

**Saddle River
Reformed Church
worshiping at
Old Stone Church
May 2023**



**Tour of Gravesites of Veterans
on Sunday, May 28**

On Sunday, May 28, the day before Memorial Day, the Old Stone Church Cemetery will be holding a special tour of Veteran gravesites. Family members and volunteers will be on hand from 11:30 am to 3 pm to share stories about the veterans.



Calendar

Worship - Sundays at 10am
Old Stone Church

Learn about the Bible &
Lunch Bunch
Wednesdays at 11am in the
Lounge

Sew & Sew Group
Friday, May 5 at 12:30pm in
the Lounge

Consistory Meeting
Wednesday, May 10 at 6pm in
the Lounge

Sew & Sew Group
Friday, May 19

Tour of Gravesites of Veterans
Sunday, May 28
11:30am-3pm

If you are unable to be with us to worship in person, you can participate via Facebook Live on our page:

You do not need to be a member of Facebook to access this link.

<https://www.facebook.com/Old-StoneSaddle-River-Reformed-Church-105866604368793>

Find us on the web and on social media

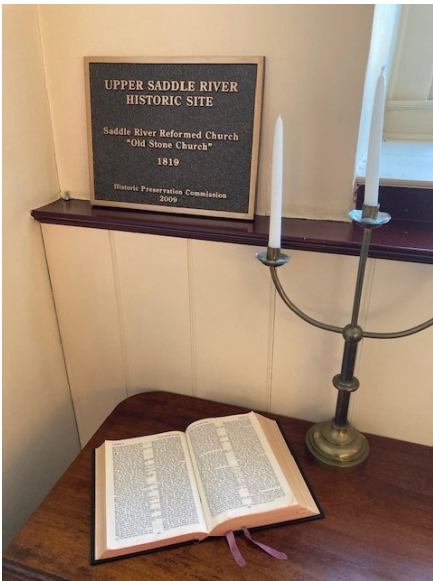
oldstonechurchonline.org

Facebook: Old Stone/Saddle River Reformed Church

Instagram: oldstonechurchnj

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May 2023 Lectionary Year A

May 7 - Communion
Rev. Jodi Wu
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 7:55-60;
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16;
1 Peter 2:2-10;
John 14:1-14

May 14
Rev. Sanjiv Kattakola
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 17:22-31;
Psalm 66:8-20;
1 Peter 3:13-22;
John 14:15-21

May 18
Ascension of the Lord
Acts 1:1-11;
Psalm 47;
Psalm 93;
Ephesians 1:15-23;
Luke 24:44-53

May 21
Rev. Tom Larkin
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Acts 1:6-14;
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35;
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11;
John 17:1-11

May 28
Day of Pentecost
Acts 2:1-21;
Numbers 11:24-30;
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13;
Acts 2:1-21;
John 20:19-23;
John 7:37-39

What's New?

Two new cemetery hours signs were installed at both entrances to Cemetery Road. Cemetery hours are from dawn until dusk.



To be in compliance with fire codes, both the parking lots for the education building were repainted. "No Parking Fire Lane" signs were also installed. Two handicap parking spots were created for the upper parking lot of the education building. The paving contractor also filled in the pot holes in

the cemetery parking lot, both education building parking lots, the parsonage driveway, and on Cemetery Road.



Tour of Gravesites of Veterans on Sunday, May 28

On Sunday, May 28, the day before Memorial Day, the Old Stone Church Cemetery will be holding a special tour of gravesites of veterans. Family members and volunteers will be on hand from 11:30 am to 3 pm to share stories about the veterans.

The cemetery dates to the 18th century. Set against the lovely church, a national landmark, it is a beautiful place to walk and view the old gravestones. There are eight patriot graves from the American Revolution — something to note as we move towards the 250th celebration of the Declaration of Independence.

There are veterans from major wars — American Revolution, Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War — and veterans who served in peace time. Stop by and learn about them.

The origins of Memorial Day go back to springtime in the late 1860s, when towns began honoring the fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers. In 1868, there was a national appeal to decorate the Civil War veterans' graves on May 30. At first it was known as Decoration Day and then gradually became Memorial Day, still held on May 30. In 1968 Congress established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May.

If you have information to contribute on a veteran buried in the cemetery, contact Stephanie in the church office at srrcoffice@verizon.net or 201-848-2757.

Memorial Day Prayer

Eternal God, we give thanks for all those who have shown the greatest love by laying down their lives for others. We especially thank you for those in our military throughout history who have sacrificed their lives for their fellow citizens and for us who came after. As we remember their service, keep us mindful of all those for whom this day is a burden, and send your spirit of comfort to them. Be present with all the women and men who are serving in the military today. Let them live for the peace known only from you. Help us to be worthy of their legacy, and keep us mindful of their service, that in all things we may live our lives in praise and thanksgiving to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Prayer Book for the Armed Forces, p. 65*)



Property Projects Appeal

Our church property, like your own home, needs constant maintenance to provide a safe environment. This year we will have to pay out more than we originally expected for property projects. Upper Saddle River has a new fire official who has been working his way through the town to bring the various buildings up to code. We were sited for over 20 violations. New signage and repairs to our Education Building have cost us more than \$4000. When the solar panels were installed on the east side of the Education Building, only the roof under the panels was replaced. The remaining roof has exceeded its life expectancy and has been patched as much as possible. We now need to replace the rest of the roof at a cost of \$25,000. When the parsonage was vacated two years ago, we had it professionally cleaned and made some minor repairs. The contractors that have been brought in to provide estimates for the many needed repairs and updates to prepare the building for our next pastor or possible tenant estimate that it will cost \$50,000 at a minimum to make the parsonage whole. We have all of these expenses on top of the regular wear and tear on three aging buildings.

We know this is a time when many are experiencing higher costs in their own lives, and asking for funding from you above and beyond your normal contributions may be challenging. We humbly ask that you consider designating a contribution to fund our property projects.

In Christ's Name,

Your Consistory Members

Women in Ministry Sunday - May 21

Women in Ministry Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate the way God has gifted and called women throughout history and in your own congregation. (In the RCA, that history includes women being ordained as elders and deacons for more than five decades, and as ministers for nearly as long, as well as serving in myriad other ministry roles.) This year, Women in Ministry Sunday falls on the third Sunday in May.



RCA Virtual Event

You're invited! Join members of the RCA restructuring team and GSC staff leadership for a denomination-wide, virtual event on Thursday, May 11, at 8:00 p.m. Eastern. During this time, attendees will hear what the restructuring team has been working on and the outcomes around which they feel called to restructure, after much discernment. Attendees will have the ability to ask questions and provide feedback on what is presented in the Zoom chat. This invitation is for all RCA members, especially young people with a heart for the RCA's future. RSVP is required. To register, use this link: www.rca.org/virtual-roundtable.

New Brunswick Theological Seminary Inaugural Gala

New Brunswick Theological Seminary is having its Inaugural Gala at 6pm on Thursday, May 18. The Gala will begin with chapel, followed by a reception and dinner. Worship will be led by alumna the Rev. Dr. Danielle Brown, senior pastor at Shiloh Baptist Church in Plainfield, NJ. The evening honorees will be the Rev. Dr. J Michael Sanders, senior pastor of Fountain Baptist Church in Summit, NJ and Women of the RCA for five decades of ordination as elders, deacons, and ministers of Word and Sacrament. Tickets are \$100/person through April 15 and \$125/person thereafter. nbts.edu/gala



May and June Missions Offering

The Deacons will be collecting funds during May and June for **Holland Christian Home and Reformed Christian Home**. Located in North Haledon and founded 127 years ago, **Holland Christian Home** is a continuing care retirement community with multiple levels of care. The Holland Christian Home is bound together as a family by a common faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. With hearts to love and hands to help, the staff, volunteers, and Board are dedicated to the well-being of their residents through the nurture of devoted care; a warm, homelike atmosphere; loving and friendly companionship; and a strong covenant relationship. **Reformed Church Home** is situated on 15 acres surrounded by trees, in Old Bridge, NJ, and is a senior and long-term care living community that provides Assisted Living, Rehabilitation, Long-Term Nursing Care, and Respite Care.

You can give to this ministry in person **during Sunday morning worship** or **on-line using the church website** and by selecting **“Giving”** from the menu or the **“Give”** button and choosing **“Mission of the Month”** in the dropdown list.

<https://oldstonechurchonline.org/>



A poster for 'CAMP WARWICK SUMMER 2023'. At the top, it says 'unmistakable' in a circular arrangement around a lightbulb icon, with 'Matthew 5:14-16' written inside the bulb. Below this, there are several colored boxes with text: 'CAMP SUNRISE' (Weeks 1-5), 'VOLUNTEER!' (Become a Camp Sunrise Volunteer), 'DAY CAMP' (Weeks 1-9), 'BECOME A STAFF MEMBER' (Create meaningful relationships), 'IN CAMP' (Week 1: July 30-Aug 1, Week 2: Aug 6-11), and a bottom box with registration links and the website 'www.campwarwick.org'. The background of the poster shows a group of people at a camp.

Community Announcements:

Rev. Mark Ennis of the Clinton Avenue Reformed Church in Bergenfield is looking for **ESL teachers for their Spanish-speaking outreach program**. Anyone with an interest can call the church office: 201-384-2454.

Join NJ Interfaith Center for Cancer Care on Wednesdays from 3-4pm for an online interfaith cancer support group. This group is open to anyone who has faced cancer and would like to be in an interfaith environment, providing and receiving mutual support through deep listening, sharing, and contemplation. The group will be led by an NJIC3 staff member. Email Nobuko at nobuko.njic3@improvingnj.org or Austin at austin.njic3improvingnj.org if you have any questions.

After Worship Church Socials

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary for Sunday Iced Tea Socials. They are weekly, immediately following the service and provide us with a chance to chat and catch up with our church family while enjoying a treat or two (or three!).

Friends of the USR Library will hold their May Book Sale on Saturday, May 6th from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Be sure to mark your calendar to find your next great read! There are special monthly sales and any child who comes to browse may select a free book. Be sure to stop by and buy! All proceeds support the programs the Friends fund like the museum passes, children's summer reading program, mango languages, Kindle e-book titles and more.

Women's Bible Study Please consider joining us for a simple Bible Study at the **Ramapo Reformed Church**. Pastor Mary will lead the group through various scripture readings in the style of Lectio Divina. No preparation is necessary! We meet in the Coffee Room of the church building (100 Island Rd, Mahwah). We hope to meet **every other Tuesday at 1pm through June. May dates are 5/9 and 5/23.**



CFA's 5K Run/Walk - Fighting Hunger One Step at a Time is a great family-friendly or corporate team-building outdoor event. Whether you run or walk, it will be a morning filled with fun and exercise for a great cause. Raising money to help our neighbors at risk of hunger and food insecurity. Lace up your sneakers go to **Overpeck Park, 199 Challenger Road, Ridgefield Park, NJ on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Registration opens at 8am. Race begins at 9am. Cost \$40/adult and \$20/child. 3 children under age 6 are free per 1 registered adult.**



The Center for Food Action in Mahwah at 90 Ridge Road is open M-F from 10am-2pm to accept donations. Their most needed items are Supermarket Gift Cards, Canned Meat (tuna, chicken, etc.), Canned Hearty Soups, Canned Vegetables, Macaroni & Cheese, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Tomato Sauce, Toothpaste, Toothbrush & Dental Floss, Cold Cereal (low sugar) & Oatmeal, Powdered Milk &/or Boxed Milk, such as Parmalat, Canned Fruits, Instant Potatoes, 100% Juice, Baby Formula & Diapers sizes 4, 5 & 6, Bar or Bottled Soap, and Canned Dog Food & Canned Cat Food.



Call 988 For Mental Health Emergencies
The Federal Communications Commission recently approved a new 3-digit dialing code, 988, for mental health crisis and suicide prevention. The 988 line will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for calls, texts, and chat.

May Birthdays & Anniversaries

Maureen DeMase	5/9
Suzette Fretz	5/11
Cameron Parmelee	5/16
Julie Kohn	5/24
Jeffrey Kreismer	5/24
David & Mary Kate Fretz	5/21
Rozanne Sullivan & Lee Zimet	5/25

Any updates or additions, please email the church office at srrcoffice@verizon.net

We welcome your donations through the online giving page on the church website at <https://oldstonechurchonline.org/> and click on the Give button.



If you have anything for the JUNE newsletter, please email the church office at srrcoffice@verizon.net.

Saddle River Reformed Church

worshiping at

Old Stone Church

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