	\$ 375,379.58	\$ 378,856.96	\$ 406,141.47	\$ 309,890.21	\$ 314,513.41	\$ 316,827.10	\$ 313,259.33
							Loss = \$	(3,567.77)

2025 and 2026 Budgets

	<i>Actual 2025</i>	<i>Budget 2025</i>	<i>Budget 2026</i>
ADMINISTRATION INCOME			
Deacon Activity Income	2,737.95	0.00	\$ -
Fair Trade Shoppe Rent	6,000.00	6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Miscellaneous Income			
Disaster Relief	400.00	0.00	\$ -
Total Miscellaneous Income	400.00	0.00	
Per Capita			
Per Capita 2025	616.08	2,210.00	\$ 2,026.00
Total Per Capita	616.08	2,210.00	\$ 2,026.00
Presbytery Foundation Income	337.97	337.00	\$ 341.00
Sunday Plate Offering			
Loose Offering Cash/Checks	387.00	250.00	\$ 250.00
Non Pledged Income	9,056.35	0.00	\$ -
Pledges 2025	67,903.83	72,600.00	\$ 70,952.00
Total Sunday Plate Offering	77,347.18	72,850.00	\$ 71,202.00
Wells Fargo Supplement	35,000.00	30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Total ADMINISTRATION INCOME	122,439.18	111,397.00	\$ 109,569.00
MINISTRIES INCOM			
Memorial Fund Income	1,465.00	0.00	\$ -
Total MINISTRIES INCOM	1,465.00	0.00	\$ -
MISSION INCOME			
CHURCH WORLD SERVICE OFFERINGS			
Mission Beyond/Disaster Relief	0.00	1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Total CHURCH WORLD SERVICE OFFERINGS	0.00	1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
LOCAL OFFERINGS/MISSION			
Country Pantry Food Bank	1,497.00	0.00	\$ -
Hope House	271.00	0.00	\$ -
Total LOCAL OFFERINGS/MISSION	1,768.00	0.00	\$ -
PRESBYTERIAN OFFERINGS			
Christmas Joy	256.00	0.00	\$ -
One Great Hour	1,176.80	0.00	\$ -
Peacemaking Income	219.00	0.00	\$ -
Total PRESBYTERIAN OFFERINGS	1,651.80	0.00	\$ -
Total MISSION INCOME	3,419.80	1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
STEWARDSHIP OF PROPERTY INCOME			
Building Use	0.00	200.00	\$ 200.00
Roof donations			
Book Income	42.00	0.00	\$ -
Roof donations - Other	500.00	0.00	\$ -
Total Roof donations	542.00	0.00	\$ -

Total STEWARDSHIP OF PROPERTY INCOME	542.00	200.00	\$	200.00
Total Income	127,865.98	112,597.00	\$	110,769.00
Gross Profit	127,865.98	112,597.00		

Expense

ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

Deacon Activity Expense	3,582.32	0.00	\$	-
Miscellaneous Expenses	2,392.20	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00
Office Supplies				
Website Management	2,807.65	750.00	\$	750.00
Office Supplies - Other	4,113.70	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
Total Office Supplies	6,921.35	5,750.00	\$	5,750.00
Per Capita Tax	2,209.92	2,210.00	\$	2,026.00
Postage	930.70	1,200.00	\$	1,200.00
Telephone/Internet	1,619.86	1,700.00	\$	1,700.00
Total ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	17,656.35	12,860.00	\$	12,676.00
Balance correction	412.00	0.00		

CHURCH STAFF EXPENSES

Certified Lay Pastor				
CLP Benefits				
CLP Auto/Professional	0.00	500.00	\$	500.00
CLP Continuing Ed	0.00	500.00	\$	500.00
Total CLP Benefits	0.00	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
CLP Housing Allowance	29,935.36	26,970.00	\$	27,725.00
CLP Social Security Offset	2,226.54	2,063.00	\$	2,121.00
Total Certified Lay Pastor	32,161.90	30,033.00	\$	30,846.00
Director of Music	19,144.45	19,135.00	\$	19,671.00
New York State Unemployment Ins	1,011.19	900.00	\$	1,000.00
Office Manager	20,227.20	18,780.00	\$	19,308.00
Payroll Processing			\$	640.00
Payroll Taxes & Benefits	3,435.11	3,324.00	\$	3,315.00
Sexton	5,367.66	4,231.00	\$	4,350.00
Total CHURCH STAFF EXPENSES	81,347.51	76,403.00	\$	79,130.00

MINISTRIES

Choir Singers	595.00	1,200.00	\$	600.00
Memorial Fund Expense	1,166.34	0.00	\$	-
Minister/Music Director Subs				
Music Substitutes	750.00	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
Pulpit Supply	1,586.86	2,800.00	\$	2,800.00
Total Minister/Music Director Subs	2,336.86	3,800.00	\$	4,400.00
Music	0.00	200.00	\$	200.00
Organ & Piano Maintenance	1,500.00	2,800.00	\$	2,000.00
Soundssystem Maintenance	0.00	400.00	\$	400.00
Worship Supplies	44.98	225.00	\$	200.00

Worship, Education & Program	0.00	200.00	\$	200.00
Total MINISTRIES	5,643.18	8,825.00	\$	7,400.00
MISSION EXPENSES				
CHURCH WORLD SERVICE				
Mission Beyond/Disaster Relief	1,619.20	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
Total CHURCH WORLD SERVICE	1,619.20	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
LOCAL OFFERINGS/MISSION				
Country Pantry Food Bank	1,073.00	0.00	\$	-
Hope House	271.00	0.00	\$	-
Refuge Family Expenses	591.00	0.00	\$	-
Total LOCAL OFFERINGS/MISSION	1,935.00	0.00	\$	-
Mission & Stewardship Committee	292.00	600.00	\$	600.00
PRESBYTERIAN OFFERINGS				
One Great Hour	1,176.80	0.00	\$	-
Total PRESBYTERIAN OFFERINGS	1,176.80	0.00	\$	-
Total MISSION EXPENSES	5,023.00	1,600.00	\$	1,600.00
STEWARDSHIP OF PROPERTY				
Insurance	9,629.29	9,500.00	\$	9,700.00
Maintenance - Church				
Roof Expenses	1,380.00	0.00	\$	-
Maintenance - Church - Other	4,090.30	12,000.00	\$	10,000.00
Total Maintenance - Church	5,470.30	12,000.00	\$	10,000.00
Utilities - Church	10,608.34	17,000.00	\$	15,000.00
Total STEWARDSHIP OF PROPERTY	25,707.93	38,500.00	\$	34,700.00
Total Expense	135,789.97	138,188.00	\$	135,506.00
Net Ordinary Income	-7,923.99	-25,591.00	\$	24,737.00

Worship, Education, and Program (WEP) Annual Report 2025

Stone Church continues to be active with a focus on giving.

In January, we worshipped in the Norton Room for the first time since 2020. We held our budget review on the 19th and our Annual Congregational meeting on the 26th when we received committee reports and elected officers.

On February 2, area Scouts participated in our morning service. On the 9th, we installed officers and on the 10th we had our annual joint Session and Deacons meeting at 7 p.m. We welcomed Hamilton College students on February 8th who spent 3 hours cleaning in the church. We enjoyed learning about the students during a lunch break.

March 5th brought the beginning of Lent with our pancake supper and Ash Wednesday service. It was our turn to host the Clinton Area Ministerium Lenten Series, which began on March 11 and ended on April 8. We explored a different spiritual practice each week including: breath prayer, labyrinth, art prayers, Ignatian contemplation and Holy Week rituals. All enjoyed this interactive experience.

April was a busy month with our Palm Sunday service, Maundy Thursday service, Good Friday service at St. James Episcopal church, Sunrise service and our regular Easter service. We enjoyed our Lenten desert with symbols from the scriptures and the Easter garden with our new tomb built by Lee Kelso, Donna Goodfriend and Trisha Harris. We welcomed Celia Bogan, Director of Operations at Hope House in Utica, on April 6 as part of our Lunch and Learn series. She focused on many individuals who have benefitted from the services that Hope House provides to those in need of a meal and a warm place to meet. Hope House is one of our missions and we volunteer to serve dinner there the last Monday of every month.

On May 4, we had another Lunch and Learn with Kirk Petrie, a Hamilton College student, who summarized his findings regarding the use of sacred music to influence liturgical worship. Stone Church participated in his study and had a lively discussion following his presentation. We participated in Community Collection day on May 8 with an ecumenical bake sale in front of the church.

June 1, Mary Ann Stiefvater and Donna Goodfriend conducted the service as Scott was away. They spoke about the history of the church. On June 7, many members attended the Women in Worship luncheon at Harts Hill Inn to celebrate Pat Joseph's award. She received the Deborah Award for a "woman who exhibits great leadership and wisdom and is a tremendous role model". Well deserved, Pat!

Summer worship began July 6 at 9:30 a.m. with Rob Kolb preaching for the month of July. We all look forward to having him preach in the summer! This July, however, was the hottest weather we have experienced with temperatures in the 90s. Rob persevered through all the heat! Thank you, Rob! Scott returned from vacation and preached for the month of August and coordinated the Ecumenical service on the Green on August 31. Scott enjoyed a cooler month.

Worship resumed at church on September 7 at our regular time of 10:30 a.m. The choir resumed that Sunday also, adding so much to our service! Following worship, we had our welcome back luncheon to celebrate our return and catch up on all that had happened to each other over the summer. On Saturday, September 27, Scott conducted a special worship service to baptize Sebastian Blankovich. The family appreciated our willingness to accommodate their schedule.

October brought our Stewardship campaign with the theme "Let Your Faith be Stronger Than Your Fears".

On October 5 there was an Ecumenical service for the Blessing of the Animals on The Green Pet food was

collected for the Country Pantry and many brought their pets to be blessed. On the 11th, many of our members gathered to pack meals for “Your Neighbors”, one of our mission projects. There were two special Sundays in October: World Communion Sunday on the 5th and Reformation Sunday on the 26th when we had special services with communion. We enjoyed our celebratory dinner on Consecration Sunday, the 26th when we brought in our pledges which marked the end of our Stewardship campaign.

We celebrated All Saints/All Souls on November 2 with a special candle lighting service honoring all the Saints who have gone before us. Many brought pictures of loved ones who had influenced them on their faith journeys. We decorated the church for Christmas on November 23rd and Advent began on the 30th.

We collected special offerings during Advent to support Hope House (Nov. 30, Hope Sunday), the Presbyterian Peace Initiative (Dec. 7, Peace Sunday), The Center (Dec. 14, Joy Sunday) and The Country Pantry (Dec. 21, Love Sunday and on Christmas Eve).

An Ecumenical “Longest Night” service was held on December 21 at LuthernCare for those experiencing grief, loss or hardship during the Holiday Season. It was a touching service of prayer, silence and candlelight. Our Christmas Eve service, celebrating the Christ Child, the light of the world, was beautiful! Our choir (with some added voices) filled the hearts of those attending with special music. Members and some of their children read the scripture passages with anthems and carols interspersed. With Rob and Loralyn’s hauntingly beautiful rendition of “Oh, Holy Night” during the Christmas candle story, the service was truly a memorable one for all! We closed out the year with a Service of Lessons and Carols on December 28.

We want to thank those who filled in as pulpit supply during the year when Scott was off including: Helen Tracy, the Rev. LaDana Clark, Rob Kolb, Michele Dolan, and Peg Ward. Pat Joseph and Donna Goodfriend conducted communion on the Sundays that Scott was off.

We are grateful for all we are able to do to make our congregation, our community, and our world a better place by serving God and others. May 2026 be another year of meeting the challenges of our time!

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Goodfriend

Mission, Stewardship and Support (MSS) 2025

In January, we were challenged to be alert to new needs and opportunities in our community and elsewhere and to decide what our response to those needs might be. We look forward to supporting the missions we are currently serving including: Hope House, The Country Pantry, The Fair Trade Shoppe, The Center, Presbyterian Disaster, The Presbytery and The Presbyterian Church USA. Ceil Gilbert stepped down from managing our participation in Hope House and Lora Schilder has agreed to take over that responsibility.

During Lent, we thought about our contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger, promotes development opportunities and assists in catastrophe rebuilding. One Great Hour is an important Lenten offering which we collect on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. It is one of the Presbyterian Church USA's special offerings each year.

It was brought up that we might consider Heifer International as another mission program that we might contribute to.

On April 6th, we had a Lunch and Learn with Celia Bogan from Hope House who discussed the importance of their mission and the services they provide to those in need. Lora Schilder worked with Mary Ann Stiefvater to set up this program. The Session voted at their March 10th meeting to approve the fourth Sunday of each month as Hope House Sunday and invite people to bring in supplies and food for Hope House clients.

We have designated the third Sunday of each month to The Country Pantry and bring in food to support local families in need. The church, along with the Women's Association and The Fair Trade Shoppe, contribute money to The Country Pantry to allow them to buy food from the Syracuse Pantry to distribute to these families. The need is greater than ever since budget cuts have decreased the amount of money The Pantry has to purchase food.

Our second Lunch and Learn was held on May 4th following worship with Kirt Petrie, a Religious Studies major from Hamilton College. He spoke on his findings of how music impacts church worship. Since several of our members participated in his research, we were very interested in hearing the results. A lively discussion followed his presentation.

We support the Deacons by collecting "loose change" (and bills!) on the first Sunday of every month. This money helps them to serve our congregation and other missions outside the church. It should be noted that the Deacons provide the food for the Lunch and Learn programs and our Stewardship celebratory dinner. A big thank you to them!

Mary Ann worked on Stewardship which started on October 12 and culminated with our celebratory dinner after church on October 26. She, with a little help from Donna Goodfriend, chose the theme "Let Your Faith be Stronger Than Your Fears" and chose banners to display this theme. These banners are used not only for our Stewardship campaign but they are displayed throughout the year. Mary Ann composed a letter to send out to members to remind them to prayerfully consider their monetary pledge for the coming year. She also wrote the "minute for mission" segments for each week during Stewardship. Each week of the campaign brought an emphasis on Time, Talent and Treasure. Pledges totaled \$68,692.40 at the end of the campaign and more pledges may come in as the year ends.

On October 11, we held a "Your Neighbors" meal packing event at church. Several members prepared food at home and brought it to The Norton Room to pack into containers that are frozen and distributed to vulnerable individuals in the Greater Utica Area by "your Neighbors" volunteers. This is a non-profit group that operates out of the Zion Lutheran Church in New Hartford, NY.

In November's Session meeting, it was voted to commit our special Advent offerings to: Hope House (Hope Sunday), PC USA Peace Mission-peace making support (Peace Sunday), The Center (Joy Sunday) and The Country Pantry (Love Sunday and Christmas Eve offering).

We are truly a Matthew 25 church and look forward, with anticipation, to a new year of Mission possibilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Goodfriend with Mary Ann Stiefvater

Membership, Communication And Outreach (MCO) Report 2025

Our team consists of Ceil Gilbert, Emily Hughes, Linda Rance and Sherry Robinson. Our goal is to “encourage the integration of visitors and new members into the life of the church” and our tasks throughout the year include the following:

We promote a sense of community through personal relationships within the congregation and try to plan and participate in church events. We are very lucky to have Pastor Scott continue Zoom-meetings as well as live Facebook streaming for our Sunday worship services; this has become our norm.

We oversee the communications of the church including productions of the *Corner Stone* monthly newsletter, the Stone Church website, bulletin board, and publicity of church events.

We seek to look at the ministry of the church through the eyes of the outsider to help make our church a visitor friendly time with the first-time visitors.

We follow up with either personal note cards or emails to new visitors when applicable. We do have pew cards and every Sunday it's noted during the service if you are visiting to please fill out a card. We mail out welcome notes to new visitors:

- February – two welcome notes were mailed out
- April – one welcome note mailed
- June – one welcome note mailed
- November – two welcome notes mailed

Our committee is responsible for gathering gifts for the church staff, a special thank you to the deacons and Women's Association for providing the funds. A big “thank you” to Linda Rance for shopping for the five gift certificates that were given to the church staff and our church treasurer, along with four boxes of candy and one box of nuts.

The prayer chain is alive and very active. We send emails to a list of folks when prayers are requested and needed immediately. We receive prayer requests through emails, texting, our church website, by word of mouth and prayer cards in the pews. If the requester would like, we will print the name in our Sunday bulletin prayer list and our monthly newsletter prayer list.

In March the session discussed the Memorial Fund committee and Sherry Robinson wrote up some guidelines and presented to committee members Emily Hughes, Ceil Gilbert, Linda Rance, and Sherry Robinson to also be on that committee as well as this committee. A year-end report will be submitted by Emily Hughes.

We would like to thank the congregation for all your love and support throughout the year as we know you are all involved with everything we have listed here and more.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Robinson

Nominating Committee Report 2025

Because of our small size, we have been blessed for those continuing to serve even after taking a year or so off. According to our bylaws, five members is the minimum size for the session and for the board of deacons.

We lost Bev Miller as a deacon when she moved away in November. We thank her many, many years of devoted service! At John and Mary Ann Stiefvater's request the session agreed to release them from the one year remaining on their term with the hope they can rejoin session next year.

For session, the committee nominates Lora Schilder for a two-year term after serving for one year; John Menard and Sherry Robinson for new three-year terms after a year hiatus, and new member Rosalie Wadsworth to be ordained and installed for a three-year term.

For deacons, we thank Trisha Harris, Barbara Greene, and Judy LaGasse for willing to serve second terms.

Respectfully,

Donna Goodfriend, Nominating Committee Chair and elder representative
Mary Chamberlain, deacon representative

<u>Elders</u>	
<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Installation</u>
Donna Goodfriend ¹	2/2021
<u>Class of 2028</u>	
Pat Joseph	2/2025
Lora Schilder	2/2025
<u>Class of 2029</u>	
*John Menard	2/2026
*Sherry Robinson	2/2026
**Rosalie Wadsworth	2/2026

<u>Deacons</u>	
<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Installation</u>
Deb Lapoint	2/2024
Helen Leonard	2/2024
<u>Class of 2028</u>	
Mary Chamberlain ¹	2/2022
Emily Hughes ¹	2/2022
Linda Rance	2/2025
<u>Class of 2029</u>	
*Trisha Harris ¹	2/2023
*Barbara Greene ¹	2/2023
*Judy LaGasse ¹	2/2023

*Candidates nominated as officers

**Candidate to be ordained and installed

¹ Second three-year term

Sherry Robinson to continue to serve as Clerk of Session
Donna Goodfriend to chair the Nominating Committee
Mary Chamberlain to continue as Moderator of Deacons

Board of Deacons 2025

Serving this year: Mary Chamberlain, Barb Greene, Trisha Harris, Emily Hughes, Judy LaGasse, Deb Lapoint, Helen Leonard, Beverly Miller and Linda Rance. Christine Menard is our treasurer.

Linda Rance wrote an article for the Deacons Corner each month in the *Corner Stone*.

The Deacons visited homebound members during the year. Meals were delivered to members needing help after surgery or sickness. Flowers were sent to let members know we are thinking of them and to, hopefully, brighten their day. We made phone calls to our homebound members and others to keep in touch and check on them. The Deacons mail our devotional booklet, *These Days*, to our homebound members.

Linda Rance provides seasonal flowers/plants on the front steps of the church, making it look even more inviting.

Judy LaGasse is the liaison for the Country Pantry. She puts announcements in the bulletin and newsletter requesting food and other items needed by the Pantry.

Bev Miller and Linda Rance sent Easter and Christmas cards signed by church members to home-bound members and others. Sympathy, get-well, thank-you and thinking-of-you cards were sent.

Judy LaGasse and Deb LaPoint ordered palms for Palm Sunday and ordered Easter flowers. Christmas poinsettias were ordered.

The church was decorated for Christmas during Hanging of the Greens. The Deacons provided lunch. Christmas gifts were delivered to our homebound members and our secretary, Janice LeFrois. Linda Rance decorates the sanctuary and Norton Room for each season.

Besides ushering, greeting and doing coffee hour every Sunday, the deacons coordinate/help with other special activities during the year:

1. Deacons helped with Community Collection Day bake sale.
2. The Clinton Area Ministerium Lenten study with suppers were held at Stone Church.
3. Deacons helped with Lunch-and-Learn in April.
4. Deacons helped with memorial service for Sue Raitt in April.
5. Deacons helped with Lunch-and-Learn in May.
6. We provided a cake to celebrate Pat Joseph winning the Women in Worship award in June.
7. Deacons helped with Welcome Back Luncheon in September.
8. Birthday cake, gift and flowers were given to Ceil Gilbert for her birthday in September.
9. The Deacons assisted with the Stewardship Luncheon in October.
10. Deacons provided a cake to welcome Rosalie Wadsworth as a new member.
11. Deacons provided a cake to say goodbye to Bev Miller who moved to North Carolina in November.

We have a great group of Deacons who are always ready and willing to help any member of the church or community event. It is a pleasure to work with them.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Chamberlain, Moderator

Board Of Deacons

Financial Report – 01/01/25-12/31/25

Finances:

Balance as of 01/01/25:	\$989.15
Income	\$2737.95
Expense	\$3582.32
Balance as of 12/31/25	\$144.78

The Deacons carefully spend their funds on the many kindnesses they do for others. Bills are paid with a credit card or individual shoppers are reimbursed when necessary. Most expenses are flowers, food, gifts, and hospitality products for the Norton Room, such as coffee from the Fair Trade Shoppe. Mary Chamberlain coordinates all purchases on behalf of the group.

Memorial Committee Report 2025

We inspected folding, vinyl seat chairs to replace our current chairs. Six different sample styles were not the quality were not the quality expected. We will find new resources and try to find new chairs in 2026. We welcome requests for replacements from all church departments.

The fund received monies from the following in “memory of”

<u>For</u>	<u>Given by</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
Honor of Ceil Gilbert	Leslie North	\$50.00	09/13/25
Honor of Ceil Gilbert	Lora Schilder	\$90.00	09/13/25
Memory of Sue Raitt	Stephanie Crawford	\$240.95	05/11/25
Memory of Sue Raitt	Shirley Swan	\$100.00	05/05/25
Memory of Sue Raitt	Alma Ingalls	\$25.00	05/05/25
Honor of Rob Kolb	Lynne Bolstad	\$100.00	05/05/25
Memory of Trudi Christeler	Carol Peterson	\$1,000.00	02/10/25

TOTAL: **\$1,605.95**

Expenses:

Picture of the outside of church	\$311.00
Christmas Tree	\$826.94

Finances:

Balance as of 01/01/25:	\$3,649.91
Income	\$1,605.95
Transfer to deacons	\$140.95
Expense	\$1,137.94
Balance as of 12/31/25	\$3,976.97

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Hughes – Chair, Committee – Ceil Gilbert, Linda Rance and Sherry Robinson

Building Stones Fair Trade Shoppe Report 2025

The Fair Trade Shop continues to be successful in every way. Net sales for this year were **\$35,962.63**, which is significantly lower than last year's record of **\$41,732.43**. It is also lower than 2023 (\$38,333.49) and 2022 (36,583.97). The difference is likely due to the weather, especially the snowstorm the day after Thanksgiving, which is always our biggest day of the year.

We have continued to serve as the conduit for the purchases of Midge Bakos's book, *A View From the Steeple*, which this year sold 2 copies, for a total of \$39.90. Because the shop holds our NYS Sales Tax Certificate, we have been recording the book sales and include those sales in our sales tax report to the State.

We added two more new vendors this year, Namaste and Global Crafts

Namaste is dedicated to sourcing beautiful fairly-traded products from the far corners of the world, embracing traditional artisan skills. They are passionate about ensuring their products, where possible, are made from environmentally friendly, sustainable, and recycled materials. **Global Crafts** stated mission is to offer income-generating opportunities to artisan groups in disadvantaged communities by bringing beautiful products to mainstream markets. Global Crafts imports high-quality home décor, holiday, and accessories from Haiti, Kenya, South Africa, Mexico, Nepal, and India.

Donations:

We continue to pay the church a modest \$500/month to help cover the cost of our heat, electricity, and cleaning.

In June, we had enough profit to make mid-year donations of \$1000 each to The Center and to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Donations from the 2025 shop sales are:

One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1000
The Center	\$2000
Life School	\$1500
The Country Pantry	\$750
Hope House	\$750
Seeds of Hope Food Pantry	\$750
Mother Marianne's Westside Kitchen	\$750
World Central Kitchen	\$1000

Total donations made in 2025: \$8500.00

We could not do any of this work without our numerous volunteers. Ceil Gilbert has continued to handle the publicity and audit the books; Emily Hughes, Donna Goodfriend, Mary Chamberlain, and Patricia Harris help us display our merchandise. Sarah Miller designs our ads and business cards. Shelley Coe again handled the taxes. David White makes certain we are set up and taken down each week, including all summer during the Farmer's Market. Pat Joseph makes certain we keep up-to-date on our Facebook

page. Mary Chamberlain does all the scheduling of volunteers. Those volunteers who have worked in the shop this year, include:

Dave and Carol White
Pat Joseph
Donna Goodfriend
Emily Hughes
Gerry Gogel
Barb Greene
Helen Leonard
Rosalie Wadsworth

Nancy Smith
Sue Montrose
Ceil Gilbert
Lora Schilder
Mary Chamberlain
Lauralyn Kolb
Peggy Weldon

Once again, this is a marvelous team effort. Many thanks to all those who participate in this wonderfully successful mission of Stone Church.

In Christ's service,

Lauralyn Kolb, Shop Manager

Building Stones Fair Trade Shoppe Sales 2025

Sales:

Category	Items Sold	Gross Sales
Uncategorized	21	\$239.90
Ark Imports International	57	\$2,001.00
B4L	31	\$269.00
Beautifully Made Fair Trade	3	\$68.00
Buena Onda Games	20	\$326.00
Costello International	1	\$40.00
EE	260	\$1,827.00
Global Crafts	8	\$90.50
LS (benefit for Life School in Guatemala)	132	\$1,209.50
MAGGIES	155	\$2,298.75
MHANDS	141	\$2,119.50
Matr Boomie	106	\$884.50
Minga Fair Trade Imports	360	\$4,831.00
Mondo Trading Company	48	\$453.00
Namaste	31	\$300.00
PJT	15	\$273.00
Pal Craftaid	18	\$112.00
Quilling Card	208	\$1,775.00
Revy	1	\$13.00
SERRV	382	\$5,146.91
TTV	434	\$7,167.44
Thumbprint Artifacts	54	\$722.00
UPAVIM	140	\$1,592.00
View From The Steeple	2	\$39.90
WBP	10	\$55.00
Women of the Cloud Forest	108	\$1,978.40
dZi	84	\$1,264.00
Total	2,830	\$37,096.30
Gross Sales		\$37,096.30
Total Returns		(\$92.25)
Discounts & Comps		(\$1,001.52)
Net Sales		\$36,002.53
Taxes		\$2,747.46
Total Collected		\$38,749.99
Taxes		(\$2,747.46)
View From The Steeple (Stone Roof Fund)	2	(\$39.90)
Net Sales		\$35,962.63

Merchandise purchased during 2025:

Ark Imports	\$2,315.02
dZi	\$1,120.96
EE	\$1,721.95
Global Crafts	\$464.06
Maggies	\$452.14
Matr Boomie	\$474.93
MH	\$729.17
Minga	\$4,534.80
Mondo	\$462.26
Namaste	\$394.52
Quilling Card	\$1,375.87
Revy	\$142.29
SERRV	\$3,180.37
Thumbprints	\$687.46
TTV	\$3,717.65
UPAVIM	\$954.12
WoC	\$472.55
TOTAL	\$23,200.09

Women's Association Report 2025

The Women's Association typically conducts its business through e-mail messages or personal contact. All women of the church are automatically members and welcomed and encouraged to participate in our activities. Please contact Donna Goodfriend or Ceil Gilbert if you have any questions.

On May 24, 2025, we held our Spring Drive-Thru Pie Sale with total sales of \$2,206, thanks to our very generous participation by our congregation. Also, thanks go to the Hannaford Market in Clinton for donating many of the ingredients.

On September 27, 2025, we held our Annual Harvest Drive-Thru Pie Sale with sales totaling \$2,046. Again, we would like to express our deepest thanks for our most generous congregation for their donations of delicious pies and for all the help in selling them. Another thank-you goes to Hannaford Market for their donations of ingredients again.

In December, we donated \$400 each to Abraham House, Country Pantry, Hope House, KEYS Program, Neighborhood Center, Rescue Mission, The Center, Thea Bowman House, and Presbyterian Disaster Relief. We also donated \$100 each to Spring Farm Cares and Clinton Pet Vet. We contributed \$125 toward year-end staff gifts. We also spent \$284.11 on our two families that we adopted from the Neighborhood Center. A huge thank you goes to everyone who donated food, clothing and gifts for our adopted families and helped wrap them again this year. The generosity of our congregation continues to be amazing.

We are grateful for everyone's help during 2025 and we hope we can continue to raise money in 2026 to help our surrounding communities by donating funds to our local support groups.

Respectfully submitted,

Ceil Gilbert
Secretary/Treasurer – Women's Association.

Women's Association Treasurer's Report 2025

Balance as of 1/1/2025 \$760.61

RECEIPTS

Dividend from ACCESS	\$3.60
Pie Sale (5-24-2025)	\$2206.00
Pie Sale (9-27-2025)	\$2046.00
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>	<u>\$4255.60</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Pie Tins	\$111.83
Christmas Families	\$284.11
Staff Gifts	\$125.00
Abraham House	\$400.00
Country Pantry	\$400.00
Hope House	\$400.00
KEYS Program	\$400.00
Neighborhood Center	\$400.00
Rescue Mission	\$400.00
The Center	\$400.00
Thea Bowman House	\$400.00
Presbyterian Disaster Relief	\$400.00
Spring Farm Cares	\$100.00
Clinton Pet Vet	\$100.00
<u>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>(\$4,320.94)</u>

Balance as of 12/31/2025 \$695.27

Respectfully submitted,

Ceil Gilbert, Secretary/Treasurer